# HISTORY

# OF

# HATFIELD

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

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Compiled by DAVID K. ALLEBACH Hatfield, Pa.

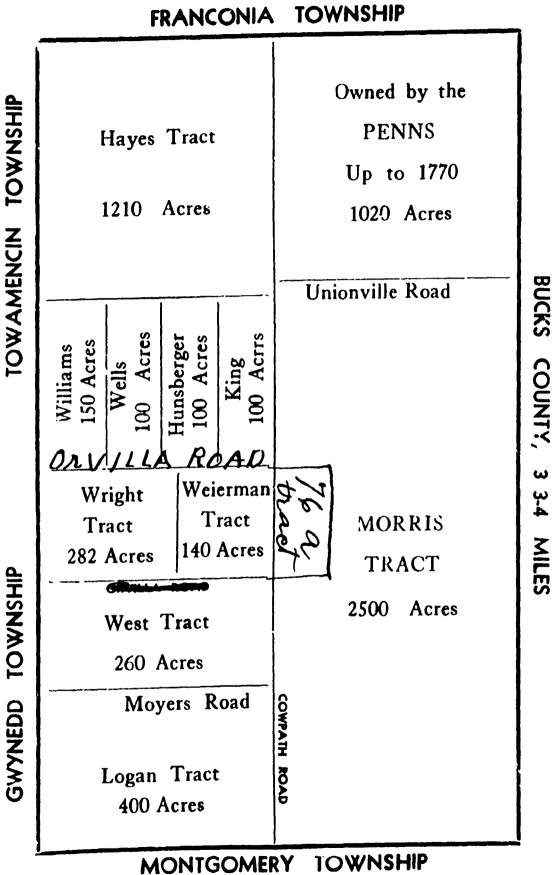


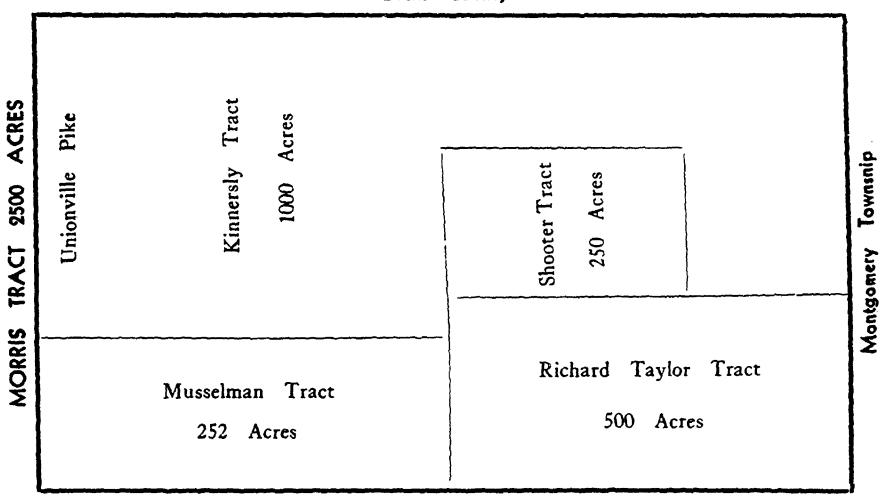
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# FOREWORD

In writing a History of Hatfield I wish to say that I have been a life-long resident and an observer of old land marks. Being encouraged by friends who were like-minded, and also by the help of my old friend and schoolmate, Henry S. Landis, who previously published a History of Franconia, I agreed to publish this History of Hatfield. In most instances I have been able to trace the land-owners back to the original owners.

# DAVID K. ALLEBACH







Cowpath Road

# HISTORY

OF

# HATFIELD

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

# HATFIELD TOWNSHIP

The township is one of the most regular in its outlines of any in Montgomery County. It is bounded on the northeast by the county of Bucks, northwest by Franconia, southwest by Towamencin, southeast by Montgomery, and south by the borough of Lansdale, a portion of which was taken from Hatfield when incorporated in 1872. It is situated in the middle northeast side of Montgomery County, and is distant from ten to fourteen miles from the county seat and about 25 miles northward from Philadelphia.

In form it is nearly square, being three and three-quarter miles long by three miles in breadth, containing only 7,100 acres, or eleven square miles, being one of the smaller districts of the county. Hatfield township was laid out and confirmed by the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia County, at the March Term, 1742. The surveyor's draft and survey, made by William Jones, is dated the 18th day of 12th month, 1742/3. The surveyor, General William Parsons, on March 9th, 1742, certified that the lines or boundaries did not interfere with any other township.

The original draft and order of Court is on file at City Hall, Philadelphia, and a copy of the same at the Montgomery County Historical Society, at Norristown.

# STREAMS

The township forms a summit level, from which the drainage is towards both the Schuylkill and Delaware. The west branch of the Neshaminy and its tributaries, however, drain the greater portion of its area. Two branches rise in the north corner of the township, and flow southward to Hatfield station; then, bearing eastward, the united stream flows to the east corner of the township. Another branch rises in Hilltown, crosses the county line near Unionville and joins the other branch half a mile southwest of Trewigtown. Another branch rises in the borough of Lansdale, and, flowing northward, meets the larger branch near the Cowpath.

A small brook starts from meadow springs, less than a mile southwest from Colmar, and meets the main stream near the county line bridge. Small affluents of the Skippack start in the west corner, flowing southwest across the Allentown road, and another one describes a short course on the northwest border of the township, coming and returning to Franconia. Some rivulet brooks flow across the southwest township line, through rather deep valleys, and hasten to form the Towamencin.

# ROADS

The first road was the old Bethlehem road, entering the east corner of the township up to Line Lexington, was opened in 1714. The first bridge was built across the Neshaminy creek above Colmar, some time between 1767 and 1770, part by subscription and part by Philadelphia County; repaired by Philadelphia County in 1784; again repaired in 1796 by Montgomery County; rebuilt in 1797 by said county.

The new Bethlehem road was confirmed by Court to be opened between Hatfield and Bucks County in 1786, then condemned by March term of Court, again confirmed by Court in September of 1788. This was from Line Lexington up to township line. In 1808 a petition was sent to Court to straighten the same as it lay partly entirely in Bucks County and at other parts entirely in Montgomery County, confirmed by Court in 1809. A second petition was sent to Court to straighten same in 1811, stating that they had made a worm fence out of it. It was turnpiked in 1814.

# COWPATH ROAD

Laid out in 1740. The Forty-foot road was opened about 1760. This was turnpiked via Broad street, Hatfield borough, to Allentown road in Towamencin township in 1890. The eastern end was condemned when the borough was created in 1898. The remainder was condemned in 1904, the Jury allowing \$3,795.00.

## LENHART'S ROAD

Opened about 1797 via Walnut street, thence southwest via Broad street through Gwynedd township.

### TREWIGTOWN ROAD

From county line to Cowpath, via Moyer's road, via Franconia avenue to Main street, Lansdale borough; opened 1816.

Township line between Montgomery township and Hatfield, opened 1818.

Township line between Franconia township and Hatfield, opened 1819.

#### WELSH ROAD

Now Main street, Lansdale, from eight-cornered schoolhouse in Gwynedd township to Forty-foot road. Opened 1819, turnpiked from Lansdale to Plain Mennonite Church in 1869, condemned in 1898. Jury allowed \$2,852.00.

### ORVILLA ROAD

Opened from the Plain Mennonite Church to Bethlehem pike in 1822.

# BERGEY'S ROAD

Opened from Bethlehem pike to Cowpath road in 1824.

### DERSTINE ROAD

Opened in 1826.

## FUNK ROAD

Opened in 1828.

Road from Elroy to Lansdale via Sunnyside schoolhouse to Lansdale opened in 1835.

### FAIR GROUNDS ROAD

From Cowpath to Hilgner's Corner opened in 1838.

#### VINE STREET

Openec' in 1868.

Maple avenue down to Orvilla road opened in 1874.

OAK PARK ROAD Opened in 1874.

## UNIONVILLE ROAD

Opened 1872, turnpiked 1884, condemned in 1907; damages allowed \$4,960.00. SOUDERTON-HATFIELD ROAD Opened 1893.

# RAILROAD

The railroad was built through here in 1856. It was built by the North Pennsylvania Railroad Company. It was first opened to Gwynedd on Monday, July 2, 1855, a distance of nineteen miles. After leaving Master street the cars stopped at the following stations: Tioga street, Fisher's Lane, Green Lanc, Oak Lane, City Line, Old York Road, Chelten Hills, Tacony, Edge Hill, Camp Hill, Fort Washington, Wissahickom, Penllyn, and Gwynedd.

The first time-table issued by the North Pennsylvania Railroad Company was as follows: Going north— Leave Cohoquinoque station, corner Front and Willow streets. Going north —6 A.M., 9 A.M., 2.30 P.M., 6 P.M. Going south—Leave Gwynedd, 6.30 A.M., 9.12 A.M., 12 M., 6.12 P.M. Passengers for Bethlehem and intermediate places take 6 A.M. train. To meet such trains they will find stages ready at Gwynedd to convey them to their respective destination.

By October 1, 1856, the rails were laid to Doylestown. This branch was started in March, 1855. This passes through the lower end of the township. The road was opened October 6, 1856, with a train containing the directors and other officials and on the next day forenoon, the first regular train left for the city and in the afternoon was a second. A station in the township was placed at the crossing of the Bethlehem pike which was later named Colmar.

On December 30, 1856, it was stated that the line was now finished from Philadelphia to Freemansburg, where it connects with the Lehigh Valley Railroad. This is about two miles east of Bethlehem and nine miles west of Easton. On January 10, 1857, S. W. Roberts, chief engineer, stated that the road is opened to the Lehigh. For ten days the passenger trains have been running to Easton. And today the first train of cars laden with coal reached Philadelphia from the Lehigh coal region. The president of the company reported to the stockholders that the road was opened January 1, 1857, via Shimersville branch.

On July 7, 1857, the Main Line between Hellertown and Bethlehem was finished and July 8 the business was transferred to the Main Line from since which time two daily passenger trains have been running between Philadelphia and Bethlehem. The company placed a station at the Main street crossing, now Hatfield borough. In 1872 it was moved to its present location. This was a small frame building; later an addition was built. This was destroyed by fire in July, 1913; then the present brick building was erected.

## TIME-TABLE No. 2

Partial Copy of a Time-table of the

#### North Pennsylvania Railroad

Effective Monday, February 2, 1857

#### EXPRESS

North South

	*****	NOWVII
	A.M.	P.M.
Willow St., Phila., Pa	. 8.30	5.50
Master St., Phila., Pa.		5.35
Fisher's Lane		5.20
Old York Road		5.13
Edge Hill		5.04
Fort Washington	9.27	4.57
Gwynedd		4.48
Lansdale		4.34
Hatfield		4.25
Sellersville		4.04
Quakertown		3.35
Coopersburg		3.10
Hellertown		2.45
Freemansburg		2.35

Freight trains must not obstruct passenger trains, but must be on the side track ten minutes before passenger trains are due.

## A. H. FRACKER Master of Transportation

(One freight train also ran daily on schedule, but did not stop at Hatfield.)

Mrs. Lillie Keck is the owner of this time-table, and received it from her father, Harvey Ziegenfuss, who was at this time employed on the railroad. Two local trains are also on the time-table, but both went north, only to Gwynedd. Colmar station is mentioned as Line Lexington, and Chalfont as Whitehall.

# **TROLLEY ROAD**

This was built through Hatfield in 1899 by the Inland Traction Company and extended from Menlo Park, Perkasie, to Lansdale. The road entered Hatfield at township line and Souderton - Hatfield road above Frank Scholl's place down said road to Union street, Hatfield borough; thence southwest to Market street; thence southeast to Lincoln avenue; thence to Main street; thence down the middle of same street; thence from Main street to Vine; thence to Koffel corner; thence down to Orvilla road; thence southwest to about where Edgar Kratz lives; thence down through private property to what is now Eighth street, Lansdale, down to Franconia avenue; thence southwest to Fifth street; thence down to Cannon avenue; thence southwest to Main street, I ansdale borough. At this time this portion was all in Hatfield township.

The first trolley passed over the track on April 20, 1900. The next year the tracks were extended to North Wales. About 1909 this company sold out to the Lehigh Valley Traction Company whose lines were extended from Chestnut Hill to Allentown. In 1913 the trolley tracks in Hatfield were moved to its present location with a station at Broad screet.

# POST OFFICE

## Hatfield, Montgomery County, Penna.

Postmaster

Date Appointed

Jacob M. Cassel June 23, 1861 (Est.) Jacob G. Leidy April 21, 1865 John McLaughlin October 21, 1872 Jacob F. Lambert March 26, 1873 Henry S. Beidler August 7, 1874 Joseph Proctor February 22, 1875 Sabina Proctor April 18, 1878 Henry M. Zeigler April 1, 1879 Ephraim K. Blanck August 21, 1885 Dr. Thomas E. Cooper April 7, 1886 Enos F. Hackman May 15, 1889 Chauncey J. Buckley April 11, 1892 Titus Albright April 25, 1896 Chauncey J. Buckley May 3, 1900

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Wilson R. Kulp December 12, 1922 Elmer N. Zepp(Acting) May 2, 1985 Elmer N. Zepp April 21, 1936 Colmar, Monigomery County, Penna. This office was established as Ainsworth. Comly L. Jenkins June 9, 1871 (Est.) The name of this office was changed to Colmar, June 23, 1871. Postmaster Date Appointed Comly L. Jenkins June 23, 1871 Andrew H. Delph April 21, 1874 .... May 26, 1876 Parker Jenkins Theodore R. Hartzell July 8, 1893 Parker Jenkins June 25, 1897 Parker Jenkins June 26, 1897 Levi C. Rosenberger Feb. 10, 1911 South Hatfield, Montg. Co., Penna. This office was established as Orvilla. Charles Myers April 21, 1890 (Est.). The name of this office was changed to South Hatfield, January 4, 1893. Charles Myers ..... January 4, 1893 Aaron Richards June 20, 1895 Joseph B. Anders July 29, 1897 Henry M. Kaisinger April 24, 1900 Joseph B. Anders September 19, 1900 Frank S. Koffel July 2, 1907 Howard S. Hunsberger ... July 28, 1914 Ziegler Z. Cope January 17, 1916

This office was discontinued October 31, 1917. Mail was ordered sent to Hatfield.

# **OLD TIME SCHOOLS**

In the early days of the township there were four schools. The first we know was built on the farm of Henry Frey, on the southern corner of his plantation which is now the cemetery lot at the Plain Mennonite Meeting House. This was built between 1760 and 1769. It was built of logs and was used for school and worship by the Mennonites. The house stood till 1813 when the log house was demolished and a meeting house built of stone. When this school was discontinued at this place is not known.

Later a schoolhouse was built at corner of Orvilla and Koffel's road. Christian Snyder sold a lot of the eastern corner, forty perches of his farm, in 1838, to Abraham B. Snyder, John Wagnor and Daniel Price for a schoolhouse and thereon was erected the eight-cornered schoolhouse. This was taken over by the Hatfield School District when the public school system was adopted. This was rated in 1871 and the present building exected which is now a dwelling. It was long called by its former name, Eight Cornered Schoolhouse, later Miller's Corner because Charles F. Miller was the owner of the adjoining property. He was a blacksmith and had a shop on the opposite corner where the school bus shanty used to be.

Later when the railroad company placed a station at the cross road in 1880 they named it Orvilla. Then this locality was known as Orvilla and the schoolhouse was then called by that name.

## **DAVIS FREE SCHOOL**

The next was the Davis Schoolhouse on his farm which was located on what is now Lenhart and Cowpath road. The schoolhouse was located southwest of where Moyer's road joins the Cowpath. Richard Davis, in his will, written January 29, 1762, diverts that £20 should be paid yearly by his executor, John Jenkins, toward keeping a free school in Hatfield township.

This schoolhouse was built of logs and contained two rooms, in one of the various teachers lived. them amongst whom was Kimber Martin. This building stood till after 1880. He also directs that his executor shall name a trustee after him. After the present school law went into effect the school directors took charge of this fund which remained a lien on the farm-the owners paying annually the said sum of \$53.20 to Hatfield School Treasury. In 1925 this lien was declared satisfied by order of court by the owner, Katherine Mernoff, paying \$1,185.18 to be set up as a trust. The Union National Bank of Souderton now has charge of this fund by paying the interest annually to the Hatfield School District.

## A GERMAN SCHOOL

Another schoolhouse was built on the township line, bordering Franconia township on the farm of Charles Shellenberger, now Joseph Clemmer. This lot was given by the owner for a German school. This lot was conveyed to John Leidy and John Cope. trustee, May 27, 1794. The Hatfield School District sold this lot in 1937 to William Meyers who owned the adjoining property. The schoolhouse was razed about 1849.

# UNION SCHOOLHOUSE

The fourth was built on the Musselman tract opposite Bean's store, south Hatfield, in 1805, on the farm then owned by John Wisler. This was built of logs. Samuel Musselman, a former owner, in his will bequeathed twenty-five pounds for school books and schooling; five pounds yearly for five years to the poor and needy children of said township and if any overplus it should be applied for clothing to such poor and needy children, to be distributed by his executors.

We find that in 1840 the township began to elect a board of school directors. This may have been to take charge of the schools where no trustees had been appointed.

After the public school system had been adopted in 1850 they bought a lot of forty perches in 1851 from Enos Ratzel whereon was built the western schoolhouse. This was known as Sunny Side School.

In 1852 they bought a lot from Jonas Price whereon was built the northern schoolhouse. This was called Oak Grove School because of the many oak trees surrounding it.

About the same time the northcastern schoolhouse was built on a lot given by Isaac Rosenberger who was the owner of the present Max Os farm at that time. There was no deed given in this connection. This was named Hickory Grove Schoolhouse because of the many hickory trees nearby. It was also called Eule Hoff. Eule is the German name for owl. The older folks said the place was frequented by owls, therefore its name.

The eastern schoolhouse was built on a lot purchased of Peter Evans Farm in 1878. This was sold to Hatfield School District for \$1.00, with a string to it that when it was no longer used for school purposes it should revert back to the farm. This was known as the Trewigtown School. The southern schoolhouse was built on a lot given by Louisa Holmes, the owner of the adjoining farm at corner of Moyer and Schwab's road. This was built about 1872. This was known as Barren Plains School.

The first schoolhouse built in this section was on the southeast side of the road between John Freed's residence and what used to be the Dr. Moyer residence. This is a low swampy place. Therefore it was called the Mud Hole Schoolhouse.

After the village of Hatfield had grown to a considerable size a schoolhouse was built at the corner of Main and Lincoln avenue in 1885. Later when the village increased in population another story was added. Then it became a graded school. This was then in use until the borough was incorporated in 1898 when an addition was built and it became a fourroomed school.

Prior to this schoolhouse in the village the children went to four different schools. Those living in western section, from Mrs. Jonas Kulp residence down to Blaine street, went to Sunny Side School. Those living around Hatfield depot north of Lincoln avenue went to Oak Grove School. Those living on Vine street west of the railroad went to Orvilla School. Those living on South Main street went to Hickory Grove School.

After the consolidated school was built in 1922, these schoolhouses were sold. The Sunny Side School was sold to Fred Weiss, Jr. The Oak Grove School was sold to Charles Felix. The Orvilla School was sold to Walter Moyer. The Hickory Grove and Barren Plains had no title to the ground and the Trewigtown School, with a string to the ground, could not be sold until a bill of ejection was ordered by Court. Hickory Grove was then sold Henry Lackner in 1923. to The Trewigtown School was then sold to Harold G. Bonekemper. He sold it to Laura Giles. The Barren Plains was sold to Warren Warner in 1923. The schoolhouse in the borough was sold to Frank Swartz.

# THE LINE LEXINGTON INDE-PENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

This was created in 1872. The schoolhouse, a two-story building, was

built for an academy school. It was erected in 1864 by selling shares but it seems it never got any farther as no school was ever kept here. Then after the Independent District was formed they bought the building wherein they have their school. This district includes both the village that lies in Hatfield Township and also what lies in Bucks County. The number of pupils in attendance is about forty.

# **CHURCHES**

# PLAIN MENNONITE CHURCH

The beginning of this church dates back to between 1760 and 1769. The ground was given by Henry Frey from the southern corner of his farm. Here was built a log house between these dates. It stood in the east corner of the cemetery lot and was used for school and worship by the Mennonites. It was in use until 1818 when a house was built of stone, about 80 x 40 approximately, at a cost of \$814.68. The third house was built in 1867, also of stone,  $40 \times 50$ , and stood where the present house now stands. The present house was built in 1922, also of stone and plastered—dimensions  $50 \times 76$ .

The services in the early days were conducted by ministers from other churches in the conference district.

The first deacon elected here was John Weirman, the owner of the Weirman's Mill as mentioned in another chapter. What year he was elected is not known but sometime before the Revolution.

The first minister elected here was John Krupp in 1816. He served twenty-eight years. The next one elected was Jacob C. Kulp in 1838. He died in 1875. Another elected was Joseph Cassel — what year is not known. He died in 1868. Jacob Loux was elected in 1868 and died in 1895. Henry Godshall elected in 1874 and died in 1908. Jonas Mininger was elected in 1895 and died in 1936. Jacob Clemens was elected in 1906. John Lapp was elected in 1933. The latter two are serving at the present date. Membership is 282.

A partial list of burials is Boorse, Benner, Cassel, Conver, Clemmer, Davis, Gross, Godshall, Hackman, Heckler, Kindig, Krupp, Freed, Kulp, Moyer, Rittenhouse, Ruth, Reed, Stauffer, Wismer, Souder, Weirman, Young, Allebach, Nace, Clemens, Rosenberger, Landis, Henning, and Mininger.

# FRICKS BURIAL GROUNDS

Jacob Shooter sold from his 250acre tract fifty acres to George Sheive in 1776. Shooter had purchased this large tract from the heirs of Abraham Free in 1740. In the conveyance of Shooter to Sheive a small lot is excepted which Shooter had previously granted to the society called Mennonites for a burial ground, between a small gut and Beaver Creek, with a privilege of a road along the line from the west corner of said tract to the grounds. What year this conveyance was made we are not able to say but it was made between these two dates. 1740 and 1776.

The question is, why was this given to the Mennonites when they had one at Line Lexington. When we look at the dates we find that the cemetery lot at Line Lexington was purchased in 1752 by the Mennonites. And this Frick's lot may have been donated prior to this date as Mr. Shooter's buy was made in 1740.

Later this was under the control of the Funkites—how it came into their possession we do not know. Here they had a place to worship. They also called themselves Mennonites.

Christian Funk was a bishop in the Mennonite Church in the time of the American Revolution. He was a son of Henry Funk, a Mennonite Bishop, an immigrant from Europe. He settled in the western part of what is now Franconia township in 1719, being the first settler in that township. He bought a tract of land of 200 acres in 1718. The tract lay along the Indian Creek whereon he built a mill known later as Bechtel's, then Clemen's, and last, Huber's mili.

Henry Funk was a Bishop in the Mennonite Church. He seems to have been an educated man as he and Dielman Kolb supervised the translation of the Martyr's Mirror from the Dutch into German, printed at the Ephrata Cloister in 1743. He also was the author of several other books, namely, Ein Spiegel Der Taufe Mit Geist Mit Wasser Mit Blute, published in 1744. Another book title, Eine Restitution Oder Erklarung Einiger Hauppunkte Des Gesetzes, was published after his death in 1763.

Henry Funk had ten children, six daughters and four sons, John, Henry, Abram, and Christian. He died in 1760.

The executors sold the farm in two tracts: the mill and sixty-three acres to the son, Abram; the remaining 137 acres to Christian in 1763. Abram sold his property to Christian who thus became the owner of the entire tract of his father.

Christian was born in 1731 and married in 1757 and had nine children.

After his father's death Isaac Kolb became Bishop, Christian Meyer was Deacon at this time. A disagreement soon broke out which caused much trouble. Kolb said, in his zeal, he would no longer serve with Meyer.

In the meantime it was proposed to elect a new Bishop. Congregation voted Christian Funk and Samuel Bechtel. Trouble now again arose. Bishop Kolb, it appears, was opposed to have Funk installed. The matter at last was adjusted and the choice fell on Funk. Kolb was now peaceably disposed till his death.

The church now enjoyed harmony until 1774 when the trouble started between the American colonies and England, trouble was taxing the colonies. In the year 1776 a meeting was held in Franconia Township for the purpose of choosing three men who were to attend a delegation from other Provinces which were already engaged in war. Christian Funk, who said he had never attended a township meeting, decided to attend this one. On arriving he saw nearly the whole township had assembled and twothirds of these were Mennonites. At this meeting Funk expressed his opinion not to tear themselves from the King of England because he was the Protector of Pennsylvania, and as they were a defenseless people they could neither institute or destroy any Government.

Pennsylvania, however, joined the other provinces and after the Declaration of Independence, the constitution by Penn was done away with. The Mennonites now thought their liberty was taken away because under all King's Government no liberty of conscience was granted.

The Declaration of Independence required a new oath of all subjects of the newly-formed sovereignties. Pennsylvania, like all other states, required an oath of allegiance from all its citizens. This was very much objected to by the Mennonites for to take this oath might obligate them to take up arms against the King. As the war progressed, mutual abuse of those in favor of Congress and those in favor of the King continued.

Afterwards, Funk having seen the constitution of the new government, saw that the same religious liberty was granted—that no man need bear arms or take an oath against his conscience.

Funk now began to talk in favor of the colonies, saying that there were already four republics, perhaps America might become another. That we ought to let the Americans and the English decide the contest and also remarked that the English had taken it away from the Spaniards and now the Americans were about to take it away from the English.

Besides the oath of allegiance, Congress also laid a war tax. Funk's fellow ministers opposed paying this tax because it was hostile to the King. One remarked he would as soon take up arms as to help in this way. Funk contended it should be paid and not questioned as to what it was used for as they were using this money to pay their debts, etc. Things went on in this frame of

Things went on in this frame of mind until about the year 1777. It was now suggested that it was time to hold communion. With some few differences in the way things were discussed, as the feeling of the Mennonites against the American Army was very marked at this time, as some had suffered the loss of their horses, wheat and provender. A day at length was agreed upon to hold a council at each congregation: Funk at Clemens (now Salford), Meyer at Plain, Rosenberger at Bechtel.

At these council meetings, fourteen accusations were lodged against Funk. Twelve accused him of having allowed to pay War Tax and not expressed himself against Congress; the other two said they heard he had taken the Oath of Allegiance. This last charge Funk denied—upon this understanding the communion was held.

However, most of the ministers continued to advise the congregations not to pay War Tax. Funk taught, "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's."

By 1778 the feeling was very marked against Funk. After harvest there were nineteen applicants for Baptism. After the day was set for the ceremony the other ministers refused to take any part in the same. John Weirman, who was deacon, said he would not hand Funk the water as is the custom at the Baptism Service. After some discussion Funk and the congregation decided that John Funk should assist him as this would create the least disturbance—whereupon it was performed.

Funk was now deposed of preaching for taking sides with a rebellious Government. Two days after this decision twenty brethren came to Funk asking him not to consent to this ruling. He, therefore, went on the next Sunday to the meeting and sat in his usual place. The first Sabbath no other minister came, he, therefore, conducted the services. But after this the other ministers were always present and so arranged it that Funk would not get the privilege to say anything.

This continued for about six weeks when Funk's friends remarked, "It seems we have nothing to say here." After this the Funk Faction held their services on the Sunday when the others had none, but when Brethren are at odds things do not pass off that easy.

One Sunday as they came to the meeting house they found the door locked and three men stood guard to see that they would not enter. They now were obliged to worship under the Canopy of Heaven. After this they conducted their services in private homes and Larns.

These affairs continued until 1781 when Lord Cornwallis surrendered to General Washington. When the Peace Treaty was signed in 1783 England renounced all claim upon the American Colonies. Funk now had hopes that the two opposing factions would again unite as the old charge against Funk was now a dead issue.

But the saying is, trouble does not come singly. Other charges were now made: one said he cheated the township of twenty-five pounds; another said he kept my good flour and gave me old wormy flour instead; another said he sold his neighbor's ram.

In the meanwhile Funk continued to ask for union but claims they would not give him a hearing. He therefore sent two men to Connestoga (now Lancaster) but found it there as dark as in the Franconia District. Things continued in this state of affairs until 1804 when ten Bishops had died who were connected when Funk was deposed from preaching.

They now decided to give him a hearing again in 1805 and again in 1806 he was asked to come to Conference. At this meeting he was granted the privilege to express himself. The reason he wanted union he said was because they were of the same faith and as they had intermarried it was hard to draw the line of separation.

But Conference would not receive his Ministers, neither would Funk forsake his Ministers whom he had ordained. When the question was put before the Congregation the Plain appears satisfied to have Funk reunited except one man, this person had helped to lock the Church door against Funk twenty-eight years before, his name was George Delp.

When the question was put before the Congregation at Franconia there was opposition. Funk claims it was due to the way it was put. Finally in 1807 Funk was notified of the decision, the vote was 118 opposed and 45 in favor.

In 1809 Funk published a little pamphlet called, The Mirror for All Mankind, to tell the future generation of all this trouble. The book was endorsed by:

> Henry Rosenberger John Funk John Reiff Henry Gottwalls John Whisler

Christian Gottwalls Jacob Whisler John Gottwalls George Shumacher

Henry Rosenberger was a resident of Hatfield, owner of the Ott farm.

Rev. John Funk's residence, Hatfield—lived on the Funk farm, now owned by Harry Bishop. Died 1820, aged 82 years, buried at Fricks.

Rev. John Reiff, a resident of Lower Salford township. Died 1826. Had married a daughter of Christian Funk.

Rev. Henry Gotwals, a resident of Worcester township.

Rev. John Wisler, a resident of Hatfield township. He owned the former Jacob W. Rosenberger farm at lower end of Hatfield borough.

Rev. Christian Gotwal's residence not known to the writer. Had married Rev. John Funk's daughter, Catherine.

Jacob Wisler, a resident of Hatfield. He owned the former Alfred Barndt farm.

John Gotwals, a resident of Skippack township.

George Shoemaker, a resident of Shoemaker's Corner in Skippack township.

We also know of a few others who were ministers of the Funkite. Funk died in 1811. The Funkites had four houses of worship in Montgomery County; one near Evansburg, one near Line Lexington in Hatfield township, known as Fricks Burial Grounds; one in Towamencin township on the Forty-foot road near the concrete bridge crossing the Skippack Creek at the western end of the township; one in Lower Salford township north of Harleysville. These were all built after the death of Funk.

There are only two of these houses now standing—the one at Fricks, attached to the Cemetery, is used for the accommodation of funerals. The first house was built about 1812 or 1813. The present house was built about 1882.

One of their ministers lived near Line Lexington. He moved to Canada about 1823, his name was Jacob Detwiler. The one at Evansburg was torn down and the stones used to wall in the cemetery. When the property was sold to Rev. Ballenstine some years ago it was said to have been donated by Abram Funk, son of Christian.

The house in Towamencin township was built by John Reiff who was a minister of the Funkite. He lived in Lower Salford township but his farm extended across the Skippack Creek into Towamencin township, whereon he built a meeting house in 1814 on his farm. After his death his son, John, became the owner of the farm and the meeting house. He joined the Brethren Church. He then willed it to the Dunkards forever. This was known in my time as the Towamencin Dunkard Meeting House. The house was torn down some thirty years ago as no members were living in this community. There is no cemetery there.

The house in Lower Salford township was built in 1814 or 1815. It stood about forty rods from the Franconia line on what is now Route 113, on the farm of Jacob Moyer, who was a deacon at that time, now owned by Allen Clemmer, opposite Christ Yoder residence.

In 1850 the Funkites were extinct and 1855 the community took down the house and removed the material over to Delp's graveyard where it was erected for the accommodation of funerals. This is generally known in Franconia as Herren Haüsly. The question may arise, why was it not built there in the first place as this was a Funk's Burial Ground, on the north side of the road. The ground where it now stands was owned by Abram Detwiler and the land on the south side where the cemetery is was owned by Abram Delp. Neither of these were friendly to the Funkites so we have the answer.

Now the question is how did the Funkites come to nought. We notice that Christian Funk died the same year that John Herr, of Lancaster County organized his church, in 1811, generally known as the Herrenleut. John Herr advocated a more rigorous discipline, through lack of this he claims the Mennonite Church was a dead, spiritless and corrupt church and through his teachings he sought to revive a live church once more.

He started to preach in this community amongst the Funkites about

the year 1820. At first he drew much attention, attracted large crowds, but after he tried to enforce his discipline into the Funkite church they became disorderly, disputing amongst themselves, some taking sides with John Herr, others opposing. The result-no union and the church faded away like the morning dew. John Herr incorporated two articles in his creed which is both unscriptural and unwise that members dare not hear any ministers preach except their own is not in scripture. The Bible says, "Prove all things and hold fast that which is good." And the Ban of Avoidance proved that when it was enforced between husband and wife it has turned out that human nature is stronger than man-made church rules and the Scripture says, "Whom God has joined together let not man put asunder."

Another reason may be given-after the death of Christian Funk, the leadership fell on John Funk but he was no leader. There is yet left a remnant of a Church of this sect called Herrenleute in Worcester township of eighteen or twenty members, approximately one mile southeast of the Methacton Mennonite Meeting House.

Now the question may be asked, "What effect did this have on the Mennonite Church?" We notice the Franconia Congregation in 1850, when the Funkites were extinct, had but ninety members, whereas, it is now the largest in the Eastern District, having between seven and eight hundred members.

I am also informed by John Souder that in 1833 had but seventy members and at one time they were about equal in membership so here we can see what Church quarrels will do.

We will now make a quotation from the History of Lower Salford township because I think it a timely saying. Speaking of Christian Funk the writer says, "From this standpoint we see plainly that people will have their views in political matters and no church should interfere nor excommunicate members for taking what may seem to them the wrong side. And when a church does wrong the Bishops and other officials should not be too proud and self-willed to recon-

sider the matter and make it right." For we now are willing to admit that this Government of ours is the best government on earth and because of it, it has become the most enlightened nation on the globe. The saying is, "We profit by our mistakes."

This was known as Frick's Barial Grounds in later years because, the adjoining farm was owned by Peter Frick and his descendents from 1165 until 1866.

The last member of the Funkites at this place was David L. Rosenberger, of Unionville. The burials are:

Hannah Dreisbach, nee Rosenberger, married Charles Dreisbach, on Nov. 6, 1851. She was born Feb. 6, 1828, died Feb. 19, 1854.

Hannah, daughter of Charles and Hannah Dreisbach, Feb. 4, 1854. Aug. 23, 1854.

Sophia Rosenberger.

Rosenberger, aged 2-1-6.

Samuel Detweiler, died Apr. 19, 1865, in his 92nd year.

Catharine Detweiler, died Mar. 6, 1853. Aged 67-5-14.

Heinrich Frick, died Apr. 25, 1857. Aged 70-2-26.

J. and J. Konig.

Elizabeth Konig (King), died 1773.

Peter Konig (King), died 1793

(Revolutionary marker). John Fisher, died Apr. 12, 1826.

Aged 9 months.

Mahlon Fisher, died Jan. 6, 1828. Aged 0-9-16.

(2 markers blank)

- 1788.
- 1788.
- D. R. B., 1776.
- (3 blanks)

Barbara Rosenberger, May 7, 1767. Nov. 14, 1830. 62-6-8.

Benjamin Rosenberger, died Dec. 23, 1832. Aged 71 years.

Johannes Rosenberger, died 1791. I. H. Rosenberger.

Rebecca Funk, died Jan. 23, 1815. Aged 14-11-22

P. F., 1812 (Peter Frick) (Revolutionary marker).

B. F., 1782. L. F., 1774. (2 blanks)

- M. F., 1764.
- (2 blanks)

I. H. — H. M., 1782. P. Herman, 1810. S. Merman, 1815. (blank) A. R., 1837. M. Funk, 1816. (blank) Catharine Hunsberger, June 15, 1768. May 15, 1857. 88-11-0. Abraham Hunsberger, died Jan. 11, 1849, Aged 80-11-26. Abraham Ruth, Oct. 19, 1807. Feb. 1, 1896. David Ruth, died Sept. 9, 1839. Aged 61-7-2. Susanna, wife of David Ruth, died Apr. 10, 1866. Aged 83-10-28. Mary, wife of Jacob Brown, nee Allebach, Oct. 2, 1791. Aug. 25, 1877. 85-10-23. Milton Funk, July 29, 1816. Feb. 7, 1861. Samuel Funk, July 22, 1805. Feb. 22, 1878. Mary Funk, Apr. 21, 1807. Mar. 11, 1865. 55-10-20. Samuel Funk, died Oct. 18, 1844. Aged 2 years, 11 weeks. Mary Funk, Dec. 13, 1781. Mar. 11, 1847. 65-2-28. John Funk, Nov. 18, 1779. July 2, 1845. 65-5-11. Anna Funk, died Oct. 3, 1834. Aged 22-9-0. M. Funk, 1824. Martin Funk, 1815. Christian Hoffman, born in Germany, died Jan. 13, 1864. William Rosenberger, died Jan. 29, 1862, aged 12-6-19. Catharine Rosenberger, nee Fellman, wife of Henry Rosenberger, Oct. 4, 1809, died Jan. 15, 1879, 68-5-11. Henry Rosenberger, Oct. 5, 1810-May 20, 1863. 52-7-15. Marietta, daughter of Enos and Elizabeth Rosenberger, died Mar. 24, 1872. 11-11-8. Hannah Detweiler, died Aug. 31, 1877. Aged 38-10-19. William Funk, June 13, 1813 ----Nov. 18, 1890. 77-5-5. Margaret, wife of Wm. Funk. Nov. 22, 1814—Sept. 8, 1896. 81-9-16. William Funk, Dec. 22, 1848 — Sept. 14, 1871. 22-8-22. Levi Funk, Oct. 2, 1837-July 29, 1866 (G. A. R. marker).

Mary Ann, wife of Frederick Trauger, Mar. 22, 1840-May 17, 1882.

Janetta, daughter of David Rosenberger, dicd Sept. 13, 1858. Aged 0-7-23.

Monroe, son of David Rosenberger, died Sept. 13, 1860. Aged 0-2-17.

Josiah, son of David Rosenberger, died Feb. 16, 1862. Aged 9-9-0.

Mary Ann, wife of David Rosenberger, Dec. 9, 1833 — May 4, 1863. 29-4-25.

David Rosenberger, Mar. 3, 1825-Apr. 15, 1903. 78-1-12.

Catharine Reichenbach, died July 3, 1901. Aged 79-4-15.

Sophia Wierman, Aug. 3, 1800 — Aug. 23, 1883. 83-0-20.

Christiann, daughter of Henry Wierman, wife of Francis Davis, Sept. 16, 1802, died Dec. 13, 1869. 67-2-27.

Isaac Wierman, Jan. 15, 1797, Dec. 27, 1861. 64-11-12.

Sarah Zendt, Nov. 15, 1819, Aug. 15, 1851. 31-9-0.

Maria Zendt, Mar. 17, 1855, Sept. 2, 1864. 9-5-15.

Maria, wife of Daniel Rosenberger, June 7, 1815—Feb. 6, 1865, 49-7-29,

June 7, 1815—Feb. 6, 1865. 49-7-29. Daniel Rosenberger, Mar. 4, 1813— Mar. 17, 1896. 80-0-13.

Susanna, wife of Peter Frick, Nov. 25, 1814—Feb. 6, 1871. 56-2-12.

25, 1814—Feb. 6, 1871. 56-2-12. Peter Frick, Mar. 18, 1798—Sept. 4, 1881. 83-5-16.

Infant son of G. H. and E. H. Frick, died Aug. 16, 1876.

Hannah, daughter of Aaron and Mary Rosenberger, died Mar. 10, 1873. Aged 1-10-22.

Elizabeth, wife of Abraham F. Detwiler, Apr. 6, 1831 — May 2, 1898. 67-0-27.

Abraham F. Detwiler, Jan. 8, 1822 --Feb. 18, 1898. 76-1-10.

Jacob, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Detweiler, Oct. 30, 1851—Apr. 30, 1862.

Isaac, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Detweiler, Jan. 20, 1858 — Apr. 28, 1862.

Catharine Ann, daughter of Abraham Detweiler, Mar. 21, 1861—Apr. 7, 1862.

John, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Detweiler, Feb. 27, 1855—Mar. 22, 1862.

Rebecca, daughter of George and Elizabeth Apple, July 14, 1831—July 28, 1851. 20-0-14. Susan Elizabeth, daughter of I. L. and Esther Frick, died Nov. 27, 1856. Aged 0-5-8. Elizabeth, wife of Christian Rosenberger, died Oct. 5, 1838. Aged 66-7-19. Mary Fisher, died Apr. 24, 1839. Aged 68 years, Frederick Fisher, died Dec. 8, 1827. Aged 78-6-21. Jacob Fisher, died Dec. 1, 1828. Aged 30-0-25. 1790. 1790. Hannah Lahr, died Dec. 4, 1800. Martin Rosenberger, died Sept. 10, 1853. Henry Rosenberger, born 1840. Margaret Funk, 1805. Rev. Johannes Funk, died Jan. 7, 1820. Aged 81-3-0. (Revolutionary marker.) Elizabeth Funk, died Feb. 7, 1815. Aged 67-1-0. (4 blanks) Barbara, wife of Johannes Rosenberger, Jan. 2, 1726 — Jan. 7, 1793. 67-0-5. Johannes Rosenberger, Jan. 1, 1724 -Oct. 1, 1808. 84-9-0. (Revolutionary marker.) (5 blanks) 1775. Magdalena Weirman, Dec. 28, 1749 -Aug. 5, 1822. 72-4-23. Martin Weirman, May 23, 1748 ---Mar. 16, 1813. 64-9-24. (Revolutionary marker.) Blank with G. A. R. marker.) A. R. B., 1799. (Initials RB signify Rosenberger.) Elizabeth R. B., 1771. (4 blanks) M. W., 1762. (Probably Michael Weirman.) Samuel Funk. died April, 1834. Aged 66-1-5. 2 blanks) A. Earnst, 1838. E. Earnst. Emeline Funk. Samuel Gross. Aged 2 years. Mary Ann Gross. Aged 4-8-18, Daniel Gross, Sept. 7, 1821-April 24, 1857. 35-7-17.

Hannah, wife of Daniel Gross, Oct. 28, 1821-Aug. 17, 1880. 58-8-19. George W. Wack, died Nov. 6, 1858. Aged 8-4-4. Catharine, daughter of John and Catharine Wack, died Oct. 29, 1862. Aged 17-5-8. Catharine, wife of John Wack, died May 17, 1864. Aged 48-1-3. John C. Wack, Oct. 5, 1814-Apr. 14. 1869. 54-6-9. Sarah Ann, daughter of Wm. and Margaret Funk, died Mar. 26, 1851. Aged 14 years. Matilda Jane, nee Frick, wife of John Erney, Oct. 8, 1849-Aug. 14, 1892. John G. Erney, June 27, 1845 — Feb. 8, 1828. 82-7-11. Infant of Abel and Amanda Heckler, born and died Dec. 16, 1894. Elizabeth, wife of David Rosenberger, Feb. 2, 1822-May 30, 1850. 28-3-2. H. R. Hannah Rosenberger, June 2, 1833 ---Nov. 21, 1837. 4-3-19. Sarah, wife of Henry Rosenberger, Oct. 13, 1803-Aug. 10, 1860. Henry Rosenberger, May 3, 1799-May 3, 1864. 66-0-0. Samuel Rosenberger, Oct. 21, 1796 -Aug. 3, 1873. 76-9-9. Maria Rosenberger, nee Swartz. Johannes Rosenberger, May 3, 1755 -Sept. 18, 1832. 77-4-15. Elizabeth Rosenberger, Oct. 17, 1768-July 17, 1838. 69-9-0. Levi Rosenberger, died July 18, 1844. Aged 1-6-7. Elizabeth Rosenberger, died Sept. 15, 1828. Aged 29-6-10. Abraham R. B., died Feb. 16, 1826. Aged 2-4-13. HRB, 1824. Abraham Rosenberger, died Nov. 2, 1820. Aged 32 years. Margaret Rosenberger, died Mar. 24, 1852. Aged 72-1-4. John M. Rosenberger, died Feb. 17, 1848. Aged 46-5-13. Johannes Rosenberger, 17-. D. R. B., 1817. E. WMN., 1808 (Weirman). M. WM., 1808. E. WM., 1810. I A WM., 1830. (5 blanks)

E WM., 1812.

Martin Weierman, died July 6, 1831. Aged 26-8-21.

Elizabeth, wife of Henry Weierman, Sept. 10, 1777-June 15, 1850.

Elizabeth RB., 1771.

Johannes W. Rosenberger, July 16,

1796 — April 3, 1837. 40-8-20. He

married Barbara Stauffer on Sept. 11, 1819.

Sophia Rosenberger, died Apr. 9, 1835. Aged 59-2-15.

Daniel Rosenberger, died Nov. 25, 1830. Aged 65-5-2.

I R B, 1808.

I A B, 1790.

A A B, 1794 (Abraham Allebach) (Revolutionary marker).

Ann, wife of F. L. Ruth, died Mar. 7, 1838. Aged 30-10-7.

Catharine Frick, died Feb. 10, 1830, Aged 61-11-21.

John Frick, 1818.

Elizabeth, wife of John Frick, died Dec. 28, 1831. Aged 50-3-15.

Levi Frick, died Oct. 8, 1842. Aged 12-10-12.

Francis Frick, Feb. 7, 1837—May 3, 1866. 29-2-29.

Christian Hackman, born 1807, died May 16, 1837.

WRB.

Maria Rosenberger, Feb. 22, 1800 -Oct. 1, 1845. 45-7-6.

John Rosenberger, April 12, 1790 -Sept. 21, 1872. 82-4-9.

Nancy Rosenberger, April 7, 1842 -Feb. 27, 1880. 37-10-20.

John Rosenberger, Aug. 28, 1861 -Feb. 26, 1863. 1-5-28.

Abraham Rosenberger, Nov. 28, 1863-July 22, 1865. 1-7-26.

Gaty Rosenberger, Sept. 18, 1868 -July 19, 1873. 4-10-1. Aaron K. Frick, Nov. 26, 1841 ---

Aug. 10, 1923.

Frany, wife of John Frick, June 3,

1813—Sept. 28, 1868. 55-3-25. John Frick, July 13, 1800 — Feb. 13, 1884. 83-3-28.

Henry H. Rosenberger, Feb. 23, 1834—Apr. 10, 1890. 56-1-18.

Mary K., wife of Henry H. Rosenberger, Dec. 12, 1835-Apr. 5, 1918.

Sarah Rosenberger, Mar. 3, 1871-Dec. 10, 1919. 48-9-7.

Ida, wife of Lincoln A. Kaler, Aug. 10, 1864-Jan. 17, 1886. 21-5-7.

Sarah Frick, wife of Benjamin Rosenberger, Feb. 25, 1825-Oct. 12, 1904.

Benjamin Rosenberger, Mar. 9, 1826—Aug. 20, 1906. 80-5-21.

John F., son of Benjamin and Sarah Rosenberger, Dec. 16, 1849-May 29, 1905.

Amanda F. Rosenberger, Sept. 16, 1847-Sept. 10, 1916. 68-11-24. Mary Ann F. Rosenberger, Aug.

21, 1852-Oct. 18, 1926. 74-1-27.

(New grave, no tombstone.)

Mary Ann, wife of Lewis Souder, Aug. 5, 1855-Dec. 2, 1874. 19-3-27.

James S. Rosenberger, Oct. 18, 1864—Feb. 27, 1878. 13-4-9.

Elizabeth Rosenberger, Jan. 7, 1841 -Sept. 21, 1877. 36-8-14.

Catharine Rosenberger, died Sept. 19, 1874. Aged 0-6-19.

Mary Rosenberger, died Feb. 13, 1862. Aged 1 year.

William Hendricks, Mar. 2, 1830-Sept. 10, 1870. 40-6-8.

William, son of Wm. and Mary Hendricks, died 1863.

Anna Hendricks, Aug. 7, 1851 -Sept. 10, 1852.

Catharine, wife of Christian Detweiler, Mar. 12, 1801—Apr. 29, 1869. 68-1-17.

Christian Detweiler, Jan. 5, 1804-Mar. 15, 1850. 46-2-10.

Christian Ruth, died Feb. 21, 1825. Aged 28-3-11.

Wilbert Washington Wagner, Feb. 22, 1857—July 22, 1862. 4-5-0.

Abraham Rosenberger.

S D W, 1838 (Detweiler).

CDW, 1834.

Johannes Allebach, died Feb. 21, 1839. Aged 83-1-0.

Levina Allebach, Sept. 23, 1832-Nov. 23, 1837. 5-2-0.

Mary, wife of John Allebach, Sept. 28, 1784 — Aug. 18, 1858. 73-10-20.

John Allebach, July 7, 1803—Sept. 5, 1862. 59-1-27.

(2 blanks)

Mary, daughter of Peter and Catharine Hines, Sept. 18, 1839-July 11, 1855. 15-9-23.

Catharine Hines, Apr. 6, 1808 – Apr. 28, 1877. 69-0-22.

(5 blanks)

A K, 1827.

EK.

Benjamin Allebach, died Sept. 23, 1822. Aged 34-1-0.

Catharine, wife of Isaac Rosenberger, Sept. 16, 1805 — June, 1872. 66-8-21.

Icaac Rosenberger, Sept. 9, 1796-July 16, 1863. 66-10-7. E R B, 1827. M R B, 1839.

Dec. Susanna Rosenberger, 20, 1823 - Oct. 11, 1838. 14-9-21.

Abraham Rosenberger, June 1, 1792-Aug. 30, 1832. 40-3-0.

Frany Rosenberger, Aug. 15, 1801 Sept. 20, 1832. 31-1-5.

Barbara Allebach, May 11, 1819-Aug. 19, 1845. 27-11-0. ???

Christian Allebach, July 22, 1816 Aug. 10, 1895. 79-0-19.

Amelia Allebach, Aug. 29, 1824 -Feb. 11, 1899. 74-5-12.

Susanna, daughter of Benjamin and Rachel Rosenberger, 1854.

Nancy, daughter of Samuel and Mary Frick, Aug. 23, 1840-Jan. 27, 1885. 44-5-4.

Mary, wife of Samuel Frick, Feb. 22, 1807-Mar. 3, 1867. 60-0-11.

Samuel Frick, Jan. 24, 1805-June 17, 1891. 86-4-23.

Ervin, son of Susanna Reinhart, June 8, 1871—Aug. 21, 1872.

Addison A. Reinhart, Oct. 13, 1845 July 17, 1917. 71-9-4.

Susan, wife of Addison Reinhart, Aug. 14, 1849-Oct. 13, 1922. 73-2-4.

Mary Amanda, daughter of Henry and Barbara Fretz, Aug. 31, 1857-Jan. 7, 1922.

Barbara, wife of Henry B. Fretz, pr. 1, 1820 — Feb. 28, 1909. Apr. 82-10-27.

Henry B. Fretz, Aug. 14, 1821-May 6, 1903. 81-8-22.

Franklin H. Fretz, July 2, 1869 -June 26, 1895. 25-11-24.

James Henry, son of Henry and Barbara Fretz, Sept. 19, 1862-Nov. 6, 1881.

Cora Y. Bell, daughter of Abraham J. and Susan Fretz, Oct. 12, 1877 ---Feb. 8, 1902.

Bertha, daughter of A. J. and Susan Fretz.

Martha, daughter of A. J. and Susan Fretz, Feb. 23, 1883-June 9, 1883.

Annie Mary, daughter of Abraham J. Fretz, Aug. 27, 1847 — Feb. 1, 1873. 25-5-9.

Susanna, wife of Abraham J. Fretz, Mar. 26, 1853-Jan. 22, 1891. 37-9-26.

Elizabeth Scholl, nee Herman, wife of David Scholl, married Feb. 27, 1838. She was born May 23, 1813; died May 25, 1842. 29-0-2.

David Scholl, June 11, 1791-May 11, 1858. They had one son and one daughter.

B G M, 1819.

SAC.

Sarah Rosenberger.

M. R., died 1820, aged 3-11-0. John Rosenberger, died Dec. 18, 1846. Aged 32-3-23.

Sarah Rosenberger, died Apr. 9, 1850. Aged 32-2-28.

A Y. O Y, 1853.

William H. Hall, Mar. 11, 1841 -Sept. 30, 1867. 26-6-19. (Civil War marker.) Served in Co. F, 28rd Reg., Penna. Vol.

Jo'h Hall, son of Joseph and Eliza Hall, born in Phila., Feb. 10, 1854-Jan. 19, 1855.

Theodore, son of Joseph A. and Eliza Hall, Oct. 3, 1851 - Feb. 2, 1853.

Ann, wife of John Apple, Feb. 24, 1818-July 11, 1844. 26-4-17.

Kate, wife of Michael Weierman, died Apr. 2, 1879. Aged 24-10-8.

Jacob, son of M. and C. Weierman, died Mar. 19, 1877. Aged 0-2-21.

Oliver, son of M. and C. Weierman, died Oct. 27, 1875. Aged 0-0-9.

John Weirman, died Oct. 28, 1859. Aged 23-10-12.

Henry Weirman, died Nov. 17, 1844. Aged 9-10-28,

John Weirman, died Apr. 13, 1862. Aged 16-8-0.

Michael Weierman, Nov. 5, 1798-Oct. 16, 1872. 73-11-11.

Catharine Weierman, daughter of John and Catharine Wisler, born July

7, 1803, died Feb. 5, 1879. 75-8-0. M. T., 1820.

Maria Folmer, died Apr. 9, 1824.

Daniel Fulmer, died Nov. 19, 1829. Aged 77 years,

E. Delp, 1816.

S. Fulmer, aged about 70 years.

J. Fulmer, aged 72-9-13. Abraham Weierman, died 1849. Aged 79 years.

Ann Weierman, died Feb. 15, 1834. Aged 69-0-19

Angelina Weierman, Oct. 24, 1824 -April 14, 1903. 78-5-20.

John Weierman, Jan. 1, 1824-June 26, 1903. 79-5-25.

Sylvester, son of Henry B. and Barbara Fretz, Nov. 5, 1853 — Nov. 17, 1899.

Amanda Naomi, daughter of Sylvester and Laura Fretz, Mar. 25, 1884 — April 2, 1884.

Warren F., son of Wm. J. and Sarah Ann Garis, Aug. 4, 1877 — April 19, 1898. 20-8-5.

Sarah Ann, wife of Wm. J. Garis, Nov. 29, 1844 — July 14, 1909. 66-7-15.

(2 blanks)

Michael W. Weierman, June 16, 1847—May 19, 1915. 67-11-3.

(blank)

Elizabeth W. Weierman, May 4, 1833—Mar. 22, 1896. 62-10-18. M. F., 1839.

James McKaig, born June 16, 1871.



# THE DUNKARD MEETING HOUSE

The Dunkard or Brethren Church is on the Cowpath road. The first house was built in 1851. This was only a small and temporary building prior to this date. They held services in the eight - cornered schoolhouse at Orvilla where they began to hold preaching services about 1845. The first church was built on ground given by George Fisher who owned the Wireman's Mill and Farm-described in that chapter. But the deed was not given until 1855 when Fisher conveyed one acre to Jacob S. Harley, Isaac Hunsberger and Peter Custer as trustees. There was additional ground purchased since. The first house was used for worship until 1868 when a larger house was built of brick and plastered. In 1906 an addition was built, and in 1928 the present house was built.

The first ministers were Jacob Reiner and Jonas Price. He served here until about 1883 when he moved to Lancaster County. Peter Custer was elected the first deacon. He later moved to Norristown. When the first church was built there were but thirteen members — but fourteen were added the first year. After Custer moved away Jacob S. Rosenberger and John Kratz were elected deacons. In 1878 Franklin P. Cassel was elected to the ministry and Jacob M. Detwiler and Jonan M. Cassel were elected deacons -- Hilary Crouthamel, of Line Lexington, was elected to the ministry in 1884 and William Fretz in 1889. William Kratz was elected to the ministry in 1899. He quit the ministry about 1907. Jacob Booz was elected in 1909. He later ficcepted the pastorate of the Ambler Brethren Church. George Light was elected in 1912. He served until his death in 1918. David Cassel was elected in 1914, William Delp in 1919, Norman Frederick in 1928.

In the cemetery is buried Jesse Aikin, the inventor of the seven character notes or scale in music. He had a copyright issued on same but he died a poor man so that no tombstone marks his grave. He died about 1890.

The first burial here was made on August 4, 1854, that of John Wagnor, a boy. The second was Simon Snyder, 1855. A partial list of burials are: B o w e r s, Bookhamer, Crouthamel, Cassel, Cressman, Cowl, Delp, Frick, Fleck, Fox, Fellman, Glosson, Garner, Gerhart, Hunsberger, Harley, Hoffman, Kratz, Keller, Kile, Knipe, Kulp, Koffel, Keck, Krupp, Landis, Moyer, Munzinger, Price, Rosenberger, Reichenbach, Ramsey, Rittenhouse, Reith, Mayer, Renninger, Snyder, Souder, Steiner, Smith, Weirman, Wick and Young.

The present ministers are Norman Frederick, David Cassel and William Delp. Membership at this writing, 180.



# THE ORVILLA SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Formerly the German Methodist or Evangelical Church. The first trustees of this church were Jonas Reed, Jacob Yeakel and John Kline. The ground was given by Martin Rosenberger from his farm. He lived in the log cabin east of the church. The ground was given December 1, 1853, and contained one and one-half acres. The church was built the following summer in 1854. The second house was built in 1876. It was unroofed by the great storm October 23, 1878.

Owing to the division in 1895 between what is known as the Bowman and Dubs factions, the majority of the members seceded and built a house in Hatfield borough at Main and Lincoln avenue, leaving the property in the hands of the minority.

Prior to the Orvilla Church these people congregated at private homes. One of the homes was Peter Boyer's, now Jacob Silverman's property, and carlier at the Jacob Rittenhouse farm on the Allentown road in Towamencin township—at that time owned by a Yeakle. Later the Dubs and Bowman factions buried the hatchet as 1 ited again under one organization. Then the Orvilla Church discontinued holding services. In 1932 they sold the church building and lot to the Seventh Day Adventists with F. P. Hankin as their pastor. Membership about 60.

The Evangelical retained the cemetery and right of way to same. The first burial was made January, 1853, that of George Neunhoffer. A partial list of burials are Boyer, Miller, Yeakle, Esslinger, Eisenhart, Klein, Gottshall, Handel, Lambert, Reed, Wismer, Conver, Allebach, Jones, Schwab, Moyer, Dreisbach, Rosenberger, Fretz, Schulke, Heckler, Krupp, Hartman, Koffel, Margargal, Shrader, Hunsberger, Heebner.



# M. B. C. CHURCH

## Locally Called "Little Heaven"

This was built in 1881. The instigator was Joel Rosenberger who lived where Oliver Kinkiner lives. He was ordained to the ministry at Lower Skippack Mennonite Church in 1864. Later he joined the Evangelical Mennonites.

An explanation may be due as to who they were. In 1849 the General Conference Mennonites ordained William Gehman to the ministry in Upper Milford. Soon after he advocated prayer meetings and such like as goes with it. In 1853 that conference passed a resolution that prayer meetings can be had under some circumstances. In 1856 conference revoked this resolution as it did not bring the harmony into the church as expected. The grayer meetings, however, were continued by the Gehman group.

In 1857 Gehman was expelled, and his adherents. Then they organized a church called the Evangelical Mennonites. About the same time Rev. Daniel Hoch, from Canada, left the Mennonite Church and formed a church which had similar ideas. About 1872 Rev. Daniel Brenneman, of Indiana, was expelled from the Mennonite Church for similar views. He and Hoch formed a church and named it United Mennonite Church.

These merged, in 18/9, with the Pennsylvania Evangelical Mennonites and called it the United Evangelical Mennonite Church.

These three branches of the Mennonite Church, in 1883, merged with a group of Shismatic Brethren in Christ of Indiana locally called River Brethren. Then they adopted the name Mennonite Brethren in Christ. This formed the present M. B. C. Church. Then were several changes made such as baptizing by effusion to immersion.

Returning back to the Hatfield Church about 1882, there was a Union Sunday School organized with Harry M. Zeigler, superintendent, and Isaac R. Hunsberger, choristor. He was a dealer in organs. He placed an organ in the church and his daughter was the organist.

In those days the Sunday Schools were only kept in summer, closing in the fall. In those days few churches had any Sunday Schools.

The community supported it and the house was crowded but soon it was changed to a denominational Sunday School. Interest then began to decline and other churches began to hold such schools.

Church membership at this place hardly ever reached twenty-five members. After some of the older members died and a few moved away the church became almost extinct. The regular services were discontinued about 1904. However, special services were sometimes conducted such as revival meetings and such like.

In 1920 the Hatfield Borough School District leased the house and used it for a primary school. After the consolidated school was built it was no longer needed.

In 1934 Elvin Musselman was stationed as pastor here. He succeeded in reviving the work again. It has now sixty-two members.

The first burial here was made in 1885, that of Martha Stover, wife of Abraham D. Stover, who lived where Frank W. Cressman now lives. The second was in 1886, of Samuel Oberholtzer who lived where Fred Anderson lives.

# HATFIELD PRINTERY

Early in the 1880's, D. L. O. Kulp opened a printing business in his father's office, at his feed store, where Henry P. Nyce now lives. Here he did some commercial printing on a small scale.

A short time afterward he published a weekly newspaper called the Hatfield Mirror. This he had printed in Philndelphia. Later he also opened a restaurant in his home, where Wesley Miller now lives.

In 1889 Kulp purchased the lot where Hiram Stern's residence is. Here he erected a one-story building where he moved his restaurant and conducted a green grocery store. The building stood where Stern's Milk Depot is.

About 1893 he built another story on top wherein he moved his printing outfit. Here he started to publish a weekly newspaper called the Hatfield Invincible. In 1894 he sold this to a Mr. Tyson of Trewigtown. After a short time it was sold to Jonas S. Moyer who moved it to the second floor of his barn at corner Main and Broad streets.

In 1893 Moyer erected a two-story building where Hatfield Post Office is, where he moved the printing on the second floor. The business had previously been leased to Clinton Addison of Lansdale. The first floor Moyer leased to William Hedrick and Horace Shellenberger where they conducted a grocery store. The next year Shellenberger sold his share to Hedrick. In 1903 Hedrick bought the property and business of D. L. O. Kulp. Here he built an addition to the house and moved his store into the same. The store business was discontinued some time afterwards.

The printing business Moyer sold to Addison in 1899. In 1903 he moved it into a new building erected on Lincoln avenue by George S. Snyder. In 1913 the building was purchased by the Lehigh Valley Transit Company and moved to Broad street which was then used for their depot.

Addison then bought a lot of Chester Knipe and built thereon where it remains today. Addison, during his ownership, had the name changed to Hatfield Times. He sold it in 1920 to Brunner and Hacker. Later Hacker sold his share to Brunner, who is the owner and publisher of the same at this writing. After the printery had moved out of the Moyer building he converted it into a dwelling. This was destroyed by fire in 1907. Moyer then built the brick house where Howard Wimmer lives.

# **Politics and Elections**

In the early days of our republic there were election districts by grouping several townships together. Hatfield and Towamencin township were one district with the polling place in Towamencin township. The first record we have when Hatfield voted separate was in 1820, August 29th, when an election was held at the Union school house and Jacob Ruth was elected assessor. A copy of this document is at the Montgomery County Historical Society. In 1822, when a congressman was to be chosen, Hatfield vote was:

- 1822: Hughes (Fed.) 57, Markley (Dem.) 39.
- 1840: Harrison (Whig) 103, Van Buren 65.
- 1844: Clay (Whig) 123, Polk (Dem.) 72.
- 1849: Fuller (Whig) 95, Gamble (Dem.) 63.

1850: Whig 94, Democratic 55.
1852: Scott (Whig) 118, Pierce 55.
1853: Whig 92, Democratic 44.
1855: Republican 62, 68.
1856: 125, 70.
1866: Lincoln 174, Democratic 97.
1862: Republican 163, Democratic 91.
1863: Republican 177, Democratic 124.
1866: Republican 198, Democratic 165.
1872: Republican 210, Democratic 96.
1876: Republican 210, Democratic 98.
1884: Republican 221, Democratic 99.
1886: Republican 256, Democratic 99.
1888: Republican 259, Democratic 104.
1890: Republican 268, Democratic 177.
1892: Republican 268, Democratic 127.
1894: Republican 266, Democratic 97.
1895: Republican 267, Democratic 92.

The one exception when the Democratic ticket obtained a majority was in 1855, when the passage of a Prohibitory Law by the previous Republican Legislature had aroused much opposition in Hatfield among both parties, as the people were not yet prepared for that kind of legislation. The Election Board as far as I have been able to ascertain were:

1845: Peter Frick, Judge; Christ Rosenberger and John Kindig, Inspectors.

1846: John Frick, Judge; Enos Ratzel and Wm. D. Rosenberger, Inspectors.

1847: Isaac D. Rosenberger, Judge; John Kindig and Wm. D. Rosenberger, Inspectors.

1848: John Kindig, Judge; Isaac Rosenberger and John Wagnor, Inspectors.

1849: Peter Frick, Judge; Benjamin Hendrick and John Wagnor, Inspectors.

1850: Peter Frick, Judge; Benjamin Hendrick and John Wagnor, Inspectors.

1851: Joseph Conver, Judge; Benjamin Hendrick and Milton Jenkins, Inspectors.

1852: Joseph Conver, Judge; John Erb and Ephraim Loux, Inspectors.

1853: John Kindig, Judge; Henry Robinson and Samuel Conver, Inspectors.

1854: John Kindig, Judge; Henry Robinson and Samuel Conver, Inspectors.

1855: John Kindig, Judge; Tobias Oberholtzer and Daniel Gross, Inspectors.

1856: John Kindig, Judge; Joseph Davis and Daniel Gross, Inspectors.

1857: John Kindig, Judge; Tobias Hange and Jos. Davis, Inspectors.

1858: Peter Evans, Judge; Andrew Wanner and Jos. Davis, Inspectors.

1859: Peter Evans, Judge; Andrew Wanner and Jos. Davis, Inspectors.

1860: Jos. Conver, Judge; Samuel Conver and Jacob M. Cassel, Inspectors.

# SUPERVISORS

Abraham Allebach	1785
Peter Frick	1794
John Wireman	
John Wireman	· 1797
Abraham Moyer	1799
Jacob Ruth	1800
Jacob Ruth	1801
Jacob Ruth	1802
Jacob Hunsberger Abraham Cassel	
Matthias Johnson	1804
John Wireman	1806
Abraham Ruth Isaac Oberholtzer	
Jacob Conver	1807
Abrohom Riith	
Jacob Conver	1808
Abraham Ruth Jacob Ruth	
Tarah Conver	
John Wagoner	1831
John Funk John Wagnor	
John Funk	
John Wagnor	1833
Jacob Ruth John Wagnor	1834
Jacob Ruth	
John Wagnor	1835
Jacob Ruth John Wagnor	1836
Joseph Buth	
John Wagnor	1837
Jacob Ruth Jacob Ruth	1838
William Wilson Jacob Ruth	1839
William Wilson Dillman Kulp	1840
Jacob Ruth	
John Kline	1841
Jacob Ruth Henry Cassel	1842
Jacob Ruth	
Henry Cassel	1843
Jacob Ruth Jacob Ruth	1844
Lovi Markley	
Henry Rosenberger	1840
Levi Markley Henry Rosenberger	1846
Lovi Markley	
Henry Rosenberger	1047
Levi Markley	1848
Dillman Kulp	
John Kindig	1849

Dillman Kulp	
John Kindig	1850
Dillman Kulp	
John Kindig	1851
Dillman Kulp	
John Kindig	1852
Dillman Kulp	1050
Dillman Kulp	1803
John Kline	1054
Abraham Snyder	1804
Dillman Kulp Dillman Kulp	1855
Thomas Martin	1000
Dillman Kulp	1856
Thomas Martin	
Dillman Kulp	1857
Thomas Martin	1050
Dillman Kulp Thomas Martin	1000
Thomas Martin	1859
Benjamin R. Rosenberger	
Thomas Martin	1860
Benjamin R. Rosenberger	
Dillman Kulp	1861
Thomas Martin	

Thomas Martin Conviction of John Johnson, a sup-ervisor, on the 22nd of November, 1822, before John Roberts, Justice of the Peace of Montgomery township. Appeared John Landis, Jacob Leidy, John Leidy, as witness that the hill on Township Line road between Hat-field and Franconia was unsafe to travel therefore the Justice of the Peace gave him three weeks time to repair it. On December 13, 1822, Johnson appeared and acknowledged he had not nor cared to do any re-pairs. He was then fined fifty dollars. This document is in the Montgom-ery County Historical Society.

# **OVERSEERS OF POOR**

Emanus Studel	1785
Martin Wireman	
John Evans	1794
Isaac Oberholtzer	
Fred Fisher	1799
Daniel Rosenberger	
Abraham Shipe	1800
Abraham Hunsberry	
Abraham Ruth	1803
Matthias Johnson	
Isiah Thomas	1806
Jacob Landis	
Isiah Thomas	1807
Peter Conver	
Isiah Thomas	1808
Peter Conver	
Peter Conver	

## CONSTABLES

George Shive	1785
Philip Stillwagon	1793
John Klein	<b>1795</b>
Jacob Rase	
Peter Benner	1797
Joseph Wilson John Johnson	1798
John Johnson	1799
Thomas Morgan Abraham Shipe	1802
Abraham Shipe	1803
Christian Snyder	. 1804
Daniel Rosenberger	1805
William Snare	1808
Davis Reiner	1809
Jacob Landis	1815
John Wagoner Peter Hoxworth Peter Hoxworth	. 1818
Peter Hoxworth	. 1830
Peter Hoxworth	1831
Philip Stillwagon	1832
Philip Stillwagon	1833
David Reiner	1834
David Reiner Abram Garner appointed Depu	ty
JOHN FICK	1835
Jacob Hendrick	1836
Samuel Beyer	1837
Samuel Beyer	. 1838
Henry Cassel	. 1839
Samuel Beyer Samuel Beyer Henry Cassel Joseph Kindig	1840-41
Jacob Krom Peter Hoxworth	. 1842
Peter Hoxworth	. 1843
William Funk Benjamin Hendrick Tobias Oberholtzer	1844-46
Benjamin Hendrick	1847-48
Tobias Oberholtzer	1849-53
Jesse Oberholtzer	1854-61
Jesse Oberholtzer On November 15, 1810,	Henry
Wireman, Constable, was fine	ed Four
dollars for absence from court	(Court
Record).	

# **TOWN CLERKS**

Philip Jenkins	1846
John Sentman	1847
William Funk	1843
Abraham Snyder	1849
Isaac D. Rosenberger	1850
Albert Manuel	1851
John Erb	1852
George Snyder	1853
Samuel Apple	1854
John Althouse	1855
Caleb Price	1856
Jesse Conver	1857
John Snyder	1858
John Althouse	1859
Jonathan Krupp	1900

# SCHOOL DIRECTORS

- 1840: James Moore, George Shellenberger.
- 1841: Martin Hocker, Jonathan Evans, Peter Hoxworth, Henry Gerhart, George Shellenberger James Moore.
- 1843: Jonathan Evans, Martin Hocker, Jacob Ruth, John Wagnor, Peter Frick, John Landis.
- 1844: Nathan Harra, John Jenkins.
- 1845: Enos Ratzel, Samuel Rosenberger.
- 1846: Samuel Delp, Isaac Wisler.
- 1847: Philip Zeiber, Benjamin Rosenberger.
- 1848: Martin Hocker, Abraham Stauffer.
- 1849: Isaac Wisler, Samuel Delp.

Hatfield township adopted the Public School System in 1850.

- Three years: John Frick, John Landis.
- Two years: Isaac Rosenberger, C. Todd Jenkins.
- One year: Septimus Evans, Enos Ratzel.
- 1851: Jacob Shellenberger, Joseph Drake.
- 1852: Jeremiah Anders, John Wagnor.
- 1853: John Frick, Peter Frick.
- 1854: Joseph Conver, John Kindig.
- One year: Samuel Conver.
- 1855: Jacob Shellenberger, Jermiah Anders.
- 1856: John Frick, Peter Frick. 1857: Moses Wagner, John Kindig, Joseph Conver.

- 1858: Joseph Davis, John Apple. 1859: Tobias Hange, Tobias Scholl. 1860: Moses Wagner, Daniel Geisinger.
- 1861: Joseph Davis, Septimus Evans.

# AUDITORS

Berges Morris	1840
Charles Jenkins	1841
John Frick	1842
John Wagoner	1843
Isaac Rosenberger	1844
John Frick	1845
Jacob Ruth	1846
John Landis	1847
John Frick	
Jacob Ruth	1849
John M. Jenkins	1850
John Frick	1851

Peter Frick	1 ፍ ና ን
John Jenkins	
John Frick	1854
A. H. Delp	1855
John M. Jenkins	1856
John Frick	1857
Peter Frick	1858
John M. Jenkins	1859
John Frick	1860
Henry Stover	1861

# ASSESSORS

- 1785: Jacob Reed; Assistants, George Sheive, Andrew Morgan.
- 1786: Same.
- 1787: Jacob Reed; Assistants, Thomas Morgan, Jacob Ruth.
- 1788: Jacob Reed; Assistants, Thomas Davis, Jacob Ruth.
- 1789: Jacob Reed; Assistants, Andrew Morgan, John Funk.
- 1793: John Funk; Assistants, Jacob
- Reed, Andrew Morgan. 1795: Jacob Ruth; Assistants, An-drew Morgan, Matthias Johnson.
- 1797 to 1800: Jacob Ruth.
- 1801 to 1805: Andrew Morgan. 1806 to 1811: Frederick Ratzell.
- 1812 to 1820: David Rinard.
- 1821-22: Jacob Ruth.
- 1823: Abraham Ruth. 1824: David Rinard.
- 1825 to 1831: John Frick.

- 1840: John M. Jenkins; Assistants, Martin Hocker, John Funk.
- 1841: John Jenkins.
- 1842: John Frick.
- 1843: John Landis; Assistants, Enos Ratzel, Martin Hocker.
- 1844-45: John Landis.
- 1845: John Landis; Assistants, John Jenkins, Abraham Stauffer.
- 1847-48: John Landis.
- 1849: John Landis; Assistants, Mar-tin Hocker, John M. Jenkins.
- 1850-51: John Landis.
- 1852: John Landis; Assistants, John Frick, John Jenkins. 1853-54: Joseph Conver.
- 1855: Joseph Conver; Assistants, John Frick, Tobias Hange. 1856-57: Joseph Conver.
- 1858: Tobias Hange; Assistants, John Jenkins, Joseph Conver.
- 1859-60: Tobias Hange.
- 1861 to 1863: Abraham Rosenberger; Assistants, Abraham H. Delp, John Frick.
- 1865: Tobias Oberholtzer.
- 1866-1869: Jonathan Krupp.
- 1870-1872: James Romig.
- 1874: Jonathan Krupp.
- 1875 to 1894: Abraham S. Rosenberger,
- 1895-1900: Elwood Land (Democrat).
- 1901-1903: Charles Delp.
- 1904-1915: Henry Refsnyder.

# ASSESSMENTS

The First Assessment I have been able to find was 1769 by John Funk, assessor. At this time Montgomery County belonged to Philadelphia County. The second was in 1774 by Jacob Reed, assessor. In the first assessment there were 5,081 acres, 119 horses, 202 cattle, and four slaves. In the second assessment there were 5,622 acres, 108 horses, 211 cattle, and four slaves.

In these assessments the person living on the place was sometimes assessed with the property instead of the owner. After Montgomery County was created the first assessment in 1785 were as follows: 6,459 acres, 150 horses, 268 cattle. There was only one slave assessed after Montgomery County was formed and that was in 1796 and seven.

# **1769 ASSESSMENT**

	Acres Hor	8e8 (	Cattle
Jacob Krees		4	1
Gabriel Frey		3	$\overline{2}$
Richard Clayton	150	2	4
John Cunkel	. 80	2	4
Thomas Davis	. 100	3	8
Japhart Thomas			1
Jacob Sneer	•	2	6
(Also 1 slave)			
Jacob Foreman		2	5
Jacob Allemong	10	1	3
John Funk	122	3	4
(Also 1 slave)			
Balser Stem	<b>110</b>	8	5
John Hendricks		2	3
Henry Hendricks		2	3
John Hoxworth	100	2	3
John Johnson		3	6
Jenken Jenkens	200	3	6

Amos Jones	100	1	1
Peter King	150	2	4
Peter King Valentine Ulrich	100	2	4
John Repert		3	3
Rudolph Lapp	100	2	3
Andrew Morgan	100	2	2
William Miller		3	3
Samuel Musselman	329	1	1
Henry Overholts	150	4	4
Jacob Overholts	50	2	1
Jacob Ratzell	45	1	4
Henry Rees	150	2	4
Jacob Reed		4	8
		-	0
Henry Rosenberger	150	2	6
John Rosenberger	200	4	) 9
Daniel Rosenberger	150	4	3 7
Daniel Rosenberger	106	2	3
Jacob Server	100	2	3
Abraham Roote	100	4	J
(Also 1 slave) Henry Stover Peter Freeks Taylor Henry Souder	F.0	0	2
Henry Stover	00	2	
Peter Freeks Taylor	80	2	4
Henry Souder	150	3	6
John Shellenberger	150	2	6
Jacob Wasser		2	2
Jacob Sowder	50	1	2
Adam Shipe	108	2	4
Christian Conford	40	2	3
Morris Thomas	130	2	2
John Wright	180	3	3
Michael Weirman, Sm	170	3	6
Isaac Wisler	113	4	3
John Bucheimer	100	2	3
Henry Frey	130	1	3
John Mowrer		2	3
Jacob Cline	80	3	2
Peter Ycow	~~	2	3
Frederick Zellor		_	2
Michael Comb		1	2
Peter Hoxworth	20	1	2
John Shott	20	Î	$\overline{2}$
Thomas Morgan		ī	3323222222
		i	2
		1	1
Abraham Hendrick		1	7
John Weirman		1	•

# **1774 ASSESSMENT**

# Acres Horses Cattle

Isaac Rosenberger Jacob Overholtzer Henry Rosenberger Thomas Davis	68 80	3 1 2 2	6 2 3 3
Jacob Sneer	97	2	4
Jacob Gross	10 122	2	3 5
(Also 1 slave) Baltzer Stem John Hendricks		2 2	<b>4</b> 3

	100	2	5
John Hoxworth	100	2 3 2 2	3
John Johnson	185	3	7
Jenken Jenkens	200	2	1
William Lukens	122	2	3
Peter King		2	4
John Johnson		•	1
Valentine Ulrich	146	3	4
George Sheive	115	3	3
Abraham Moyer	100	2	3
Andrew Morgan	100	2	3 3
William Miller Samuel Musselman	050	2	3
Samuel Musselman	252		E0.
Henry Overholtz	200	4	50
Jacob Ratzel Tanner.	40	1	3 4
Henry Raze Jacob Reed	140	3 3	7
Jacob Reed	215	3	7
John Rosenberger	150	2	6
David Rosenberger	200 106	3	5
Jacob Server	100	2	4
Abraham Ruth	100	2	2
Henry Stauffer		2	5
Peter Frick	85	4	Ð
(Also 1 slave)	150	2	5
Abraham Overholtz	100	3	10
John Shellenberger	250	3 1	2
Jacob Souder	100	2	4
Adam Sherve	100	2	3
Christian Conver	65	2	3 4
Morris Thomas	140	1	4
George Thomas	85	3	4
John Wright		3	4
Jonathan Wright		2	5
Michael Weirman, Sm	1 10	4	U
(Also 1 slave)	64	3	5
Isaac Wisler John Buckhermer	100	2	4
Melchor Yoder		9	3
Jacob Ingart		2 3	
Jacob Kline	80	2	3 6 3
Peter Hoxworth	70	2	š
John Shack		~	ĭ
Thomas Morgan			ī
Johr Weirman		2	5
Moriis Davis		~	
Lawrence Andrews			2 1 2
Philip March		1	$\hat{2}$
Abraham Allebach		$\overline{2}$	4
Henry Rosenberger	150	2	4
Conrad Leidig	14	-	4
Martin Weirman	96	2	4
Isaac Williams	. • .•	$\overline{2}$	1
(Also 1 slave)		-	_
Matthias Zigefuss			1
Matthias Hendricks			ī
			-
Martin Rosenberger,			•
<b>SM.</b>		1	2
Christian Billheimer			2 2 1
George_Metzker		2	2
Jacob Johnson			1
Thomas Thomas	20		1

# 1785 ASSESSMENT

Acr	es Hoi	*8 <del>8</del> 8 (	Cattle
Charles Shellenberger		5	5
Conrad Lyde		-	3
Isaac Hunsberger	7		1
Christian Beem	•	2	ī
Abraham Hendrick	100	ī	3
Jacob Swartz	50	2	5
Jacob Swartz	50 94	$\tilde{2}$	4
Jacob Tidwiler	130	2	6
Henry Cleynier	199	Ĩ	5
Henry Cleyner 1	102		5
Henry Sheive	85	3 3	6
Taba Shallamhanaan	00	0	4
John Shellenberger	1.40	2 3	8
John Shellenberger	143	3	
Jacob Rees	141	2 3	4
John Hendricks	111	3	3
Jacob Ruth		22	6
Jacob Overholtzer	68	2	2
David Kuth	148	2	6
David Rosenberger	200	4	8
Isaac Rosenberger	159	2	6
John Funk	118	3	5
Abraham Ruth	120	2	4
John Funk Abraham Ruth Jacob Kline	100	2	3
John Weirman	149	4	6
Abraham Allebach		2	4
John Hendricks	77	2	3
John Rosenberger	170	$\overline{2}$	4
Jacob Reed	215	4	7
Jacob Conver	95	2	4
Elias Castle	106	2	3
Henry Stoufer	50	2	2
Matthias Johnson	185	5	3
Martin Weirman	96	2	5
Martin Weirman	80	2	9
Henry Rosenberger			
(Renter of Martin	05	0	
Rosenberger Mill)	80	2	4
Peter King, Jr. George Metzger	23	1	2
George Metzger	100	2	4
Thomas Stalford	69	2	2
Thomas Davis	70	2	4
John Buckheimer	180	4	4
Jacob Sorver	126	3	5
Edward Hoxworth	100	2	3
John Jenkins, Sr.	50		
George Thomas	40	2	1
Jacob Walton	160	2 2	3
Thomas Morgan	50	1	2
Andrew Morgan	100	1 3 2	4
John Jenkins, Jr.	14	2	4

Peter King, Sr.	161	3	4
Isaac Wisler	159	4	6
Michael Wireman	76	2	4
(1 grist mill)		-	-
Abraham Moyer	100	2	4
Peter Howworth	70	2	3
Peter Hoxworth Eleanor Miller	150	2	š
Henry Selsor	190	2	ă
John Mason	100	4	0
JUNII MASUN (Millumiaht)	225	1	3
(Millwright)		-	
Edward Morgan	25	1	2
Michael Moyer		~	-
(Wheelwright)	250	2	5
Philip Stillwagon		1	2
George Sheive	109	2	4
Jacob Shooter	5		1
Emanuel Shitle	10	1	2
Jacob Ratzel			
(Tanner Yard)	54	2	3
James Mehaffy	50	2	3
Josiah Dickeson	74	2	2
Christian Leihigh	11	~	ĩ
William Snavo		2	2
William Snare		4	2
Martin Idle	4		2
Henry Keller	~~	•	•
(Innkeeper) Peter Benner (Weaver)	50	2	2
Peter Benner (Weaver)	)	•	1
Isaac Overholtzer		3	4
Benjamin Williams	70	2	4
Single Men			
		H	orses
Davis Harmon (weave	r)		.1
Henry Shafer (cordwa Abel Williams (taylor) Isaiah Thomas (cordw	iner)		
Abel Williams (taylor)	)		
Isaiah Thomas (cordw	ainer)		.1
Isaac Morgan	/		
Jonathan Miller			
			1
Enoch Miller Henry Hendrick	•••••	• • • •	•
Samuel Wisler (blacks	mith)		1
Taka Vilma			
Joint Anne David Davia			•
Jacob Sorver (storekee	· · · · · ·	••••	
Jacob Sorver (storekee	per)	••••	. 1
Jonas Stalford	、		
Jacob Shutt (carpenter	)		
Benjamin Rosenberger	• • • • •	• • • •	. 1
Jacob Rees			
When slavery was d	liscont	inue	d in
the termship conret he			1

When slavery was discontinued in the township cannot be ascertained as slaves over forty-five years were not assessed and none assessed after 1801.



# THE REVOLUTION



The period of the Revolutionary War naturally did not cause such intense interest as in some other townships by reason of the staid, plain and sober-minded character of the people who were mainly averse to taking a share in public affairs or entering the military service. Many were opposed to bearing arms from religious conviction.

There was a militia company formed, however, as in other townships. In it were enrolled those fit for military duty who were expected to take part in the drill necessary for military service or else to pay their fines. Only a portion of these, however, saw actual service in the army.

This militia company was under the command of Capt. Philip Reed, whose father's homestead was at the Scholl place, near the Franconia line. The non-associates were those not enrolled for military duty by reason of age or other causes. Various names are in both lists. It will be seen that the preponderance of names are German.

# CAPT. PHILIP REED'S

# MILITIA COMPANY

Christian Bean Yellis Cassell Zachariah Clawson Enoch Davis Thomas Davis Peter Frick Edward Hoxworth Jacob Johnson John Jenkins John Johnson Samuel Jones Henry Johnson John Kline Peter King **James** Longhead William Lukens **Christian Lillerick** John Lukens **Conrad Leidy** Abraham Meyers George Metsgar Isaac Morgan Andrew Morgan Jonathan Miller Jacob Oberholtzer Henry Oberholtzer Joseph Oberholtzer Isaac Oberholtzer

Jacob Ruth John Rosenberger Henry Rosenberger David Rosenberger John Rosenberry **David Ruth Charles Shellenberger** William Skelton **Henry** Sheive George Sheive John Shellenberger **Henry** Selser **Jacob Swartley Jacob Stoneburner** Henry Shellenberger John Sower Aaron Scout **George Stover** George Thomas Isaiah Thomas John Wireman Yost Wile John Wisler Isaac Wisler Samuel Wisler Martin Wireman Melchoir Yoder

In the above list were those enrolled as fit for military duty, and were expected to take part in the drills necessary for military service, or pay their fines.

In the following list will be found the names of those who were opposed to the bearing of arms, on account of their religious belief, or age, and physical deformities.

# NON-ASSOCIATORS

Abraham Allebach John Bucheimer Henry Conrad Samuel Dotterer Thomas Davis **David Davis** Peter Frick John Funk Nicholas Godshalk Jacob Gross John Hendricks Peter Hoxworth Humphrey Hughes Peter King Jacob Ingrad John Jenkins Jacob Kline William Lukens William Miller Thomas Morgan Henry Oberholtzer David Rosenberger Isaac Rosenberger Henry Resh, or Rase John Rosenberger, Sr. Martin Rosenberger

Jacob Rotzell Jacob Ruth Jacob Reed David Ruth Abraham Ruth **Jacob Swartley** Henry Sheive Jacob Sower Jacob Snowden Jacob Snare **George Sheive** John Sheive John Shick John Shellenberger Michael Swartz Jacob Sower Jacob Swarts **Henry Stover Thomas Stalford** George Thomas Morris Thomas Michael Wireman Martin Wireman Abijah Wright John Wisler Melchoir Yost

## **COLONEL JACOB REED**

Colonel Jacob Reed was the most notable figure connected with the Revolutionary struggle in Hatfield. He was of German extraction, the name Rheidt having been anglicized. He was born in 1730, and he was blessed with length of days. His life was spun till the age of ninety.

In 1770 he bought a farm of 215 acres in Hatfield of Richard and Thomas Penn. It was situated on the upper edge of the great plain of the township, and on the borders of Franconia. The present owners of this land are Frank Scholl and Stanley Waiters. Reed sold this farm in 1793 to John Rosenberger.

His earnest advocacy of the patriot cause made him a mark for the vengeance of the British and Tories. His home was visited by a party led by a Tory neighbor named John Wright, who lived on the later Krupp farm near Lansdale. One account says that Reed had no notion of being summarily carried off, and made a gallant fight for liberty within the doorway of his house—so bravely indeed, that the enemy were driven off. In the struggle his sword was broken, and the end pierced the foot of Wright in falling. By his bleeding limb, Wright was traced for several miles southeast and taken prisoner. His case was summarily dealt with, as he was hung from an oak tree near Montgomery Square.

This occurred during the winter of 1778. Either in this attack or some other raid, Reed lost by the depredations of the Tories upon his property for he afterwards was repaid £45 for damages by the American Government.

Reed removed to New Britian township, where he died November 2, 1820, on a farm now owned by H. K. Ruth, on the County Line. In his will mention is made of three sons and five daughters—Philip, Jacob, Andrew, Margaret, wife of Jacob Redline; Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Conver; Magdalena, wife of Josiah Wilson; Eve, wife of Wendel Fisher, and Catharine, wife of William Licey.

Col. Jacob Reed was in command of the Militia of Hatfield, Franconia, Lower Salford, Upper Salford, and Towamencin. Philip Reed, the Captain of the Hatfield Militia Company, was his son.

The removal of Jacob Reed to New Britian was in 1783, when be bought ninety acres of John Garner for £900. His Hatfield farm was not sold till 1793.

# FRIES' REBELLION

# Written by Lewis Harley

In the early days of our political history, three events occurred which threatened our Republican institutions with destruction. The national sentiment was not immediately established by the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution. The spirit of nationality developed very slowly. At first there were only faint glimpses of the "more perfect union."

The Constitution was adopted by means of a series of compromises, and to form the Union, different

theories contradictory to each other were recognized and conceded to be true. The people had been accustomed to local government and although general matters were vested in the Continental Congress, yet this body was to a great extent merely advisory. They erroneously looked upon the National Congress as a mere successor of the Continental Congress, and with but little more power. The spirit of national selfconsciousness was not present in active form, and it is but natural that when the people felt the first pressure of Congressional Government upon them, they should regard it as a form of tyranny.

The first resistance to the authorities of Government is known as Shay's Rebellion, which occurred in western Massachusetts in 1786. It appears that the poor farmers of western Massachusetts were loaded with more taxes than those of any other State. Their debts were enormous, averaging more than \$200 apiece. Having no means to pay their debts, many were sued and thrown into prison. They became desperate, and Daniel Shays, himself a confirmed debtor, raised an army of 2,000 farmers. They surrounded Worcester and Springfield and put a stop to all lawsuits for debt. A strong military force suppressed them and Shays fled into New Hampshire.

This occurred in the days of the Articles of Confederation, and the weakness of the old system of government is well illustrated. The test of national power is the ability to lay and collect taxes.

The Whiskey Insurrection, which occurred in western Pennsylvania in 1794, is another good example of resistance to Federal authority. Congress had resolved that an allowance of an additional sum be made to the army to compensate for the depreciation of its pay. This was distributed among the States, and the excuse was to be used for the purpose

cuse was to be used for the purpose. Many people in western Pennsylvania were Scotch and Irish. They had heard of the exactions and oppressions in the old country under the excise laws, and how houses were opened and searched by excise officers. They remembered also the resistance to the Stamp Act and the other British measures, and they rose up in surrection, preventing the officers from collecting the tax. It was only the appearance of an army of 12,958 men that they were subdued into obedience to the laws.

The third form of opposition to Federal authority is known in history as Fries' Rebellion. The quarrel with France in 1798 assumed the form of active hostilities. James McHenry, Secretary of War, began to organize the army. The President was given power to borrow \$5,000,000, and \$2,000,000 more to be raised by a new and odious tax.

The tax was direct and fell upon houses and slaves. For every slave between twelve and fifty years, fifty cents was to be required of the owner. For every house valued at from \$200 to \$500, twenty cents was required for every hundred dollars, while houses valued from \$500 to \$100,000, thirty cents per hundred were required.

There were but few slaves in Pennsylvania, and as a result, the tax fell mainly on houses and lands. The value of the houses was determined by counting the number and measuring the size of the windows. Houses with few and very small windows were usually rated lower, and in order to save the tax the farmers usually had small windows put in their houses, with panes no longer than eight by ten inches in dimensions.

Peunsylvania's share of the tax was \$237,177.72. To collect this amount the State was divided into nine districts, with the following collectors:

First District, Israel Wheeler. Second District, Paul Zantzenger. Third District, Seth Chapman. Fourth District, Collingson Reed. Fifth District, Jacob Eyerly. Sixth District, Michael Schmyser. Seventh District, Thomas Grant, Jr. Eighth District, Samuel Davidson. Ninth District, Isanc Jenkinson.

The third district was composed of Bucks and Montgomery Counties, and the fifth district of Northampton, Luzerne and Wayne Counties.

The assessors and collectors of the tax found very little difficulty and opposition until the eastern part of the state was reached. It was in the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Lehigh and Northampton, almost within sight of the Federal capital that the opposition became alarming, arising from the fact that the German people did not understand the law. Many a farmer knew nothing of the tax law until the assessor came around. The people remembered the old hearth tax of Germany, and they thought the measure was a revival of it. They were Republican in politics and were determined that the tax should not be collected. Women set dogs on the assessors, and poured scalding water on them when they attempted to measure the windows.

The assessor being unequal to the task in Bucks County, two others joined him in his efforts to enforce the law. They counted the windows of fifty houses in Milford township and went to the tavern for dinner. John Fries entered and forbade them to go any further.

The assessors finished their work, however, and were about to make the last measurement of the day, when they heard a great shout and saw Fries and four assistants in pursuit. The assessors got to Quakertown and found it in possession of a mob. At this place two of the assessors were taken.

John Fries was a farmer's son, born in Hatfield township, near Lansdale, in 1750. He learned the cooper trade, and in 1770 married Mary Brunner, of Whitemarsh township. The Brunner homestead was on the Morris road, below Franklinville. In 1775 Fries moved to Lower Milford Township, Bucks County.

He saw service in the Revolution, having been enlisted in the Lower Milford Associated Company in 1775. He also helped to put down the Whiskey Insurrection in western Pennsylvania.

After settling in Bucks County, Fries became a travelling auctioneer. In those days the auction business was an important affair. The stores did an auction business, and Fries went from village to village engaged in this employment. He and his dog, Whiskey, were familiar figures in every country store. He could speak German fluently, and in his rounds had excellent opportunity to denounce the tax. Being so well known, his words had great influence, and he naturally became a leader of the opposition party.

In February, 1798, a meeting was held at the tavern near the point of Union of the four counties: Montgomery, Lehigh, Berks and Bucks. A paper, pledging the signers to resist the window tax, received fiftytwo names. Fries pledged himself to raise 700 men to resist the tax. In the meantime, the Marshal in

Lehigh County was serving warrants and arresting persons who would not pay the tax. Those who tried to serve the subpoenas were driven away.

The Federal Courts then issued warrants and more than thirty were arrested and confined in the Sun Tavern, Bethlehem. These arrests set the counties all in flame. Fries, at the head of a mob, began the march to Bethlehem. At the bridge across the Lehigh they met another body on the same errand. They proceeded to the tavern and the Marshall was commanded to set the prisoners free, threatening to burn the town in case of resistance. Having no other alternative the men were released.

The Government became greatly alarmed at these proceedings. The President issued a proclamation demanding the rioters to disperse. He also called the Governor and militia of Pennsylvania to assist in maintaining order. Governor Mifflin issued a proclamation March 14, 1799, and on March 20, James McHenry, Secretary of War, ordered out the cavalry from Philadelphia, Chester, Montgomery, Bucks and Lancaster Counties.

Under the command of General MacPherson, the militia and cavalry encamped at Springhouse, Montgomery County. This is an old settlement, and as early as 1701 a road led from it to the city. Here General MacPherson issued a proclamation to the rioters. It was a lengthy exposition of the nature of the Constitution and the extent of Federal powers. A minister named Helmuth, who claimed to have some influence, also addressed them. Proceeding to Quakertown, they began to make arrests and scour the country in search of the rioters.

After releasing the men at Bethlehem, Fries returned to his old employment, and was arrested while holding a vendue. At the cry of soldiers, he leaped to the ground and fled to a swamp. He was arrested, and with thirty others, was taken to Philadelphia for trial.

The following is a full list of the persons thus arrested.

Treason John Fries John Eberhard Jacob Huber John Huber Frederick Heaney Christopher Socks Jacob Klein, Sr. Jacob Klein, Jr. David Klein Abraham Braitb John Getman George Getman William Getman Daniel Weidner

Misdemeanor Aaron Samuel Peter Hamberg Abraham Strong Peter Heidrick Jacob Huber Henry Huber Michael Breich Abraham Heidrick Henry Mumbower George Mumbower Peter Heyer Peter Gabel Jacob Gabel Daniel Gabel

The witnesses were George Mitchell and William Thomas. The case of Fries was called up April 30, 1799. His counsel consisted of Alexander J. Dallas and Messrs. Ewing and Lewis. Attorney Rawle and Samuel Sitgreave were counsel for the United States.

Samuel Sitgreave had a remarkable career. He was born in Philadelphia March 6, 1764, was educated at a classical school, studied law, and was admitted to practice at Philadelphia. on September 3, 1783, in his nineteenth year. He had great legal ability and a large practice. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention of 1789 and of the lower house of Congress in 1794. He conducted the trial of William Blount, impeached for conspiracy against the Government, and in 1799 was again called into service by the government to assist in the prosecution of John Fries for treason. He died at Easton.

April 4, 1824. Fries' lawyers, Dallas and Lewis, were among the ablest in the State. They argued in the trial that the offense amounted only to riot, and that it should be tried in the local courts. This point was not accepted by the Court and the case went to trial. The verdict was guilty; but as it appeared after the verdict that one of the jury, previous to being empanclled, had expressed his opinion that Fries ought to be hung, a new trial was granted. The second trial was called for April 29, 1800.

At the former trial, Fries' counsel argued at great length that the offense was only riot, and not treason. They cited many English cases to support their view. The Court would not take the English definition for treason, but relied upon that of the United States Constitution: "Treason shall consist in levying war against the United States in aiding or abetting their enemies." Fries' counsel then refused to appear further in the case. He was again found guilty; the Friday for the hanging was named, and the sheriff's posse was selected.

Benjamin Rush was one of the posse, and his summons is preserved in the Irish manuscripts at the Philadelphia Library. George Getman and Frederick Hainey were also found guilty of treason.

Another witness said that Eyerman came to his house, where conversation began about the house tax, whereupon he said that he did not care whether they put up with it or not, for he had no house to tax. A person present answered, "But you have a great quantity of books to tax."

The prisoner answered that if anybody would offer to tax his books, he would take a French, a Latin, a Hebrew, and a Greek book down to them, and if they could not read them, he would slap them about their ears till they would fall to pieces. Eyerman continued preaching to his congregation until he was taken up. After the rescue, he fled to New York State, but was apprehended and brought back and found guilty of conspiracy. He was sentenced to be imprisoned one year, pay \$50.00 fine and give security for his good behavior for one year.

In the meantime national political affairs were so developing that President Adams was led to pardon John Fries. Our country became involved in hostilities with France, on account of the refusal to declare war against England. The ratification of J9y's Treaty with England also offended France. The result of the "X. Y. Z." mission to France also caused a division in the President's Cabinet.

The Alien and Sedition Laws had also made Adams unpopular, and as the time for the Presidential election was drawing near, Adams felt the necessity of making a stroke which would tend to quiet the great opposition that was arising, as he was a candidate for re-election. To help accomplish this result he pardoned Fries.

Adams would most likely have pardoned Fries at any rate. He was the first man condemned to death for treason, and the President felt reluctant about being the first to execute the stern law. Pardons were also issued to Getman and Hainey.

There is a story that Mrs. Fries interceded with the President and secured the pardon for her husband. Some claim that she and her seven children appeared before A d a m s weeping and begging for the pardon, and that he himself was 30 affected that he could not refuse it.

Bishop William Price, of Indian Crcek, once referred to this in a sermon; but it is more likely that the President granted the pardon for political effect.

After his pardon Fries opened a tinware store in Philadelphia and prospered. General Davis, of Doylestown, claims that this is not true, but that Fries spent the remainder of his days in Bucks County. There is sufficient evidence, however, to prove that he was engaged in this business in Philadelphia.

The appearance of the large military force in the German district, and the numerous arrests and trials finally subdued the people, and Dr. Muhlenberg and others went through the counties explaining the law to them in the German tongue.

After once understanding the nature of the law they immediately became obedient, proving that they had been urged into disobedience by the misrepresentation of unscrupulous leaders.

This uprising had more than a local interest for many years. Webster, in his great reply to Hayne, referred to Fries several times, one place saying;

"If John Fries had produced an act of Pennsylvania annuling the law of Congress, would it have helped his case?"

It was one of the many factors which tended to make the administration of John Adams unpopular, leading to the downfall of the Federal party and its final disappearance from the realms of politics.

### JOHN FRIES REBELLION

### By Edward Mathews

One of the most notable figures connected with the history of Hatfield is John Fries. He was the leader of an insurrection against the Federal Government in 1799 and 1800. None of his overt acts, however, took place in Hatfield, nor did he draw any of his followers from that township.

Local historians all state that he was born in Hatfield in 1750, and that he married Mary Brunner, of Whitemarsh, in 1770. What the authority is for the first part of this statement is not informed. None of these writers tell of the locality where he was born, or his father's name, or his early childhood, or upon which homestead it was spent.

Diligent researches by the writer have not revealed anyone by the name of Fries as a landholder anywhere about the middle of the eighteenth century. If the Fries family lived here about that time, they must have been renters of the property of others. The doubtful honor of giving birth to Fries may be accorded to Hatfield in the absence of proof to the contrary. The subsequent history of his life and of his rebellion against the constituted authorities does not pertain particularly to that of Hatfield, but rather to that of the County and State.

Some reckon Frics as a plausible, loud-mouthed demagogue, with traitorous aims. Others esteem him almost a patriot, though somewhat mistaken in his aims and methods. He no doubt possessed that native assurance, and a certain sort of rude eloquence, calculated to influence a multitude of followers against a grievance, real or fancied.

His rebellion was against the collection of an internal revenue tax, laid by the Federal Government, then under the control of the Federal party. The insurrection melted away as soon as a resolute show of force appeared on the scene, and John Fries, condemned to death as a traitor, owed his life to the clemency of President John Adams.

The echoes of the disturbance he raised were very enduring among a people whose resentments are very lasting and living in portions of Berks, Lehigh, Northampton, Montgomery and Bucks Counties. The bitter animosities aroused at that time long affected the alignment of political parties of that region, and are hardly forgotten today.

### $\star \star \star$

### HATFIELD DEPOT AND

### **ADJOINING HOMES**

Joseph Proctor sold a tract of land for one dollar to the North Pennsylvania Railroad Company February 28, 1874, to which they moved the station from the Main street crossing to its present location.

This was part of the nine acres which Proctor had bought of Jacob S. Leidy, April 1, 1873. This he divided into building; lots. This tract lay on both sides of the railroad. It extended up to Union street. Maple avenue was called East avenue and Market street was called West avenue. These lots were then sold to various owners.

### $\star \star \star$

### **KNIPE'S HOTEL PROPERTY**

In 1873 Joseph Proctor sold a lot, one acre, to John Proctor for \$600.00, it being a part of the Jacob Leidy farm. John Proctor erected the present house. In 1874 he sold to Simon Markley who had a liquor license granted that year. In 1876 he sold the property to Eli S. Delp. In 1878 the sheriff seized the property for debts of Simon Markley and sold to Jacob L. Moyer, of Franconia, and Israel Ruth. In 1881 it was transferred to Isaac Hankey, he giving the Dr. Lambert residence in exchange at corner of Main street and Towamencin avenue.

In 1883 Hankey made an assign-

ment for the benefit of his creditors. Joseph Proctor, the assignee, then sold to Isaac K. Zeigler. After his death it was sold to Chester Knipe in 1889, the present owner.

It has been mentioned that Simon Markley was granted a license in 1C74. In 1877 transferred to Eli S. Delp; in 1878 transferred to Elias Benner; in 1879 transferred to Anthony Althouse, on April 8; on May 5 back to Benner again. In 1880 to Allen Heil; to Christian Esser in 1881; April 12 to Milton Gross; 1882 to Jacob K. Krupp; to Isaac Zeigler in 1883; September 2 to William Hackman, 1886; to Chester Knipe in 1889.

Markley was also an auctioneer.

An ad in Lansdale Reporter appeared October 12, 1876:

"O Yes O Yes S. S. Markley Auctioneer

Hatfield Station N. P. R. R. Hotel Some men do a great deal of crying over many sales, but the undersigned still exists and only Crys' when called upon and in order to hear him. Give him a call.

S. S. Markley."

### $\star \star \star$

### DEATH OF ISAAC K. ZEIGLER

The little village of Hatfield on the North Penn Railroad, the first station above Lansdale, was thrown into a state of excitement last Monday evening over the announcement that Mr. Zeigler, the hotel keeper near the station, had received injuries during a disturbance at his place that would result fatally.

From the particulars of the matter it appears that George Sheip, a young man living in New Britain township, went to Dr. Albright for the purpose of having a tooth extracted. After the operation had been performed he went across the way to the hotel.

While there, a young man, answering the name of Nicholas Glosson, came into the barroom where several others had congregated. He had been attending a sale at Line Lexington in the afternoon and was somewhat under the influence of liquor at the time. A conversation was carried on in a joking sort of way when one of the young men took offense and used abusive language that led to blows.

A scuffle ensued but nothing resulted from it and the matter quieted down until young Sheip was about to start for home when Nicholas again made a remark of an insulting nature. This started the wound afresh and Eli Delp, the hostler at the hotel, attempted to eject Sheip from the barroom. Mr. Zeigler became worked up at the excitement made by the parties and attempted to assist Delp when by some movement he was thrust aside and, being lame, fell, striking his head against the back of a chair.

Mr. Zeigler recovered, however, and nothing serious was thought of it at the time as he moved about the room although he remarked to Dr. Cooper that his head pained him.

A few minutes afterwards he complained of dizziness and went to the front portico for the purpose of vomiting as he felt sick. While standing against the post Dr. Albright, who happened to be near at hand, noticed the sudden change in his appearance and while speaking to him, Mr. Zeigler fell over unconscious.

Both Dr. Albright and Dr. Cooper attempted resuscitation at once and applied all remedies. They worked until after three o'clock, but without avail, and the injured man lay in a comatose state until he died on Wednesday morning, August 11. On Tuesday, Dr. Breining, of Bethlehem, was telegraphed for and a consultation held when he declared the man was beyond recovery. An examination revealed the rupture of a blood vessel at the base of the brain which caused congestion and finally brought about apoplexy.

apoplexy. "Mr. Zeigler was about sixty-three years of age. The funeral will take place on Sunday next at ten o'clock. There is considerable feeling about the matter in the vicinity of Hatfield. Some say one party is responsible. Others lay the blame upon another, while a third says had Mr. Zeigler obeyed the injunction to keep away, as he was lame and feeble, no evil results would have followed. What will be the outcome of the matter, no one can tell."—Published by Lansdale Reporter, August 12, 1886. "The Norristown Herald, last Friday, said that Harry M. Zeigler, son of Isaac K. Zeigler, the hotel-keeper at Hatfield whose death occurred last week, called on District Attorney Bickel Friday morning and stated that the family did not desire to institute any prosecution against George Sheip, the young man who was the unfortunate cause of his death. He says that when the hostler tried to eject Sheip from the barroom the latter caught at the bar to save himself, missed it and accidentally grabbed Mr. Zeigler, throwing him down and causing the fatal injuries." — Published in Lansdale Reporter, August 19, 1886.

### \* \* \*

#### Detwiler's Store Property

On this lot Joseph Proctor built the store in 1874 which he conducted until 1879 when he sold it to Harry M. Zeigler. He sold it to Charles M. Schwenk in 1888. He sold it to Enos F. Hackman in 1889. After his death the administrators sold it to Chauncey J. Buckley in 1892. He sold it to Isaac Detwiler in 1909, the present owner.

#### \* \* \*

#### Snyder's Mill and Feed Store

In 1875 Joseph Proctor sold to John Proctor two acres, being a part of the tract of Jacob Leidy, formerly William Delp property, and built the mill, feed atore and hay house and conducted the business there until 1878. He then sold half part to Elias Cassel. Next year, 1879, Proctor made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. The next year Cassel also made an assignment for the same cause.

In 1881 the assignee sold the property to Anthony Seipt. He sold the same to George S. Snyder in 1887. Peter B. Cassel, son of Elias and John H. Krupp, conducted the business for some time known as Cassel & Krupp Feed Business. Krupp died in 1880. It was leased by Frederick Souder in 1882 who conducted it till 1887 when Snyder took possession.

#### The Late Wilson Kulp Residence

John Proctor, on the mill property, erected a dwelling which he sold to Joseph W. Detwiler in 1876. He sold it to Jonas Rosenberger in 1884. He was killed as he was crossing the railroad at Snyder's Mill where he was working. The administrators then sold the property to his father, Tobias Rosenberger, in 1891 who sold the same year to Ross Beisel. He sold it to Joseph Fretz in 1900. He sold it to William B. Fretz in 1908. He sold it to Willian R. Kulp in 1914. After his death it was sold to Snyder Estate.

### ·\* \* \*

#### Snyder's Tenant House at Corner

### of Market and Union Streets

This was built by John Proctor. He sold the same to Ephraim Keck in 1876. He was Jacob Crouthamel, Sr.'s, father-in-law. He sold it to Leah Halteman in 1887, wife of Charles Halteman, father of I. R. Halteman, publisher of the Harleysville News at one time. She sold it to Charles S. Brunner in 1903. He sold it to Lehigh Valley Transit Company in 1906. They sold it to Oscar Hunsberger in 1914. He sold it to Clara J. Snyder in 1920, the present owner.

### \* \* \*

#### Zepp's Bakery

Joseph Proctor sold a lot to James Deihl, of Hilltown, in 1876 for \$300. He built the house and established a bakery here, which he conducted for a short time, but it seems it was not a paying business for it was discontinued afterwards. He sold the same to William Shearer, of Whitpain, in 1882. The executor, Samuel Shearer, sold it to Hubert Boorse in 1885. He sold it to Frank Zepp in 1892 — he again started up the bakery business. In 1918 he transferred it to his sons, Elmer and Jonas Zepp. They discontinued the business in 1940. It is now owned by Elmer Zepp.

# RESIDENCES

#### Duke Residence

This lot was sold by Proctor to Henry W. B. Reed, who built the house in 1876 and used part of the same for a tinsmith shop, which he conducted until 1881 when he sold it to William B. Fretz; who sold to Abraham R. Young in 1890; who transferred it to Abraham H. Fretz in 1894.

The tinsmith business was then conducted by William Keely until 1900 when he sold the business to Frank Reaser, and Fretz sold the real estate also to Reaser. He erected another building for a hardware store and tinsmith shop which he conducted until 1908, when one evening, as he retired from his store and went to the barn to give the horses some hay, he was clubbed by bandits from which injuries he died some time afterwards.

David Howe, executor, then sold to J. Hanford Duke in 1910, who conducted it until 1933. He then moved to Cory. Pa., and the business was discontinued.

#### John N. Wagner Residence

Joseph Proctor sold a lot to John M. Proctor in 1874. He then built the house and lived there until 1884 or 1885 when he purchased a farm near Blooming Glen. He sold the house to Nathan Ivan Hunsberger in 1889 who sold to John Wagner Sr., in 1891. The heirs then sold to Anna W. Wagner, 1900. After her demise it was sold to Katie B. Wagner, 1913, wife of John Wagner, Jr., the present owner.

### Martin Residence

This lot was sold by Joseph Proctor to his brother, John Proctor, who sold to his son-in-law, Isaac G. Oberholtzer, in 1874, who built the house. In 1883 he sold it to Elizabeth Delp, wife of Eli Delp, the heirs of the same sold it to Joseph Ackerman in 1916, who sold it to Michael Mignogna in 1982, who sold to Ralph Kling in 1934, who sold to Charlotte Martin in 1935, the present owner.

#### Clarence Koffel Residence

This lot Jacob S. Leidy sold to Aaron Swartley who built the house. In 1874 he sold it to John M. Proctor. He sold it to Benjamin M. Moyer in 1875. In 1893 Sheriff Simpson sold it to Jacob L. Moyer, of Franconia township. He sold it to his son, Jacob D. Moyer, the same year. He sold it to his daughter, Annie Bilger, in 1909. She sold it to Titus Trauger in 1923. After his death the widow sold it to Clarence Koffel in 1940, the present owner.

#### **Curtis White Residence**

Joseph Proctor sold a plot of ground in 1874 to Samuel Henry who built a house and made a premises there. He sold to James Deihl in 1877. He sold it to William Shearer in 1882. After his death the executor sold it to Sophia Wireman in 1885. She sold it to William Holshuh in 1888. He sold it to Norman Dinger in 1907. He sold it to Harry Comly in 1919. He sold it to Curtis White in 1922, present owner.

### The Bassett Residence

Joseph Proctor built a double house for tenants which he sold to Annie Pincus, of Philadelphia, in 1895. Edward Pincus then sold it to Anna D. Scholl in 1896. She sold it to William B. Ruth in 1910. He sold it the same year to Jacob Hollenbach. He sold it to Eva Fettemer, of Philadelphia, in 1923. She sold it to John Bassett in 1927, the estate still owning it.

#### Joseph Benner Residence

Joseph Mattman built this house. Sheriff John Linderman seized the property and sold it to Henry H. Rosenberger in 1877. After his demise the administrators sold it to Chester Knipe who immediately transferred to Jacob Snyder in 1891. He sold it to Nathaniel Oberholtzer in 1894. He sold it to Clinton Ott in 1919. He sold it to George Gerhart in 1920. He sold it to John H. Anders in 1927. He sold it to Pattie Rothtrock in 1932. She sold to Joseph Benner in 1939, the present owner. In the rear of the houses on the east side of Maple avenue was a brickyard. At this time when the houses were built it was operated by Seth Scholl, of Lansdale. The first brick houses built on Maple avenue, Union street, Market street, and Snyder's Mill were made here. C. W. Hutt Residence. the

### Late Jacob W. Rosenberger

Enos Kriebel sold a tract of land to John Proctor from his farm in 1875. This included all lots from the railroad down, including the late Edwin Benner's. Proctor sold two lots to David Rosenberger in 1876 who built the house. After his death, the executor, Lyman Rosenberger, sold to James Markley in 1904. He sold it to Jacob Hollenbach in 1914. He sold it to Jacob Rosenberger in 1919. After his death it was sold to C. W. Hutt in 1942, the present owner.

#### Residence of Henry Finnemeyer

This was part of the Kriebel farm. John Proctor built the house and sold the same to Abraham Weigner in in 1876. After the death of the Weigners the heirs sold the same to Magdalene Kreibel, wife of Enos Kreibel, in 1890, a daughter of the Weigners. She sold to Henry Finnemeyer in 1928 —the present owner.

### Harry Hartman's Residence

John Proctor sold a building lot in 1877 to George D. Gehman, who built the house. After his death it was sold to his son, David R. Gehman, in 1894. After his death it was purchased by Harry Hartman, the present owner.

#### Formerly Edwin Benner,

#### **Chester S. Knipe Residence**

John Proctor sold a lot to Isaac G. Oberholtzer. Seth Sholl built a house for tenants. Oberholtzer sold it to Jacob Fretz in 1881. After his death the administrators sold it to Edwin 

#### Vernon Hartman and

### Linford Schlosser Residence

John Proctor sold a plot of ground to Isaac Landis. He built a wheel-wright shop used also for a saddler shop. His son, Jonas Landis, conducted the saddler business. Later the shop was sawed in two parts and one part removed to where the Linford Schlosser residence is and made into a dwelling. The other part was also made into a dwelling after the death of Isaac Landis. Schlosser residence was then owned by his widow, Mary Lan-dis. Later she married a Buckwalter. She sold it to Jacob Kinsey in 1884 who held the mortgage. He sold it to Amanda Moyer the same year. The heirs of Mrs. Moyer sold it to Jacob B. Moore in 1909. Jacob Gehman, his son-in-law, sold it to Linford Fritz in 1923. He sold it to Vincent Schlosser in 1929. After the bankruptcy of the same, it was transferred to Chalfont Building and Loan Association in 1933, who sold it to Linford Schlosser in 1937, the present owner.

#### Hartman Residence

The executor of Isaac Landis sold to son, John H. Landis, who sold to Harrison Cressman, of West Rockhili Township, in 1893. He sold it to Henry Groth, Jr., in 1906. He sold it to Frank Kriebel in 1921. He sold to Vernon Hartman in 1925, the present owner.

### Vincent Schlosser Residence

Joseph Proctor sold a lot to Jacob Kindig in 1874 who built the house and conducted a butcher business there. The administrators of Kindig sold it to Albert Frederick in 1905. He sold it to Vincent Schlosser in 1910, the present owner.

### Franklin H. Swartz Residence

Joseph Proctor sold a tract of land to Christian Proctor, of Hilltown, in 1874. He sold three acres to Elias Cassel in 1875. He built the house where Frank Swartz lives. He made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors in 1880. The assignee then sold it to Daniel S. Rosenberger, a cigar maker. He kept a cigar store here for a short time. He sold the same to Jacob W. Rosenberger in 1888. He sold it to Henry Derstine in 1889. The executor then sold it to Jonas Moyer in 1901. He sold it to Ida Sines Dill in 1902 who sold it to Frank Swartz in 1904, the present owner.

#### Elmer Souder Residence

Elias Cassel sold a lot to his son, Peter Cassel, in 1877, who built the house. He conducted the feed store for some time as has been mentioned. He later bought a farm in Worcester Township where he died. The widow, acting as administrator, then sold the house to John A. Kratz in 1893. He sold it to Louis Shulke in 1894, a barber, who conducted the barber business. He sold it to Margaret Yeakel in 1903. She sold it to Chester Knipe who sold immediately to George Shoemaker, of Spring Mount, in 1904. He sold it to Elmer Souder in 1908, the present owner.

#### Susan R. Bolton's Residence,

#### Formerly Abraham H. Frets

Jacob S. Leidy sold a lot in 1872 to Daniel Rosenberger who erected a dwelling here where he lived the remainder of his life. He died in 1895. The executor sold the same to Abraham H. Fretz in 1902. After his death his widow became the owner. After her death it was sold to Anna R. Stubbs, a daughter, in 1922. She sold it to her sister, Susan R. Fretz (now Bolton), in 1934, the present owner.

### Rawn's Residence

Elias Cassel sold a lot to Isaac Hange in 1877. He built the present house. He made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. The assignee then sold to Abraham Lapp in 1883. The administrator, which was his widow, sold to Joseph Mininger in 1890. His heirs then sold it to Raymond Rawn in 1938.

#### Kampe Residence

Isaac Hange sold this lot to John H. Krupp in 1877. He erected the dwelling. He died in 1880. Jonas H. Moyer, the administrator, then sold it to Jacob R. Gehman the same year. After his death it was sold by his heirs to Henry R. Swartley in 1884. He sold it to Daniel Bishop in 1887. He sold it to Louis Shulke, a barber, in 1900. After his death his sister, Johanna Shulke, became the owner by will in 1921. She died in 1933. She willed it to Anna Kampe, the present owner.

#### Nelson Zeigler Residence

Jacob S. Leidy sold two lots to William C. Steiner in 1873. It included the Appenseller's lot. Steiner sold one lot to John M. Proctor in 1877. He sold it to Martha S. Moyer in 1878 for \$160.00. She built the house. She sold it to Simon Gerhart in 1879. It was then occupied by his son, Jacob M. Gerhart, who was a merchant tailor, a business which he conducted there for some time. In 1894 it was sold by Gerhart to Levi Snovel. He kept it for a tenant's house. After his death it was occupied by his widow. After her death it was sold to her daughter, Angeline Snyder, wife of Frank Snyder in 1901. She sold it to Albert Frederick in 1908. He sold it to Franklin H. Swartz in 1915. He sold it to Nelson Zeigler in 1939, the present owner.

#### Formerly Appenseller Residence

William C. Steiner sold this lot to to David Appenseller in 1876, a blacksmith, a business which he conducted here until he was old and worn out. He built the present house. He sold it to Irvin Auchy in 1934. He sold it to George S. Heckler in 1938, the present owner.

### Wallaco Mininger Residence

Jacob S. Leidy sold a lot to Abraham Benner in 1872. He sold it to Tobias Hange in 1874 who built the house. The executor, Lydia Freed, then sold it to Jacob W. Detwiler in 1885. He sold it to William Lebo, M.D., in 1909. Sheriff Chauncey Buckley then sold it to George S. Snyder in 1910. Clara Snyder, his widow, sold it to Wallace Mininger in 1915, the present owner.

#### **Residence of Vine Street**

These lots were detached from the hotel property as the ownership of John B. Snyder's estate.

#### John Boyer, Residence

The administrators of John B. Snyder sold this lot to Enos Hunsberger in 1869. He sold it to Philip Boyer in 1874. He built the house. He sold it to his son, John Boyer, the present owner.

### Residence of Lizzie Benner

This was known as lot No. 11 on the draft which the administrators sold to Enos R. Lukens. He sold it to Sarah Benner in 1872. She sold it to her son, Jacob Lukens, in 1873. He sold it to his son-in-law, Osten Benner, in 1907. After his decease his widow became the owner.

### Wilson Boyer Residence

These two lots were Nos. 9 and 10, sold to Henry W. Cassel. He built the house. After his death the widow sold it to Samuel B. Conver for the paying of his debts. He sold it to Ann Moyer, widow of George Moyer, Sr., in 1875. After her decease the heirs sold it to Frederick Kent in 1889. He sold it to Wilson Boyer in 1904, the present owner.

### Daniel Zeigler Residence

This lot was sold by the administrators of Snyder to Oliver Althouse in 1869. It was next sold to Abraham Sorver in 1875. He built the house. He sold it to Frank Bealer in 1884. He sold it to John Stoneback in 1892. After the decease of the Stonebacks it was sold to Daniel Ziegler in 1941, the present owner.

### Wilson Gerhart Residence

This house was built by Joseph

Mattman, a German carpenter. It was mentioned he also built the Joseph Benner's house on Maple avenue. The sheriff seized the properties of Mattman, sold this to Abraham Sorver in 1877. He sold it to George Cressman in 1878. He sold it to Daniel Lewis in 1886. He sold it to Florence Gillinder in 1902. She sold it to Mary Reed in 1903. She sold it to Emma Bilger, wife of Abraham Bilger, in 1909. She sold it to Andrew Shelly in 1914. After his death his daughter, Rose Gerhart, became the owner.

#### William Hendrick Residence

Being a part of the hotel tract which the administrators of John B. Snyder sold to Samuel G. Leidy in 1869. He sold this lot to Jacob Freed in 1879 for \$95.00. He built the house. He sold it to Christian G. Souder in 1883. He sold it to Joseph Mininger in 1886. He sold it to Aaron Richard in 1890. The heirs of Richard sold to Henry Lackner in 1925. He sold it to Anton Seckinger the same year. He sold it to George Didden who transferred it to Mary Hendricks, wife of William Hendricks, in 1927, the present owner.

#### Didden's Residence and Greenhouse

This was part of the hotel tract which Jacob Bookhamer sold to Samuel Beyer two acres in 1835. The boundaries were beginning on Main street near railroad, thence southeast to line of Henry Gehman (of late Adam Guthier), thence southwest to a corner of Philip Zeiber's land, thence northwest to corner of same land, thence northeast to beginning. Beyer sold these premises to Christian Ros-enberger in 1841 for \$1150.00. He sold to Samuel Leidy in 1846 the two acres. He sold this residence to William Stover in 1869 for \$1100.00. I am informed that this house was first used for a tinsmith shop. Who con-verted it into a dwelling we do not know. After the death of William Stover his widow became the owner in 1899. She conveyed it to son, Harry Stover, in 1913. After his decease the heirs sold it to George Didden in 1921, the present owner. On same date Didden bought five acres from Hilary K. Crouthamel and Jesse Slotterer on which he erected a greenhouse which is conducted as Didden Greenhouse.

### NORTH CORNER OF

#### THE TOWNSHIP

Here was a tract of 1020 acres which was owned by the proprietary government up to 1770. Much of it was occupied by people who lived there on a lease.

This tract comprised all the farms lying between the township line of Hatfield and Franconia on the northwest and Bucks County on the northeast, Unionville pike on the southeast, and the Cowpath road on the southwest.

James Renner's farm, formerly a Rase Plantation.

Henry Rase bought a tract of 141 acres of the proprietary government in 1771. This tract bordered on Bucks County line and Franconia township. Rase made his will in 1787, bequeathing it to his son, Jacob, who was the owner until 1832. The year of his death the administrators then sold to Henry Leidy, 92 acres, who sold to Isaac Wisler 63 acres in 1851, and 30 acres to Christian Rosenberger. Wisler sold his 63 acres to Elias Fillman in 1854 and Rosenberger sold his 30 acres to Joseph Rosenberger in 1853, who sold to Fillman in 1855, who by this purchase again united the 93 acres under one ownership.

Fillman sold then to James McIntyre of Harmony Township, Venango County, in 1865, who sold to Emanuel Jacoby in 1871, 93 acres. Jacoby then sold to Abraham Fretz 66 acres in 1882. Jacoby then removed back to New Britain where he died shortly afterwards. Fretz sold the farm to Isaac Wendkos in 1908 who sold to Minerva Robinsere in 1910. Her administrator, William Myers, sold to Edward Lovett in 1913, who sold to Charles Haberle in 1917, who sold a number of smaller tracts to various parties where buildings have been erected. The farm buildings and sixteen acres he willed to his widow, Rebecca, who later married Phares Wissler. She then conveyed to son-inlaw, James Renner, the present owner

George W. Meyers' residence at corner of County Line and Township Line road.

Charles Haberle detached eleven acres and sold to Abraham G. Swartley in 1922 who erected building and made a premises there. He sold the same to George W. Myers in 1924, the present owner.

Joseph Clemmer Farm and

Steiret Broom Factory

#### A Shellenberger Plantation

Thomas and Richard Penn did grant 143 acres to John Shellenberger in 1771 who sold to Charles Shellenberger in 1787, for 1100 pounds in silver and gold, who divided the farm later in two tracts-the upper portion adjoining Franconia township. He sold 77 acres to George Shellenberger in 1823, who sold to Rev. Jonas Price, 93 acres in 1849, a Minister of the Brethren Church at Hatfield, who sold to Isaac Yeakle in 1870, who sold to Henry Clemmer in 1876, 75 acres. He was killed at the Railroad Crossing in 1898 where Werner's Foundry now is when he was returning home from market, which he attended weekly, driving to Philadelphia with horse and wagon. The administrators of the same then sold the farm to son, Abraham Clemmer, in 1899 who sold to Joseph Clemmer in 1903, now containing 61 acres, the present owner.

### Steiert Broom Works

The lower part of the Shellenberger tract, after the division, was sold by Charles Shellenberger to Jacob Sheilenberger in 1823 who sold to Jesse Shellenberger in 1861. The Sheriff seized the real estate and sold to Abraham Sorver in 1890. The buildings were destroyed by fire during his ownership. The house, not being occupied, was frequented by tramps who built a fire to keep warm. After the death of Sorver the executor sold the land to John R. Kindig in 1894, who sold to Keller Pottery Company in 1914 who built a railroad siding and shipped the clay to their factory at Norristown. They sold the land to Herman Steiret in 1937 who built a broom factory. Fiber brooms are made. The Steierts are the present owners. **Harvey Hittle Farm** 

Jacob Shellenberger sold twenty acres to Jacob Rosenberger in 1835. After his death the widow became the owner who devised it to her son, Christian, by will in 1840, who sold it to Christian Allebach in 1841. He sold it to George Gehman, father of David R. Gehman, long a resident in Hatfield Borough in 1850. He sold it to Levi Reeder, in 1877. He sold it to Tobias Clemmer, in 1892. He sold it to Frederick Lang, of New Jersey, in 1915. He sold it to Isaiah Clemmer in 1919. He sold it to Franklin Vreeland in 1923. He sold it to Harvey Hittle in 1933.

### Anthony Mack Residence

This was part of the Shellenberger plantation. George Shellenberger, who had received the upper portion, sold twelve acres to Samuel Rase in 1847, who sold to Henry Rosenberger in 1858. Jacob R. Gehman, administrator of Rosenberger, sold to Lewis Knoll in 1864, who sold to John Ginder in 1867, who sold to David Kulp the same year. Isaac Borneman, administrators of Kulp, sold it to Sarah Ann Kulp, wife of Jacob H. Kulp, in 1893, who sold to Jacob Hollenbach in 1908; who sold to Clarence Binder the same year; who sold to Charles Haberle in 1918; who sold to Charles Dannehauer in 1921; who sold to Elihu Moyer in 1925; who sold to Ephraim Landis in 1929; who sold back to Moyer in 1935; who sold to Anthony Mack in 1936, the present owner.

### **Raymond Hackman Farm**

This came from two tracts. The first tract of fifteen acres was purchased in 1770 from Thomas and Richard Penn by Jacobena Leidy. It was next sold by Conrad Leidy to Anthony Miller, a weaver, in 1792. After his death Benjamin Miller, the administrator, sold it to Jacob Detwiler, carpenter, in 1836.

The other and larger tract was purchased from the Daniel Rosenberger tract, present Bergey farm, which he had bought from his brother, John, who was the owner of Frank Schoil's farm — fifty acres. After Daniel Rosenberger's death, his adiminstrators, who were John W. Rosenberger and John Frick, sold twenty-seven acres to John Gayman in 1883, who sold the same to Jacob Detwiler in 1838. These 42 acres he then sold to Samuel H. Rosenberger in 1865—40 acres he sold to his brother, Henry H. Rosenberger, in 1866, a minister of the Brethren in Christ, being ordained in 1877 and Bishop in 1886. He died in 1890. The administrators then sold the farm to Franie Kindig, a daughter, wife of John R. Kindig. The barn was destroyed by fire in 1898 and rebuilt by Kindig. In 1899 he sold it to William F. Rosenberger who transferred it to his son-in-law, Raymond Hackman, in 1937, the present owner.

Samuel H. Rosenberger was also a minister of the Brethren in Christ Church, being ordained in 1890. He died in 1917.

### William Myer's Residence

Being part of the Clemmer farm, Abraham R. Clemmer sold eighteen acres to Edward Neff in 1912, who sold to Lewis Pennepacker in 1924, who sold to Albert Brown the same year, who conveyed by will to Mary Brown in 1927, who sold to William Deturk in 1929, Mary Deturk, the widow, sold to William Myers, the present owner. In 1937 he purchased the school lot adjoining, given by Charles Shellenberger and Jacob Rase for a German school on Township Line road. This lot was conveyed to John Leidy and John Cope, trustees, May 27, 1794.

### The Frank Scholl and Walter's Farm,

### Formerly Colonel Reed's Plantation

This tract was bought by Colonel Jacob Reed in 1770 of Thomas and Richard Penn for 228 pounds (215 acres) Reed lived here during the Revolution. His residence was the Scholl's place. Reed's wife was Magdalena, daughter of Jacob Leidy, who came to America in 1727 and settled in Franconia Township. Reed sold the farm to John Rosenberger, Jr., son of the immigrant, John Rosenberger, in 1793. John Rosenberger, Jr., then willed this farm to his son, Samuel Rosenberger, and he devised it to sonin-law, Jacob R. Gehman, in 1866. The administrators of Gehman to son, Abraham R. Gehman, in 1885, who sold to Frank Scholl in 1917, the present owner.

### The Walter's Farm

Samuel Rosenberger detached seventy-six acres and sold to David D. Rosenberger in 1842, who sold in 1851 to Elias Cassel. He sold to Abraham L. Moyer in 1854. Moyer made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. Joseph Proctor, the assignee, then sold to Abraham C. Moyer in 1880, who conveyed to his son, Henry, in 1907. He later moved to Denbigh, Va. In 1908 he sold this farm to Stanley Walters, the present owner.

### Frederick Guenther Gas Station,

### Formerly Hockertown Tavern

Thomas and Richard Penn granted a patent deed in 1770 for 148 acres with the usual allowance of six per cent for Roads and Highways to Valentine Ulrich, of Philadelphia. This plantation extended along the Bethlehem pike from the crossroad at Unionville Hotel up to the next crossroad running past Horace Bergey's farm to the Cowpath. Ulrich sold the same to David Ruth in 1773, a Mennonite Minister and Bishop. Ruth sold the same to Jacob Wise in 1800 for 1300 pounds of gold and silver—for 100 acres. Wise later moved to Saucon, Northampton County.

Wise had a liquor license granted in 1800 which he held until he sold the farm and tavern to John Richard, ninety-five acres in 1811. The liquor license was then transferred to Richard who died a few years afterward. He had only one child, a daughter, Mary, who married Martin Hocker, Jr. The farm and tavern, after his death, were then sold to Martin Hocker, Sr., of Whitemarsh, for 6,650 silver dollars in 1814.

In 1826 Martin Hocker, Sr., sold to Martin Hocker, Jr., who was the license holder from the death of his father-in-law up to 1835. He was the owner of the tavern and farm up till the time of his demise in 1852. This farm included the Jay Hostetter farm.

He also was a Justice of the Peace. The writer has found many deeds written by Hocker. In his later years he leased his tavern to other parties. He was a man of ability and force in the community. He was also a Surveyor and Conveyancer and was one of the first elected Justices of the Peace in the township, being chosen in 1840. He became quite wealthy, owning several houses farther down the road in which he lived after he leased his tavern.

He was a man of remarkable physical strength. He built the first windmill in this region. It is related that this creature of his own contraction was too strong for him, the sails knocking him down and breaking a leg. His death took place in 1852. He wrote his will October 19, 1851. In his will he requested his farm to be divided and bequeathed to his children.

### Martin Hocker's Will

In the name of God. Amen. I. Martin Hocker, being weak in body but strong in disposing mind, considering the uncertainty of this transitory life I do publish this, my last will and testament in manner and form following, first: My will is that this farm on which I now dwell should be divided into two parts, the line to commence on the turnpike road at the orchard fence and from thence a strateline down until it intersects Hillary Shellenberger's line and also the lot purchased of Benjamin Rosenberger is to be attached to this place on which I now dwell. And both the farms and the described lot, I now will and bequeath to John, including all stock and farming utensils both in and out-door, nothing to be removed, Nancy's things excepted. The farm at the three-mile run, formerly purchased of Thomas Cope now occupied by Noah Trumbore, I give and be-queath to Nancy and her present heirs. Not to be sold by any debt or mismanagement whatever she may make and all the money at interest, I now will and bequeath unto my Widow and to receive the interest of the same as long as she keeps my name and after her decease it shall be divided equally between my children, Rudolph Saches to have now share but between his children and the remaining parts of the lands northwest of the above described line including the tavern and all other improvements I now will and bequeath to Isabelle. The mill is excepted to wit on the property willed to Isabelle and bequeathed to John Martin

Hocker

#### Witness: David Rosenberger Henry Rosenberger John Hocker

As we notice by Mr. Hocker's will the tavern and part of the farm became the property of his daughter, Isabelle, who had married Charles White, of Upper Gwynedd Township, who had the Hotel at White's Corner, west of Lansdale. The Whites were the owners of the Hocker property until 1915. The last license was granted in 1890 to John Wagner who after that date bought a home in Hatfield Borough now owned by his son, John Wagner, Jr. The Hocker Tavern property was then occupied bv tenants.

It was destroyed by fire in 1896. At that time it was tenanted by Max Rosen and Barney Rubin. In 1915 Isabelle White sold the tavern property to Richard Thiemich, now containing nineteen acres, who sold to Harry Saunders in 1921, who erected a dwelling house on the site where the old tavern stood which had not been rebuilt after the one destroyed by fire.

Saunders sold then to Harvey Grant in 1922 who sold to Warren Eccff in 1924, who sold to George McDermon the same year, who sold in 1928 to James White, who then built a tea room and gas station. He then sold to Clement Meyers in 1929, who sold to William Riegle in 1930, who sold then to Frederick Guenther in 1932, who sold to Mr. Thoburn in 1942, who discontinued the gas station.

Martin Hocker was the landlord until 1835. After that date he leased the tavern to other parties. Henry Pfeiffer was landlord in 1836 to 1837. Ann Hocker was the license holder from 1838 to 1842, Herman Stadiger 1843, George Boyer from 1844 to 1847, C. S. Loux from 1849 to 1851. We have no record who the license holder was from 1852 to 1855.

Christian Zetty was landlord from 1856 to 1859, Henry Kile from 1859 to 1862. In that year he bought the property that is now the Unionville Hotel. In that year he applied for an eating house license and also a liquor license which was granted.

The Hocker Tavern was also called the Midway Tavern. After Kile it was licensed in 1863 to Jonathan Reed who was landlord to 1866. The licenses were granted to John M. Moyer in 1867, to John Mcgrory in 1868, to Philip D. Swartley in 1869, to Henry Nolf in 1870 to 1871, to Joseph Bonnewitz 1872 to 1875, to John Wagnor 1876 to 1890, to Henry L. Fretz, of Hilltown, for the unexpired term of John Wagnor which ended by May, 1891. After this no licenses were issued.

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### **BIG JAMBOREE at HOCKERTOWN**

Hockertown has had its last revel. Hockertown is a little old village in Eatfield township near line dividing Bucks and Montgomery. The village is always associated with the dance parties that have made it famous and the dance parties are almost always associated with rows.

Hockertown bears a hard name, not from the character of the people who live there but from the character of those who frequent its hoe-downs. It is the center of the rough element of New Britain and Hilltown township in Bucks County and Hatfield and Montgomery township and the borough of Souderton in Montgomery County. All the toughs in those districts know what Hockertown and its social parties are and they always attend them, not so much to dance as to clean clocks, to use the tough vernacular of some other tough against whom they may have a grudge,

Well, Hockertown has had its last revel, a lively jamboree it was. It was understood among the toughs that this was to be the farewell dance and they were all there with their war paint on, travelling on their muscles.

The dance parties are held in a hall on the hotel property and it was understood that the hotel had not applied for a license for next year and hence the dances would be no more. This last revel was held on the evening of March 30, 1891. The young toughs imbibed beer quite treely in the early part of the evening and the dance was not two hours old before they were ripe for a fight.

The first fracas started between a young Hatfield man and an older slugger from Montgomeryville. From blows they resorted to chairs and coal buckets and for a time bystanders were afraid to interfere with the mill. When the fight was stopped it was found that neither combatant was seriously hurt.

The next set was more lively and started in the ballroom. The principals were a Souderton tough and another from Kulpsville. During the melee, windows were smashed and the stove upset. The women screamed and the less belligerent men hastened to another part of the hall.

The proprietor of the hotel, with the assistance of several friends armed with clubs, entered the hall and drove the fighters out. When the hotel proprietor and his friends came out of the ballroom they found a party of about ten young men, with pales which they had torn from the rence, awaiting them. A bloody riot was imminent but this was averted by part of the gang hastily retiring to the hotel.

When the fighting characters attempted to enter the bar-room they found the doors locked. This so enraged a young man named Levi Kindig, of Hatfield, that he struck a window with a fist carrying away the entire lower sash and breaking every pane of glass in it. The broken glass cut Kindig's right arm in a terrible manner, severing the main artery. The blood spurted in streams from the wound. A young man from Souderton, standing near the window, had his overcoat and suit of clothes ruined by the blood splattered upon him

Kindig was immediately taken to Dr. Albright's office at Hatfield where the wound was dressed. It has since been reported that the young man is in a critical condition and may not recover.

Kindig's family are highly respectable people and his downfall is no doubt due to evil associations. This serious outcome of the fun put a quietus upon the night's disgraceful scenes. The law-abiding citizens of Hatfield will be relieved to hear that this was probably the last of Hockertown dance parties. Should such law lessness be repeated they will no doubt invoke the courts to punish the offenders as they are thoroughly dis gusted with the periodical orgies.

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### **Residence of Pierson Gerbart**

This was a part of the Hocker Hotel property which Isabelle White sold to Richard Thiemick who sold it separate to Charles Reyher in 1917. The administrator, Mena Reyher, sold to Pierson Gerhart in 1919, the present owner.

### Steve Matishany Residence

Charles White detached five acres and sold to Ann Hocker for \$400 in 1865. She sold the same year to Adam Edelman who sold it to James McGrory in 1867. McGrory sold to Christopher Sickler, of New Jersey, in 1871, who sold the same year to William Tatem, of Camden, N. J. Tatem sold to John Mumbower in 1872; Abram Reiff, administrator, to Adam Edelman in 1880; Edelman to John Sherz in 1882; Sherz to Barney Rubin in 1901; Rubin to Edmund Schaffer in 1910; Schaffer to Adolph Rettig in 1911; Rettig to Steve Matishany in 1922, the present owner.

### Hostetter Farm

We notice this farm was bequeathed to John Hocker by his father's will in 1852, who in 1865 sold it to Abraham F. Detwiler, who later made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors, who sold it to Jacob L. Moyer in 1880. He bought it for his son, Jacob. He transferred it to son, Jacob D. Moyer, in 1884, who sold it to Jay S. Hostetter in 1924. The sheriff seized the same and sold to Penn Joint Land Bank in 1934.

### Karl Schmidt Residence

This was part of the Hocker farm. In 1857 John Hocker sold ten acres to Hilary Shellenberger. In 1873 the sheriff sold the same to J. R. Hunsicker, of Norristown, who sold the same year to Henry Kile. After his death it was sold to Jacob D. Moyer in 1898, who sold it to Clarence Binder in 1918, who opened a store here and conducted it for a few years. In 1932 Binder transferred the property to the Union National Bank of Souderton who sold to Hedwig Schmidt, wife of Karl Schmidt, in 1935, the present owner.

### The Residence of Ed Hedrick

This house was built by Henry Kile; after his death it was sold to Moyer brothers. Jacob Moyer soon sold his share to David Moyer, who sold to Sallie Hedrick, wife of Ed Hedrick, in 1920, the present owner.

### The Residence of Philip Phander

John Hocker no doubt built this house and made a premises here, and in 1865 he sold it to Abraham F. Detwiler, containing then thirteen acres, who sold to Peter Hedrick in 1869, just the house and lot. The heirs of Hedrick sold to Mary Ann Moore, wife of John Moore, in 1910, who sold to Harry Saunders in 1917, who sold to Miss Barbara Wagoner in 1918, who sold to Philip Phander in 1921, the present owner.

### The Residence of Henry Meyers

This was part of the Hocker farm. John Hocker died about 1872. The heirs then owned it till 1919 when they sold it to Carrie Fite, of Philadelphia. Frank Fite, her husband's administrator, sold it to Lucy Longacre, in 1938, who sold to Robert Lippincott, two days after. He sold to Catherine Monaham, in 1939, who sold to Maurice Rubin the same year, who sold to Henry Fensterle the same year. He sold back to Rubin in 1940, who sold to J. Henry Meyer the same year, the present owner.

### Sylvanus Moyer's Farm

This was part of David Ruth plan-

tation. Michael Ruth, a cordwainer, had twenty-five acres which he sold to Abraham Moyer, of New Britain township, Bucks County, in 1812. He sold it to Samuel Moyer, an innkeeper of Warrington township in 1815. The next year he applied for a liquor license, in 1816, and also in 1817 and 1818. The Court rejected it, for no licence was granted. Moyer died not long afterwards for the next year his administrators sold the farm to Abraham Leidy in 1819. The administrators of the same sold to Barbara Shellenberger in 1855. She sold to Leidy Shellenberger in 1858. He sold, through his attorney, to Joseph Proctor in 1871, who sold to Henry Kile the same year. After his death the executors sold to Abraham C. Moyer in 1898. It was then occupied and farmed by his son, Sylvanus, to whom he conveyed it in 1904, the present owner.

#### JOHN ROSENBERGER

#### PLANTATION

The Rosenbergers were large landowners in Hatfield township, owning about one thousand acres of land. The name signifies Rosemont or Rose Castle. The Rosenbergers of Montgomery County, Pa., came from the Palatinate Valley, a province of Western Germany on the Rhine. They came from a place called Zweibricken (two bridges).

John Rosenberger was born in 1729 and died 1808 and is buried at Fricks. He died at the age of eightyiour years. The plantation he owned was over 300 acres. He probably was the youngest of the Rosenberger brothers. When he came to America he was not of age.

His first purchase was made in 1754. It was a part of the Warner tract of 252 acres; his second was a part of the same tract purchased in 1755 from Henry Stover. These two tracts comprised the present farms of Chester Knipe, part of Frank Moyer's which lies southeast of Union screet, and all of Hatfield borough lying between Chestnut street, Main street to Union street.

This indenture made the second day of February in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred

and fifty-four between Henry Stover, of the township of Hatfield and the county of Philadelphia, in the province of Pennsylvania, husbandman. and Elizabeth, his wife, of the one part, and John Rosenberger, of the same township, yeoman, of the other part. Whereas Edward Warner, of the city of Philadelphia, carpenter, and Ann, his wife, by their indenture of the twenty-sixth day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and fortythree, for the consideration therein mentioned did grant and confirm unto Alexander Foreman, of the township of New Britain in the county of Bucks, in the province of Pennsylvania, aforesaid chairmaker, a certain tract of land situate and being in the township of Hatfield aforesaid, containing two hundred and fifty acres of land to hold to him, the Alexander Foreman, his heirs and assigns forever, as by the said indenture may appear.

And whereas the said Alexander Foreman and Esther, his wife, by their indenture of the thirtieth day of November in the same year for consideration therein mentioned did grant, convey and confirm all of said tract of land unto one David Rowland, of Hatfield, aforesaid, to hold to him the said David Rowland, his heirs and assigns forever, as by the indenture may appear.

And whereas the said David Rowland with Johana, his wife, by their indenture of the tenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand and seven hundred and forty-four, for the consideration therein mentioned, did grant and confirm unto one Jacob Weirman, of Hatfield, aforesaid, a certain tract or parcel of land containing one hundred acres, being part of said tract of two hundred and fifty acres of land.

And whereas, Jacob Weirman on the eighteenth of November, 1746, did grant the same to George Leydee; and whereas George Leydee did grant on the 19th of May, 1747, to Peter Bogart, of Hatfield; and whereas Peter Bogart with Barbara, his wife, on the 15th of November, 1751, did grant the same unto Henry Stover. And whereas, Henry Stover and Elizabeth, his wife, in consideration of the sum of one hundred and forty pounds, did grant to John Rosenberger in 1754.

His second purchase was in 1755, bought of Benjamin Rosenberger, and was of the remaining part of the two hundred and fifty acres of the Edward Warner tract which David Rowland sold to Benjamin Rosenberger, 150 acres, in 1746.

This medenture was given under a lease of yearly quit rent of fifty bushels of marketable wheat to be delivered at any mill within fourteen miles to Edward Warner, his heirs or assigns, on every first day of March, the first delivery to be on March 1, 1746.

In 1755 Benjamin Rosenberger sold from this 150-acre tract ninety acres to John Rosenberger. The yearly quit rent was now reduced to eighteen bushels of wheat, his share, which might now be paid in current money or its equivalent. In 1759 Rosenberger had a release granted of this quit rent by the heirs of the Warner estate for the consideration of five shillings.

In 1770 John Rosenberger purchased 109 acres lying on the northwest side of Union street, where the Hatfield Foundry now is. Here was located his home where he lived about twenty years on a lease prior to the warrant issued.

This was owned by the sons of William Penn up to 1770. Thomas and Richard Penn conveyed in that year a patent for 109 acres. In the deed it is called Dutchman Hall. The writer believes it was given that name because all the landowners on this tract of 1,020 acres were Germans or bore German names.

This tract of 109 acres comprised the farms of which Jonas Kulp was the owner until he sold it in smaller tracts to various owners: Horace Bergey, Milton Crouthamel, part of Frank Moyer's.

These old documents are all in possession now of Frank Moyer, an owner of part of this Rosenberger tract.

Rosenberger, on the lower tract. built a mill along the Neshaminy creek. It stood on the vacant lot between the Fire House and Clayton Kulp's residence. When this mill was built is not known but it was in existence in 1769. The writer remembers on the southeast side of the bridge crossing Broad street was a hole or depression in the bank where the older folks said the mill stood. But after the bank was graded all appearances of the same vanished.

John Rosenberger also owned a tract in Franconia township, now the farm of Abraham Loux. He had seven children, six sons and one daughter: Martin, Abraham, John, Benjamin, Daniel, Henry, and Catherine. It appears that John Rosenberger was desirous to buy enough land to give a farm to each of his children.

### Chester Knipe Farm

This part of the John Rosenberger plantation was granted to his son-inlaw, Abraham Allebach, in 1776 — 101 acres. It extended from Main street, Hatfield borough, including all the properties between Chestnut street and Lincoln avenue, back to Jenkins farm.

Allebach's life was cut short by yellow fever, when the plague was prevailing in Philadelphia in the early part of October, 1794. He ventured to go to market there and took the dread disease and died. His widow survived him, dying in May, 1835, at the age of eighty-six years. They had children: John, Christiana, Abraham, Benjamin, Mary, wife of Jacob Cope; Susanna, wife of David Ruth; Lizzie, wife of Benjamin Rosenberger; Barbara, wife of John Wasser, and Catherine, wife of Joshua Detwiler.

Abraham, Jr., was the father of Jesse Allebach, who was the father of Amos Allebach, a justice of the peace in Hatfield for many years, who was the father of Harry Brunner's wife, the editor of the Hatfield Times.

Catherine Allebach, after the death of her husband, purchased the Stillwagon property (which is now the Rudolph Forst residence), where she lived the rest of her life.

Abraham Allebach, Jr., was born

1770 and remembered the day after the Battle of Germantown, about 500 American soldiers swarmed about his father's premises.

The administrators of Allebach sold the farm to Isaac Rosenberger in 1796; he sold it to Jacob Rosenberger in 1803. His administrators sold the same to his son-in-law, Dillman Kulp, in 1841. He sold it to his son, Jacob R. Kulp, in 1876; now containing seventy-six acres. After his death it was sold to Chester Knipe, the present owner, in 1907.

On this farm was operated a saw mill which was discontinued after Allebach's death in 1794.

Dillman Kulp detached twenty-four acres of the southwestern end and sold to his son, Isaac, in 1866. Kulp reserved the right for him and his wife, Christiana, during the term of their natural life as follows, one-half part of the aforesaid messuage in which they now reside and cellar under same, the piazza in front and side thereof the bake and washhouse and bake oven, privilege to pass and repass at any time through the entry or hall of the said messuage to the bake and washhouse for any purpose whatever.

One-third of the garden and sufficient quantity of manure for manuring the same, sufficient quantity of different kinds of fruit for home use. Stable room in the barn for one cow and horse, straw for bedding, privilege for feeding and a place to keep other feed hay for visitor's horses; part of the wagon house to keep one wagon.

One hog stable, water from the different wells or springs in the house or other place, to keep wood for fuel or coal, together with free ingress or regress at any time whatever to and from the different parts or places above excepted or reserved and also such other privilege around the farm and building that may seem necessary for his comfort and convenience.

Isaac Kulp built on this tract the three-story brick house at 235 South Main street, now Hatfield borough. This tract extended from Chestnut street up Main street to Lincoln avenue, down Maple avenue to Chestnut street. Here he had a railroad siding and conducted a feed and hay business and did some farming.

In March, 1872, his barn, hay house and feed house were destroyed by fire from an unknown cause with eight cows and two horses. One horse was rescued by Dr. Lambert, who lived close by and who had just returned home about twelve o'clock from visiting a sick patient. After this he could not enter the building for the other horses.

Mr. Kulp rebuilt the barn; it was located where J. Walter Snyder's garage now is. The feed house he built where Henry Nyce now lives. Mr. Kulp did an extensive business for some time; later reverses came and he discontinued the feed and coal but continued with the hay baling business.

The house which Wesley Miller owns was built by Mr. Kulp for his hired help. About 1890 Kulp surveyed the northwestern part of his farm into building lots.

In 1893 the sheriff seized the property of Kulp and sold it to the Doylestown Bank. In 1895 the bank made public sale for these lots and business places.

The corner lot was purchased by George Snyder. The next year he built a mansion there which is now owned by his widow.

The lots on Lincoln avenue, from Poplar street to Nyce's store, were purchased by Jacob Ott and his brother, Wilson. Soon after he erected a house which is owned by Levi Kratz estate. Jacob Ott then built the house that Walter Diehl now owns. John S. Weierman purchased the six lots facing Main and Poplar streets on which he erected a double house, No. 113 and 115 South Main street. Later in 1896 he sold a lot on Poplar street to Henry L. Derstine who built a house the same year, now occupied by Melvin Landis, on the southeast side of Poplar street.

Jacob H. Crouthamel bought two lots and built two double houses in same year, now owned by Horace Nase, Morris Leister, and Frank Shellenberger.

The other part was sold to Mary K. Kulp, wife of Isaac Kulp. Later she tore down part of the coal shed and built the double house now owned by Miss Mumbower. In 1901 Mary Kulp transferred what used to be the feed store to her son, D. L. O. Kulp, who converted it into a dwelling now owned by Henry P. Nyce.

Mr. Kulp, during his business career, had a patent issued for making a half bale of hay by placing a board in the press. Other dealers followed by placing a board when the press was being filled, then withdrawing it before the bale was made. By this process it could easily be separated after made.

Kulp then brought suit against these dealers and claimed royalty but the Court decided that by placing a board in the press while being filled and removed afterwards before the bale was finished was not infringing on the patent.

Upon this decision of the Court the other dealer got bold and left the board in the press until it was finished.

Kulp again brought suit, but it developed at the trial that he had made an assignment to a New York firm in exchange for using their wooden slats on the bales.

Kulp always claimed these people perjured themselves by taking a haulty oath. Anyway, Kulp lost the case for he never got any royalty. Other people believed he signed away more than he was aware of.

### Nyce's Store Property

Isaca R. Kulp sold a lot to Dr. Ephraim Blank in 1875 at corner of Main and Lincoln avenue, who erected the house. Later another building was erected for a drug store. Blank then sold to Thomas Cooper in 1886. The store building and barn was destroyed by fire during his ownership in 1890. He then built the present barn. In 1891 Cooper sold to Dr. Patterson. Patterson then sold to Dr. Arthur Hoopman in 1893, Hoopman to Benjamin Clemens in 1901. He built an addition in 1904 and started a store here. He later leased it to Harry Frankenfield for five years; afterwards it was leased to Mr. Roberts, then to Raymond Stubbs, then to Thomas Rorer, then to Wesley Miller, then sold to John Godshall. He went bankrupt, then there was

no business until Kauffman conducted a store here for some time. They sold to Wallace Nyce. After the death of Mrs. Clemens, the heirs sold the real estate to Mr. Nyce in 1942.

### Horace Bergey's Farm

This part of the Rosenberger tract was sold to son, Daniel, thirty acres in 1793. He purchased fifty acres more from his brother, John, who was the owner of the present Frank Scholl farm. His administrators sold the same to John Gehman in 1833. Rosenberger had a son, Daniel, that lived Hatfield borough where Mrs. in Stubbs now lives. He is remembered by the older folks. After the death of Gehman his administrators sold the farm to Benjamin R. Rosenberger in 1849. He sold it to David Kulp in 1851 who sold to Rev. John Rosenberger, a Mennonite minister, in 1868. He built the present house. He made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors; the assignee then sold the farm to Horace F. Bergey in 1891, who sold to son, Horace L. Bergey, in 1920, the present owner.

### Milton Crouthamel, formerly the Ott's Farm

Whereas Thomas and Richard Penn granted a patent for eighty-five acres to John Kunkle in 1770, who sold to Henry Rosenberger, son of John, the pioneer, in 1773; he sold it to Henry Shellenberger in 1788. Rosenberger then moved to Rockhill, Bucks County. Shellenberger next sold to Jacob Shellenberger in 1804, who sold to Jacob Gerhart, who immediately transferred it to Adam Gerhart in 1816; he sold to Abraham Gehman in 1817.

He made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors, the assignee, Martin Hocker, and Henry Rosenberger sold to George Rosenberger, who immediately transferred it to Henry Rosenberger in 1846. He sold to Henry B. Fretz in 1849. Ninety-one acres he sold to Enos L. Rosenberger in 1879. He sold then to Jacoby Ott the same year. Rosenberger then moved to Kansas. The heirs of Jacoby Ott sold to Harvey Ott in 1903, who sold to son-in-law, Milton Crouthamel, in 1925, seventy-eight acres.

### The Homestead of John Rosenberger

John Rosenberger's home was where Hatfield Foundry now stands. After he sold the farm he engaged in other business. In 1802 to 1804 he was assessed a Riddle Maker, an instrument for cleaning grain, being a large sieve with a perforated bottom which permits the grain to pass through it but retains the chaff. From 1803 to 1808, the year of his death, he was assessed for one sixty-gallon still.

In 1794 he sold the farm to his son, Benjamin, 125 acres, this included Frank Moyer's.

He was also engaged in the distillery business from 1805. He was assessed with a sixty-one-gallon still up to 1811. From that date he was assessed with two stills up to 1823. He was also assessed with two horses and seven cows.

He sold the farm to his son, Benjamin, Jr. In 1831 he sold it to John Rosenberger, of Hilltown, miller.

He was the owner when the railroad was built, it came within about 150 feet of the barn which so displeased him that he sold the farm the same year to William Strunk, of Philadelphia, sixty-nine acres for \$4,519.00, retaining the other portion which is now Frank Moyer's farm.

Strunk sold the same to Henry H. Rosenberger in 1861, who sold to Tobias Hangey in 1866, he sold to Enos Kriebel in 1873.

About 1884 Kriebel razed the old log house and built one of stone where it now stands—now the home of Mrs. Amanda Kratz, widow of George S. Kratz. About 1886 the barn was destroyed by fire, being set on fire by a spark from a passing locomotive and built by Kriebel where a three-block house now is northeast of the house on Union street.

In 1890 Kriebel made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. Joseph Proctor, the assignee, then sold to Abraham Sorver who sold to Gottlieb Hutt in 1891. He sold to Abraham C. Moyer in 1895.

It was then occupied and farmed by Jonas Kulp, his son-in-law, to whom he conveyed it in 1903—forty-seven acres; who later sold a number of smaller tracts to various parties on which homes have been built.

Kulp sold farm house to Amanda Kratz, wife of George Kratz in 1922, the present owner. The barn Kulp converted into a block house now owned by Clinton Felty, James Roshon, and Wilson Shellenberger.

### Samuel Rohr's Farm

This was part of the John Rosenberger farm. When the railroad was built he sold the old homestead with sixty-nine acres to William Strunk, of Philadelphia, Rosenberger retaining a portion of the farm on which he had buildings erected in 1856. After his death it was sold to his son, Abraham H. Rosenberger, for \$11,000. He conveyed it to Ephraim Landis, of Dublin, Bucks County, in 1900. He sold it to Frank Moyer in 1901. He sold it to Samuel Rohr in 1943, the present owner.

#### JOHN ROSENBERGER'S WILL

Be it remembered that I, John Rosenberger, of Hatfield township in the County of Montgomery and State of Pennsylvania, being very weak in body but of sound mind, memory and understanding, thanks be given unto God.

Calling unto God unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die therefore I do make my last will and testament in following manner.

First I will that all my just debts and funeral expenses be fully paid by my executors out of my estate.

Item first: I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife, Christiana, the sum of one hundred and forty-five pounds of good gold and silver money, current of Pennsylvania, to be paid to her or to her heirs or assigns at the expiration of one year after my decease. And it is my will and I order that my said wife shall have her residence in my present dwelling house and the use of the stove thereon and sufficient wood hauled and cut ready therefore. And shall be found and provided and maintained out of my estate by my executor according as her age and circumstances may require during said term of one year after my decease.

I also bequeath to her my best bedstead and furniture thereunto and other bedstead of mine to her choice together with all the household goods of every kind which I got by my marriage with her as her part thereof. as shall or may be in my possession at the time of my decease besides this. I give to my wife my new clothes, brass and ten pounds of hatched flax and ten pounds of fine tow, one pewter tankard, one pewter tea pot and copper tea kettle, two and one-half dozen of tea cups and saucers, a tin tea box and washing tubs and a prayer book which said bequeaths made unto my wife. I mean and intend to in lien of her Dower or one-third of my estate.

Item 2: I give and bequeath unto my son, Benjamin, the sum of fifty pounds as for a charity because I find the bargain I had made with him was rather too hard for him.

Item 3: I give unto my deceased son, Martin's, children, to wit, John, Elizabeth and Mary, the sum of sixty pounds of like gold and silver money to be paid to them in two years after my decease without interest thereon to be equally divided amongst them, their heirs or assigns.

Item 4. I will and order that all my personal estate except that which is disposed to my wife, shall be sold by executors as soon as may be convenient after my decease, excepting stove shall not be sold until one year after my decease.

The estate to be divided equal amongst my six children: Henry, John, Benjamin, Daniel, Abraham, and Catherine, share and share alike.

I appoint my sons, John and Abraham Rosenberger, to be my executors yet, nevertheless, I do not mean or intend such appointment to operate as a discharge to them or either of them or they for any debts of whatever kind they may owe to me at the time of my decease for such debts shall be considered as part of my estate.

Will dated 28th, December, 1805.

His Mark X

John Rosenberger

Witness: Michael Shoemaker Peter Conver Prolated Oct. 12, 1808

### **Rosenberger's Mill**

The late Jonas Kulp residence on Broad street — John Rosenberger granted to son, Martin, the mill and seventy-seven acres of his plantation in 1776. He died in 1781.

In his will he ordered his mill and plantation not to be sold until his youngest child should be come eighteen years of age, in the meantime to be rented till that time. It was then rented to Henry Rosenberger from 1785 to 1788, to John Rosenberger from 1789 to 1791, to Henry Clemmer from 1793 to 1797, to John Hendricks in 1798.

In 1799, the time appointed in the will, it was sold to Peter Conver, fiftynine acres for 1010 pounds. The mill discontinued operation in 1818. A previous writer mentioned it was razed about 1820. Conver sold the farm to Samuel Kriebel in 1822 who made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors—the assignee, Godshall.

Godshall and Daniel Boorse then sold to John Kulp of Towamencin in 1826, who sold to Christian Detwiler in 1829. After his death Samuel Rosenberger and Catherine Dewiler, the widow, administrators, sold the same to Benjamin R. Rosenberger in 1851, 61 acres; who sold to Daniel Geisinger in 1852, 47 acres, who built the house and barn. He sold to Tobias Scholl in 1867, who sold to Jacob S. Leidy in 1872, who sold to William Delp in 1874, 40 acres.

The Railroad Depot and all the lots came from this tract which are northwest of Lincoln avenue on Market street and Maple avenue. They were detached by Jacob S. Leidy. In 1898 William Delp sold the farm to Chester Knipe who has sold many building lots during his ownership where dwellings have been erected.

John Rosenberger conveyed to son, Abraham, the tract in Franconia township, 144 acres in 1794, now the farm of Abraham Loux.



### THE INDIANS

A short distance above the homestead of John Rosenberger a few Indians lingered longer than elsewhere or down to the time of the Revolution.

Daniel Rosenberger, a grandson of John Rosenberger, who lived in what is now Hatfield Borough, his father who was born in 1765, heard his father say that he saw two of these aborigines. They had sort of an encampment along the Small Creek and a burial place on the higher grounds.

Tradition, strongly supported by known facts, is that the last Indian village in Montgomery County was located on the banks of the Neshaminy Creek near the present Dunkard Meeting House. About the close of the Revolutionary War they abandoned the hunting grounds of their fathers and after solemn ceremonies turned their faces toward the setting sun.

Before starting on their journey they held nightly dances for more than a week, lighting huge council fires that could be seen for miles. The settlers were alarmed as they could not ascertain the object of these ceremonies and the Indians would not tell them. One morning they found the camp deserted and in ashes. The Indians had disappeared during the night and burned everything that they could not carry along. It is believed that they journeyed to the Wabash River Country where a number of their people had settled some years before.

### Leroy Derstine Farm, formerly

### a Conver Plantation

Whereas Thomas and Richard Penn issued a patent deed to Christian Conver by name Kumfort, 53 acres in 1773 under the yearly quit rent of one-half penny sterling for every acre. In 1775 he purchased twelve acres additional from Jacob Swartz. This tract was on the southwest side of the Cowpath read. This tract is now owned by Stella Heckler.

The boundaries in the deed to Conver were beginning at a corner of Henry Rosenberger by same, northeast 73 perches by John Rosenberger, northwest 42 perches now by Jacob Reed, southwest 103 perches to Cowpath down said road, southeast 103 perches to beginning.

Christian Conver's children were Jacob, Peter, Catherine, wife of Jacob Leidy, and Margaret. The heirs sold the tract to Jacob Conver in 1785. Peter later bought the Rosenberger Mill. The executor of Jacob Conver sold it to Abraham Clemmer in 1828.

Jacob Conver's children were George, Sehn, Magdalena, the wife of Jacob Schnable; Catherine, wife of Jonathan Zane; Elizabeth, wife of Abraham Lutz; Lena, wife of Henry Benner; Maria and Margaret. Mention in the will is also made of Elizabeth, daughter of a son, Christian,

Christian Conver, Jr., was a blacksmith and followed his trade along with farming. He died a young man at the home of his father-in-law in Hatfield under a most sad and distressing circumstance. We copy from the Norristown Register under date of May 24, 1815:

May 24, 1815: "Last Wednesday Christian Comfort, of Hatfield township, in company with two persons, while in the act of cutting down a tree, received a violent blow on his head from a limb on which the tree fell, instantaneously depriving him of existence. He left a disconsolate widow and one child to mourn the irreparable loss." (From Reed Family History)

Abraham Clemmer devised the farm in his will to his son-in-law, Jacob D. Gehman in 1859, of Rockhill, a son of Samuel Gehman, who built the present house.

After his death in 1901 the farm came into possession of his only heir, Henry Gehman, who sold to Rhine Haring in 1908, who sold to Wilmer A. Alderfer in 1918, who sold to Llewellyn Davis in 1926. The Union Joint Stock Land Bank of Detroit then sold to Stella Heckler in 1934, fifty-four acres, who sold to Leroy Derstine thirty-two acres in 1940, the present owner.

## THE WESTERN CORNER OF TOWNSHIP

#### Jonathan Hayes Tract

This was a tract of 1210 acres, it comprised all the farms from the Franconia township line down the Cowpath road to about 100 yards northwest of Vine street, thence southwest to the Towamencin line, thence northwest to Franconia township line. This was purchased from William Penn in 1705 by Jonathan Hayes.

Jonathan's children were Jonathan, Jr., Mary, wife of Evan Lewis, and Elizabeth, wife of Richard Maris. After the death of Jonathan, Sr., these heirs made partition of this tract in 1719. Elizabeth received the upper portion including Martin Keagle's, John Mininger's, formerly Choyce's, Herman Finnemeyer's, Natali's, Elihu Moyer's, Raymond Frankenfield's, Charles Reller's, a tract of 605 acres.

The lower tract of 493 acres was transferred to Mary, wife of Evan Lewis. This comprised the farms of Arthur Hackman, Wallace Derstine, the Fair Grounds, Abner Willauer, Curtis Mininger, Raymond Rosenberger, Raymond Allebach, Hoehn Brothers and part of Irvin Schlosser. The remainder was transferred to Jonathan, Jr.

The Maris tract was sold to John Williams, of Cheltenham township, in 1723. He sold it to various parties.

### **Charles Reller Farm**

This included all the properties from John Dettra down Main street to Towamencin avenue, thence southwest to about where Mark Schlosser lives, thence northwest to boundary line.

John Williams sold 112 acres to David Thomas in 1731. It is supposed these were non-residents as no improvements are mentioned. Thomas then sold this tract to Benjamin Rosenberger in 1751 who had first bought land where Line Lexington now is in 1739. Rosenberger owned this land up to the time of his death but was occupied by his son, John, to whom it was conveyed by the heirs in 1783. After his death the heirs of John Rosenberger sold to Henry Clemmer in 1800 for 1380 pounds. He did not live long afterwards for his administrators sold the same to son, Abraham Clemmer, in 1806.

He remained here the remainder of his life for his administrators sold it to Abraham Benner in 1834, After his death the heirs sold it to Jacob Landis in 1854. He sold to Michael Swartly in 1865, now forty-nine acres. He sold it to Joseph Bustard in 1880. He sold it to Jacob R. Gehman in 1883. It was then occupied by his sonin-law, Enos F. Hackman, to whom it was conveyed after the death of his father-in-law in 1884. After Hackman's death it was sold to Jonas M. Cassel in 1892. It was then occupied and farmed by his son-in-law, Henry M. Moyer. Cassel next sold to Charles Reller in 1904, the present owner.

#### James Rosenberger Residence

This was detached from Reller's farm during Jacob R. Landis' ownership. In 1861 he sold to Levi Snovel (eleven acres), a blacksmith who applied his trade here until the year of his death in 1895. The widow, acting as executor, sold the same to Theodore Heckler in 1896. He sold it to August Berger, of Philadelphia, in 1900. He sold it to Charles Reller in 1906. He sold the building and four acres to Charles Brunner in 1913. He sold it to Bertha Ford, wife of Earl Ford, in 1921. She sold it to Jesse Keen in 1924, who sold it to James Rosenberger in 1930, the present owner.

### SOUTH HATFIELD HOTEL

Frederick Fisher purchased fortyone acres of the Peter King's farm (former Guthier farm) in 1794. In 1800 he bought twenty acres on the northwest side of Towamencin avenue. This he bought of Henry Clemmer, now Charles Reller farm. Fisher sold part of lower tract to John Bookhamer in 1812.

Bookhamer applied for a liquor license in 1819 and again in 1820 but the court rejected it both years. He again applied in 1823 and was again refused. He died the same year.

The property was then sold to his son, Jacob Bookhamer. In 1827 Elizabeth Bookhamer applied for a license but was again rejected. In 1828 Jacob Bookhamer applied for a license and had it granted. He was a cake baker and sold his sweet merchandise at public vendues and other gatherings.

In 1831 he sold the tavern to John C. Reiff. In 1833 Reiff sold to Philip Zeiber for \$2600. In 1850 Zeiber sold to John H. Althouse. The administrators of Althouse, Maria Althouse and Henry Althouse, sold to John B. Snyder in 1862. Snyder then sold to Nicholas Glosson in 1865. Next year back to Snyder again who then built the present house in 1867.

John B. Snyder died July 17, 1868. The administrators, Solomon Snyder and Madalena, the widow, who had now married Nicholas Glosson on the 17th of August, 1868, petitioned the court for sale of the property by direction of the same.

It was then sold at public vendue to Charles Gerhart for \$9935 in 1868, but the administrators failed to give a clear title to the purchaser who then refused to make settlement. It was again sold at public vendue by order of court to Peter Bloom for \$8500 in 1870. The administrators again failed to procure a clear title, the purchaser again refused to make settlement.

Again by order of court it was sold at public vendue to Abraham R. Snyder for \$6800 in 1872, who in 1875 sold to Nicholas Glosson, in 1876 to Christian Ender, of Philadelphia.

Sheriff Linderman seized the property and sold it to two brothers in 1877, Anthony and William Seipt, who sold to Jesse Slotterer in 1903. He had occupied it as a landlord since 1899, Slotterer then sold to William Deturk in 1923. After his death, the Hatfield Bank, acting executor, sold to son, Emerson Deturk, the Fallert owner.

The license holder: of this place were: Jacob Bookhame:, 1825 to 1830,

John Reiff 1831 to 1832, Philip Zeiber 1833 to 1850, John Althouse 1850 to 1861, Adam Shoemaker 1862 to 1864, Nicholas Glosson in 1865, John B. Snyder in 1866, George Reinert 1867 and 1868, Charles Gerhart 1869 and 1870, Oliver Althouse in 1871, Michael Frederick in 1872, John B. Rosenberger 1873 and 1874, Nicholas Glosson in 1875, Oliver Althouse 1876 to 1879. Transferred to Anthony Althouse on April 14, May 8 back to Oliver Althouse 1879 to 1883, March 8 to James Carver 1883 to 1891, Josiah Under-koffler 1891 to 1897, Walter Lownes 1897 to 1898, Mr. Robinson, of Philadelphia, 1898 to 1899, Jesse Slotterer 1899 to 1923, William Deturk 1923 to his death, then to Emerson Deturk, the present owner.

### The Former James Romig Residence

Jona. C. Leidy, administrators of Samuel G. Leidy, sold seven acres to Samuel Henry in 1880 who then built the present house and made a premises here. Henry then sold to James M. Romig in 1882 who built the present barn and an addition to the house. He was a drover, in later years had a hide and tallow rendering plant which was discontinued about 1925.

After his death the executors sold to James G. Romig, a son, he sold to Elizabeth Hoffman in 1929 who immediately transferred it back to James G. Romig. In 1936 he conveyed it to Marion Schalcher who sold to Robert Ahn the same year, the present owner.

### South Hatfield Store Property

This was a part of the John Bookhamer tract, later the South Hatfield Hotel. After John Bookhamer's death two acres were sold to the oldest son, Jacob, in 1827. He, it is believed, built the store building. He sold it to Samuel Beyer in 1835. He sold it to Christian Rosenberger in 1841. Who opened the store business is not known to the writer but Rosenberger conducted a store here as he is listed with a Vendor's License.

Rosenberger sold the same to Samuel Leidy, Sr., of Franconia township in 1846. It is doubtful if he ever lived here, it is supposed he leased it to other parties. In 1871 he sold the real estate to son, Jacob G. Leidy. He sold it to Eli Zeigler and Charles Meyers in 1880.

After Zeigler's death Meyer purchased his share and then conducted it till 1896 when he sold it to Milton K. Gehman. In 1899 the Sheriff seized the real estate of Milton Gehman and sold to Souderton Bank. The Union National Bank of Souderton sold it to Joseph B. Anders in 1904. Anders had bought the store business of Gehman in 1897 and sold the store business to Henry M. Kaisinger in 1900. The referee of the bankruptcy of Kaisinger sold back to Anders the same year.

Anders next sold the store business to Koffle and Hunsberger in 1907. The firm went bankrupt in 1918. After the death of Anders the executors of the same sold the store property to Henry P. Nyce in 1915. After the bankruptcy of Koffle and Hunsberger, Henry P. Nyce bought the same in 1918 and conducted the business till 1923 when he sold real estate and business to Perry Bean, the present owner.

### Store Business

We have only a record of this business from 1861, it was then by Elias Cassel but was assessed in Jacob M. Cassel's name. During his business career a post office was established in 1861 and Jacob M. Cassel was the first postmaster appointed. In 1866 the store business was transferred to Jacob G. Leidy, son of Samuel Leidy, the owner of the real estate to whom he sold it in 1871.

Jacob G. Leidy was appointed postmaster here in 1865. In 1876 Leidy sold the store business to Jeremiah Shelly who conducted it till 1877. He sold to Mr. Houck who conducted it till 1880. In 1880 Jacob G. Leidy sold to Zeigler and Myers, as has been mentioned previously.

### Lyle Frankenfield Residence

Corner of Main and Towamencin avenue, Hatfield Borough. This was part of the Reiler farm. Fred Fisher who had bought twenty acres of Henry Clemmer, as previously mentioned, sold the same to Philip Zeiber. He sold to Dr. Jacob Lambert in 1848 for \$557.00. Here he prac-

in 1848 for \$557.00. Here he practiced Medicine and, acting as a real estate jobber, he bought and sold many properties during his lifetime. He was also a great horseman, buying horses that others could not manage, but the last one was too much for him, throwing him out of his wagon which caused his death in 1874.

The son, Oliver Lambert, administrator, then sold to son, Charles Lambert, in 1876, now containing thirtyeight acres, who cut it up into building lots which he disposed through lottery.

This farm comprised all the lots lying between Main street and Towamencin avenue, up Wayne avenue to James Rosenberger line. The corner lot and residence at Main and Towamencin avenue Charles Lambert conveyed to Isaac Hanky in 1877, who exchanged it to Jacob L. Moyer and Israel Ruth for the hotel, which is now Knipe's Hotel, in 1881.

After Moyer's death it was sold to son, John D. Moyer, for \$612. He sold to John S. Nice, son of Richard Nice, for \$1,800 in 1903. Nice conveyed it back to Moyer in 1907 who sold it to Jesse Slotterer in 1909 for \$2,000. After his death the heirs sold it to Lyle Frankenfield, the present owner. The house that George Finnemeyer

The house that George Finnemeyer now owns used to be Dr. Lambert's office. It stood near the residence which is the house at the corner of Main and Towamencin avenue. After the division of the farm this portion became the property of Jacob L. Moyer, of Franconia. He moved the building to its present location and built an addition to the same and made it into a dwelling.

The other lots which were owned by various owners, five of them had buildings erected thereon. The house at corner of Main and Broad street was built by Isaac R. Hunsberger, now owned by George Walker. Hunsberger also built a shop adjoining for the manufacturing of organs. On July 22, 1879, the shop was destroyed by fire early in the morning, with its contents. It was not rebuilt.

The house which Oswald Boerner now owns was built by Dr. Ephraim Blank for a tenant house. He lived where Nice's store now is. About the same time B. Frank Cressman built a wheelwright shop on the lot adjoining. Later he razed the same and rebuilt into a dwelling, now the residence of his son, Horace. The house William Diehl owns was built by a man named Raudenbush. The house which Fred Anderson owns was built by Samuel Oberholtzer. The house which Esq. N. R. Brown now owns was built by Henry Hersh. He later sold the property and moved to Jessup, Iowa. About this same time the M. B. C. Chapel was built.

Short time after these were built Abraham Sorver built the house which John Anders now owns for tenant houses. The next house was built by George Cressman later the property of Sylvester Cressman. The next was built by Enos Oberholtzer which is now owned by Mr. Beeler.

### Harvey Rosenberger Property

In 1850 Philip Zeiber detached a plot of ground from his hotel property and sold to John Althouse. In 1857 he sold the same to Jacob Gehman for \$800, who sold to Samuel Scholl the same year and built the house. In 1879 John M. Jenkins, executor for Scholl, sold to Tobias Scholl for \$1,500. In 1898 Tobias Scholl to Matilda Volkert, in 1912 Volkert to Abraham S. Rosenberger, in 1927 the administrators of Rosenberger to Harvey A. Rosenberger, the present owner.

#### John Dettra Nursery

In 1849 Abraham Benner sold twelve acres to Daniel Rosenberger, his son-in-law, carpenter, who built the house and made a premises here. He later built a house at Hatfield Station, now owned by Mrs. Stubbs, where he lived the remainder of his life. In 1875 he sold this small farm to James Diehl, who sold it to Samuel Henry in 1877, who sold to Elwood Beaver in 1878, who sold to Jonas Lapp in 1883.

The administrators of Lapp sold it to Henry Swartley in 1891 who conveyed it to the trustees of the Line Lexington Mennonite Church the same year. It was then occupied by Rev. John Rosenberger. After his death in 1911 the trustees sold it to Wilson Bergey who the same year sold to Madora G. Patton, wife of George Patton. The house was destroyed by fire during their ownership and the present house then built by the Pattons. In 1929 the executor of Mrs. Patton then sold to John Dettra, the present owner.

#### Joseph Folcarelli Farm,

#### formerly Josiah Derstine's

This no doubt was a part of the Jacob R. Landis farm. In 1862 Isaac Hunsberger, administrator of Elias Hunsberger, sold the homestead with two acres to Jesse Lewis who then purchased two additional lots, one of four acres of Jacob Landis and one of five acres of Samuel Gerhart. Lewis sold this to Abraham H. Moyer in 1865, thirteen acres. He sold to his son, Enos S. Moyer, in 1870, who rebuilt the house and bought additional acres making some twenty acres.

He then sold the same to son, Isaiah Moyer, in 1896 who built the present barn. He then sold to Josiah Derstine in 1912. After his death the widow then sold to John Wilson, of Upper Dublin, in 1922 who sold to George Geiges the same year. He sold to Lewis Klebanoff in 1923 who sold the same year to Charles Hutt. In 1933 the sheriff seized the property and sold it back to Ida Nase, formerly Derstine, who sold it the same year to Francis Spohn who sold it to Joseph Folcarelli in 1939, the present owner.

Northwest of fair grounds were premises of Philip Reichenbach. John Clemmer sold to Isaac Wampole fourteen acres who conveyed it to Reichenbach in 1851. His wife was a daughter of Abraham Wiremen. Reichenbach sold to Margaret Gerhart in 1851. Reichenbach then bought a property east of Hatfield Depot. Gerhart sold to Henry Kinsey in 1861 who sold to Ephraim Delp in 1873.

The house was destroyed by fire during his ownership. It was tenanted at the time by Levi Fellman and was not rebuilt. The property was later sold to Henry Z. Derstine who razed the barn. It is now owned by Wallace Derstine.

#### John H. Mininger Farm

Occupied by Rhine Landis, formerly a Johnson Plantation. This came from the John Williams tract of 605 acres. This farm originally comprised Nace, Natali, Elihu Moyer, Allen Groff, Herman Finnemeyer, Capovani and two smaller properties.

In 1735 Williams sold 185 acres to Matthias Johnson. He died in 1750. He had two children — a daughter, Helena, and a son, John Johnson, to whom he devised the farm. He had eleven children, seven daughters and four sons. They were Matthias, Henry, John and Abraham, Anna, wife of Jacob Grubb; Sophia, wife of Abraham Benner; Mary, wife of Benjamin Johnson, of Skippack; Hannah, wife of Valentine Clemmer; Rebecca, wife of Abraham Allebach, and Veronica and Elizabeth.

John Johnson died in 1777. His eldest son, Matthias, then bought the farm. He erected part of the present stone dwelling house in 1789. At that time, the barn built in 1766, stood on a slight elevation southeast of the house. After the death of Matthias Johnson, Frederick Rotzel, a son-inlaw, was the executor, who sold part of the farm in 1835 to John M. Landis (91 acres) who built the present barn.

The boundaries given in 1789 were beginning in line of late Thomas Wilson (in Franconia township), northeast 258 perches to a corner of Jacob Reed's (now Stanley Walter's), by same southeast 115 perches by Philip Stillwagon and Jacob Swartz, southwest 258 perches by John Godshall, northwest 115 perches to beginning.

John Landis sold to son, Henry C. Landis, in 1865. The administrators of the same sold to William M. Nace in 1894, Nace to William Choyce in 1934, Choyce to John H. Mininger in 1938, the present owner.

### Mears Farm

The heirs of John Landis partitioned the farm and sold thirty acres to son, Abraham C. Landis, in 1863, who erected buildings and made a premises here. In 1899 he sold the same to Elihu B. Moyer. He built the present house and sold in 1903 to John K. Landis, who sold to Arthur K. Landis in 1917, who sold to John Keeports in 1920, who sold it to Robert Kurtz the same year, who sold to Samuel Canning in 1926.

Sheriff Fratt then seized the property and sold to Ambler Building and Loan Association who sold to William Mears in 1930, the present owner.

#### Elihu Moyer's Farm

The northeast part of the Johnson farm was sold by Frederick Ratzel, executor, to Jacob Leidy in 1835, who sold in 1840 the northeastern portion, bordering on the Cowpath, to Samuel Leidy. The heirs of Samuel Leidy in 1881 sold it to William Z. Kinsey (48 acres), William Kinsey to Elihu B. Moyer (38 acres) in 1904, the present owner.

#### Natali Farm

The other portion of the Johnson farm, owned by Jacob Leidy, was retained by him up to the time of his death. About 1851 he committed suicide by hanging himself in the barn. The administrators sold the farm in 1852 to Iseac W. Wampole, who immediately transferred it back to Samuel and William Leidy, who conveyed it four days later to Samuel Kinsey, 73 acres. The heirs of Kinsey sold the same to son, Samuel Z. Kinsey, in 1882. The administrators of same to Chester Knipe in 1905, who sold to Herman Finnemeyer in 1912, who sold to H. Clay Artman fifty acres in 1931.

The Sheriff seized the property and sold back to Finnemeyer. In 1933 Finnemeyer sold the same to Herman Schwenneser who sold to Stefano Natali in 1935, the present owner. When Finnemeyer sold the farm he retained twenty-four acres and erected buildings thereon. He is still the owner of the same.

### Written by Henry S. Landia

An incident which happened at the Johnson farm. John Johnson died in 1777 under most distressing circumstances. After the battle of Germantown as the sick and wounded were brought to the farmers and quartered among them, he opened his spacious house and admitted the sick in large numbers.

Several wagon loads were brought there together with a nurse to take care of them. Johnson and his daughter, Fannie, assisted in attending the sick who had the camp (typhus) fever. An alarm was sounded, though falsely, that the British were coming. This spread consternation among the inhabitants who took all the sick that could be moved and fled, with all the doctors in the vicinity, in the direction of Oley, Berks County.

Johnson and his daughter remained to care for the sick who could not be moved. Shortly afterward both father and daughter were stricken with the dreaded fever and in a few days the father died.

Fannie suffered for a long time beyond all description. Her vhole body was so stiff that no limb or joint would bend. She could not be raised up without standing on her feet and no doctor was within reach to attend her. Her friends constructed a rude stretcher on which they carried her all the way from Hatfield township to the doctors at Oley, Berks County, so that she could receive medical attention. She suffered a long time but recovered, against all expectation, dying many years later at an advanced age at her home near Doylestown.

### Capovanni Residence

In 1852 Samuel and William Leidy sold six acres from the Jacob Leidy farm to Isaac Wampole who immediately transferred it to William Leidy who in 1856 sold it to Samuel Shroyer, who sold to Joseph Proctor in 1864, who sold to David Johnson in 1867, who sold it to Charles White of Gwynned township in 1869. The widow, Isabella White, to Bartolemew Naddes in 1908, who sold to Joseph Cohen the same year, who next sold to Guiseppe Spirito in 1909.

Cohen next sold again to Benjamin Rosenberger in 1914 who sold to William Bateman in 1915. The house was destroyed by fire soon after, he then built the present house. He died some time afterward. Sheriff then sold it to Bertha Croll who then sold to Giovanni Capovanni in 1926, the present owner.

### Allen Groff Residence

Mary Leidy, administrator of William Leidy deceased, sold six acres to Abraham C. Moyer in 1884, Moyer to David H. Oberholtzer the same year who sold it to Alfred Hagey in 1899 who built a house on it the same year. He willed it to his widow and after her death devised to an adopted daughter, the wife of George Hendricks. After ner death the heirs sold it to Allen A. Groff, the present owner.

### Martin Keagle Farm, formerly

#### a Godshall Plantation

This included Keagle farm, John Mininger's, Dornback's, and Hammerschmidt's and Webster Benner's. The original deed makes mention whereas Richard Maris and Elizabeth, his wife, and Jonathan Maris, son of Richard Maris and Joan, his wife, by their indenture the seventh day of February, A.D. 1735, did grant six hundred and five acres of land in Hatfield township unto John Williams, of Cheltenham township, the said John Williams and Elenore, his wife, by their indenture bearing date 27th day of February, 1735, did grant one hundred sixty acres, part of the six hundred and five acres unto John Godshall, turner, son of Bishop Jacob Godshall, of Skippack.

Godshall made his last will and testament the fourteenth day of May, 1759, wherein he appointed Peter Custer, of Worcester township, and Dillman Kulp, of Bedminster township, Bucks County, to be his executors. He died the following November. On the 15th day of March, 1760, the executor did grant the premises then to Baltzer Stam.

Godshall in his will mentions his wife, Helena, one son, Jacob, and seven daughters. They were Barbara, who had married Henry Oberholt; Alice, who had married Henry Stauffer. She died in 1758. He next married a sister of his first wife whose name was Susannah; Ann, who had married Peter Hendricks; Catherine, Elizabeth and Magdalena. In his will he ordered his property to be sold and the proceeds divided among his heirs and to the Dutch Baptist Church five pounds to which I confess my belonging.

Baltzer Stam, who had bought the farm, sold it to Julios or Yellis Cassel in 1775, of Skippack, Perkiomen township, a weaver. The administrators of Cassel were John Drake and Henry Oberholtzer who sold to Amos Godshall in 1837.

This Amos Godshall was the father of Rev. Henry O. Godshall and Susannah, who had married Benjamin Heebner, father of Daniel Heebner. Some of the older residents remember him. Godshall died not long afterward for the administrators sold, in 1840, sixty-five acres to Joel Oberholtzer. The heirs were Jesse Oberholtzer and Margaret, wife of John A. Kratz. They sold it to Jesse Oberholtzer in 1858. In 1865 Jesse Oberholtzer sold to John A. Kratz, he sold to son, Isaac O. Kratz, in 1881, who sold to Tobias Nice in 1919, Nice to Marten Keagle in 1924, the present owner.

### John H. Mininger Farm

John Godshall detached fifty acres on the northeastern end of his farm and sold to his son-in-law, Henry Stauffer, in 1775. He was among the taxable in 1792. The next transfer the writer was able to find was in 1819 when Joseph Oberholtzer sold to Joseph Stauffer. Then the administrators of Stauffer sold to Samuel Delp in 1827, the heirs of Delp to George Y. Hunsicker who immediately transferred the same to Samuel Leidy, Sr., In 1862, the executors of Leidy to Levi O. Kratz, in 1876, who sold to James Mckee in 1904, who sold back to Kratz the same year. Kratz then sold to John H. Mininger in 1908, the present owner.

### Webster Benner Farm,

### formerly Jonas Mininger

This farm lies partly in Franconia township. In 1811 Yellis Cassel detached fifty acres and sold to son, Jacob Cassel, who sold the same to Abraham Cassel (47 acres) in 1823. The administrators, Jacob and Henry Cassel, then sold to Abraham Krupp in 1830. In 1872 John J. Krupp to Abraham J. Krupp who sold in 1878 to John Mininger, who devised the same to son, Jonas J. Mininger, in his will. In 1927 Jonas Mininger sold to Lydia Anders, wife of Alvin Anders, who sold to Henry H. Krupp in 1980, who sold to Webster Benner in 1988, who sold to Henry K. Nice in 1942, the present owner.

### The Dornbach Residence

It being a tract of six acres detached from Yellis Cassel farm on the southwestern end on the Allentown road. The administrators of Cassel did grant to Amos Godshall April 1, 1837, for \$322.00 who transferred it on the same date to Frederick Gummer who then erected the building. The administrators of Gummer then sold to John A. Kratz who transferred it to Nicholas Noll who had married Gummer's daughter for his second wife. The transfer was in 1880.

In 1901 the Sheriff sold it to Attorney A. R. Place who conveyed it to Jonas Mininger on same date who transferred it back to Nicholas Noll the same date. Noll, in 1904, sold it to Frederich Gerhart who sold it to William Verhaaren in 1906, who sold to Robert Zeigenfuss in 1908, who sold to Carrie Haire, wife of George Haire, in 1910, who sold to John W. Carney, of Virginia, in 1913, who sold to Marie Atchison, of Philadelphia, in 1915, who sold to Theresa Dornback in 1916, the present owner

### Hammerschmidt Residence

This was a part of the Yellis Cassel farm. In 1837 Amos Godshall sold three acres to Henry Oberholtzer for \$175.00, who sold in 1851 to Daniel Bergey, who sold in 1855 to Aaron Oberholtzer, who sold in 1862 to Enos Oberholtzer, who sold in 1864 to George Kistner, who sold in 1869 to David Scholl.

John C. Boore, executor of Scholl, to Sarah Ann Clemmer in 1905, wife of Levi Clemmer, who sold in 1925 to Francis Hammerschmidt, the present owner.

### Raymond Frankenfield,

#### formerly a Swartz Plantation

This comprised the farms of Raymond Frankenfield, Erwin Ruth, Rudolph Forst, the George Heckler tract and Paul Hilgner's. In 1769 Jacob Foorman conveyed ninety-seven acres to Andrew Swartz.

The heirs of the same sold to Jacob Swartz in 1773 who sold to Frederick Ratzel in 1794 having the following boundaries: beginning at a corner of Joseph Conver by same and by heirs of John Rosenberger southeast 104 nerches to line of John Hendricks by same, southwest 116 perches to line of Isaac Oberholtzer by same, northeast 122 perches to line of Matthias Johnson by same, northeast 158 perches by late Philip Stillwagon, southeast 21 perches and northeast 12 perches to beginning.

The homestead was where Frankenfield lived. The next owner was Enos Ratzel who divided the farm by selling two tracts, one to Jacob Crum and one to Abraham H. Moyer. The administrators of Ratzel then sold to John G. Derstine sixty-three acres in 1853, the heirs then sold to son, Samuel Derstine, in 1884, who sold to sonin-law, Raymond Frankenfield, in 1922, who sold to Helen Kerr, of Philadelphia, in 1941, the present owner. Samuel Derstine built the present house.

#### **Rudolph Forst Farm**

In 1788 Jacob Swartz sold two acres to Philip Stillwagon. Later there was added twelve acres more of the Swartz Plantation. Stillwagon then sold it to Elizabeth Rosenberger in 1794 who sold to Catherine Allebach in 1795. Abraham Allebach, administrator of same, sold to Samuel Shroyer in 1836 who immediately transferred it to Daniel Hagey. In 1880 the heirs sold it to Enos B. Cassel who immediately conveyed it to David H. Oberholtzer, a son-in-law of Hagey. Oberholtzer next sold it to Leonhardt Morasch in 1909 who sold to William Constantine in 1914 who sold to Rudolph Forst in 1919, the present owner.

#### Erwin L. Ruth Farm,

### formerly Harvey Derstine's

Enos Ratzel detached thirty-one acres from his farm and sold to Abraham H. Moyer in 1840 who sold to Oliver C. Hagey in 1875. The barn was struck by lightning and consumed in 1898 and rebuilt by Hagey. Later he made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors who then sold to Harvey Derstine in 1909. He sold to Erwin L. Ruth in 1927, the present owner.

### Paul Hilgner Farm

In 1839 Enos Ratzel detached twelve acres of his farm and sold to Jacob Crum, of Manayunk, who sold to David Master in 1847, who sold to Jacob Baker in 1856, who sold to Conrad Schaffer in 1868. He was in the cabinet - making business which he conducted here for some time.

Later he made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. The assignee, Frank Strasser, then cold the farm to Catherine Schaffer in 1879 who sold to Frederick Weiss, Sr., in 1891, who sold to William Campbell in 1907, who sold to Paul Hilgner in 1913, who rebuilt the present building. He is the present owner.

### J. Paul Krupp Farm, an

### **Oberholtzer Plantation**

In the absence of records, we cannot give the early transfers. The first record we have is from Jacob Oberholtzer by relations to boundaries of 1751. The next owner was Henry Oberholtzer who owned 200 acres here as related in his will which he divided between his two sons, Joseph and Isaac Oberholtzer, by article of agreement during his life. Joseph received the present Paul Krupp and Schwager farms, Isaac the present Formanek farm in 1790.

After the death of Joseph Oberholtzer his administrators, Henry Oberholtzer and Jacob Ruth, sold the farm to Joseph Drake in 1829. He sold it to Joseph Kriebel in 1857. He transferred it to son, Samuel Kriebel, in 1896. He sold to Harry Krupp in 1925. He transferred to son, J. Paul Krupp, the present owner.

### WILL OF HENRY OBERHOLTZER

In the name of God, amen. I, Henry Oberholtzer, of Hatfield township, in Montgomery County, a Cooper. Being far advanced in years and weak in body but of sound memory and understanding. Thanks be to God and considering that our time in this our natural life uncertain so that we do not know when we may be called to eternity, I was moved within myself to make this my last will and testament that is to say:

First: I do deliver my body to the carth to be buried in a decent Christian-like manner in the hope of a joyful resurrection through the merits of my Savior Jesus Christ and concerning my worldly estate wherewith it pleased God to bless me I do dispose of the same in the following manner.

First: I will and order that all my just debts and funeral charges shall be just and fully paid by my hereafter named executors and then I give and devise to my beloved wife, Barbara, our bed with bedstead and curtains and what thereunto belongs, and a cow and of my household goods, linen, sheeting and tablecloths she shall have free liberty to choose and take whatever she pleases for her own, and the house clock and the pipe stove in our room during her widowhood.

And my wife shall have the three rooms which we now posses with free liberty in the other kitchen at the fur and to pass and repass the liberty in the upper room which we have now and likewise in the cellar for her use, free water at the well and free liberty to the bake oven and her cow kept in pasture in summer and by the hay in winter as the possession of my place shall keep his own.

All the articles shall be performed and fulfilled by my son Isaac, his heirs or assigns, during her widowhood and likewise shall my two sons, Isaac and Joseph, in equal, find firewood ready cut for her use to the house door. And it is my will and I order that my son Isaac, his heirs or assigns, yearly and every shall receive the sum of five pounds of my wife for all the privileges received.

And whereas I do own and possess two hundred acres of land, it being the same more or less situated lying and being in the township and county aforesaid which land I have already divided and sold by article of agreement to my two sons, Joseph and Isaac. The article bearing date the 27th of May, 1790, for and in consideration sum of ten hundred pounds in good gold and silver money as the same passes in value and weight at the date hereof in all payments within Pennsylvania and the said sum my two sons shall pay in equal share, that is five hundred pounds to each of them whereof one hundred and fifty pounds shall be and remain in the hand of each of my said sons.

Whereof he shall pay the interest at the rate of five per centum, which interest he shall the likewise pay to my wife during her widowhood, and after her decease or marriage, the said sum shall be equally divided among my six children or the heirs of their body, with the pipe stove and house clock and the residue of the said sum remaining.

My said sons shall pay the same payment according to agreement, that is, thirty pounds to each of them yearly whereof the first payment already elapsed the twenty-seventh day of May last past.

And I give and devise to my son Joseph the lower part of my said land beginning at a stone, a corner of Jacob Oberholtzer's land, thence southwest some sixty-seven perches to a stone a corner in Samuel Tennis' land, thence by the same and Jacob Hesse's land northwest one hundred and nineteen perches to a stone at Yellis Cassel's land, thence by same and Henry Stauffers land, thence northeast one hundred ninety-two perches to a stone a corner in the said Stauffer's land, thence by a division of said land southeast fifty-nine perches to a corner, thence southwest one hundred and twenty-five perches to a corner on the said line, thence southeast sixtytwo perches to the place of beginning, ninety-five acres and one hundred and forty-eight perches, it being the same more or less together also with the building and improvements thereon to have and to hold to him my son, Joseph, his heirs and assigns forever, under the payment above mentioned.

And the upper part of my said land as it is divided and the both drought bearing date 19th, April, 1784, will appear. I give and devise the same to my son, Isaac, which is a beginning at a stone, a corner of John Hendrick's land, thence by same and Jacob Ruth's land southwest one hundred and ninety-one perches to a stone a corner of Jacob Oberholtzer's land, thence by a division line of said land northwest sixty-two perches to a corner on the said line, thence northeast one hundred and twenty-five perches to a corner, thence northwest fifty-nine perches to a corner in Henry Stauffer's land, thence by the same and Matthias Johnson's land sixty - six perches a stone a corner at said Johnson's land, thence southeast one hundred and twenty-two perches by Jacob Swartz's land to place of beginning. Ninety-eight acres and one hundred and twenty-two perches it being more

or less to have and to hold the same together with all and singular the building and improvements.

Whereon unto my son, Isaac Oberholtzer, his heirs and assigns forever, under the express limitation aforesaid and whereus I did give to my four sons, Jacob, John. Joseph, and Isaac, each of them, the sum of seventy-five pounds which is my will that my sons shall have advanced before my daughters and whereas I did give to my daughter Susanna at the time she was married two cows, one heiffer bed with bedstead, linen and household goods.

It is my will and I order that my youngest daughter shall have the same in every part as my daughter Susanna had what my youngest daughter Catherine not already got. And I further give and devise the sum of ten pounds in money aforesaid to the Mennonist Meeting in Hatfield to which meeting I myself confess, for the use of the poor in said meeting, to be paid to the elders whereof in two years after my decease.

And it is by will I order that my executors shall sell all movable estate at public sale and the money raised by the sale thereof and that money due and payable to me, by my sons or otherwise whatsoever, that shall be added together with the goods and what my two daughters had as near as it can be valued and be divided in six equal shares and after my decease I will and order that my two daugh-ters shall receive of the first money my executor receive in hand each of them the sum of twenty pounds and then it is my will and I order that my executors shall pay as the money of the sale of my estate comes due and payable always to them that has received the least of my estate till each of my children or the heirs of my body by reason of death has received his full portion and share.

And lastly I do ordain and appoint my two sons, John and Joseph Oberholtzer, to be my executors of this my last Will and Testament and give them full power herewith to execute the same to the free intent wherein contained, ratifying and declaring this my last Will and Testament in confirmation whereof the said Henry Oberholtzer set my hand and seal hereunto. Dated the 28th day of July, 1791.

Henry Oberholtzer

Witness: Jacob Swartz Abraham Johnson John Barkey Probated March 14, 1794

#### Willard Schwager Farm

Joseph Oberholtzer owned ninetyfive acres, including the Schwager and Paul Krupp farm. In 1813 he detached thirty-seven acres and sold the same to Henry Oberholtzer. He died, leaving a widow and three daughters: Mary, who had married Henry Derstine, and Anna, who married Amos Godshall, she married the second time Christian Young; Catherine married Nickolas Noll.

In 1858 the heirs of Henry Oberholtzer sold the farm to Nickolas Noll who sold to John Metzgar in 1879. Metzgar sold back to Noll in 1886, who then sold the same to William Tyson in 1887, who sold to William Yoder in 1916. Cora Yoder, the widow then sold to Leroy Clemens in 1919, who sold to Willard Schwager in 1933, the present owner.

### Marvin Ruth Farm

In 1818 Henry Oberholtzer, a clockmaker, sold twenty acres to Israel Yocum. Later in the same year Yocum bought seven acres more of Isaac Oberholtzer, he then had building erected on same. In 1840 the administrators of Yocum sold to William Lukens who sold to Jacob Detwiler in 1847, he sold to Enos Oberholtzer in 1850, he sold to Rev. Jacob Kulp in 1854.

It was then occupied and farmed by his son-in-law, Isaac Clemmer, to whom he conveyed it in 1875. Clemmer built the present house. After his death the administrators sold it to Elizabeth Clemmer, the widow, in 1880, it was then occupied and farmed by her son, Cyrus Clemmer. After her death the administrators sold it to Cyrus Clemmer in 1887, who conveyed it to his son-in-law, Marvin Ruth, in 1916, the present owner.

### Fred Formaneck Farm

This was part of Henry Oberholtzer tract which he conveyed to son, Isaac, in 1790. This included part of the Warren Hendrick residence. In 1832 Isaac Oberholtzer, son of Henry, sold seventytwo acres to Isaac Delp, of Warrington, Bucks County, where he came from Union County. Delp died in 1856 when his only heir, Ephraim, got the farm now containing fifty-four acres. He built the present house. In 1906 the heirs sold to Frederick Weiss, Sr., forty-four acres. The executor of Weiss in 1932 sold to Fred Formanek, the present owner.

### Warren Hendricks Residence

This is a small part of the Isaac Oberholtzer plantation which he had sold to Isaac Delp. He detached ten acres and sold to a German named Frederick Krautt in 1846 who made the first improvements. In 1853 he bought eight acres more of Ephraim Delp. Later transfers were: 1853, Krautt to Lorenz Hauck, a blacksmith. He built the present house. He sold to Jacob Strine in 1857. He sold to Enos Keller in 1860. He sold to Michael Heckler in 1867. He sold to Abraham Nice in 1873. It was then occupied by his son, Gideon Nice, to whom he con-veyed it in 1880. He sold to Cyrus Clemmer in 1912 who conveyed it to his son-in-law, Marvin Ruth, in 1916. He sold to Chester Wenger five acres with the buildings in 1922 who sold to Warren Hendricks in 1927, the present owner.

### Harvey Cressman Farm

In 1857 Ephraim Delp detached ten acres from his farm and sold to Henry Stover who sold then to Samuel Rosenberger in 1866, who sold to Peter Zeigenfuss in 1868, who sold to Samuel Kinsey in 1869, who sold to Lewis Moore in 1874. After his death the administrators sold to Ephraim Delp in 1881, who sold to son, Jacob Delp, in 1892. Next transfer was Ephraim Delp to John D. Landis in 1901 who sold it to William Nail in 1907, who sold it to Edmund Wiley in 1909, who sold it next to Henry Daniels in 1918, who sold it to William Buckner in 1914, who sold it to Harvey Cressman in 1916, the present owner.

### Clayton C. Moyer Farm, formerly

### an Oberholtzer Tract

In 1760 Michael Hoffman sold two tracts of land to Henry Hendricks, fifty acres were in Hatfield township and seventeen in Towamencin township. This included John Kulp's and Charles Godshall's. Hendricks in 1764 sold to Gabriel Frey, a blacksmith, who sold to Henry Oberholtzer in 1772 for 225 pounds who transferred it in 1778 to Jacob Oberholtzer, Sr., who died in 1810.

The farm was then conveyed to Jacob C. Oberholtzer who sold to Joseph Mininger of Richland township, Bucks County, in 1834, fifty-eight acres, who later divided the farm amongst his two sons. His son, John, got twenty acres — what is now the Hatfield Packing Plant—where buildings were then erected. Henry got the homestead in 1853. After his death the farm was sold to Harvey Landis in 1886.

He was killed in the Hatfield Railroad wreck on September 2, 1900, when an Atlantic City excursion train ran into the rear end of the milk train killing thirteen persons and injuring forty-nine.

The milk train was loading the milk at the depot. Abraham H. Rosenberger and Landis were setting the milk cans from the platform into the milk car. Rosenberger was seriously injured but recovered months afterward. Landis died a few hours afterward. The farm was then conveyed to Abraham H. Kulp who sold to Henry K. Landis in 1901, who sold it to Cleyton C. Moyer in 1918, present owner.

The boundaries at the time of the Oberholtzer ownership were beginning at a corner of Henry Ruth, by same northeast 68 perches to corner of late Henry Hendricks, now Jacob Ruth, by same northwest 119 perches to corner late of Jacob Oberholtzer, Sr., by same southwest 68 perches to corner of Samuel Tennis by same southeast 23 perches, by same southwest 52 perches and southeast 61 perches to corner of John Yellis by same northeast 35 perches to beginning.

### HATFIELD PACKING PLANT

This was detached from the Clayton Moyer farm. Joseph Mininger, who was the owner, sold twenty acres to his son, John Mininger, in 1853. He had building erected and made a premises here. He devised it to his son, Joseph J. Mininger, by his will in 1882. He sold to his mother, Susanna Mininger, in 1885. She transferred it to her son-in-law, John M. Funk, in 1886.

During his ownership he established a pork packing business which he conducted for some time. In 1921 he incorporated, then known as J. M. Funk and Company. The firm went bankrupt, then it was sold to J. Paul Krupp, Horace Geyer and Joseph Mininger, Jr., in 1922. It was then known as North Penn Packing Company. The firm made an assignment to Jacob C. Swartley who sold it to Solomon Billman in 1925. He sold it to Hatfield Packing Company in 1928, who had first established a plant at David N. Cassel residence.

#### Wallace Derstine Farm

This came from Evan Lewis tract of 493 acres. On January 17, 1748, Richard Walm, of Philadelphia, executor of Evan Lewis and Jonathan Lewis, sold to Lawrence Hendrick, of Towamencin township, 246 acres. On March 1, 1748, the same conveyed 111 acres to each of his sons, Henry and John Hendricks.

John got the northern portion comprising Wallace Derstine and the Fair Grounds and David Cassel residence. Here John Hendricks lived the rest of his life. It is believed that the Derstine residence was where he lived. Here stood an old log house back from the present house. He bequeathed this farm to his daughter, Eve, who had married Frederick George, and her descendants.

Boundaries in 1814 were beginning at a corner by land formerly of Jacob Oberholtzer and John Scholl, northeast 238 perches by late Benjamin Rosenberger, southeast 107 perches by Abraham Shipe, southwest 63 perches by Jacob Ruth, northwest 63 perches and by same southwest 175 perches and by same northwest 65 perches to beginning. In 1816 Eve, George's widow, and her daughter, Magdalena, who had married Jacob Landis, sold to two brothers, John Leidy Potter, of Franconia township, and Jacob Leidy, store-keeper of the same township. In 1820 they sold to their father, Jacob Leidy, tanner of Franconia township, He conveyed it to his son-in-law, Rev. Henry Gerhart, a Reformed preacher, in 1830, who then built the present brick house. He died in 1848. The administrators then divided the farm, the homestead was sold to Samuel Leidy who conveyed to Samuel Gerhart. In 1850 he sold to Simon Gerhart who sold to John C. Hackman in 1871.

Henry S. Hackman, the administrator, then sold to Enos H. Moyer in 1881, who later had the feed store at Souderton, and his brother, Christian Moyer. In 1883 Moyer sold the farm to Henry Z. Derstine who sold the same to son, Wallace Derstine, in 1921, the present owner

The other portion, which was detached in 1848, was sold by the administrators to Jacob Gerhart (31 acres) who in 1850 sold to Samuel Gerhart now nineteen acres. He lived here the rest of his life. He died in 1892. The executor then sold it to Henry B. Delp.

In 1909 Delp sold to Menno D. Moyer who died the next year. The administrators then sold to Henry Z. Derstine who thus united it again under one ownership as it remains today. The residence of David N. Cassel was detached from this Samuel Gerhart lot and sold to Dr. Gerhart, a brother of Samuel Gerhart, in 1871 who built the house and made a premises here. He sold to Frederick Guenther, Sr., in 1881. The administrators of the same sold to David Cassel, the present owner.

#### Arthur Hackman Farm

The 111 acres sold by Laurence Hendrick to son, Henry, in 1748, comprised the present Arthur Hackman, Edward Grubb, and Otto Hilgner farms and the tract of woodland belonging to the Montgomery County Fair Grounds. Henry Hendricks sold the same to Jacob Ruth in 1772. The executor of the same then sold in three tracts to Christian Artherholt March 19, 1822, sixty-six acres and nineteen acres in Hatfield township and fifteen in Franconia township. On April 1, 1822, Artherholt sold to Jacob G. Ruth. In 1852 he sold to son, Joseph Ruth, who sold to Jonas Cassel in 1876. He built the present house. The administrator of Cassel sold to Henry D. Hackman in 1912 who conveyed to son, Arthur, in 1938, present owner.

son, Arthur, in 1938, present owner. The will of Jacob Ruth, Sr., is stated in the deed conveyed to Artherholt. I further give and bequeath unto her (meaning Mary, the widow) during her natural life the annual interest of the principle sum of eight hundred pounds which shall remain a lien on my estate during said term until said principle is discharged.

I also give and bequeath unto my said wife during the said term of her natural life the parlor and kitchen in the new end of the house where I now live and two rooms upstairs, also the quiet and unmolested privilege for herself and her attendants to pass and repass through the other kitchen of said house and the use of the stairs in the same whenever she pleases.

I further give unto her for her use of the cellar and springhouse as she may stand in need of and also the use of the bakeoven and further I give her one-fourth part of the garden, the same to be sufficiently and in due sesson annually manured by the owner or tenant in possession, and also subject to furnishing sufficiency of good firewood and etc.

### Edward Grubb Farm

This was detached from the Ruth farm. Jacob Ruth, Sr., sold to son, Jacob Ruth, Jr., a weaver, eighteen acres in 1807, and in 1817, sixteen acres more were sold by Jacob Ruth, Sr., to Jacob Ruth, Jr., who sold the same to Jacob Schwenk in 1822, now thirty-five acres. He sold it to John Wagoner in 1830 who sold it to Martin Hunsberger in 1832. The administrators of the same sold it to Leidy Worman in 1839. He sold it to David Master the same year who sold to Abraham Stauffer in 1845. He built the barn in 1847. His administrators then sold it to Abraham K. Rittenhouse in 1863. He sold it to Jacob Loux in 1865 who sold to Charles Brunner in 1893, who sold to Daniel Zeigler in 1918, who sold to Edward Grubb in 1918, who sold most of the farming land to Wallace Derstine. The building and about five acres of land Grubb sold to George Walker in 1943.

#### Montgomery County Fair Grounds

Eve Georgin and Magdalene, her daughter, who had married Jacob Landis, sold from her plantation fifteen acres to Jacob Swartley in 1815. After his death his son-in-law, John George Ernst, agreed to take the premises at the appraisement in 1834. He was the owner of the present Raymond Kratz farm. He sold the same the next year to Joseph Newbold and Mathias Richenbach as tenants in common in 1885. They conveyed it to Enos Ratzel in 1838. He granted it to Mathias Richenbach the same year. He sold it to Abraham Benner in 1852. He sold it to Peter Stillwagon in 1855. He sold it to son. Theodore Stillwagon in 1875. He rebuilt the present house. He sold to son, Sylvester Stillwagon, in 1920. He sold to Charles Imswiler in 1921. He sold to Hatfield Driving Association in 1924.

#### HATFIELD RACE COURSE



In October, 1920, a group of energetic men gathered to consider the construction of a half mile race track in the vicinity of Hatfield. Finally an agreement was made with Sewall Musser to lease a tract of land of sixteen acres, upon which to construct a track and hold matinee races. The following officers were elected: President, Monroe Ott; Secretary, William Hedrick; Treasurer, Jacob Ott; Racing Secretary, Henry K. Godshall. After the land had been leased work was begun immediately in constructing the track. The next July the first races were held. Mr. Musser afterwards sold this tract to the association.

On October 15, 1924, Charles Imswiler sold his adjoining farm of twenty-four acres to the same association, boosting the acreage to fortyfour acres. The Montgomery County Fair Association was then organized with officers: President, Wilmer Nice, Howard Harleysville; Treasurer, Mitchell, Chalfont; Recording Secretary, Arthur Anders, Worcester; Superintendent and Corresponding Secretary, William Hedrick, of Hatfield. The first fair was held the following year. 1925.

#### Curtis Mininger and Abner Willauer

#### Farms, formerly Lukens Plantation

This extended from Christian Ruth's farm northeast along the Forty-foot road, now Route 463, to the road at Raymond Rosenberger's, down said road to Hoehn Bros., then southwest to Hugh Jones' tract. Jones, who had bought this tract of Jonathan Lewis in 1746, sold to son, Amos Jones, 122 acres in 1748. He sold the same to William Lukens in 1769.

The boundaries were: beginning in line of Henry Hendricks by Abraham Ruth and Melchoir Yoder southeast 214 perches to corner of John Shutt, by Shutt northeast 39 perches by John Bucheimer, northwest 81 perches to corner of John Shellenberger, by same northeast 85 perches, by same northwest 182 perches to line of Henry Hendricks, by same southwest 142½ perches to beginning. Lukens sold the plantation to John Rosenberger in 1782 for 650 pounds.

Lukens sold the plantation to John Rosenberger in 1782 for 650 pounds. He sold it to Jacob Oberholtzer in 1793. He sold it to John Kindig in 1832, now reduced to ninety-six acres. After his death his administrators sold to Joseph Benner in 1836. The Benner homestead, was where Abner Willauer lives. Benner, during his ownership, sold thirty-four acres in 1848 to Benjamin Hendricks (this is now the Hoehn Brothers farm), leaving sixty-one acres. This, after Benner's death, was sold to Elias Cassel, of Gwynedd Township, in 1860. The same year he sold thirty acres to Adam Walters. This is now the Curtis Mininger farm. Walters then sold to Thomas Calahan, of Philadelphia, in 1865. The same sold to James M. Romig in 1869, who rebuilt the house and barn. In 1882 he sold it to Jacob K. Clemmer, who sold it to Henry Wisler in 1890. It was then sold to Sylvanus Clemens in 1900. The barn was destroyed by fire in 1926, being struck by lightning and rebuilt by Clemens. He then sold to Curtis Mininger in 1937, the present owner.

The other thirty-one acres Casuel sold to Adam Rhoads in 1861, who sold to George Jones, of Philadelphia, in 1878, the same sold to John J. Mininger in 1881. The barn was destroyed by fire with six cows and three horses, and rebuilt by Mininger about 1886. Later he made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors and then sold to Kate Ruth, wife of Daniel Ruth, in 1887. The administrators of the estate then sold to Ephraim Delp in 1896 for his son, Charles. After the death of his father he bought the same in 1906. He sold to Jos Franconi in 1926, who sold to Abner Willauer the same year, the present owner.

### Hoshn Brothers' Farm

As previously mentioned, Joseph Benner sold to Benjamin Hendricks thirty-four acres in 1848 who had buildings erected and made a premises there. He sold it to Caleb H. Price in 1852. He sold it to Abraham Benner in 1859. He sold it to Jacob Johnson in 1864. He sold it to Joseph Detwiler in 1867. He sold it to Henry S. Hackman in 1869. He later made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors in 1890.

Abraham C. Allebach then bought it. It was then occupied and farmed by his son-in-law, Enos Godshall, for seven years, from 1899 to 1907, he then bought his father's farm in Lower Salford Township. Allebach then sold it to Jesse Layton, of Maryland, in 1909. He sold it to John Hoehn in 1910. After his death the administrators sold it to Albert and George Hoehn in 1929, the present owners.

### The Late John R. Kindig Residence

Amos Jones sold fifteen acres to Paul Delgart who was the owner of present Allman farm. This was then a part of said farm until Isaac Hunsberger owned the same. He sold of this tract two acres to Joseph Benner in 1852, who built the house and made a premises. He sold it to Abraham Benner in 1856. He sold it to Charles J. Hendricks in 1859. His administrators sold to Moses Wagnor in 1865. After his death his son, Aaron, became the owner in 1875. He sold it to David M. Allebach in 1886. His administrators sold it to son, Jacob C. Allebach, in 1887. He sold it to Jacob K. Clemmer in 1879, who conveyed it to Allen C. Moyer in 1900. He sold it to John R. Kindig the same year. His daughter, Mary Derstine, is the present owner.

### **Raymond Allebach Farm**

This was part of the 246 acres which Hugh Jones bought from the Lewis tract containing 108 acres. This comprised properties of Raymond Rosenberger, Conrad Watson, David Allebach and part of Irvin Schlosser. After the death of Hugh Jones the executors were the widow, Catherine Jones, and son, Amos Jones. They sold this tract to Adam Sheip, of Germantown, in 1761, for 230 pounds. After his death his executors, George Sheip, of New Britain Township, County of Bucks, and Michael Sheip, of Worcester Township, Montgomery County, sold to Henry Sheip, of Hatfield, the said plantation in 1780 for 800 pounds.

for 800 pounds. This Henry Sheip next sold it to his son, Abraham Sheip, in 1806. This Abraham Sheip had a son, Abie Sheip as he was called, which was yet known by the older residents of Hatfield.

The boundaries then were beginning at a stone for a corner of land belonging to John Hendricks (now the Fair Grounds), thence southeast along Henry Clemmer's land 182 perches, thence southwest by Frederick Fisher and Jacob Hunsberger's land 182 perches, thence northwest 182 perches, thence northeast by Jacob Ruth's land and John Hendrick's land 182 perches (now Otto Hilgner's and fair ground). This was sold at this date for 260 pounds.

After the death of Abraham Sheip the plantation was divided—the homestead and fifty-six acres were sold by the administrators who were Henry Sheip and Yellis Cassel, a son-in-law, to Henry Cassel, in 1839. He immediately transferred it to Yellis Cassel.

He made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. Isaac Wisler and Christian Rosenberger were the assignees, they sold the same to Joseph Ruth in 1845. He sold to Javid M. Allebach in 1852. He sold to Jacob Kulp in 1872—now containing fifty acres.

It was then occupied by his son-inlaw, Abraham C. Allebach, to whom he conveyed it in 1875. He conveyed it to his son, Leidy Allebach, in 1912. He conveyed it to his son, Raymond Allebach, in 1937, the present owner. In 1939 he purchased twenty-three acres that were detached from this farm in 1839.

The house on this farm is an old log house built by one of the Sheips. It was remodeled by David M. Allebach.

### David K. Allebach Residence

This was detached from the Raymond Allebach farm in 1859. David M. Allebach sold two acres, 103 perches, to Jacob Gehman, a drover. Another tract, in 1862, Allebach sold to Lydia Crouthamel thirty square perches who built the house and made a premises there. She sold the same to Henry S. Hackman, a drover, in 1864. He built an addition to the house the same year. Jacob Gehman then sold his tract to Hackman, his son-in-law, there they both conducted their drover business.

Hackman sold the same to Joseph Detwiler in 1869—now containing three acres, 108 perches. Detwiler sold it to Tobias Scholl in 1870. He sold it to David M. Allebach in 1871. He sold it to Abraham C. Allebach in 1875. He transferred it to his son, David K. Allebach, in 1912, the present owner now containing six acres.

## **Raymond Rosenberger Residence**

After the division of the Shipe farm the forty-seven acres came into possession of two different owners in 1839. Isaac Wisler got the upper portion which was twenty-two acres, who sold to Enos Lukens in 1842. Then the administrators of Lukens sold to Moses Wagnor in 1849 who bought additional land of Joseph Ruth, now the property of Otto Hilgner. After the death of Wagnor his son,

Aaron, became the owner in 1875. He purchased sixteen acres additional of John C. Hackman. This ground is now the race course at the Montgomery County Fair Grounds. Aaron Wagnor sold the farm of forty-seven acres to Jacob Allebach in 1886 who sold to Jacob Clemmer in 1889. The same sold to his brother, Cyrus, in 1900 who then sold to Henry Benner in 1906, who next sold to William Freed in 1911. He sold to Sewal Musser in 1917, who next sold to Charles Menssner in 1921 (twenty-two acres), who sold to Henry Gehring in 1923. He sold to Ella May Poeth in 1924 who sold to Edward Poeth in 1926. The same sold to George S. Heckler in 1929, Stella Heckler to Raymond Rosenberger in 1936, the present owner.

# **Conrad Watson Residence**

After the division of the Shipe Farm in 1839 the forty-seven acres was again divided—twenty-five acres to Samuel Beyer who sold fifteen acres to Frederick Faber in 1840. The same sold to John Winter five acres in 1848. In 1867 it was sold to Frank Strasser who built the present house. It was then sold to John Groth in 1900, who sold to Raymond Fred Neiman in 1925. Then Fred Hallstein to Casper Neiman in 1927 who transferred to Lansdale Bank. Then, the executor of John Groth being the Bank, to Conrad Watson in 1936, the present owner.

# Marlin Swartz Residence

In 1868 Henry Hackman conveyed a lot to John and Mary Winters who built a house thereon. And in 1883 the administrators of the same then sold

to Frank Strasser who in 1886 sold to Sarah Benner. The neighbors, at that time, all called her Sally Lukens by her first husband. She had a son, Jacob, who was the father of Jesse, still living in Hatfield. She transferred to Augustus Kalb in 1897, Kalb to Justus Cassel in 1900, Cassel to Willard Ritter in 1921, Ritter to Sherman Fowler in 1924, Irene Fowler to George Chew in 1926 and then to Walter Chew in 1928, Chew to North Penn Building and Loan Association in 1931, the same to Earl Kuhnsman, back to Building and Loan Association in 1939. Building and Loan Association then to Marlin Swartz in 1940. He sold to Raymond Rosenberger in 1943, the present owner.

# Irvin Schlosser Farm

Mary Stillwagon bought a lot of thirteen perches from Abraham Shipe in 1826 and another lot of one and one-half acres in 1833 also from Shipe. William Stillwagon, son of Mary, sold this in 1846 to Jonas Loh. He then bought two and one-half acres more of Philip Zeiber, another lot of two acres of Abraham Benner and seven acres of John Hocker in 1855. Loh then sold it to Jacob R. Landis in 1867, now twenty-five acres. He sold to Samuel Henry in 1868 who conveyed it to Mary Ann Kellog, wife of Russell Kellog, of New York State, in 1870. The house was destroyed by fire during their ownership. It was then conveyed to Dr. Jacob F. Lambert in 1873. The administrators of Lambert then sold to Jacob M. Detwiler in 1874, nineteen acres. The house which had been destroyed by five were then rebuilt by Detwiler.

a Detwiler, the widow of sold to William Fretz in 1901 who sold to a man of Philadelphia who soon after died, before he had moved there. The property then was sold to George Snyder and Frank Zepp, of Hatfield, later Snyder's share was sold to Zepp who then conveyed it to Irvin Schlosser (the building and six acres), the present owner. The other portion has been divided into building lots where some houses have been built.

# **Opposite Irvin Schlesser**

# Farm Building

Here were premises from which all appearance have vanished. Jacob Hunsberger, the owner of the Allman farm, purchased from the Henry Clemmer tract ten acres which is now owned by Charles Weirman. Hunsberger sold of this tract eighty-seven perches to Jacob Hendricks in 1833 who made a premises there. In 1840 Sheriff Stewart seized the same and sold to Peter Benner for \$500. He sold it to Jonas Markley, a blacksmith, in 1841. He sold it to Jonas Lowe in 1848. Here Levi Snovel applied his trade, a blacksmith. For sometime his wife was a Lowe. He later bought the James Rosenberger property, which is mentioned elsewhere. He is remembered by the older people. Jonas Lowe sold this property to Joseph Mattman, a German carpenter, in 1875. He built an addition to the house. In 1876 the house was destroyed by fire one night and not rebuilt. He then built the house on Vine street, now owned by Wilson Gerhart, and also the house on Maple avenue now owned by Joseph Benner which is mentioned elsewhere. Sheriff John Linderman seized all the properties of Mattman and sold this lot to Jacob C. Allebach in 1877. He sold it to Jacob M. Detwiler in 1878 who owned the Irvin Schlosser farm. Afterwards the farm was sold to William Fretz. He sold the lot to Abraham C. Allebach in 1907 of which it is now a part of Raymond Allebach farm.

# SOUTHWESTERN CORNER OF TOWNSHIP

#### Former Kindig Plantation

In 1681 William Penn sold to Herbert Springett an undefined and unlocated grant of land in his new province. In 1729 John Simpson purchased the same of the heirs. He was an Englishman of Tower Hill, London. In the same year Simpson conveyed, by letter of attorney, 1500 acres to William Allen who immediately had 150 acres surveyed and sold the same to Joseph Charlesworth in 1730 who already held land in Upper Dublin east of Ambler. He sold the same to Richard Williams in 1732. He sold it to Hugh Jones in 1742. He remained here the rest of his life.

to Hugh Jones in 1742. He remained here the rest of his life. In 1749 he purchased 246 acres lying northeast of his plantation. This included the present farms of Abner Willauer, Curtis Mininger, Raymond Rosenberger, and Raymond Allebach. During his lifetime he sold 100 acres to Christian Ruth. This included the Anderson and Michie farms. Another 122 acres lying northeast of this farm he sold to his son, Amos Jones. This included the farms of Abner Willauer, Curtis Mininger, the late John R. Kindig and Hoehn Brothers. There remained 108 acres including Raymond Rosenberger's and Raymond Allebach's.

The executors of Hugh Jones sold the homestead which bordered on the township line of Towamencin Township and the Orvilla road to Henry Frey, of Worcester Township, in 1760. During his ownership he donated a lot for a schoolhouse which is now the cemetery lot at the Plain Church. Fry sold this farm to Melchor Yoder in 1769 now containing 132. He sold it to Jacob Detwiler in 1783 who transferred it on same date to Herman Pennepacker of Perkiomen Township. He sold it to John Kindig for 775 pounds in 1792, who built the house in 1804. It is of brick, the house is still standing a distance from the road. It is in a delapidated condition. John Kindig is supposed to have come from Franconia Township.

Martin Kindig purchased a tract of ninety acres south of Morwood and this John Kindig was a grandson. He married Margaret Stauffer, of Hereford, Berks County. He died in 1885 and is buried at the Plain Mennonite Cemetery. After his death it was sold to his eldest son, Jacob Kindig, in 1835. He sold it to his son, John, in 1862 now containing 117 acres. He was known as der dick John Kindig, being a very stout man. He sold the homestead and sixty acres to his son-in-law, Philip R. Swartley, in 1867, who sold to Anthony Effrig in 1871. He sold it to Abraham Y. Godshall in 1874. He later made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. The assignee then sold it to Anthony Brunner in 1881.

The lower portion of the Kindig farm being now fifty-seven acres which John Kindig here retained. He had building erected facing the Orvilla road. The house is still standing with an addition built to it, now plastered on the outside. This farm was sold to his son, Henry K. Kindig, in 1874, he sold it to Philip R. Swartley in 1876. It was then purchased by Henry K. Kindig, in 1889, a former owner, who had ventured in business in Philadelphia and became well-to-do. He kept this for a summer residence. In 1896 the barn was struck by lightning and consumed and rebuilt.

In 1898 the barn of Anthony Brunner was struck by lightning and burned. He then sold the farm to Henry K. Kindig who by this purchase became owner of the entire tract of his father. Kindig sold the lower portion of the farm, fifty-six acres, to his son-in-law, Henry L. S. Ruth, in 1907. Ruth sold the farm to Richard Tompkins in 1910, who in 1914 bought the remaining sixty acres of Kindig. Mary Tompkins sold it to John Mealey, of Nesquehoning, Carbon County, in 1920. He sold it to Mike Gilbert and William Seitchik. of Philadelphia, in 1922 who cut it into small building lots on which a few houses have been built.

Many of the lots are now owned by the County in lien of taxes, one square has been sold to the trustee of the Plain Mennonite Church in 1940 by the County.

#### Louis Anderson Farm,

#### formerly Christian Ruth

This was detached of the Hugh Jones tract in 1751. Jones sold to Christian Ruth 100 acres this bordering on the forty-foot Road, now Route 463, and Towamencin Township. The buildings are some 150 yards from the highway. Here is an old two-story house built of logs, and plastered on the outside, with a stone kitchen attached. It comprised at that time the Michie farm at the corner. In 1757 Ruth sold to Abraham Ruth who sold to Jacob Yoder in 1775; who sold to Melchoir Yoder in 1782; who sold the next year to Abraham Hendricks for 600 pounds; who sold it to Christopher Snyder in 1786.

The boundaries then were beginning at a corner then by Henry Oberholtzer and Jacob Ruth northeast 121 perches by late William Lukens (now John Rosenberger's), southeast 133 perches to corner of Jacob Detwiler, by same southwest 121 perches to township line, by same northwest along Yeakle's land 133 perches to beginning.

Snyder lived here the remainder of his life. He died in 1810. His executors were Henry and George Snyder, who sold to John Snyder in 1812 who immediately transferred it to Jacob Johnson who owned it then till 1856 when he sold to Aram Drake, who immediately conveyed it to Henry D. Swartley, fifty acres. He sold it to Abraham Rosenberger in 1857. The administrators of the same to Abraham Y. Godshall in 1872, who sold to Lewis Spare in 1874. He sold to John D. Yoder in 1885, who made an assignment to George R. Rittenhouse for the benefit of his creditors, who sold to Ephraim Freed in 1888.

It was then occupied and farmed by Enos Freed for a number of years. In 1910 Ephraim Freed sold to John M. Funk who sold to H. Avery Willis of Wilmington, Delaware, in 1920. He sold to Charles Kenneth Roberts in 1925 who sold to Samuel Hughes in 1929; who sold to Mark A. Sellers in 1932; who sold to Elizabeth and Louise Yerkes in 1934. The latter died, then Elizabeth, the only heir, sold to Louis O. Anderson, of North Wales, in 1941, the present owner.

#### Michie Farm

This was detached from the Christian Ruth farm in 1849. Jacob C. Oberholtzer putchased four acres of Jacob Johnson. Oberholtzer built a house and made a premises here. He sold the same to Amos Knipe in 1856. Johnson then sold twenty-four acres from his farm to Mr. Knipe in 1866, who sold the same to John Kulp in 1882. He then moved the house across the road which is now owned by John Kulp, a grandson of the former, and made a premises here.

Kulp then built one of stone on the farm. It was then occupied and farmed by his son, Isaiah Kulp, to whom he conveyed in 1885. The executors of the same then sold to Lewis Darmstadter in 1908. The barn was destroyed by fire during his ownership and rebuilt, being struck by lightning. Darmstadter sold the farm to Andrew Michie, of Philadelphia, in 1929. He retains it for a summer residence.

#### George Haire Farm

This was formed by purchasing several tracts. Christopher Snyder, who was the owner of the Louis Anderson farm, sold twenty-three acres to Abraham Swartz, who sold to Israel Hoxworth in 1796. He sold the same to Jacob Ratzel in 1799. Another tract of twenty acres were added which Jacob Oberholtzer sold of his plantation. He was the owner of the Amos Jones plantation at this time. This he sold to Jacob Ratzel in 1802. These tracts were sold by Ratzel to Christian Cassel, a weaver, in 1811. The administrators sold the same to Jonas Fretz, of Bedminster, Bucks County, in 1821. He sold it to Enos Hunsberger in 1829, who sold it to Abraham Souder in 1833.

He sold it to Jacob Kindig in 1837 who had bought eighteen acres from John Kindig in 1832, making now a total of sixty-three acres. He sold the same to son-in-law, Henry Krupp, in 1862. He sold it to his son-in-law, Jacob S. Stover, in 1873. He sold it to Hannah Bookhamer, wife of John Bookhamer, in 1879. He sold it to Rebecca Heckler, wife of Samuel Heckler, in 1882.

After his death the heirs sold to Samuel Tribolet in 1913, who sold it to George H. Snyder, of Lansdowne, the same year. He sold it to George Bolter, of Radnor, in 1914. He sold it to George Haire in 1917. He sold it to Julius Hiss in 1923—now containing thirteen acres.

Haire had previously sold a number of lots where dwellings had been erected. The barn was destroyed by fire during Haire's ownership and not rebuilt, the farm house stands in from the road about 100 yards. Hiss sold it to Edward Krusen in 1927. He sold the same to Harry Narr in 1932. He sold it to Clarence Hallet in 1935, the present owner.

# The Late Joseph Koffel Farm,

# formerly a Snyder Plantation

It included former Jesse Koffel and Henry Kindig's farm-a wells plantation. It dates back to 1752, when Anthony Morris, a non-resident, sold a tract of unimproved land to James Wells, of Towamencin. The Wells then had possession till 1770, who then sold to John Bucheimer. The same then sold to George Metzar 100 acres in 1786 who sold to Christian Snyder in 1803. After his death the heirs sold to Abraham B. Snyder in 1842, seventy-seven acres, who sold to Aaron R. Heckler forty-one acres in 1872 and Heckler to his son-in-law, Joseph Koffel, in 1911. The heirs of Christian Snyder detached twenty-four acres from this farm in 1842, and sold to Henry Stover who sold to Benjamin Hendrick in 1848. This farm was sold to Joseph Kindig in 1854.

After his death it was sold by the heirs to Henry K. Kindig in 1895, twenty-four acres. Kindig then sold a number of lots to various parties who erected dwellings thereon. Kindig then sold the remainder of the farm, now containing eighteen acres, to Levi M. Landis in 1899. He sold it to Samuel Hall, of Fernwood, Delaware County, in 1905. He died, then Annie Hall, the widow, sold to Mark Raymond Harrington seventeen acres in 1911. He sold to Low Halley in 1921. James Halley next sold it to Bernard Vincent in 1922, who transferred it to North Penn Building and Loan Association in 1985. They sold it to Jennie Smith the same year, now containing nine acres. She sold it to Ralph Walm in 1939, the present owner. The house is a three-story stone house, the barn has been razed.

#### The Former Jesse Koffel Farm

This was detached from the Snyder farm in 1861 and building erected by John B. Snyder who sold to Jesse Koffel, of Tylersport, in 1867. The barn was destroyed by fire in 1899. being struck by lightning and was replaced by purchasing the barn of Chester Knipe, formerly William Delp's property. The executors of Koffel sold to son, Amos Koffel, in 1918, who sold it to John Hoehn in 1926. After his death the heirs sold it to Mamie Stauch, wife of Albert Stauch, in 1930. He died, the executor then sold it to June Clymer in 1938. who sold it to Arthur Thomas the same year, the present owner.

# Benjamin K. Landis Residence

Henry Stover, owner of the adjoining farm, retained a lot from the east corner. He built the house and made  $\bullet$ premises here when he sold his farm in 1843. His administrators, Jacob S. Harley and Jacob R. Stover, sold these premises to John Snyder in 1853. He sold it to Thomas Saboldt in 1856. He sold it to Charles F. Miller, a blacksmith, in 1867. He had a shop on the opposite corner, he afterwards discontinued the trade and bought a farm at Chalfont. He sold this house and lot to Eliza Benner in 1887. She sold it to Benjamin K. Landis in 1906. He died in 1948. It is now owned by members of the family.

#### John Wright's Plantation

William Penn sold a tract of land to John Day. He devised this tract of 282 acres to his widow. This comprised all the farms from the Orvilla road down Main street to the Lehigh Valley Transit power house, thence northeast to Schwab's road, thence northwest to Orvilla road. She then married an Atkinson. She sold this tract to her son-in-law, . In Durborrow, who had married her daughter, Sarah Atkinson. This transfer was made July 13, 1717. He sold the same to John Wright, a Quaker, in 1725. He devised it to his heirs by will in 1777. The heirs were sons, Jonathan, Abijah, John, and a daughter who had married William Miller, and other daughters.

# The Late Eli Krupp Farm

After the death of John Wright, Sr., his son, John, Jr., inherited fifty acres by his father's will in 1777. This farm is located between the Orvilla road and Oak Park road from Main street back to line of Fred Lamm. In April, 1781, this farm was seized by the Continental Government as the land of a traitor who did knowingly and willingly aid and assist the enemy of us and of the United States of America by having joined their armies in this state.

This confiscated land was then sold to Owen Faries, of Germantown, for \$3,825.00. The University of Pennsylvania then received five bushels of wheat rentals from this confiscated land. Wright, it is said, was hung as a Tory at Montgomery Square for leading a night attack on Colonel Jacob Reed of his own township. The boundaries of this plantation were: Beginning at a corner of Melchoir Yoder (now the Orvilla road) by Thomas Stalford, now Henry Kratz, southeast 72 perches by Abijah Wright, south-west 112 perches (now Oak Park road) by John Yeakle, northwest 72 perches to beginning. Owen Farles sold it immediately to Josiah Harmer. . In 1806 the University of Pennsylvania relinquished its wheat-payment rentals. It was then occupied by Levi Drake, a blacksmith, from 1805, to whom Harmer conveyed it in 1812. He sold it to Daniel Custer in 1814. He sold it to Jacob Kulp, a Mennonite minister, in 1828. He sold it to Joseph Krupp in 1840. Krupp had married John Funk's daughter, of Line Lexington. He built the barn and Custer had built the house.

Krupp detached two lots at the southern corner where homes have been built. Krupp sold the farm to John F. Miller in 1882. After his decease it was sold to Mary Owens in 1912. The barn was destroyed by fire during her ownership, being struck by lightning and rebuilt. Later the barn was sold to Frank Sholl whose barn had burned. Mary Owens sold the farm to Charles Van Horn in 1916. He sold it to Eli Krupp in 1916, forty-seven acres. He later cut it up in building lots and on some he had homes built.

### Waldo Heebner Residence

Joseph Krupp sold from his farm one acre to Ephraim L. Delp in 1874. He built the house and made a premises here. He sold it to Jacob Boorse in 1877. He sold it to Joseph Krupp in 1881. She sold it to Joseph Krupp in 1885. After his death his administrators sold it to Henry O. Godshall in 1901. He sold it to Wellington Rosenberry in 1906, now two acres. He sold it to Annie Alexander in 1910. She sold it to Anthony Brunner in 1919. After his death his widow became the owner. After her decease her executor sold the same to Waldo Heebner in 1941, the present owner.

# The Former Levi Krout Farm

Being part of the Wright plantation which Thomas Blackledge, executor, sold to Josiah Dickenson, ninetyfour acres. This had been devised to son, Abijah Wright, but he not complying with his father's will, it was sold to Dickenson who sold it to Yellis Cassel, of Towamencin township, in 1786, now sixty-seven acres. This farm extended from Oak Park road and Main street to Lehigh Valley Transit power house, thence northeast to the late Abraham Delp's farm. Yellis Cassel next sold it to Christian Cassel, fifty-two acres for 362 pounds in 1793.

Then John Wisler and Abraham Cassel, administrators, sold to John Wagner in 1814. The heirs of Wagner were Elizabeth Cassel, of Towamencin; Moses Wagner, of Hatfield; Margaret, wife of Jesse Eaton, of Philadelphia; Mary, wife of Peter Richard, of Towamencin; Amanda, wife of Dillman Hunsicker, of Towamencin township; Aaron and Louise Wagner. These heirs sold to Samuel Krieble in 1873. He sold it to Levi Krout in 1882. He sold it to Samuel Koffel in 1903, now forty acres. He sold it to William Board in 1906. He sold it to Thomas Moore in 1920, nine acres. Elsie Mills, administrator of Thomas Moore, sold to Emil Vetter in 1921. He sold it to Arthur Vetter in 1927, now containing two acres. He sold it to June Clymer in 1926.

### Mrs. Kuhn Residence

Levi Krout retained twelve acres of his farm whereon he built a house and made a premises. He sold the same to Hugo Huettig in 1907. He sold it back to Krout in 1909, now seven acres. He sold it again to Theodore Zuendel in 1913. He sold it to Frederick Rudolph in 1918. He sold it to Frederick Rudolph in 1920. He sold it to Elizabeth Kuhn in 1923, the present owner.

# The Late Abraham K. Delp and

# Harry Krats Farm

Thomas Stalford inherited this farm from his father-in-law, John Wright, in 1786. He purchased another tract of Benjamin Templin Carpenter, of Philadelphia, another son - in - law of Wright in 1804. Philip Sellers, high Sheriff, seized the property and sold it to Hannah Jones in 1820. This is now the Delp property. She sold it to Henry Keller the same year. His heirs sold it to son, Enoch Keller, 1842.

He sold it to Jesse Krupp ... 1883 who owned the farm where the radiator foundry was. He made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. Jonas Boorse, the assignee, then sold it back to Enoch Keller in 1890. After Keller's death Jonathan Snovel, the executor sold it to Henry S. Gerhard, of Lansdale, in 1899. He farmed the land and had tenants living in the house. He built the present house and barn. Gerhard sold it to David Cassel in 1915. He sold it to Abraham K. Delp in 1916. After his death the widow sold it to her daughter, Priscilla Delp. She sold it to Raymond Landis in 1943, the present owner.

#### Harry Krats Farm

After the death of Thomas Stalford his two daughters became the owners of this part of the farm. After the death of her sister, Mary Stalford owned it. In 1820 she made an assignment for the benefit of her creditors. John Wilson, of Franconia township, and Enos Lukens, of Towamencin township, were the assignees. In her assignment she gave her real estate and all her property whatsoever kind it may be excepting and reserving only for her use, one featherbed, bed and bedstead, and sufficient bedding, thereunto one milch cow, one hog and household furniture and the value of fifteen dollars.

Her assignee sold the real estate to James Moore in 1821 who built the present house. After his death the administrators sold it to Benjamin D. Landis in 1871. He sold it to his sonin-law, Henry H. Kratz in 1904. He sold the farm buildings and ten acres to Fritz Krug in 1925, the present owner. Kratz then erected building on the remaining part of the farm where he resides. He has sold several building lots whereon homes have been built.

#### **Jonathan Wright Plantation**

This was the northeestern part of the John Wright, Sr., Plantation which son Jonathan received from his father's estate, containing 101 acres. It comprises all the properties which lie northeast from the boundary line of the late Abraham Delp and Henry Kratz farms to Schwab road. Jonathan Wright was a Tory and the Commonwealth confiscated his plantation and through Joseph Reed, Esquire, president of the Commonwealth, sold it to Joseph Dean in 1780 for 11,400 pounds, Continental money. He afterward went bankrupt.

The commissioners who were apointed for the bankrupt estate sold it Joseph Wharton, Jeremiah Warden a 1d Robert Ralston, merchants of rhiladelphia, subject to paying five and seven tenths bushels of wheat semi-annually to the University of Pennsylvania. This conveyance was made in 1787. They conveyed it to Joseph Wilson, of Franconia, in 1789. He divided the plantation in two parts.

# William J. Herman Farm

Wilson sold fifty-two acres to John Davis in 1805. He was a mason and built the present house. He lived here the remainder of his life until 1850. The administrators then sold it to son, Joseph Davis, in 1851. He sold it to Gottlieb Schmidt in 1886. After his death the widow, Elizabeth Schmidt, sold to Lehigh Valley Transit Company in 1906. They sold it to Jacob C. Swartley in 1915. He sold it to William J. Herman in 1928. The barn was destroyed by fire and not rebuilt. In the last twenty-five years a number of lots were sold from this tract where homes have been built.

# The Asfjes Greenhouse

Gottlieb Schmidt sold six acres from his farm to William Sturzebecker in 1891. He built the house and made a premises here. He also built a greenhouse. He sold the same to Frederick Roos in 1896. He sold to George Samtman in 1909. He sold it to Herman Aafjes in 1919, the present owner.

# Jacob Silverman's Farm

This us the extreme northeastern Wright Plantation facing Coad. Wilson sold to William part c' Scl Wallow Porty-eight acres. He sold it to Jame Davis in 1808. He is termed a weaver. He divided the farm, the lower tract he sold to Joseph Benner in 1825. He sold it to Peter Boyer, of Gwynedd, in 1835, now containing sixteen acres. After his death the heirs sold it to Joel Clemmer in 1885. He sold it to Elizabeth Weiss in 1887. She sold it to Harry Vansyke and Frederick Keller in 1907. Sheriff Chauncey J. Buckley seized it in 1909 and sold it to Henry Esling. He sold it to Charles Barndt in 1913. He sold it to Jacob Silverman in 1917, the present owner.

# The Hilpert Greenhouse Property

The northwest portion James Davis sold twenty acres to Isabella Hartel in 1820. The heirs of the same sold it to Wilson Davis in 1844. He sold twenty-one acres to Christian Young in 1849. He sold to Eli Cassel eighteen

acres in 1855. He sold it to Lorenz Hauck, a blacksmith, in 1858. He sold it to Lorenz Ishe the same year. He sold it to Joseph Ishe in 1863. He sold it to Henry Heckman in 1868. He sold it to Elias Schrader in 1882, now seven acres. He sold the same to Sarah Corbin, wife of James Corbin, of Philadelphia, in 1896. James Corbin sold it to Nathan Westbrook in 1900. He sold it to John Beidler in 1904. He sold it to George Didden in 1912. Didden sold the same to Caroline Siter in 1921. the same to Caroline Siter in 1921. She sold it to John Raymond Hamilton in 1922. He and George Hamilton formed a company known as the Orvilla Greenhouse Company. The sheriff seized the same and sold it to First National Bank of Lansdale in 1933. They sold it back to the Orvilla Green-house Company. The same year they sold it back to the bank (in 1935). They sold it to Eduard Hilpert, of Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1936, the present owner.

# Former Enos Hunsberger Residence

Near the trolley depot at Orvilla was a premises of six acres. David Davis sold to John Weand in 1846. After his decease Joel Rosenberger, the administrator, sold it to Lorenz Hauck in 1858. He sold it to Aaron R. Heckler in 1866. He exchanged with Abraham R. Snyder for his farm in 1872, Snyder taking Heckler premises. Snyder later made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors in 1877. Charles F. Miller, the assignee, then sold it to Enos Hunsberger in 1878. He sold it to Harry Hawkins in 1892 who demolished the buildings.

# The Late Wm. B. Moyer Residence

This was a part of the Hilpert greenhouse property. Lorenz Hauck, who was the owner, detached six acres and sold it to Philip Handel in 1858 for \$420. He made a premises here. He sold it to Rev. Thomas Saboldt in 1862. He sold it to Ludwig Assmas in 1864. He sold it to John Zimmerman in 1872. He died soon afterward, for Margaret Zimmerman, the executor, sold it to John W. Steiner in 1873. He sold it to William B. Moyer in 1883, the estate still owning it. Moyer built an addition and put on the French roof.

# THE WEST TRACT

William Penn sold a tract of 260 acres to John West, of the city of London, a tin plate worker, and he by his will the 25th day of May, 1688, did give and devise all his messuages, lands and tenements whatsoever in Pennsylvania in America unto his grandchildren, John East, Mary East and Benjamin Street in fee to be equally divided between them.

This tract adjoins Wright's Plantation on the southeast. The boundaries were beginning at what is now the Lehigh Valley Transit Power house, thence southeast along Main street to about where Mitchell avenue is in Lansdale Borough, thence northeast to Cowpath road, thence northwest to about where Frank Munzinger land is, thence southwest to beginning.

Mary East came to America and married Joseph Cooke, a Philadelphia cooper. He sold in right of his wife 150 acres to Daniel Street of Oxford township, Philadelphia, in 1723. This was the southwest portion, lying along Main street over to about where Eighth street is in Lansdale Borough. Daniel Street sold it the same year-100 acres to Walter Griffith, a Cheltenham shoemaker. The next year (1724) he sold it to John Clayton.

The other fifty acres were transferred to his son, James Street. After his death his widow became the owner in 1740. John Clayton in his will devised the farm to his children. These heirs then conveyed it to the oldest brother, Richard Clayton, a tailor. He purchased thirty-five of the fifty acres detached in 1724 from Mary Eaton, widow of Benjamin Street, in 1771. The 185 acres which Clayton owned at the time of his death were sold after his demise in 1786 to John Bucheimer who paid £586 for 139 acres. In his will registered May 13, 1799, he ordered his property sold but it was not sold till 1815. It was then sold in three tracts by Frederick Conrad, of Worcester, his administrator.

These properties are now all in the corporate limits of Lansdale borough. The southwest portion of the Bucheimer tract was sold by his administrators to Levi Drake, seventy-seven acres in 1815. This tract was located along Main street. Drake went bankrupt, his assignce sold the farm to Benjamin Vanfossen in 1821 for \$43 per acre. He sold it to John Anders in 1826. In 1836 he moved to Gwynedd township. He then sold it to his son, Jeremiah Anders, eighty acres. He sold it to John Young in 1856. He sold it to Richard Martin in 1867.

He sold it to John N. Jacobs and Andrew Hackman as tenants in common in 1869. They divided the tract, Hackman taking the upper portion and Jacobs the lower. The lower part of the Jacobs and Hackman farm was conveyed to John N. Jacobs. This contained the farm buildings—the barn has been removed, the house is still standing. It is the three-story house at corner of Third street and Franconia avenue.

Jacobs sold this, with thirty-seven acres, to Charles Potter in 1870. He sold it to Albert Hancock in 1872. He sold the same to Henry Sloman in 1875. He sold it to Robert Munn, then Sheriff Stahlnecker seized the same and sold it back to Sloman. He sold it then to Amanda Carnell in 1879. She sold it to Antonia Cassiletti the same year. He sold it to Jacob M. Moyer in 1882. He sold it to Louisa Murphy in 1888. She sold it to Robert B. Mann in 1884. He sold it to Daniel Meyers the same year. He sold it to J. A. Spencer in 1887. He sold it to Geller and Godshall in 1889, they cut it up in building lots and sold them to various parties.

The northwest part of this tract along Main street, John N. Jacobs conveyed to Andrew Hackman in 1870. He sold it to Hiram Schultz in 1872. He sold it to Jacob S. Stover, the samyear. He sold it to Henry Krupp in 1873. He sold it to George O. Clen. ens, father of Benjamin Clemens, in 1875. He sold it to Samuel Smith in 1879. He sold it to Pierre Sutton in 1883. He sold it to Pierre Sutton in 1890. She sold it to Ann Thornton in 1890. She sold it Charles Zink in 1896. He sold it to Mary Owens in 1903, it is now the property of the National Bank of Lansdale.

The northeast portion of the Bucheimer tract on the northwest side of Franconia avenue became the property of Catherine Bucheimer, daughter of John. She sold it to her daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Ezekiel Eaton, in 1815, thirty-two acres. The Eatons sold it to Frederick Long in 1847. He sold it to Frederick Snyder in 1852. He sold it to Frederick Musse in 1854. He sold it the same year to Martin Evans, a resident of Doylestown. He sold it to Joseph Johnson in 1856. He sold it to Mary McAleer, wife of John McAleer, in 1859. He sold it to John Gillespie in 1862. He sold it to Adolph Lambert the same year.

Then were several transfers with the agreement that they were to pay off the mortgage but it appears they did not comply with the agreement for Adolph Lambert sold it again to Samuel Jackson in 1883. He sold it to Eliza Prall in 1897. The sheriff then sold it back to Samuel and Milton Jackson in 1899. They sold it to William S. Baker in 1918, now containing ten acres. In 1940 Baker was declared a weak-minded person by court, unable to care for himself. It appointed the Norristown-Penn Trust Company his guardian, who sold it to C. Ray Swartley.

The other part of the Bucheimer farm on the southeast side of Franconia avenue became the property of Bucheimer's son, Henry, eighteen acres in 1816. He sold it to Archibald Davis in 1822. He sold it to Archibald Storck in 1863. He sold it to Theodore Frank in 1866. He sold it to Sophia Swappenheiser in 1868. She sold the same to Albert Swappenheiser in 1874. He sold it to Joseph Herman. About 1890 he tore down the building, the house was an old, low one-story building. It was located about where Sixth street joins Franconia avenue.

The sheriff next sold it to Isaac Heckler in 1902. He sold it to Frederick Souder in 1911. This is now built up by such as Weaver's Struc-tural Iron Works and Souder Con-crete Works, Radiator Foundry and dwellings. The remaining part of the West plantation northeast of the Mary East tract became the property of Benjamin Street by his grandfather's will. This he sold to Thomas. Davis in 1740, 210 acres. He willed fifty acres from the west end of the farm to his son, Thomas Davis, Jr., in 1777. He had purchased twenty acres of Mary Eaton making a total of seventy-one acres. His administrators, John and David Davis, sold it to Jonathan Yocum in 1816. He owned it only a few years for in 1819 the Sheriff, Justus Scheetz, seized it and sold to John and David Davis as tenants in common. They sold thirty-two acres of the northwest part to James Davis in 1820. He sold it to Abraham Cassel in 1825. He sold it to Joseph Benner in 1828. He sold it to David Anders in 1836. He sold it to Jane Baily, wife of Joseph Baily, in 1864. He sold it to Theodore Haas in 1866. During his ownership the buildings were neglected and the barn was blown down by a wind storm. Haas sold it to Percy Chain in 1904. It is now owned by the borough of Lansdale, whereon they have their disposal plant. The house has been demolished.

## Harold Wilson Residence

John and David Davis divided the remainder of the farm among themselves. The southern end, now the Wilson residence, was conveyed to John Davis, nine acres, in 1820. This was sold to Eli Loux in 1851. He sold it to Michael Delp in 1854. He later made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. It was then sold to Thomas Wilson in 1878. His son, Harold, then became the owner in 1935, the present owner. The Werner Foundry is located on this tract.

# The Dirks Farm

The northeastern part of this 210acre tract, Thomas Davis sold to John Edwards, 105 acres, in 1754. This extended from about where John Freed residence is to near the Cowpath road. In the same year Edwards granted seventy-two acres to John Hoxworth. He sold the same to Peter Hoxworth in 1761. Then his administrator, John Jenkins, sold it to son, Peter Hox-worth, fifty-two acres. This was the central part of this tract. He sold it to Israel Hoxworth in 1807. He sold it to David Ruth in 1811. He sold it to Robert Polk in 1814. He sold it to Samuel Keller in 1836, now sixty acres. The administrators of Keller sold to Philip Hartman in 1855. He sold it to Joseph Loveridge in 1856. He sold it to Jeffer Melvin, of Phila-delphia, in 1865. He sold it to John Rist the same year. He sold it to Louisa Holmes, wife of Jesse Holmes, of New Jersey in 1867. She sold seventeen acres to Dr. S. C. Moyer whereon he erected a building.

The other of the northeast end, forty-three acres, she sold to Joel G. Clemmer in 1895. This was the farm with the building. He sold this farm to Dr. S. C. Moyer in 1898. After his death his heirs sold the same to Edna Smires. She sold it to Maurice Hammer in 1926. He sold it to Peter Carroll in 1927. His heirs then sold it to Samuel Bowen, Jr. He sold it to Cyril Dirks in 1942, the present owner.

# John Freed's Residence

These twenty-four acres were sold to Peter Hoxworth No. 1, in 1762. He sold it to Peter Hoxworth, 2nd, in 1767. He sold it to Peter Hoxworth, 3rd, in 1805. His heirs sold it to John Snyder, of Upper Saucon, in 1852. John Kindig, his administrator, then sold to John George Kostenbader in 1864. He sold it to Daniel Harkness in 1865. He sold it to Charles Stetson in 1874. He sold it to William S. Krier in 1881. His administrators sold it to Rebecca Krier in 1892. She sold it to Joseph M. Gerhart in 1894. Clara Gerhart sold it to John A. Freed in 1918, the present owner.

#### Karl Richter Farm

This was the extreme northeastern part of the West plantation. Thomas Davis devised this tract to son, David Davis, by his will in 1777. This tract was along the Cowpath. The administrators of David Davis sold this tract to John Davis and Henry Bookhamer as tenants in common in 1820. Bookhamer then sold it to Philip Stillwagon in 1828. He sold it to Henry Childs in 1837. He sold it to Joseph Saunders in 1838, twenty-five acres. He sold it to William Loveridge, of Philadelphia, in 1839, a blacksmith. His heirs then sold it to John Everhart, of Philadelphia, in 1864. He sold to William Robins in 1866. He sold to Amelia Thorbeck in 1876. Sheriff Jacob Tyson to John Miller in 1879.

He sold it to Conrad Smith in 1881. After his death the sheriff seized it and sold to Anna Glenworth in 1904. She sold to George Allen in 1905. He sold it to Harriet Marshall in 1909. She sold it to John Kennedy in 1912. The sheriff seized it and sold it to Margaretta Holly in 1936. She sold it to Walter Klader, the same year. He sold it to Samuel Eiseman in 1939. Walter Klader sold it the second time to Karl Richter in 1941.

#### The Bresel Farm, the

## former Fred Schwab's

This came from the John Hoxworth farm which he had received from Peter Hoxworth. John Hoxworth died intestate in 1791. Then his son, Edward, purchased it from the other heirs. The administrators of the same then sold it to Jacob F. Lambert and Charles Wampold in 1851. They sold it to John Miller in 1852. His executor then sold it to Thomas Sabolt. He sold it to Frederick Schwab, Sr., in 1855. His heirs then sold it to Frederick Schwab, Jr., in 1903. It was occupied by him since the death of his father. He sold it to Emil Bresel in 1924.

# THE SOUTHERN CORNER

## The Logan Tract

William Penn granted a tract of 400 acres to Samuel Carpenter in 1709. This was located adjoining the West plantation, on the southeast, beginning at Main street, Lansdale Borough, thence northeast along Moyer's road to Cowpath road, thence southeast to township line, thence along said line southwest to Main street, thence along Main street northwest to beginning. Carpenter conveyed this tract to James Logan, of Philadelphia, in 1711. Logan divided this tract in two lengthwise in 1727.

The boundaries of the upper por-tion were beginning about where Wal-nut street is in Lansdale, thence northwest along Main street to about where Mitchell avenue is, thence northeast to Cowpath road, thence southeast to about where Walnut street is, thence southwest to beginning. This tract was divided about 1750 by selling the southwest portion of 100 acres and the northeast part was sold to Edward Lewis. The central portion was sold by James Lo-gan, Sr., to James Logan, Jr., in 1749. He sold it to Enoch Miller in 1792. The northeast part of the Logan tract, which was sold to Edward Lewis, became the property of his daughter, Sussana, after his death. She married Morris Thomas. He was deceased before 1760. His widow survived him. She remained here the remainder of her life. She died in 1797. She be-queathed her farm of 180 acres to her son, Isaiah Thomas. This included the Vetter property which was about fifty acres at that time, the Sanford Taylor and Spencers and the Summs properties.

#### The Eagle Hotel

The present Sanford Taylor farm. Isaiah Thomas received this 130-acre farm by his mother's will in 1797. He was granted a liquor license in 1802. He was a license holder up to 1819 and also owner of the plantation. It appears that he made his own whiskey, for he was assessed with two stills in 1805, one of thirty-seven and one-half gallons and one of thirty gallons. After that date he was assessed with one still up to 1813. The next year (1814) he was again assessed with two stills. None assessed after that date.

It seems this was not a paying business, as the Sheriff, Justus Scheetz, seized the property and sold it to Evan Jones, Thomas Morgan, and Frederick Knipe as tenants in common in 1819. During their ownership they sold forty-six acres. The remaining 106 acres Evan Jones and Frederick Knipe sold their share to Thomas Morgan in 1820. He sold part of it to George Adam Bernhart in 1821, who was also license holder during his ownership. He sold it to Peter Conver in 1823. After his death the executors sold to Abraham Keller in 1831 who on same date transferred it to Benjamin Conver. The next year Conver sold it to William Snare now containing fifty-three acres (in 1832). Snare to George Garner in 1833. He sold it to John Hackman in 1838, now twenty acres. He sold it to Enos A. Jenkins in 1846. Sheriff Boyer seized the property and sold to David Acuff, of Montgomery township, in 1847, who sold to Enos Lukens, of Hatfield, the same year.

He soon died afterward, for the administrators, Sarah Lukens and William Lukens, sold it to Enos Ruth in 1849. The landlord was Jacob Stover in 1848. Ruth sold it the same year to William Lukens, of Towamencin township, and Charles White, of Gwynedd township, as tenants in common. They sold it back to David Acuff in 1853. The landlord was Francis Kile from 1849 to 1851. He afterwards was elected Sheriff of Montgomery County in 1860. He later purchased the Montgomeryville Hotel. After the death of Acuff the executors sold it to William Michner in 1863. Daniel Ridenaur was landlord from 1857 to 1859.

The license then was transferred to John Preston in 1860 who transferred to Charles Preston in 1861, transferred to Joseph Newbold in 1862 to 1863. The next year (1864) Michner sold it to Jesse Allebach. It was then discontinued as a hotel. He lived here the remainder of his life. After his death it was bought by his son, Amos O. Allebach, in 1890, containing twenty acres. After his death the executors sold the same to Matilda Conner, widow in 1931. After her death the executor, Robert Conner, to Sanford Taylor in 1941, the present owner. The present stone house was built by Jesse Allebach. The former house was also of stone, one story high and is said was built by Isaiah Thomas in 1800.

# **Emil Vetter Residence**

Thomas Morgan retained fifty-three acres from the Thomas Tavern property. This he sold to Samuel Snyder in 1886. He sold to Jacob Kile in 1845. John Kile sold it to Samuel Effrig in 1893, who conducted a pork packing business in Lansdale. Sheriff John Simpson seized all the properties of Effrig and sold this to Louis Childs, an attorney, of Norristown, in 1895. He sold it to John N. Jacobs in 1897. He sold it to William Albrecht the same year. He sold it to Horace Ervin, also the same year, now containing thirty acres. He sold it the same year to Hannah Reger.

It was then divided into building lots, the lot with building was sold to John Murphy in 1898. Eleanor Murphy sold it to Charles McLaughlin in 1926. He sold it to Emil Vetter in 1931, the present owner.

#### George Summ Estate

George Garner, who was the owner of the Eagles Tavern property, detached thirty-three acres from his farm and sold it to Enos L. Hoxworth in 1838. He sold it to Jacob Cliffton the same year. He sold it to Daniel Boileau in 1845, fourteen acres. He sold it to William D. Rosenberger in 1848. He sold it to Thomas Martin in 1853, He sold it to Seneca L. Morris in 1856. He sold to Oscar Bohme in 1865. He sold to Elizabeth Figgins, of Philadelphia, the same year. She sold to Henry Beyer in 1867, who owned the adjoining farm. He sold it to John M. Harley in 1869. He sold to William Gilmore, of Philadelphia, in 1872. He sold it to George Gibson, of Philadelphia, the same year.

In 1874 the sheriff seized this property and the adjoining farm for debts against Henry Beyer, a former owner, and sold both to Thomas Tasker. He sold both properties to Sarah Curtis in 1877. William Curtis then sold this corner property to Eliza Lovett, wife of Joseph Lovett, and Lucie Barbiere, wife of Joseph Barbiere, as tenants in common in 1882. Joseph Barbiere then sold it to Emma Summ, wife of Charles Summ, in 1886. After her death her husband became the owner. After his death, it was sold by the executors to George Summ in 1937. His estate is owner of it at present.

# Spencer Residence

This was detached from the Summ property. Jacob Cliffton, who was the owner at that time, sold thirteen acres to Jacob Bender in 1847. He established a tannery here. He sold the same to John Kline in 1852. After his death, his widow, Caroline Kline, sold it to William Smith in 1856. Sheriff John M. Stauffer seized the same and sold it back to Mrs. Kline, March 2nd, 1860. She sold it the next day to Henry Beyer, who was the owner of the Seiz farm. He sold the same with four acres to Frederick Holsopple in 1864. He later made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. Joseph Angeny, the assignee, then sold it to Aaron Wagner in 1875. He sold it the same year to Joseph Conver. The tannery was then discontinued. The heirs of Conver then sold to Ralph Conver, a grandson, in 1926. He sold it to Harry Schultz in 1931. He sold it to Raymond Webb the same year. He conveyed it to North Penn Building and Loan in 1936. They sold it to Lillian Spencer the same year, the present owner.

# Anna Rowland Residence

This house was built by Amos Allebach. Here was a stone quarry that Jesse Allebach operated for awhile. After his death Amos bought his father's place and sold his residence to Enos Yoder in 1890. After his death the widow became the owner. Susie Yoder sold the same to Katherine Tyson in 1918. She sold it to Amos O. Allebach and M. Florence Gillinder, trustees, in 1919. The trustees then sold it to Anna Rowland in 1920, the present owner.

# Fred Seiz Farm

This was part of the Enoch Miller tract of 153 acres. Sheriff Boyer seized the same and sold to Evans Jones and Cadwalader Foulke in 1823, guardian of the minor children of Henry Jones deceased. They sold it to Israel Hoxworth the same year. He had no children. After his death a relative, Benjamin Lee, of Philadel-phia, sold it to Abraham Ruth in 1827. He died and his widow, Isabelle Ruth, sold it to Peter Custer, forty-three acres in 1838. He sold it to Daniel Boileau in 1845. He sold it back to Custer again in 1848. Custer sold it to Henry F. Beyer in 1855. He built the present house about 1863. He sold the farm to Edwin Harley in 1869. In 1874 the sheriff seized the property for debts against Henry Beyer and sold it to Thomas Tasker. He sold it to Sarah Curtis in 1877. William Curtis sold it to Abigail Tyson in 1879. Nathan Tyson then sold it to George Dannehower in 1894. His heirs sold it to James Brady in 1900. He sold it

to Harry Scholl in 1912. He sold it to Fred Seiz in 1914, the present owner.

# The former Sehers Farm

This was the central part of the Enoch Miller tract of 153 acres, purchased from James Logan. Miller sold to Peter Hoxworth forty-one acres in 1799. He sold to Israel Tennis in 1827. He had married an adopted daughter of Israel Hoxworth. Tennis sold to Silas Garner in 1830. He sold to William Gilbert in 1843. He sold to Anton Sehers in 1847. He sold to Antonia Sehers in 1852. The farm later was divided, a part was sold to Rudolph Schers, whereon he built a house and made a premises here. The other part was sold to Albert Schers. The last twenty years a number of houses have been built on this tract.

# The Former Harry D. Godshall

# and the Sorver Farm

This was the southwest portion of the Logan tract. At a date which I have not been able to ascertain, Benjamin Rosenberger purchased 106 acres from this Logan tract. This extended from Main street, northeast to about where Eighth street is. He sold this to Solomon Sell, of Roxborough, in 1760. He sold it to Jacob Sorver in 1763.

In 1784 he purchased twenty acres on the northeast side of Eighth street. He sold the farm to his son, Philip Sorver, in 1799. He bought additional acres from Peter Hoxworth, making his plantation 131 acres. He bequeathed this farm to his daughter, Margaret, who had married Edward Jenkins. He sold the northeast part of this tract to John Jenkins in 1834. He sold it to Abraham H. Cassel, of Lower Salford township, in 1854. He sold it to Heinrich Hopple in 1855. The heirs sold the farm to Harry D. Godshall in 1912. He sold it to Suburban Realty Company, fifty-six acres in 1925.

Margaret Jenkins sold from the southwest end of her farm forty-eight acres to the North Pennsylvania Railroad Company in 1861. The remaining part of this farm was sold by Charles Mathews to Philip S. Jenkins in 1872, forty-eight acres. He sold it to Chloe Sutton in 1881. It was next sold to Mrs. Esther Edgerton in 1883, forty-four acres. Nathan Edgerton then sold it to Charles Henry Quarles in 1891. It is now built up with dwellings.

# The Former Clifton Farm

This was a part of the southwest end of the Logan tract which James Logan, Sr., devised to his son, James Logan, Jr., in 1749. He conveyed it to Enoch Miller in 1792. He sold forty acres to Peter Hoxworth, Sr., in 1800, for £300. He sold the same to son, Peter Hoxworth, Jr., in 1805. His son, Jesse Hoxworth, sold it to Allen Tennis in 1831. He sold it to John George Earnst in 1833. He sold it to John Cliffton in 1835. Cliffton came from Kingwood township, Hunterton County, New Jersey, and learned the trade of tanner at Quakertown. While here he became acquainted with the Hoxworth family and then married Peter Hoxworth, Jr.'s daughter. The boundary of this farm were beginning about where Third street is bordering the Bucheimer's tract on the northwest, thence northeast to a short distance on the other side of the Company's factory, Perkins Glue thence southwest in line of about Richardson avenue to Third street, thence northwest to beginning. When the railroad was built a portion of this farm was on the east side. This was also divided by the cross road which is now Cannon avenue, Lans-dale Borough. John Cliffton devised this farm to his children, Henry and Sarah Cliffton, in 1873. Sarah sold her share to Henry, who owned it up to the time of his death in 1899.

#### Perkins Glue Works

This part of the Cliffton farm was sold by Henry Cliffton, three acres, to Frederick Souder in 1889. He erected a feed and hay house and coal yard here, which he conducted for some time. In 1899 his hay house and feed store was destroyed by fire. He then used the material and built the block houses on Cannon avenue on the northwest side. He then erected a hay house on the east side of the brook, where he conducted a hay bailing business for some time. In 1909 he sold this tract to Perkins Glue Company.

## The Former Scholl's Brick Works

Henry Cliffton sold the lower tract on the east side of the railroad, seven acres to Seth Scholl in 1890. Here he operated a brickyard for some time. It is now nearly all built up with dwellings. Henry Cliffton died in 1899, survived by his widow, who died in 1904. This part of the farm lying on the west side of the railroad was then divided into building lots, by his heirs. The farm buldings were located about where the Hajoca foundry now is.

#### The Lower Part of the Logan Tract

This was sold to Joseph Tucker by James Logan in 1727. The boundaries were beginning at Main street, Lansdale, thence northeast along Walnut street, to Cowpath road, thence southeast to Montgomery township line thence southwest to Main street, thence northwest to beginning. This tract was sold by Tucker to Jenkin Jenkins in 1730, 350 acres. The Jenkins came from Wales. They arrived in 1729. He divided the plantation by selling the southwest end to his son, John Jenkins, 100 acres.

John Jenkins sold the same to Peter Hauksworth in 1749. He sold it to John Hauksworth in 1760. He died intestate, leaving three sons and four daughters. The sons were Edward, John and Peter. These heirs transferred their share to Edward in 1791. He died intestate in 1846. The heirs then sold it to Jacob Lambert, M.D., and Charles Wampole, seventy-five acres in 1851. They sold it to John Miller in 1852. His executor, Thomas Saboldt, sold it to George Neunhoffer, in 1855. Catherine Neuenhoffer, the widow, sold to George Neunhoffer, Jr., in 1898. This is now all built up by dwellings.

#### Elisha Harris Residence

The northeast part of the Jenkins plantation. Jenkin Jenkins, Sr., made his will, bequeathing his plantation of 200 acres to his son, Jenkin Jenkins, Jr., and his issue. He had one son, David, and three daughters, Hannah (unmarried), Eleanor (married to John McPherson), Elizabeth (married to John Banes). Jenkin Jenkins, Jr., did not alter his father's will, and it therefore descended to his children. David died unmarried in 1806. It then descended to his sisters, Hannah Jenkins, Elizabeth Banes, and Eleanor McPherson. Hannah died in 1826, then the two remaining sisters sold it to Jesse Banes in 1829. He sold it the same year to Peter Beans. He sold it to Abraham Cassel in 1833. He sold to Wilson Dance in 1838. His administrators sold it to James White in 1846. He sold it to Anne Manuel in 1851, seventy-six acres. Her executor, George Corson, sold it to Thomas and Henry Manuel in 1881. They divided the same into building lots. After the death of Thomas they were awarded to Henry Manuel in 1906. He sold them to Edgar Williams in 1916. He sold it to Elisha Harris in 1921.

# The Maginnis Residence

The three daughters, mentioned

previous, who inherited the northeast part of their father's farm, detached a part, bordering on the Cowpath, and sold it to James Harmer in 1808. He sold it to Isaac Shoemaker, of Skippacl:, thirty-four acres, in 1813. He sold it to Christian Benner in 1814. The sheriff seized the property of Benner in 1821 and sold it to Barnard Bayley, of Philadelphia. He sold it to Henry Slight in 1825. He sold it to John Gcdshall in 1829. His executor, John Jenkins, sold it to Gottlieb Brecht in 1846. He sold it to Lucas Nagle and Michael Gansheimer in 1848. Gansheimer then sold his share to Nagle in 1849. Nagle then sold the same to George Nuss, of Lower Salford, in 1854. He sold it to Charles Feusner, of Philadelphia, in 1859. He sold to Alexander Feusner in 1905. He sold to Ella Wixson in 1906. She sold to Charles Mueller in 1911. He sold to Walter Ivins in 1913. He sold to Richard Schweder, of Philadelphia, in 1928. He sold to Albert Bauhaus, of New Jersey, in 1938. He sold to Lord Maginniss, of Philadelphia, in 1941, the present owner.

# THE CENTRAL PART OF HATFIELD

# The Allman Farm

A patent for a farm in Hatfield township containing 100 acres, as by warrant and survey in the Surveyor General's office, and thence certified to the secretary's office, will fully appear and Solomon Hopton and wife, by deed dated second day of September, 1740, sold the same to Edward Magine's, of Hatfield, and the same by endorsed deed dated March 31, 1742, sold the same to Peter Hunsberger in fee and the same the 16th of March, 1743, to George Pickuld who then died intestate. The heirs then sold to their brother. Burkart Piculd, in 1765, who sold to Paul Delgart the same year. Amos Jones sold to Paul Delgart, fifteen acres, ad-joining the 100 acres in 1764 making a total of 115 acres. This fifteen-acre tract is now owned by Mary Derstine, daughter of John R. Kindig, the form-er owner, Mr. Worman, Mr. Musgrave, Mr. Javorke, Mr. Couter, Charles Leatherman, and Hoehn Bros. The sheriff seized the property of

Delgart and sold to John Shellenberger in 1768. The same sold to Charles Shellenberger in 1778 who then sold to Christopher Snyder in 1793 who next sold to Jacob Hunsberger in 1796. This plantation included the Harold Eyre's, the former Daniel Shank's, Noah Kramer's and Frank Werner's properties.

After Hunsberger's death the heirs sold to John Delp, who immediately transferred it to Isaac Hunsberger, a son, in 1844. The administrators of the same to Harvey Rosenberger in 1902, who sold to Chester Angle in 1912, who then conveyed to Allman and Bordin in 1924. Allman is now the present owner. Recently a number of building lots have been sold and houses erected thercon.

# Frank Werner and

# Noah Kramer Residence

Christopher Snyder, who bought the Allman farm in 1793, sold the main farm to Jacob Hunsberger which is mentioned above. He sold this part of the farm to Robert Ferrin in 1796. He sold it to John Waters in 1812. After his death it was sold to his eldest son, Lewis Waters, twenty-four acres in 1844. He sold it to Abraham Moyer in 1846. It was next transferred to his brother, Isaac Moyer, in 1867. After his death his widow sold to Henry Kindig in 1894. He built the mansion in the woods. After Kindig's death his executor, Marvin Kindig, sold the same to Catherine Werner, wife of Frank Werner, in 1922, the present owner.

### Noah Kramer Residence

Here was sold fourteen acres to Lewis Waters in 1842. He sold it to Charles Winkle in the same year. He sold to William Stiner, of Lower Salford, in 1848, to Jonas Reed in 1879, to Louisa Hillpot, wife of Jacob Hillpot, in 1900, to Hannah Sandel in 1907, to Frank Spengel in 1908, to Noah Kramer in 1920, the present owner. There has been a number of dwellings built on same in the last twenty years.

# The Former Daniel Shank's Farm

This was part of the Hunsberger farm. It was detached in 1845 and conveyed to Joseph Crouthamel, who had married Jacob Hunsberger's daughter, Lydia. He was the grandfather of Jacob Crouthamel, Jr., yet living in Hatfield Borough. He built the brick part of the house in 1858. He died two years later. In 1861 the widow, Lydia Crouthamel, sold to John Allebach forty-one acres, who

the same year sold eight acres to Jonas Loh. This is now owned by Charles Wireman. In 1863 Allebach sold the farm to Samuel Wismer, thirty-three acres, who sold to Jesse Aikens in 1866. The same to Abraham S. Rosenberger in 1872, who conveyed to Ross Griffin in 1912, who sold to Daniel Shank in 1922, who then built many houses on the same now owned by different owners. The barn was destroyed by fire during Shank's ownership. The farmhouse and thirteen acres in 1927, Shank sold to William Lackner. The sheriff next sold it to Ambler Building and Loan Association in 1933, who sold to George Voght in 1934. He sold to Charles Heldeth in 1936 who sold to Walter Roach in 1938, the present owner, now containing eight acres.

# Harold Eyre, Formerly

# Brennan Farm

This was part of the Hunsberger farm. Daniel Price, who had married Jacob Hunsberger's daughter, Elizabeth, bought it from the administra-tors in 1844. Then the administrators of Price which was his son, Caleb, who had moved to Ohio, sold the same to Abram Nice, who's wife was a daughter of Daniel Price. In 1865 the administrator of Nice, who was the widow, sold to Jacob R. Hunsberger, who next sold to Michael Brennan in 1892. Jane Brennan, the widow, then sold to Charles Heyer, of New York State, in 1911. Mrs. Heyer, the widow, sold to Joseph Ralph Koffel, who then sold to Henry Swartley in 1927. The same to John Emory Vise the same year, Wise to Robert Taylor in 1029, Taylor to Ambler Building and Loan Association in 1933, who sold to John Rorer in 1934, Rorer to Harry Witt in 1936, Witt to Howard Monteigh in 1937, the same to Harold Eyre, of Baltimore, Maryland, in 1941, the present owner.

# The Late Adam Guthler Farm

This farm of 100 acres comprised all the properties from the South Hatfield Store property down Main street to Orvilla road, southwest to Noah Kramer's farm, thence northwest to the properties on Vine street, thence northeast to Main street.

Being the same premises which James Dunn and Tamer, his wife, granted to Peter King in 1752. John Funk and Catherine King, executors of Peter King, sold to Peter Benner, Sr., 100 acres in 1794. His administrators sold it to Jonathan Zane in 1828, eighty-four acres. He sold it to Joel Oberholtzer, eighty acres in 1829. He sold it to George Moyer in 1837, forty acres. The heirs to George M. Moyer, a son of the former, in 1874. He built the present house and barn. He later made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. The assignee, George D. Alderfer, sold it to Morris Hildebrand in 1894. He sold it to Adam Guthier in 1901. After his death it was sold by his executor to Mae Kital and Jacob Wossel in 1939, now containing twenty-four acres.

# William Strouse Residence

A part of the Benner farm. Peter Benner, Sr., sold thirteen acres to Peter Benner, Jr., a weaver, in 1816. The sheriff seized the property and sold it to Isaac Wisler in 1828. He sold it to John Griffin in 1830. He sold it to Samuel Conver, Sr., in 1841. He sold it to his son, Samuel B. Conver, in 1872. He built a planing mill and conducted it for some time. It was destroyed by fire and not rebuilt. Conver then located in Lansdale in 1878, where he built another planing mill at north corner Main and Richardson avenue, where he operated it until that caught fire and was consumed. Conver then sold the Hatfield lot back to his father in 1878. Samuel Conver, Sr., next sold it to Jacob H. Crouthamel in 1880. He sold it to Joseph Davis, the house and five acres, in 1887. After his death the heirs sold it to Samuel B. Conver, a former owner, in 1911. After his death, Sus-anna Conver, his widow, sold it to George Smith in 1917. He sold to Philip Erwin Haring in 1920. He died shortly after. Then the Penn-Trust Company sold it to Charles Myers in 1921, who sold it to Rudolph Benkert the same year. He sold it to William Strouse in 1926, four acres, the present owner.

#### The Herman Behr Residence

George Moyer, Sr., sold four acres to Jacob Yeakle in 1861. He had buildings erected. The heirs of the same sold to William Fisher in 1884. He built an addition and made a double dwelling of same. Fisher then sold to Charles J. Herbster in 1905. Mary Herbster sold the same to Herman Behr in 1921, the present owner.

# The Late Adam Guthier Residence

Jonathan Zane, the owner of the adjoining farm which he had purchased in 1828. This he sold the next year. He retained ten acres where he had buildings erected and made a premises here. This he sold to Henry Gehman in 1834, of Skippack. He sold it to John Apple in 1840. He sold to Anthony Althouse in 1870. He sold to Frank R. Heckler in 1874. He died of a stroke while driving along the road in front of what is now Wallace Derstine's house, October 25, 1878. The administrators then sold the property to Adam Guthier in 1879. He later built two double houses on the premises.

## **Oliver Kinckiner Farm**

Joel Oberholtzer retained twentyseven acres when he sold the upper portion to George Moyer in 1837 where he lived then. This he sold in 1839 to David Davis. His administrators sold the same to Joseph Kindig in 1848, now containing nineteen acres. He sold it to Joel Rosenberger in 1852. He sold it to Oliver Kinckiner in 1898, the present owner.

# NORTHEASTERN CORNER OF TOWNSHIP

# The Morris Tract

In 1682 William Penn granted a tract of land in this region, 5,000 acres to Thomas Harley, of London. After his death it was conveyed to Thomas Fairman in 1699. In 1702 half of this grant was conveyed to John Morris, 2,500 acres. We wish to mention here that these land jobbers did not always take up all of said 5,000 acres in one section. Sometimes they took part in one township and the other in another township until the 5,000 acres were conveyed to them. This Morris tract included all the properties which lie between the County Line and Cowpath road from the Cross road at Unionville down to Montgomery township. Of this tract Morris sold 500 acres to Richard Taylor in 1705.

This included the properties from the Cross road above the Dunkard Meeting House down Cowpath road to Township line. The former Howe farm, Frank Munzinger's and others. This was the southwestern part of the Morris tract. In the same year Morris sold 252 acres to Thomas David. This included the properties from the Cross road above the Dunkard Meeting House up the Cowpath road then across to Union street over to Isaiah Landis farm, thence southeast to the Cross road mentioned.

Thomas David then granted of this tract 126 acres to Thomas Ransworthy. He conveyed the same to Christopher Topham in 1710 and Thomas David sold the other part of the 252 acres to Topham in 1712. He sold the whole tract to James Porhues in 1721. He devised it by will in two shares, the upper part to Edward Warner, the lower to Joseph Fox. The Warner tract was for maintenance for his slave, Jack, during his life. The other tract of Fox for his slave, Maria, during her life, after these terms were complied with Warner sold his 126 acres to Fox in 1743. All these owners were residents of Philadelphia. Fox then sold this tract of 252 acres to Samuel Musselman, a Mennonite, in 1752. Another tract which John Morris disposed of during his life was adjoining northeast of the Taylor tract, 250 acres. It extended between the Cross road above Line Lexington and Cross road at Trewigtown extending northeast to about where Fricks burial lot is. Morris sold this to William Bevan in 1702. He sold it to his son-in-law, Abraham Free, in 1735. He died in 1738.

It is doubtful if either had lived here. In 1740 this tract was sold to Jacob Shooter whose residence was the former Martin farm, now owned by Elwood Biggs. He had first bought 125 acres northeast of this tract this extending from the Cross road below Line Lexington to Cross road at Trewigtown. This he purchased in 1739 from Kinnersly. The remaining 1,000 acres, John Morris bequeathed to his nephews, James, Richard, and John Morris. They sold it to Ebenezer Kinnersly in 1734. He then sold it to various parties. This tract lay along the County Line northeast of the Warner and Taylor tract. From the Cross road at Unionville down to township line.

# John Bolton's Farm and Max Os and

#### a number of smaller properties,

# formerly a Rosenberger Plantation

Daniel Rosenberger, an immigrant, bought 200 acres from Ebenezer Kinnersley, being a part of the Morris patent. This purchase was made in 1740. Later he bought another tract of 159 acres in 1769. These 359 acres comprised all the present farms of John Bolton, Max Os and Isaiah Landis, Unionville Hotel, F. R. Williams, and numerous smaller properties. The last tract which Daniel Rosenberger bought was first purchased by Henry Funk, a Mennonite Bishop, of Franconia township, in 1738 of Kinnersley.

After the death of Funk which occurred in 1760, the executors, John and Christian Funk, sold this tract in 1761 to Jacob Bear, a son-in-law of Henry Funk, v ho sold in 1763 to John Yellis, of Towamencin township. Funk was never naturalized and Bear also refused to be naturalized. He therefore procured a patent and then sold it the same year to George Kriebel, of Upper Milford, who sold it to Daniel Rosenberger in 1769.

After Rosenberger's death, which occurred in 1771, the plantation was divided between his two sons. David received the upper portion which is now the residence of John Bolton, who built a new house in 1780. The date stone of this house has been preserved and is in the cellarway of the present house. It bears the initials D. R. B. standing for David Rosen Berger. According to the Rosenberger History he had married a daughter of Christian Funk, a Mennonite Bishop. His children were Christian, David, Philip, Abraham, and Daniel, Eliza-beth and Mary Ann. By a second marriage, Susanna, John, Henry, Froney, and Valentine. He devised the farm to two of his sons, the homestead to his son, Henry, 109 acres. He had sons, George, David, Aaron, Josiah, Simon and Enos. Henry died in 1865. The heirs of Henry sold the farm to Aaron in 1866 for \$9,860. In 1880 he sold the farm to Jacob M. Allebach who bought it for his son-in-law, Henry Rosenberger, who then conducted it. He was a son of Aaron. Henry was a doctor.

# DR. HENRY D. ROSENBERGER

# OF HATFIELD, PA.

Dr. Henry D. Rosenberger was born February 8, 1852, on the old homestead in Hatfield Township. He attended the township school in the Winter—only about one-half of the sessions, as in the fall he had to work on his father's farm. In the Spring of 1872, he attended Washington Collegiate Institute, at Trappe, Pa., taking a ten-weeks' course. Prof. A. Rambo was principal at the time. In the Winter of 1872-73 he taught Hickory Grove School, in Hatfield Township.

In the Spring of 1873 he commenced reading medicine in the office of his uncle, Dr. Isaac Detweiler. The following November he entered Hahnemann Medical College, of Philadelphia, graduating in March 1875. The following summer he practiced medicine with his preceptor, Dr. Detweiler, at Lawndale, now Silverdale, Bucks County. On January 1, 1876, he started to practice in the village of New Britain, Pa., and in three years had gained a good practice. In the Spring of 1879, finding that mental labor would no longer agree with him, he abandoned the medical profession and went to farming, moving on his father's farm.

The subject of this sketch was married December 16, 1875, to Miss Mary A., oldest daughter of Jacob M. Allebach, of Skippack. They have one daughter, Emma Estella, born April 16, 1877.

In 1894 the sheriff seized the real estate of Jacob M. Allebach and sold it to John Pennepacker, of Schwenksville. Henry Rosenberger, M.D., then went to Dr. S. C. Moyer, of Lansdale, and assisted him in his practice. Later he went to Manheim, Lancaster County, and had a practice of his own where he died. After Pennepacker had purchased it, it was occupied and farmed by Allen Kraft. In 1909 Pennepacker sold to Frank G. Moyer. It was then occupied and farmed by John Bolton, and in 1913 Moyer conveyed it to John Bolton, the present owner, seventy-five acres.

# Isaiah Landis Farm

Aaron Rosenberger, who was the owner of the John Bolton farm, detached thirty-two acres and had buildings erected. He sold it to Isaiah Rosenberger in 1881, who sold it to Rebecca Landis, wife of John H. Landis, in 1884. He sold it to son, Isaiah, in 1908, the present owner.

# F. R. Williams Farm

The northeast portion of the farm along the County Line, David Rosenberger devised to his son, John, seventy-eight acres. He died in 1848. It was then sold to Samuel D. Rosenberger, who sold it to Daniel Rickert in 1851, who sold to Frederick Drauger in 1853, who sold to Isaac D. Rosenberger in 1858, who sold to Samuel H. Rosenberger in 1869, who sold to son, Samuel S. Rosenberger, in 1904. He sold to John M. Franklin in 1910, sixty acres. He sold to F. R. Williams, the present owner.

# Unionville Hotel

In 1851 Samuel D. Rosenberger sold a tract of fifteen acres at corner of County Line and Unionville road to David L. Rosenberger, who built the house and kept a store here until 1862, when he sold it to Henry Kile, who had a license granted for an eating house and liquor, which he conducted until his demise. Then the executors sold it to James Roshon in 1898, who sold it to Earl Weitzell in 1923, who sold to Rose Miller in 1980. It was next sold to Charles Scott in 1931, the present owner. Henry Kile had leased the hotel part time in 1881 till 1882. Francis Kile was the proprietor. In 1883 it was leased to A. D. Hartzell. In 1884 back to Henry Kile, the license holder until his death.

# Emil Berger Residence

This was part of the fifteen acres which Samuel D. Rosenberger sold to David L. Rosenberger in 1851, who erected the building there. Lyman Rosenberger, the executor, sold it to Irene Hahn, seven acres in 1903, who conveyed it to Henry B. Delp in 1904, who immediately transferred it back to Irene Hahn, who sold it to Wilson Bergey in 1908, who sold to Abraham Swartley in 1910, who sold to Francis Hogarth in 1917, who sold it to Edward Winkler in 1926, who transferred it on same date to Lavina Nolen, seven acres who sold to Vincent Schlosser in 1927, who sold to Emil Berger, house and lot in 1929, the present owner.

# Ellis Warner Residence

This being part of fifteen acres which David L. Rosenberger purchased of Samuel D. Rosenberger in 1851. David L. Rosenberger sold to Enos Renner in 1852. After his death, Frederick Biddlemeyer, administrator, sold to Kate Kalen in 1894, who sold to Charles Clausen in 1896, who sold to Chauncey Buckley in 1900, who sold the same year to Minnie Clausen, who sold to Charles Meyers in 1903, who sold to Charles Meyers in 1903, who sold to William H. Knight in 1904, who sold to Luella Dorn in 1905, who sold to William Charles in 1910, who sold to Philip Phander in 1921. The same sold to David Hopple eight acres in 1928. He sold to John Acker. He sold to Ellis Warner the same year, the present owner.

# Max Os Farm

Isaac Rosenberger, son of Daniel, received the lower portion of his father's plantation. This farm fronts on the Courty Line. Here are two houses, one built of logs, a relic of the past and a stone house, which was built later. The boundaries in 1772 were beginning at a stone in line of Samuel Musselman by same and by Isaac Wisler and Abraham Allebach, northwest 117 perches to a corner of David Rosenberger, by same northeast 151 perches and southeast 2 and % perches and northeast 89 perches to County Line by part of a half acre bought for the said road and by County line and land of George Delp, southeast 104 perches to corner of John Funk by same southwest 240 perches to beginning.

Isaac Rosenberger died July 30, 1830, in his 79th year. His son, Isaac, then obtained the farm. He died in 1853. His sons were Joseph and Isaac. The latter was a resident of North Wales, and Joseph, of Hilltown, and a daughter, who had married Michael Snyder, who had the hotel at Line Lexington. Isaac and Joseph, the ex-ecutors of their father's estate, sold to William D. Rosenberger April 5, 1854, who immediately transferred it to Martin Bechtel, who sold it to Milton Jenkins in 1855, who bought two additional tracts, making 135 acres. The executor of Jenkins then sold to William Muldoom, of Philadelphia, in 1919, who sold to Henry Lackner in 1924, who sold to Peter Kodes in 1925, who sold to Max Os in 1985, the present owner.

#### Harry Bishop. Farm, formerly

## a Funk Plantation

Ebeneser Kinnersly sold to Martin Funk 100 acres in 1743. This plantation comprised the present farms of Harry Bishop, Wilson Bishop, Peter Sobel and Frank Kros. This farm was next sold to John Funk in 1763. He had purchased twenty-six acres pre-vious in 1759 of Evan Evans. The ex-ecutors of John Funk, Sr., were Mar-tin and John Funk, Jr. They sold the farm to Abraham Apple in 1821, who immediately transferred it to John Funk, Jr., who devised to son, Samuel Funk, by will, with this proviso, if he and the other heirs can agree upon a price. The farm, however, was sold to Isaac D. Rosenberger on the fifth of April, 1848, who immediately sold it, in four tracts on same date. The main farm of seventy acres to Martin Bechtel, who sold to Peter Frick in 1853. He sold it to John K. Clymer in 1855. He sold it to Daniel Bishop in 1902. The heirs of the same to son, Harry Bishop, in 1936, now fortyfour acres, the present owner.

#### Wilson Bishop Farm

Isaac D. Rosenberger sold on same date (1848), twenty-four acres of the Funk tract to his father, Isaac Rosenberger, Sr., who then erected the buildings and made a premises here. After his death Isaac D. Rosenbeger's executors sold it to Daniel Bishop in 1887. The heirs of the same to son, Wilson Bishop, in 1938, the present owner.

# Peter Sobel Farm

Isaac D. Rosenberger sold of the Funk tract fifteen acres to Philip Sellers on same date (1848), who sold to George S. Becker in 1849. The sheriff seized the property and sold it to Charles White in 1850, who sold to Abraham Gehman in 1855. After his death, the heirs to Jacob R. Gehman in 1866, who sold to Elizabeth Leidy in 1878, who sold to Hilary H. Crouthamel in 1891. After his death the heirs to Frank M. Clymer in 1916. After his death the sheriff sold it to Lansdale Bank in 1939, who sold it to Peter Sobel in 1940, the present owner.

## Frank Kros Farm

This was part of the Funk plantation. The executors of John Funk, Jr., were Samuel Funk and son-in-laws, Joseph Krupp and Abraham Krupp. They sold fifteen acres to William Funk in 1847. Isaac D. Rosenberger who had bought the Funk plantation in 1848, sold on same date, April 5th, twenty-one acres to William Funk, making a total of thirty-seven acres which he sold to Michael Snyder, inn keeper at Line Lexington, in 1851. He sold it to Philip Sellers in 1865. He sold to Collins Mcnutt the same year, who sold to Garret Detwiler in 1877. After his death, John K. Clymer, the administrator, sold it to Frank Clymer in 1888. He sold it back to John K. Clymer in 1908. He sold to Henry Lackner in 1911. He sold to Mark Gluch in 1919. He sold to Emil Lawrowsky in 1921. He sold to Mary Gluch in same year. Mark Gluch next sold to Anna Palioki in 1927. He sold to Victor Mothitis in 1928. He sold to Victor Motaitis in 1928. He sold to Henry Lackner the same year. He sold to Herman Gerstlauer in 1930. He sold to Warwzymic Kros the same year. He sold to Frank Kros in 1938, the present owner.

#### **Clarence Carvolth Farm**

This was bought in three tracts by Peter Frick, nineteen acres in 1831 of John Frick, two other tracts in 1836, one of seventeen acres another of nine acres, also of John Fricks.

This farm was then sold by Peter Frick to George Frick in 1868, who sold to Abraham Zeigler in 1882, thirty-eight acres. The heirs of Zeigler to Henry Lackner in 1922, who sold it to Nicola Bilancia in 1924, who sold it to Victor Motaitis in 1925, who sold to John Zukow in 1930. Sheriff Fratt seized the same and sold it back to Victor Motaitis the same year who sold to Julian Filimonski in 1930, who sold to Charles Jasen in 1931, who sold to John Fitz in 1932, who transferred it to Ambler B. and L. Assoc., who sold to Clarence Carvolth in 1935, the present owner.

# A TALE OF ARSON AND

# ATTEMPTED ROBBERY

About the year 1842, the barn on the property of Peter Frick was set on fire by a noted criminal named John King, then a young man living with his mother at Kulpsville. The purpose of King was the robbery of the house of John Frick, down at the homestead during the commotion created by fire. The elder John Frick, then an old man, was supposed to keep much money about his premises.

It happened however, that Frick anticipated the chances of such robbery. He had a high opinion of a neighbor, a devout Baptist lady, Mrs. Rachel Morris, who kept a store on the premises. Frick had his money secreted under some rags in the garret of the Morris house. King was detected after getting in the house, while he was rummaging the drawers in the second story. He escaped by jumping on the porch roof, and thence to the ground. He fired off his pistol to deter pursuit, and successfully escaped.

The immediate notice of the attempted robbery was his desire to marry the daughter of Philip Sowers, Skippackville merchant. Sowers 8 asked him of his expectations about money and business. King replied that he had no money now, but soon would have a supply. After the fire he was arrested, and brought to trial for arson. His mother got a good lawyer, and the jury failed to convict, owing to doubt of his identity. Emboldened by his good luck in escaping justice, King next broke into Sowers' store, and secured and secreted a considerable quantity of goods. Again he was arrested, and at the trial he was defended by Sylvester N. Rich. This time, the jury was not so lenient, and he was convicted. His sentence was seven years in the Eastern Penitentiary.

King served his time. When he got out, he returned to Kulpsville, and ungratefully stole his mother's silver spoons. He thenceforth disappeared, and was never afterwards heard of. After his imprisonment, he revealed that a portion of the booty secured by the store robbery was concealed beneath a hollow stump, and sure enough, it was found.

# Formor Alfred Barndt Farm

This was part of the Warner tract. Abraham Swartz sold a track of land in 1765 to Isaac Wisler, who sold to Jacob Wisler sixty-four acres in 1794 for £500. He sold to Benjamin Rosenberger in 1834, who sold to Samuel Leidy, Sr., of Franconia Township in 1850. This tract extended from Main street and Vine street to Chestnut street and back to Jenkins farm. The farm buildings were located where South Hatfield mill and feed store used to he. The house which is occupied by James Snyder was rebuilt by Abraham Sorver about 1880. The barn stood where the pump house now is. Samuel Leidy, Sr., conveyed the farm to his son-in-law, Abraham Sorver, in 1851, fifty-five acres. After the railroad was built (in 1856), Sorver con-ducted a lumber, feed, and hay bu siness.

He sold the lumber business to Henry Stover, of Franconia Township who conducted it from 1861 to 1867. The feed store Sorver leased to John C. Godshall and Christian Moyer from 1868 to 1869; to John C. Godshall, 1870 to 1872; to Hiram and Abraham Schultz in 1874, to Jonas Moyer in 1875 to 1877, to Michael Bergey, Sr., 1878 to 1883, to George Snyder in 1884 to 1886. Milton Gehman, a son-in-law of Abraham Sorver, from 1887 to 1893. In that year he sold it to Mr. Chalfan. In this year Abraham Sorver died. The executors then sold it to George Snyder who tore down the barn and hay house and converted the chopping mill into a mill for making mushmeal. The feed store and coal yard was then continued by Mr. Snyder, it was razed in about 1932.

Where the Electric Plant is Snyder sold a lot in 1906 to William Morris, who built a canning factory which he conducted for some time. It was destroyed by fire in 1918 and not rebuilt. He sold the lot to Hatfield Borough in 1915 for a pump house. Later an Electric Plant was put in operation here. In 1875 Abraham Sorver erected farm buildings on the other part of the farm at Maple and Vine street. This he conveyed to Alfred Barndt in 1883, fifty-five acres. He transferred it to his daughter, Flora Godshall, wife of Henry K. Godshall in 1900 who transferred back to Alfred Barndt in 1902. He then sold the farm to Henry P. Nyce in 1905, fifty-two acres. He sold to Percifer Thompson, of Philadelphia, in 1912, who sold it to William Ferdinand in 1920, who sold to Home Construction Company the same year, who cut it up into small building lots. The farm house is now owned by Joseph Hartman.

After Barndt had sold the farm he erected a building opposite on the southwest corner of Maple and Vine street where he lived the remainder of his life. This contained twenty acres. After his death it became the property of his daughter, Flora Godshall, his only heir, who is the present owner.

# John Fasbenner Residence

This property was detached from the Sorver farm when Benjamin Rosenberger owned it. His executor, Isaac Rosenberger, sold this house and lot to Jacob Lambert in 1854. He sold to Jacob Gehman in 1856. He sold it to Samuel Wismar in 1868. He sold back to Lambert the same year. His ad-ministrators sold it to Isaac R. Kulp in 1875. Sheriff Simpson seized the properties and sold to Samuel Firman, of Doylestown, in 1893. He sold to William D. Nace in 1896 for \$553.00. He sold to Frank Strasser in 1900. After his death the widow sold to Irwin Erney in 1907. It was then occupied by his father-in-law, Abraham Swartley. Erney sold it to Ernest Whilhelm in 1917. He sold it to Allen Kooker in 1920. His widow sold it to John Fasbenner in 1927, the present owner.

#### Frank W. Cressman Residence

Abraham Sorver, termed a lumber merchant, sold one acre of ground to Henry Stover for \$400.00 in 1859. He built the three-story house. He sold to Mary, housekeeper, for \$2,175.00, in 1867. They were both of Franconia Township. She sold the same to Henry R. Bergey in 1868. He sold it to John C. Godshall in 1869. He sold it to Abraham D. Stover in 1876. He sold it to Sarah Sheldon, of Collingswood, New Jersey, in 1889. She sold it to Daniel Gehman in 1391. He transferred it to David B. Rosenberger in 1900, who conveyed it to Sarah Gehman, wife of Daniel Gehman, the same year. She sold it to Rosa Linda Cressman, wife of Sylvester Cressman, in 1912. She sold to Ida Renner, wife of William Renner, in 1913. She sold it to Harry Bauerle in 1927, who sold to Evelyn Cressman, wife of Frank W. Cressman, in 1933, the present owner.

#### Groth Residence

This was part of Samuel Leidy, Sr.'s farm. It included Goetter's, George Landis', and Wilson Nice's homes. Samuel Leidy, Sr., sold to son, Samuel G. Leidy, seven acres in 1858. He had married Catherine, daughter of Dillman Kulp. He was a saddler by trade, which he conducted here for some time. After his death in 1879 the administrator, Jonas G. Leidy, sold it to Mary Ann Lutz, a daughter of Samuel Leidy. She had married Vanburen Lutz. After his death she sold it to Richard Nice in 1890, six acres, who sold it to Henry Groth in 1897 who sold it to John S. Groth in 1918.

# George Landis Residence

Samuel G. Leidy sold a lot in 1867 to Nicholas Glossen for \$300, who built the house. In 1870 he conveyed it to Abram Sorver, who transferred it back to Glossen the same year. In 1878 he made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. The assignee then sold it to Augustus Holly, who sold it to Abraham Sorver in 1882, who bequeathed it to his daughter, Emma, in 1893, wife of Milton Gehman. The Montgomery Trust Company, trustee of Emma Gehman, sold it to John Landis in 1920, who sold it to George Landis in 1936, the present owner.

#### Wilson Nice Residence

Samuel G. Leidy sold a lot to Alfred Barndt in 1874. He sold it to Jacob Barndt, his father, in 1877, who built the house. He committed suicide by hanging himself in the barn in 1885. The administrator, Alfred Barndt, then sold to the widow, Mary Barndt, in 1886. After her death it was sold to Alfred Barndt in 1898, who sold it to Morris Hildebrand in 1902, who sold it to Wilson Nice in 1924, the present owner.

## Frank Goetter Residence

Samuel G. Leidy sold a lot to Nickolas Glosson in 1876, who sold it to Augustus Holly in 1877, who built the house. He sold the same to Joseph March in 1886. Sheriff Rorer seized the property of March and sold it to Benjamin Dettra, of Reading. He conveyed it to Lizzie March, of Philadelphia, in 1894, who sold it to Sarah Ann Kulp, wife of Abraham W. Kulp, in 1912. The executor of the same sold it to Caspar Weyer in 1918, who sold it to Frank Goetter in 1922, the present owner.

#### The Former Jacob W. Rosenberger

#### Farm, formerly a Musselman

#### Plantation

(The origin described in the beginning of this chapter.)

This was part of the Morris tract. Joseph Fox sold this tract of 252 acres to Samuel Musselman, a Mennonite, in 1752. He devised it to his son-inlaw, Isaac Wisler, in 1774. He sold it to John Wisler in 1794, 105 acres. He sold it to Isaac Wisler, eighty-one acres in 1819. He sold it to Dr. Jacob Lambert in 1866. He sold it to Tobias Rosenberger in 1865, seventy acres, who transferred it to his son, Jacob W. Rosenberger, in 1889. Rosenberger sold the farm in 1919 to a Jewish real estate firm of Philadelphia, who cut it up in small building lots.

Samuel Musselman, the original settler, made provisions for schooling. In his will he states: I give to the poorest and neediest children of the Township of Hatfield the sum of £25 for school books and schooling, £5 a year for five years and if any overplus yearly should be, to be applied for clothing, such poor and needy children which shall accordingly be distributed by my executors.

In later years a school house was erected on this plantation. It was established in 1805 on ground bought of John Wisler. It was built of logs on the corner opposite Bean's store, now the property of Kate Haines. Abraham Sorver, a prominent business man, bought the lot in 1866 and removed the same and built the present dwelling where he lived the remainder of his life. He died in 1893. This property was then sold to Alfred Barndt, who sold to Charles Myers in 1896. His widow afterward kept a shoe store here. She afterward married George Zollers. It was then known as Zollers' Shoe Store.

# Jacob K. Crouthamel Residence

This plot of ground also came from the former Jacob W. Rosenberger farm. In 1869 Tobias Rosenberger sold this lot to Samuel Y. Souder. In 1876 Souder sold it to Jacob H. Crouthamel. Later he established a tailoring business here, as was the custom then to bring the goods ready cut from Philadelphia and then hand them out to customers who made the suits up in their homes. Crouthamel had previously been in business with his brother, Hilary Crouthamel, at Line Lexington, of this same kind as the Hatfield business. He established after the failure of Jacob M. Gerhart. Across the driveway was a large wagon house which he bought off of Jacob D. Rosenberger and moved it over on his lot and converted it into a shop. In 1889 the barns on the James property and Crouthamel and his tailor shop were destroyed by fire. Crouthamel then built a shop made of brick, which his son, Jacob, has converted into a double dwelling. Jacob H. Crouthamel sold to his son, Jacob K. Crouthamer, in 1917, the present owner.

#### The Former Crouthamel's

#### **Block Houses**

In 1869 Tobias Rosenberger sold from his farm one acre, twenty-nine perches, of ground to Samuel Souder, Sr., whereon he erected building and conducted a tailoring business here. He sold the same to Jacob M. Gerhart in 1876. The business went bankrupt and the real estate was conveyed to Jacob D. Rosenberger in 1878. About 1881 or 1882 Joseph Rittenhouse leased the same and opened a store here. Later it was discontinued. Rosenberger then sold the property to Oliver James in 1883. He conducted a tailoring business on a small scale, but went to nothing some time later. In 1898 Sheriff Charles Johnson seized the same and sold it to John Wentz. He sold it to Jacob Crouthamel, Sr., in 1903. He built an addition and made four houses of the same, which were sold to four different owners after his death.

#### Josephine Kretz Farm,

#### formerly Harry F. Kratz

As previously stated, this was a part of the Musselman tract of 252 acres. The executor of Isaac Wisler sold to John Wisler 105 acres in 1819. The administrators of John Wisler sold twenty-four acres to Catherine Wisler in 1830. She marrie i Michael Wireman later. In 1849 Wireman sold to Jacob Rosenberger, the heirs in 1872 sold to Henry R. Kratz. The heirs of Kratz then sold to son, Harry F. Kratz. He sold it to John Conrad Arnold in 1906. Arnold sold to Charles Fluck in 1910, Fluck to Arthur Keller in 1913, Keller to Reuben Keller in 1929, Reuben Keller to Helen Henning in 1932, Henning to Charles Habel in 1935, the present owner.

#### Abraham Wireman Plantation

#### (Part of the Musselman Tract)

John Wireman received this from his father-in-law, Samuel Musselman. John Wireman, the miller, devised a tract of land to his son, Abraham, of 153 acres in 1822. This tract comprised all the properties owned now or late by Morten Cooper, Burton Pinkerton, Charles Heilig, Elmer Ruth, William Williamson, Scott Frazer, Robert Heyman and Wayne Hughes. Abraham Wireman, Sr., died in 1849 and in 1850 the administrators, Benjamin Rosenberger and John Wireman, divided the farm and sold it in two tracts, eighty acres of the southwestern end was sold to Tobias Hange and Enos Ruth the northeastern end, consisting of seventythree acres, was sold by the administrators to son, Abraham Wireman, Jr. He sold, in 1851, twenty-three acres in two tracts to John Wireman, who sold to Tobias Rosenberger. He sold to William Rittenhouse in 1865. He sold to Emma Adams in 1910. She sold to Mike Stanchyk in 1920, who sold to Kostantine Smakula in 1924, who sold to John Morytski in 1925, who sold to Wayne Hughes in 1929. He sold to Nathaniel Brewer in 1942, the present owner.

#### **Robert Heyman**, formerly

#### Abraham K. Fretz

This tract John Wireman bought of Abraham Wireman, twenty-three acres, and sold it in 1872 to Garret Detwiler. John Wireman then bought the property opposite the Consolidated School house, later owned by his son, Henry. Detwiler then sold in 1877 to Collins McNutt, who sold to Henry Price in 1882. He sold to Abraham K. Fretz in 1884. He conveyed to son, Melrose Fretz, in 1917. He sold to brother, William Fretz, in 1920. He sold to Joseph Kulik in 1927. He sold to Joseph Banks in 1938. He sold to Robert Heyman in 1935, the present owner.

#### The Scott Frazer Farm,

# formerly William Conver

Abraham Wireman, Jr., sold twenty-two acres to George W. Jones in 1856. Sarah Jones, administratrix, then sold to Oliver Morris, who immediately transferred it back to Mary Conver, wife of William Conver. The administrators then sold to C. A. Lindenworth, of Philadelphia. Sheriff then seized it and sold to Hatfield Building and Loan Association in 1930. The same year 'vey sold to Anna L. Brooker. In 3 Anna L. Carter, formerly Brooker, back to Hatfield B. & L. Assoc. They sold, in 1934, to George Fiss, who sold to Scott. Frazers in 1936, the present owner.

## William Williamson Residence,

#### formerly Jacob Moore Nursery

In 1856 Mary Jenkins sold to Catherine Reichenbach, wife of Philip Reichenbach, six acres. She was a daughter of Abraham Wireman. This plot of ground wss detached from the Wireman farm of 153 acres. It was next sold to Abraham Fulmer, in 1857, and the Reichenbachs then moved to Illinois, where they died. In 1864 the administrators of Fulmer sold it to William Schewrenbrand, who sold it to David Huber in 1883, Rosina Huber, the same year, to Jacob B. Moore, who sold to son-inlaw, John Dettra, in 1920, who sold to Frank Ryzner in 1926, who sold to Howard Riggins in 1929. He sold to William Williamson in 1940, the present owner.

# Elmer Ruth Farm, formerly

## Squire Kulp's

The southwestern part of the Wireman tract of eighty acres was sold to Ruth and Hange in 1850. It was then divided, Ruth taking the lower part and Hange the upper part. Hange then sold, in 1867, to Ludwig Kramer, who sold to Tobias Rosenberger, in 1873, who then erected buildings. He conveyed it to his daughter, Sarah Ann Kulp, wife of Abraham W. Kulp. In 1912 she sold to son-in-law, David N. Cassel. He sold to John D. Ruth in 1915, thirty-five acres. After his death it was sold to son, Elmer, who since sold a number of lots where buildings were erected.

# Morton Cooper Farm,

#### formerly Jacob Kratz

Enos Ruth, who received this part of the eighty acres after the division of the Wireman tract, had buildings erected. In 1865 Ruth sold to Samuel Y. Souder who sold to John I. Kratz in 1869, who died in 1892. Jacob Kratz, the executor, sold to Henry Reiners in 1906 who immediately transferred it back to Kratz, who sold it to Albert Smith in 1932. He sold it to Morton Cooper in 1937, the present owner.

# **Burton Pinkerton Residence**

In 1857 Enos Ruth sold eleven acres to Jacob Yeakle who in 1860, sold to John Newbold six acres, who sold to Jacob H. Hunsberger in 1881. The administrators of the same sold to Elizabeth Hunsberger, the widow, in 1908. She sold to Malinda Lemon in 1918, who sold to Victor J. Wackerman in 1919. He sold to John Link in 1926. He sold to Hazel Link in 1930. The same sold to Peter Duerst in 1935. He sold to Burton Pinkerton in 1937, the present owner.

#### Charles Heilig Residence

Enos Ruth, who had sold cleven acres to Jacob Yeakle in 1857. He sold on the same date five acres to Everhart Neif, who in same year sold to John Wampold, who sold to Jesse Kratz in 1875. The sheriff then seized it and sold to John Winters in 1878, who sold to Susannah Wanner, wife of Henry Wanner, who in later years gave a guit claim deed to his son, Warren Wanner, who in 1922 sold it to Ella Rice, who sold it to Louise Standenmayer in 1924, who sold to Charles Heilig in 1929, the present owner.

## L. B. Hartnett Residence

Th's was a part of the Wireman tract which the administrators sold eighty acres to Enos Ruth and Tobias Hange in 1867. Hange sold it to Ludwig Kramer. He sold it to Tobias Rosenberger in 1873. Rosenberger to Henry B. Fretz in 1878. Fretz to Abraham J. Fretz in 1902. He then sold to Florence Shay in 1909. Shay to Elwood Hendrick in 1910, Hendrick to Frank Krupp in 1914, Krupp to Robert Keating in 1916. In the same year it was sold to Ervin Algard. He then sold in 1921 to John Soutar in 1922, Soutar to Walter Wunderlich in 1923. He sold to Earl Roberts in 1924. He sold to Benard Hartnett in 1936, the present owner.

#### Some Data of Abraham Wireman

He had married Nancy, daughter of Benjamin Rosenberger, son of John, the pioneer. He had two sons, John and Abraham, and two daughters. John was the father of Henry S. Wireman and John S. Wireman who both lived in Hatfield Borough, after its incorporation which were known by many residents. The two daughters were, Catherine, who had married

Philip Reichenbach, who has been mentioned, moved to Illinois and Ann, who had married Abraham Ruth, who lived back of Kulpsville. He had a son, Daniel, who was lame, which many of the people of Hatfield re-member. Abraham Ruth was the grandfather of Abraham Young, liv-ing in Hatfield Borough.

# Wireman's Mill and Farm

This came from the Morris tract. In 1705 John Morris sold to Richard Taylor 500 acres and Taylor then sold fifty-one acres of this tract to Henry Jones in 1715. The executors of Jones sold the same to Benjamin Griffith on the first of November in 1729, who on the 10th of November, the same year, conveyed it to John Bartholomew. He conveyed it to Michael Wireman in 1741. He purchased several smaller tracts additional. The four tracts then contained seventy-seven and one-half acres. This tract now comprises all the properties from Frank Martins' building (bord-ering the Cowpath road), up to the cross-road leading to Line Lexington, and over to the road, now called Maple avenue, and leading to Hatfield depot. This tract includes the properties of Russell Sturzebecker nurseries, the Brethren Church, the former Hunsberger, now the Hannold farm, the homes of the Fretz's and the Horace Lincoln farm.

Other purchases of land were on the southwest of the Cowpath and southeast of Orvilla road, extending to Schwab's road. The latter tract included the farms of Frank Musizinger, the former Frank Howe farm (which included the log cabin tract), the Seventh Day Adventist Church, and numerous other properties. The grist mill was built on the seventy-sixacre farm along the main branch of the Neshaminy, east of the Brethren Church. When this mill was built is unknown to the present generation, but it was in existence in 1769. In his will, written in 1783, John Wireman, a son, and Sophia, the widow, were appointed as executors. The will stated that the mill property was to be sold at public sale, among his children only.

## WILL OF MICHAEL WIREMAN

Being sick of body, but of sound mind, etc., etc. To my beloved wife Sophia, one bed of her choice, with all the furniture there to belonging, a clock, case of drawers, Dresser in the new end of the house, pipe stove, and her choice of tables, spinning wheel, 2 iron pots, 1 brass kettle, 1 skillet, all the flax in the house, 1 cow, 2 sheep, 1 fat hog, yearly of 100 pounds, 4 bushels of wheat, 4 bushels of rye, 1 bushel indian corn, "the use of the new end of the house",-one half of the garden before the door, 2 rows of apple trees in the meadow, all as long as she is my widow, and 200 pounds in money

To my son John Wireman, 10 pounds and one large book now in his possession.

To my son Henry Wireman, 100 pounds, also my Loom, gears and all that there to belongs, and the bed he commonly lies on, when he arrives at the age of 21.

To my daughter Margaret, 100 pounds,-as my children, John, Barbara, Martin, Mary, Catherine, and Hester, has each had 100 pounds.

My plantation of 75 acres, and the Mill in Hatfield Township, shall be sold at public sale, among my children only.

The estate to be divided into equal shares to the eight children, John-Barbara — Mary — Catherine — Martin -Hester-Margaret and Henry.

I appoint my wife, Sophia, and son, John Wireman, as executors.

Witnesses:

Peter King. Abraham Ruth.

John Funck.

Signed. Michael Wireman Will dated-Jan. 9, 1783 Probated—Mar. 29, 1788

John Wireman then became the owner of his father's farm. He paid 711 pounds for the same. The other lands were divided among his children. John Wireman was the owner of the mill property to the time of his death, which occurred in 1822. His will, written in 1821, states that "all the tract of 76 acres, and the grist mill," he gives to his son-in-law, John Delp, for 1000 pounds, he having married Sophia, one of his daughters.

# WILL OF JOHN WEIERMAN,

Miller

Being considerably advanced in years of age, but in a middling state of health, and of sound mind, etc., etc.

To my son Abraham Weireman, my plantation (two tracts) of 153 acres. One tract now in possession of my son Abraham, and the other in tenure of Michael Moyer, for 1000 pounds.

To my son-in-law, John Delp, all the tract of 76 acres, and the grist mill, at present in tenure of Martin Schwartly, for 1000 pounds.

To my son Abraham, a Weaver's Loom, spooling wheel and all the gears thereto belonging, also a Bible, a Marter Book, sleigh, ten plate stove, and my wearing apparel.

To Nancy Weierman, wife of my son, Abraham, a book called Wandering Soul, and another book composed by Menno Simons. Children: Michael, dec'd. — Barbara. — Sophia, wife of John Delp, Maria, wife of Joseph Holdaman. My son, Abraham Weierman, executor.

Witnesses

: .

Jacob Wisler

David C. Kulp

## Signed-John Weierman. Will dated—Aug. 13, 1821 Probated--Sept. 30, 1822

It is evident that John Delp did not buy the mill property, for it was conveyed to Abraham Rickert, who sold it to Jacob Rosenberger, in 1831, who was at this time the owner of the Chester Knipe farm. Rosenberger died January 12, 1840. His administrators then sold both farms, including the mill, to his son-in-law, Dillman Kulp, in 1841. He had married Christiana Rosenberger. Dillman Kulp, in the same year (1841), conveyed the mill property to George Price, of Lower Salford. The executors of Price transferred the property to George Fisher, which was yet seventy-six acres in 1844. Fisher, during his ownership of at least twelve years, divided the seventy-six-acre farm into many smaller tracts. In 1856, Tobias Hange became the owner, when Fisher conveyed thirteen acres and the mill, including the dam (later known as Reithmeyer's dam), the mill race, and two drive-ways to the mill, one drive on the southeast border of the prop-

erty, and the other along the mill race. In 1864, Hange sold to Henry Whittington, who sold to William Wireman in 1867, who held it for two years, when it was transferred to Charles Weaver, of Milford Township, Bucks County, in 1869. Weaver, during his ownership, added a steam engine. Weaver had financial revorses, and in 1883, the mill was sold by the sheriff to Isaac R. Kulp, a son of a former owner of the mill, Dillman Kulp.

Isaac Kulp was at this time also conducting a feed business, and hay press in Hatfield village. In 1891 the sheriff seized the properties of Isaac R. Kulp and sold the mill property to William Davis. Davis held the mill property for a brief period, selling the same to Clara Titus, wife of Peter Titus, in 1892, who conveyed it to Abraham Gotwals, in 1893. In 1897 Gotwals sold to Amelia Dathe, wife of Frederick Dathe.

# The Dathe Property

As has been previously mentioned, Fisher divided the mill property into many smaller properties. That part of the farm of seventy-six acres, lying along the Cowpath, and the southern corner, was sold to Thomas Martin in 1856, and contained fifteen acres. Martin sold this property to Elwood Land, in 1884. He in 1900, selling it back to Mrs. Martin, the former owner. Mary Martin now sold to Frank Dathe, who later also bought the mill property, now bringing his farm to twenty-eight acres. The house on the mill property had been de-stroyed by fire previor to his purchase.

The grist mill building, long discontinued for business purposes, was now sold to William Hedrick, Hatfield Borough building contractor, who razed the building, using the lumber to build the home of Mrs. Amelia Snyder, at 203 West Broad street, Hatfield. Laura Dathe, the widow of Frank Dathe, in 1907, sold the propto Frederick Bacher. erty Anna Bacher, the widow of Frederick Bacher, sold the farm to J. Carroll Johnston, in 1937, who held it only a short time, when he sold the farm land to Russell Sturzebecker, but retained several acres, and the buildings, which he later sold to Frank Potser, the present owner.

# The Rev. William B. Fretz Home

George Fisher, in 1859, sold six acres of the mill tract to Levi Keller, who built the house. He lived here about five years, when he died, and now, his son, Charles Keller, the ad-ministrator of the state, sold the place to Caroline Kister, in 1865. Caroline Kister, now claimed by death, the administrator, Samuel Kister, sold to John Metz, in 1871. Two years later, in 1873, Metz sold to Tobias Hange, a land speculator, who bought and sold many properties in and about Hatfield village. Hange held this property until his death, when the executors sold the same to Jacob H. Crouthamel in 1885. William Irvin bought the property from Crouthamel in 1891, and sold it the following year, 1892, to William B. Fretz, who held it until his death. Rev. Fretz built an addition to the house and it now houses two families, the estate still owning it (1942).

# The Jacob H. Hunsberger Farm

George Fisher, while still owning the old Wireman mill property, sold twenty-two acres, situated on the southwest side of the mill race, and holding only enough land along the mill race for a drive to the mill, from the Line Lexington road, which this portion fronted, to Jacob H. Hunsberger, in 1858. He had married Isaac Wisler's daughter, owner of Jacob W. Rosenberger's farm. Jacob H. Hunsberger died on November 5, 1904, living on this farm for more than forty-five years. The administrator of his estate, a son, David Wisler Hunsberger, later, in 1908, sold it to another son, Allen W. Hunsberger. In 1917, James Melor became the owner and he held it for twenty-three years, selling to John Hannold, who is at present residing there. The farm buildings are situated about 100 yards from the road, but in the past, buildings were erected along the road, the cellar re-mains, and a well, still being visible. In 1877, a blacksmith shop was situated here, and some interesting ex-

periments were made by Jacob Reithmeyer, an excellent gunsmith, and also blacksmith. He was a German refugee, who arrived in this country about twenty-five years before. A neighbor, and well-to-do farmer, residing at the nearby Howe log cabin, Joseph Ische, conceived the idea, to devise a danger signal to be used by the railroads, showing open switches to the engineers of trains along the course of travel to avoid accidents, for up to this time none were in existence, and accidents were plenty. Ische furnished the financing, to build the signal device, and Reithmayer constructed the mechanism for the experiment, which was erected to the rear of his shop, and along the lane. After much toil, and many try-outs, they decided that the device was a success, so the offi-cials of the North Penn R. R. were contacted, and they were immediately interested, later setting a date for the showing of the danger signal, this being constructed between the Vine street and Main street crossing, and attached to the switch at the mill nearby. The railroad officials were convinced that the demonstration was satisfactory, and later decided to purchase, offering \$75,000 for the idea. Reithmayor wanted to accept, but Ische, who held the controlling interest, held out for \$100,000. They would probably have received the latter sum, but in the meantime, the North Penn was absorbed by the Philadelphia and Reading Company, and now, the new group of owners, announced that they were not interested in their signal device. At a later period, danger sig-nals, somewhat similar to Ische's invention, were erected by the railroad company.

# Horace Lincoln Property

Twelve acres of the old Wireman mill property, lying in the extreme northeastern portion of the seventysix acres, was sold by George Fisher, to Michael Wireman, a grandson of the founder of the mill, in 1849, and was the first sale of the division of the farm. Michael Wireman held the farm for eleven years, when in 1860, he sold to Enos Ruth, who in 1863, sold to Jacob Ruth. Enos Ruth again became the owner, when he re-purchased in 1866, but five years later, or in 1871,

he sold to Simon Gerhart, who held it until his death, when the administrators of his estate, so twelve-acre farm to Joseph B. ....ders in 1904. William Burkert, a former well-to-do farmer, and an authority on Ayrshire cattle, became the owner in 1906, and not liking retired life, soon sold, and in 1910, Ella Bissex became the owner, but in the same year Mrs. Bissex sold to Margaret Pavitt, who sold it the next year, 1911, to Harry Richardson, a Lansdale real estate dealer, who transferred it to Edward H. Bonekemper, a well-known Hatfield Township citizen, but he again transferred it back to Richardson in 1915. Richardson held the farm for seven years, when he sold it to Ambrose Spence, and his wife, colored, of Delaware County, in 1922. This was the first purchase of property in the locality by negroes, but the neighbors state that they were well thought of as neighbors, and thrifty. During this ownership a tragedy occurred when ownership, a tragedy occurred, when Spence and his wife, and another colored visitor, started a quarrel, and the result was that Spence shot the other man, who died from the wound. Spence was arrested, and his wife, who was an invalid, and the only witness, died before the trial. Spence was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to one year in jail. The property was sold by the Sheriff, to Howard Dager, a real estate dealer, who now sold to Mary Benner in 1925. Horace Lincoln, a Philadelphian, purchased the place for a summer residence. He is bricklayer, also a builder of ovens and crucibles. Mrs. Lincoln is a teacher in the Philadelphia schools.

# William Kerr Residence

This was part of the Wireman mill property. George Fisher sold this tract, twelve acres, to Isaac Loux in 1859. He sold it to David D. Rosenberger in 1868. He sold it to William Paugh in 1871. After his death the widow, Maggie Paugh, sold it to Annie Smith in 1909, who sold it to Abraham Thompson in 1920. He sold it to Elmer Cawly Snellbaker in 1921. He sold it to William Kerr, in 1925, the present owner.

# The Former Frank Howe Farm

Michael Wireman owned 140 acres

here. This comprised all the properties from the corner of Cowpath and Orvilla road down below Frank Munzinger, extending to Schwab road, then up to Orvilla road. The origin of this plantation is described in the Wireman mill properties. Michael Wireman purchased this plantation on same date as the mill property in 1741. Michael Wireman conveyed this 140acre tract to his son, Martin, in 1774. He died March 16, 1813, and is buried at Fricks. The administrator was his son-in-law, Daniel Rosenberger. He sold to Abraham Sheip, who immediately conveyed it to Christian Allebach, a son-in-law of Daniel Rosenberger, in 1817. He sold it to Daniel Rosenberger in 1823. He divided the farm among his two sons, seventyfive acres. He conveyed to son, Martin, in 1823. He died October 16, 1866. He was born September 24, 1798. He had a brother, Daniel W. Rosenberger, living in Hatfield village, whom the older people remember.

Martin Rosenberger's children were Daniel R. Rosenberger, who had a farm near Frick's burial grounds, Jacob who had a farm southeast of Kulpsville, Henry and Sophia, wife of Aaron Heckler, and Hannah, wife of Charles Dreisbach, and Christiana. The residence was the log cabin east of the Orvilla church. After the death of Martin Rosenberger, the widow sold the farm to Dr. Jacob F. Lambert, fifty-five acres. He sold it to Joseph Ische in 1867. He sold it to Johanna Schulke in 1877.

# Carl Ludwig Residence

Martin Rosenberger detached nineteen acres and sold it to his son-inlaw, Charles Dreisbach, in 1852. He crected the present house at corner of Cowpath and Orvilla road. Here Dreisbach operated a planing mill for some time. He later worked at Souderton, at Monroe Souder's planing mill, where he was unfortunate in being burned so severely that he died. He had a bedroom fixed on the second floor, where he stayed till the weekend. One night he was awakened by the mill being on fire. The lower story was in flames that he could not get down the stairway. He then tried to get out by one of the windows, and drop himself to the ground, but was

caught by the sash falling on his hands, holding him fast, and was so severely burned that he died nine days afterward, May 15, 1884.

The property was then sold to Jacob H. Crouthamel in 1885. He built a big Swiss barn the same year. The next year, 1886, he purchased the adjoining farm of Johanna Schulke, thus uniting the former tract under one ownership. Crouthamel then sold it to Ella Delong, wife of John Delong, in 1891, now containing seventy-six acres. She sold it to Sarah Vaunatta, in 1894. She sold it to Florence Howe, wife of Frank Howe, in 1895. He conducted a dairy farm of Guernsey cows, established also a creamery. The large Swiss barn was destroyed by fire during his ownership, and another style barn was then built. Howe sold the farm to Walter Nickolson, of Phila-delphia, in 1914. During his ownership, the house was considerably damuged by fire, in 1925. It is now owned by Carl Ludwig. The log cabin was also destroyed by fire, in 1928. The farm is now divided into a number of smaller lots where dwellings have been erected.

### The Frank Munzinger Farm

As previously mentioned, this was also a part of the Martin Wireman tract of the 140 acres. Daniel Rosenberger came into possession of this farm in 1823. After his death the heirs sold to son, John W. Rosenberger, in 1831, forty-five acres. He died in 1838. John Rosenberger had no children. After his death the farm was sold to John Weant. He sold it to Joseph Gerhart in 1848. He sold it to Ann Bunting in the same year. She sold it to Joseph Conver in 1850. He sold it to John Munzinger in 1869. He sold it to son, Frank Munzinger, in 1905, the present owner.

#### **Robert Smythe Residence**

Here Dreisbach erected a double house, which he later sold to two brothers, Charles and Andrew Kline, sons of his second wife. They erected a two-story brick building with the intention of going in the undertaking business, but it seemed it never got beyond the intentions. In 1882 they sold the property to Oliver James. The house was destroyed by fire in 1883. James then bought a property in South Hatfield which was later Crouthamel block houses. The Kline property was seized by the Sheriff in 1896 as judgment against James, and sold to Charles Lippen, of Phiadelphia, who sold to Henry M. Oberholtzer, son of Tobias, in 1897. He razed the brick building used as a shop and built the present house. In 1908 he sold it to Jennie Clark Berry, wife of Edmund Berry, who sold it to Freda Smythe, wife of Robert Smythe, in 1909, the present owner.

#### Frank Munzinger Tenant House

In 1870 John Munzinger sold eleven acres to Jonas Price, who then built the house. In 1885 Price sold back to Munzinger, the present owner.

# **Oliver Kratz Residence**

This was part of Martin Rosenberger farm. After his death in 1866, his widow became the owner. After her decease the heirs of Christiana Rosenberger sold it to Abraham K. Fretz, who conveyed it to Aaron Heckler in 1891. After his death the heirs sold it to Cornelius Heller in 1920. His widow sold it to Oliver Kratz in 1922, the present owner.

#### **Paul Luithle Residence**

This was formed by purchasing several small tracts. John Yeakle, in 1838, sold to Abraham Yeakle, four acres. Another four acres Isnac Oberholtzer sold to Abraham Yeakle in 1846. He sold it to Frederick Hauber in 1866, to George Kistner in 1869, to George Kline in 1906. Kline sold same year to Marquis Rush Benjamin, to William Merriman in 1917, to Paul Luithle in 1921.

#### Milton Delp Residence

This was part of the Martin Rosenberger farm. Tobias Oberholtzer sold to son, Harry Oberholtzer, in 1896, to Harry Hawkins in 1897, to Ida Hawkins in 1904, to William Weiss in 1906, to Julius Jensen in 1920, to Benjamin Swartz in 1921. His heirs to William Hager in 1929, to Milton Z. Delp, the same year.

# Unity House

This was also a tract of the Rosenberger farm. This was sold to Harry C. Hawkins, an attorney of Philadelphia, who built the present house. After his death it was sold to a party who made it into a boarding house. Later it was made into an apartment house.

# Raymond Kratz Farm

This was a tract of 150 acres, which came from the Morris tract, which he had sold to Richard Taylor, as mentioned in the Wireman's mill property. This was sold by Taylor to Morris Davis in 1730. He sold it to Peter Hoxworth in 1740. He sold it to Rudolph Lapp in 1748, who made the first improvements. He sold to Abraham Meyer in 1771. He sold it to Jacob Ruth in 1821, ninety-five acres. The administrator, Henry Ruth, sold it to John M. Rosenberger in 1824, seventy-two acres. He sold to John George Ernst, of Lampeter Township, Lancaster County, in 1828. He sold it to Joseph Kindig, in 1836. He sold it to Joseph Drissel in 1859. He sold to John Kratz in 1864. He sold it to his brother, Eli Kratz, in 1869, now fiftytwo acres. He sold it o son, Raymond Kratz, in 1930, the present owner.

# Harvey Price Farm

This was part of Raymond Kratz farm which was detached when Jacob Ruth owned it. During his lifetime he made an agreement to sell twentyfive acres of his farm to Jacob Wisler. Ruth died before the title was completed. Then the administrators made the final transaction in 1823. Wisler sold it to Morris Davis in 1880. He sold it to Nicolina Spirito, wife of Augustus Spirito, in 1918, the sold it to J. Koch, of Philadelphia, in 1921. He sold it to Charlotte Krout, of Philadelphia, the same year. She sold to Celestine Price, wife of Harvey Price, in 1938, the present owner.

# Frank Martin

This was detached from what is now Raymond Kratz farm. Joseph Drissel, who was the owner at this time, detached nine acres and sold to Tobias Oberholtzer, carpenter, in 1862, who had buildings erected and made premises here. Oberholtzer sold it to Mary Pyle, twelve acres, in 1902. Walter Pyle then sold it to John Sager in 1903. He sold it to Frank E. Martin in 1909, the present owner.

# Michael Uhorczik Residence

Joseph Drissel, who was the owner of the present Raymond Kratz farm, detached seventeen acres from the northeast part of his farm and sold it to Lewis Stong in 1860. He had buildings erected and made a premises here. He sold it to Jacob Booz in 1872. He sold to James Lutner in 1902. He sold the same to William Herman in 1903. He sold to Harry Barkowsky in 1904. He sold to Charles Ebert in 1910. He sold to Wilson Bergey in 1921. He sold it to Michael Uhorczik the same year. He is the present owner.

# The Morris and McIlvain Farm

In 1739 Kinnersly sold 125 acres to Benjamin Rosenberger. This comprised all the properties from the County Line and the Cross road below Line Lexington to the cross road above Line Lexington, including the Roberts residence and Bertha Dulius. In 1744 Benjamin Rosenberger sold this farm to his son, John Rosenberger, who sold the same in two tracts in 1745, forty acres to James Hunter, a storekeeper, of Montgomery, for £60. In 1754 Hunter sold the same to a German weaver, named Jacob Boyer, for £265, who sold to Jacob Ratzel, a tanner. He established a tannery in the triangular piece of ground between the County Line and Turnpike. The tannery was in operation for forty-five years or more.

In 1802 he sold to a young widow named Rachel Dungan, whose husband was a school teacher in New Britain Township, Bucks County. She was the daughter of Benjamin Matthews, Esq., of New Britain. Soon after this purchase she married Isaac Morris, of Hilltown. She opened a store here and resided here the remainder of her life, a period of fifty-five years. She died in 1856, at the age of eighty-five years. She was the grandmother of Oliver Morris, a prominent citizen, who was later the owner of the farm. Rachael Morris devised it by will to John Morris in 1856. He sold to Oliver Morris in 1866. The heirs of the same to Norman Morris in 1921. It is yet in his estate.

# McIlvain Farm, Part of Rosenberger Tract

In 1745 John Rosenberger sold the remaining eighty-five acres of the 125-acre tract to a Welshman named David Rowland, who sold in 1765 to Adam Smith, who soon sold it to Peter Frick. Tradition says he came from Germany in 1750 when a boy fourteen years of age. He bought additional land until he owned 112 acres. By his will he devised the farm to his son, John Frick, in 1812.

# WILL OF PETER FRICK

In the name of God I take my pen to write my last will and testament. I Peter Frick at present dwelling in Hatfield Twp. and Montgomery Co., state of Pennsylvania, Farmer. At present in health and with my costumary intelect and memory make this fifteenth day of July, 1808. This my last will and testament as follows. First, I commit my soul to God and corruptible body to the earth from whence after appointed time will rise again. What now concerns my temporary possession I make open the same as follows. All my property I leave behind to my children and nephews or unkles and a little to Catherine, John's wife.

Now first, the place or all my land shall John my son have for fourteen hundred and five and twenty lbs. and shall pay it in six months after my decease but in case he will not take at this price so shall his brother Michael be entitled to it but if none of them will take it at this price so shall all my land at public vendue at a suitable time of the year as the Gaurdians may agree.

And my son John and his wife Catherine shall be Guardians and I bequeath her with a present fourty dollars and is my will that you Guardians not according to the course of the world with your ways perform

trouble stride over bounds. Moreover I bequeath to my nephews or unkle John's children. First to Jacob 100 lbs., to Peter 94 lbs., to John 88 lbs., to Henry 82 lbs., and to Samuel 76 lbs. To Ann, John's daughter 70 lbs. and I bequeath to my nephews, Michaels children, his son Peter 85 lbs., his daughter Peggy 70 lbs., and his son Jacob 70 lbs. All these legacies shall be paid out of my property after the expirations of six months as above mentioned or interest paid to them. But should there be more children in my life time by my sons be legitmately born so shall each one of them have five pounds less then his youngest brother or sister.

The Guardian and Guardians shall at any time lend out the childrens share or interest (with this proviso) when a safe opportunity offers until they to the age of twenty one years. But should one or the other be taken of by death so shall the brothers and sisters of the decensed divide his portions in equal shares. Now what remains of mentioned devise my sons shall divide in equal parts be it bonds or notes as also book demands house furniture or apparel.

I say you shall divide in equal parts but what concerns unused linnen shall Catherine, Johns wife have. The boards in the barn shall he have that has the place. What concerns the nursery shall he that has the place have one quater when any become his three quaters shall be his childrens and nephews and I nominate my trusty friend Marten Funk as Guardian and appoint the same to see this my will according to the true intent executed and is my will that when John accepts all my land and plantation with all appertaining not otherwise devised at the considerate price so shall this my for him and his heirs and successor or to whom he may make ever be such a good deed or writing as I could give it if I was yet living. All the above I acknowledge as my last will and testament and have with my own hand subscribed it. I above mention and subscriber. Amen. Amen.

Peter Frick

Witness: John Funk Abraham Hunsberger Written in German Probated June 9, 1812

John Frick married Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Rosenberger, son of John Rosenberger, the Pioneer. In 1837 the farm was sold to John Frick, Jr. John Frick, Jr., had a large family, seven daughters and four sons. Sarah married Benjamin Rosenberger, Sophia married Levi Godshall, Mary married Henry H. Rosenberger, a Minister among the River Brethren, Amanda married Samuel Kulp, Emma married Joseph Bergey, Catherine married Henry Delp, Matilda married John Erney. Levi died when a boy of twelve years of age, Aaron married Susanna Godshall, Francis married Susanna Kulp, John married Lydia Crouthamel. In 1862 John Frick, 2nd, sold the farm to son, Francis Frick. He died in 1866 and is buried at Frick's Cemetery. After his death the farm was sold to Charles Craig, of Philadelphia, for \$4,887.00. In 1870 Sheriff Hunsicker seized the property and sold to Thomas Highly, who sold the same year to Joseph Crowson. Sheriff Larzelere to Highly again in 1874. In 1884 Highly to John K. Clymer. It was then occupied and farmed by his son, Harry, for some time. On August 8, 1885, the barn was struck by lightning and consumed. The cows were out in the pasture at the time, the horses were gotten out, but a calf perished in the flames. In 1919 the executor of John K. Clymer sold the farm to Alexander Megis, in 1927 Megis to Victor Motaitis. Then the Sheriff seized the property and sold to Pennsylvania Joint Land Bank of Philadelphia, who sold to Elizabeth Winton in 1934, who then married Edwin McIlvain to whom she transferred it in 1936, the present owner.

# William Sack's Residence,

## Part of Frick Farm

John Frick, 2d, after he sold the farm to son, Francis, retained several acres along the pike whereon he had buildings erected and made a premises here, where he remained the rest of his life. He died in 1884 and is buried at Frick's Cemetery. After his death the executor, John K. Frick, then sold the same to Henry Rosenberger for \$575.00, who two days later transferred it to John Frick, seven acres. After his death, his executor sold to Margaret White, thirteen acres, who sold to John Weigner in 1922, who sold to Edward Bloom in 1924, who sold to Ernest Martin in 1925, who sold to Eugene Rumpp in 1927, who sold to William Sack in 1940, the present owner, now containing four acres.

#### John Roberts,

#### Part of Frick Farm

John Frick in 1837 sold twenty-five acres of the southwestern end of his farm to David Scholl. This strip of land extended from the crossroad coming in from below Line Lexington to the crossroad above Line Lexington. In 1848 Scholl sold the same to Thomas Martin. In 1850 Martin sold it in two tracts, the upper part to Jacob Sher (twelve acres) who sold in 1852 to Jacob Yeakle. In 1860 Yeakle to William Boyer; in 1911 Lydia Boyer administrators sold to Wellington Clymer, who sold in 1926 to Oliver Bloom; who sold back to Wellington Clymer in 1928. In 1934 Clymer to Bucks County Trust Co., who sold to John Roberts the same year, the present owner.

The lower part was sold in 1850 by Thomas Martin to Henry Derr. In 1863 Derr to Conrad Smith who sold to John McClintock in 1867; who sold to Gabriel Campbell in 1870; who sold to Duncan Poole in 1893. In 1895 Robert Floyd to Samuel Seiple, who sold to Patrick Skiffington in 1900; who sold to Michael Stankowich in 1923; who sold to Mikolag Grabowski in 1928; who sold to Adoiph Fandrick in 1929; who sold to Joseph Wisniewski in 1930; who sold to Bertha Dulins in 1932, the present owner.

#### Store Property at Line Lexington

In 1789 Jacob Ratzell sold a lot, nine perches square, on the County Line to William Wray of New Britain Township, Bucks County, for fifty pounds. Wray is termed a shopkeeper. He built a house in 1790 and probably opened a store in 1791. He sold the same in 1791 to Jacob Clemens, who kept the tavern across the road, for 330 pounds. In 1806 Clemens sold to Andrew Trewig for 450 pounds, who held it till his death.

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The administrator, Jacob Trewig, sold it to Rev. John K. Weiand in 1829. Weiand the same year to Henry Shellenberger, who sold to John Nunnewiler in 1844; who sold to Charles Johnson in 1846; who sold to George S. Becker in 1847. Becker to Philip Sellers in 1849. Sellers to Nickolas Rittenhouse in 1858, Rittenhouse to Josiah Umstead in 1861, Umstead to Alfred Acuff in 1864; Acuff to Charles McGrory in 1866, McGrory to Richard J. Hilles in 1868, Hilles to Enos L. Rosenberger in 1870, Rosenberger to Harry Robinson in 1871, an auctioneer and storekceper; Robinson to Henry F. Hackman in 1894, Hackman to George E. Moyer in 1922, Moyer to William Conley in 1927, the present owner. Moyer conducted the store until 1924, when he rented it to the American Stores Corporation, which they conducted to about 1939, when they discontinued it.

## The Weikel Residence

Rachael Dungan detached a plot of ground from her farm and sold to Henry Leidy in 1804. The heirs of Leidy then sold it to Simon Ott in 1859. The administrators of Ott sold to John Barndt in 1894, who immediately transferred it to Henry Weikel. After his death, to Amanda Weikel in 1942, the present owner. There have been a number of houses built on the Frick and Morris farms in the last twenty-five years, which are well known to the present generation and are of no historic value at present.

## STAGE LINE

Prior to the railroads the country was netted with stage lines. The first stage line through Hatfield via the old Bethlehem Pike was established in 1763 by George Klein. The road at that time was called King's Highway, later Bethlehem Pike. The first trip was made on September 10th of that year in what he termed a stage waggon.

He started every Monday morning from the Sun Tavern, Bethlehem, and returned from Philadelphia every Thursday morning, consuming a week in his round trip. Klein sold out in 1766 to Francis Oberlin for fifty-two pounds. Starting place for stage in

In 1792 the stage reduced their time to two days round trip. In 1798 it was reduced to one day. Line Lexington was called at that time Housekeeper. Edward Matthews, a history writer in 1896, states it was called Middletown. This was an important station on this line. A change of horses was made here and passengers were given an opportunity to dine. The stage line continued in operation until some time after the opening of the North Penn Railroad.

## Naming of Line Lexington

As previously mentioned, it was called Middletown because of it being midway between Philadelphia and the Lehigh. At that time a tavern, store and a few houses constituted the village. This name not proving acceptable, much discussion arose as to the selection of another. As this discussion was going on, Henry Leidy, who lived where the Weikel residence is, being a manufacturer of hats, inserted Lexington in the hats he manufactured, in honor of the Battle of Lexington of the Revolution. This decided the question, whereupon a Post Office was soon established by that name, but it was soon discovered that there was another Lexington in Erie County, and so the prefix Line was attached.

#### Matz and Stewart Residence,

## Shooter Tract

John Morris sold 250 acres to William Bevan in 1702. He sold the same to his son-in-law, Abraham Free, in 1735. He died in 1738. It is doubtful if either had lived here. It was then sold to Jacob Shooter in 1740. This tract was located between the crossroad at Trewigtown and the crossroad above Line Lexington, from about where Frick's Burial Ground is, over to about William Kerr's residence. Shooter conveyed the southwest part of this tract to Jacob Weirman some time between 1740 and 1748. At this latter date Weirman conveyed seventy-three acres to Michael Krider. He purchased another tract of twentyone acres in 1750. Krider also purchased one acre of Rudolph Lapp in 1748. These ninety-five acres Michael Krider devised to his son, Abraham, by his will dated July 1, 1761.

1748. These ninety-five acres Michael Krider devised to his son, Abraham, by his will dated July 1, 1761. Abraham Krider, a blacksmith, sold the same to Jacob Cline in 1763 for 307 pounds. He sold to John Klein fifty acres of this tract in 1793 for 271 pounds and five shillings. Klein sold forty-one acres of this tract to Christian Rohr, of Lower Salford, in 1806. After his death Jacob Rohr sold the same to Christian Benner, Sr., in 1830. He sold it to his son, Christian, in 1837, now thirty-three acres. He sold the same to William Rittenhouse, Sr., the same year.

house, Sr., the same year. After his death William Rittenhouse, Jr., administrator, conveyed it to Harry Robinson in 1864. He transferred it back shortly afterwards to William Rittenhouse, Jr. He sold it the same year to Sarah Kahler, wife of John Kahler. They sold to James Gamble in 1865. He sold it to James McKaig in 1871. He conveyed it to Edward McKaig in 1879. His administrator, Amos Allebach, sold it to George B. Kratz in 1908.

He sold it to Gertrude May Zane in 1909. She replaced the present building. Sheriff C. J. Buckley then seiz the same and sold it to Amos Allcach in 1911. He sold to Herman Behr in 1915. He sold to Fritz Shallbruch in 1921. He sold to Walter Stewart in 1923, forty-eight acres, the present owner.

## Russell Matz Farm

Jacob Cline retained forty-two acres from his ninety-five-acre tract. After his death his widow, Barbara, became the owner. In 1808 her son-inlaw, John Rosenberger, sold this tract to John Allebach. He sold it to John Benner in 1816. It was next conveyed to Henry Cassel in 1884. The sheriff seized the same and sold it to Jonas Clymer in 1844.

The improvements were then a log house. Clymer sold it to George Hange the same year. He was the owner until his death. His heirs then sold it to Daniel R. Rosenberger in 1878. Sheriff Stahlnecker seized the property of Rosenberger and sold to George S. Snyder in 1886. The next year Snyder sold it to John Breir (1887). He sold it to Joseph Kaelin in 1894. He sold to Ippolisto Cocchia in 1924. He sold to Ignatius Greenlee in 1926. He sold to Carl Koenig the same year. The sheriff seized the same and sold it to George Young in 1933. He sold to William White the same year. He sold to Melvin Stewart in 1943. Russell Matz is the present owner.

## Northeast End of Shooter Tract

## **Biggs Farm**

Henry Souder bought a tract of 150 acres at a date unknown to the writer. Henry Souder granted to Abraham Oberholtzer, 134 acres in 1773. He transferred the same to Abraham Ruth in 1776. He sold to Jacob Shellenberger 105 acres in 1793. Jacob Shellenberger sold sixty acres of this tract to John Kline in 1804, another tract of fifty acres which John Kline purchased from Jacob Kline also in 1793.

John Kline willed this tract to his widow, after her death it was to be appraised and sold to his grandson, John Klein. In case he should refuse to accept the same it was to be sold and the proceeds divided amongst his children: namely, John Klein and Elizabeth Fretz, wife of John Fretz, and Mary Ann Ruth, equally. John Klein did not accept the offer.

John Klein did not accept the offer. It was then sold to Francis Hartman in 1856. He sold to Isnac Brandt in 1857. He sold to George Thomas eighty acres in 1858. He sold to Conrad Arnold in 1864. He sold to Joseph Hayes in 1873. The next year the Sheriff seized the property and sold it back to Arnold. He sold it again to Louis Martin in 1878. His executor, Wilson Bergey, sold it to Harry Miller in 1917. He sold to Elwood Biggs in 1936, the present owner.

## Henry Roth Residence

Jacob Shellenberger, who had bought 105 acres in 1793 of Abraham Ruth, detached twenty-two acres and sold to Samuel Apple. He sold this to Jacob Rosenberger in 1804. Rosenberger sold to Henry Shellenberger in 1838, twenty-one acres. Shellenberger sold to Isaac Rosenberger in 1840. He sold it to Jacob Reiner in 1844, now seventeen acres. Reiner sold the same to Tobias Rosenberger in 1860.

He sold to Samuel Souder in 1865. He sold to John Kratz in 1869. His executor, Jacob Kratz, sold to Henry Reiner in 1903. He sold to Jacob Moore the same year. He had building erected and made a premises here. It now contained nineteen acres. Moore sold it to Elwood Garges in 1920. He sold it to Fred Dietrich in 1925. He sold to Michael Purri in 1927. He sold to William Edgar Rouke in 1934. It was next conveyed to Henry Roth, nine acres, in 1938, the present owner.

## Randolph Clegg Residence

Jacob Shellenberger sold fifteen acres to Catherine Sheive, widow of George Sheive. She sold to Abraham Hunsberger. He sold to William Johnson in 1796. Johnson to John Fulmer in 1817. Fulmer back to Hunsberger in 1827. His administrator, John Frick, to Daniel Gross in 1850. His administrator, Tobias Miller, to George Priester, in 1858; to Charles B. Martin in 1869.

He made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors in 1883. The

assignee, Jacob Bachman, then sold to Daniel R. Rosenberger in 1884. He was the owner of the adjoining farm. Sheriff Stahlnecker seized both properties of Rosenberger's and sold this to his brother, Jacob R. Rosenberger. He sold to Sarah Rosenberger, wife of Daniel Rosenberger, in 1886, now twenty acres. Her heirs sold it to Ferdinand Scheidegg in 1908 who sold to Oliver Bloom in 1915. He sold it to Antonia Tamerelli, of New Jersey in 1916. He sold it to John Fitzpatrick, of Philadelphia, in 1917.

The house was destroyed by fire during his ownership. He sold it to Harvey J. Cressman in 1920. He built the house. The sheriff seized it and sold to Emil Vetter in 1930. He sold it to Strickler Roach in 1931. He conveyed it back to Vetter again in 1933. He sold again to Joseph Klaumenzer in 1935. He sold it to Randolph Clegg in 1939, the present owner.

## Wellington Clymer Residence

This was a part of the Kline farm. John Kline sold thirteen acres from his farm to Michael Snyder in 1853. He sold it to Louis Tomlinson in 1857. He sold to Philip Sellers in 1861. He sold it to Collins McNutt in 1865. He sold to Garret Detwiler in 1877. He sold to his father-in-law, John K. Clymer, the same year. His executor sold to a grandson, Wellingston S. Clymer, in 1919. He built the house and made a premises here. He is the present owner.

## FARMER AND DROVERS HOTEL AND TREWIGTOWN SECTION

(Called Hatfield Square)

This is known as Trewigtown Hotel, also named Black Horse. In a previous chapter it was mentioned that this part of the Morris tract which was sold to Ebenezer Kinnersley. He sold to Jacob Shooter 125 acres in 1739. This bordered on County Line from the crossroads at Line Lexington to crossroad at Trewigtown. In 1742 Shooter bought 250 acres on the southwest of the first tract reaching over to the road in front of Michael Uhorczik residence, extending up to the crossroad northwest of Frick burial grounds.

Shooter owned the first tract only eight years for in 1747 he sold it to John Morris, of New Eritain, for £200. He sold this tract to Henry Lorah in 1750. This he owned till 1768, at this latter date he is called an Innkeeper. He did not make enough money at this calling or else spent it too fast, for Sheriff Redman, of Philadelphia, seized it and sold to Jacob Leidy, of Franconia, in 1768.

He sold it to George Sheive in 1770, 115 acres for £640. Sheive added fifty acres by purchasing it from Jacob Shooter in 1776. Sheive now owned all the land from the crossroad at Trewigtown over to County Line up to the crossroad at Line Lexington. Sheive sold the whole tract to Henry Keller in 1783. He sold it back to Sheive in 1787. Sheive remained the owner now until his death. Sheive, now growing old, made his will in 1793 and died soon after for the executors sold it to Jacob Snare, of Bedminster Township, Bucks County, seventy-three acres in 1795. He was the proprietor and the owner till his demise. He was also assessed with one slave in 1796 and 1797. He devised it to his sons, William and John Snare. They were the proprietor until they

sold it to Jacob Trewig, seventy-one acres in 1832.

The family of Trewig were unfortunate—towards the close of his life he became insane and died in an asylum. His wife and one daughter also lost their reasoning and became victims of insanity.

Trewig sold his hotel and eleven acres to Thomas Sellers in 1847. He sold it to Charles Hoot in 1855. He sold it to John Slifer in 1857. In 1864 the license was transferred to Jacob Smith. Slifer sold the hotel to John Keller in 1865. Keller then leased the tavern to John Siggins in 1867. Keller sold the hotel to James Clark the same year who sold it to George Wentworth, of Hilltown, in 1869. In 1868 it was leased to John Hackman till 1870. From 1871 to 1880 Wentworth was the proprietor. Charles Lambert leased it in 1881. In December it was leased to J. M. Shelly till 1883.

Then Sheriff Stahlnecker seized the property and sold it back to Clark in 1884 for \$5,600. Clark then sold it to Isaac Tyson in 1885. He was a horse dealer and conducted many horse sales here. Tyson sold the hotel to Henry L. Fretz, of Hilltown, in 1887. He sold it to Herman Gummel, of Philadelphia, in 1889. He sold it to John Yarick in 1891. The Sheriff then seized the property and sold to G. Woody Krauss in 1898. He sold it to Charles Fred Matz the same year. He sold it to Gottfried Heller in 1899. In 1898 it was leased by Wm. Henry Dinlocker. The executor of Heller sold it to Thomas Quinn in 1903. Mary Quinn then sold to Aaron Detwiler in 1911; who sold it to William Deturk in 1913; who sold it to John Richard Casper in 1920. After his death his widow, Rose Casper, sold it to James Burton in 1930. It is now the property

of Elizabeth Albrecht, wife of Alvin Albrecht.

## Samuel Walter Farm

Shellenberger Formerly Tavern. This was part of the Shooter Tract. The house was a log and stone build-ing. In 1776 Jacob Shooter sold fifty acres of his plantation to George Sheive. He was the owner of the adjoining property, now known as the Trewigtown Hotel. In 1783 he sold both properties to Henry Keller. He sold it back to Sheive in 1787. After the death of Sheive his executors sold this tract of fifty-six acres to John Neiman in 1795 for 855 pounds. By all appearances it had been occupied by Neiman before this purchase for he was granted a liquor license in 1793 which he held until 1795. In this year he was indicted for holding a tipling house (Court Record). Jacob Ruth, a constable, was held in £20 as a witness to appear May 11, 1795.

Neiman sold the hotel property to Joel Bryan, of Haycock Township, Bucks County, in 1796. He was landlord until 1802. He sold the same to Philip Shellenberger the same year (1802). He sold it to Conrad Shellenberger in 1821. He sold it to Michael Shellenberger in 1827. He sold it to Jacob Trewig in 1831. At this date it was not licensed any more. The next year Trewig bought also the Trewigtown Hotel in 1832. In 1834 he sold the Shellenberger property to William Snare. He sold to Isaac Rosenberger, of Franconia Township in 1835. He sold it to Dr. Jacob Lambert in 1855. He sold it again to Jacob Trewig in 1856, forty-two acres. His administrators sold it to Albert Phillips in 1861.

He sold it the same year to Enos Frantz. He sold it to Jane McKinlay, of Venango County, wife of Gilbert McKinlay. She sold to Noah Sheip in 1883. He sold it to Elmer Ruth in 1907. He sold the same year to John Chambers. He sold it to Samuel Walters in 1919, now twenty-four acres. Henry Shellenberger was landlord in 1808. Philip Shellenberger was landlord after that year. He was landlord until 1829. After this date the license was discontinued.

## The Mills Residence

Isaac Rosenberger, the owner of the Walters farm, detached three acres from his farm and sold it to Albert French in 1852. Joseph K. Landis sold it to William B. Hill in 1869. He sold it again to Albert French in 1870. He sold it to Ann Clymer, wife of Abraham Clymer, in 1886. The heirs then sold it to Frank Taylor in 1913. He sold it to George E. Moyer in 1916. He sold it to John Reddin in 1922. He sold it to Otto Hentz in 1937. His widow sold it to Jonas Mills in 1938, the present owner.

## The Shotwell Residence

Isaac Rosenberger sold three acres of his farm to Joseph Landis. He sold the same to William Hill in 1869. He sold it to Albert French in 1870. He sold it to Isaac Tyson in 1877. He sold to James Clark in 1885. Mary Clark sold to William Tyson in 1902. The Montgomery Trust Company, guardian of Elizabeth Tyson, sold it to Charles Geikler in 1920. He sold it to Clarence Bragdon the same year. He sold to John Burgess in 1921. He sold to Jane McIntyre in 1927. He sold to John Shotwell in 1942, now containing one acre. He is the present owner.

#### Kerns Residence

This was part of the Rosenberger land. His administrators sold it to Albert Philips. He sold it to Enos Frantz in 1861. He sold twenty-three acres to Jane McKinlay in 1867. She sold it to Christian Kern in 1879. After his death it became the property of Elizabeth Kern, in 1933, the present owner.

## **Boltz Residence**

Gilbert McKinlay sold a lot from his tract to Simon R. Snyder in 1872. His heirs sold it to Wilson Bergey in 1923. He sold it next day to Nicholas Bold. He sold it to Philip Boltz in 1937, the present owner.

## Frank Kleopher Farm-No. 1

Isaac Rosenberger detached eleven acres from his farm and sold it to Frederick Trauger in 1858. He sold the same to William Ewing, of Philadelphia, in 1860. He sold it to Thomas Marshall, of Venango County, in 1866. He sold it to Ephraim Kratz in 1875. He sold it to Ephraim Kratz in 1878. He sold it to Frank Yarrick in 1893. He wrote his name in German, Franz Yorg. He sold it to George Schmelzer May 2, 1895. The house was destroyed by fire about 1897. Schmelzer conveyed it to John Kaufle in 1897, a builder and contractor. He re-built the house and sold the property to Frank Kleopher in 1898, the present owner. Here was operated a bakery for some time.

## Kleopher Property-No. 2

Jacob Trewig sold twelve acres to Henry Essich in 1840. He sold it to Joseph Ratzell in 1850. He sold to Francis Hartman in 1865. He sold it to Caroline Dungan in 1871. Her son, Frank, sold it to George Moyer in 1924. He sold it to Adam Kleopher in 1927. His executor sold it to Esther Moyer in 1937. She sold it to Charles Kleopher the same year. His executor conveyed it to Frank Kleopher in 1943.

## The Fred Weber Residence

John Frick sold seventeen acres to Peter Frick in 1836. He sold to Frederick Faber eleven acres the same year for \$594. Faber sold it to Enos Jenkins in 1840. He sold it to John Hackman, a saddler, in 1846. He sold it to John Bilger, a shoemaker, in 1853. His widow, who afterwards married a Ewing, sold the same to Joseph Musselman in 1870. He sold it to Elizabeth Leidy, wife of Isaiah Leidy, in 1872. She sold it to Andrew Swartz in 1875. His executor sold to John Brinker in 1877. He sold it to Thomas Jones in 1878. Joseph Jones sold it to William Martin in 1897. Wilson Bergey, his executor, sold it to Rezerry Bendette in 1917. He sold it to William Angstadt in 1921, now one acre. The sheriff seized the same and sold it to Bucks County Trust Com-pany in 1931. They sold it to Emilie Pennypacker in 1922. She sold it to Fred Weber in 1938, the present owner.

### Reiner Residence

A part of the Sheive property. George Sheive sold fifteen acres to Emanuel Shittle. He sold to David Reiner in 1799. He sold to Samuel Reiner in 1819. He sold to David Reiner in 1821. He was a turner and spinning wheel maker. In 1890 Sheriff Clinton Rorer seized the property and sold it to William Richardson. His heirs next sold it to Margaret Reiner, widow, in .894. She lived in New Jersey. She sold it to William Reiner, of New Jersey in 1940 Miller Residence Kreamt Owner

This was part of Trewig property. Jacob Trewig sold twelve acres to Lewis Apple in 1855. He sold it to Robert Stoneback, of Philadelphia, in 1858. He sold to Levi Bissel, of New York, in 1865. He sold it to John Mc-Kinlay in 1866. He built the present house. He sold it to Carrie Caun in 1886. Louis Caun sold to John Peebles the same year. He sold it to Samuel Swartley in 1889. He sold it to Isnac Miller, of Philadelphia, in 1911, the present owner.

## Cutler's Residence

Being the same which the Orphans' Court granted to Amanda Mattis and her husband, Jonathan. She being a daughter of Jacob Trewig this grant was made in 1860. She sold thirty acres to James Clark in 1865. Mary Clark sold the same to George Kister in 1904. He sold it to Sallie Ellis in 1908. She died August 12, 1916. She bequeathed it to her daughter, Ida Noll. She sold it to Ethel Kulp, wife of William C. Kulp, in 1917. They sold it to John Stewart in 1920. He sold it to Edward Cutler in 1926, the present owner.

## Elwood Moyer Residence

Jacob Trewig sold nine acres of his property to Samuel Hackman, of Sellersville, a saddler. This transfer was made in 1853. He built the house. He sold it to Henry Rosenberger in 1860. He sold it to Samuel Effrig in 1866. Jacob Schull next sold it to Sarah Seiple, widow, in 1888. She sold to Samuel Bergey in 1911. He divided the same. He sold to C. Wesley Stout one acre in the same year. He sold it to Ida Moyer, wife of Elwood Moyer, in 1917. After her death it became the property of Elwood Moyer.

## The Underwood Residence

This was part of the Hackman property. Samuel Bergey, the owner at this date, sold to William Morris in 1913. He started a cannery here. Later he moved it to South Hatfield. Morris sold the same to Joseph Landis in 1915. He sold it to John Underwood in 1921, the present owner.

#### The Rhinehart Bergey's and Smith

#### Residence and the one owned

#### by B. and L.

This was part of the Trewigtown Hotel property. Jacob Snare sold one acre to Benjamin Lee, of New Britain, a blacksmith, in 1803. His son, Samuel, sold the same to Henry Renner in 1830. He sold to William Snare in 1831. He sold to Dr. Jonathan Evans in 1833. Evans then sold what is now Rhinehart Bergey's place to John Hoxworth, a blacksmith, in 1834. He sold it to Milton Jenkins, also a blacksmith, in 1847. He sold it to John Santman in 1855. He sold to Thomas Dungan in 1857. He sold to Mary Eckhart in 1866. She sold to Jacob Garner in 1866. He sold to Frederick Hillwig, a blacksmith, the same year. He sold it to Rhinehert Bergey in 1912, the present owner.

## Smith Residence

The heirs of Dr. Jonathan Evans sold this property to Margaret Mc-Kinlay, wife of John McKinlay, in 1860. John McKinlay sold it to Rebecca Derr in 1884. Catherine Smith sold it to Elmer Knipe in 1909. He sold to John C. Detwiler in 1911. He sold to Louis Snyder in 1921. He sold to Robert Lee in 1924. He sold to Lilly Musselman in 1927. He sold to George Hendrick in 1928. The widow sold it to James Burton in 1930. The Sheriff sold it next to Albert Gray, an attorney, in 1932. He sold to Willard Smith in 1933, the present owner. also-of-New Jersey, in 1940, the presont-owner.

#### Thomas Pugler Residence

Thomas Reiner sold from his property one-half acre to Lucinda Barthe in 1870. The sheriff seized the property and sold it to Oliver Morris in 1877. He sold it to William Ellinger in 1905. He sold to Adak Irwin the same year. Irwin then sold it to Matilda Kramer in 1908. She sold to Ida Miller in 1918. She sold it to Margaret Harrar in 1922. She sold to Florence Martin in 1933. She sold to Gordon Pierson in 1942. He sold it to Thomas Pugler in 1943, the present owner.

#### The Montgomery Residence

Jacob Trewig, who purchased the Michael Shellenberger farm, detached nine acres and sold to Jacob Steer in 1830 for \$800. He then made a premises here. He sold it to John Leidy in 1851. He sold it to Frank Bigony in 1869, now eleven acres. The sheriff seized it and sold it to Amanda Sorver in 1888. Mary Sorver sold it to Jonas Hinckel in 1893. He sold it to William Morris in 1899. He sold to Frank Steiger in 1911. He sold it back to Morris the same year. Morris sold it again to P. Erwin Swartley in 1914. He sold it to Jacob Clymer the same year. He sold to Nellie Cutler, wife of Edward Cutler, also same year. Cutler sold to William Kohl-haas in 1922. He sold to Walter Byrnes in 1925. He sold to George Quinn in 1937. He sold to Lourie Montgomery in 1940, the present owner.

## THE EASTERN CORMER OF TOWNSHIP

#### The Zimmerman and

## **Crouthamel Farms**

This was part of the Taylor tract which is described elsewhere. Richard Taylor conveyed to Morris David 150 acres in 1715. This tract was located beginning at Montgomery Township line northwest along the Cowpath road to Lenhart road, thence northeast to the late John Lenhart's farm, thence southeast to township line. Morris Davis sold this farm to John Kennard, of Montgomery Township, in 1729. He sold the same to William Morgan in 1730.

He devised 100 acres to son, Andrew, by his will. And he then devised to his children: Daniel and Rebecca, in 1859, who was inter-married to Nathan Harrar. The farm had previously been divided; Nathan Harrar had received the southwest part bordering on the Cowpath road, fifty acres. Andrew Morgan, son of Daniel, sold what is now the Crouthamel farm to John Ford, in 1864, of Gwynedd Township. He sold to Abraham H. Fretz in 1866. He conveyed it to his father, Jacob Fretz, in 1872. He sold it back to his son, Abraham, the next year. He sold to Charles Hoffman in 1880.

Fretz then bought a farm along the Bethlehem pike at Hockertown, in 1882, which is mentioned elsewhere. Charles Hoffman devised this farm to his son, John, by his will in 1921. He sold it to George Crouthamel in 1928, the present owner.

There is a tradition that after the battle of Germantown a number of retreating soldiers were fed here. The first to arrive was an Irishman who shouted, "The boys got the worst of it," or something equivalent.

it," or something equivalent. The Zimmerman farm — Nathan Harrar, who received this part of the farm, fifty acres, by his father-inlaw's will. After his death it was sold to his widow in 1879. Theodore Harrar, her executor, then sold to Franklin Harrar in 1891. After his decease his executor sold the farm to William Zimmerman in 1936, the present owner, now thirty-eight acres.

## THE FORMER DAVIS

### PLANTATION

This was part of the Richard Taylor tract which is described in another chapter of the Morris tract. In 1715 Richard Taylor conveyed a tract of 150 acres to Abraham Hill for the sum of forty-nine pounds. He sold this tract to Richard Davis in 1730 for 100 pounds and according to his will it could never be sold. He devised the same to John Jenkins, of Gwynedd Township. Jenkins devised to his son, Owen Jenkins, the major part, 100 acres in 1805.

The other fifty acres at the northeast end he willed to his son, Jesse Jenkins. This is now the McNaughton residence. Owen Jenkins devised the 100-acre farm to John M. Jenkins by his will written May 11, 1843; probated June 3, 1856. His administrators sold it to Charles Stetson in 1880 for \$10,000.

He, not knowing the encumbrance on the farms, sold the farm to George Mullenhau in 1883. He also did not know the encumbrance on the farm by the Davis will until the School Board demanded their \$53.20 yearly, equivalent to twenty pounds, which was already some years overdue.

Then Sheriff Charles Johnson seized the property in 1896 and sold it to John B. Stetson. He sold it back to Charles Stetson in 1901. He sold to Nicholas Julien and Marie Regli as tenants in common in 1903. They sold half part to August Voegthe in 1913. He sold the whole tract to Susie Ogden in 1915. Jasper Ogden then sold it to Emineld Colburn in 1921.

He sold it to Katherine Mernoff the same year. She had the farm cleared from its encumbrance in 1925, which is described in the chapter on old-time schools. Katherine Mernoff then sold the farm to Jacob Ginsburg in 1927. It was then divided into small building lots which are now owned by various parties.

## McNaughton Residence

This part of the Davis tract John Jenkins devised to his son, Jesse Jenkins, in 1805, fifty acres. Jesse Jenkins devised it to his two daughters, Margaret Jenkins and Priscilla Rhoads, wife of Samuel J. Rhoads, in 1853, now thirty-seven acres. These sisters sold it to Levi Keller the same year. He conveyed it to Samuel J. Rhoads also in 1853. Samuel J. Rhoads willed it to his son, Sylvester, 1894. He died intestate. Then in Franklin Harrar, guardian of Sylvester Rhoad's minor children, sold to John Breir in 1898. His executor, Wilson Bergey, then sold to Louis Kleeman in 1926. He sold to Paul Schlander in 1927, now twenty acres. He sold to George Potts in 1928. He sold to North Penn Building and Loan in 1933. They sold to Lesley Andrew McNaughton the same year, the present owner.

## WILL OF RICHARD DAVIS

In the name of God Amen. The 29 day of January, 1762. I, Richard Davis of the twp. of Hatfield County of Phila. Province of Pennsylvania. Being sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be unto God therefor calling into mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die., do make and ordain this my last will and testament.

That is to say Principally and first of all. I give and recommend my soul in the hands of God that gave it. I recommend my body to the earth to be buried in decent Christian burial at the discretion of my exect. not doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God.

As touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased almighty God to bless me in this life. I give, devise, and dispose of the same in the following manner and form imprimis. I give and bequeath for the encouragement of learning of youth in the twp. of Hatfield the sum of twenty pounds a year towards keeping and maintaining a free school in the said twp. the said twenty pounds to be paid yearly and every year after my decease by my executors or survivors of him and I do hereby appoint constitute and ordain my friend John Jenkins of the twp. of Gwynedd my sole exect. of this my last will and testament of all and singular my lands and messuage and tenements and all my estate real and personal by him to be possest during the time of his natural life to lease out my lands at his discretions and let no waste nor distruction be made thereon and I do hereby impower my said exect. in his life time to choose an-other to act in his place after his decease and second to choose a third and so on forever my said lands to be kept by my said executors one after another without sale intail forever.

The said succeeding or surviving executor to give security for the payment of the said twenty pounds a year for the use of the said school to my trustees hereafter named but if my executors or his survivors should neglect or refuse to choose another in his stead to act after my decease then the said twp. or the major of them to choose one to act as aforesaid my will is farther that my present exect. or any of his successors shall not exact. more than five per cent for any of my money at interest if paid in due time and I make my friends Thomas Davis and John Wright both of Hatfield trustees or overseers of this my last will and testament to take care and see the same performed according to my time intent and meaning said twenty pounds a year to my said trustees or their successors by my executors.

After my decease the said trustees to apply the same for the use of the said school accordingly but in case of the death or removal of one or both of my present trustees the said twp. to choose others in their stead and I do give one acre of and by the great road side by the creek side adjoining James Logan land for the use of said school and I do hereby utterly disalow, revoke and disannul all and every other testament, wills, legacies, requests, and executors by me in any wise before named willed or bequeathed, ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament in witness where I have hereunto set my hand as seal the day and year first above written.

**Richard Davis** 

- Recorded and filed in Philadelphia, February 20, 1762.
- Recorded October 21, A. D., 1884, in Norristown to Isaac Rosenberger, Trustee.

## THE FORMER EVANS

## PLANTATION

David Evans owned a large tract in the eastern corner of Hatfield Township, 753 acres. About 250 acres were in Montgomery Township. The 500 acres in Hatfield he purchased in two tracts, the first he bought from Ebeneser Kinnersly in 1736, two hundred and fifty acres. The next he bought of Theophilus Williams in 1737. David Evans lived in Montgomery Township on the former Moore stock farm. David Evans was born in Wales in 1690 and died September 8, 1763. He was admitted to the membership of the Montgomery Baptist Church in 1719 and became its first deacon in 1722. He is buried at the Montgomery Baptist Cemetery, the epitaph on his tombstone is:

Entombed I am in dust I lie

And wait that blessed morn

When Christ's own voice calls me to rise

To live in light forever.

David Evans had only one child, a daughter, Rachel. She married Peter Evans. He was an esteemed man in the community. He died September 28, 1822, aged 86 years. He was justice of the peace for many years. He was also a physician. After his death the plantation was then divided. This plantation was located from about Montgomery where the Baptist Church is thence northeast to County line, thence northwest to crossroad at Trewigtown, thence southwest to Davis plantation, thence southeast to the church.

The reason this plantation was not divided prior to 1819 is because David Evans devised this plantation to his grandchildren by his daughter, Rachel, which were six, two daughters and four sons. The daughters, Lydia, had married John Roberts, and Sarah had married Dr. William Byran. These daughters received the tract which was in Montgomery Township. On the Evans plantation, however, were four farm buildings long before it was divided. The sons were John, Septimus, David and Peter. John received the lower portion bordering on Montgomery Township. To Septimus was conveyed the Washe farm. To David was transferred the Dubow farm. To Peter was conveyed the Bannon farm.

The lower tract in Hatfield Township was conveyed to John Evans, 138 acres in 1819. The boundaries were beginning at the former Hoffman land, now George Crouthamel's, on township line thence northeast 147 perches to Septimus Evans' land, thence northwest along said land, thence southwest along Septimus Evans' land. The line crossed Bethlehem pike between John Paul's residence and Jacob Ruth over to the former Hoffman's land, thence southeast to beginning.

This tract was owned by John Evans only a few years for he died shortly afterwards. His executors then divided the farm. They sold of the lower end, bordering on Montgomery Township, fifty-five acres, to James Davis in 1824. This tract was located on the east and west side of the Bethlehem pike. Davis then sold this farm to Daniel Rosenberger, of Bedminster Township, in 1847. He was a son of Jacob Rosenberger, the owner of what is now Chester Knipe's farm. He sold the twenty-one acres on the west side of the pike to Charles Haldeman, his son-in-law, in 1867. He built the house where W. H. D. Godshall now lives.

The next year Rosenberger sold the other twenty-six acres on the east side also to Haldeman. This twentysix-acre tract Sheriff William Bolton seized the same year and sold to C. Todd Jenkins in 1868. He sold it back to Haldeman in 1871. Sheriff Jacob Tyson then seized both properties of Haldeman and sold them to Isaac R. Rosenberger in 1882. He sold it to Jacob Staly the next year.

In 1884 the Sheriff seized the same for debts owing to Rosenberger and sold it to Staly again. He sold to William Haus in 1886. He transferred it back to Annie Staly, wife of Jacob Staly, the same year. It was then sold to Andrew Moore in 1889, now containing forty-six acres. After his death the Fidelity Trust Company, acting executor, sold it to John Ridey in 1907. He sold it to George Hough in 1911. To Rachel Ridey the same year. They sold to Joseph Fretz, of Ambler, in 1913. He sold to R. Hayes Dutton the same year. He sold to A. J. Koch in 1921, now thirty-three acres. Sheriff Hamilton next sold to Harry Richardson in 1922. He conveyed twenty-six acres to George Erdman in 1923, the present owner.

## The Upper Part of John Evans Farm

This part of the Evans tract was sold to Jacob Swartley in 1832, sixtyone acres. He died not long afterward for his administrators, Catherine Swartley and Jacob Swartley, sold the same to Henry D. Swartley in 1835. He sold the same to Henry Smith, carpenter of Philadelphia, the same year. His administrators sold thirty-nine acres to Oliver Frick in 1863. To Abiah James the next year. He sold it to Zachariah Leidy in 1869. This part around Colmar depot was then divided into building lots. In 1873 the major part was sold in one tract to Thomas Atkinson, of Doylestown, thirty-three acres for \$10,000. It was then sold to various parties.

## **DuBois Coal and Lumber Yard**

Oliver Frick, owner of this thirtythree-acre tract, sold four acres to C. Todd Jenkins in 1864. He established a feed and coal business here. He went bankrupt. It was then sold to David High in 1872. It was then leased to Isaac R. Rosenberger, who conducted the business until 1882. when his brother, Charles Rosenberger, was admitted as a partner. In 1906 Sheriff Matthews sold the property to James Hadden. He sold it to Amanda Rosenberger, wife of Charles Rosenberger, in 1907. He conducted the business then until 1915 when it was sold by Amanda Rosenberger to W. H. D. Godshall. He sold it to Walter DuBois in 1919, the present owner.

## The Colmar Creamery

Isaac Rosenberger sold one acre of ground to Colmar Creamery Association whereon they built a creamery. It was next sold to Joseph Landis in 1885. He sold it to John Holly in 1886. He sold it to John Sommers in 1925the estate still owning it.

### Colmar Store

Isaac R. Rosenberger sold a lot to George Brecht in 1878 and thereon was erected a building for a store. He conducted the same until he sold it to Theodore Hartzell in 1890—the estate owning it at this writing.

#### Colmar Hotel

Abiah James, of Hilltown, a hotel keeper, bought a tract of fourteen acres of Oliver Frick, in 1864, whereon the hotel is built. He had a liquor license granted June 17, 1868. He conducted the hotel until 1872. He transferred the license in 1873 to Burtis Magill. He transferred next to Martin Eckhart in 1874. He transferred to David Yerkes in 1875. The next year transferred back to Eckhart. In 1871 Sheriff seized the property of Abiah James and sold to his son, Oliver P. James. He sold to Maggie Fiegel, wife of Remy Fiegel, in 1875. The next year the licenses were transferred to Fiegel who held them until 1879.

In that year they were transferred to Abel Young. In 1882 the Sheriff seized the hotel property of Fiegel and sold it back to Oliver James. He sold it to Heinrich Schmidt in 1884. The licenses were transferred to Schmidt in 1885. He sold the hotel to Annie Madgin, wife of William Madgin, in 1895. It was next sold to E. B. Wampole in 1907, containing thirteen acres. Sheriff Louis Nagle seized the same and sold to Henry L. S. Ruth in 1918. He sold the same year to Joseph Fretz. He sold on same date to Samuel Kirk Leedy. He sold to Mervin C. Johnson in 1922. It was next sold by Leidy Aker to Walter Baily on same date. Baily then transferred to Marion Ellis, who conveyed it to Cecelia Baily, wife of Walter Baily, in 1933, the present owner.

## Nicholas Washe Farm

This part of the David Evans plantation was conveyed to Septimus Evans in 1819, one hundred and sixty-four acres. His executor sold to Dr. Jonathan Evans in 1831. He sold to Michael Ash in 1833. He sold to William Wilson in 1836. He sold to C. Todd Jenkins in 1840, seventy-five acres. He made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. They sold the farm to Milton Jenkins in 1873. He sold to Isaac Rosenberger the same year. He sold it to William Eisenberg in 1879. It was next sold to Mary Reyner in 1880. Next year to Henry Chamberlin in 1881. He sold to George H. Danenhower in 1883. His heirs sold to William Dannehower in 1900.

It next became the property of Frederick and George Dannehower. George died in 1919. Then the Penn Trust Company, Guardian of his minor children, sold his share to Frederick Dannehower. He sold to Nicholas Washe in 1925, twenty-five acres, the present owner.

## The Dubow Farm

This part of the Evans plantation reverted to David Evans in 1819, grandson of the above, this contained 164 acres. He devised it to his son, Septimus Evans. Then Ann Evans, his administrator, sold to Esther Evans in 1887. She sold it to Seth Stout, of Cheltenham Township, in 1893. He died in 1898. He devised it by his will to his son, John Stout, who was living on the same. He sold the same to Sigmond Katzianer and Joseph Bespremi, each half share in 1919. They sold it to A. Kock in 1921, ninety-seven acres.

Sheriff Haseltine Lever seized it the next year and sold it to Wilson Bergey (1922). He sold it to William Daly in 1924. The sheriff next sold it to Pennsylvania Joint Land Bank in 1934. They sold it to William Arnett, Jr., the same year. By all appearance he did not come up to the requirements. They sold it then to Samuel Dubow, in 1935, the present owner.

## The John Bannon Farm

This part of the David Evans plantation was conveyed to Peter Evans, Jr., son of Rachel, in 1819, 123 acres. This Peter Evans had two children, a son and a daughter. They both died before their father. The daughter left no issue. The son, George, left a son, Peter, to whom the plantation de-scended after the death of his grandfather, who died in 1832. This Peter Evans made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors in 1879. The assignees, Oliver Morris and Jacob Bachman, then sold the farm to Barclay Walton in 1880. He sold it to Israel Reifsnyder in 1891. He sold to Philip Theobald the next year. He sold it to John E. Lenhart the same year (1892). The barn was destroyed by fire in 1898 and rebuilt by John Lenhart. He sold the farm of eightythree acres to Bertha Pearlstein in 1925. She sold to John Bannon, of Philadelphia, the same year, the present owner.

This plantation, during Peter Evans ownership, was in charge of different persons. In 1785 it was in charge of John Mason, Michael Moyer and Edward Morgan. There was also a grist mill on this plantation, built by David Evans. It was in charge of Benjamin Williams, with twenty-five acres, in 1786. In 1787 to 1790 it was in charge of John Trump with fifty acres. After this date it was in charge, with twenty-five acres, of Peter Evans from 1791 to 1794. After this date it was no longer in use.

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