THE THREE EARLS.

AN

HISTORICAL SKETCH,

AND

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CENTENNIAL JUBILEE,

HELD AT

NEW HOLLAND, PA.,

July 4, 1876.

NEW HOLLAND:
RANCK & SANDOE.
1876.

PREFACE.

This little book contains an historical sketch of the townships of Earl, West Earl and East Earl, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, from their earliest settlement to the present time, together with an account of the proceedings of the Centennial Jubilee held in the village of New Holland, July 4th, 1876, and the oration delivered on that occasion. It is published for the purpose of retaining in a more permanent form than the newspaper and manuscript could afford, the interesting events of the day, as well as the many valuable historical facts which the sketch contains.

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INTRODUCTION.

In the issue of the New Holland *Clarion*, bearing date March 4th, 1876, in an article entitled "How shall we celebrate the Fourth?" attention was called to the fact that in four months the Centennial Anniversary of our National Independence would be celebrated, and it was suggested that a brief history of the "Three Earls," from their earliest settlement to the present time, should be prepared, to be read at the celebration. Subsequently, upon recommendation of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled, Gov. J. F. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, issued a proclamation to the people of the State, dated April 21st, 1876, "inviting them to meet in their several counties and towns on the approaching Centennial Anniversary of our National Independence, and that they cause to have delivered on such day an historical sketch of said county or town from its formation, and that a copy of said sketch, printed or in manuscript, be filed in the clerk's office of said county, and that an additional copy be filed in the office of the Librarian of Congress."

The matter thus suggested was kept before the people by the New Holland *Clarion* and the Terre Hill *Standard*, and a public meeting was accordingly held in Witwer Hall, New Holland, on the 13th of May, 1876, to take the matter into consideration. The meeting was organized by the appointment of Mr. H. A. Roland, as chairman, and A.

W. Snader, esq., as secretary. The chairman briefly stated the object of the meeting, and short addresses were delivered by G. H. Ranck, esq., J. C. Martin, esq., A. W. Snader, esq., D. S. Rettew and Major A. Setley.

The meeting took the following action:

Resolved, 1. That a suitable demonstration be made in New Holland, on the 4th of July, 1876, it being the One Hundredth Anniversary of our National Independence.

2. That a committee of three persons from each district be appointed to gather material for an historical sketch of the Three Earls, narrating the history of said districts from their earliest settlement to the present time, said material to be placed in the hands of an historian to be appointed by the Executive Committee, to prepare said historical sketch.

3. That a suitable person be secured to deliver an oration appropriate to the occasion.

4. That there be an illumination and pyrotechnic display during the evening.

5. That arrangements be made for vocal music during the day, and that bands of music be also secured to enliven the occasion.

6. That a Finance Committee of fifteen be appointed to solicit funds to defray the expenses of said demonstration.

7. That an invitation be extended to the neighboring townships to participate in said demonstration.

8. That an Executive Committee of fifteen be appointed, with power to appoint sub-committees to carry out the foregoing resolutions, and that the chairman of this meeting be chairman of said Executive Committee.

The following persons were then appointed, viz:

Executive Committee—Henry A. Roland, chairman; G. H. Ranck, esq., A. W. Snader, esq., Geo. O. Roland, Major A. Setley, D. S. Rettew, Dr. J. B. Kohler, Rev. John W. Hassler, Rev. D. W. Gerhard, Dr. I. Bushong, J. C. Martin, esq., Adam Geist, B. F. Weaver, esq., Levi W. Groff, Dr. M. W. Hurst, I. D. Worst.

Historical Committee—Earl, Rev. Jno. W. Hassler, Rev. D. W. Gerhard, Geo. Davidson; West Earl, Levi W. Groff, E. Burkholder, esq., Clayton Wenger; East Earl, J. C. Martin, esq., W. H. H. Kinzer, Martin E. Stauffer.

The Executive Committee held various meetings at which the following appointments were made:

Historian—Frank. R. Diffenderffer, esq., of Lancaster city, formerly of New Holland.

Orator—E. K. Martin, esq., of Lancaster city.

Reader of the Declaration of Independence—A. W. Snader, esq., of New Holland.

Committee of Arrangements—G. H. Ranck, esq., A. Geist, Dr. M. W. Hurst, E. G. Groff, esq., E. C. Diller.

Committee on Music—Rev. D. W. Gerhard, George H. Townsley, D. S. Schlauch, D. Styer, J. W. Sandoe.

Finance Committee—Amos Rutter, W. W. Kinzer, James Diller, Addison Reidenbach, I. H. Hildebrand, M. H. Grube, D. S. Kurtz, A. G. Giffen, T. A. Kinzer, Wm. Good, E. H. Burkholder, esq., W. J. Kafroth, esq., Alfred Hornberger, Joel Wenger, Adam B. Groff.

Committee on School Statistics—E. G. Groff, esq.

Committee on Pyrotechnic Display—Dr. J. A. Groff, A. G. Sutton, B. J. Silliman, T. W. Wanner, esq., Jacob Shiffer.

The Committee of Arrangements secured the orchard belonging to and opposite the old Hiester mansion, for the exercises of the day. They also arranged for a grand procession, and appointed as Chief Marshal, Dr. J. G. Moore, who selected as his assistants the following aids: M. H. Grube, H. M. Houser, John Diffenderfer and Moses Weaver.

After the day had been inaugurated by the ringing of the church and school bells, at midnight and in the early morning, the large concourse of people that had assembled,

was called together in front of the Lutheran church, at 12 o'clock M. by the ringing of the church and school bells, after which the select choir of about fifty voices, sung "Before Jehovah's awful throne," to the tune of "Old Hundred," accompanied by the New Holland Brass Band. The procession was then formed in the following order:

Marshal and Aids;
New Holland Brass Band;
Carriages with Historian, Orator and others;
Citizens on foot, Israel Bair, Marshal;
Juniors on foot;
Carriages with 39 ladies in white, representing the Goddess of Liberty and the different States of the Union;
Fairville Brass Band;
Earl Encampment, No. 217, I. O. of O. F., D. S. Rettew, Marshal;
Earl Lodge, No. 413, I. O. of O. F., Capt. I. Holl, Marshal;
New Holland Lodge, No. 441, Knights of Pythias, Geo. O. Roland, Marshal;
Young Men on horseback, H. M. Houser, Marshal.

After the procession had marched and counter-marched through the town, it reached the place selected for the exercises. Here a large stand had been erected, which was tastefully decorated with wreaths, flowers and numerous American and foreign flags. The number of persons present on the occasion is estimated to have been about 1000. The exercises were conducted under the auspices of the Executive Committee, Mr. H. A. Roland, presiding, according to the following

PROGRAMME.

Music—by New Holland Band.
Music—by the Choir, with organ accompaniment,—"My country 'tis of thee."

Prayer—by Rev. J. F. Mower.
Music—by the Choir, "God bless our native land."
Music—by the Fairville Band.
Declaration of Independence—by A. W. Snader, esq.
Music—by the Choir, "One hundred years ago."
Historical Sketch—by Frank. R. Diffenderffer, esq.
Music—by the New Holland Band.
Music—by the Choir, "Star Spangled Banner."
Oration—by E. K. Martin, esq.
Music—by the Fairville Band.
Music—by the Choir and New Holland Band, "Before Jehovah's awful throne," by special request.
Doxology—by the whole assembly, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

The celebration was closed in the evening by the grandest pyrotechnic display that was ever witnessed in this section of country. It is estimated that about 2000 persons were present, all of whom appeared much delighted with the splendid exhibition.

The succeeding issue of the New Holland *Clarion* closed its account of the celebration in the following appropriate manner: "Altogether the Centennial Jubilee of the "Three Earls" was a splendid demonstration. The order was remarkably good; all the exercises in the orchard were listened to with marked attention; the music, both by the choir and bands, was universally admired, and in every respect the celebration was grand, and future generations, as they read how the patriotic citizens of the "Three Earls" re-affirmed in 1876 the glorious Declaration of 1776, will admire the enthusiastic love and fealty which we manifested towards our blood-bought liberties."

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

THE expenditures for the Centennial Jubilee were as follows:

Fireworks,	$135.38
Flags, shields, bunting, sashes, &c.,	29.90
New Holland Band, supper,	7.00
Fairville Band, meals and wagon hire,	24.25
Printing posters, hymns, &c.,	11.00
Carriage hire,	4.00
Lumber, labor, &c.,	6.78
Total,	$218.31

PRAYER

OFFERED BY

REV. J. F. MOWER, PASTOR OF NEW HOLLAND CIRCUIT, U. B. CHURCH.

O Lord, we acknowledge Thee the Father of Nations as well as the Dispenser of Events. Thou art above all and over all, God blessed forever more. Thou art the Creator and Preserver of all things. Heaven is Thy throne, earth is Thy footstool. The heavens declare Thy glory, the earth sheweth Thy handiwork. Thou alone art the sovereign ruler of nations.

We thank Thee to-day for that all-wise providence which has led and preserved us for one hundred years. We thank Thee for the blessed results of the same. We bless Thee for a free country, for free government, for institutions as free as the air we breathe, for religious liberty, for Bible teaching as bright as the noonday, as free as the morning.

We thank Thee for the past century, and humbly trust Thee for the opening one. May Thy special blessings rest upon us during this our centennial year. Let Thy blessings richly rest on the centennial celebration. Bless our visitors from distant lands. Help us as a Christian nation, while the eyes of many nations are upon us, to set a Christian example that shall favorably impress nations yet under the dark influence of heathenism. May the present centennial celebration result in a closer union of nations. We thank Thee for the peace that now exists. May strife

and enmity cease, and peace and union be preserved. Bless our country to-day while a free people unite in celebrating our great centennial independence. Bless the President of the United States and his constitutional advisers, the Senators and Representatives in Congress. Bless, we pray Thee, the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania.

We ask Thy blessings to rest upon the ministry of our land. Help, that the voice of the pulpit may be heard reverently condemning sin of every shade; and we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord, God of Heaven, deliver and preserve our country from the baneful, degrading influence of infidelity. May the Bible be recognized and received by all men everywhere as the only inspired revelation of God's will to men; and unto Thee, O Lord, through Him who hath loved us, will we ascribe all praise now and forever. Amen.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

PREPARED BY

FRANK. R. DIFFENDERFFER.

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

THE prudent business man at certain periods of his busy career, pauses for a time amid the toil, the rivalry and the contentions of his calling, and endeavors to ascertain the measure of success he has attained. In commercial parlance he takes an account of stock, and the result shows to him whether the preceding period has been one of profit or loss, whether he has increased his capital or diminished it. But this is not all; these pauses in his commercial life are productive of other and even more valuable benefits; they reveal to him the errors and mistakes of the past, and thus furnish him with an invaluable guide in the prosecution of future speculations.

In this year of grace, 1876, and on this the natal day of American independence, the people of this great country have seen proper to assemble in their collective capacity in the metropolis of this the Keystone State, to celebrate the Centennial of their national life. The nation has deemed its one hundredth birthday a fitting time to take an account of stock—if we may so call it—to prepare a summary of its lusty boyhood, to exhibit the progress it has made and the results it has achieved, and to bring into striking prominence the manifold agencies through which all these marvellous events have been accomplished.

So, too, in a like manner, the people of the THREE EARLS are this day met to overhaul the log-book of their past history, to revive the already dim and fast-fading me-

morials of their ancestors, to recall their struggles, their trials and their triumphs, and to preserve from further oblivion the story of that long-gone time, when the broad and smiling acres which now greet our eyes on every side, were still covered with one dark and almost unbroken forest, traversed only by savage beasts and still more savage men.

In the preparation of this brief sketch, more difficulties have been encountered than were at first anticipated. It was believed materials for the purpose were both abundant and easily accessible. These expectations have not been realized. The facts have demonstrated an altogether different state of affairs. No efforts have been left unattempted, and no labor has been spared to collect such particulars as would serve to throw light on the early history of these townships; but the results have indeed proved meager and unsatisfactory. Time did not allow of such a canvass of the district as might have brought to light the old papers and records which, it is hoped, may still be preserved by the descendants of the early pioneers. The Colonial Records, as far as published, and the Pennsylvania Archives, have been carefully examined, and while taken up in a great degree by state affairs generally, and also largely with county concerns, they are almost silent concerning township matters: a few brief and unimportant notices only were found in them relative to this section. When we reflect, however, that more than one hundred and fifty years have rolled away since the first settlers entered these townships, it will not seem so strange that so little has come down to us, relative to the first period of their colonization. Not every second man kept a diary in those days as he now does; there was not a newspaper sent forth from every village as there now is; not every metropolitan town had its Historical Society as it has now, with

scores of active members ever on the alert to gather passing events and to preserve them. The men and the times were as unlike those of to-day as the liveliest imagination can fancy. The intellectual activity that has planted a school-house on almost every hill top, was then unknown and unthought of; it came with the peace and prosperity of later times. But we anticipate: let us turn back the page of history one hundred and ninety-four years and see under what auspices the land of William Penn was founded.

That spendthrift monarch, Charles the II. of England, among other debts he was unable to discharge, owed the sum of £16,000 to Admiral Sir William Penn; the latter dying, left this unpaid claim to his son William: he, after vainly endeavoring to procure its payment, finally proposed to the impecunious monarch, to accept in lieu thereof, the wild and unsettled lands lying within the bounds of this state. It was not often that King Charles was able to pay his debts without money, therefore he gladly accepted Penn's proposition, and in 1681 was granted the charter conveying this magnificent domain to his Quaker subject. In the following year, Penn came over. Under the boughs of a spreading elm tree, at Shakamaxon,* he met the red men of the Algonquin race, and there, as the shrill winds of autumn whistled through forests shorn of their summer beauty, was made that great treaty with the tribes of the Delaware, the Schuylkill, the Conestoga and the Susquehanna, which Voltaire has eloquently described as "the only one the world has known, never sworn to and never broken."

*The district of Kensington now occupies the place known as Shakamaxon—an Indian word meaning "Field of Blood," from a famous Indian fight that once occurred there. The "Treaty Tree" stood near the western bank of the Delaware: it was blown down on Saturday night, March 3rd, 1810: in form it was wide spread-

Let us now inquire what manner of men they were who crossed the Atlantic to found this empire in the new world. With Penn, and before him, came Englishmen of his own faith: these were the founders of Philadelphia, in 1682. They were speedily followed by Welsh, Scotch, French and Irish emigrants, who settled themselves on the outskirts of the already rapidly spreading civilization. While the earliest settlements within the borders of the Commonwealth were made by these men, the Earls were settled by people of another race and another faith. As perhaps three-fourths of all those who are this day here assembled, are lineal descendants of these latter, it will not be amiss for us to investigate whence they came, and why they forsook the civilization of Europe for the virgin forests of America.

On the banks of the Upper Rhine, lie two provinces which have become memorable in the annals of two worlds. These were, 1st, the Lower Palatinate, commonly known as the *Pfalz am Rhein*, lying on both sides of that river, and 2d, the Upper Palatinate or *Ober Pfalz*, on the eastern side. These were for centuries, and are to-day, among the most fertile and best cultivated regions of Germany. The doctrines of Luther and Zwingli took firm root in the Palatinate. The sturdy race that inhabited it, was among the first to accept the grand principles of the Reformation —that wonderful event, marking the era whence untrammeled intellectual and religious freedom was first recognized as the inalienable birthright of men. We all know how, from the very first, the Papal Hierarchy determined to sweep Protestantism out of existence in torrents of fire and blood. Nowhere was this inhuman and irreligious

ing, but not high; its girth was 24 feet, and its age, as indicated by the rings of annual growth, 283 years. The treaty made here was one of amity only—not for the sale or cession of lands.

decree so fully carried out as in the Palatinate. Again and again were these unfortunate districts overrun by a fierce and dissolute soldiery, who offered the alternatives of recantation or extermination. When at last Louis XIV, by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1689, swept away the last vestige of religious freedom, his armies not only overran the Protestant French provinces, but the Palatinate also. Those great Captains, Turrenne and Tilly had previously burnt scores of its cities and villages, but the flames that once more spread over the land, exceeded a hundred fold, all that had gone before. Melac and Montclas, the generals who now ravaged it, laid a thousand hamlets in flames, and left the country almost depopulated. In mid-winter, while deep snow covered the ground, the former laid waste the fields, destroyed the vineyards and burnt the dwellings of half a million people, who were left shelterless and starving. The sun has never gazed on a scene of greater desolation or one more sad and pitiable.

Yet, while looking with dim eyes on the ashes of their once happy but now desolated homes, their hearts bleeding with a sorrow beyond the power of words to paint, they refused to recant or adjure the faith for which they had already suffered so much. Need we wonder, therefore, that in a single year 30,000 of these persecuted Palatines left the land of their birth, the "Fatherland" so dear to the German heart, and sought quiet homes in the land of Penn? What were the hardships of the New England Pilgrims compared with those of our forefathers? The right of free worship, it is true, was denied them, but did they look on blackened hearthstones, on fields laid waste, and a land drenched with the blood of friends and brothers? Nothing of all this; and while we can never too much extol their self denial, their independence and

their courage, still we must say, their sufferings seem almost trivial beside those of the heroic race from whom we claim descent. It is an ancestry of which we may well feel proud. We, their descendants, have forgotten or fail to remember their trials and sufferings in the days of old. Not so, however, with those who still abide in the old home beyond the sea. The traveler who to-day visits the vine-clad hills of the Palatinate, will often hear the farmer call his dog "Melac," "Melac," in detestation of the memory of the inhuman butcher of that name, who, two hundred years ago, made the castellated Rhine run red with innocent blood.

FIRST SETTLERS.

As early as 1700, roving and isolated Indian traders had found their way to the banks of the Susquehanna, within the present bounds of Lancaster county, and carried on a profitable traffic with the natives. The first resident settlers came about the year 1708 or 9; they were Swiss Mennonites, and families from the Lower Palatinate, and took up their abode on the northern side of the Pequea creek.* They were speedily reinforced by fresh arrivals from the Palatinate, and Huguenots, and soon quite a number of settlements grew up around them.

On the Conestoga and Octoraro, other colonies were speedily founded. It was not until 1717, however, that pioneers found their way into Earl township. This honor belongs to Hans Graaf, a Swiss refugee, who arrived in Pennsylvania in 1696, and after remaining for some years in the vicinity of Philadelphia, first located in the Pequea

*Im Jahr 1709, kamen etliche familien von der Pfalz welche von den vertriebenen Schweizern abstammten und liessen sich nieder in Lancaster county.—*Eby's Geschichter der Mennoniten*, p. 151.

valley. While in pursuit of his strayed horses he found his way into what is familiarly known as *Groff's Thal*, within the limits of West Earl township. Pleased with the country, he had his wife, children and chattels conveyed thither, and located on the stream now called Groff's Run, where he soon after took up land.*

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*The survey of this land was made on October 4, 1718, and calls for 1160 acres: on the 28th of February, 1724, he bought 250 acres from Martin Kendrick and Hans Herr, who had purchased 5000 acres from Penn, on the 22d of November, 1717. Under these two warrants there were surveyed to him, in a single tract, on a branch of the Conestoga, (Groff's Run), 1419 acres, on October 10, 1727, and for which a deed was made to him by Thomas Penn, on November 18, 1737. This deed, after reciting the circumstances of the survey, goes on and makes transfer—"of all mines, minerals, quarries, meadows, marshes, savannas, swamps, cripples, woods, underwoods, timber and trees, ways, waters, water-courses, liberties, profits, commodities, advantages, hereditaments and apurtenances whatsoever, to hawk and hunt, fish and fowl in and upon the hereby granted land and premises." The price paid for this goodly tract of land was £141, 18, 0, and one English silver shilling quit rent for every one hundred acres, to be paid annually on every first of March, in the city of Lancaster. Ascertaining in some way, that his tract did not contain the full number of acres called for by his deed, he asked for a re-survey, which was granted on October 16, 1742, when 91 additional acres were given him as shortage.

As he was the earliest settler in these townships, so also was he the wealthiest citizen at the time of his death, in 1746, and I therefore append, as a matter of curious interest, the inventory of his estate as filed by the appraisers; it is as follows: "A true Inventory of all the Goods, Chattels and Credits of Hance Græf of Earltown in the County of Lancaster and Province of Pennsilvania, late Deceased, made & approved the fifth day of May 1746, by us whose names are hereunto Subscribed. *Impris.*

	£	s.	d.
His Wearing Apparell	5	16	3
" Riding Mare, Saddle & Bridle	15	18	0
To Horses, Mares and Colts	82	0	0
" Horned Cattle	22	0	0
" Sheep	2	15	0
" Swines	0	19	0
" An Old Waggon	5	0	0
" Little Waggon	3	15	0
" A Big Waggon	12	10	0

This Hans Graaf was a man of more than ordinary force of character: he was the principal person in the new

	£	s.	d.
To Ploughs, Harrows, Swingletrees	2	19	0
" Bibles & other Books	8	14	3
" Trinking Glasses & Tin Ware	0	2	6
" Lanthorn, Lamps &c	0	11	6
" Sheers & Knives	0	16	6
" Earthen Ware	0	13	6
" Hog Grease	0	3	4
" Other Grease	0	14	2
" Kettles & Pans	3	2	0
" Cooper Ware	1	18	0
" Earthen Ware	0	8	4
" Wooden Dishes & some Wooden Ware	0	6	0
" Little Spinning Wheel & a Big Wheel	0	18	0
" Flax—30 pounds	1	2	6
" Dry apples & bee hive	1	1	6
" Wheat	6	10	0
" Rye	0	10	0
" Oats	1	10	0
" Buck Wheat	0	4	6
" A Chest, Ropemaker Tools, Sithes, Potter tools & Bell	2	11	0
" A Wolvestrap	0	15	0
" Straw Knives & Sithes	19	0	0
" Bags	2	13	0
" Riddles & two Steelyarts	1	8	6
" Sickles and Some other things	0	15	0
" A new saddle	1	6	0
" Chist and several old things	0	15	0
" Baskets	0	4	6
" A Hand Screw, Hatchets, Hamer & other things	1	13	3
" Several sort of Tools	2	3	8
" Honey	0	12	0
" Leather	1	1	4
" Bottles & Old Chist	1	0	6
" A Clok	3	15	0
" Five Blankets	2	10	0
" A Spoon Mould	0	8	0
" Beds	6	11	0
" Table Cloaths & some pieces of Linnen	3	2	10
" Linnen Cloath & Linsey Wolsey	9	15	3
" Linnen Cloath	5	16	10
" Sithes and other things	2	17	6
" Horse Geers	2	13	0
" Gold Scales	0	15	0
" 20 pounds of Wool	1	6	0

settlement that sprung up around him, even to the time of his death, in 1746: his name frequently occurs in the Colonial Records: he was one of the persons named to lay out the "King's High Road," from Lancaster to Philadelphia, in 1733. Along with many others, he was naturalized on October 14, 1729, in the third year of the reign of George II. He had already built a mill prior to 1729, and when in that year the township was organized, the citizens honored both themselves and him, in giving his

	£	s.	d.
To Spectaculs	0	8	6
" Bedtick	0	3	6
" 3 chests & other things	1	1	0
" A Mortar	0	4	5
" Wool Cards	0	3	0
" Vinegar & the Cask	0	9	6
" Block Saws & other Iron Utensils	2	4	10
" Bees	1	15	0
" Grind Stone & other things	0	12	6
" The Windmill	2	10	0
" The Cutting Bog	0	10	0
" Boards	2	19	0
" A Chest	0	16	0
" Some Iron	1	2	2
" Smith's Tools	9	0	0
" A Rop & 2 Kittle holds	0	7	0
" An Iron Plate	1	5	0
" Yearn of Tow	1	5	0
" Credits	123	0	0
" The Plantation	300	0	0
" A Heckle	0	12	0
" Pewter	7	18	2
Total amount	£648	8	10

Appraised by Christian Waggoner, Christian Sensenig, Michael Whitmore, Jacob Summay.—Copy from the Original in my Office. Thos. Cookson, D. Regr."

I am indebted to the kindness of Levi W. Groff, esq., for permission to examine the large mass of papers in his possession relative to the matters here treated of. At his hospitable home, the curious visitor may yet see a number of the articles mentioned in the inventory, brought from the Fatherland, and now preserved in a spirit of reverence that is worthy of widely extended imitation.

name Graaf, in its English equivalent, Earl, to the new district. The foundation stones of the cabin he built in 1718 are yet to be seen in the barnyard of his lineal descendant, Levi W. Groff, who owns and resides on the old homestead.

In 1721, other colonists located on Mill Creek; the precise spot I have been unable to ascertain, but it was southwesterly from Groff's Dale, and perhaps within the present limits of Leacock township. Fresh arrivals rapidly augmented this settlement, and following the stream eastward, they soon arrived in Earl: as early as 1734, the springs along the northern and southern slopes of the Welsh mountains had owners; the Martys and Ellmakers were among these. In 1724 another settlement was begun, and again by Swiss and Palatines, in "*Weber's* Thal," now "Weaverland," and within the present limits of East Earl. Among them were the familiar names of Weber, Guth or Good, Martin, Schneder, Miller, Zimmerman and others. These were chiefly Mennonites, to which creed many of the people of that region still remain attached. Their nearest neighbors were a colony of Welsh, who located in Chester county in 1722, but had extended their settlement as far westward as where Churchtown now stands. The Morgans, Edwards, Jenkinses, Davises, Joneses, and Evanses were among those pioneers.

While colonies had thus been founded, both in what are now the bounds of West and East Earl, up to this time no white men had effected a settlement in Earl proper. In the summer of 1727, the ship William and Sarah,* sailed from Rotterdam with ninety families of Palatines, numbering in all about 400 souls.† They arrived in Phila-

*Col. Rec. III. 390.

†When large bodies of Germans came together they were almost invariably accompanied by a clergyman. Along with these 400

delphia in September of that year: among them were two brothers, Alexander and John Diffenderffer; the former settled in Oley, Berks county, while the latter, in 1728, loaded his family and household goods on a wagon owned by one Martin, of Weaverland, and at length came to a halt beneath a spreading oak in the near vicinity of the present New Holland.

His neighbors at Groff's Dale and Weber's Dale kindly aided him in putting up a rude cabin, wherein to shelter his family. These same kind friends supplied him with flour and meat for his immediate necessities, and a Mr. Bear generously gave him a cow. This was the humble beginning of New Holland, the metropolis of the Earls, but at that day known as *Saeue Schwamm*. This very suggestive name was applied to a narrow strip of low land, lying immediately north of the present town, and now in the ownership of the Hoovers, Mentzers and Rolands. John Diffenderffer was not left long alone in his woodland solitude: in the course of a few years, quite a number of other Germans located in the neighborhood. Among them were the familiar names of Stone, Brimmer, Diller, Brubaker, Koch, Roland, Sprecher, Mentzer, Kinzer, Ranck, Weidler, Becher, Luther, Bitzer, Schultz and many others, all of whom are to this day represented by numerous descendants.* The youthful colony must have increased

Palatine emigrants, came the Rev. George Michael Weis, a German Reformed minister, and a graduate of the university of Heidelberg. He was a learned divine, a fine scholar and spoke Latin as readily as his mother tongue.—*Hazzard's Reg. of Pa. XV. p.* 198.

*The Zimmermans, Rudys, Wolffs, Witmers, Smiths, Stauffers, Millers, Seigles, Shultzes, Styers, Hoffmans, Keysers, Wengers, Kochs, Schmidts, all came over in 1727. The Shirks, Eshlemans, Rancks, Stoufers, Seylers, in 1728. The Reifs, Bowmans, Keisers, Kochs, in 1729. The Nagels, Hesses, Meyers, Oberholsers, Bears, Kilians, in 1730. The Eckerts, Mummas, Mulls, Freys, in 1731. The Musselmans, Holls, Stegers, Rudys, Benders, Schlaughs,

rapidly, as we find that no less than seventy persons communed with the Lutheran congregation of this place, in 1748, which would indicate a population of several hundred, although it is more than probable that many of them were from the adjacent settlements, where, in the absence of any church organizations of this denomination, such privileges were not obtainable; just as the Presbyterians of Caernarvon traversed the Welsh mountain to attend the parent church in Pequea, or those of the Reformed church gathered at Zeltenreich's.

Sprechers, in 1732. The Winters, Wanners, Brimmers, Summys, in 1733. In some cases as many as a dozen persons bearing the same name, came in the same year, and each succeeding year brought more of the same name. The spelling has in nearly every instance been changed to that now in vogue.

It is a very common error to suppose that all those of the same name in a certain district are descended from a single ancestor. This mistake prevails very generally in these townships, and throughout the county. Hardly any name can be mentioned among the German emigrants, that is not represented by dozens and often scores of duplicates of the same, who followed each other over in rapid succession. For instance, I have seldom seen a Groff or a Herr, who did not claim to be a lineal descendant of those early pioneers, Hans Graaf and Hans Herr: this is a pardonable weakness, but will not bear the test of strict historical scrutiny: these names and that of Guth or Good, appear on almost every ship's list, and it might perhaps stagger the faith of these claimants if they were asked what has become of all the offspring of the other Graafs and Herrs who followed the first ones of these names? Did only these first ones leave descendants? May not the scores of other Graafs and Herrs who came to Pennsylvania, also have had children, and if so, what has become of *them?* This argument, if pressed home, would, I fear, rule out many who believe they can trace their ancestry to certain early settlers.

Unfortunately, hardly one in a hundred of all the toiling thousands who sought refuge and homes in the land of Penn, has left written evidence, through which alone the claims of his living lineage might be authenticated. The Hoovers, living near New Holland, are among these fortunate few: their ancestor was Johan Ulrich Huber, one of the 33,000 who at the invitation of Queen Anne, in 1708-1709, left Germany for England. These unfortunates were mostly dependent on the bounty of the citizens of

Lancaster County was legally established in the spring of 1729. On the ninth day of June following, a county meeting was held, and the names and boundaries of seventeen townships were then established by the people and magistrates assembled for that purpose: of these, some are now incorporated with Dauphin and Lebanon counties. Earl township was tenth on the list, taking its name, as has already been stated, from the first white settler within its limits. The boundaries and name were confirmed by the Quarter Sessions Court, held on the 1st of August ensuing. The following is a transcript of the original entry in the court docket: "Earl township:—Beginning by Peter's Road by Conestogoe creek, being a corner of Leacock township, thence up Conestogoe creek by the east side thereof, to the mouth of Muddy creek, and up Muddy creek to the Indian Path, thence along the southern branch of Peter's creek to the brow of Turkey Hill, thence south-

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London and the appropriations of Parliament, for subsistence: of these 7000 returned to Germany; 10,000 of them died from hardships, need of proper food, lack of medical attendance and other causes. On December 25, 1709, 4000 were embarked on ten ships and sailed for New York: after a six months' voyage they reached that city on June 14, 1710: no less than 1700 died on the passage: the survivors were encamped in tents on what is now Governor's island: in the fall 1400 were sent up the Hudson to Livingston Manor, while some seventy orphans were apprenticed among the people of New York and New Jersey. Those who went up the Hudson were under bonds to serve the Queen faithfully, to manufacture tar and other naval stores, in order to repay the charges of their transportation and subsistence. This colony proved a failure: they were imposed upon, while their situation and treatment were both unsatisfactory. Gov. Hunter resorted to violent measures to enforce obedience. Some 150 families went to Schoharie valley and settled: after a ten years' residence there, their titles were proved defective, and both lands and improvements were taken from them. Some came to this county in 1719, and among them Johan Ulrich Huber (now Hoover), who settled on land near New Holland, where quiet and prosperity at length rewarded him, and where many of his numerous posterity still reside.

erly on a direct course to the north-east corner of Thomas Edward's land, and by the said land southerly over Conestogoe creek to another corner of P(enn's) land, thence on a direct course to the corner of the west line of Nathan Evan's land, then by the said land and along southerly to the top of the mountain; thence westerly along said mountain by Salisbury line to David Cowan's west corner, thence to Peter's Road, and along the same to the place of beginning." However plain these boundaries may have been to those who located them, they seem a little indefinite to us, and a surveyor would have a tough and puzzling time of it, to run those lines now. At the same time, Constables, Supervisors and Overseers of the Poor were appointed for the townships just organized. The first constable for Earl was Martin Grove;* no supervisor nor overseer of the poor was named; this circumstance may doubtless be explained by the fact, that the public roads were too few and unimportant to require the services of a supervisor, and that the number of the indigent and needy was so few as to not require overseers; at all events, we give ourselves the benefit of this supposition. Edward

*The township constables for a series of years, beginning in 1762, when the earliest kept record begins, were as follows: 1762, Henry Stouffer and Peter Baker; 1763, George Gehr; 1764, Frederick Sparr; 1765, Abraham Forney; (this same Forney having appeared at the regular term of court in November when the roll was called, and afterwards absented himself without permission, was fined ten shillings, along with twelve other delinquents). 1766, Jonathan Roland; 1767, Andrew Gehr; 1768, Joseph Gehr; 1769, Henry Landes; 1770, Joseph Gehr; 1771-72-73, Valentine Kinzer; 1774, William Reynolds.

In 1767, the regularly licensed innkeepers in Earl, were George Hinckle, Geo. Staley, Abraham Forney, Christian Schwartzwelder, Martin Soyer and Conrad Bartling. The first named took out licenses regularly for a long series of years: when his name disappears, that of Ann Hinckle, doubtless his widow or daughter, takes its place: if experience has anything to do with the matter, we may safely infer she "knew how to run a hotel."

Edwards was, in 1739, appointed pound-keeper of the township: he and the constable already named, are the first township officers of whom there remains any record.

The Court proceedings of those days do not give any clue, whereby the cases from the several districts might be separated; we have, therefore, no means of knowing whether the people of Earl were more peaceable or litigious than those of other portions of the county. A large majority of the cases tried were for assault and battery; in all newly settled countries, that seems to be the prevailing type of public disorder. We must not forget they were then the subjects of a king, and the trial proceedings were opened in the following manner: "*Dominus Rex vs John Doe:—at a Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held at Conestogoe, for the county of Lancaster, the fifth day of May in the third year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, George the second, by the grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, etc., etc.*" That formula did not suit their descendants a generation later, and at certain military conferences held at Lexington, Trenton and Yorktown, a more democratic one was substituted, which is still in vogue, and we devoutly wish may continue to be, for many generations to come.

TOWNSHIP DIVIDED.

For a period of 104 years, the boundaries of Earl township, as already given, remained unchanged and undisturbed: the increasing population, and the inconvenience arising from its great area, made a division necessary. A petition was accordingly addressed to the county Court to that effect. On August 18, 1828, viewers were appointed: their names were William Gibbons, Adam Reigart and Christian H. Rauch. Their report was in favor of a

division, and was confirmed on November 18, 1833, the new township being called West Earl, while the old township continued to be called Earl—sometimes East Earl. There being a considerable sum of money in the township treasury at the period of separation, the newly created district claimed its share, but the parent township failing to see the matter in the same light, an adjustment of the difficulty was reached through the medium of the Courts, which awarded a pro rata dividend. A further subdivision was petitioned for eighteen years later. Samuel Eberly, John L. Sharp and Adam Keller were appointed viewers to inquire into the propriety of dividing Earl—alias East Earl township. They reported recommending such divison on July 23, 1851: their report was read and filed on August 19, 1851, and confirmed by the court on the same day.* The area of the township, as originally defined, was 43,986 acres,—a principality in itself. Inasmuch as for more than one hundred years—and those the most important and interesting of their history—the Earls were a single, individual township, it has been deemed proper for the purposes of this sketch, to attempt no divisional history; they were the same in manners, customs and government, and in a general sense, what we shall say concerning them is as applicable to the whole township in its entirety as to any particular parts thereof, and not to these townships only, but also, in a measure, to the county and the state at large.

No sooner were the county and township organized, than large numbers took out licenses to trade with the Indians.

*A recently published Atlas, which professes to give a complete and accurate historical summary of the county from original sources, literally abounds in errors, and they of the most inexcusable kind. In relation to these townships we are told they were divided in 1833, whereas East Earl was not separated from the parent district until 1851.

This seems, even then, to have been as profitable a business as it is to-day in the far west, if what we hear is worthy of credit. The liquor traffic was a still more inviting field: our early settlers evidently were not converts to the doctrine of total abstinence. The records show that in 1732, at a single term of court, no less than forty-eight persons were authorized to sell liquor in the county. Even "crooked" whisky was not an unknown commodity: in 1786, one Joseph Miller, petitioned to have remitted the heavy fine that was put on him for making 425 gallons rum, and fifty gallons wine, and forgetting to send in the proper returns: unfortunately, there was no Bristow at that time, and his petition was granted. The temptation to trade and sell whisky to the Indians was too great to be resisted, and the courts were continually bothered with petitions for the remittance of fines imposed for this offense. Even Justices of the Peace, who should have set a better example, were of this number. Kind and observing neighbors and friends, were always ready to advise the authorities of these little shortcomings.

LANDS TAKEN UP.

Nearly all the early settlers "took up" land, as it was called, that is, purchased a certain number of acres from the Proprietary. Penn himself did not sell in small quantities, but those who bought large tracts resold to others. The price established was about ten cents per acre, with a small quit rent:* it is hardly necessary to say, none is to

*Penn's published price for lands was as follows: 5000 acres, free of all Indian incumbrances, for £100, and one shilling quit rent for every 100 acres: the quit rent was not uniform in all cases and could be extinguished at the time of purchase by paying £20 in addition to the original £100 purchase money. Lands were also "rented" to such as could not buy, at 1d. per acre, no single renter was allowed to take more than 200 acres. All quit rents, except in "manors," were abolished by an act passed November 27, 1779.

be had here at that price now! As the Palatinate was one of the best cultivated districts of Germany, so too, did this and the adjacent townships soon become the most thrifty and prosperous portions of the state. Tillers of the soil in Europe, the Palatines and Swiss knew what lands to select upon their arrival here. We never hear that the Germans in Earl asked the Colonial government to exchange the lands they had taken up, for others, because the forests were too dense, or the timber too heavy, as tradition says was done by some other settlers in the northwestern part of the county. As farmers, they knew too well such were the best lands, and always sought them.* Not all of them, however, took up lands in the regular way. James Logan, for many years the Colonial Secretary, says in one of his letters, "the Germans squat on the best tracts of land, and rarely offer to purchase—after a while they pay when challenged;" in view of the vast number of patents issued to Germans, this would seem to be an exaggeration on the part of the worthy secretary. He also intimates if so many came over they would "soon produce a German colony here, and perhaps such a one as Britain once received from Saxony, in the fifth century."†

These rents, in the course of time, produced the Proprietary a very large revenue: "the annual income of the proprietaries, (in 1755) from quitrents, groundrents, rents of manors and other appropriated and settled lands, was nearly £80,000."—*Bancroft Vol. IV.* 192.

*Governor Thomas said of these settlers in 1738: "This Province has been for some years the asylum of the distressed Protestants of the Palatinate, and other parts of Germany; and I believe it may truthfully be said that the present flourishing condition of it is in a great measure owing to the industry of these people: it is not altogether the fertility of the soil, but the number and industry of the people, that makes a country flourish."—*Col. Rec. IV.* 315.

†Watson's Annals XI. p. 255.

That a great many of them were very poor, is true. These were known as "Redemptioners"—persons who, upon their arrival here, were obliged to sell their personal services for a term of years, to repay their passage money. In 1722, we read some of these were disposed of at £10 each, for five years' servitude. A MS. of the times says "many who have come over under covenants for four years, are now masters of great estates." Some of the Redemptioners here in Earl became prominent and wealthy citizens: it was no bar to wealth or respectability.*

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS.

As has already been said, no road supervisors were appointed when the township was organized, as was done in some of the others: the natural inference is, that there were few roads within the Earl limits. There were, however, three prominent highways of which mention is made prior to the township organization, but no facts relative to the time when they were "laid out" have been ascertained. Perhaps they were originally Indian paths only, and afterwards converted into highways. These were, first, the Horse Shoe Road, running east and west, upon which New Holland is built, and the road upon part of whose course

*There was no fixed price for the services of Redemptioners: the age, health and strength were considered. Boys and girls served from five to ten years or until they became of age. All children less than five years of age could not be sold; they were assigned gratuitously to such persons as were willing to raise them. Parents were often compelled to do with their offspring, what they had at home done with their cattle, sell them. Children were obliged to assume the payment of their own and their parents' passage money, in order that the latter might be released from the ship. In many cases the well-to-do emigrants were held liable for the passage money of the poorer ones. This wrong was practiced for upwards of fifty years, and through it innocent persons were frequently empoverished.—See note to *Rush's Manners of the Penna. Germans p.* 8; *Col. Rec. IV.* 586; *Penna. Arch. IV.* 472; *Gordon's Hist. of Penna.* 300.

the New Holland Turnpike now rests. The second was known as the "Paxton Road;" the village of Hinkletown is traversed by it, and it is now known as the Harrisburg and Downingtown Turnpike. The third was the "Peter's Road," leading from the Conestoga to Pequea, and crossing the Horse Shoe Road about two miles west of New Holland. Tradition—ever an unsafe guide—says it derived its name from a well known friendly Indian, called Peter, who, in his excursions across the township, followed this road; but history more truthfully tells us that Peter Bezalion,* a French Indian trader, whose grave is to be seen in St. John's Episcopal church-yard at Pequea, traveled it often and bequeathed it his name. The necessities of the settlers soon demanded others, and a number were petitioned for within the next few years. Naturally enough, the mills were the objective points, and nearly all the roads laid out from 1740 to 1775 were from the few early roads to certain mills: "to mill and market" was the usual reading of the petitions.

Of these mills, quite a number were in existence as early as 1760: among them were Rein's mill, Henry Weaver's mill, Greybill's mill, Carpenter's mill, Peter Light's mill and William Douglass' mill. It would be an interesting study for local antiquarians, to determine the sites of these early establishments. For a time the mills nearest the

*France and Great Britain being at war, the French Indian traders within the colonies who visited the various tribes, were regarded with suspicion. I find, therefore, that our friend Peter Bezalion and another trader named Le Tort (also French, and who had recently been in Canada), were called before the Provincial Council at Philadelphia, on June 17, 1703, "and obliged to give security in five hundred pounds Sterling, that they should behave themselves as good Subjects of the Queen & of this Govmt. & hold no correspondence whatsoever with ye Enemy, but at all times during ye War make best Discoveries they could of all designs that should come to their knowledge agst this Govmt. or any others of ye Queen's Subjects."—*Col. Rec. Vol. II. p.* 100-1.

early settlers were those on the Brandywine, whither they often went for meal. It was not an uncommon thing for a settler, in these townships, to load several bushels of wheat on his horse, take it to Downingtown and exchange it for salt.

In November 1733, the "Kings High Road," from Philadelphia to Lancaster, was ordered to be laid out: the persons in charge were directed to mark out a space thirty feet wide and grub the underwood from a space of fifteen feet. This, although not a township road, was nevertheless of vast importance to those citizens of Earl whose business took them to Philadelphia; it further proves at how early a period great highways were made from the chief city of the province into the remote interior.*

An artificial road from the Blue Ball tavern to the borough of Lancaster, was approved by Governor Simon Snyder, in 1810: the Commissioners named in the act, having certified that thirty and more persons had subscribed for 122 shares of the stock, the Governor by letters patent, bearing date of March 3, 1812, created the subscribers into a corporation, called "The President, Managers and Co. of the New Holland Turnpike Road," which title was, in 1856, changed to "The New Holland Turnpike Road Co." Four miles of the road having been completed in 1816, examiners were appointed by the Governor, and upon making a favorable report, the Company was authorized to erect gates and collect toll: a second section of five miles was completed during Gov. Hiester's administration in 1823, and accepted by him. The road was not com-

*As a matter of interest it may also be stated here, that the Lancaster and Philadelphia turnpike was commenced in 1792 and finished in 1794, at a cost of $7,500 per mile or a total cost of $465,000: it was the first macadamized road built in the United States, and at one time much used by the people of these townships.

pleted until 1825. The first toll-money was received in July 1816, and the first dividend declared in 1839. By an act passed May 1821, the Governor was authorized to subscribe for $5000 of the stock in behalf of the Commonwealth.

LAWS AND PUNISHMENTS.

Being a colony of Great Britain, the system of English laws prevailed; these were, in many instances, barbarous enough. It may not be uninteresting to recall the kinds of punishments that were visited upon our ancestors, when they unfortunately got into the clutches of the law. Burning in the hand, placing in the pillory, cutting off the ears, lashes on the bare back, and nailing to the whipping post by the ears, were some of the inflictions visited upon offenders, for what we would now call trivial offenses. Lashes on the back was most in favor, and there was hardly a session of court held, without at least one example of this kind; women as well as men, were paid in the same coin. For certain offenses, the criminal forfeited all his property and goods to the Commonwealth. In cases where the offender was unable to comply with the pecuniary part of his sentence, the sheriff was directed to sell his services to the highest and best bidder, until the judgment was satisfied. Incredible as it may seem, these laws remained on the statute books until 1786.*

*We append two cases as examples, copied from the docket of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

Dominus Rex vs. John Wilson } At the November term 1738, for passing seven counterfeit ten shilling bills, was sentenced by the Court "to be set upon the pillory, and then have both his ears cut off, and be publickly whipped on his bare back with thirty one lashes, well laid on, and forfeit the sum of £100, to the Government, one half to go to the discoveror, together with costs of prosecution, and stand committed to the common goal of the county till the same be performed."

At the February term, 1766, Ann Fen was tried and convicted

A large majority of the settlers of these townships were men of little education and culture. They were sons of toil, and in the absence of proper advantages, seldom rose into wordly distinction. Their daily struggle for existence, left them little time for mental training. Our wonder is, that with so many drawbacks, they accomplished so much. Their views were often narrow and contracted, and innovations of most kinds were steadily opposed, or else but tardily adopted. Even the English language, which, from the beginning, was that in which all the business of the Colony and Courts was transacted, found no favor with them, or even with their descendants, until a period within the memory of men still living. The Lutheran and German Reformed churches, for many years, successfully, but unwisely, resisted the introduction of English in their church services. In the parish schools that were so frequently connected with the churches, only German was taught: still, the leaven was at work, and produced good results in after years.*

Fortunately, the colonists were still fired with the same deeply, religious views and feelings, that caused them so many troubles in Europe; and when they could indulge these views unquestioned here, they gave outward expres-

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of the felony of altering a bill of credit, knowing the same to have been fraudulently altered in its denomination with intent to increase the value thereof: she was sentenced to stand in the pillory one turn, between the hours of 9 and 12 in the forenoon; that she have both her ears cut off and nailed to the said pillory; and that she be whipped at the public whipping post with thirty-one lashes; that she pay a fine of £100, to his Honor the Governor, discharge the costs of prosecution and stand committed until the sentence be carried into prosecution.

*"There is scarcely an instance of a German, of either sex, in Pennsylvania, that cannot *read*: but many of the wives and daughters of the German farmers cannot *write*."—*Dr. Rush's Manners of the Penna. Germans.*

sion to them, in the organization of congregations, and in the building of churches and school-houses.* Not all were ignorant and unlettered. Their pastors were men educated in the universities of Germany and Holland, and wisely turned the minds of their parishoners in the direction of a more generous culture. The result was the erection, at an early period, of numerous school-houses, where public instruction was afforded at certain seasons of the year. Of some of these schools, all traces have been lost; but others more fortunate, have sent their light down to us through all the vanished years. A large log school-house is known to have stood at Laurel Hill as early as 1765,—how much earlier is uncertain: it served as the school-master's residence also. This building was replaced by a stone one about the year 1810, which in turn, was torn down in 1867: the ground is still held for school purposes. The first log church, at Zeltenreich's, is also known to have been used as a school-house; the date is uncertain, but it was probably even of an earlier day than the one at Laurel Hill. A school-house was built in Weaverland in 1772. There was also one built in Hinkletown, near the former residence of Dr. Isaac Winters, shortly after the close of the war of independence; it was a stone structure, and stood until about fifteen years ago.

Jacob Carpenter taught the first known school in West Earl; it was kept in his own house for some years, stand-

*"All the different sects among them are particularly attentive to the religious education of their children, and to the establishment and support of the Christian religion. For this purpose they settle as much as possible, together, and make the erection of a school-house and a place of worship, the first object of their care. * * * Such has been the influence of a pious education among the *Germans*, in Pennsylvania, that in the course of nineteen years, (this was written in 1789), only *one* of them, has ever been brought to a place of public shame or punishment."—*Rush's Penna. Germans. pp.* 34–35.

ing near the present site of Bolmartown: this was soon after the Revolutionary war. Shortly afterwards, a log school-house was built in Bolmartown, another at David Martin's, and a third at Kemper's, on the Conestoga. These were the earliest West Earl schools, and like all the rest, were built by the voluntary contributions of the citizens. Not so bad, that, for Pennsylvania Dutchmen!

THE NEW HOLLAND SCHOOL-HOUSE.

In the whole school history of these townships, we find nothing more laudable, than the enlightened and praiseworthy movement organized in New Holland in 1786, to permanently establish an English and German free school. Fortunately, the record-book is still in existence, and is circumstantially minute concerning the early beginnings of the enterprise; it is in itself a history, and as all the other schools were doubtless built by the same means, and in the same way, a brief account will not be uninteresting. The movement originated with the Rev. Mr. Melzheimer, and a few more public-spirited citizens. Two subscription papers were prepared, one in German and the other in English, and circulated. The names on those papers show that there were about 133 original subscribers, besides others, who afterwards contributed. There is hardly a name known among us here this day, that is not found on that roll of honor. The money raised by direct subscriptions amounted to £109. 10. 9. But this is not all; there are other lists, where such as were unable to contribute money, gave either building materials or else their personal services. Lime, logs, sand, stones, laths, boards and rafters were among the articles given. The names of men who at sundry times worked at digging out the cellar, are gratefully recorded, and we are told, that as the citizens gave these volunteer workmen their board, "the cellar was completed without little or no charge." Would we be ready

to do as much to-day? Perhaps not. After the building was erected, certain carpenters gave one or more days' work gratis, to make desks and benches. "Mess. Steeman, Albright and Laun, of the borough of Lancaster, were so kind and obliging as to print, free of charge, about eighty hymns, to be distributed among the people, and to be sung by the school youth in vocal, musical order." Sixteen enlightened rules were prepared for its government. This school-house was formally dedicated on the 26th of December, 1787. On the morning of that day, "the scholars, singers, ministers, trustees, elders, and church-wardens of the Lutheran and German Reformed churches, and the members of those churches, and a number of persons—English and German—of other religious societies, assembled at the Parsonage," and from thence marched in an orderly procession to the school building. There was vocal music, an appropriate prayer, a suitable oration, and then "an elegant, argumentative and eloquent discourse was preached." Upwards of 700 persons were present. A debt remained when the building was done, and again did these true men put their shoulders to the wheel, to make it up. Thus was this log school-house, 35x40 feet, and two stories high, built. Around that country college with its single professor, how many pleasant memories cluster? Many of us got our early training within its oaken walls, and while it seems humble beside its stately successor, let us, while life lasts, cherish the memory of it and its revered founders.*

*The introduction of the free school system in 1838, in a measure superseded the necessity for this school, which, with a few interruptions, had been kept up until then. For a time thereafter, the School Directors of the district used the building as a public school-house. By an Act of the Legislature, passed in 1857, the building and ground on which it stood, were directed to be sold, and one half of the proceeds of said sale were to go to the La-

Another public-spirited movement, and one of a more recent date, may be noticed in this connection. It is the large clock which the enlightened liberality of the people has placed in the tower of the recently built school-house in New Holland. Few country towns anywhere, boast of such an enterprise, or one of more general, public convenience.

EARLY CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS.

At this distant day, and in the absence of authentic historical records, it is difficult to determine where and when the earliest church congregation was organized, or the first house for public worship built within these townships. It is unlikely that the colony planted in West Earl by Hans Graaf, should have been long without some regular church organization. The same may be said of the settlement in Weaverland, in East Earl. The well known character of these people, and all their traditions, forbid such a supposition. Still, we have no record to bear out this opinion, and in the absence of such, we can only say

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theran church, and the other half, together with three fourths of the funds in the hands of the Trustees, was to be placed on interest, until the sum should reach one thousand dollars, after which time the income thereof, or as much of it as the majority of the Trustees might think proper, should from time to time be applied to the support of one or more public schools in the village of New Holland, to be open and in operation during such periods of every year as the common schools shall not be in operation, and under such rules as a majority of the Trustees might order and direct.

· Under this act the property was sold on August 1, 1857, for $1060. The half of this sum added to the three fourths in the hands of the Trustees, amounted to $777.39, which was placed at interest up to the present time. At the beginning of the present year, the principal and interest having amounted to the sum of $2100, it was decided by the Trustees to use the income thereof, in opening a school, and employing two teachers for a period of two months, when the common free schools were closed: to this school only children between the ages of six and twelve years were to be admitted. This has accordingly been done, and the results of the good work wrought nearly one hundred years ago by our forefathers, are thus still making themselves manifest among their grateful posterity.

if not the first, then among the first was the Lutheran congregation in New Holland. The register of this church goes back as far as May 1, 1730, which, it will be remembered, was only two years after this town was founded. John Balthasar Wundrich, son of Matthias Wundrich and his wife, is the first baptismal entry in this record, and bears date of 1730. Various concurring circumstances go to prove, that the entry was made by the Rev. John Casper Stoever,* who served this congregation, and one at Muddy Creek, until the close of the year 1746. The number of communicants at the first recorded communion service, held in 1748, was seventy. At times the church had a stationed pastor, and at others, was supplied from abroad. Among the earlier pastors were the Rev. Tobias Wagner, from 1749 until 1755; Rev. Mr. Stoever, from 1755 to 1758; Rev. Samuel Schwerdfeger, from 1758 to 1763; Rev. W. Kurtz, from 1763 until 1781: during the pastorate of this clergyman, at the Easter Communion, in 1770, the number of communicants was 178, the highest number the church has ever had, at any one communion, down to the present time. Among the names on that list, are the well known ones of Miller, Lightner, Brimmer, Rhoads, Kinzer and Duchman, all of which are still represented on the church books through their descendants, who have held to the faith of their fathers.

On May 18, 1744, John, Thomas and Richard Penn, the then proprietors of Pennsylvania, conveyed to Geo. Swope, Wendle Sweeker, John Borger, Nathaniel Lightner and Michael Rein, by letters patent, four acres of land for the

*Rev. Johann Casper Stoever was born in Strasburg, Germany: he arrived in Philadelphia in the ship *James Goodwill*, in September, 1728, along with ninety other Palatines. He was a pious and learned man, and was for many years pastor of the Lutheran church in Lebanon, near which place he died May 13, 1779, aged 71 years, 3 months and 2 days.—*Rupp's 30,000 names p.* 13.

use of the congregation, and upon which the old parsonage was afterwards built, and which, with various additions, still stands on the northern side of the town. The earliest church building was of logs, and no date of its erection has been preserved. The corner stone of the old stone church was laid in April, 1763. After this church was built, a considerable debt remained unpaid: to extinguish this and also to build a school-house, the congregation was authorized by an act of the General Assembly, passed on May 20, 1767, to raise the sum of £499. 19. by means of a lottery. This fact is one of much interest, inasmuch as it proves the importance attached by the early German settlers to the cause of education.* The corner stone of the present edifice was laid in 1850.

The next oldest church organization in these townships of which the records have been preserved, is the German Reformed Congregation of New Holland, but which at the period of its formation, in 1746, was known as "Zeltenreich's Kirche," a name still borne by the church that now stands on the spot where this congregation first worshipped. That the people of this denomination at Earltown, were occasionally visited by itinerant preachers, prior to this date, is more than probable; but the written record dates from 1746. The first baptisms recorded are those of children named Stone, Besore, Becher, Diffenderffer, Seltenreich, Miller, Davis and others. The first settled pastor was the Rev. J. B. Reigart, in 1748; the Rev John Wald-

*See Appendix A. My attention was called to this fact by Samuel Evans, esq., of Columbia, Pa., to whom I would here make acknowledgment for this and other favors: filled with the acuteness, zeal and industry of the true antiquarian, no man in the State is better qualified to write what is still a desideratum, a good history of Lancaster county, and it is to be hoped he may yet find time to give to the public the abundant materials he has accumulated in the course of a life-long study of our local history.

schmidt—great grandfather of the Rev. J. W. Hassler, the present worthy pastor of the Lutheran church of New Holland—became pastor in 1753:* he remained only two years, and for a time thereafter, the congregation was served by supplies from Lancaster and elsewhere. There was also lay-preaching and other religious services, conducted by Leonard Stone, who introduced the practice of calling the people together when there was no preacher. In 1760, George Seltenreich sold for a nominal sum, a lot of ground to the officers of the church, giving them a deed for the same, in which it was conveyed to them and their successors, in trust, forever. Rev. Mr. Berger was pastor from 1761 until 1766, Mr. John Wittner from 1766 to 1769; the Revds. Weimer and Walsmith followed him. In 1771 the Rev. John Gobrecht entered upon the pastorate, and held it thirteen years. The old meeting-house in which the congregation had so long worshipped, was in a very dilapidated condition in 1799, and it was therefore resolved to build a new church in a more central locality; this was finally done on a lot donated by Matthias Shirk, in the village of New Holland. This Church was also authorized to raise funds by means of a lottery, as we find that on December 1st, 1800, it was "enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, that Frederick Segar, Adam Miller, jr., George Eeard, jr., Jacob Colfrode, Jacob Rengwalt, Philip Diffenderffer and Henry Ream be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners, to raise by way of lottery, a sum not exceeding four thousand dollars,

*Rev. Johannes Waldschmidt was one of the six young German Reformed ministers brought to this country by Rev. Michael Schlatter, on his return from Europe, July 24, 1752. One of his first charges was this one at Zeltenreich's. He died September 14, 1786, aged a little more than 62 years, and was buried at what was then called Cocalico, now the "Swamp," Lancaster county.

with a discount of twenty per cent., to be applied by them to defray the expense of completing a church, lately built by the German Calvinist congregation, in the village of New Holland." The building then erected has been used by the congregation ever since.* By this transfer of place, no change in the identity of the congregation was made.

Center Church dates back to May 20, 1819, when the corner stone of the first church edifice was laid. It took its name from the fact that it was centrally located in respect to the four other congregations from whom its members were chiefly drawn, namely New Holland and Muddy Creek in Lancaster county, and Allegheny and Forest in Berks county. The old church building was torn down and the present one erected in its stead in 1872, when the name was changed to St. John's: this change I cannot but regard as unwise and made without due consideration: the old name was in itself a partial history of the church, and its meaning broadly suggestive, whereas its more modern title while appropriate in itself, is, in a certain sense general, and quite as applicable to any other church. Through changes as inconsiderate as this, are old historical landmarks swept away, and all traces of their former existence lost.

Among the other early churches, were Carpenter's church, in West Earl; the graveyard connected with the church is much older than the building itself; the ground was given for that purpose by a person named Carson, and was free to all denominations. Henry Landis, one of the sons-in-law of Hans Graaf, on January 17, 1755, deeded one acre of land for the purposes of a burying ground, to

*Michael Diffenderffer, the father of the writer, was, at the time this church was built, a lad of sixteen years: he was present from day to day as the walls went up, "dipping" the bricks, as was then the custom, to make a better and stronger wall.

certain persons, in trust, for their use and that of the neighborhood, forever. This is the graveyard in Groff's Dale, and was so used many years prior to its conveyance by the deed of trust. There is an ancient burying place in East Earl, near the residence of Alexander Galt, known as the Welsh graveyard; the date of its establishment is unknown, but its name indicates its origin. In 1766, the Mennonites established a church in the same township, but erected no building until 1772; their burying ground was, of course, in existence long before. The Presbyterians had public worship as early as 1775, near the Blue Ball; a platform for the preacher and seats for the people were their first temple; these were removed to Cedar Grove and used awhile longer: in 1787, $13.33 were paid for a piece of ground, and a church was built on it; this church was remodeled in 1853, and is still occupied by the congregation. Other denominations began to hold services and organize congregations within the township limits, early in the present century: in the absence of churches, preaching was held in private houses. Isaac Davis, of Earl, who died in 1838, aged 83, is said to have been the first member of the Methodist Church in these townships; he was ordained a preacher in 1803, which calling he pursued until his death.

Preachers' salaries in those days hardly allowed of much riotous living, or an indulgence in the thousand-and-one little luxuries all feel like having now. On a paper lying before me, a New Holland clergyman (J. T. F.) receipts for $120—a year's salary! Even that sum was not always made up: on another paper I read:

Collected for Parson,	$83.87½	Col. for School-master,	$12.45
Uncollected,	5.50	Uncollected,	2.12

They also had salaried organists and choir leaders, but that

these did not receive the extravagant salaries paid to such functionaries now-a-days, is clearly evidenced by

Jacob Slemmer's receipt "for one year's salary as organist," $14.
Jacob Baker's receipt "for one year's singing salary," 10.

Let us hope the quality of the preaching, playing and singing was not in keeping with the sums paid therefor.

MILITARY RECORD.

The early population was loyal to the Colonial government in its times of trouble, and was always ready to give it effective aid. The Mennonites, from being non-combatants, for a time brought suspicion on the Germans, but this gradually wore away. In the French and Spanish war of 1762, no less than nine companies, numbering 325 men, were sent into service from the county, and Earl sent her full share: she had previously contributed her quota of horses and wagons to equip the unfortunate expedition of General Braddock. As the struggle with the parent country gradually came on, nowhere were stauncher patriots found than here. The few loyalists that here and there discovered themselves, were too closely watched to become a source of apprehension. The Continental Congress, sitting in Philadelphia, in November, 1774, requested the freeholders of the province to hold an election for representatives to the General Assembly. At this election, held December 15 of the same year, Alexander Martin, Emanuel Carpenter, Anthony Ellmaker, William Smith, Zaccheus Davis, George Rein and John Brubaker were chosen. In the following year, 1775, the Committee men chosen were Gabriel Davis, George Rein and Jonathan Roland. This Gabriel Davis doubtless came from the Welsh colony at the eastern end of the township; he was an assessor in 1730, and a juryman in 1733: he was evidently a man of ability and influence. In accordance with a recommendation of the Continental Congress, made on May 15, 1776,

a Provincial conference was held in Philadelphia, composed of delegates from the ten counties into which the state was then divided, and it was resolved to hold a general election for persons who should establish some form of government. For the purposes of this election, Lancaster county was divided into six districts; the fourth division was composed of Salisbury, Brecknock, Caernarvon, Earl and Cocalico townships, and the poll to be opened in New Holland, on July 6, 1776. James McCamant, Gabriel Davis and Michael Whitman were elected.

The muster rolls of the nine regiments and battalions furnished by this county for the Revolutionary war, show how largely Earl township participated in the struggle for independence. By a resolution of Congress, passed May 25, 1776, an exclusively German regiment was authorized to be raised in Pennsylvania and Maryland—four companies from each state: the former's quota was filled by July 17, and an additional company besides. The Earls were represented in its ranks. It was of this regiment that David Diffenderffer, was standard bearer.*

*David Diffenderffer was the grandson of John Diffenderffer, the first settler in the present Earl township, and the grandfather of the writer. A sketch of his life, and services in the Revolution, may be found in Rupp's History of Lancaster Co. In addition to the particulars there given, a few other facts may be here mentioned. At the time of his retirement from the army, the state was unable to discharge the sum due him for pay as Ensign: it was the custom to issue state warrants for these arrearages, and the one issued to him was for £134 2. 4., dated April 10, 1783.‡ On April 10, 1784, the Comptroller General reported a certain sum of interest due him on his depreciated certificate, namely £8 0. 10. None of these certificates, I believe, were ever paid in money: the state was unable to discharge them in that way. David Diffenderffer got a small piece of land for his, located in Northumberland county, which he afterwards sold for a small sum. On May 1, 1783, he received, without solicitation on his part, a commission as "Lieutenant in the seventh company of foot in the

The people of Earl were true to the principles that carried them over the sea, and resisted oppression in their new homes, with the steady heroism they had manifested in the old. When the tocsin of war again filled the land with its loud alarum in 1812, they grasped their muskets and marched among the foremost to meet the threatened danger. And when in 1846, our country, for the first time in her history, carried on an aggressive war in a foreign land, the Earls sent both men and officers to represent them on the field of combat: the names of Roland and Luther* are familiar in our mouths as household words,

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fourth Battalion in the county of Lancaster." The war being over, and no regular military organization being really necessary at that time, his services as such officer were not of importance or long duration. I believe he was the last of the Revolutionary heroes in the county at the time of his death in 1847, and as such, was widely known. Had the writer, then a boy of 13 years, made notes and memoranda of the many narrations that he from day to day heard from his grandfather's lips, concerning the struggle for independence, and the early important events that occurred in these townships, this sketch had been more interesting and valuable: unfortunately this was not done either by himself or by others, and he has never ceased to regret it. David Diffenderffer's mind and memory being unusually good up to the hour of his death, many facts of those early days might have been preserved that are now irreclaimably lost. Peace to his ashes.

*Brevet Major John F. Roland, son of the late Henry Roland, esq., was born in New Holland, in 1818. He entered the military academy at West Point, at the age of 14, and graduated from that institution in 1836; his commission as 2d Lieutenant in the 4th Regiment Artillery, bears date of July 1st, in that year: four days afterward he was transferred with the same rank to the 2nd Regiment of Artillery. He was promoted to a 1st Lieutenancy on July 8, 1838, and made Captain on March 3, 1847.

Immediately after leaving West Point, Lieut. Roland accompanied his regiment to Florida, and participated in the Seminole Indian war. He also saw service in the Cherokee nation, and on the Canada frontier during the disturbances there. He was the senior Lieutenant of Duncan's famous Battery, and sailed from New York with it in 1845 to join Gen. Taylor at Corpus Christi. He took part in the brilliant actions at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and received his brevet as Captain for gallant services

and together with those of the older heroes who preceded them and those who came after, will remain green in the hearts of a grateful posterity. And when in later years that greatest curse of nations, civil war, swept over the

in those battles, and his Major's brevet for the dash and courage he manifested on the hard-fought field of Monterey.

He took part in the siege of Vera Cruz, and there receiving his Captaincy, was ordered home to raise his company. Having done so, he returned to the scene of war and joined Gen. Scott's army in the city of Mexico. After the war, his Regiment was sent to garrison the southern Atlantic posts. In consequence of anticipated Indian hostilites he was again sent to Florida. In 1850 he was placed in command of Castle Pinckney, where he died Sept. 28, 1852, at the early age of 35. Major Roland was an officer of distinguished merit: his professional reputation was deservedly high, and in his death, the country lost a brilliant soldier and an estimable citizen.

Capt. Roland A. Luther, was born in New Holland in 1815, where his father, Dr. John Luther, an eminent physician, resided. He entered the United States Military Academy at West Point along with his playmate and kinsman Major Roland, in 1832, and graduating with him in the class of 1836, was at once commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the 2nd Regiment of Artillery. He became 1st Lieutenant in 1838, and was promoted to a Captaincy in 1847.

Capt. Luther accompanied his regiment to Florida, and participated in several of the engagements that occurred with the Indians. He also took part in the troubles of the Government with the Creeks and Cherokees and afterwards marched to the northern frontier when a conflict with Great Britain seemed impending. His regiment having been ordered to join the forces of General Taylor, then gathering in Texas, he sailed for Corpus Christi with his company. He distinguished himself by his gallantry at Palo Alto, where he was so severely wounded as to be compelled to come north. Before he was fully recovered, his Captain's commission reached him, when he at once recruited a company in New York, and again sailed to join the army of Gen. Scott, then in the city of Mexico.

At the conclusion of the war, he was stationed with his company in Charleston harbor on garrison duty. Disease, contracted in his line of service while in Mexico, soon rendered him unable to discharge the active duties of his profession, and his health gradually failing, he died in 1853. He was a skillful soldier, well read in the literature of his profession besides having a wide acquaintance with literary subjects generally. Both he and his companion in arms, noticed above, are buried in the Lutheran burying ground in New Holland.

land, scores of brave men left their homes and firesides in our midst, and signalized their devotion to the Republic in the tented field, ready alike to die in the arms of victory or in the hour of disaster. The heroes of 1776, of 1812, of 1846 and of 1861, are laid to rest in your church-yards; but for them, and *we* had not met here to-day; their warfare over, they sleep peacefully, awaiting the final roll-call.*

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*The Germans have never been awarded the praise that is their due, for the share they took in the war for independence. On May 15, 1775, a meeting was held in Lancaster to adopt measures for holding an election for members of vigilance committees: on July 4, 1776, another meeting was held in Lancaster by the officers and members of fifty-three battalions of troops of the colony of Pennsylvania: these meetings were largely composed of Germans as their names on the record of the proceedings attest: they speak for themselves and are indisputably convincing. "It was to the German *Bauern*, (Farmers), America owed her independence. They were among the first to shoulder their guns—they were the bravest and most enduring of Washington's soldiers.—*Peasant Life in Germany*," *p.* 389. A German pamphlet printed in 1775, is still in existence, and bears evidence on this point that ought to silence cavil. It is called "Message of the Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed Church Consistory and of the Officers of the German Association in Phila. to the German inhabitants of the Provinces of New York and North Carolina." This document sounds no uncertain tone; it says, "we have from time to time daily with our eyes seen that the people of Pennsylvania generally, rich and poor, approve of the conclusions of Congress: especially have the Germans of Pennsylvania, near and far from us, distinguished themselves, and not only established their militia, but have formed picked corps of rangers, who are ready to march wherever it may be required; and those among the Germans who cannot serve personally are throughout willing to contribute according to their means to the common good." Anything more decisive on this point cannot easily be imagined.

In view of the foregoing, the aspersion cast upon the Germans by a writer in the Lancaster *Intelligencer* of July 10, 1876, seems uncalled for and ungenerous to the last degree: his words are—"the Germans of this country were not, as a body, distinguished for their opposition to the pretensions of Great Britain." It almost seems as if the writer had in view the 20,000 Hessians and other German mercenaries who came over at British instigation to take part in the struggle, instead of the true and sturdy German

PUBLIC MEN.

While we do not find that any citizens of these townships became very prominent in the councils of the Province at an early day, in after years their descendants were among the best and most honored in the state. Propriety forbids that we should name any in private life, still living, but there are those among us whose standing, culture and useful public lives, might well merit a passing notice. The Earls have contributed their full proportion to the public men of the county, during the past hundred years. Thomas Edwards was one of the eight Justices of the Peace appointed when the county was organized; he was a member of the Colonial Assembly in 1729–30–31–32–35–36 and 39. It is said of him that after his appointment as Justice of the county, he was accustomed to leave his home at the fine spring north of New Holland, known as "Martin's Spring," walk barefoot to Lancaster and sit, shoeless, as a member of the Justices' court,* until the term was over. He is buried in the old "Welsh" graveyard in East Earl. Zaccheus Davis was County Commissioner in 1756: Nathaniel Ellmaker was elected to the State Senate in 1796: Christian Carpenter was Sheriff in 1799: John W. Kittera, a native of Earl, represented the district in Congress from 1791 until 1801, a period of ten years, and was afterwards an eminent jurist in Philadelphia: Jacob Ringwalt was elected to the State Legislature in 1811, and served one term: Amos Ellmaker was District

yeomanry of the Colonies who put their all to stake in the sacred cause of Independence.

*It was one of the laws of the province under the Proprietary, that the regularly appointed justices of the peace should also hold at stated intervals, "a court of judicature for the preservation of the peace and justice of the province." Before the county organizations, and even long afterwards, these courts were intrusted with important functions.—*Hazzard's Annals of Penna.* 598.

Attorney of Dauphin county, and likewise one of its representatives in the State Legislature for three terms; he was also elected to Congress from that county in 1814, but declined to take his seat, having been appointed presiding Judge of Dauphin, Lebanon and Schuylkill counties; in 1832 he was the Anti-Masonic candidate for the Vice Presidency, and a formidable competitor of James Buchanan for the United States senatorship in 1834: Gen. Henry Hambright was an officer in the war of Independence, and a member of the State Legislature in the years 1813-14-16-17: Henry Shirk was County Commissioner in 1810 and in 1819; Henry Roland filled the same position in 1821; Dr. John Luther was Director of the Poor for three years; George Duchman was County Recorder for three years; Adam Bare was Sheriff in 1830, and became County Commissioner in 1834; William Hiester was the Anti-Masonic candidate for Congress in 1828 against James Buchanan, but was defeated; in 1830 he was successful and won the prize; he was twice re-elected and served from 1831 until 1837; he was also a member of the Convention that revised the State Constitution in 1836; he was a member of the State Senate in 1840, and was Speaker of that body in 1842; he was president of the great Whig meeting held at Lancaster in July, 1843, which proclaimed Henry Clay, Pennsylvania's choice for the presidency in 1844: Anthony E. Roberts was elected Sheriff of the county in 1839; he was a candidate for Congress in 1843, but was defeated; in 1849 he was appointed United States Marshal for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, by President Taylor, and held the position until 1853; in 1854 he was nominated and elected to Congress, which honor was a second time conferred on him at the expiration of his first term: William Duchman was Recorder in 1845; Isaac E. Hiester was appointed District

Attorney of the county in 1848; in 1852 he was elected to Congress, and was again a candidate in 1854, but was defeated: John K. Reed was Prothonotary in 1851; Solomon Diller was in 1836–37–38 and 39 a member of the State Legislature; Jonathan Roland was sent to the Legislature from this county in 1856: David Shultz was mercantile appraiser of the county in 1847, and was twice reappointed; he became County Treasurer in 1851: W. D. Stauffer was made Prothonotary in 1869—the youngest incumbent that office ever had; he is also at the present time, efficiently and satisfactorily serving his second term as Mayor of the city of Lancaster, and is the youngest man that has ever attained that coveted position: Abraham Setley was elected Clerk of the Orphans Court in 1872.*

LEGISLATIVE ANNOYANCES.

Although our fathers had at last found a refuge from religious oppression, annoyances of other kinds awaited them. The large German immigration caused no little alarm to the colonial authorities, and their fears gave rise to petty and vexatious annoyances, which only the good conduct of the colonists, during a long series of years, could dispel. Sir William Keith, who became Governor of the Province in 1717, at first treated the request of the Germans for naturalization, with great indifference; for three years, from 1721 until 1724, this act of justice was denied them, and when a bill was introduced for this purpose, they were required to swear as to the value of their possessions, and the nature of their religious views, before their petition was granted. To his successor, Sir Patrick Gordon, a complaint was made concerning those at Pequea; they were denounced as "peculiar in their dress, religion,

*The above list is by no means complete.

and notions of political government, and resolved to speak their own language, and acknowledge no sovereign but the great Creator of the universe." Gov. Gordon, however, was a man of broad views, and when he laid the petition of a large number from this district before the House, in 1730, he used this language: "It likewise appears to me by good information, that they have hitherto behaved themselves well, and have generally so good a character for honesty and industry, as deserves the esteem of this Government, and a mark of its regard for them."* Nevertheless, the immigration of aliens—as all who were not English subjects were called—was still further discouraged by the imposition of a forty-shilling tax, per head, on the Swiss, French, Germans and Dutch who should come into the Province. This manner of raising the revenue, almost makes one believe, Pennsylvania was a high-tariff colony even at that early day!

TRIALS OF THE EARLY SETTLERS.

Between 1730 and 1775, the condition of these settlers in Earl, was that enjoyed in common with the citizens of the rest of the Province. They seem for the most part, to have been exempt from the Indian murders and depredations that afflicted other communities. That unwelcome visitor, the tax gatherer, put in his annual appearance, with his accustomed punctuality. The 5635 taxables within the county in 1760, were assessed $16,000, a pro rata of which came from Earl.† The enforcement of the Port Bill, at Boston, created much distress among certain classes in that city; subscription papers were circulated in this township in July, 1774, for their relief.

They had also other trials to contend with, which neither

*Colonial Records, III, p. 296.
†See Appendix B.

their own conduct nor legislative enactments could evade or dispel. Only a few of them can be referred to here. In 1732, immense swarms of locusts ravaged their fields and destroyed their fruit crops. In 1737, a severe earthquake spread general consternation over all the eastern portion of the Province. The summer of 1738 was made memorable by a heat so extraordinary as to destroy many birds, while laborers fell exhausted and dead in their harvest fields. The winter of 1740 was severe beyond example; deer and turkeys in vast numbers perished of cold, and formed a large part of the food of the people; the snow was of a depth unknown before; severe floods also occurred during the year. In 1741, the cold was even greater than during the previous winter, and the privations and sufferings of the people augmented and intensified. With 1750 and 1751, came seasons of scarcity and want. A county meeting was called, and means of relief devised, and whence eventuated our Alms-house establishment. The harvests in 1752 were bountiful beyond anything previously experienced in the history of the infant settlements; so abundant was the yield of wheat that it was fed to the hogs. This plentiful year was succeeded in 1753 and '54 and '55, by a widely prevailing drouth; the earth was parched, and vegetation of all kinds perished for lack of moisture; a famine seemed impending: to add to these horrors, the French war broke out, and the frontier Indian tribes, having nearly all allied themselves with France, began killing and scalping on all sides. Terror and dismay filled every heart; even after peace was concluded, the Indians continued their hostilities. So great was the danger in 1763, that farmers, in the more exposed districts, carried their rifles with them to the fields. On the 17th of June in that year, fell the most destructive hail storm known to the pioneers; it extended over the entire

county; the hailstones were large as turkey eggs; birds and small quadrupeds were killed in great numbers; the growing fruits and ripening grain perished in this assault of the elements, while the trees were as destitute of foliage as in midwinter. The winter of 1780, was by way of distinction, known as the "Hard winter;" ice twenty inches thick formed on the ponds; the cold was intense; birds perished, and the ears of sheep and cattle were frozen.

FARMING.

Farming in those days was not what it is now. Rotation of crops was not strictly followed. Wheat, rye, oats and barley were the principal crops; corn was but little cultivated for a long series of years, more generally indeed by the Indians than by the whites. Oxen were mostly used in plowing; horses were scarce, and bulls and cows were frequently loaded with wheat for the mill, and brought back the grist. The scarcity of horseflesh may be inferred from this—we are told "nine German settlers united their means to purchase a gray-mare, of whose services they availed themselves turn-about." Horses were seldom shod; the soft roads through the forests rendered it unnecessary. Before and during the Revolution, much of the work on farms devolved on the women. They performed the tasks usually allotted to men, working in the hay and harvest fields, taking care of horses and horned cattle, and occasionally in the enforced absence of the male portion of the family, took entire charge of all out- and in-door work. Irrigation, although hardly ever practiced now, was generally resorted to then; the natural meadows, by this means, furnished an abundant supply of hay and pasturage. Governor Pownall of New Jersey, who in 1754 traveled through the county, saw and described the process: on the south side of the Welsh mountain, on land

owned by Adam Diller, traces of an irrigating canal could in recent years, and may perhaps even now, be seen.

Lime was first used as a fertilizer in this state by a German named Jacob Berger, who applied it to a field near Philadelphia some years before the Revolution.*

At their first settlement, these townships were almost entirely covered with heavily wooded forests; here and there grassy meads were to be found: the Indians generally selected these spots for their dwelling places. And here we may add, that the red men were never numerous hereabouts; scarcely more than half a dozen families were ever to be found at one place; they had no villages of any importance.† There was little underbrush in consequence

*Dr. Rush's *Manners and Customs of the Pennsylvania Germans, p.* 14.

†The Indian tribes by whom these townships were inhabited, were Piquaws and Conestogos, principally the former, whose chief place of residence however—if the term is admissible—was in the Pequea valley and on the Pequea creek, to both of which they have appropriately left their name. They were of the Algonquin tribe, but paid tribute to the Six Nations, and seem to have been in the beginning among the best disposed and most tractable of all the natives with whom the whites ever came in contact. They were extremely hospitable to the early settlers, furnishing them from their own stores with no stinted hands, whenever called upon. No serious troubles ever arose between them and the Europeans. The Huguenots and Palatines often joined the Piquaws in their hunting and fishing excursions and in their other pastimes. Their principal chief was Tanawa, who had sold his lands to Penn, was present at the "Great Treaty," and ever prided himself on the warm friendship entertained for him by the Proprietary.

Indian tradition tells us two hundred years before the arrival of Penn, hardly an Indian was to be found in the present territory of Lancaster county. The Piquaws came about 1630. Fragments of other tribes, driven from the south by the whites, found their way hither. But they never became numerous, and as the settlements began to appear all through the interior, they began to disappear gradually, even as they had first come. Their tribal relations were broken up, and while some went northward and united themselves with the Six Nations, others slowly wended their way into Ohio and Indiana, joining their destinies with the tribes in those states.

of the Indian custom, of annunally burning the scrubby underwood; it was not a difficult matter to drive a cart for long distances through the woods in all directions.

Wages were moderate, and the cost of living correspondingly low. About the time of the Revolution, the earning of harvest hands were two shillings and six pence for men, and one shilling six pence for boys; wheat at the same time was worth about five shillings, or sixty-seven cents per bushel.

BOUNTIES PAID FOR ANIMALS AND BIRDS.

During the first half of the last century, certain birds and animals were so numerous and hurtful to the farmers, that colonial bounties were offered for their destruction. Indian, crow and squirrel scalps, were all at a premium. Blackbirds were paid for at three pence per dozen; wolves, fifteen to twenty shillings; squirrel scalps, three pence per head, and in the year 1749, no less than £8000 were paid for them, which would indicate a wholesale slaughter of 840,000 in that year: laborers became scarce because they could make more out of squirrel scalps than by days' labor: no wonder the county treasuries were empty and that these lively animals are so scarce now.

Of course, the first concern of these settlers was to house their families, and then to clear a field for the purpose of supplying their wants. Grass for the stock, was cut in the swamps and meadows, generally stacked on the spot, and removed when winter or necessity required it. Clover was little cultivated prior to the Revolution; timothy even less, and much surprise was occasioned when hay was first cut on upland fields from these grasses. Sheep were not raised

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Shortly after the Revolution the last of the red men had left this fair county nevermore to return.—*Address of Redmond Conyngham. Watson's Annals.*

in great numbers; the wolves were numerous and made havoc among them. The abundance of mast made hog raising an easy and profitable task; but bears abounded, and having always been partial to fresh pork, the farmers were much molested by them. For many years, however, venison and turkeys were so abundant that they everywhere formed the principal flesh food of the people. A twenty-pound turkey could be had for a shilling, and a fat deer for two shillings. Mutual assistance was freely extended by the early colonists to each other; newcomers were aided in putting up their cabins and barns, and in housing their crops at the proper season.

SPORTS, MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

Between many of the manners and customs of every-day life, as they then existed, and those of our own time, a wonderful change has taken place. A generous hospitality was universally prevalent, and was calculated to promote good fellowship. Although their ways of life were primitive, and devoid of parade or ostentation, they were good, hearty livers, and enjoyed life. Tradition comes down to us freighted with stories of their pranks and pastimes. Horse-racing seems to have been a perfect passion with them. No less than three race courses have existed at different times in the vicinity of New Holland; one at the east end on the Rauck farm, one on the Mentzer property in the north-west, and a third in the south-west on Solomon Diller's land. It was not an unusual occurrence for these lively boys to dissect some irritable neighbor's cart or wagon into its component parts, transport them to his hay-mow or stable-roof, and there carefully unite them again, and whence the indignant owner at a considerable expenditure of time, trouble and temper, might lower them to their proper place in the wagon shed. The annual Fairs

and Battalion day were times when the whole people gave themselves holidays, and all business was made to yield to the season of merriment and enjoyment: the huckster stands with their magnificent array of candies, oranges and ginger bread, were a sight which all the profusion and elegance of later times, can never drive from the recollection of the boys of fifty years ago.

They cared less for fashion than we do now; tight fitting buckskin breeches or coarse homespun was the common wear for men; honest home-made linen covered their brawny arms and broad shoulders, and it was only on state occasions, such as weddings and the like, that silver shoe and knee buckles and gilt buttons, glittered on their stalwart persons. Umbrellas were altogether unknown to the primitive settlers; a heavy woolen blanket shielded them from the rain by day and was often their couch at night. Boots and spectacles were little less than curiosities here in the country a century ago. Cider was a favorite tipple with the early colonists; but then cider presses had not yet come into vogue; the apples were crushed by means of a stamper in a large tub or trough; the pumice was put into a suspended basket from which the liquor drained into a vessel beneath, the process being assisted by the application of weights and pressure of various kinds. The women invariably wore caps. A short gown of homespun, falling a little below the waist, was the universally-worn outer garment. No calf-skin shoes were worn by the lower ranks in life of either sex. Pull-back skirts were unheard of; our good, old dames consoled themselves instead, by wearing half a dozen well quilted petticoats, which were relied on to keep them warm in winter, and which, we feel pretty sure, did the same in summer. The old-fashioned bonnet served both as head-gear and para-

sol. There were no globe lamps in their parlors, no carpets on their floors, and no paper on their walls. Wooden platters, pewter dishes, spoons and mugs, served them instead of plated ware and China. When the bride went any distance to get married, she rode on a pillion before her father or some kinsman, but after the ceremony, she occupied a seat behind her husband.

"Riding double was no crime, in the good Queen Anne's time.
Nor did the lady blush vermillion, sitting on her lover's pillion."

At burials, persons previously selected, passed around, giving those present a glass of wine and a piece of sweet-cake: this is not so foolish a custom as the one that came in later, of setting such a feast before the friends and relatives after the funeral, as required a large slice of the deceased's estate to pay for.* Even down to a comparatively recent period, before hearses came into fashion, the coffin was placed in a large Conestoga wagon, and the part of the wagon not taken up by the coffin, was occupied by the mourners, while a procession of horsemen, sometimes

*Since writing the above, I happened on a document, whose contents incline me to think I am in error in ascribing a comparatively modern origin to the expensive funeral feasts so common in the rural districts. It is a bill for funeral expenses, bearing date of 1814, and translated runs in this wise:

	£	s.	d.
For services of a cook		7	6
Store bill	12	5	5
Cheese	1	2	9
Paid in New Holland store		19	4
For 1 calf	1	0	0
For four bushels wheat	1	17	6
	17	12	6

As the deceased was a person of wealth, only such things were purchased as her own well filled country larder could not supply, and there will be no difficulty therefore in believing that thrice or more times the above sum was eaten up by the hungry acquaintances, who availed themselves of this last opportunity of manifesting their regard, by sitting down to this lavish array of cold meats and cheese.

half a mile long, riding two by two, followed in the rear.

While they were honest, God-fearing men and women, their morality was not of that finely drawn kind that is so current to-day. Lotteries found much favor in their eyes. Was an enterprise, either public or private, in need of funds, a lottery was speedily organized to help it out. Some of the principal streets of Philadelphia were one hundred years ago paved with money raised by lotteries; was a church to be built, a steeple to be erected or a ranger company to be paid off, a lottery was the means to do it with. After all, were they worse than chancing at our church fairs, and were they not at least, as honestly conducted? Farmers, and farmer's sons, managed to thrive without one or more fine vehicles for purposes of pleasure. There were only thirty-eight carriages in all Pennsylvania in 1761: the first person in these townships who owned one was William Smith, better known as "squire" Smith; it was a two-horse affair, and elicited much attention and comment.*

It is not generally known that prior to the present century, justices of the peace occasionally issued documents of the nature of passports or letters of security. A paper of this kind has come into my hands; it was issued by Frederick Seeger, a man known to many still living, as one of the most enterprising and prominent men of his time in

*Since the above was written, I have reason to suspect the claims of Squire Smith's wonderful coach to priority in point of time, can hardly be maintained. That primitive conveyance can hardly have rolled over the roads of Earl much earlier than the beginning of the present century: there are good reasons for believing its era must have been about the year 1790, or perhaps a little later: it nowhere appears on the still-existing assessor's lists. The first vehicle of this kind, of which any official record remains, is one belonging to John and Thomas Kittera, prominent citizens of East Earl, who in the year 1783, were taxed £4 State money, for owning and using this convenient style of locomotion.

these townships. I quote part of the paper:

"Commonwealth of Penna.—Lancaster Co. Fredk. Seeger Esq. one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the said county certifyeth—that the Bearer hereof John Stein, otherwise called Stone—of Brecknock Township in the said county, yeoman, is the eldest son of Leonard Stein, otherwise called Stone, late of Earl Township in the said county, yeoman, deceased, and one of the lawful heirs of the deceased. The said John intends to travel into Northumberland county * * * * *. All persons are therefore requested to suffer the said John Stein to pass on his journey unmolested. * * * *. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 16th day of May, Anno Dom. 1800. Fredk. Seeger.

To whom it may concern.

N. B. Should any person doubt the foregoing certificate, there are people in that county who know me well, and my hand writing—and Mr. Stein can make oath or affirmation that he did see me sign the above certificate.

Fredk. Seeger."*

Nowadays when we go prospecting in Iowa or on a visit to our cousins in Virginia, it never occurs to us to run to a magistrate for a document to identify or endorse us.

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*Mr. Seeger left, among his papers, a brief autobiographical sketch of himself, whose very frankness stamps it with the seal of truth. It affords another instance of what honesty, fidelity and energy can accomplish when inspired by high purpose. Just such men have made this country what it is, and their example must have an influence for good. I make no apology therefore for inserting it here: the original is in German of which the following is a translation:

Philadelphia, April 4, 1780.

"A short account of my life and parentage;—also a copy of my baptismal certificate in the event that it should be lost. Copy—In the name of the Most Holy Trinity:—In the presence of witnesses—William Ferdinand Frederick Seeger was born of christian parents in Diedelsheim, Palatinate, Jany. 16, 1750. The parents were Rev. Geo. Frederick Seeger, pastor of the evangelical Lutheran Church in Diedelsheim, & Catharine Frederica Nota Weisen, daughter of Rev. M. Gottlieb Weisen, pastor of the Lutheran church of

It is unnecessary to say much about the physical features of these townships; they are familiar to all.

Golshausen in the Palatinate. The sponsors were 1, Baron Ernst Fredk. Laris, 2, Baron Philip Fredk. Von Shonfeld, 3, Miss Maria Magdalina Von Sister, 4, Mrs. Ernstina Von Kechler, 5, Mrs. Maria Keckler Von ———, 6, Rev. Christopher Charles Faber, 7, Mrs. Sophia Keller, 8, Mrs. Fred. Gottlieb Weis. This is taken from the record of ministerial acts in the hand writing of Rev. ———, subscribed with my own hand and confirmed by my usual seal, Golshausen, April 14, 1776.

Christopher Joh. Hausrath, Pastor.

My beloved father died in the year ——— at the age of 57: my beloved mother departed this life in the year 1760. Even in my tender youth, no expense and pains were spared upon my education by my parents. My father had me not only attend church and hear the word of God, but also diligently attend school. I was also sent to a Latin school from my 6th to my 13th year, that with this and an acquaintance with other necessary branches of knowledge, I might the better get along in the world. For the parental love and faithfulness I experienced, may the great God reward my parents before the throne of the Lamb in heaven.

After my father found me qualified to renew my baptismal covenant by a public profession of my faith, I was confirmed in the 13th year of my age, and received for the first time the Lord's supper. Soon after I expressed my wish to learn the mercantile profession to which my father gave his consent. I then served a four years' apprenticeship in the city of Stuttgart with Mr. Barnhard Fredk. Behringer. After this I went to Heidelberg where I was in the employ of John W. Godelman for two years. From thence I went to Maffitz and entered the celebrated house of John George Gontzinger.

In order to learn more of the world and to improve my fortune, I resolved to travel to Holland, with the hope of finding employment in some large commercial house. My undertaking was unsuccessful, and this contributed to my coming to America, for as I saw no prospect of getting employment in Holland and did not wish to return to my native land, the way to America was prepared. I crossed the ocean in the ship Minerva, Capt. Arnold, and landed in Phila. on Sep. 20, 1771. I had to content myself with the circumstances in which I then was, and with the ways of the country, which it is true, were not very agreeable. I was under the necessity of hiring myself to Benjamin Davids, an innkeeper, for three years and nine months. My situation was unpleasant, for my employment did not correspond with that to which I had been accustomed from my youth, in my fatherland. In the course of nine months my hard service ended, for with the

Their geological formation belongs to the Paleozoic period; they lie entirely within the great limestone belt that traverses the county throughout its entire extent from east to west. Lying in the Conestoga valley, their location is unsurpassed by any districts in the state. That classic stream, the Conestoga, runs through them for many miles of its devious course, affording abundant water power for the numerous mills located on its banks. Muddy Creek in the north, Mill Creek in the south and the Cocalico in the west, are likewise important streams: innumerable smaller streams and runs traverse the country in all directions, covering it with robes of green throughout the greater part of the year; all in all, it is one of the best watered sections of the county. Through the south-eastern part, runs the chain of hills, which we a little grandly, perhaps, call the Welsh mountains—a name given to them by the Welsh who established themselves along their rugged sides, and who thought they saw in the blue summits a resemblance to the familiar peaks of Wales. While they vary and give a rich and picturesque appearance to the general surface of the country, they have in the past, and will no doubt for a long period in the future, furnish ample supplies of timber for the necessities of the farmer. They are rich in stores of iron ore, but as yet, none has been dug in the Earls. The great mineral wealth of these townships consists in the inexhaustible stores of

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aid of good friends, I found means in a becoming way to leave Davids, for the employ of Messrs. Miles and Wistar, where I remained three years and six months."

Mr. Seeger found his way to New Holland, where he succeeded in accumulating a large estate. He died March 13, 1835, aged 86 years.

For the privilege of copying the above document, I am indebted to H. A. Roland, esq., in whose possession it is.

limestone that underlie them. In these the people have more certain and more enduring riches than if possessed of the treasures of Nevada or Peru: they will pour forth of their abundance whenever called upon, and will outlast time itself.

TOWNS.

The ever-varying surface of the country, everywhere affords sites for villages and hamlets, and these the wealth of the citizens has called into existence on every side. Hinkletown, Fairville, Voganesville, Brownstown, Farmersville, Goodville, Earlville and New Holland, together with many more, enable us to count our towns by the dozen.* The latter, as it is the oldest, is also the largest; for many years after its settlement it bore the name of EARLTOWN; when this name was lost and that of NEW DESIGN acquired, is uncertain; it bears this latter appellation in deeds and other papers down to 1763, or perhaps later, but at the time of the Revolution, it was called New Holland. Its first name, Earltown, was derived from its having been the first as well as most important town in Earl.† Its second name, New Design, was perhaps conferred upon it when it was surveyed and laid out in 1760; this name does not seem to have met with much favor, as it was soon lost and its present one given. Nothing is definitely known whence came the name of New Holland; probably it was given in grateful remembrance of the kind protection which Wil-

*See Appendix C.

†The name *Earltown* was applied indifferently to the township as well as to the town. I find the assessor's lists almost invariably use that word instead of "Earl Township." Used in reference to the town, it seems a very appropriate name, and far more fitting than the one it now bears. It is a matter for regret that it was not retained.

liam of Orange had freely extended to so many of the homeless Swiss, Germans and French, who had sought refuge in the States of Holland.*

NEWSPAPERS.

With all their wealth and intelligence, the Earls had no newspaper until 1828. The anti-Masonic excitement that swept over the country at that time, gave us the "Anti-Masonic Herald;" Theophilus Fenn and Dr. Thomas W. Vesey were its editors; Isaac Ellmaker, Roland Diller, Nathaniel Ellmaker, and perhaps William Kinzer, furnished the sinews of war to carry it on. After a year's domicile here, it was removed to Lancaster, where it eked out a precarious existence for some eighteen months longer, when it was merged into the "Examiner." It was not until 1873 that a newspaper came among us that made up its mind to stay: that one was the "New Holland Clarion," a sheet known to you all, and which, nothing but my respect for the modesty of its editors, prevents me from saying, is not excelled by any paper in the county, outside the city of Lancaster. In the west, the "West Earl Banner" flings its well printed sheets over a large and intelligent section of country, and in the east, the "Terre Hill Standard" spreads instruction and entertainment far and wide. The printer as well as the school-master is abroad, and when

*On June 19, 1760, a patent for 268 acres of land, with allowances for roads and highways, was granted to Michael Diffenderffer, (son of John Diffenderffer, who located here in 1728). In the same year an attempt was made to lay out the town of New Holland regularly. Twenty-five lots were surveyed off this tract, each one with a front of five and a depth of twenty-one perches, subject to an annual ground-rent of seven shillings. Doubtless those who had already built houses along the sinuous street were unwilling to conform to the new demand for order and regularity, and in the absence of compulsory authority, building progressed as before. The result is before us to-day, and requires no lengthy commentary here.

these go hand in hand, we need apprehend no fear for the future. They are the true conservators of order, intelligence and free speech, and where these prevail, progress and true civilization move forward side by side.

THEN AND NOW.

The imagination can hardly form an approximate picture of the township as it was when laid out in 1729. Its surface a dark and almost continuous forest: devious Indian paths and a few almost impassable roads, the only avenues of travel. Here and there an isolated settlement and the wigwams of the aborigines, were the only human habitations in all this broad expanse. The resounding stroke of the forester's axe, or the sharp crack of his trusty rifle, were the most familiar sounds. The wealth of the few hundred souls then scattered over it, was not difficult of computation. Of public improvements there were few, or none at all: there was a mill or two, but we have found no trace of schools; most probably there were none then. Wagons and carts were owned only by the more well-to-do land-holders.* Rude habitations of logs and still ruder out-buildings, marked the pioneer's home.† There was promise in the prospect, but the day of fruition was not yet.

MATERIAL PROGRESS.

A century and a half has rolled away, and the day-dreams that must have at times floated through Hans

*Some of the first German farmers had no wagons and no roads to travel on for a long time. Some of them occasionally made a wagon to be used about the lot; the wheels of these were made of solid pieces of wood, sawed round. The harness of the horses were either ropes or strips of raw-hide.—*Rupp's note in Rush's Penna. Germans, p. 27.*

†The house of a German could readily be told from one built by a Scot, Irishman or Englishman. If the house had but a single chimney and that one in the middle of the roof, it was a German's, but if the chimneys were at the gables, then it belonged to an owner of some other nationality.—*Schoepf's Reise durch Pennsylvanien*, 1783, *p.* 185.

Graaf's mind have been more than realized. The giants of the woods have been laid low by the march of civilization. The Indian trail has been succeeded by a network of roads and turnpikes, more intricate than the spider's web. A few days more and we shall hear the shrill neigh of the iron horse—that greatest creation of the human mind. The habitations of men are no longer scattered and lone; go where you will, they rise around you on every side; no longer, however, in the primitive simplicity of 1729, but with all the accessories that wealth and culture can gather around them. The hum of busy industry sent from your mills, and shops, and factories, evermore makes music in your ears. More than seven thousand souls, with a combined wealth of seven millions of dollars, live happily in your valleys and on your hills. Bridges span your streams, and the sound of many mill-wheels drowns their ceaseless murmur. From Hans Graaf's little mill in 1729, to the thirty-four well equipped grist and saw mills in these townships now, there is a step that proves German energy has not stood still in the land of its adoption. Churches send their tapering spires upward in your towns, and nestle quietly in the shade of country groves. The stately school-house rises on the village green, and dwells everywhere in the more secluded country retreats. From the three or four schools of the Revolutionary period, to the thirty-eight now in the Earls, we have a showing of which we need not be ashamed.*

*The following tables will serve to exhibit the present status of these townships in material wealth and prosperity.

	Total pop.	Taxables.	Total val. of taxable property.	Carriages.	Saw & grist mills.	Schools.
Earl.	2975	865	$2,885,616	218	11	17
E. Earl.	2310	696	2,021,511	270	12	11
W. Earl.	1893	528	2,320,212	211	11	10
Total.	7178	2089	$7,227,339	699	34	38

When we come down to the affairs of every-day life, the comparison is equally marvellous. The sickle, the grain-cradle and the broad Dutch scythe, have given way to the reaper and the mower. Then grain was either threshed out with the flail, or tramped out in winter by horses. Do not the ears and toes of many here now, again tingle, as memory carries them back to that olden time, when many cold and weary days were passed in irksome rides around the barn floor? Those rides were long and monotonous, without much to boast of in the way of scenery. Now the farmer takes his thresher to the field, feeds in the sheaves at one end, affixes the grain bag to the other, and removes it when filled. You will agree with me, the process has been expedited and simplified. The linen and flax industries, once so widespread, are hardly known to the present generation. The spinning wheel that made music on rainy days in almost every house in these townships, has been rotated out of existence, and almost out of memory.—They show one at the Centennial Exposition as a curiosity. The sugar-scoops which our grandmothers were pleased to call bonnets, have not survived the "struggle for existence," but made room for the jaunty hat, hardly larger than the old-fashioned silver dollar, that once found its way into the pockets of our fathers, but has become a myth to us.

The steamboat, the telegraph, the railroad, and a hundred other inventions equally wondrous, were all unknown in those primitive days. No butcher nor baker's wagon called daily at their doors with meat and bread; the dim woods supplied them with the former, and the pestle and mortar often with the latter. The lands that were bought by our ancestors at ten cents per acre, are now bought and sold at about two thousand times that price, and no allowance for roads thrown in.*

*In all the land grants issued by Penn and his heirs, there was

The Earls have not stood still. They have kept step in the grand march, where Time is marking the progress of earth's generations. Progression has been the law, not only within our own borders, but around us. From Philadelphia with its three or four houses in 1682, to its 800,000 population in 1876—from Lancaster with its swamps, 200 population in 1730, and not a good house in it in 1754, to the Lancaster of 1876, there is verily an Aladdin's transformation. Everything promised by the past, and more, has been realized in the present. Where is your *Saue Schwamm* now? The long reaches of green and gold, that swell into rustling billows at the soft breath of every summer breeze, make fitting answer.

CONCLUSION.

I have endeavored to place before you a sketch of the people by whom, and the circumstances under which, these townships were first settled. You all know what they are to-day. Through long, plodding years—years of trial and ultimate triumph—their present proud position has been reached. Self-laudation is seldom justifiable, but we feel that we would in this instance be unjust to ourselves, if we failed to award the meed of praise which is our just due. From those lowly cabins under the trees of the primeval woods, to the stately homes that everywhere rise around us now, there is progress that *compels* recognition. For once, the wilderness has indeed been made to blossom like the rose.

As we stand here to-day, and gaze on the scene spread out before us, and then permit our minds to wander back one hundred and fifty years, the picture can be matched

an allowance made of six acres in every hundred, "for roads and highways," and when occasionally a farm that has not been surveyed for half a century or more, is found to contain more acres than the deed calls for, the error may be attributed to the old-time road allowance.

by naught save the marvels of an Arabian tale. We have done much ourselves, but how much do we owe to our fathers before us! They began as the subjects of a king, but through their efforts, we live under a form of government to-day, which, with all its defects, is the grandest the world has ever known. Frugal, honest and industrious, they belonged to the class of men who found empires. They had faults, and many of them. They were superstitious, with strong leanings towards bigotry and prejudice. These were the errors, not so much of our ancestors, as of the times in which they lived. We who have lived to see many of their mistakes, can therefore look kindly upon the weaknesses of a past age. Let us devote our energies, rather, to revere and emulate the worthy lessons of life and conduct they have sent down to us. They early learned the rights of freemen, and were ever prompt to maintain them. They were zealous of the purity of the ballot-box, from the hour they acquired the right of suffrage; and when in 1743, the county sheriff "assumed upon himself the power of being sole judge at an election," they were quick to petition for redress, and the offender's removal.

Of all the nations that sent emigrants to America, the German element was pre-eminent for its love of liberty and personal independence: the hardy sons of toil came, but monarchy was left behind: they brought along many virtues, but priestcraft did not migrate with them. Strongest among their feelings, was the love they bore for the evangel of freedom that was proclaimed anew in this western Patmos. They seem to us, worthy successors to those brave, bold barons, who wrested the Great Charter of rights from a tyrant king at Runnymede.

I repeat again, ancestral pride should burn strong

within us: and when I sometimes detect in men and women of the present generation, a disposition to ignore, or deny the lineage whence they sprung, I have for them only mingled feelings of pity and contempt. The dullest peasant that left his home in the Fatherland to seek an asylum in the land of Penn, is *more* than peer to his faithless descendant, who meanly denies his German parentage, lest he be called a "Pennsylvania Dutchman;" and they who do so, are both recreant and craven—the unworthy sons of worthy sires. Let it be our endeavor rather, to render ourselves worthy of the heritage that has come down to us—to emulate their self-denial, their heroism, and their brave stand in defense of religious and political freedom. May our own conduct in all the manifold relations of life be such, that when a hundred years hence those who shall come after us, gather around their country's altar, to rekindle the fires of loyalty and patriotism as we have done to-day, and *our* history comes up before them for review, they may render of us the same verdict we here pronounce upon those who preceded us, "They fought a good fight; they kept the faith."

APPENDIX.

AUTHOR'S NOTE.

It may be objected to by some, that undue prominence is given in the foregoing sketch to one nationality at the expense of others—that there were other peoples besides Germans who aided in the settlement and development of these townships. To him, however, who critically examines the story of that early colonization, this objection comes with no validity or strength. The English and Irish who settled here were insignificant in number, while the French did not reach a dozen: the Welsh outnumbered all these; they were steady, honest, hard-working colonists, and in time became wealthy and prominent citizens.

The German element, however, largely exceeded all the others combined, and even at that early day stood forth prominently as the controlling power in the new districts, just as it is to-day the controlling power in this Commonwealth, numbering 1,500,000 souls. Naught, save ignorance, to-day denies its claims or questions its influence. Besides, one of my aims has been to give it, so far as was in my power, the prominence to which it is so justly entitled. While the claims of other nationalities have been sung by poets, proclaimed by orators and told by historians, but scant mention or praise has hitherto fallen to the large Germanic emigration that found a congenial home on the fruitful soil of Pennsylvania.

The ignorant abuse of Parkman may be cited as a case in point; Swinton's school-history of the United States is another; in this latter volume not one word is said concerning the German exodus to Pennsylvania; the Quakers—barely a handful compared with the Germans—receive full mention, while the nationality that to-day controls the destinies of this state, is quietly ignored; and yet, this is the History (!) discriminating school-boards place in the hands of the rising generation, and out of which it is expected

to learn the true history of this country! The truth of history, no less than the too long neglected claims of our German ancestry demands this full recognition. Would it were in my power to present the case more strongly still.

I never knew how deep the well is, at whose bottom truth is said to lie, until I personally undertook to sound it. My desire to accept no verbal statements on trust only, and my anxiety to refrain as much as possible from making any that were not susceptible of verification, have entailed no little amount of labor upon the preparation of the preceding sketch. The conflicting statements of aged men and women as to past events, and the unreliability of men's memories concerning transactions that occurred fifty or more years ago, when confronted with written records, have perhaps made me unnecessarily cautious, but if I needs must err, I preferred to do so in saying too little rather than too much.

While I am well aware my performance is by no means free from errors, I take it upon myself to say no attempt has been made to bend or distort facts in support of any peculiar views or theories: my aim has at all times been to elicit the truth and that only. I have endeavered to make a fair and honest use of the materials that have come into my hands. My regret is that my work falls so far short of what I could wish it to be, or than it perhaps would have been, had its preparation been confided to abler hands.

In addition to the acknowledgments already made in the preceding pages for courtesies received, and assistance rendered, I avail myself of this means of owning my indebtedness to other parties who have from time to time voluntarily tendered such information as they possessed, or who, at my request or suggestions have taken the trouble of investigating facts which I could not conveniently do myself. My thanks are due Revds. J. W. Hassler, D. W. Gerhard and S. S. Henry for valuable information relative to the church organizations with which they stand connected: to ex-Sheriff Adam Bare, Michael Hildebrand and Joseph Miller—men nearly a century old, but with minds still strong and clear,—to Messrs. James Diller, John

S. Weaver, A. E. Roberts, Dr. C. F. Groff and G. W. Davidson for statistical information concerning the towns in which they respectively reside,—to Geo. H. Ranck, esq., for many valuable favors and suggestions, and above all to E. G. Groff, esq., who, from the beginning until now, has been indefatigable and untiring in his endeavors to aid me, and of whose valuable services gratitude impels me to make this free and full recognition.

APPENDIX A.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH LOTTERY.

The authority to raise money to pay the debt on the Lutheran church in New Holland, is here given in full:

"*An* Act *for raising, by Way of Lottery, the Sum of* Four Hundred and Ninety nine Pounds, nineteen shillings, *to be applied to the Payment of the arrears of Debt due for the building and finishing the* German Lutheran Church *in* Earl *Township, in* Lancaster *County, and towards the erecting and building of a School-House to the same church.*"

The various clauses and conditions of the act cover some five or six large pages, and cannot be reproduced here: to give the reader an idea how such things were managed in those days, the principal rules governing the scheme may be briefly told. It is stated in the act that the Wardens and Elders of the said church have represented that notwithstanding the subscription heretofore made, there yet remains a considerable sum due for the work already done: and a further sum besides what has hitherto been raised by contributions among themselves will be wanted to pay off the indebtedness. Authority is therefore granted to raise the money by a lottery: Edward Hughes, Michael Tiefendurfer, Philip Martsteller, John Schultz, Charles Miller, George Rine, George Stahley and Henry Rockey, were nominated and appointed Managers and Directors of the said lottery. The issue of 4,444 tickets to be sold at fifteen shillings each was authorized; of these 1,519 were to be "fortunate" (prize) tickets, of the following values:

1	fortunate	ticket	of	£112	10 0	which principal sums so to be expressed upon the said fortunate tickets, together with £9 7 6 to be allowed to the owner of the first drawn ticket and the like sum of £9 7 6 to be allowed to the last drawn ticket would amount in the whole to £3333. From this sum
2	"	"		37	10 0	
4	"	"		18	15 0	
10	"	"		11	5 0	
20	"	"		7	10 0	
50	"	"		3	15 0	
100	"	"		3	0 0	
400	"	"		2	5 0	
932	"	"		1	10 0	

the managers were authorized to deduct fifteen per cent., which would give them £499 19. The drawing was to be published in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*: the managers were obliged to take an oath before a magistrate to do their duties fairly and honestly;

every fortunate drawer was obliged to call for his prize money within nine months; if he failed to do so, it was covered back into the church treasury. The net receipts, after all expenses were paid, were to be applied to the discharge of the church debt and the erection of the school-house: the Treasurer was to be released from his obligations upon getting a receipt in full from the Elders and Wardens: the managers and directors were required to lay their acts before any three of the Justices of the Court of Quarter Sessions, to be by them examined and adjusted. The lottery to be held within two years of the date of the passage of the act of authorization, which was May 20, 1767.

The lottery was drawn in accordance with the above scheme, and the church debt no doubt paid off; but where is the school-house that was contemplated? Were the funds insufficient, or was it built after all and has its very existence been forgotten? The erection of a free-school-house in 1787, in which this congregation took a very prominent part, is almost decisive evidence that no school-house was built with the lottery money.—*See Acts of the Colonial Assembly for* 1767.

APPENDIX B.

ASSESSORS' LISTS AND TAXATION.

No existing documents are more interesting or throw more light on the early history of these townships, than the Assessors' lists. Unfortunately, these go back no further than the year 1754, all prior to that year having been destroyed by fire. Nor is the series complete from that time on; more than half are missing, until we come down to 1814. Consisting at times of a single sheet of fools-cap paper, and at most of a few sheets loosely stitched together, we need not wonder they were not better preserved, but rather, that any at all have survived the flight of years.

In the year 1754, just twenty-five years after the township organization, we find the number of taxables 199, and the amount of tax levied £29 19 0, or less than $150: the population for the same period may be set down at about 800, the increase being no doubt largely attributable to the influx of new emigrants. The names of some of the first colonists had multiplied considerably, and as a matter of interest and curiosity, a list of the number of the best known, as found on that list, is here given: Graaf, 7; Davis, 7;

Carpenter, 5; Weaver, 5; Martin, 4; Diffenderffer, 3; Hildebrand, 3; Bear, 3; Hoover, 3; Edwards, 3; Ronk, 2; Reif, 2; Mumma, 2; Sheaffer, 2; Roland, Smith, Shirk, Kinser, Diller, Kurtz, Greybil, Eby, &c., only one time each. The largest tax paid by any one man was seven shillings and four pence, by Emanuel Carpenter, esq., who for a long series of years stood at the head of the list; the smallest sum paid was one shilling. Jacob Roland was the collector for this year. The tax list is commonly headed "Earltown Tax for the King's use."

Three years later, in 1757, when Moses Irwin and John Smith collected it, that assessment had increased 900 per cent., amounting to £274 2 6. In 1759 the amount of tax levied went up to £290 9 9. The early names on the tax list had increased still more rapidly, there were 12 Martins, 11 Weavers, 9 Carpenters, 8 Groves or Groffs, 7 Davises, 5 Diffenderffers, 5 Bears, 3 Rolands, 2 Ellmakers, 2 Kinzers, 2 Kreybils, etc., etc.

The names on the tax roll were divided into several classes. First came the list headed "*Inmates;*" these were married men and house or land holders: after these followed the list of "*Freemen,*" which included the unmarried portion of the male population. When the Revolutionary war commenced, the assessment lists were still further subdivided, into such as took the Oath of Allegiance to the state, and those who refused to do so. At this period we also have "*Associators*" and "*Non-Associators;*" the latter represented the non-fighting element, such as Quakers, Mennonites, etc., while the former, untrammeled by religious or other scruples, were willing and ready to take up arms when called upon. In the year 1777 the list of *Non-Associators* numbered no less than 338 names: if they were exempt from doing military duty, they were not absolved from contributing their quota of money to the good cause, for in this year these peace-loving citizens were obliged to pay £3 10 each into the strong box of their sorely-pressed country.

In and after the year 1781, the taxes were levied in two kinds of money, gold and silver, and paper or state money, that is, part had to be paid with the former and part could be paid with the latter. The instructions addressed to the tax collectors ran as follows: "And further you are to take Notice, that all Persons who have

taken the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to this State, have a right to pay the one half part of the Tax, called the Hard Money Tax, in State money, emitted in pursuance of an act passed the seventh Day of April 1781, for which Purpose the Persons who have taken said Oath are placed separately. But the Tax called the State Money Tax may be received in any sort of State money." So much had state money depreciated in 1781, that I find the tax for that year put down at the enormous sum of £45196 10: how much that was equivolent to in go'd, it is not easy to say. In the year following the conclusion of the war, the hard money tax assessed was £2375 17 6, and that in state money £1020 4 7. These two kinds of money continued to be received for a number of years: in 1787 the amount of taxation had dwindled down to £791 4 3 in hard money, and £146 7 5 in soft.

Although a large number of the citizens of these townships were "Non-Associators," still, as I have elsewhere said, the population was very generally loyal to the cause of the Colonies. So far as I have been able to ascertain—and I have searched diligently—there was at no time any serious or organized resistance to the patriot cause. Elsewhere in the county, as is well known, formidable opposition was manifested to the enlistment and departure of soldiers. In April, 1777, Congress passed a militia law to be better enabled to repel the threatened state invasion by Gen. Howe. Lancaster county was called on for nine battalions: in eight of the thirty three townships into which the county was divided, there was open rebellion, and for a time it was found impossible to enforce the law. Donegal and the adjacent districts seem to have been the principal theatre of discord: the Mennonites were foremost in the strife; they paid little attention to the constables or their warrants. On June 25, 1777, a squad of soldiers was sent to levy the fines due by one Samuel Albright: he had notice of their coming, and collected a number of men and women armed with scythes, coulters and pitch forks; they brained one of the soldiers and put the rest to flight, but not before the latter had fired a volley, badly wounding Albright and several other ringleaders.* That precious species of casuistry which forbade them to

*See letters of Col. Lowry, John Bagley, B. Galbraith and James Lang, in Penna. Archives, Vol. V, pp. 333, 353, 396-7, 407, 409.

fight the enemies of their country, and yet allowed them to deliberately slay their friends and neighbors, seems difficult of apprehension.

APPENDIX C.

TOWNS.

NEW HOLLAND.

Some notice of this town, especially in reference to its name, has already been given in a previous portion of this sketch: a fuller description is here added. Its location is on the New Holland turnpike, thirteen miles in a north-east direction from Lancaster. It lies continuously on both sides of this road for more than a mile: several attempts have been made to open other streets at right angles with the turnpike, in the hope that the town would grow in other directions than length, but thus far these efforts have not met with any extraordinary degree of success. It is built on a slightly elevated limestone ridge, from whence the ground slopes northward towards the Conestoga, and southward towards Mill Creek.

As has already been said, the first settler built his cabin not on the present site of the town, but in the immediate vicinity. Who erected the first house in the town proper, and where it stood, are questions that will perhaps never be positively determined: no known written record exists bearing on these facts. It is known, however, that the first well dug in the place, is the one on the turnpike opposite the residence of William L. Barstler: it is also known that it was dug by Amich Snyder, who, in company with two neighbors, had built their log huts in that vicinity. They had no permanent water supply, however, and to remedy this deficiency, agreed to dig a well; lots were drawn to decide upon which one of them the task should fall: the fates pointed out Snyder as the one appointed to do the work, and he did it. It is reasonable to suppose the site for the well was not far removed from their dwellings, and as it is a well authenticated fact that a house formerly stood on the spot now occupied by Mr. Barstler's dwelling—itself a very old building—we cannot go far astray in marking that as the spot whereon stood one of the first three houses, built about the same time, in the present town of New Holland. The second well in this place was dug by a Mr. Brant, at the lower end of the town. Before these wells were dug, the

few settlers living in the town were obliged to do their washing, butchering, &c., at the spring now owned by Mrs. Buch, at the eastern end of the town, and bring their daily supply of water for domestic purposes from thence.

New Holland has not shown the increase that might reasonably be expected from its central locality and great age. Although the buildings erected a century ago are gradually disappearing, it has been only within the last twenty or thirty years that any very marked advance has been made in the style of its architecture and in material progress generally. A new era seems, however, to have dawned, and in recent years, no inland town in the county has progressed more rapidly.

There are in the town, 4 churches, 1 graded school of four grades, 1 select or private school, taught by Miss Annie C. Brubaker, 4 Sunday-schools, 3 physicians, 1 dentist, 5 hotels, 3 stores selling general merchandise, 2 hardware stores, 2 millinery stores, 1 lawyer, 2 surveyors, 3 conveyancers, 1 confectioner, 1 drug store, 3 master carpenters, 1 auctioneer, 1 brick-yard, 1 hot-house, 1 marble yard, 2 wagon makers, 2 tin and copperware manufacturers, 1 plasterer, 1 butcher, 2 barber shops, 2 hucksters, 3 ice-cream saloons, 1 beer saloon, 3 cigar factories, 1 base-ball club, 1 cooper, 1 photograph gallery, 1 jewelry store, 1 grocery, 2 drovers, 3 coach-making establishments, 1 stone-mason and brick-layer, 3 tailor shops, 5 blacksmiths, 4 saddle and harness manufacturers, 1 cabinet maker and furniture dealer, 1 warehouse including coal and lumber yards, 4 resident clergymen, 1 printing office using a steam-power press, and publishing the NEW HOLLAND CLARION, a four-page weekly newspaper, with a large and rapidly increasing circulation and a widely extended influence; it has also a brass band which has been in existence for a period of twenty years; during the war of the Rebellion it went into service as a band and made for itself an enviable record; the person to whom it owes its origin, and to whom its long life, efficiency and success are almost wholly attributable, is Mr. Isaac Witwer; during all that period his valuable services as organizer and leader have been freely rendered, and it is to him the citizens of New Holland are indebted for what has become one of their most highly-prized institutions. Population about 900.

Although, so far as I have been able to ascertain, no Indian

depredations were ever committed in these townships, the hostilities that everywhere prevailed along the frontier and in the adjacent counties, in 1763, resulted in a tragedy near by New Holland, that was long remembered by the citizens. In Berks county scores of men, women and children fell victims to Indian cruelty; a general alarm and uneasiness prevailed in these parts, and when one day in early summer, the rumor reached the vicinity of the town that a band of merciless, murdering savages were at hand, the farmers and their families sought safety and shelter in the fields and woods. On the farm immediately north of the town, now owned by Mr. Blank, lived a farmer named Hoffman; at the alarm, he and his family sought safety in flight, the several members of it scattering in every direction. The panic proved groundless, but when it was over, a daughter named Rachel, about 8 years old, was missing; search was instituted, but all the efforts to find her were in vain. It was only when the wheat was cut in an adjoining field, that her dead body was found. Fear and fright had done their work, and the child's life had been sacrificed to their united influence.

VOGANSVILLE.

The thriving village of Vogansville is pleasantly located near the north-western border of Earl township. Its situation is on slightly elevated ground, affording pleasing views of the surrounding country. The founder of the village was John Vogan, who erected the first house on the site of the present town, in 1839, and gave it his name. His father was James Vogan, and his grandfather William Vogan, who migrated to this country in the latter half of the last century, from County Caven, Ireland. The wife of the latter was Margaret Riley, daughter of John Riley, also an Irish emigrant.

James and John Vogan, the sons of the above named William, both took an active part in the struggle for Independence. Both were present at the Paoli massacre: the former held a commission, but of what grade is not known. His sword and the box in which his regimentals were kept, are faithfully preserved and may still be seen in the possession of his son Isaac Vogan, the oldest survivor of the direct descendants of the family.

While James and his brother John were fighting the battles of their country, the homestead farm was left in charge of the for-

mer's wife, Margaret, who, with the aid of a negro boy, cultivated so much of it as sufficed for their support. The ground whereon the village is built was part of the old farm.

The population is about 134. The houses are for the most part well built, with attractive yards and gardens attached. There is a Union church and also another building, used for public worship by the Evangelical Association. There is one store for the sale of general merchandise, one hotel, a coach manufactory, two boot and shoe shops, a blacksmithing establishment and a large flour barrel manufactory. Lime burning is an industry largely carried on in the immediate vicinity of the town; five large kilns are almost in constant operation, and turn out many thousands of bushels of lime annually, most of which is used as a fertilizer by the farmers of the surrounding country.

HINKLETOWN.

This village takes its name from George Hinekle, who was either the first settler or the most prominent man of the place: at all events, he kept the first hotel established there, raised a family of four sons, and at his death left no inconsiderable amount of worldly goods to be shared by his heirs.

The town lies along what was once called the "Paxton Road," a name so nearly erased from the memories of men, that of all from whom information was sought, only Roland Diller, esq., of New Holland, and Adam Bare, esq., of Bareville, were able to indicate its locality. A reference to some old deeds corroborated their evidence. This highway is now known as the Harrisburg and Downingtown turnpike.

The Conestoga river crosses the site of the town, and is spanned by a covered wooden bridge. The place contains two hotels, (one lately closed, known as Swinkey's), two stores, two blacksmith shops, two saddle and harness makers, one coach maker, one carpenter, one stone mason, one tailor, one dentist, two physicians, a watch maker, one school-house, one union church and one resident clergyman. There is also a grist and saw mill.

That part of the village lying east of the Conestoga bridge, was formerly known as Swopestown: this name was not derived from that of an individual, but from a number of Suabians who located there, the principal one of whom was Johan Barnhard Frank, and who also erected the first house. In the German language, Sua-

bians are called Swopes, hence the name Swopestown, or town of the Suabians. The first hotel in this part of the town was kept by a widow named Elizabeth Rine, who died in 1807; she had been the presiding genius of this hostelry for many years, and was the co-temporary of Barbara Hinckle, the relict of the ancient landlord at the western end of the town. Population about 200.

FAIRVILLE, (*Terre Hill P. O.*)

The site of this small but rapidly growing place is on the southern slope of a range of moderately elevated hills in East Earl township. From its commanding position it overlooks the fairest portion of the Conestoga valley, and can itself be seen from long distances.

Abner Clime was the founder of the village in 1840. At that time he purchased a small frame house from John Oberholser, a farmer and distiller, who lived about half a mile south of the present town, for $100, and removed it to Fairville, on the northwest corner of the Reamstown road and the public street, where he had purchased eleven acres of land for $218, and where he still lives. Mr. Clime being a hard-working man, carried the greater part of the house he had purchased to its present site, by night, after the labors of the day were over. This was the first house put up in the place. Mr. Clime sold part of his eleven acres to others, who soon began to erect buildings: his own house was burnt down in 1861, when he built the one in which he now resides: he owns a cigar manufactory in which from twelve to twenty hands are continually employed: he is the fourth in descent from George Clime, who was a German emigrant.

The distinguishing industry of Fairville is the cigar business. There are no less than twelve establishments where this branch of trade is carried on, exceeding in this particular every other town of equal size in the county. It also has two churches,—one Evangelical and one Union,—two smith shops, two shoe-making shops, one wagon factory, one saddle and harness maker, one tinsmith, one merchant tailor, one coach factory, two cabinet-making and furniture establishments, one undertaker, one refreshment saloon, two stores, one brass band, two physicians and one resident clergyman. Population about 300.

Connected with the early history of Fairville, is an incident that

seems worthy of preservation. The Mr. Oberholser, spoken of above as residing a short distance from the town where he pursued the calling of a distiller, had for a customer, a neighbor who often drank immoderately, and who, when overtaken in his cups, ill-treated and abused his own family. After one of these drunken debauches, the ill-used wife took her way to Mr. Oberholser's house, exhibited the plainly visible marks and stripes received at her husband's hands, and told him, such were the results of his supplying her husband with liquor. Mr. Oberholser was so wrought upon by the poor wife's story that he resolved at once to quit the business, and did so forthwith.

The *Terre Hill Standard* newspaper, is issued from this place: it is a large eight-page weekly, handsomely printed, with able editorials and choice selections. It is a credit to the enterprising spirit of the citizens, and deserving of the extended patronage it has received. J. J. Sprenger, esq., is the editor and proprietor, and J. C. Martin, esq., associate editor.

GOODVILLE.

The town of Goodville is built along the Little Conestoga turnpike, in East Earl township, about eighteen miles east of the city of Lancaster, two and a half miles east of the "Blue Ball" hotel, two and a half miles west of Churchtown and about two miles north of the New Holland Extension of the East Brandywine and Waynesburg Railroad.

The town was founded in 1815, by John Weaver, who in that year put up a building intended as a hotel, and it was used as such for a long series of years, the sign a "Red Lion," being well remembered by men still living. (That Mr. Weaver was a good landlord is proven by the long time he kept the hotel, and that he was a very poor naturalist is fully as manifest in the sign that designated his hostelry: *red lions* are about as scarce as the phœnix in our days, and I have every reason to think were so in his).

No other buildings were erected for some years after the "Red Lion" was built. Jacob Shultz was the next builder, and shortly afterwards began to keep a small store in partnership with a lady named Kibler: this business place has undergone many mutations, having changed owners often and even removed to the opposite

side of the street, but still flourishes under the ownership of John S. Weaver & Son. The place has improved more rapidly of late years, and now contains twenty-five dwelling houses and a population of about 130 souls.

There is one large hardware establishment; one store for the sale of dry goods, groceries, boots and queensware; the senior partner of which, John S. Weaver, has been in business continually for a period of thirty-three years; one coach manufactory, one blacksmith shop, one machine shop, one saddler shop, one tinware establishment, one clock and watch-making concern, one clothing, shoe and hat store, several tailoring shops, two practicing physicians and several surveyors and scriveners.

One of the earliest Sabbath-schools in the eastern portion of these townships was organized near this place about the year 1820, by the Miss Kibler mentioned above. No suitable room being at first obtainable, this school was for a considerable time held in private houses. Afterwards it was removed to the Red school-house near Goodville, and a little later the Sabbath-school at Cedar Grove Church was organized, where Miss Kibler attended and taught for many years: this school still enjoys a vigorous and healthy existence. Too much credit cannot be given to such early pioneers in the Sabbath-school cause, and it gives me pleasure therefore to place on record the laudable work of this estimable lady, who still lives to rejoice in the results of her early labors, and happy in the consciousness of having wrought long and well in her Master's vineyard.

Several Revolutionary soldiers lived in the vicinity of this place; one of these, Henry Hambright, was well known. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Germantown and received unsoldierly treatment at the hands of a Hessian officer: he died March 2, 1835, having almost completed his 86th year.

Henry Gable was another veteran of the times that tried men's souls: the spirit of 1776 burned as ardently in him in his extreme old age, as it did in his youth on the field of battle. He died about the year 1828: some of his descendants are still living.

FARMERSVILLE.

This village justly claims to be one of the most energetic and enterprising within the limits of the Earls. The first house was

built by Eckert Myers in 1843, and to-day the population will not fall under 300. It has a daily mail from Lancaster, Hinkletown and Fairville. The town was named in 1855, when a post-office was first established here. It possesses several stores, an excellent hotel, a large carriage building establishment, an extensive smith shop, a merchant tailoring establishment employing a large number of hands, and many other places where mechanical pursuits are carried on.

E. Burkholder, a well known scrivener and conveyancer, in 1847, started a printing office near this village, which was in 1870 removed to the town itself. It possesses a superior school-house, and close by are two of the finest flouring mills to be found in the county. In dry seasons the town is supplied with an abundant supply of excellent water, brought from a well dug in the top of a hill north east of the town, and which is supplied to the citizens by means of pipes and a hydrant. The *West Earl Banner*, a large four page monthly newspaper is published here under the editorship and control of W. J. Kauffroth and E. H. Burkholder, esqs.; it is liberally patronized and has a very fair circulation. The township elections have been held in this place ever since the township organization.

BROWNSTOWN.

In point of size and importance, this is the second town in West Earl. It is located on the direct mail route between Lancaster, Fairville and Reading. The first building was put up many years ago, since which time the place has progressed steadily. It has two dry good stores, two blacksmith shops, one carpenter shop, one hotel, one tailor shop, one saddle and harness maker, one cigar manufactory, one butcher shop, one wagon maker, one shoe shop, two school-houses, one Evangelical church to which there is belonging a grove, in which camp meetings have been annually held for a long series of years. Population at the present time, about 200.

EARLVILLE.

Earlville is a pleasant little village of West Earl, and acquired its name when that township was separated from the parent district in 1833. It boasts of one store for the sale of all classes of merchandise, one hotel, one mill, one school-house, one shoe-

maker shop, two coach makers, one blacksmith shop, one cigar factory, one tailoring establishment, one resident physician and surgeon, one veterinary surgeon, one church, (Carpenter's Union meeting house), and a population of about 150. This neighborhood was the home of the Carpenter family for nearly a century, and the Christian Carpenter who was sheriff of the county in 1797, kept the first store in this part of the township at a very early period. The town shows many signs of activity and improvement.

APPENDIX D.

"BERGSTRASS" CHURCH.

There is some doubt in my mind as to whether this church ever stood within the Earl limits. Ephrata township, within whose boundaries it now is, was organized in 1838, and was formed entirely out of territory taken from Cocalico township: from this it would seem the church must have belonged to the latter and not to Earl, prior to the erection of Ephrata township. On the other hand, all the early records of the church, its papers and deeds, without exception, speak of the church as being in, and belonging to Earl township. I suspect the truth to be, that as the church stood at that early day, even as it does now, within a few feet of the Earl line, and as the township boundaries were perhaps not too well known at that time, the error was made of believing the church to be in Earl instead of Cocalico. At all events, the records speak plainly and cannot be ignored, and I therefore make room for a brief notice of the church, even though it no longer stands upon the soil of the Earls.

The first notice of the church is an article of agreement among twelve citizens, dated ERLES TOWN, May 18, 1752, for the purpose of building a church and calling a minister. Then comes the "Church Book (record) for the congregation in EARLISGS DOWN, which the same has purchased out of the common treasury for 5 shillings, the 7th day of February, 1753." On February 27, 1762, George Wernes and his wife, Mary Elizabeth, gave a deed for two acres of ground for £2 10, to Andrew Sweigart and Conrad Breneiser, in trust, "for the proper use and behoof of the members of the Lutherion Congregation, for a school house and burying ground." This land had been purchased in 1753, nine years

previously, but the deed was not given until 1762. The land is said to be "situate, lying and being in Earl township."

The first church, built about the year 1753, was a log edifice, weatherboarded: it stood nearly a hundred years, and in 1848 gave way to the handsome edifice on the hillside, at present used by the congregation. The first pastor was John Theophilus Engellond, from 1753 until 1758; John Samuel Swerdfeger, from 1758-1768; Wm. Kurtz, 1763–1781; John Daniel Schrœter, 1781–1784; Frederick Melsheimer, 1785–1790; Heinrich Mœller, 1790-1798; John Plitt, 1798–1813; Peter Filbert, 1813–1823; John F. Engle, for a brief period; Charles Riitze, 1823–1825; John W. Richards, 1825-1834; S. Trumbaur, 1835–1856; D. P. Rosenmiller, 1856–1858; G. M. Mertz, 1758–1859; S. R. Boyer, 1859–1868; R. S. Wagner, 1869-1873; S. S. Henry, 1873–1876. The church is built on a road leading from the Harrisburg and Downingtown turnpike over the Ephrata mountains, hence its name "Bergsrass."

APPENDIX E.

CHURCHES AND MILLS.

EARL TOWNSHIP.

Earl Township has ten churches: two at Vogansville, one a Union and the other Evangelical; one at Hinkletown, a Union; two Mennonite, one at Stauffer's and the other at Fairview, near Martin's store; four at New Holland, one Lutheran, one Reformed, one Methodist Episcopal and one United Brethren; one at Seldomridges or Zeltenreich's, a Union.

It also has six mills: one at Hinkletown, first (perhaps) Hinkle's, then Bushong's, Werntz's, Shriner's and now Martin's; Sensenig's, now Bear's; Galt's, then Erb's, Overholser's and now Zimmerman's; all these are on the Conestoga and have saw-mills attached: there is also a clover mill on this stream known as Sensenig's clover mill. On Mill Creek there are two: Brubaker's, formerly Horst's, and the other, once Rein's, Roland's, Swope's, Neff's and now Hoober's: these have also saw-mills belonging to them. The sixth and last is Martin's, located on the fine stream known as Martin's spring. There was in addition to these a small chopping mill near the head of Mill Creek, known as Hildebrand's; this property was lately sold, and the mill building torn down.

EAST EARL.

East Earl numbers six churches within her limits: a Presbyterian at Cedar Grove, an Evangelical and a Union at Fairville; a Mennonite in Weaverland; a United Brethren at Ranck's, commonly known as the "Brick Church," and a Lutheran and Reformed at Center, known as Center Church, as well as by its more modern name, "St. John's."

It has also six mills: Rupp's, (formerly Shirk's), Henry Martin's and Joseph Overholser's, all of which are on the Conestoga; David Martin's (formerly Frantz's) and Martin Frantz's, (formerly Dosch's) on a small stream near the Sorrel Horse; and Binkley's, Kurtz's and now Goods, on Mill Creek, near the Welsh Mountains.

WEST EARL.

West Earl contains six grist mills within her boundaries, each, save one, with a saw-mill attached: H. B. Grabill's; Wolt's, now Wenger's; Martin's and Burkholder's, formerly Bitzer's; these are all on the Conestoga; on Groff's run are two more, Abraham Groff's and Abraham Martin's, and also a saw-mill owned by Benjamin Sheaffer. There are likewise two woolen factories in the township: John K. Zook's on the Cocalico, and Jacob Musselman's on Groff's run; this latter is an ancient and rather imposing structure, built near the place where Hans Graaf first located.

West Earl also boasts of having had within her bounds *one* of the first, and perhaps *the* first mill erected in Lancaster county. This stood on the south side of the Conestoga, right at the point where the Cocalico unites its waters with that stream; it was made a corner of Warwick township when that district was organized in 1729, and only through that fact has its existence been preserved from utter oblivion. How long it was there prior to that date, is unknown. A recent visit to the spot (Aug. 29, 1876), resulted in a verification of the record: the mill race still exists as distinctly and plainly as it did 147 years ago, although no memory or tradition of it has survived among those who live near the spot. An ancient deed, covering the spot was also found and mentions it as a mill site, and speaks of the mill race, but the mill had even then disappeared. Hans Graaf, the first settler in these townships, was the builder and owner of this early mill.

There are four churches in the township: one at Brownstown, denominated Evangelical: Carpenter's, a Union, and two Mennonite, one at Metzler's, and the other in Groff's Dale.

Quite close to Henry B. Grabill's mill, there is an ancient Indian burial place. It is on a hill of some elevation, and was formerly overshadowed by lofty forest trees. The camp-fires of the race that quietly sleeps beneath it, once burned brightly on the hills and in the valleys that are lying around it. The rippling waters of the Conestoga, over whose bosom they once glided, are their only requium.

And who were they—the doubly dead?
Now o'er them waves oblivious sing;
No boasting trace of glory fled
Round their mute shrines is lingering:
No; not a name survives the wave,
That swept them in one soulless grave.

ORATION

DELIVERED BY

E. K. MARTIN, ESQ.

ORATION.

It would be idle indeed for an American, upon this day and occasion, to affect an indifference to the events of the past, and fruitless alike to smother the hopes that rise unbidden as he contemplates the future. We stand upon the threshold of a new century: mingled anxiety and pleasure are present here: the pleasure of a favored people, an anxiety born out of a feeling of our unworthiness, lest in the swift ascent to power, we might become intoxicated with our marvelous success, and forgetful of the hardships, denials and pinching want, in which our ancestors laid the foundations of this greatness, leave unfulfilled the high destiny heaven seems to have marked out for us.

The unexampled growth and vigorous, elastic step with which we trod the years that are behind, have created astonishment and wonder in monarchical Europe. Cradled in a period of revolution, the philosophers on the other side of the water predicted for us a pathway in history marked with popular insurrection, to end in the deepening gloom of disaster and defeat. That Constitution, springing from the unsatisfied aspirations of "Three millions of colonists on a strip of sea," they never dreamed could last until it crystallized into harmonious institutions, the political purposes of "forty millions of freemen stretching from ocean to ocean."

The student of history will understand me when I say cradled in a period of revolution. One hundred years ago to-day when it was proclaimed in that august instrument, just read in your hearing, that in the course of human events it had become necessary for one people to

dissolve the political bonds which had connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth a separate and equal station, Europe was emerging from a final struggle with old feudal tendencies. There were many forces at work: intellect in England, headed by Burke and Pitt; arms in France, under the sanguinary leadership of Robspierre and Danton,—the proudest royal houses of the continent trembled before the spirit of inquiry which the age fostered. The mighty hierarchy of Roman infallibility had been impeached: the eternal headship of the sovereign pontiffs denied and derided: the spirit of romance which had gilded the cross and the crosier of mediæval Europe had faded from the foreground of history: the very existence of Deity itself was questioned under the subtle disquisitions of Hume and Rosseau. All things were in transition—Government, Religion, Politics. It was an auspicious moment. The Romans were wont to see portents in the heavens when their emperors were born, mysterious movements of nature, strange lights on the firmament, unusual sounds in earth. It was the custom of a later superstition to attach importance to the stars under whose favoring or baleful influences their leaders came and went. But it remained for the prophetic vision of only a few great men of the eighteenth century to cast our horoscope and auger from the disturbed movements on the political firmament of Europe, the true grandeur which was to crown this latest daughter of a venerable civilization—this new child of the west Atlantic.

Edmund Burke painted a descendant of Lord Bathurst, under the guidance of the angel of his auspicious youth, viewing these splendid achievements. It is like a prophecy of Moses in the poetry of Milton. "If," said Mr. Burke,

"amid these bright and happy scenes of domestic prosperity and honor, that angel should have drawn up the curtain and unfolded the rising glories of your country, and, while you were gazing on the commercial grandeur of England, the same genius should point out to you a little speck, scarce visible in the mass of national interest, a small seminal principle rather than a formed body, and should tell you, 'Young man, there is America, which at this day serves for little more than to amuse you with the stories of savage men and uncouth manners, yet shall, before you taste of death, show itself equal to the whole of that commerce which now attracts the envy of the world.'" Such a painting, by such a master! Yet there was hardly a statesman in the old world who recognized the picture.

History tells us the century previous to the coming of Christ was marked in all its features by yearnings for a higher life. The old teachings of Paganism failed to satisfy the advanced thought of the scholar. The ripest intellects felt the emptiness of that sensual doctrine which clothed Gods innumerable with the passions and bickerings of mortals. So toward the close of the eighteenth century the best intellect of Europe was tired with the outworkings of feudalism, was ready to welcome the colonial experiment which twenty generations of our English ancestors, struggling against the usurpations and prerogatives of the crown, had fitted the forefathers in the highest degree to inaugurate, and which remoteness of geographical situation, diversity of climate, and the variety and vigor of a virgin soil made possible of success from the beginning.

I said twenty generations of our English ancestors, yet were I to attempt to limit the fruits of that great struggle to the part the English alone took in it, I should be

recreant to the duties of this hour — recreant to a pious ancestry who, for the sake of religious freedom, settled these fair fields and, upon this very spot, helped to reclaim from primeval nature the loveliest county of the Commonwealth.

I am not here to-day to tell the story of any nationality. Woven into the warp and woof of our political existence are the traces of many peoples — Celt, Saxon and Sclave — forming one homogeneous texture which we call American. Yet must I be pardoned, if, in the fifth generation, I summon up with pleasure the acts of an ancestry whom we regard with mingled pride and veneration. You, descendent of the English, have heard the story of the Pilgrim as it fell from the matchless lips of Webster and Everett, or burns in the glowing stanzas of Hemans and Sprague. Child of the Huguenot, you hardly think the brilliant pen of Martyn embalms sufficiently the heroic virtues and stout abnegation of a race, who, fleeing from the beautiful vales of Languedoc and Toulouse, sought refuge on the hospitable shores of the Carolinas. What I am about to tell you, in a few brief words, is all we have relating to another people, victims of the same malignant persecution, exiles for the same outraged conscience, yet whose inherent modesty, nay, I may say German diffidence, has hardly allowed them a place on the historic page of the colony of Penn.

On two sides of the Rhine, nestling among the provinces of Bohemia and Baden, Bavaria, Alsace and Loraine, its ancient territorial boundaries obliterated to-day from the maps of the world, lies the garden of Europe, furrowed by valleys the fairest on the continent, upon whose sunny slopes still dwells the happiest and most peaceful peasantry on the face of the earth, stretching backward to the dikes

of Holland and forward to the Vosges of France and the foot hills of the Alps; on its right the womb from which issued the Saxon on his mission of civil liberty, upon its left the nation of sturdy traffickers at whose knee England caught that mystic skill which has distinguished her in the markets of the world. To-day it is the brightest jewel in the crown of the German Empire. Bigoted its people may have been, but it was the stern bigotry which stepped into the breach with Luther, when England was treating for terms at the Pontifical Court. It was the bigotry that bolstered the failing fortunes of Gustavus Adolphus and bared its breast to the sanguinary cruelty of Tilly. Superstitious they may have been, but it was not a superstition that interfered with the consciences or the happiness of others; there was in it neither persecution nor proselytism; it was a reverential awe for the workings of nature which they could not understand, for the attributes of Deity which they might not comprehend — the simple, child-like veneration of a religious disposition, expending itself in ways sometimes fantastical and absurd, but never cruel or malicious. Upon such a people, lulled to security by the conciliatory temper of Richelieu and the kindly offices of Mazarin, surrounded by the comforts of more than a decade of comparative peace, burst the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, to be followed by the brutal soldiery of Turenne and Montclas; Spires and Worms, Heidelberg and Manheim went down in flames; the Electorate of Treves and the Margravate of Baden were covered with desolation. Such was the Palatinate and such its fate. It is the story of our ancestors—yours and mine.

Webster has drawn a pathetic picture of the Pilgrims as they sat huddled on the barren heath of Lincolnshire, houseless and by night, waiting for the signal of the vessel

which was to bear them from the land of their nativity He has told of sad partings, of the bereavement of separated friends and kindred; he has painted the violence of Charles II. and the tyranny of the short reign of James; of the martyr fires lighted at Smithfield and Oxford, only to be quenched in the pacific succession of Elizabeth. The world has recognized this picture and calls it sublime. Yet, it was an even handed struggle, that Reformation in England; half the time Protestantism was uppermost. At most, it was only a drawn battle between contending political factions; the friendly offices of kinship more than once interposed themselves to the rigors of punishment; a huge family brawl, at whose side stood conciliation and forgiveness ready to weld the conflicting interests the moment passion had subsided, or the appeal to arms had ceased.

But this other struggle was the deadly conflict of extermination; the engines for its execution had been forged in the arsenals of the Vatican; the malignant hate that was to man them had been recruited from the mercenaries of the religious wars of Europe, its appetite whetted with promised plunder; the generalship which was to direct the movement had its inspiration in the example of Alva, its perfidy in that of Philip II. and the warrants for its performance were issued by the Jesuits of the Spanish Inquisition. Conceived in bigotry, to be executed in the deepest cruelty, the expedition of Louis XIV. which resulted in the exodus of our German forefathers, stands alone, towering, distinctive and marked, above the similar acts filling the night side of history. Farm, vine, orchard, fruit tree, everything was to be destroyed. The order was to convert the valley of the Rhine into a desolate wilderness. With the deep snows of winter upon the earth, the General,

Melac, prepared to execute the ferocious mandate of Louis. He applied the torch to the dwellings of more than five hundred thousand people. It was not the hand of a countryman which might be stayed by an appeal to a common nationality, offered up in a common tongue; aliens in race, strangers in language, absolved by the Pope from considerations of humanity, the followers of Melac executed to the letter the decree of Louis. I close the book upon this chapter of their sufferings. Cavalier and Roundhead excesses were but the taunts of playmates compared with the diabolical spirit which followed this devoted band of Palatines. Do you wonder that the peasantry of the Rhine still call their dogs "Melac?"

Webster tells of suffering and privation, of the terrors of a night of storm, of a protracted voyage, and inhospitable shores. The Palatines lost seventeen hundred of their number on one voyage, and as to inhospitable shores, what shall we say? The bleak, barren coast would soon become familiar; the rough hillside, under laborious industry, be clothed with the verdure of spring; the graves of kindred, mingling with the soil, would by and by hallow the spot which enclosed them; one by one objects of affection and interest would thicken and the feelings of home overcome the obstacles of nature. But the inhospitality of man, what will compensate this? and that man a fellow wanderer, a fugitive from the same spirit of persecution. The venerable muse of history tells many a pathetic story, and it tells this as well, that the agents of the Proprietary loaded them with discriminating burdens, and refused these poor petitioners for rest, to whom Europe could offer no asylum, the right of purchasing any part of that lordly demain out of which William Penn had cajoled his "dusky brother" with a trifle of tobacco or a handful of beads,

and only allowed them, in the end, to become partakers of their privileges on condition that they would settle "the back lands" exposed to the unfriendly incursions of the Indian. Upon the records of our courts you may find the forty shillings per head which these "bold and indigent strangers," as they were called, paid for even that poor boon. This explains how you, people of the Earls, became dwellers in the fruitful valley of the Conestoga. Perhaps the settlement of this goodly land, which stretches out before us to-day, teeming with thriving villages, and fields bursting with plenty, was in obedience to an old German prophecy that, "In America the Palatines would be prosperous and happy." It certainly was never due to the kindly offices of the Proprietary.

I would not say a word to detract from the worth or the value of any class of men who colonized these shores. I think I know the spirit of that age. It was not an age of toleration, as we understand it; innovation the colonists resisted. There was a spirit of determination which controlled their purposes, but it was not a liberal spirit. The Germans of Pennsylvania never burned any witches indeed, but they, in their turn, did other things which smacked of the exclusiveness and narrow prejudices of the times. I am only seeking to place ourselves right in the history of the race—to share that credit so loudly bestowed in these times upon the virtue and the valor of the heroic age of America. To say, if you like, that the good ship "America," which dropped its anchor in the Schuylkill in the autumnal twilight on a September eve of 1681, with its handful of Germans, forerunners of that mighty Teutonic emigration which the next century was to precipitate upon these shores, was freighted with as precious a cargo, big with import to human freedom, tried with the same perils,

fervent in the same spirit, patient in the same tribulations, as ever cargo brought by Mayflower or Harvest Moon. If a Quaker Governor did not always do us justice, a Quaker poet has at least given us praise:

"And that bold hearted yeomanry, honest and true,
Who, haters of fraud, give to labor its due,
Whose fathers of old sang, in concert with time,
On the banks of Swatara the songs of the Rhine;
The German born pilgrims, who first dared to brave
The scorn of the proud in the cause of the slave."

I have departed a little from the purposes of my address to pass a somewhat lengthy panegyric upon a race but poorly understood in this land, without great historians or poets in their day, but the generations of whose unobtrusive toil have handed down to us a fair inheritance, preserved by equitable laws, the outgrowth of their sturdy common sense, and better yet, possessed by communities of their descendents whose homely virtues are inherited in a direct line through many generations of meritorious ancestry. I cannot but observe here, that while New England to-day laments the loss of her sons, swept into the vortex of national life, setting westward, in danger of losing her distinctive characteristics by the Teutonic and Celtic influences which are clambering into their places, complaining that her stony acres must soon be tilled by an alien race or left barren and valueless,—while this is transpiring in her midst, our lands still remain in the descendents of the first hardy stock, held by ancient indentures, supplemented by grant from father to son, reaching backward in one ever strengthening chain of titles to the original patents of Penn.

The German element of Pennsylvania has been called "A sleeping giant who knows not his strength." Bound

together as we are by ties of kindred only, deeply absorbed in the peaceful avocations of husbandry, without the clannish propensities of many of our neighbors, our modest worth has often been underrated. Not noisy in the councils of the state or nation we have yet infused the best blood into both; not demonstrative in commercial ascendency, we are there in the front rank among those who go down in ships upon the sea. In history our record has not abated. It has hazarded through four bloody wars none of that valor which made our ancestors the favorite soldiers of Adolphus and Orange. Bancroft says, "At the beginning of the Revolution we hear little of them, not from their want of zeal in a good cause, but from their modesty," and again he says, "Neither they, nor their descendants, have laid claim to all that is their due." We might invoke that spirit of inquiry which has marked the career of the scholastic life of the German in the Fatherland through two hundred years of patient research. We might invoke the sweet spirit of poetry which has rescued the beautiful German legends of the Hartz and the Rhine from the oblivion of time, and calling up these kindred spirits as we would assume a neglected inheritance, direct them to our achievements and exclaim, Countrymen of our countrymen, here are facts for your fiction, problems for your philosophy, flights of imagination for your poetry. Create for us, your kinsmen, as is our right, out of these materials a place in the Pantheon of national life. But we need it not; we are approaching unaided this consummation, as unaided our ancestors sought to build up on these shores a fair fabric of German-American freedom. The somewhat tardy influences of education are sowing the seeds which soon will awaken this "Giant" to a knowledge of his importance, and when you shall see his form seated with

the inheritors of the blood of other nationalities, as soon you must, he will be a substantial, massive figure, surpassed by none in intelligence and patriotism, practising the virtues of an ancient and honorable house, at his feet riches and honor, upon his manly brow prosperity and length of days.

But I have promised myself the pleasure of dwelling for a short time, on this occasion, upon some of the evidences of our national growth. Only the other day the Superintendent of Public Instruction of this Commonwealth told me that the intelligent, thoughtful foreigner was struck with nothing so forcibly as our American system of popular education. There is no place in the domestic economy of Europe for such an institution as the public school in the sense we know it, where a central authority leaves no school district, however obscure, without such supervision as enables the child of the poorest laborer to obtain, at least the elements of an education. If such a system exists there, I have failed by inquiry or reading to find it. Its elasticity, the patronage of the State, the fostering care of the national government, its non-sectarion character, the equality of every child in the school room, these are characteristics unknown to the clumsy systems of instruction employed in Europe, altogether incapable of introduction where the government absorbs the machinery of the church, and the church directs the intellect of the child.

I have introduced this topic here, first, because it is foremost in the catalogue of our virtues as others see us; again, because I regard the enlightenment of the public mind as the safety of our democratic institutions; finally, because it is distinctively and peculiarly the product of the first American century. University training made the learning of the early part of the century aristocratic. Perhaps, in

the formative period of our history, it was quite sufficient that it should be so, when a few great men, mastering the secrets of government, gave complexion by their teachings to the whole public sentiment of the nation, each moulding the opinion of an army of followers, it prevented a confusion of councils, which at that delicate stage of our national growth might have proven disastrous. But in this day, outside of the hired retainers of a few politicians of the baser sort, there are no followers. Under the benignant influence of Popular Education and the Press every man is beginning to be a Pope "on his own hook," and to have an opinion for himself, and so he ought. The traditionary "leader" or "wheel horse" in public life has degenerated into a common fellow like the rest of us. We wonder every now and then whether there is not a dearth of great men, stalwart, forensic giants, like Calhoun, and Clay and Webster, in whose presence men would go beside themselves with enthusiasm — who carried the multitude in their pockets. There is a theory in geology that, under the attrition of nature, the disintegrating forces of atmosphere and the elements, and, in obedience to the power of gravitation, the tops of the mountain ranges are being silently and gradually carried into the valleys beneath; that in homage to this great principle, by and by, untold ages hence, the earth will become a vast plain, and with a new adaptation of elements, man will look out upon a world, tame, perhaps, in variety, but perfect in contour. By an easy transition you can see obedience to a similar theory working among men, under the attrition of eager intellects, the disintegrating forces of Republicanism are at work among the aristocratic notions which we borrowed from Europe. Under the power of a broader enlightenment everywhere, great men are not coming down, but the masses

are coming up. These isolated peaks who stood alone in the world of intellect, towering, majestic among their fellows, jutting out from the dead level of humanity

"Like peaks of some sunk continent,"

are losing their solitary grandeur in the sea of intellect that is rising at their bases. In America, under the levelling influence of free institutions, this process is rapid and marked, and as we drift farther and farther from the moorings which fasten us to the habits and prejudices of the old world, the great public puts on the mantle of responsibility and assumes the places heretofore occupied by favorites of fortune. A nobleman complained to the late Napoleon because he was given a place at the royal table less honorable and distinguished than that assigned to an American. "I am a prince," said the courtier. "In America every man is a prince," replied Napoleon. And this proud position, which we are coming to occupy, must be attributed largely to the influence of the common school. Theoretically this system may have its defects, but practically, through the hundred years we have been making history, there is nothing which has contributed so directly or pointedly to the elevation of American life. It puts the struggles of the poor man on the side of duty to know that while he is toiling there are opened up to his offspring the avenues of power and greatness; it gives protection to the rich man in the guarantee that virtue and intelligence must ever be conservative elements in society.

The American newspaper is an educator hardly less influential, certainly not so safe, most assuredly not so reliable as the free school, but nevertheless important, powerful and indispensable. The old Napoleon used to call the newspaper the fifth great power of Europe. If

he had lived a little longer he might have seen it the second great power of America, and hardly the third at home.

In the methods of communication we have excelled the world. A Lancaster county inventor married the continents and annihilated the impediments of commerce, and American rapid transit is a science which has hardly yet been imitated in its perfection abroad. "The Road," has been defined, "as that physical sign or symbol by which you will best understand an age or a people." In Rome the public roads beginning at the Forum extended north, south, east and west, into every province of the empire, making each considerable town of Gaul, Persia or Britain easily accessible to the soldiery of the Capitol. But they were the paths of conquest—the arteries which sent out from a common centre the agents of devastation and destruction. Public spirit or private enterprise were but remote contingencies in their construction, if they were ever thought of at all. Now stand with me in the centre of that elaborate system of American railways which, radiating from our great metropolis, makes tributary to it the rich and diversified products of every State of the Union. Follow in its ramifications a single line—the Pennsylvania Railroad. Why, a bird of passage might thread its way from the chilly atmosphere of the lakes to the genial climate of the tropics by the smoke of its engines. Then think of it: the impulse which created this imposing result, is not the devastating principle of conquest, but the pacific struggle for commercial supremacy, pouring into the lap of commerce the offerings of peace—a rivalry at once creditable to man and acceptable to Deity. So far have we come in nineteen centuries.

But American invention, not satisfied in giving wings

to commerce, has added to the world nerves of lightning, bringing into conversational proximity the people who dwell at the foot of the Rocky Mountains and those on the slopes of the Himalayas and rivers of China. When General Jackson fought the battle of New Orleans, the treaty of Ghent had been signed, but it took two months for the news to reach the old hero behind the cotton bales of Louisiana. A fortnight ago they were trying a cause in a court of Philadelphia in which some important testimony was required from the other side the water; the facts were cabled to London and, without interrupting the suit, an answer was returned to the court in forty minutes.

The means of enlightenment and the appliances of commerce which the century has developed are supplemented by the instruments of labor. The other day as I stood in Machinery Hall, at Philadelphia, and witnessed the easy grace of the great Corliss engine performing its wondrous work, I felt like taking off my hat and making a profound obeisance to this splendid achievement of American skill —this "magnificent, harmonious giant," as a Frenchman called it, working a thousand shafts and ten thousand spindles, dragging in swift volition after its noiseless vibrations miles of belting, inspiring here some powerful combination, moving there a cunning implement whose parts adjusted themselves as delicately as the touch of a woman, while on every side, at its feet, the hum of endless industries went up, like the music of some unknown worship, chanting praises to the genius of mechanism.

In another department were the implements of the American husbandman. You remember the solicitude with which a generation or two ago regarded these innovations. They were the enemies of the poor man come to steal the sustenance from the mouths of his family—"the

laborer never again would be worthy of his hire." Well, bread and butter are vigilant, at least they say so in p li-tics. But to have told the average Lancaster county farm laborer of half a century ago, that mowers and reapers, threshers and seeders, would increase the price of labor, would have been to pass yourself off for an idiot or a knave. Now I will make a prophecy: add to these implements of to-day the labor-saving machinery of another quarter of a century of American ingenuity, and you will strip agriculture of its proverbial burdens, and put into the hand of the farmer the lightened labor shared by the other great industries of the land.

"Then comes the statlier Eden back to man;"

not still an Eden without work, but an Eden in which the powers of nature are subdued to the will of man, and the forces of nature made to lighten his burdens.

I might speak of the products of the earth which, in the century gone by, this favored country has produced — tell you how, with the climate of all Europe compassed in our borders, we outrival the cereals of the Danube with the cereals of the Mississippi — the wines of Valencia with the vintage of California; how the ores of Pennsylvania compare in richness with those of old Bilboa, and the ingots of Nevada in fineness with those of Australasia. But I must hasten to my conclusion.

Again I stand in another department of that great exhibition. Before me, on high templed walls, run strange hieroglyphics; mystic, symbolic pyramid and sphynx are there. I read above the arched entrance, "Egypt, the oldest people of the world, the people of the Bible, sends her greeting to the youngest." What a flood of memories come over me! I seem to commune with the spirit of other days. I see before me the fertile plain of the Nile, with its

thousands of slaves, the captives of many dreadful wars, harnessed like beasts of burden to chariot and plow. The taskmasters of Pharaoh are there, and the children of that ancient bondage. Over all broods tyranny, caste and priestcraft — the handmaidens of oppression. Four thousand years of human effort bridges the gulf between these two civilizations, of bitter but not fruitless struggling, until man, rescued from ignorance and taught self-reliance, calls himself free. We stand upon the apex of that effort, crowning the civilization of the world, the foremost people of the day, champions of man's liberty, as our country must ever be the vehicle of man's progress. If the human nature that is behind us is deformed by selfishness, distorted with ignorance and cruelty, base, narrow ends pursued by ignominious means; if, looking back, we behold ages torn and bleeding under the feet of the merciless oppressor until we are ashamed of our species, before us there seem to loom up only length of days, and riches and honor.

But we cannot accept this high charge of marshalling the vanguard of human freedom without accepting its responsibilities as well. Patience, sobriety and industry, these must we practice; enlightenment and learning must we promote. Until recently it was a common idea in Europe that we were destined to spread an inferior civilization over this continent; with slavery in one hand and gain in the other, we were fated to be dragged to the level of a licentious and sordid race, without the amenities of philosophy, literature or the arts. But this pet dream of monarchy has been dispelled. We are masters of the situation. The avenues of glory that are opened up to us can only be limited by a vicious disregard of the traditions of our forefathers. Unprincipled party spirit, trafficking in

the wants and fears of men; the abuse of great public trusts; the perverse and continued distortion of the intentions of the people by ambitious and unscrupulous demagogues, — these things, I confess, have given us some uneasiness of late; but they are "trifles light as air," compared with the conservative forces which may be arrayed against them in an hour of real peril. It is said the Hebrew was created to give the world Religion, the Greek to give it Philosophy, the Roman to give it Law. May we not suppose, without too much arrogance, that the peculiar mission of America is to give it Civil Liberty? and that this wonderful development of ours, which has arrested the despotic tendencies of Europe, lent to the age a new inspiration, and, as it were, changed the front of history, is the vehicle for the transmission of the better inheritance to man.

Standing then to-day in the centre of this radiant civilization, with a high mission put upon us, our horizon bounded only by clear sky, no speck on its firmament, let us reverentially thank God that we too are Americans.