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Early History of Atlantic County New Jersey

RECORD OF THE FIRST YEAR'S WORK OF ATLANTIC COUNTY'S HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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1915

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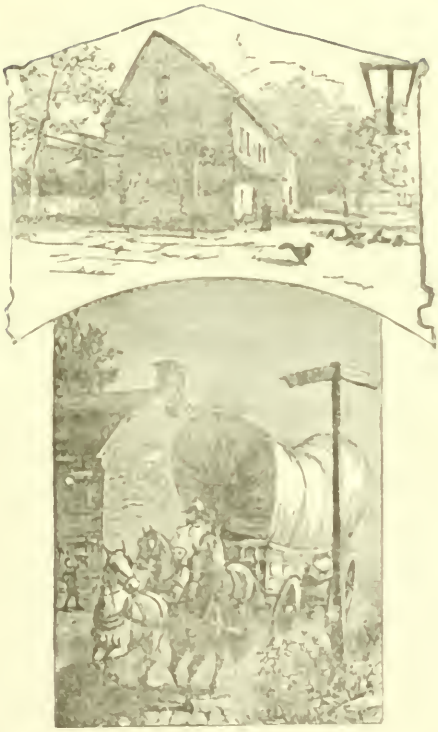
PREFACE

In offering you this initial volume of Atlantic County's History, the Society reminds you this is the product of their first year's work and in no wise a finished history. Its endeavor has been to lay a firm foundation, upon which other books which are to follow can be erected.

You will find within its pages the early history of the State taken from written histories which had their bearing upon Atlantic County. Also articles written by the descendants of those who helped to make the history of the county worth reading. The thread of events will be continued through separate volumes in the future until the history of the present day is recorded. There is found little history in this book later than 1825-1830. It was a somewhat difficult task to separate the history of Atlantic County from that of Gloucester, as they were one until the year of separation in 1837. If you enjoy reading this book as much as the Society has in its compiling, truly the work has not been in vain.

The Society acknowledges its indebtedness to Mr. A. M. Heston for illustration taken from his book, "Absequawon," and to John Hall's "Daily Union History of Atlantic City, N. J."

Atlantic County Historical Society.



In The Days of York—1067

Early History of Atlantic County, N. J.

ORIGINAL LAND GRANTS OF NEW JERSEY

The original grant of New Jersey from King Charles II, when separated from the Netherland, was East and West Jersey. They were united in 1673 and were known as Nova-Caesarea or New Jersey. This work, being the history of Atlantic County, relates only to West Jersey.

1671. The line of partition, long known in boundary disputes as the "Providence Line," extending from Little Egg Harbor to 40°, 41° north latitude to the Delaware River, north of a line drawn from Barnegat Creek, "about the middle between Sandy Point and Cape May"—and adjoining to and below a certain creek in the Delaware River called Ran-ko-kus—Kill.

In order to have a comprehensive understanding of West Jersey, of which Atlantic County is a part, it is necessary to go back to the grants of land and their distributions to later purchasers. Under the English system, newly acquired lands were the property of the king, who disposed of them by grants to private persons, or by charter to land companies. New Jersey thus came into the possession of two different individuals, each having one half the province. These two men were Sir George Carteret, former Governor of the Isle of Jersey and Lord Berkeley*. In June, 1673, Lord Berkley sold his share to John Fenwick in trust for Edward Byllings, for the sum of one thousand pounds and an annual royalty of forty beaver skins. Edward Byllings, the Quaker owner of West Jersey, failed. He placed his property, in 1675, into the hands of William Penn, Gawen Lawrie, and Nicholas Lucas, (the latter two were creditors,) and Byllings himself, thus creating four trustees.

* New Jersey was named in honor of Sir George Carteret's defense, in 1649, of his native Isle of Jersey, when attacked by the army and navy of the Parliamentarians.—Page 129, Vol. I Lee's History

1673. The 18th of March. It has been stated that Lord Berkley, one of the original proprietors of New Jersey, disposed of the whole of his right and interest in the province. The purchase was made by John Fenwick. They gave the sum of one thousand pounds. These persons were members of the Society of Quakers, or Friends, a religious people who had experienced much opposition and persecution, and there is reason to believe that a principal object proposed by Fenwick and Byllings in making their purchase was to secure a place of retreat for themselves and their religious associates.

1738. New Jersey petitioned for a distinct administration, and Lewis Morris was appointed Governor.

In 1682 West Jersey was purchased by William Penn and eleven other Quakers, and settlements were made at Burlington —"Ye falls of ye Delaware," or Trenton, and a flourishing whaling station established at Cape May, not to mention Salem, already a growing town. (In 1682, Robert Barclay, a Scotchman, was the first Governor under the new proprietors.)

In 1702, by the number of proprietors, the frequent sub-divisions and transfers of shares, and various difficulties in the way of good government, soon involved the province in trouble, and the proprietors surrendered the rights of government to the Crown.

1703. East and West Jersey were united and was then known as New Jersey.

1677—1687. The minutes and papers of the Commissioners are missing.

Titles to Land.

Titles to land in New Jersey are derived from the English Crown. It is a principle of law, recognized by all the European governments, that an uninhabitated country, or a country inhabited only by savages, of which possession is taken under the authority of an existing government, becomes the property of the country taking possession.

The Indian title to the land in America was to some extent recognized, but the government here, and in England, has always asserted the exclusive right to extinguish that title and to give a valid title to settlers by its own grant of the soil. Individuals were

forbidden to purchase land from the Indians without the consent of the English proprietor, at an early date, both in East and West Jersey, and after the surrender of the government to the Crown, deeds from Indian claimants are held by some of the present owners in both divisions of the State, but unless patents or surveys were also obtained the legal titles to the premises rests upon possession and not upon deeds.

The general proprietors were careful to purchase the land of the Indians, and except in those cases in East Jersey where grants were made subject to an extinguishment of the Indian title, they refused to allow grants or surveys until this was done. Every foot of the soil claimed by the original inhabitant of this State has been obtained from them by a fair and voluntary purchase and transfer.

After the division of East and West Jersey, East Jersey was conveyed to twenty-four proprietors and West Jersey was sold in hundredths. The original grants were considered by the proprietors as conveying a right of government as well as soil, and they instituted separate governments, but in 1702 joined in surrendering that right to the Crown. The title to the soil was not surrendered and continues to be derived through the original proprietors, by regular descent or purchase, to the present day. (1845.)

There are two kinds of grants, one where a gift was made to actual settlers at the beginning of the history of the colony, where by the "grants and concessions" the amount of land donated to a settler depended upon the number of individuals in his family, with an additional amount for each servant brought with the family into the province; these were called "head lands"; the other kind of a grant was acquired by this process: A warrant, signed by the Governor and a majority of the council, was delivered to the surveyor-general, who surveyed the lands, made his return in writing, showing his survey and giving a description of the property. Both warrant and return were recorded by the register. If there were no objections to the warrant, it was then issued, signed by the Governor and his council, authenticated by the great seal of the province, and this warrant was then recorded and the title of land was perfected. This was the process in East Jersey. No patents were issued in West Jersey.—*The Judicial and Civil History of New Jersey.*

FROM SMITH'S HISTORY OF NEW JERSEY

In June, 1673, John Lord Berkeley sold his share to John Fenwick in trust for Edward Byllinge for the sum of one thousand pounds and an annual royalty of forty beaver skins. Fenwick, in 1675, set sail from London in a ship called the Griffith or Griffin; landing at a pleasant spot near Delaware, he named it Salem. With him he brought his two daughters, who later married Samuel Hedge and John Adams, two servants; other passengers were Edward Champness, Richard Hancock, John Matlock, Samuel Nichols, Dunolite Lufever, Richard Noble, Richard Guy, John Pledger, Edward Wade, Samuel Wade, and John Smith and wife. These and others with them were masters of families. This was the first English ship that came to West Jersey.

Gov. Andres, who saw in the coming of Fenwick an opportunity to extend the influence of the Duke of York, issued an order that Fenwick be not received as owner of lands on the Delaware; and that no privilege or freedom of custom or trading on the eastern shore of the bay or river be permitted. A warrant was issued for Fenwick's arrest by the Duke of York's officers at New Castle, Del. He was afterwards released on parole and returned to Salem, called by the Duke of York's followers "Swamptown" in derision.

About this time it was learned that Edward Byllinge procured this conveyance for Fenwick to avoid his creditors; consequently this led to an investigation in regard to affairs and the final discovery of his intentional defrauding of his creditors. Byllinge having admitted the truth, a settlement was made whereby Fenwick relinquished all but one-tenth of the grant. William Penn, Gawen Lawrie, and Nicholas Lucas, creditors, were placed in control of the balance as trustees of Byllinge. They soon sold a number of shares of their propriety to different purchasers, who thereupon became proprietors in common with them. It now became necessary that a scheme should be devised for a better distribution of rights to land so as to promote settlement and ascertain a form of government. Consequently concessions were drawn, mutually agreed on and signed by some of the subscribers. It now became the duty of the original pro-

prietors to procure a division of the province, after which they wrote the following letter as an expedient for the present well ordering matters. Of the twelve proprietors Wm. Penn headed the list and wrote the following letter:

LETTER FROM WILLIAM PENN TO RICHARD HARTSHORNE

London, 26th of the 6th Month, 1676.

"We have made use of thy name in a commission and instructions, which we have sent by James Wasse, who is gone in Samuel Groome's ship for Maryland, a copy of which is here inclosed, and also a copy of a letter which we have sent to John Fenwick, to be read to him in presence of as many of the people that went with him as may be; and because we both expect, and also entreat, and desire thy assistance in the same, we will shew things to thee, that thou may inform not only thyself, but friends there, which in short is as follows:

"1st. We have divided with George Cartaret, and have sealed deeds of partition, each to the other; and we have all that side on Delaware river from one end to the other. The line of partition is from the east side of little Egg Harbour, straight North, through the country, to the utmost branch of the Delaware river, with all powers, privileges, and immunities whatsoever. Ours is called New West Jersey, his is called New East Jersey.

"2. We have made concessions by ourselves, being such as friends here and there (we question not) will approve of, having sent a copy of them by James Wasse; there we lay a foundation for after ages to understand their liberty as men christians, that they may not be brought in bondage, but by their own consent, for we put the power in the people, that is to say, they to meet and choose one honest man for each propriety, who hath subscribed to the concessions; all these men to meet as an assembly there, to make and repeal laws, to choose a governor, or a commissioner, and twelve assistants, to execute the laws during their pleasure, so every man is capable to choose or be chosen. No man to be arrested, condemned, imprisoned, or molested in his estate or liberty, but by twelve men of the neighborhood. No man to lie in prison for debt, but that his estate satisfy

as far as it will go, and be set at liberty to work. No person to be called in question or molested for his conscience, or for worshipping according to his conscience, with many more things mentioned in the said concessions.

"3. We have been sent over by James Wasse, a commission under our hands and seals, wherein we impower thyself, James Wasse and Richard Guy, or any two of you, to act and do according to the instructions, of which here is a copy; having also sent some goods, to buy and purchase some land of the natives.

"4. We intend in the spring to send over some more commissioners, with the friends and people that cometh there, because James Wasse is to return in Samuel Groom's ship for England: for Richard Guy, we judge him to be an honest man, yet we are afraid John Fenwick will hurt him and get him to condescend to things that may not be for the good of the whole; so we hope thou wilt ballance him to what is just and fair; that John Fenwick betray him not, that things may go on easy without hurt or jar; which is the desire of all friends; and we hope West Jersey will be soon planted; it being in the minds of many friends to prepare for their going against the spring.

"5. Having thus far given thee a sketch of things, we come now to desire thy assistance, and the assistance of other friends in your parts; and we hope it will be at length an advantage to you there, both upon truth's account, and other ways; and in regard many families more may come over in the spring to Delaware side, to settle and plant, and will be assigned by us to take possession of their particular lots; we do contract and desire that thou, knowing the country and how to deal with the natives; we say, that thee, and some other friends, would go over to Delaware side, as soon as this comes to your hands, or as soon as you can conveniently; and James Wasse is to come to a place called New Castle, on the other side of the Delaware river, to stay for thee, and any that will go with him; and you all to advise together, and find out a fit place to take up for a town, and agree with the natives for a tract of land; and then let it be surveyed and divided in one hundred parts; for that is the method we have agreed to take, and we cannot alter it; and if you set men to work to clear some of the ground we would be at the charges; and we do intend to satisfy thee for any charges thou art at, and for thy

pains. This we would not have neglected, for we know, and you that are here know, that if the land we had not taken up before the spring; that many people come over there, the natives will insist on high demands, and so we will suffer by buying at dear rates, and our friends that cometh over, be at great trouble and charges until a place be bought and divided; for we do not like the tract of land John Fenwick hath bought, so as to make it our first settlement; but we would have thee and friends there, to provide and take up a place on some creek or river, that may lie you, and such a place as you may like; for may be it may come in your minds to come over to our side, when you see the hand of the Lord with us; and so we can say no more, but leave the thing with you, believing that friends there will have a regard to friends settling, that it may be done in that way and method, that may be for the good of the whole; rest thy friends,

GAWEN LAWRIE,
WILLIAM PENN,
NICHOLAS LUCAS,
E. BYLLINGE,
JOHN EDRIDGE;
EDMOND WARNER.

PROPRIETORS' INSTRUCTIONS TO JAMES WASSE AND RICHARD HARTSHORNE

"London, the 18th of 6th month, 1676.

"We whose names are hereunder subscribed, do give full power, commission and authority, unto James Wasse, Richard Hartshorne and Richard Guy, or any two of them, to act and do for us according to the following instructions; and we do engage to ratify and confirm whatsoever they shall do in prosecution of the same.

"1. We desire you to get a meeting with John Fenwick, and the people that went with him, (but we would not have you tell your business,) until you get them together; then show and read the deed of partition with George Cartaret; also the transactions between William Penn, Nicholas Lucas, Gawen Lawrie,

John Edridge and Edmond Warner, and then read our letter to John Fenwick and the rest, and shew John Fenwick he hath no power to sell any land there, without the consent of John Edridge and Edmond Warner.

"2. Know of John Fenwick, if he will be willing peaceably to let the land he hath taken up of the natives be divided into one hundred parts, according to our and his agreement in England, casting lots for the same, we being willing that those who being settled and have cultivated ground now with him, shall enjoy the same, without being turned out, although they fall into our lots: Always provided, that we be reimbursed the like value and quantity in goodness out of John Fenwick's lots. And we are also content to pay our ninetieth parts of what is paid to the natives for the same, and for what James Wasse hath purchased of John Fenwick, and he setting out the same unto him, not being in a place to be allotted for a town upon a river, but at a distance, and the said John Fenwick allowing us the value in goodness in some other of his lots; we are willing he shall possess the same from any claiming by or under us; and for the town lots we are willing he enjoy the same as freely as any purchaser buying of us.

"3. Take information from some that knows the soundings of the river and creeks, and that is acquainted in the country, and when James Wasse is in Maryland, he may enquire for one Augustin, who as we hear did found most part of Delaware river and the creeks: He is an able surveyor, see to agree with him to go with you up the river as far as over against New Castle, or further if you can, so far as a vessel of a hundred tun can go; for we intend to have a way cut across the country to Sandy Hook; so the further up the way, the shorter; and there, upon some creek or bay in some healthy ground, find out a place fit to make a settlement for a town; and then go to the Indians and agree with them for a tract of land about the said place, of twenty or thirty miles long, more or less, as you see meet, and as broad as you see meet. If it be to the middle, we care not; only enquire if George Carteret, have not purchased some there already, that so you may not buy it over again.

"4. Then lay out four or five thousand acres for a town; and if Augustin will undertake to do it reasonably, let him do it; for he is the fittest man; and if he think he cannot survey so

much, being in the winter time, then let him lay out the less for a town at present, if it be but two thousand acres, and let him divide it in a hundred parts; and when it is done let John Fenwick, if he please, be there; however, let him have notice. But however, let some of you be there, to see the lots cast fairly by one person that is not concerned. The lots are from number one to a hundred, and put the same numbers of the lots on the partition trees for distinction.

"5. If John Fenwick and those concerned with him, be willing to join with you in those things as above, which is just and fair, then he, or any of them, may go along with you in your business; and let them pay their proportion of what is paid to the natives, with other charges. And so he and they may dispose of their lots with consent of John Edridge and Edmond Warner; which lots are 20, 21, 26, 27, 36, 47 50, 57, 63, 72.

"6. If John Fenwick and his people, refuse to let the land they have taken up of the natives be divided, and refuse to join with you, you may let the country know in what capacity John Fenwick stands, that he has no power over the person or estates of any man or woman more than any other person.

"7. What land you take of the natives, let it be taken, viz.: Ninety parts for the use of William Penn, Gawen Lawrie and Nicholas Lucas, and ten parts for John Edridge and Edmond Warner.

"8. After you have taken the land as above, and divided for a town or settlement and cast lots for the same as above; then if they have a mind to buy one or more properties, sell them at two hundred specie; they taking their lots as theirs do, paying to you in hand the value of fifty pounds in parts of a propriety, and the rest on sealing their conveyance in London; and so they may presently settle. When any of the lots fall to us, that is to say, he that buyeth a propriety may settle on any one lot of ninety parts; which said persons that buys, and what lots falls to them, there they may settle, and acquaint us what numbers they are; and if they will take land to them and their heirs forever, for every acre taken up in a place laid out for a town, according to the concessions, they are not to have above what shall fall by lot to a propriety in a town.

"9. What charges James Wasse it at, by taking up the

land of the natives, we do oblige to pay the same unto him again, with what profits is usual there upon English goods; and he may pitch upon two lots, one in each town; if they be taken up before he comes away, to his own proper use, for his trouble and pains. And we do also engage to allow and pay what charges any of our commissioners shall disburse in executing these our instructions to them or their assigns.

"10. Let us be advised by the first ship that comes for England, of all proceedings hereupon, and write to the friends at Sandy Hook, letting them know how things are, and that we have divided with George Cartaret, and that our division is all along on Delaware River; and that we have made concessions by ourselves which we hope will satisfy friends there. If John Fenwick, or any of the people with him, desire a copy of the deed of partition, let them have it.

"11. We desire that our original deed be kept in your own custody, that it may be ready to shew unto the rest of the commissioners, which we intend to send over in the spring, with full power for settling things, and to lay out land, and dispose upon it, and for the settling some method of government according to the concessions.

"12. If you cannot get Augustin to go with you, or that he be unreasonable in his demands; then send a man to Thomas Bushroods, at Essex Lodge, in York river, for William Elliot, who writes to Gawen Lawrie this year, and offered himself to be surveyor, and tell him you had orders from said Lawrie to send for him and take him with you. He will be willing to be there all winter, and will survey and do other things. He had a character in Virginia, but was not able to keep it; he is a fair conditioned sober man. Let him stay there all winter, and order him something to live upon.

"13. If the said Elliot go with you, give him directions what to do. If you cannot stay till a place for a town be surveyed, yet we think you may stay until you have not only pitched upon a place for a town, but also upon a place for a second town and settlement, and have marked out a place round about there, and let William Elliott divide both which no doubt but he may do before the spring, that we send over more commissioners and people; and if John Fenwick be willing to go on jointly with you

there, his surveyor may go along and help ours, and the charges shall be brought in for both proportionably on all. Mind this and speak to Richard Guy, or Richard Hartshorne, and leave orders with them to let William Elliot have provisions for himself till spring, and we shall order them satisfacton for the same; and if there be no house near the place you may take up for the surveyors to lodge in, then let there be a cottage built for them on the place and we will allow the charges.

"14. And whereas there is tackling there already, for fitting a sloop, as we judge in the custody of Richard Guy: We also give you power, if you see meet, and that it be of necessary use and advantage for the whole concern, you may order these ship carpenters to build a sloop suitable for these materials, and appoint them some provision for their food, and for the rest of their wages they shall either have it in a part of the sloop, or be otherwise satisfied in the spring of the year; the said sloop to be ordered and disposed upon by you until more commissioners come over with further instructions.

"15. With the goods we have sent over with James Wasse are to disposed upon for purchase land from the natives or otherwise as need is, giving us account thereof.

William Penn,
Nicholas Lucas,
Edmond Warner,
Gawen Lawrie,
E. Byllinge.

The instrument for dividing the province being agreed on by Sir George Cartaret on the one part and the said E. Byllinge, William Penn, Gawen Lawrie, and Nicholas Lucas on the other, they together signed a Quintipartite deed after *the first day of July, 1676.* f.

The line of division being thus far settled, each took their own measures for further peopling and improving their different shares. Sir George Cartaret had greatly the advantage respecting improvements, his part being (as we have seen) already considerably peopled: The western proprietors soon published a description of their moiety, on which many removed thither:

But lest any should not sufficiently weigh the importance of this undertaking, and for other reasons, the three principal proprietors published the following cautionary epistle:

PROPRIETORS' INSTRUCTIONS TO JAMES WEST AND RICHARD HARTSHORNE.

Dear friends and brethren:

Epistle. "In the pure love and precious fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ, we very dearly salute you. Forasmuch as there was a paper printed several months since, entitled, *The Description of West Jersey*, in the which our names were mentioned as trustees for one undivided moiety of the said province: And because it is alleged that some, partly on this account, and others apprehending, that the paper by the manner of its expression, came from the body of friends, as a religious society of people, and not from particulars, have through their mistake, weakly concluded that the third description in matter and form might be writ, printed and recommended on purpose to prompt and allure people, to dis-settle and transplant themselves, as of late by some alleged: And because there are moreover, that several have on that account, taken encouragement and resolution to transplant themselves and families to the said province; and lest any of them (as is feared by some) should go out of a curious and unsettled mind, and others to shun the testimony of the blessed cross of Jesus, of which several weighty friends have a godly jealousy upon their spirits; lest an unreasonable forwardness should act or hurry any beside or beyond the wisdom and counsel of the Lord, or the freedom of his light and the spirit in their own hearts, and not upon a good and weighty grounds: It hath laid hard upon us, to let friends know how the matter stands; which we shall endeavor to do with all clearness and fidelity.

"1. That there is such a *province* as *West Jersey*, is certain.

"2. That it is reputed of those who have lived and have travelled in that country, to be wholesome of air and fruitful of soil, and capable of sea trade, is also certain: and it is not right in any to despise or dispraise it, or dissuade those that find freedom from the *Lord*, and necessity put them on going.

"3. That the duke of York sold it to those called lord Berke-

ley, baron of Stratton, and sir George Cartaret, equally to be divided between them, is also certain.

"4. One *moiety* or half part of the said *province*, being the right of the said lord Berkeley, was sold by him to John Fenwick, in trust for Edward Byllinge, and his assigns.

"5. Forasmuch as E. B. (after William Penn had ended the difference between the said Edward Byllinge and John Fenwick) was willing to present his interest in the said *province* to his creditors, as all that he had left him, towards their satisfaction, he desired William Penn (though every way unconcerned) and Gawen Lawrie, and Nicholas Lucas, two of his creditors, to be trustees for performance of the same; and because several of his creditors, particularly and very importunately, pressed William Penn to accept of the trust for their sakes and security; we did all of us comply with those and the like requests, and accepted of the trust.

"6. Upon this we became trustees for one moiety of the said *province* yet undivided: And after no little labour, trouble and cost, a division was obtained between the said sir George Cartaret and us, as trustees: The country is situated and bounded as is expressed in the printed description.

"7. This now divided moiety is to be cast into one hundred parts, lots, or properties; ten of which upon the agreement made betwixt E. Byllinge and J. Fenwick, were settled and conveyed unto J. Fenwick, his executors and assigns, with a considerable sum of money, by way of satisfaction for what he became concerned in the purchase from the said lord Berkeley, and by him afterwards conveyed to John Edridge (or Eldridge) and Edmond Warner, their heirs and assigns.

"8. The ninety parts remaining are exposed for sale, on the behalf of the creditors of the said E. B. And forasmuch as several friends are concerned as creditors, as well as others, and the disposal of so great a part of this country being in our hands; we did in real tenderness and regard to friends, and especially to the poor and necessitous, make friends the first offer: that if any of them, though particularly those that being low in the world, and under trials about a comfortable livelihood for themselves and families should be desirous of dealing for any part or parcel thereof, that they might have the refusal.

"9. This was the real and honest intent of our hearts, and not to prompt or allure any out of their places, either by the credit our names might have with our people throughout the nation or by representing the thing otherwise than it is in itself.

"As for the printed paper sometime since set forth by the creditors, as a description of that province; we say as to two passages in it, they are not so clearly and safely worded as ought to have been; particularly in seeming to limit the *winter* season to so short a time; when on further information, we hear it is sometimes longer and sometimes shorter than therein expressed: and the last clause relating to liberty of conscience, we would not have any to think that it is promised or intended to maintain the liberty of the exercise of religion by force and arms; though we shall never consent to any the least violence on conscience; yet it was never designed to encourage any to expect by force of arms to have liberty of conscience fenced against invaders thereof.

"10. And be it known unto you all in the name and fear of Almighty God, his glory and honour, power and wisdom, truth and kingdom, is dearer to us than all visible things; and as our eye has been single and our heart sincere to the living God, in this as in other things; so we desire all whom it may concern, that all groundless jealousies may be judged down and watched against, and that all extremes may be avoided on all hands by the power of the Lord; that nothing which hurts or grieves the holy life of truth in any that goes or stays, may be adhered to; nor any provocations given to break precious unity.

"This am I, William Penn, moved of the Lord, to write unto you, lest any bring a temptation upon themselves or others; and in offending the Lord, slay their own peace: *Blessed are they that can see, and behold their leader, their ordered, their conductor and preserver, in staying or going. Whose is the earth and the fullness thereof, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.* And as we formerly writ, we cannot but repeat our request unto you, that in whomsoever a desire is concerned in this intended *plantation*, such should weigh the thing and not headily or rashly conclude on any such remove; and that they do not offer violence to the tender love of their near kindred and relations; *but soberly and conscientiously endeavor to obtain their good wills, the unity of friends where they live; that whether they go or stay, it may be*

How The First Inhabitant Lived and What He Saw
From Heston's "Absegami"

of good favour before the Lord (and good people) from whom only can all heavenly and earthly blessings come. This we thought good to write, for the preventing of all misunderstandings, and to declare the real truth of the matter; and so we commend you all to the Lord, who is the watchman of his Israel. We are your friends and brethren,

WILLIAM PENN,
GAWEN LAWRIE,
NICHOLAS LUCAS."

THE LAND SYSTEM OF WEST JERSEY.

Yet, even in West Jersey it was unavoidable that there should be some irregularities and disputes. One cause of trouble was found in the operations of the headstrong Fenwick at Salem. Upon Fenwick's arrival in West Jersey he styled himself sole proprietor of the province, appointed a register and a surveyor, and undertook to grant lands in a rather indiscriminate manner. In spite of the several efforts of conciliation he continued to ignore the legitimate proprietors, until 1682, when an agreement was at length effected with him, through the instrumentality of Penn. He was allowed 150,000 acres of land, that being the amount had had already granted in Salem town and vicinity, and his deeds to that amount were recognized as valid. All further claims Fenwick surrendered to Penn, and as the aforementioned person had already acquired the interest of Eldridge, or Eldridge, and Warner, he thus became the recognized proprietor of the "Salem Tenth." (*Copied from "The Province of New Jersey" written by Edwin P. Tanner.*)

The first West Jersey commissioners were Thomas Olive, Daniel Wills, John Kinsey, John Penford, Joseph Helmsley, Robert Stacy, Benjamin Scott, Richard Guy, and Thomas Foulke.

New Jersey Signers of Independence: Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, James Hopkinson, John Hart, and Abraham Clark.

Newspapers of New Jersey during the Revolution: New Jersey Gazette, published in Burlington December 31, 1777; New Jersey Journal, first published in Chatham in 1779; removed to Elizabethtown in 1780.

FROM OFFICIAL REGISTER OF OFFICERS AND MEN OF NEW JERSEY IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR

By Wm. Stryker, Adjutant General

In the following resolutions from the Journal of Congress, October 9th, 1775, in the first call on New Jersey for Continental troops:

Resolved—That it be recommended to the Convention of New Jersey; that they immediately raise at the expense of the Continent, *two battalions;* consisting of Eight Companies each, and each company of sixty-eight privates officered with one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, four sergeants, and four corporals.

That the privates "be enlisted for one year, at the rate of Five dollars per Calendar month; liable to be discharged at any time on allowing them one month pay extraordinary.

That each of the privates be allowed instead of bounty 1 felt hat, a pair of yarn stockings and a pair of shoes, the men to find their own arms.

That the pay of the officers to be the same as the officers of the Continental army.

That each Captain and other Commissioned Officers, while in the recruiting service in this Continent, or on their march to join the army, shall be allowed two and two-thirds dollars per week, for their subsistence, and that the men who enlist shall each of them, while in quarters, be allowed one dollar per week, and one and one-third dollars when on their march to join the army, for the same purpose.

December, 1777, the cantonment of the army was proposed by General Washington, and in this connection, Congress called upon him Dec. 19th for a report thereon and urged that measures be immediately agreed upon for the protection of New Jersey.

TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION

Resolved—That General Washington be informed that in the opinion of Congress, the State of New Jersey, demands in a pecu-

liar degree, the protection of armies of United States, so far as the same can possibly be extended, consistent with the safety of the army and the general welfare, as that state lies open to attacks from too many quarters and the struggles which have been made by the brave and virtuous inhabitants of that state in defence of the common cause, cannot fail of exposing them to the particular resentment of a merciless enemy.

January 10th, 1776.

Resolved—That another Battalion be raised in New Jersey, on the same terms as the other two raised, in the said Colony.—

Province of New Jersey,
In Congress, Feb 6th, 1776.

Whereas—By a resolution of the Honorable Continental Congress, a *Third Battalion* is recommended, immediately to be raised in this Colony for the service, at the expense of the United Colonies, consisting of the same as 1st and 2nd Battalions—in officers and in numbers.

Resolved—That agreeable to the recommendation of the said Honorable Continental Congress, the recruiting officer enlist none but healthy, sound and able bodied freemen, not under sixteen years of age.

And it is directed, where any company shall be enlisted the Captain having warrants for raising the same, shall a muster to be had thereof in the presence of

They are hereby appointed muster master to review the said companies, and administer the oath to such Captains.

AZARIAH DUNHAM,
JOHN MICHLEM,
JOSEPH ELLIS,
EDMUND THOMAS.

The Continental Congress assumed the right of appointing New Jersey's field officers. This, the Colony contended, should

be reserved to itself. After much discussion the Provincial Congress, October 28, recommended the names of those fitted for field officers of the First or Eastern Battalion, and the Second or Western Battalion. This organization was known as the First Establishment of the Continental troops, "Jersey Line." Of the First Battalion Wm. Alexander, titular Lord Stirling, was Colonel while Wm. Maxwell was Colonel of the Second Battalion.

Although it was with difficulty that arms and clothing could be secured for the Second Battalion, Congress, on the 10th of January, 1776, called upon New Jersey to furnish a third battalion of eight companies, each consisting of 78 privates. The Colonel of the Third Battalion First Establishment was Elias Dayton. On the 3rd of May, the First and Third Battalions left New York City upon the Canadian expedition, being later joined by the Second. After nearly a year's experience in Indian warfare at Johnstown German Flats, Fort Dayton, Fort Schuyler, Ticonderoga, and Mount Independence, the Third Battalion returned to New Jersey and at Morristown was discharged March 23rd, 1777.

The Second Establishment of Continental troops of New Jersey dates from September 16, 1776, the men enlisted in the First Establishment being given preference in the matter of reenlistments. Elias Dayton was again Colonel of the Third Battalion. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions were known as "Maxwell's Brigade, which impeded and harassed Gen. Clinton's force in its retreat through the Jerseys, after the evacuation of Philadelphia. The brigade also participated in the Battle of Monmouth.

The Third and last Establishment, which consisted of three regiments, was confirmed by the New Jersey Legislature, September 26, 1781, Elias Dayton being Colonel of the Third. Each county was alloted one battalion of militia, except Gloucester and Salem, which were united. On July 4th, 1780, the women of New Jersey organized a society for helping in the cause of American liberty: the names of those from Gloucester County were Mrs. (Colonel) Clark, Mrs. (Colonel) Wescott, Mrs. (Colonel) Ellis, Mrs. (Colonel) Hugg, Mrs. Bloomfield.—*Lee, Vol. 2.*

CONSTITUTION—ACT OF LEGISLATURE

Be it resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey, That the Governor, the Treasurer and Comptroller, be authorized to cause to be published such number of copies as they may deem proper, of the record of soldiers of this State in the Revolution and that they prepare, if it can be done, a record of like character of the soldiers of this State in the War of 1812 and the Mexican War. That the Treasurer be directed to pay upon the warrant of the Comptroller the expenses incurred.

October 4, 1780—An act was passed to enable owners and possessors of the tide-marshes and meadows, living on Absecon Creek, in Gloucester County, to erect and maintain a bank, to prevent the tides from overflowing the marshes and meadows.

The Constitution framed in 1776 just before the Declaration of Independence by the United Colonies remained in force until 1844. In that year a convention of delegates from the several counties met in convention at Trenton, under authority from the legislature, framed a new one, more in accordance with the altered condition of the Commonwealth and the spirit of fuller freedom which had been developed.

OFFICERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Ellis, Captain Joseph, Muster Master, 1780.
Davis, Captain John, Recruiting Officer, 1781.
Lucas, Simon, Captain.

First Battalion:
Shreve, Israel, Colonel, also Colonel Continental Army.
Taylor, Robert, Captain, Major, Colonel.
Bodo, Otto, Colonel.
Tonkin, Samuel, Lieutenant-Colonel.
Shreve, Samuel, Captain, Lieutenant-Colonel.
Brown, Robert, Captain, Lieutenant-Colonel.
Flanningham (or Flanagan), Samuel, Major, also Captain in Continental Army.

Second Battalion:
Ellis, Joseph, Colonel, also Brigadier-General.
Clark, Elijah, Lieutenant-Colonel.
Ellis, William, Major.

Third Battalion:
Somers, Richard, Colonel.
Westcott, Richard, First Major.
Payne, George, Captain, First Major.
Smith, Jeremiah, Captain, Second Major.
Smith, William, Adjutant.
Little, John, Paymaster.
Hendry, Thomas, Surgeon.
Carpenter, Thomas, Paymaster.

Baker, John, Captain Third Battalion, Captain of State Troops.
Barnes, Andrew, Captain, Prisoner of War in September, 1780.
Browning, Jacob, Captain Second Battalion, September 22, 1777.
Cheeseman, Richard, Captain First Battalion.
Covenover, Joseph, Captain Third Battalion, September 12, 1777.
Cozens, John, Captain First Battalion, Prisoner of War; exchanged December 8, 1780; Captain State Troops.
Davis, John, Captain First Battalion.
Douglas, ———, Captain.
Elwell, Joseph, Captain Third Battalion.
Elwell, Samuel, Lieutenant Second Battalion, September 3, 1776; Captain First Battalion.
Estell, Joseph, Captain Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Fisher, Felix, Captain.
Hampton, John, Lieutenant Third Battalion, also Captain.
Harrison, William, Captain Second Battalion.
Higbee, Richard, Second Lieutenant Captain Payne's Company, Third Battalion, November 11, 1777; First Lieutenant, Captain.
Holmes, James, Captain, Gloucester; Captain Battalion, "Heard's Brigade" June 16, 1775, also Captain in Continental Army.
Inskip, John, Lieutenant Second Battalion Captain.
Lucas, Simon, Captain, Gloucester; Captain Major Hayes' Battalion State Troops.
Maffatt, Archibald, Captain First Battalion; resigned.
Maffatt, William, First Lieutenant Captain Pierce's Company, First Battalion, June 2, 1777; Captain.
Newkirk, Cornelius, Captain Second Battalion Salem; also Captain First Battalion, Gloucester.

Patten, John, Captain Second Battalion.
Paul, David, Lieutenant Third Battalion, Captain.
Pierce, George, Captain First Battalion, June 2, 1777.
Price, William, Captain Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Purvis, George, Captain Second Battalion.
Rape, Christopher, Captain Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Rice, William, Captain, Salem, Captain First Battalion, Gloucester.
Shute, Henry, Captain First Battalion.
Smith, William, Adjutant Third Battalion, Captain.
Snell, Robert, First Lieutenant Captain.
Snell, Samuel, Captain Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Somers, James, First Lieutenant Captain Price's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777, Captain Second Battalion.
Somers, John, Captain.
Steelman, Zephaniah, Captain Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Stokes, John, Captain Second Battalion.
Stonebanks, Richard, Captain First Battalion, October 5, 1778.
Tallman, James, Captain Troop, Light-Horse, May 3, 1777.
Thorne, Joseph, Captain Second Battalion, August 10, 1776.
Watson, William, First Lieutenant First Battalion, Captain.
Weatherby, David, Captain Third Battalion.
Wood, John, Captain First Battalion, Colonel Holmes' Regiment.
Wood, John, Captain.
Baker, David, Private, Lieutenant.
Carter, John, Lieutenant.
Chatham, John, Lieutenant First Battalion.
Leeds, Enoch, Lieutenant.
McCullough, Joseph, Lieutenant Third Battalion.
Parsons, John, Lieutenant, Prisoner of War September, 1780.
Peirce, Ward, Lieutenant.
Weatherby, Benjamin, Lieutenant Third Battalion.
Ingersoll, Joseph, First Lieutenant Captain Jeremiah Smith's Company, Third Battalion, November 14, 1777.
Ireland, Edward, First Lieutenant Third Battalion, November 14, 1777.
Leeds, Jeremiah, First Lieutenant in Captain Covenover's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Mitchell, Alexander, First Lieutenant, also Captain Continental Army.
Morse, Nehemiah, First Lieutenant Captain Payne's Company, Third Battalion, November 14, 1777.
Springer, Samuel, First Lieutenant Captain Rape's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Westcott, Arthur, First Lieutenant Captain Estell's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Chew, Aaron, Second Lieutenant Second Battalion.
Covenhoven, Peter, Second Lieutenant, November 14, 1777.
Endicott, Jacob, Second Lieutenant Captain Snell's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Finch, William, Second Lieutenant Captain Rape's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
Lucas, John, Second Lieutenant Captain Estell's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.
McFarland, Samuel, Second Lieutenant First Battalion.
Parsons (Passant), Abraham, Second Lieutenant Second Battalion.
Risley, Jeremiah, Second Lieutenant Captain Covenover's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.

Roe, Henry, Second Lieutenant First Battalion.

Scull, John, Second Lieutenant Captain Price's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.

Townsend, Elijah, Second Lieutenant Captain Jeremiah Smith's Company, Third Battalion, November 14, 1777.

Adams, John, Ensign, Captain Payne's Company, Third Battalion, November 14, 1777.

Avis, Joseph, Ensign, Third Battalion.

Barrett, Elijah, Ensign, Captain Samuel Snell's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.

Clark, Japhet, Ensign, Captain Price's Company, Third Battalion, September 18, 1777.

Dilkes, John, Ensign, Captain Pierce's Company, First Battalion, June 2, 1777.

Estell, Ebenezer, Ensign, Captain Estell's Company, Third Battalion.

Frazer, Daniel, Ensign, Third Battalion, November 14, 1777.

Hooper, Daniel, Ensign, Captain Taylor's Company, Third Battalion.

Inskeep, Benjamin, Ensign, Captain Browning's Company, Second Battalion.

McCollum, Cornelius, Ensign.

Morrel, Joseph, Ensign, Captain Thorne's Company, Second Battalion.

Sipple, Nathaniel, Ensign, Captain Covenover's Company, Third Battalion.

Stillwell, David, Ensign, Captain Jeremiah Smith's Company, Third Battalion.

Tilton, John, Private Third Battalion, Sergeant, Ensign, November 14, 1777.

Bennett, Abraham, Private, Sergeant.

Campbell, William, Sergeant, Captain Davis' Company, First Battalion.

McCollum, Patrick, Sergeant.

Reed, John, Sergeant; also Private Continental Army.

Sayres, Richard, Private, Sergeant.

Spencer, Jacob, Sergeant.

Tomblin, James, Private, Corporal, Sergeant.

Fisler, Leonard, Corporal.

Dare, Philip, Wagoner.

OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE THIRD NEW JERSEY REGIMENT

Col.—Elias Dayton, Jan., 1776, to Jan. 1, 1787.
Lieut. Col.—Anthony W. White, Jan. 18, 1776, to Nov. 20, 1776.
Lieut. Col.—Francis Barber, Nov. 28, 1778, to Jan. 1, 1781.
Major—Francis Barber, Jan. 18, 1776, to Nov. 20, 1776.
Major—Joseph Bloomfield, Nov. 28, 1778, to Oct. 29, 1781.
Major—John Conway, Oct. 29, 1778, to July 6, 1779.
Major—John Holtinshead, April 7, 1779, to Jan. 1, 1781.

PRIVATES OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Abbott, Jeptha, Third Battalion.
Abel, John, Second Battalion, also State Troops; also Continental Army.
Acker, Daniel, Gloucester.
Ackley, Hezekiah, Gloucester.
Ackley, James, Gloucester.
Ackley, John, Gloucester.
Ackley, Silas, Gloucester.
Adair, James, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Adams, Andrew, Gloucester.
Adams, David, Gloucester.
Adams, Elijah, Gloucester.
Adams, Jeremiah, Gloucester.
Adams, Jesse, Gloucester.
Adams, John, Gloucester.
Adams, Jonathan, Gloucester.
Adams, Richard, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Adams, Thomas, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Adams, William, Gloucester.
Alm, Abram, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Albertson, Abraham, Gloucester.
Albertson, Albert, Gloucester.
Albertson, Isaac, Gloucester.
Albertson, Jacob, Jr., Gloucester.
Albertson, Jacob, Sr., Gloucester.
Allen, George, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Allen, Joseph, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Allen, William, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Allen, Thomas, Third Battalion (Albert), Gloucester.
Allset, Jacob, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Anderson, Henry, Second Battalion, Gloucester, Continental Army.
Applegate, Captain Chambers, Second Battalion.
Armstrong, Isaac, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Aschroft, Gibson, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Asheroft, James, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Atherton, Cormiter, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Ayers, Abiah, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Ayers, James, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Ayers, Moses, Third Battalion, Gloucester.

Bacon, Abel, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bachon, Benjamin, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Baker, Frederick.

Baley, James.
Baley, John, Continental Army.
Baley, Jonathan.
Baley, Joseph.
Balken, Benjamin, Third Battalion.
Barden, Hamed, Third Battalion.
Barker, Richard, Third Battalion.
Barton, Jonathan, Continental Army.
Bates, William, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Beavin, Thomas, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Beesly, Jonathan, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Belange, James.
Belange, Nicholas.
Belange, Samuel.
Bell, Robert.
Bell, William.
Benly, Jonathan, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bennett, Alexander, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bennett, John.
Bennett, Jonathan.
Berry, John, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bispham, Benjamin.
Blackman, Andrew.
Blackman, David.
Blackman, John.
Blackman, Nehimiah.
Bleakman, James.
Boggs, James, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Boice, William.
Bortin, Jonathan, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bowen, Edward.
Bowen, Josiah.
Bowen, Zadock, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bradford, John, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Brady, Patrick, Continental Army.
Bright, George, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Brower, David.
Brower, David, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Brown, Asa, Second Battalion, State Troops.
Brown, Matthew, Continental Army.
Browne, George, Third Battalion.
Bryant, John, Third Battalion.
Bryant, Thomas, Third Battalion, Continental Army.
Buck, Elijah, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Buck, Josiah, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Budey, John, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bulangey, James, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bulangey, Joshua, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Bunton, Robin, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Burch, Joseph, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Burk, Elijah, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Burnet, Moses.
Burton, Samuel.
Busbin, William, Third Battalion.
Butterworth, Moses, Third Battalion..

Cade, Aaron F., Captain Paul's Company, Third Battalion, State Troops, and Continental Army.
Cain, John, Third Battalion, Gloucester.

Caln, Samuel, Third Battalion, Gloucester.
Camp, Ezekiel, Jr.
Camp, James.
Camp, John.
Camp, Joseph, Sr.
Camp, Joseph, Jr.
Campbell, Archibald.
Campbell, David, Third Battalion, Gloucester, Col. Somers' State Troops.
Campbell, William, Captain Fisler's Company, Continental Army.
Campen, William, Third Battalion, Gloucester, Colonel Somers' Battalion, State Troops.
Cann, John.
Caranna, George, Third Battalion, Gloucester, also Colonel Somers' State Troops.
Carpenter, Jacob.
Carter, George, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Caruthers, James, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Casey, John, Third Battalion, State Troops, Continental Army.
Casker, Benjamin.
Caskie, Simon.
Casperson, Tobias, Third Battalion, also Colonel Somers' State Troops.
Cattell, William.
Cavener, George, Third Battalion.
Chamberlain, Thomas.
Champion, Daniel.
Champion, John.
Champion, Thomas.
Chattan, John, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Troops.
Cheesman, Thomas, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Chester, John, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Chew, Robert, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Clark, Adrial.
Clark, Benjamin.
Clark, David.
Clark, John, Second Battalion, also Continental Army.
Clark, Joseph, Gloucester.
Clark, Parker, Gloucester.
Clark, Reuben, Gloucester.
Clark, Thomas, Gloucester.
Clemens, Richard, Gloucester, Continental Army.
Clement, David.
Clifton, George.
Clifton, William.
Clough, Jacob, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.
Cobb, John, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Cobb, Thomas, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Cobb, William, Third Battalion, Gloucester.

Conklin, Joseph.
Connelly, Bryant.
Conover, David.
Conover, Jesse.
Conover, Mecajah, Third Battalion, Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.
Conover, Peter.
Conover, Peter B.
Cook, John.
Cook, Patterson, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.
Cook, Silas, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.
Cordry, William.
Corson, Abel.
Corson, John.
Coshier, John.
Coshier, Simon.
Cosier, Benjamin, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.
Cosier, Simon, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.
Coults, James, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.
Course, Isaac.
Course, William.
Covenhoven, Isaac.
Covenhoven, John.
Covenhoven, Joseph.
Cox, Andrew, also Continental Army.
Cox, Jacob, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.
Crazer, Samuel, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.
Crandell, Levi, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.
Cranmore, Wm., Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.
Cullom, Cornelius, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Dair, Cain, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.
Dair, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.
Dallis, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.
Dinejson, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.
Daniels, Kidd, Third Battalion.
Daniels, William.
Daven, Joel, also Continental Army.
Davis, Andrew, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.
Davis, Cain, Third Battalion.
Davis, Curtis.
Davis, Earl.
Davis, Richard.

Day, Chas., Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Day, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Day, Thomas, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.

Deal, Elias, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Deal, James.

Deal, John.

Deal, Samuel.

Deckley, James, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.

Deitel, Edward, Third Battalion.

Delter, John, Second Battalion, also Continental Army.

Denick, Samuel.

Denick, Samuel, Jr.

Dennis, David.

Dennis, Matthew.

Denny, Gideon.

Denny, Thomas.

Denny, Jonas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Derrickson, Andrew, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Dickinson, John, Gloucester.

Dickinson, William.

Dilkes, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops, also Continental Army.

Dill, Frampton, Third Battalion, also Colonel Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Dolbier, John.

Dollis, Samuel, Third Battalion.

Deram, John.

Dorear, Silas.

Dormant, Jesse.

Dougherty, Edward.

Doughty, Abel.

Doughty, Abige.

Doughty, Abner.

Doughty, Absalom.

Doughty, Jonathan.

Doughty, Josiah.

Doughty, Thomas.

Down, Edward.

Dover, John.

Drummond, Benjamin.

Drummond, John.

Duffell, Edward, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Dulaney, Samuel.

Dunaway, Thomas.

Dunlap, James.

Eastall, Joseph.

Edwards, John, Second Battalion, also State Troops, also Continental Army.

Edwards, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Eglenton, Ebenezer, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Eldridge, Wm., Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Elway, Jeremiah.

English, Joseph.

English, Mizeal.

English, Thomas.

Ervin, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.

Evans, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Ewing, Abner, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Ewing, Abraham, Third Battalion.

Falkner, Daniel.

Farrell, John, Continental Army.

Farrow, Abraham, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Farrow, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Farrow, Mark, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops. ,

Feathers, George, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Fell, Peter, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Fell, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Fenimore, Abraham, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Fenimore, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Ferlew, Nathan, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Ferrill, James, Continental Army.

Fetter, Jacob, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Field, Thomas, Captain Fisler's Company, also Continental Army.

Fisher, Jacob.

Fisler, Jacob.

Fisler, John.

Fithian, George, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Fithian, Wm., Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Fletcher, William, also Continental Army.

Forbes, Uriah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Ford, William.

Fort, William, Third Battalion, also Colonel Somers' Battalion, State Troops.

Fowler, George.

Fowler, Isaac, Continental Army.

Frambes, Andrew.

Frambes, Nicholas.

Franklin, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Frazier, Daniel.
French, Samuel.
Fry, William.
Furman, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Furman, Wm., Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Gamble, Calvin, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Gandy, David, also State Troops.
Gandy, Edward.
Gandy, Elias.
Gandy, John.
Gant, James.
Garratson, Jacob.
Garratson, Jeremiah.
Garratson, Joseph.
Garratson, Lemuel.
Garret, Robert, Continental Army
Garrison, Cornelius, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.
Garrison, Elijah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Garrison, Reuben.
Garwood, Samuel, Second Battalion, also State Troops and Continental Army.
Gee, Rossel.
Gentry, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Gilberson, James.
Gilberson, Job.
Gilberson, John.
Gillingham, James, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.
Giffen, Daniel.
Gifford, Benjamin.
Gifford, James.
Gifford, John.
Gifford, Timothy.
Given, Reese, Sr.
Given, Reese, Jr.
Given, William.
Goff, John.
Gonnel, Francis.
Graham, Richard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Gormley, James, Third Battalion.
Graham, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Greaves, Joshua.
Gromley, James, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Guild, Benjamin, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hacket, William.
Haines, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Hainey, William.

Hamilton, James, also Continental Army.

Hamilton, John, Third Battalion.

Hampton, John, Colonel Somers' Battalion, State Troops.

Hancock, Andrew, Continental Army.

Harcourt, Abram, Third Battalion, also State Troops and Continental Army.

Harker, Abel, Captain Snell's Company, Third Battalion, also Continental Army.

Harker, David.

Harker, Nathaniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Harris, Moses, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Harris, Reuben, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Harris, William, Third Battalion.

Hawkins, George.

Hays, David, Captain Covenover's Company, Third Battalion, also Continental Army, also State Troops.

Hedd, Peter, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Heind, David, Third Battalion.

Helel, Leonard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Helmes, Hance, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Helmes, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hemphill, Robert, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Henns, Jacob, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Henry, George.

Hess, Michael, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hessler, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hewes, William.

Hewett, Benjamin, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hewett, Caleb, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hewett, Moses, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hewett, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hewett, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hewett, Thomas.

Hickman, Isaac.

Hickman, James.

Hickman, Thomas.

Higbey, Absalom.

Higbey, Edward, Captain Steelman's Company, Third Battalion.

Higbey, Isaac.

Higbey, Richard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Hill, Urlah, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Hillman, Daniel.
Hillman, John, Third Battallon.
Hillman, Samuel, Infantry, Artillery, Light Horse.
Hillman, Samuel A.
Hillman, Seth.
Hiss, Michael, Third Battallon.
Hitman, John, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Hoffman, Benjamin, Continental Army.
Hoffman, Jacob.
Hollingsworth, Thomas, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Homan, Andrew.
Homan, Daniel.
Homan, David.
Hugg, John.
Huskey, John, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Hulings, John, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Humphries, Thomas.
Hund, David, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Hund, Lewis, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Hurley, John.
Hurst, Andrew.
Hutchinson, Abraham, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Hutsinger, Peter, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Hutchinson, Ezekiel.

Idle, Jacob.
Ihnetler, George, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Ingalson, Daniel.
Ingalson, Isaac.
Ingersoll, Benjamin.
Ingersoll, Ebenezer.
Ingersoll, John.
Ingersoll, Joseph, Jr.
Irelan, Amos.
Irelan, David.
Irelan, Edmund.
Irelan, George.
Irelan, Japhet.
Irelan, Jonathan.
Irelan, Joseph.
Irelan, Reuben.
Irelan, Thomas.
Ireland, James, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Ireland, John, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.
Ireland, Thomas, Third Battallon, also Col. Somers Battallon, and State Troops.

Jefferies, James.

Jefferies, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Jerry, Jonathan, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.

Jess, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Johnson, Isaac, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

(See Johnston.)

Johnson, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Johnson, Lawrence, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Johnson, Lewis, Third Battalion.

Johnson, Michael.

Johnson, Nathaniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Johnson, Richard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Johnston, Isaac, Capt. Covenover's Company, Third Battalion, also Continental Army.

Johnston, William.

Jones, Abraham, Continental Army.

Jones, Abram.

Jones, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Jones, Hugh, Wounded.

Jones, Isaac.

Jones, Jonas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Jones, Lawrence, Third Battalion.

Jones, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Kaighn, John, Capt. Higbee's Company, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops, also Continental Army.

Keen, Reuben.

Kehela, Thomas, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion, State Troops.

Keilsop, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Kelly, Patrick, Third Battalion, also Continental Army.

Kelly, Uriah, Third Battalion.

Kelly, William, Continental Army.

Kendle, James, Third Battalion.

Kerrey, John, Third Battalion, Capt. Steelman's Company, Third Battalion, State Troops, and Continental Army.

Kesler, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion.

Kidd, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Kidd, Peter, Third Battalion.

Killey, John, Third Battalion, Capt. Steelman's Company, State Troops, and Continental Army.

Kindle, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

King, Andrew.

Lacy, Cornelius, Third Battalion.

Lafferty, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Lake, Andrew.

Lake, Daniel.

Lake, Joseph, Capt. Steelman's Company, Third Battalion also State Troops and Continental Army.

Lake, Nathan.

Lake, William.

Lamor, Mack.

Land, George.

Land, James, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Leah, Nathan, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Leake, Nathaniel, Third Battalion.

Leake, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Leaman, Godfrey, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Lee, David.

Lee, Joseph, Captain Pierce's Company, First Battalion, also Continental Army.

Lee, Walter, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Leeds, Daniel.

Leeds, Felix.

Leeds, James.

Leeds, Nehemiah.

Leeds, Thomas.

Leeds, William, Continental Army.

Leonard, Azariah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops, also Continental Army.

Lewis, Francis.

Lewis, Irenius, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Linwood, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Lippencott, Daniel, Third Battalion.

Lippencott, John, Captain Rape's Company, Third Battalion, also State troops, also Continental Army.

Little, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Little, John, Sr.

Little, John, Jr.

Lock, John.

Lock, Jonathan.

Locy, Cornelius, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.

Lodge, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Long, Ansey, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Long, Moses, Third Battalion, also Colonel Somers' Battalion, State Troops.

Long, Silas.

Loper, Abram.

Lord, Asa, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Lord, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Lord, Jonathan, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Lown, Richard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Lusk, Israel, Continental Army.

Manary, Abram.

Mancy, David.

Manley, Benjamin.

Mapes, Edmond.

Marical, George.

Marshall, Joseph.

Marshall, William.

Mart, Andrew.

Mason, Andrew, Third Battalion, also Colonel Somers' Battalion, State Troops.

Mason, David.

Massey, Benjamin, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Master, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Mattacks, David.

Mattaeks, Jesse.

McCalsner, John.

McCleary, Michael, Third Battalion, also Colonel Somers' Battalion, State Troops.

McCollum, John.

McConnell, Adam.

McCullock, Abraham, Third Battalion, also Continental Army.

McFadden, James, Captain Snell's Company, Third Battalion, also State Troops also Continental Army.

McFadden, John, Third Battalion, also State Troops; also Continental Army.

McFarland, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

McGee, Daniel, Continental Army.

McGonigal, George, Continental Army.

McHenry, Charles, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

McKay, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

McKimmy, William.

McNeil, Hector, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops, also Quartermaster Sergeant Continental Army.

Meare, George, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Meyers, Charles.

Miller, Benjamin, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Miller, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Miller, Stephen, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.

Mintoor, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.

Mires, George, Third Battalion.

Mitchell, John, Continental Army.

Moore, Andrew.

Moore, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Morris, Thomas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Morse, Jonas.

Morse, Joshua.

Morse, Nicholas.

Moses, George, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Moslander, Sharon, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Mulford, Ezekiel.

Mulford, Furman, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Mulford, Jonathan, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Mulford, Samuel, Third Battalion.

Mullaky, John.

Muney (or Murrey), David, Third Battalion.

Munnion, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Murphy, William.

Musbrook, John, Continental Army.

Neaves, Thomas, Second Battalion, also State Troops, and Continental Army.

Nelson, Davis, Third Battalion.

Nelson, Gabriel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Nelson, James.

Nelson, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Nelson Nehemiah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Newgen, Richard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Newman, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Newman, Reuben, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Newton, Silas, also Sergeant, Continental Army.

Nichols, Jacob.

Nichols, Cornelius.

Nichols, Thomas, Second Battalion, also State Troops and Continental Army.

Nickles, Wilson, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Nickleson, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Nielson, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Nielson, Davis, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Nielson, Gabriel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Nile, Benjamin.

Norcross, Benjamin, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Norcross, James.
Norcross, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Norton, Caleb.
Norton, James.
Norton, Jonathan, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.
Nukler, Thomas, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion and State Troops.
Nukless, Wilson. Third Battalion.

Orr (or Ord), John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Osborn, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Osborn, John, Captain Stonebank's Company, First Battalion, also State Troops, also Continental Army.

Padgett, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Padgett, Thomas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Parker, Joseph, Sr.
Parker, Joseph, Jr.
Parker, Samuel, (1).
Parker, Samuel, (2).
Parkes, Daniel.
Parkes, Joseph, Capt. Pierce's Company, First Battalion, also Continental Army.
Parkes, Noah.
Parkes, Paul.
Parry, John, Third Battalion.
Parshall, Israel.
Patterson, John, (1), Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops, also Continental Army.
Patterson, John, (2), Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Paul, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Pawpe, Robert.
Peckin, Samuel, Third Battalion.
Peirson, David, Third Battalion.
Peirson, Stephen, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Penton, James, Corporal, Continental Army.
Penyard, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Penyard, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Perkins, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Perry, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Perry, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Perry, Joseph.
Perry, Moses, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Peters, Philip, Second Battalion, also State Troops, and Continental Army.
Peterson, Abram.
Peterson, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Peterson, Jacob, Captain Smith's Company, Third Battalion, State Troops, and Continental Army.
Peterson, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Peterson, Thomas.
Pett, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Pierce, George.
Pierce, Ward.
Platt, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Platt, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Poarch, Thomas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Pouleson, Lawrence, Continental Army.
Powell, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Powell, Richard.
Price, Jacob.
Price, Levi.
Price, Richard.
Price, Thomas.
Price, Thompson, Captain Somers Company.
Pridmore, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Prigmore, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops.

Quicksel, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Rain, John, Captain Fisler's Company, also Continental Army.
Reed, Jonathan.
Reed, Obediah.
Reed, William, Second Battalion, also Continental Army.
Reeves, John.
Reeves, Joshua, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Reeves, Thomas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Rennard, Thomas.
Reynolds, Samuel, Third Regiment, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Rice, Michael, Second Battalion, also Continental Army.
Rich, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Richerson, Richard, Third Battalion.
Richman, Richard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Richmond, Daniel.
Riley, Jacob, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Riley, Patrick.

Risley, Aun.
Risley, David.
Risley, Joseph.
Risley, Morris.
Risley, Nathaniel.
Risley, Samuel.
Risley, Thomas.
Robbins, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Roberts, James.
Roberts, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Roberts, Samuel.
Robertson, George.
Robertson, Isaac.
Robeson, Caleb, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Robeson, Jeremiah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Robeson, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Robeson, Thomas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Robinson, Jeremiah.
Rockhill, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops; also Sergeant Continental Army.
Ross, Andrew, First Battalion, Wounded October 29, 1777, ditto May 19th, 1778.
Ross, Stephen.
Rossell, John.
Rudnown, Enoch, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Rudrow, Enoch, Third Battalion.

Salmon, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Salsbury, John.
Sawings, Joseph.
Sayres, David.
Scott, Thomas, Capt. Paul's Company, Third Battalion, also State Troops, and Continental Army.
Scull, Abel.
Scull, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Scull, Joseph.
Scull, Peter.
Sealey, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Seddon, Jacob.
Seeds, Benjamin, also Continental Army.
Seeley, John, Continental Army.
Seers, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Seiler, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Selvey, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.
Senker, William, Third Battalion.
Shane, John.

Sharp, Henry, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Shaw, Reuben, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Shaw, Richard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Sheeff, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Shepherd, Lawrence, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Shepherd, Nathaniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Shepherd, Owen, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Shinfelt, Frederic.

Shroppear, Edward, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Shute, Samuel, Captain Fisler's Company, also Continental Army.

Shuley, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Sight, Henry, also Continental Army.

Sill, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Silvey, John, Third Battalion.

Simkins, George.

Simkins, James.

Siner, Jesse, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Sloker, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Skeoff, David, Third Battalion.

Slawter, John.

Slide, Philip, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Smallwood, James.

Smallwood, John, Second Battalion, also State Troops, and Continental Army.

Smith, Elias.

Smith, Elijah, Jr.

Smith, Felix.

Smith, Henry.

Smith, Isaac.

Smith, James.

Smith, Jesse, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Smith, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Smith, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Smith, Joshua.

Smith, Micha.

Smith, Noah.

Smith, Thomas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Smith, Wm. (1), Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Smith, Wm. (2), Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Smith, Zenos, Second Battalion, also State Troops, and Continental Army.

Snailbaker, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Snailbaker, Philip, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Snelbacker, George, Second Battalion, also Continental Army.

Snell, David, Third Battalion.

Snelly, Robert, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Soey, Joseph.

Soey, Nicholas.

Soey, Samuel.

Sommers, David.

Sommers, Enoch.

Sommers, Isaac.

Sommers, John, Capt. Pierce's Company, First Battalion, and Continental Army.

Sommers, Richard.

Sommers, Thomas.

Sparks, Joseph.

Sparks, Robert.

Spire, John.

Springer, Thomas.

Sprong, Jeremiah.

Sprong, John.

Starkey, John.

Stedman, Richard, Third Battalion.

Steelman, Andrew.

Steelman, Daniel.

Steelman, David.

Steelman, Ebenezer.

Steelman, Frederick.

Steelman, George.

Steelman, James, Sr.

Steelman, James.

Steelman, John, also State Troops.

Steelman, Jonas.

Steelman, Jonathan, Sr.

Steelman, Jonathan, Jr.

Steelman, Richard, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Stephens, David.

Steward, Ezekiel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.

Steward, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Stewart, Alexander.

Stewart, Joel.

Stewart, John, Sr., Captain Fisler's Company, also State Troops.

Stewart, John, Jr., Captain Fisler's Company, also State Troops, also Continental Army.

Stewart, Stephen.

Stibbins, Ebenezer.

Stillwell, David.

Stoddard, Samuel.

Stonebank, Thomas, Captain Stoneback's Company, also State Troops, also Continental Army..

Stord, Joel.

Stothem, Thomas, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, State Troops, also Capt. Allen's Company, State Troops.

Strickland, Samuel.

Strumble, John, also Continental Army.

Stull, Gideon, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion, also State Troops.

Stutman, John.

Summers, James (Somers), Second Battalion, also Continental Army.

Swain, Abraham, Third Regiment.

Swain, Judeth, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Swan, Jesse, Third Battalion.

Swandler, Isaac.

Sweeny, Valentine, Third Battalion.

Swiney, Timothy.

Swing, Valentine, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Taylor, Israel.

Taylor, Robert, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Tennent, William, Continental Army.

Terrepin, Isaac, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Terrepin, Uriah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Terry, Jonathan.

Thackry, John.

Thomas, James.

Thomas, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Thomas, Richard.

Thomson, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Thorpe, Oliver, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Tice, John.

Till, Peter, Third Battalion.

Tilton, Daniel.

Tilton, Joseph, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Timberman, Jacob.

Tomlin, Elijah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Tomlin, Jacob, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Tomlin, Jonathan, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Tomlin, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Tonson, Lewis, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Tourain or Tourmier, Redack, Third Battalion, Colonel Somers' Battalion, State Troops.

Towne, John.

Townsend, Daniel.

Townsend, James.

Townsend, John.

Townsend, Reddick, Third Battalion, Capt. Smith's Company, Continental Army.

Trumey, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Vanaman, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Vernon, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Waggoner, George, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Walker, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Wall, George, Capt. Fisler's Company, also Continental Army.

Wallace, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Walles, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Weatherby, Benjamin, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Weatherby, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Weatherby, George, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Weeks, John.

Weeks, Zephaniah.

Welden, Seth, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Weldron, Thomas.

Wells, Peter.

Wence, Jacob.

West, Israel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

West, Uriah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Wheaton, Peter.

Wheaton, Robert, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Wheaton, Silas.

Wheaton, Uriah.

Whitacre, Samuel.

White, Jennings, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

White, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Whitlock, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Will, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Wiles, Daniel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Wiley, James.

Williams, David, Third Battalion.

Williams, Edward, Captain Fisler's Company, also Continental Army.

Williams, George, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Williams, John.

Williams, William.

Williamson, David, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Wilsey, John.

Wilson, Elijah.

Wilson, William, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Woodruff, Samuel, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion and State Troops.

Woolson, John, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Worrick, Samuel.

Wright, John, Continental Army.

Young, Hance, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Young, Urlah, Third Battalion, also Col. Somers Battalion, and State Troops.

Zimmerman, Jacob.

L. L. T. W.

WAR WITH FRANCE 1798-1801

Officers in the United States Navy From New Jersey

Richard Somers, Midshipman, April 30, 1798; on Frigate "United States" Flagship of Captain John Barry, commanding North Atlantic and West India Squadron, July, 1798; took part in the capture of the French letters of Marque "Le Sans Pariel" and "Le Joloux," North Atlantic Ocean, fall of 1798; Lieutenant, May 21, 1799; on Frigate "United States," Captain John Barry, Atlantic and West Indian Squadron, 1799 to 1801.

War with Tripoli, Africa, 1801-1805. Richard Somers, Lieutenant; ordered to and served on Frigate "Boston," Captain Daniel McNiel, Mediterranean Squadron; Captain Richard Dale, July 30, 1801, to October, 1802; in command of schooner "Nautilus," Mediterranean Squadron, Captain Edward Preble, May 5, 1803, and joined the fleet in the blockade off the harbor of Tripoli, March, 1804; Master Commandant, May 18, 1804; in command of the Right Division of gunboats in the several attacks and bombardment of the city of Tripoli, August 3, 7, 24, 28 and September 3, 1804; volunteered and took command of Ketch Intrepid (fireship), to attack and destroy the Tripolitian fleet in the harbor of Tripoli, September 4, 1804; officers and crew killed September 4, 1804, in the harbor of Tripoli by the blowing up of the vessel; Congress, by a resolution passed March 3, 1805, expressed their "deep regret for the loss of those gallant men whose names ought to live in the recollections of a grateful country and whose conduct ought to be regarded as an example to future generations."

L. L. T. W.

(From "Records of Officers and Men of New Jersey in Wars, 1719 to 1815.")

EARLY MORAL LAWS OF NEW JERSEY

(Published Many Years Ago in the Newark Daily Advertiser)

"'Concerning the beastly vice, drunkenness,' the first law inflicted fines of one shilling, two shillings, and two shillings and sixpence, for the first three offences, with corporal punishment, should the offender be unable to pay; and if unruly, he was to be put in the stocks until sober. In 1682 it was treated more rigorously: each offence incurred a fine of five shillings, and if not paid, the stocks received a tenant for six hours; and constables, not doing their duty under the law, were fined ten shillings for each neglect. This increase of punishment indicates a growth in the vice, which may have been attributable in part to the removal of restrictions on the sale of liquors in small quantities which had previously been imposed.

"In 1668 each town was obliged to keep an 'ordinary' for the relief and entertainment of strangers, under a penalty of forty shillings for each month's neglect; and ordinary-keepers alone were permitted to retail liquors in less quantities than two gallons. In 1677, the quantity was reduced to one gallon. In 1683, ordinary-keepers were debarred the privilege of recovering debts for liquor sold, amounting to five shillings; but whatever good this might have done was destroyed by the assembly authorizing others than keepers of ordinaries to retail strong liquors by the quart. In 1692, 'forasmuch as there were great exorbitances and drunkenness observable in several towns, occasioned by tolerating many persons in selling drink in private houses,' an attempt was made to establish an excise; but the following year it was repealed, and the licensing of retailers confined to the governor.

"The observance of the Lord's day was required, by abstaining from all servile work, unlawful recreations, and unnecessary traveling; and any disorderly conduct could be punished by confinement in the stocks, fines, imprisonment, or whipping. In 1704, under the administration of Lord Cornbury, many of the early prohibitions were re-enacted; but by that time, it would

seem, the use of ardent spirits began to be considered necessary, keepers of public houses were not to allow 'tippling on the Lord's day, except for necessary refreshment.'

"Swearing, or 'taking God's name in vain,' was made punishable by a shilling fine for each offence, as early as 1668, and such continued to be the law until 1682, when a special act provided that the fine should be two shillings and sixpence; and if not paid, the offender was to be placed in the stocks or whipped, according to his age, whether under or over twelve.

"'All prizes, stage-plays, games, masques, revels, bull-baiting, and cock fightings, which excite the people to rudeness, cruelty, looseness, and irreligion,' were to be discouraged and punished by courts of justice, according to the nature of the offence. Night-walkers or revelers, after nine o'clock, were to be secured by the constable till morning; and, unless excused on examination, to be bound over to appear at court. The resistance of lawful authority, by word or action, or the expression of disrespectful language referring to those in office, was made punishable either by fine, corporal punishment or (as from 1675 to 1682) by banishment."

"In 1676 all liars were included—for the second offence incurring a fine of twenty shillings; and if the fines were not paid, the culprits received corporal punishment, or were put in the stocks."

INDIANS

Lenni Lenape

The Red Man's history in New Jersey, after the arrival of the white man and his fire water, is anything but heroic. The Lenni Lenape, one of the Delawares, were of the great Algonkin family of Indians whose many tribal branches were scattered along the Atlantic seaboard from Labrador to the Everglades of Florida.

The name Lenni Lenape signifies, according to the different translations, "Old Men," the Original or Pure Indian. The Delaware (Lenni Lenape) nation occupied the territory now comprising the State of New Jersey and lived along its river valleys because of the abundance of easily acquired and nature provided food.

The original Lenni Lenape was described by the early writers as being almost lovable in his hospitable simplicity, but when a half century had given the white man's liquors and the intermixture of bloods a chance to show what they could do, it developed that the red man was not what he once had been; he was not possessed of the white man's mental power to resist temptation of over indulgence. As an act of charity, he was placed beyond beckoning temptation upon a reservation, *the first in the United States*. This tract of land consisted of 3000 acres, near Edge Pillock or Brotherton, now known as Indian Mills. The Lenni Lenape remained on this reservation until 1802, when they joined their fortunes with the Mohigans and removed to the State of New York.

They removed again at a later date to Wisconsin (Green Bay) and ultimately to Indian Territory.

The last act of the Lenni Lenape drama or tragedy occurred when the New Jersey Legislature appropriated $2,000 in 1832 to extinguish all the right, title and interest which the Lenni Lenape held or might hold against the Colony or State.

From "Lure of Long Branch of New Jersey," by

George B. Somerville.

Indian Burying Grounds Uncovered

While building Edgewater Avenue at Pleasantville, yesterday, workmen exhumed eight Indian skeletons. This new street is on the bay side of the shore road, north of N. Disbrow's blacksmith shop, through the estate of the late Josiah Risley. Between the road and the meadows, is a hill or shellmound, where for ages the Redmen of the forest opened oysters; these mounds are found all along the bays through the county, from Leeds Point to Somers Point. This is not the first time skeletons have been found, also flint arrow heads and other relics. One of the skulls found yesterday was incased in a turtle's shell, with clam shells and arrow heads around it.

This is supposed to be the remains of the famous old chief, Kin Newongha, members of whose tribe still live along the shore, and the others were his original warriors, who helped him to scalp the forest. Four more have since been found.—

Newspaper clipping dated Jan. 28, 1890, contributed by

Joseph R. Moore.

Second Indian Burying Ground "Exhumed"

Our Pleasantville reporter testifies to the authenticity of the statement, here made regarding the exhuming of the Indian skeletons.

It appears while Jesse Risley was at work on a tract of land between the shore road and the meadow edge a few days since, he dug up a skeleton and on the succeeding three days two more. On Thursday he was assisted by Ezra Adams and six were exhumed. On Wednesday four were dug up and one on Thursday; in all 14. Several flints and six arrows were found with the bones. The ground where the skeletons were found lies on top of a hill, and it is surmised that they have been buried at least 150 years, as the ground has been farmed for nearly that length of time. The mound where the bones were found is only

60 feet wide and about the same length while the skeletons were about three feet under ground. All the bodies were facing Lake's Bay, and it is supposed that the remains are those of Indians, although there is a difference of opinion on the matter.—

A Newspaper clipping dated Feb. 1, 1905, contributed by

JOSEPH R. MOORE.

CRANBERRY INDIAN LEGEND

Way back in the misty ages of "long ago," there is nought but twilight and through that twilight, comes this legend of the cranberry and the Bog; also that the beasts of the forest were giants, and roved at their own sweet will over the wilds of West Jersey.

Among them the Mastodon was king in strength and ferocity, and for this reason was chosen by the Indians as their helper—their beast of burden. He rebelled at servitude, and insisted the other beasts should share the burden—they would not, then came the crash of war. The sky scowled, the stars wept, the earth shook, but the mighty beast fought on. Blood flowed, the slaughter was terrific; the roar was heard in the adjoining states like unto an earthquake; from this tremendous outpour of blood, the earth became as a sponge, so deep that the sun's rays could not penetrate. It was unsightly, noisome, a bog, until the good Lord in his mercy covered it with a soft green blanket. In time little heads came up through this blanket, as if to see the light of day; now either of their birth in this bloody muck, or that they blushed in their own temerity, they became a bright red and man called them "Cranberrie," and pronounced them good.

M. R. M. FISH.

SLAVES IN NEW JERSEY

From Barbour's History

There is no record when slavery was introduced into the Colonies, though it is known that it was universal in Europe for 100 years before America was discovered, and there is every probability that it was coeval with its very earliest settlement. We know that even New England with its strict religious code was not exempt; labor with few exceptions was done entirely by negroes, who, compared with the great amount of work to be done, were few in number.

The Duke of York (brother of Charles II) to whom he granted the Province, was at this time President of the "Royal African Slave Company."

When Lord Cornbury was appointed Governor of this Province, Queen Anne instructed him to negotiate with *the said Company that* "The said Province of New Jersey may have a constant and sufficient number of merchantable negroes at a moderate price in money or comodities," and that a bounty of 75 acres of land be given to every man who does either bring or send a slave over 14 years old, "for three years, the bounty diminishing each year until at the end of the third year, his or her master receive 30 instead of 75 acres." There was a duty on the importation of negroes and mulatto slaves.

That there was trouble from the earlier records we find in Jan. 20th, 1733, a negro was burned alive for assaulting a white woman. 1734 all the negroes of the Province of West Jersey were invited to see a negro hung for urging a "Rising of negroes that they too should be free." In 1737 New Jersey had 3981 slaves.

Perth Amboy was the distributing center and slave vessels landed there, the old barracks in which they were confined until disposed of, are still remembered. In 1818 a cargo of kidnapped negroes shipped from Perth Amboy, were seized in New Orleans, not having a manifest as required by law.

A Newspaper Item

Dec. 12, 1818.

"Certain men dealers who carried off some negroes from New Jersey, after the law was passed to stop the trade in human flesh, have been caught in Pennsylvania and we hope they will meet their reward."

As early as 1696 the Quakers strongly advised the abolition of slavery, among themselves, preparatory to asking others to do so, and societies were established for this purpose.

1784, Governor Livingston, of New York and New Jersey, joined for the emancipation of slaves, and freed his only two. Though much feeling was displayed against it, the first effort by law was in 1804 when the infants of slave parents were born free. In 1820 all children of slave parents were made free by law, notwithstanding which, in 1830, there were still 674 slaves in New Jersey.

Note.—In 1662 the Royal African Company was incorporated. At the head of it was the Duke of York, and the King himself was a large shareholder.

Slaves at Bargaintown

L. J. Price

We are indebted to Mrs. Amer Farrish for information. On the beginning of the road between the two old mills at Bargaintown, now where the placid waters of Bargaintown mill pond lie, was once a cedar swamp, through which flowed Patcong creek. Bordering this swamp was the home of one Somers, a slave holder, and of the family which were ancestors of Mrs Farrish.

This swamp was a barrier to easy communication with the people across the swamp. In order to have passage, other than the long way around by the roads, Somers offered liberty to his women slaves if they would build a way through the swamp. The road originally was stepping stones, carried by the slaves in their aprons. Later we have been told the stream was dammed, and a road constructed by bags of sand, being piled until an

embankment was made. Tradition tells us this was also the work of Somers' slaves.

Many, many long years after, about the summer of 1903, the dam which held the waters of the stream broke, and the waters of the pond quickly flowed out. Where the bridge had been, on which one was wont to stand and watch the water fall, was now only a yawning chasm, through which trickled a tiny stream; and the bed of the pond bare, save for the many stumps, mute witnesses of a glorious forest long since passed away, and the dark soil of the pond's bed sprinkled with grass, and the sluggish stream which had made the pond, flowing slowly on.

Months passed without repairs being made, public officials claiming that the pond being private property, the repairs should be made by the owners. After months of inconvenience to the public, the road was repaired, the late Dr. F. F. Corson offering to furnish sand necessary for the repairs.

THE MILL AT BARGAINTOWN

SOME OLD WILLS

WILL AND INVENTORY OF RICHARD WILLITS
SALEM, 1759

No. 958 A, Bk. 13, fol. 174.

Secretary of State's Office, Trenton, N. J.

In the name of God amen. I Richard Willits of the township of Alloway Creek, in the County of Salem and Province of West N. Jersey, being through the abundant mercy and goodness of God, of a sound and perfect understanding and memory, calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed of all men once to die, do make and ordain that this, my last Will and Testament that is to say:

And first of all I give and recommend my soul into the Hands of the God that gave it, and for my body I commit it to the Earth, to be Buried in a Christian like manner, at the discretion of my Executors Hereafter mentioned. And as touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life, I give, devise, and dispose of the same, in the following manner and form:

I give and bequeath unto Sarah my beloved wife, the sum of One Hundred Pounds lawfull money of the Province aforesaid, also my whole movable Estate, Excepting Bonds for Money and One Negro Woman, named Zelpha, and I further order her to give passes to Negro Ned, and Ishmael and Benjamin to go and work for themselves. When each arrive at 30 years of age I order them that they shall come and work for her in hay time and she to pay as much wages as if they were white men.

I give unto my beloved son Richard Willis 30 Pounds.

I give unto my beloved daughter Elizabeth Stilwell 30 Pounds.

I give unto my beloved daughter Deliverance Birdsill Ten Pounds.

I give unto my beloved son, Amos Willis Ten Shillings.

I give unto my beloved daughter Mary Buntin (Bunting) 30 Pounds.

I give unto my beloved grandson Richard Stilwell, 5 Pounds.

I give unto my beloved brother John Willis of Cape May, it being on my son Amos' account, seven Pounds.

I give my Negro Adam Three Pounds.

My will is that the remainder of my Estate I give and bequeath to my well beloved sons Richard Willis and Machai Willis, to be equally divided between them.

I do constitute, make and ordain my well beloved wife and my well beloved son Richard whole and sole executors of this my last Will and Testament, and I do hereby disallow, revoke and Disannul all and every other Former Testaments, Wills, Legacies, and Executors by me in any ways before this time named, willed, and bequeathed, Ratifying and Confirming this and no other, to be my last will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and seal this Thirty First Day of December, Anno Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Seven.

(Signed) RICHARD WILLETS.

Signed, Sealed, Published, Pronounced and declared by the said Richard Willets.
As his last will and Testament in the Presence of us

JOHN TEST
ELIZABETH (*) WEITHMAN
ROBT. NICHOLS

March 2d, 1759, by Robert Nicholas and John Test and that "Elizabeth Waithman was present" May 24th, 1759, by signature of both Executors.

Proved and Probated at Salem.

Abstract of Inventory.

Apr. 10th 1759, Thomas Sayer, Saml. Wood.

100 Bonds 2 Notes no names.

1 pr. high Chest of Drawers and old chests.

1 Gun and Spinning Wheels.

Cattle in the Salt Marsh and other Cattle.

Negro Slaves, £200-00-0.

Household furniture, Farming implements and Books.

Amount, £ 880-4-8.

Probated at Salem. Abstract Inventory App.

Proved May 24th, 1759, affirmed by Samuel Wood and Executors.

On small piece of paper is written,

My man Ned was born 18th of January, 1734.

My man Ishmael was born 15th of Sept., 1739.

My man Benjamin was born 6th of April, 1753

This will contributed by a direct descendant, Mr. Robert M. Willis, of Pleasantville, New Jersey.

Some Abstracts of Colonial Wills Between the Years 1702 and 1738 of Great Egg Harbor, Gloucester County, Province, West New Jersey

Madam President and Members of Atlantic County Historical Society:

It seems from the history of New Jersey, that from about 1680 it was the practise to deposit Wills, with Provincial Secretaries, by whom they were filed or recorded. These records were brought together about 1700, in the office of the Secretary, at Trenton, where they are carefully preserved.

It has been well said, "That the History of a Nation is but the aggregate of the Biographies of its people," and surely the Will and Testament of a person or persons, gives us glimpses of their history, or histories, as nothing else can do. We get pleasant glimpses of generosity on part of some Testators, again read between the lines of family tragedy, also of romance, also some testators with a fine sense of equity, as one testator devised "Half of my cattle and movable goods to children of my first wife, half to children of my second wife," also the grotesque as one wishes, "Doctor Robeson to dessect me." One with an eye to economy, warns his executors against paying the Doctor any "extorsnit bills." We also get an echo of slavery days in New Jersey, as one inventory includes "Two negroes, and a

covenanted servant." Another will, the testator wished "to be praised by two reasonable men." Our colonial sires, were not exact spellers, as one speaks of debts, as "Dets dangerously dew my estate." One letter of administration issued "To hee theay, or bee whoe itt will." We can also see where our colonial ancestors, not only "enjoyed poor health" but enjoyed a funeral, as the following bill presented for settlement will show: "Bill for rum, sugar and spices £1 13s. For a barrel of cider, nine shillings, all at the funeral." It is charity for us to suppose "all at the funeral" was to drown their sorrow in, or with.

The following abstracts of Great Egg Harbour, New Jersey, Wills is copied from Wills at Trenton and I will add here that I have written this paper at some disadvantage, as I have very little New Jersey history accessible. However I submit this paper to your charitable judgment.

The first abstract I have is dated 1702. Nov. 2nd, Jonas Valentine, of Great Egg Harbour, Gloucester County, New Jersey; wife, Grace; children, Jonas, Richard, Grace, Deborah, Elizabeth, Martha, Sarah. Wife executrix. Witnesses, Lubbett Guysebuss and William Leeds, Sr. Inventory made by Daniel Leeds and William Lake.

1702, Nov. 30, Peter Conover, of Weymouth Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey; wife Mary; children, Peter, John, David, Hester, Mary; 150 acres, between Francis Collings and Jonathan Leeds, 150 acres between John Scull and James Steelman. Wife executrix. Witnesses, John Somers and Thomas Oliver. Inventory of personal estate made by John Somers and Richard Gregory.

1716, March 22nd, William Lake, of Great Egg Harbour, New Jersey; wife Sarah; sons, Nathan and David; three daughters, names not given. Executor John Scull. Inventory by John Cozier and Peter Scull.

1719, May 27th, Jonathan Adams, of Great Egg Harbour; wife Barbara; children, Jonathan, John, Abbigail, Margaret, Rebecca, Sarah, Mary, Dina, Phebe. Executors, Wife and Peter White. Witnesses, Daniel and Elizabeth Ingersol, Thomas Green.

1720, Oct. 30, Samuel Gale, of Great Egg Harbour; wife, Mary; daughters, Dinah, Sarah; stepson, David Conover; nephew, Samuel Howell. Home-farm and 85 acres of cedar swamp,

Executors, Jonathan Adams and Thomas Risley. Witnesses, Richard Risley and Jonathan Adams, Jr., and Ambrose Copland.

1721, Dec. 18, Daniel Harkent, of Great Egg Harbour, wife, Sarah; children, Daniel, Richard, Desire Nichelson, who has sons, Nehemiah, John, Samuel, Thomas. Executors, Peter White and Jonathan Addams. Witnesses, James Howell, Richard Mannery and Thomas Green.

1723, May 11th, William Davis, of Great Egg Harbour. Administrator of Estate, Joseph Leeds. Inventory made by Peter and John Conover.

1727, March 20, Joseph Dole, of Great Egg Harbour. Wife, Hannah. Executrix, to sell property, with the consent of her brothers, Richard and James Somers, children mentioned but not by names. Witnesses, David Collings, Daniel Ingersol, Bridget Somers. Inventory includes a "Great" Bible made by Daniel Collings and William Cordery.

1730, June 20, Peter Covenover, of Great Egg Harbour. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Peter, Isaiah, Thomas, Micajah, Mary, Judith. Executors, Wife and Brother John. Witnesses, Samuel Hnested and John Watts.

1734, James Steelman, of Great Egg Harbour. Wife Katherine; "one-half my movable estate, excepting my slaves." Executors, Wife Katherine and Son John; children, Andrew, Hance, John, James, Elias, Peter, Mary, Susannah; granddaughter, Susannah. Witnesses, Nathan Lake, Edward Oiser, Solomon Mannery.

1737, Oct. 12, Hannah Somers, of Great Egg Harbour; children, Richard, Samuel, Job, Edmund, Millicent; grandchildren, children of Hannah Ingersol, not mentioned by name, granddaughters, Hannah Somers and Millicent Somers; son, Richard Somers, sole executor. Witnesses, Daniel Ireland and Judith Steelman.

1736, Andrew Steelman, Sr., of Great Egg Harbour. Wife, Judith, sole executrix; wife Judith to have her third while she remained a widow; children, Andrew, Frederick, James, Peter, Mary, Judith, Susannah. "My sons may buy or sell one to another, but not otherwise." Witnesses, Daniel Ireland, John Wells and Alexander Fish.

It is not probable that this is a complete list of abstracts of Great Egg Harbour Wills, between year 1702 and 1738, but in closing I may be permitted to say that with more time to explore, and digest material, I could satisfy my own ideal more fully.

Respectfully submitted,

EMILY STEELMAN FISHER.

OLD GLOUCESTER COUNTY

From Hall's Daily Union History

Gloucester County at one time extended from the Delaware to the Sea, including what is now Camden, Atlantic and Gloucester Counties. Camden was made a county by An Act of Legislature, passed March 13, 1844, seven years after Atlantic County had been created. On Feb. 7, 1837, An Act was passed creating Atlantic County. There were then only four large townships or voting places in this county, Egg Harbor, Weymouth, Hamilton and Galloway. Mullica was created later out of Galloway, and the town of Hammonton out of Mullica. Buena-Vista, in 1807, was created out of Hamilton and Atlantic City set off from Egg Harbor Township in 1854. The first deed was recorded by J. H. Collins, the first County Clerk, on May 4th, 1837, and was for 40 acres of land in Egg Harbor Township, sold by D. Robart and wife, to Samuel Saunders. The first Will was made by David Dennis and witnessed by Joe West, willing to his two sons, David and Joel, the "Jack Pudding Cedar Swamp." (The present President of the Historical Society is the daughter of Joel Dennis). The will was probated seven years after. Samuel Richards and wife gave the Board of Freeholders the lot at May's Landing for the county buildings, by deed dated May 25, 1838, and the present Court House was soon erected thereon.

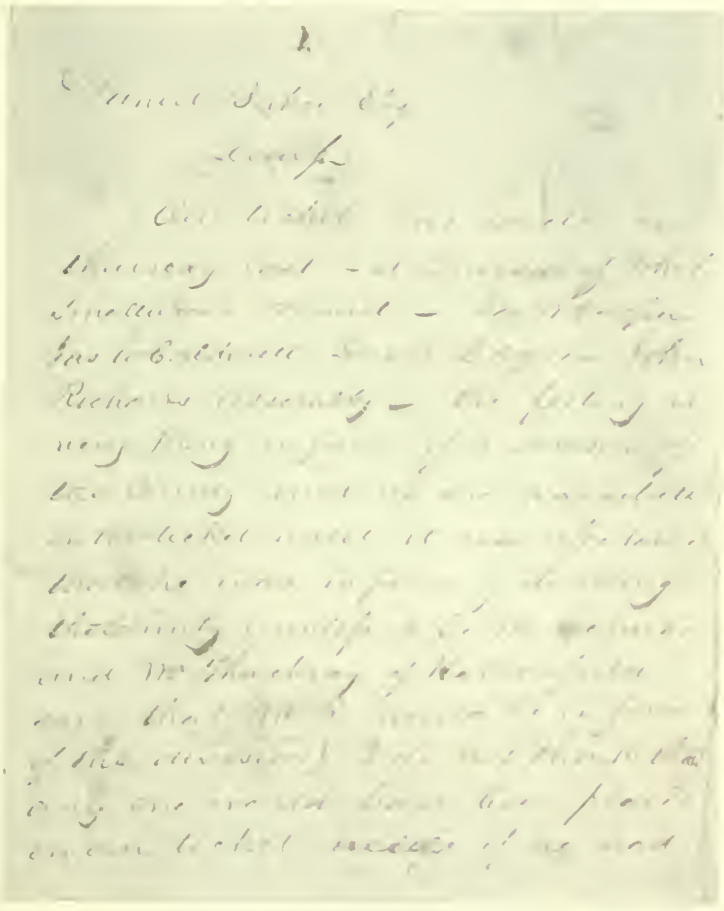
At the annual meeting of the Board of Freeholders, of Gloucester County, held in May, 1836, 28 members constituted the board, while at the annual meeting on the 10th of May, 1836, 20 members composed the body. The townships of Hamilton, Weymouth, Egg Harbor and Galloway, having been set off from Gloucester County, forming a new county called Atlantic, by An Act of the Legislature, passed the 7th day of Feb. A. D., 1837. At this meeting commissioners were appointed to value the public buildings at Woodbury, the Almshouse property, and other assets of the County of Gloucester, and to ascertain what proportion of such valuation would be due to the County of Atlantic, according to the ratio of population determined by last

census. The commissioners appointed for Gloucester County were: John Clement, Elijah Bower and Saunders; for Atlantic County, Daniel Baker, Joseph Endicott and Enoch Doughty. These gentlemen met at the Court House in Woodbury, on the 9th day of May, 1837, at 10 o'clock, and were each sworn or affirmed faithfully, and impartially to value the public properties of Gloucester County, which appears as follows:

Two tracts of land in Deptford Township; adjoining lands of John Swope; containing 248 47 100 Acres	$ 850 00
Movable property at Almshouse	3,728 00
The entire Almshouse lands, with the buildings and improvements	16,150 00
The Court House, Jail, Clerks and Surrogate Offices, with their contents; with all other Property at Woodbury, "including the man O'Hoy"	11,400 00
Total	$32,128 00
From which deduct the debt of the County	7,932 55
Balance to be divided between the two Counties	$24,195 45

By the census taken in 1830, the County of Gloucester contained 28,431 inhabitants. Of that number 8,164 were contained in the townships of Galloway, Egg Harbor, Weymouth and Hamilton, composing the new county of Atlantic, its proportional share or part was placed at ..... $ 6,947 75
Gloucester County's proportional share 17,247 70

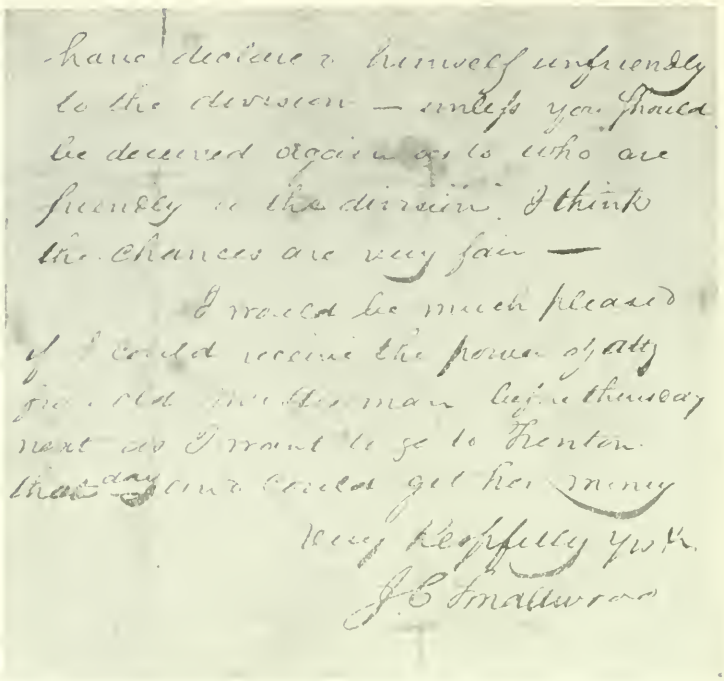
Total $24,195 45



Daniel Baker Esq

Dear sir

Our ticket was selected on thursday last—it consists of John C. Smallwood council—Jos H Cooper Jas W Caldwell David C Ogden John Richards assembly—the feeling is very strong in favor of a division of the County and no one was selected on the ticket until it was ascertained that he was in favor of dividing the County (unless it be Mr Richards and Mr Thackray of Haddonfield said that Mr R would be in favor of the division) I do not think that any one would have been placed on our ticket if he had



have declared himself unfriendly to the division — unless you should be deceived again as to who are friendly to the division I think the chances are very fair —

I would be much pleased if I could receive the power of atty from old Mrs Steelman before thursday next as I want to go to Trenton that day and could get her money

Very Respectfully Yours

J C Smallwood

DANIEL BAKER

STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

TO Daniel Baker Esquire, GREETING:

The Council and Assembly, reposing special trust and confidence in your integrity, prudence and ability, have at a Joint Meeting appointed you the said Daniel Baker to be one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, in and for the county of Gloucester You are therefore by these presents commissioned one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, to be holden in and for the said county of Gloucester To have and to hold the same, with all powers and jurisdictions cognizable to the said Court, and before a Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, severally or jointly to said county, with other the Judges of the said state; together with the fees allowed for the execution of the several duties thereof, agreeably to the constitution and laws of the said State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF the Great Seal of the said state is hereunto affixed.

WITNESS Isaac H Williamson Governor of the State of New Jersey, at Trenton, the fourth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight and of the Independence of the United States the fifty second

BY THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

To Daniel Baker Esquire Greeting

The Council and Assembly reposing special trust and confidence in your integrity prudence and ability have at a Joint Meeting appointed you the said Daniel Baker to be one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in and for the county of Gloucester You are therefore by these presents commissioned one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas to be holden in and for the said county of Gloucester To have and to hold the same with all powers and jurisdictions cognizable in the said Court and before a Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas severally or jointly in said county with other the Judges of the said state together with the fees allowed to the execution of the several duties thereof agreeably to the constitution and laws of the said state.

In testimony whereof the Great Seal of the said State is hereunto affixed Witness Isaac H Williamson Governor of the State of New Jersey at Trenton the fourth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight and of the Independence of the United States the fifty second

ISAAC H WILLIAMSON

BY THE GOVERNOR

DANL COLEMAN Secretary

THE OLD FORT AT SOMERS POINT

One of the Oldest Historical Landmarks in Atlantic County

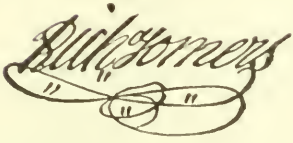
The construction of Bay avenue at Somers Point compels the removal of one of the oldest historical landmarks in the county, which is the hillock, or the site on which it was erected during the Revolutionary War and was the only fort in this vicinity. It was erected by Atlantic County enterprise, and by our county's old population, the cannons and equipments being furnished by the state. At that time was stationed at Somers Point eight companies of foot soldiers, and two of cavalry, at that time called horse guards.

The troops were commanded by Col. Thomas Doughty, an old county resident, of whom Mrs. Japhet Townsend and Ely Doughty, of Linwood, are the sole descendants. The removal of the fort calls forth many sad reminders from the old inhabitants in this vicinity. We have often heard their parents tell of the exciting times of those days. During the war several war ships were brought into Great Egg Harbor inlet by the United States. Noticeable was the Belvidue or Bellview which vessel had on board a crew of whom even the officers were filthy and covered with that small insect—the louse. This vessel was towed into the harbor and the small channel running from it into Steelman's bay was given the name of Lousy Harbor and still retains the name to this day.

So far 15 cannon balls, weighing three and one-half pounds, and two weighing seven pounds each have been unearthed from the fort. As relics they command from 50 cents to $1.00 apiece. The cannons were removed 1816, having done duty in preventing hostile forces from landing by way of Great Egg Harbor inlet. Several houses were demolished by the enemies' vessels. The fort being built of sand withstood shot and shell. There are to-day a number on the pension rolls for services rendered at this fort; at English Creek and Bargaintown; two at Bakersville, one in Smiths Landing and one in Atlantic City.—*Mrs. Harriet Scull. From a Newspaper Clipping, October 8, 1887.*

CONTRIBUTED BY JOSEPH R. MOORE

The older inhabitants of Somers Point remember being told by their parents of a time when all the men of the place were away and a British vessel was seen coming in the inlet. The women hurriedly gathered all the children and put them to tramping up and down amid the high weeds growing on the shore, shaking boughs of trees, to make it appear as if a large body of men were getting ready for defense, while they banged the cannon and old guns left there. The British were so deceived that they turned and hurried from the inlet and were not heard from again.—*Mrs. A. H. Heaton.*



"THE HERO OF TRIPOLI"

CARDING MILL.

By L. J. Price

The carding of wool like other industries of our county is now only a matter of history. On Lake's Creek, Scullville, before or near the time Atlantic County was created, Thomas Bevis built a mill for the carding of wool, and preparing sumac for market trade.

The mill was about forty feet long, and twenty feet wide. It was a one story structure, with a loft. One portion of the mill was built on piling, the remaining portion resting on the ground. The preparation of the sumac for market was an important feature of the mill's business. The leaves were dried and crushed beneath stones, not unlike mill stones of the grist mills. The sumac when prepared was shipped by boat, principally to the New York markets.

The machinery operating the mill was enclosed in a box-like compartment underneath the mill, in which for a time a rattlesnake made its retreat. When the machinery was running the snake would hum; the sound was similar to the singing of locusts.

We are indebted to Mr. Joshua Scull for this information, who until recently was the owner of the property on which the mill was located. The late Denman Bevis, whose death was comparatively recent, remembered the building of the mill.

About a half century ago when the industry was abandoned, the machinery was taken apart and carried by boat to New York, the vessel loading at Jefferies Landing, commanded by Jonathan Smith. Mr. Scull tells of various experiences with rattlesnakes along Lake's Creek.

Once as Mr. Scull was driving home with two children, Mr. Scull at the time walking by the side of the wagon, saw a rattler suddenly spring on to one of the wagon wheels, and as the wheel turned around, sprang to the front wheel. Calling to the children to guide the horse and walking backward, so as not to

lose sight of the snake until he could procure a stick with which he killed the reptile. One of the children was Mr. William Collins, who were enroute to their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Alpheus Bevis. We can hardly realize at this day of portions of our county being infested once by a serpent so dangerous to man.

Mrs. Deborah Jane Anderson, of Somers Point, tells us that when a child, she would go with her father to the carding mill with wool to be carded; wool that was the product of his farm.

CLARK'S OLD LOG MEETING HOUSE AT PLEASANT MILLS.

In 1758 a rude church or meeting house was built at Sweetwater, now Pleasant Mills, by Dr. Elijah Clark, an old-time minister. Being built after the primitive style of the period, this old log meeting house was twenty-five by thirty feet, ceiled with cedar boards and covered with cedar shingles.

The site of this first rude church, which was known for many years as Clark's Log Meeting House at the forks of the Little Egg Harbor, is still pointed out as being upon practically the same spot as the present Methodist Church in the pine grove on the margin of the old cemetery, where sleeps several generations of the villagers. Reverend Allen H. Brown, a zealous Presbyterian minister and synodical missionary, says Clark's little log meeting house stood at the junction of Atsion and Batsto Creeks, at what is now Pleasant Mills in Mullica township. It is also stated that this meeting house was ten or twelve miles from the site of the Clark's Mill Meeting House, near Port Republic.

Clark's Log Meeting House was a free meeting house to all. It had no settled pastor, but was used by preachers of all denominations. In his journal of 1775, Reverend Philip V. Fithian mentions the names of twenty-seven Presbyterian ministers who had preached in this log church. Few in our day can appreciate the unlettered teachings of the itinerant preachers and the plain manner of living of those whose race was run in rougher paths than ours. Reverend Simon Lucas, a Revolutionary soldier, was one of the primitive Methodists who officiated in this old church twenty years or more before it gave place to a larger and more sightly edifice which was erected in 1808, is still standing and is known as the Pleasant Mills Methodist Church.

This sketch is from notes taken from "Heston's Hand Books" and "The Daily Union History" by John F. Hall.—*Written by May Elizabeth Irelan.*

Pleasant Mills, New Jersey

THE CALLING OF THE MILITIA FOR THE WAR OF 1812-1815.

Nearly two months before war was declared between the United States and Great Britian, New Jersey had begun to place herself in a condition to defend her sea, coast and harbor. An Act of Congress called the militia into service, April 10th 1812. War was declared June 18th 1812, five thousand troops were required of New Jersey as her portion. The Uniformed Militia at that time consisted of 2500 men.

March 24, 1813, the Governor issued a general order from his headquarters at Elizabethtown, enjoining upon every enrolled militiamen to *provide himself* with a good musket or fire lock, a sufficient bayonet and belt, two spare flints, and a knapsack, a pouch to contain not less than 24 cartridges, suited to the bore of his musket, each cartridge to contain sufficient quantity of powder and ball; or if a rifleman with a good rifle, knapsack, shot pouch and powder horn, 20 balls suited to the bore of his rifle and one-fourth pound of powder; or if a dragoon with a serviceable horse at least 14½ hands high, a good saddle, small pillion, a valise, holsters, a breast plate and cupper, a pair of boots and spurs, a pair of pistols, sabre, a cartouch box, to contain cartridge for pistols.

Act of Congress authorized the president to organize, arm and equip according to law, a militia to hold in readiness to march at a moment's notice, to suppress insurrection and repel invasions. The said militia not to be compelled to serve a longer time than six months, after arriving at place of rendezvous, receiving the same pay and rations and emoluments as the United States army when in service. "Section 5—And be it further enacted that *in lieu of whipping* as provided by several rules and articles of war, *as now used and practised*, stoppage of pay, confinement and deprivation of part rations be substituted.

ARTILLERY COMPANY, THIRD REGIMENT, GLOUCESTER BRIGADE

ROBERT SMITH, CAPTAIN

This company was organized Feb. 12th, 1813, and was attached to the Second Battalion, Third Regiment, Gloucester Brigade, New Jersey Militia, and "having volunteered for the protection of the maritime frontier," in accordance with section 8, of the militia law of Feb. 12th, 1814, was ordered into service during the war of 1812-15 by Governor Pennington. In the call of troops made by the Governor, Aug. 12th, 1814, this company was exempted from details "having volunteered to perform certain services." The company was enrolled for duty at Smithville, Gloucester (now Atlantic) County and was stationed at Leeds Point and Somers Point, and at other places on the sea coast, between Little Egg Harbor, and Great Egg Harbor rivers. The enemy atempted to land at Somers Point on one occasion and the company was called out to repel them. They appear to have had but one continuous tour of duty, which was from May 1st to June 20, 1814, and for which they were paid by the State, by an Act of the Legislature, Feb. 8, 1816, but during all the rest of the year, they were always "prepared for actual service on any sudden emergency," and were called out several times by alarms along the coast for immediate defense of the state. They were finally discharged at the close of the war at Smithville, Gloucester Co., Feb. 19, 1815.

NAME	RANK	ENROLLED	PERIOD	DISCHARGED
			Until	
Smith, Robert	Captain	May 1, 1814	Relieved	Feb. 19, 1815
Endicot, Joseph	First Lieut.	"	"	"
Endicot, John	Second Lieut.	"	"	"
Endicott, William	First Sergt.	"	"	"
Smallwood, Levi	Sergeant	"	"	"
Morse, Nehemiah	"	"	"	"
Kindle, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Smith, James	"	"	"	"
Kindle, Daniel, Sr.	Corporal	"	"	"
McCollum, Malcolm	"	"	"	"
Shores, Joseph	"	"	"	"
McCollum, Samuel	"	"	"	"

NAME	RANK	ENROLLED	PERIOD	DISCHARGED
Johnson, Joseph	Drummer	May 1, 1814	Until Relieved	Feb. 19, 1815
Mathis, Reuben	Drummer	"	"	"
Risley, Leeds	Fifer	"	"	"
Adams, Evy	Private	"	"	"
Adams, John	"	"	"	"
Adams, Thomas	"	"	"	"
Bates, Joab	"	"	"	"
Bell, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Bennett, Wm.	"	"	"	"
Blackman, James	"	"	"	"
Bowen, John	"	"	"	"
Bowen, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Brewer, John	"	"	"	"
Burnet, Joshua	"	"	"	"
Clifton, George	"	"	"	"
Conover, Absalom	"	"	"	"
Conover, Adam	"	"	"	"
Conover, Eliakim	"	"	"	"
Conover, James	"	"	"	"
Conover, Job	"	"	"	"
Conover, John	"	"	"	"
Conover, Josiah	"	"	"	"
Conover, Macajah	"	"	"	"
Conover, Peter	"	"	"	"
Conover, Somers	"	"	"	"
Conover, Wm.	"	"	"	"
Cordery, Daniel	"	"	"	"
Cordery Edmund	"	"	"	"
Delap, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Doughty, Abner	"	"	"	"
Doughty, John	"	"	"	"
Doughty, Nathaniel	"	"	"	"
Doughty, Thomas	"	"	"	"
Endicott, Benjamin	"	"	"	"
Endicott, Jacob	"	"	"	"
Endicott, Nicholas	"	"	"	"
Garwood, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Giberson, James	"	"	"	"
Giberson, Jesse	"	"	"	"
Giberson, John	"	"	"	"
Grapewine, Huston	"	"	"	"
Hewitt, Aaron	"	"	"	"
Higbee, Absalom	"	"	"	"
Higbee, Edward	"	"	"	"
Higbee, Enoch	"	"	"	"
Homan, Daniel	"	"	"	"

NAME	RANK	ENROLLED	PERIOD	DISCHARGED
			Until	
Homan, David	Private	May 1, 1814	Relieved	Feb. 19, 1815
Homan, Eli	"	"	"	"
Homan, John	"	"	"	"
Homan, Mahlon	"	"	"	"
Horn, Isaac	"	"	"	"
Ireland, Daniel	"	"	"	"
Ireland, Vincent	"	"	"	"
Johnson, Wm.	"	"	"	"
Kindle, Daniel, Jr.	"	"	"	"
Kindle, Thomas	"	"	"	"
Leeds, Cornelius	"	"	"	"
Leeds, Jesse	"	"	"	"
Leeds, Reuben	"	"	"	"
Mathis Beriah	"	"	"	"
McCollum, Daniel	"	"	"	"
McCollum, Jesse	"	"	"	"
McCollum, John	"	"	"	"
McCollum, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Morse, Joab	"	"	"	"
Morse, Joshua	"	"	"	"
Murphy, Thomas S.	"	"	"	"
Newberry, Daniel	"	"	"	"
Newberry, Solomon	"	"	"	"
Parker, Jesse	"	"	"	"
Risley, Eli	"	"	"	"
Risley, John	"	"	"	"
Scull, Daniel	"	"	"	"
Scull, Gideon	"	"	"	"
Scull, James	"	"	"	"
Scull, Paul	"	"	"	"
Shores, David	"	"	"	"
Smallwood, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Smith, Isaac	"	"	"	"
Smith, Jonathan	"	"	"	"
Smith, Noah	"	"	"	"
Somers, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Somers, Richard	"	"	"	"
Somers, Wm.	"	"	"	"
Sooy, Benjamin	"	"	"	"
Sooy, Nicholas	"	"	"	"
Sooy, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Strickland, Eli	"	"	"	"
Strickland, John	"	"	"	"
Strickland, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Thomas, Aaron	"	"	"	"
Turner, John	"	"	"	"
Weeks, Vincent	"	"	"	"
Weldon, Gideon	"	"	"	"

L. L. T. W.

COMPANY OF INFANTRY, FIRST REGIMENT, GLOUCESTER BRIGADE.

JOHN R. SCULL, CAPTAIN

This Company was organized April 14th, 1814, the officers commissioned May 6th, 1814, and was called a Volunteer Company, First Battalion, First Regiment, Gloucester Brigade, New Jersey Militia. During the month of May it volunteered "for the protection of the maritime frontier," in accordance with section of the militia law of Feb. 12th, 1814, and was ordered into service during the War of 1812-15 by Governor Pennington.

In the call for troops made by the Governor, Aug. 12, 1814, this company was exempted from the detail "having volunteered to perform certain services. The company was enrolled for duty at Somers Point, Gloucester County (Atlantic County) and was stationed at Somers Point, and along the seacoast, to Cape May. They appear to have had but one continuous term of duty which was from May 25th, 1814, to June 11th, 1814, and for which they were paid by the state by Act of the Legislature, Feb. 9, 1815, but during all the rest of the year they were always "prepared for actual service on any sudden emergency," and were called out several times by alarms along the coast, for the immediate defense of the State. They were finally discharged at the close of the war, at Somers Point, Gloucester Co., Feb. 12th, 1815.

NAME	RANK	ENROLLED	PERIOD	DISCHARGED
			Until	
Scull, John R.	Captain	May 25, 1814	Relieved	Feb. 12, 1815
Scull, Samuel	First Lieut.	"	"	"
Holbert, Levi	Second Lieut.	"	"	"
Frambes, Job	Third Lieut.	"	"	"
Risley, Samuel	Ensign	"	"	"
Frambes, David	First Serg't.	"	"	"
Dole, Zachariah	Sergeant	"	"	"
Scull, Israel	"	"	"	"
Lake, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Somers, Richard L.	"	"	"	"
Pine, John	Corporal	"	"	"
Reeves, Thomas	"	"	"	"
Robinson, Isaac	"	"	"	"

NAME	RANK	ENROLLED	PERIOD	DISCHARGED
			Until	
Risley Robert	Drummer	May 25, 1814	Relieved	Feb. 12, 1815
Gifford James M.	Fifer	"	"	"
Adams, James	Private	"	"	"
Adams, Jeremiah	"	"	"	"
Adams, Jonas	"	"	"	"
Adams, Solomon	"	"	"	"
Albertson, Jacob	"	"	"	"
Barber, John	"	"	"	"
Bartlett, David E.	"	"	"	"
Beaston, John	"	"	"	"
Blackman, Andrew	"	"	"	"
Blackman, Andrew B.	"	"	"	"
Blackman, Thomas	"	"	"	"
Booy, Derestius	"	"	"	"
Booy, Joseph H.	"	"	"	"
Burton, James	"	"	"	"
Chamberlain, Jesse	"	"	"	"
Chambers, Jesse	"	"	"	"
Champion, Enoch	"	"	"	"
Champion, John	"	"	"	"
Champion, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Clayton, Joel	"	"	"	"
Clayton, John	"	"	"	"
Cordery, Absalom	"	"	"	"
Delaney, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Doughty, Daniel	"	"	"	"
Doughty, Enoch	"	"	"	"
Doughty, John	"	"	"	"
Edwards, Daniel	"	"	"	"
English, Daniel	"	"	"	"
English, Hosea	"	"	"	"
Frambes, Aaron	"	"	"	"
Frambes, Andrew	"	"	"	"
Gauslin, Stephen	"	"	"	"
Godfrey, Andrew	"	"	"	"
Hickman, Andrew	"	"	"	"
Holbert, Ebenezer	"	"	"	"
Ireland, Clement	"	"	"	"
Ireland, David	"	"	"	"
Ireland, Elijah	"	"	"	"
Ireland, Job	"	"	"	"
Ireland, Thomas	"	"	"	"
Jeffers, Andrew	"	"	"	"
Jeffers, Daniel	"	"	"	"
Jeffers, Evin	"	"	"	"
Jeffers, Nicholas	"	"	"	"

NAME	RANK	ENROLLED	PERIOD	DISCHARGED
			Until	
Jeffers, John	Private	May 25, 1814	Relieved	Feb. 12, 1815
Jeffers, Wm.	"	"	"	"
Laird, Enoch	"	"	"	"
Lee, David	"	"	"	"
Marshall, Jesse	"	"	"	"
Mart, Daniel	"	"	"	"
Mart, John	"	"	"	"
Morris, Richard	"	"	"	"
Price, David	"	"	"	"
Price, John, Sr.	"	"	"	"
Price, John, Jr.	"	"	"	"
Reggins, John	"	"	"	"
Risley, Jeremiah, Sr.	"	"	"	"
Risley, Jeremiah, Jr.	"	"	"	"
Risley, Nathaniel	"	"	"	"
Risley, Peter	"	"	"	"
Risley, Richard	"	"	"	"
Robarts, John	"	"	"	"
Robinson, John	"	"	"	"
Scull, Andrew	"	"	"	"
Scull, David	"	"	"	"
Scull, John S.	"	"	"	"
Scull, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Scull, Richard	"	"	"	"
Somers, Damen	"	"	"	"
Somers, Edmund	"	"	"	"
Somers, Isaac	"	"	"	"
Somers, James	"	"	"	"
Somers, John Jr.	"	"	"	"
Somers, John Sr.	"	"	"	"
Somers, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Somers, Mark	"	"	"	"
Somers, Nicholas	"	"	"	"
Somers, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Somers, Thomas	"	"	"	"
Smith, Abel	"	"	"	"
Smith, Enoch	"	"	"	"
Smith, Isaac	"	"	"	"
Smith, Jacob	"	"	"	"
Smith, Jesse	"	"	"	"
Smith, Zophar	"	"	"	"
Steelman, David	"	"	"	"
Steelman, Elijah	"	"	"	"
Steelman, Francis	"	"	"	"
Steelman, Frederick	"	"	"	"
Steelman, James	"	"	"	"

NAME	RANK	ENROLLED	PERIOD	DISCHARGED
			Until	
Steelman, Jesse	Private	May 25, 1814	Relieved	Feb. 12, 1815
Steelman, Peter C.	"	"	"	"
Steelman, Reed	"	"	"	"
Steelman, Samuel	"	"	"	"
Tilton, Daniel	"	"	"	"
Townsend, James	"	"	"	"
Townsend, Japhet	"	"	"	"
Vansant, Joel	"	"	"	"
Wilkins, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Wilsey, Martin	"	"	"	"
Winner, Joseph	"	"	"	"
Winner, John	"	"	"	"

L. L. T. W.

ATLANTIC COUNTY

By L. L. T. W.

Atlantic County is bounded, northeast by Burlington County, southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, south by Cape May County, southwest by Cumberland County and northwest by Gloucester County.

It is about thirty miles long, by twenty wide and was formed from the eastern part of Gloucester County in 1837. The principal streams are the Great Egg Harbor, running through it nearly centrally; the Little Egg Harbor, separating it from Burlington County; and the Tuckahoe, on its southern boundary. These streams are navigable for many miles. Atlantic County is divided into five townships.

Egg Harbor Township

Egg Harbor Township, formerly called Great Egg Harbour, is the oldest township in Atlantic County.

It formerly comprised all that portion of Gloucester County lying southeast of Deptford Township and included all of what is now Atlantic County.

From it have been taken the various municipalities which comprise Atlantic County, starting with Galloway Township in 1774, which cut off from the northeastern portion or approximately that portion northeast of the Camden and Atlantic Railroad. Then Weymouth Township in 1798, which took that portion between the Tuckahoe River and the Great Egg Harbor River. Then Hamilton Township in 1813, which took that portion northwest of Miry Run. Mullica was formed from Galloway in 1838, and since, the Cities and Boroughs along the beach and Shore Road, leaving in the Township at the present time the strip of meadow land between Absecon Beach and the Shore and from the northwest boundaries of the Shore Road Municipalities to Hamilton Township, between the Great Egg Harbor River and Galloway Township.

Old Galloway Township

George The Third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King defender of the faith, etc., to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

Know Ye, That we of our special grant, certain knowledge and mere motion, have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant, for us and our successors, to the inhabitants of the northeast part, of the township of Great Egg Harbor, in the county of Gloucester, in our Province of New Jersey, wherein the following boundarys, to wit: Beginning at a pine tree standing on the head of the north branch of Absequan Creek, marked on four sides; on the southwest side lettered E. G., and on the northeast side N. W., and from thence running north forty-five degrees eighty minutes west (the eighty minutes must be an error in the records), sixteen miles a quarter and a half quarter to a pine tree standing southwest, sixty chains from the new road, and near a small branch of Penny Pot, and in the line of the former township aforesaid, and marked as aforesaid; and thence running by the aforesaid line north forty-five degrees east, nine miles to Atsion branch, thence down the same to the main river of Little Egg Harbor; thence down the aforesaid river, by the several courses thereof to the mouth; thence south thirty-five degrees east, six miles and a quarter through the Great Bay of Little Egg Harbor, to the southwest end of the flat beach at Brigantine Inlet; thence southwesterly, crossing the said Brigantine Beach and the sea at Absequan Inlet; thence north sixty degrees west, five miles, crossing the sounds and Absequan Bay to Amos Ireland's Point, near the mouth of Absequan Creek; thence bounding by the several courses thereof up said creek, and north branch of Absequan to the pine first named, and place of beginning, to be and remain a perpetual township and community in word and deed, to be called and known by the name of the Township of Old Galloway. And we further grant to the said inhabitants of the township aforesaid, and their successors, to choose annually a Constable, Overseer of the Poor, and Overseer of the Highways of the township aforesaid, and to enjoy all the rights, liberties and immunities thus any other township

in our Province may of right enjoy. And the said inhabitants are hereby constituted and appointed a township by the name aforesaid, to have, hold and enjoy the privileges aforesaid, to them and their successors forever. In the testimony whereof, we have caused these letters to be made patent, and the Great Seal of the Province of New Jersey to be hereunto affixed. Witness our trusty and well beloved William Franklin, Esq., Captain General, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Province of New Jersey and territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor and Vice Admiral of the same, etc., the fourth day of April, in the fourteenth year of our reign, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four (1774).

The first line was run from the head of Absequan to the head of Gloucester Township line, June the first, seventeen ninety-seven.

Weymouth

An Act for dividing the Township of Great Egg Harbor in the County of Gloucester, into two separate townships. Passed February 12, 1798.

Be it enacted by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That all that part of the Township of Great Egg Harbor lying to the west and southwest of the said Great Egg Harbor River; to wit: Beginning at the mouth of the *Turkey* hoe River; thence up the middle of Great Egg Harbor River until it meets the line of Deptford Township; thence along the said line to the line between Cumberland and Gloucester County, thence down said line till it intersects the line between Gloucester and Cape May; thence down the middle of Turkeyhoe River to the place of beginning shall be and the same is hereby set off from the township of Great Egg Harbor, and the same is hereby established a separate township to be called by the name of "Weymouth."

Hamilton

An Act to incorporate into a township a part of the townships of Great Egg Harbor and Weymouth, in the county of Gloucester by the name of Hamilton. Passed February 5, 1813.

Be it enacted by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That all that part of the Townships of Great Egg Harbor and Weymouth in the County of Gloucester lying within the following bounds: Beginning in the line of the Townships of Great Egg Harbor and Weymouth at the mouth of Miry Run, where it empties into Great Egg Harbor River; thence running up the middle of said Miry Run the several courses thereof to the head of said run; then a northeastwardly course until it intersects the line of Galloway Township; then along line of Galloway and Great Egg Harbor Townships northwestwardly until it intersects the line of the township of Gloucester; then along the line of the townships at Great Egg Harbor and Gloucester, southwestwardly and still on the same course in the line between the Township of Weymouth and Township of Deptford, Greenwich, and Woolwich, until it intersects the line of the County of Cumberland; then in the line of the Counties of Cumberland and Gloucester, southeasterly to a station in said county line, where a course corresponding with the southwardly line of the West Jersey Society's large re-survey will strike the southwest corner of said re-survey; then along the said southwardly line of the West Jersey Society's re-survey to Great Egg Harbor River; then down the said river the several courses thereof to the mouth of Miry Run aforesaid, being the place of beginning, shall be and is hereby set off and made a separate township, to be called by the name of "The Township of Hamilton."

Buena Vista

All that part of the Township of Hamilton contained within the following bounds, to wit: Beginning at a corner common to the counties of Gloucester and Atlantic in the Cumberland County line, and running thence in the line of said Atlantic County northeastward to a corner of the incorporated town of Hammonton in the middle of a road laid down and marked on the maps of the late Weymouth Farm and Agricultural Company's land and called third road; thence along the middle of said third road as laid down on said map southeastwardly to a point in the middle of Seventh Street at the intersection of said third road,

with said Seventh Street; thence along the middle of said Seventh Street, southwestwardly on the course of said Seventh Street extended until it intersects the west line of a re-survey made to the West Jersey Society for 78,060 acres; thence along said west line of said re-survey about 10 degrees east until it intersects the north line of Weymouth Township; thence along the north line of said Weymouth Township, westwardly to the east line of Cumberland County; thence northwestwardly along said Cumberland County line to the place of beginning. Approved March 5, 1867.

THE NAMING OF ATLANTIC COUNTY

By Cornelia C. Frink

The late Dr. Jonathan Pitney, of Absecon, was calling on my grandfather, the late Daniel Baker, of Bakersville, it being his custom to do so quite frequently; they were great friends.

As the Doctor was leaving at this particular time, my grandfather went with him to the door; and as they stood on the porch conversing, the Doctor turned and said: "Judge, what name shall we give to the new county?" The Judge stood for a moment, looked over towards the ocean, waved his hand and said, "Doctor there is the wide broad Atlantic Ocean, what name more appropriate than Atlantic County."

It was near sunset when this conversation took place.

ORIGIN OF TOWN NAMES OF ATLANTIC COUNTY

By M. R. M. Fish

In looking for the reason of the naming of towns and villages through this county there has usually been a store named after its proprietor, later the name was given to the locality; hence Scullsville, Steelmanville, English Creek, Smiths Landing, Mays Landing, Somers Point, etc. These names represent large families, one of which kept a store, and later a post office.

Pleasantville is an exception. When Daniel Lake built his new store in Adamstown he went across the street to Daniel Ingersol, wheelwright, for a board to paint on the new sign. Mr. Ingersol offered to give him the board for the privilege of naming the store; this granted, Mr. Ingersol called it Pleasantville.

Years after, when Adamstown, Lakestown and Martstown were consolidated into a Borough, it retained this name, as it had probably been in general use.

Smith's Landing—A boat landing owned by Smith. Used to send produce and freight by water.

Northfield—The station was first named Dolphin, the name given by Jenkin, Real Estate Agent.

Bakersville—By Judge Baker, who also named Atlantic County.

Linwood—First Leedsville, from Leeds Store. When given a post office, there being one of this name in New Jersey, it was changed to Geneva, one in New York and New Jersey, causing confusion. The ladies met in the school house and decided on Linwood.

Sea View—There were but a few places on the Shore Road, giving a view of the ocean, south of Pleasantville; one of them is from the back porch of Hagerty's Store; when it became the post office it was named Sea View.

Bell Haven—By Wm. Bell.

Launch Haven—By Campbell, Mayor of Somers Point.

Somers Point—Large land holdings of Somers family.

Risley Town—Risley family.

Bargaintown—The center of activities of Egg Harbor Township, with a grist mill, a saw mill, and the only post office between Somers Point and English Creek. The mother of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist churches, the voting center for the township. There was every indication of a growing town, to attract speculators who bought and laid out town lots. These hopes not materializing, the lots were sacrificed and were bought at a bargain by John Ireland, hence the name Bargaintown.

McKee City—The station was first called English Creek and changed to McKee City. When Col. McKee, of Philadelphia, bought a large tract of uncultivated land, divided it into truck patches, put on the necessary buildings and leased it to Germans on terms to clear certain amount of land as rent each year. Before this was accomplished he willed it to the Catholic Church for a monastery and Industrial School for Boys. The will being contested the property at this date (Jan. 22, 1914) is lying idle awaiting court decision.

Car-liff, Pleasantville Terrace, Oak Crest, and Blenheim named by promoters.

MAY'S LANDING

By L. L. T. Willis

May's Landing was settled over two hundred years ago.

Among the first settlers appear the names of Wescott, Steelman, Champion, Gaskill, Pennington, Rape, Noreross, Baker, Abbott, Adams, Wheaton, Wicks, Dougherty and May.

The Great Egg Harbor River at that time was navigable for vessels of a 1,000 ton or four-masted ship.

The principal exports were wood, charcoal and iron ore, the vessels loading near the present site of the cotton mill and near the bridge at Sugar Hill. The Harrison was one of the vessels sailing from May's Landing, Captain T. D. Endicott sailing her.

Other vessels were sailed by Captains John Bowen, Sheppard Hudson, George Cramer and Bassett Steelman.

There were several shipbuilding establishments owned by J. Pennington & Son and James Baker.

The iron foundries were owned by McCurdy, Stephens, A. L. Izard and William Bartlett, grandfather of Sheriff Bartlett. There were also two charcoal furnaces, one being at Weymouth.

The mode of travel in the early days was by horseback. Men and women alike making the trip to Philadelphia in the saddle, following Indian trails and slowly making them wider and better.

Mrs. Champion, great aunt of Captain Thompson, has often made the trip in the saddle.

As time went on and the necessity for travel became greater, a stage coach route was established.

Mr. William Noreross was the proprietor of the stage from May's Landing to Philadelphia.

Mr. William Noreross, Jr., and Mr. Rape were drivers of the stage. The route took one through Weymouth, Pennypot, Longacoming (now Berlin), the White Horse Pike and Philadelphia.

The coaches were the regulation stage, with baggage cage at the rear.

There was also a stage coach which went to Absecon and Somers' Point, which started out from May's Landing.

After the railroad was built through Egg Harbor the stages were a thing of the past, but the coaches were used to take passengers from May's Landing and vicinity to the trains.

About this time there was a band of robbers had their lair back of May's Landing, and one morning they very quietly and uniquely cut the baggage rack away without stopping the stage.

May's Landing was made the county seat in 1837; previous to this time Gloucester County included all of what is now Atlantic County, with the county seat at Woodbury.

The first court ever held in May's Landing was held in the hotel of Captain John Pennington, 1837-38.

The Court House was built in 1838 and has since been greatly improved.

Mill Dam and Falls at May's Landing

The present site of the Methodist Church and graveyard were given the town as a free place of worship by "Richard Wescott, Sr.," of Great Egg Harbor Township. The original deed is still in existence and bears date of May 20, 1812.

The graveyard is still under the government of a board of trustees, although there have been no burials in it for some years.

The dam was built above the cotton mill to supply water for a factory, and this slowly closed up the river, as the sand naturally clogged and made the river too shallow for vessels, taking away its old industries, leaving the wharves and few hulls of old vessels to remind one of the happy busy days.

ANECDOTES OF PLACE NAMES

By L. J. Price

In 1880 with the building of the Pleasantville and Ocean City Railroad, from Pleasantville to Somers Point, by the Philadelphia and Atlantic City Railway Company (Narrow Gauge), the railroad connected Ocean City and Somers Point, by steamboat, being the first medium of railroad communication Ocean City had with Philadelphia and the outside world. The Somers Point post office included all of the shore territory from Somers Point to where the Country Club is now located.

The postmasters for many years had been appointed from Leedsville (Linwood) where the office was located; the mail being overhauled at Leedsville, (Linwood) and carried to two or three points for local distribution. All mail on the shore including Bargaintown, was carried by stage from Absecon to Somers Point. Bakersville, Seaview and Somers Point might be termed sub-offices.

With the advent of a railroad and a building boom, Somers Point desired the post office to be located within its borders. Leedsville (Linwood) as a distributing point must be retained. There being a post office by the same name in the northern part of the state, the Federal authorities required Leedsville (Linwood) to change its name.

The citizens gathered in the schoolhouse, now occupied as the City Hall, one evening to vote for their choice of names presented. Geneva, Brinola, Viola, Pearville, and a number of others were placed on the blackboard for approval. Pairville was suggested, perhaps humorously by the late Dr. S. C. Edmonds, from the quantities of Bartlett pears raised in the village. Geneva was generally favored for the town's new name.

Leedsville (Linwood) was the home of several prosperous sea captains, and of men with large interests in vessel property. A day or so after the selection of the new name by Job Frambes, of Bargaintown, Uncle Job, as he was familiarly called, then in his nineties, the great grandfather of our assistant secretary, (Miss Mattie Collins), was in Leedsville.

Feeble in body, nearly blind, and partially deaf, but still retaining a keen sense of humor, when told the new name of the village replied, "Yes, Live Easy." Again being told Geneva, he replied with a twinkle in his fading eyes, "Yes, Yes, Live Easy, Live Easy," to the amusement of his hearers, who recognized the application of the prosperous citizens.

But yet another name must be chosen from the similarity of the abbreviations N. Y. and N. J., the officials at Washington called for another name. Linwood was the name chosen.

NAMING UNCLE TOM'S

The Custom House at Somers Point, like the post office, was located in Leedsville. The late Thomas E. Morris, through the sixties to the eighties, was the deputy collector, and the work of the office was conducted in a small building on the shore road, at Mr. Morris' home, a short distance above what is now Bellhaven Avenue. After the building of the railroad to Somers Point for the accommodation of the Custom officials, trains were stopped at the road mentioned.

Stopping of trains in all probability did not occur until the acquisition of the road by the West Jersey Railroad Company in May or June, 1882. The late Israel S. Adams being a director of the West Jersey Railroad, and Collector of Customs of the port of Great Egg Harbor, from 1861 until the time of his death, December 1884.

The writer's father, the late Captain John Price, who also was in the customs service would ask the train crew to let him off at Uncle Tom's. Later the late Captain William Ireland, whose home joined the property now owned by William E. Beil, offered to build a platform, providing the railroad company would stop trains for the accommodation of the public. Afterward the railroad company built a shed at the platform with the name of the station, Uncle Tom's painted on it.

When Mr. Bell purchased the property where he now resides, the station was moved a little further down the track and renamed Bell Haven.

L. J. Price.

SHORE ROAD

By L. J. Price

From Heston's Handbook for 1904 we learn the first public road in Atlantic county was laid out in 1710. It led from Nacote Creek (Port Republic) along the shore to Somers Ferry at Somers Point. This road was altered by surveyors from Burlington and Gloucester counties in 1731. Previous to giving the new location of the road, they recited that the former road, laid out for the inhabitants of the township of Egg Harbor, from the east end of Somers Ferry, by reason of the swamps and marsh through which it passed, had become inconvenient to travel, and they had made application to Thomas Wetherill and five other surveyors from Burlington county and to John Estick and five other surveyors of Gloucester county. These twelve surveyors having found the former road inconvenient, laid out the present Shore Road from Port Republic to Somers Point.

The "Somers Ferry" between Beasley's Point and Somers Point, was established in 1805.

Prior to building the Somers Point Railroad in 1880, about midway from the shore road and where the railroad lies, an indentation could be seen in the woods, between the property of the late Captain Elijah A. Price and the late Dr. Jeremiah Hand. This indentation was twelve or fifteen feet wide.

In this narrow open space grew no trees, but through the clean white sand, the sweet fern grew and "gently waved its sweet wild way." Elders pointed out this space to the children as the old shore road.

PRESBYTERIANS IN NEW JERSEY

From David and John Brainard's Diary From 1706 to 1789

With the landing of the Puritans began the missionary work in America. We can understand, that fleeing from persecution, for their religious ideals, and landing among a people recognizing a Spirit everywhere but not a God, their establishing homes, and working to convert those among whom they were living would go hand in hand.

And there are records very early of missionaries in Massachusetts and New York in 1706, though the country about Freehold, N. J., was a wilderness, full of savages.

Gilbert Vansant, a Presbyterian minister, was working among them with such marked success that when he was called to Norfolk, Connecticut, in 1726, the Freehold Association "interposed their judgment that he ought not to be taken from so destitute a region as the Jerseys." In 1721 Presbyterianism was in great disfavor. About this time there was a happy change in their favor. At this period Wm. Tenent's son from Ireland, removed to Neskaming (1726) and there established a school which in diversion was called the Log College,—afterward became a Theological Seminary (Princeton). The Presbyterian ministers who came across the ocean had enjoyed a liberal education and insisted that no man should enter the ministry without a college diploma. As there was no college in the Middle States, those seeking to enter the ministry were obliged to go to New England or Scotland. This practically closed the door on all candidates and the church had to depend on emigration, chiefly from Ireland. Eleazar Wales was directed in 1734 to join with Anduros in writing the President of Yale for a minister to visit the destitution of West Jersey. President Edwards answered kindly that there was a prospect of obtaining help for them. Whitefield spread and exerted a powerful influence. This revival caused a schism in the Presbytery. In 1737 the Synod passed an act against the intrusion of ministers into the boundaries of other congregations, and in 1738 passed an act requiring that before granting a license to preach, the examining committee appointed by Synod, require a college diploma. This the New

Brunswic Presbytery disregarded and after much contention and confusion, June 1st, 1741, the New Brunswic party withdrew from the Synod. Hence the Old and New School.

This was not the result of conflicting views, either as to doctrine or church government. It was the result of the alienation of feeling regarding ministerial intercourse and avowed principles during a revival and extraordinary times.

The inconvenience of long distance from the Central Presbytery was felt and doubtless led to the formation of a more compact body. 1751 a number of the New Brunswic Presbytery petitioned to be erected into a distinct Presbytery. Accordingly the Synod of New York erected that part of said Presbytery that lies in Pennsylvania, with those who live in New Jersey, south of Philadelphia, bordering on the Delaware into a distinct Presbytery, named the Presbytery of Abington, organized May 20th, 1752. The churches of South Jersey flourished under its care so long as it existed from 1752 to 1758. In 1755 we find the first supplies mentioned for Egg Harbor and were appointed probably as often as once a month. 1758, after 17 years of separation, the two synods were reunited. In consequence of this, it became necessary to remodel the Presbyterians. Abington was merged into that of Philadelphia, with thirteen (13) members, of whom it is supposed, five labored among the nine churches of West Jersey.

This time of peace in the churches was a period of war in the country. The first meeting of the reunited synod was a day of fasting and humiliation for sin was appointed. In 1775 Rev. P. V. Fithian journeyed from Cohansey to Egg Harbor, and the Forks of Little Egg Harbor, the first since Mr. Green's visit 14 years previous. Several houses of worship had been erected in this time. Beside preaching at private houses, he preached at Mr. Clark's little log meeting house, near Pleasant Mills, and Basto, where he met Mr. Brainard, next preached at Botherton, to Mr. Brainard's Indians, also at Clark's Mills meeting house, two miles from the present Port Republic, there was a farm house and an organized church, and he adds "they gave me $1.00."

Then he preached at Cedar Bridge or Blackman's Meeting House at Bargaintown, where a house was built of planks placed perpendicular. The deed of Blackman's meeting house

(Zion) was given by Andrew Blackman. 1764 two other churches are mentioned, one Wadin River, in Burlington county, for which the land was given by the will of John Leak, 1777. Probably it had been occupied previously. The other was Longacoming (Berlin) 1767. Mr. Fithian was surprised how fastidious were the people in Egg Harbor, and especially at the Forks.

In estimating the effects of the war upon the churches of New Jersey, it is to be remembered that the state was the battle ground of many a hard fought contest. British soldiery destroyed the church of John Brainard at Mt. Holly, and probably his dwelling.

Six years after the war (1789), the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church was held and reports 419 churches, 177 ministers and 111 probationers. We hear of no more appointments for Egg Harbor, the Brainard churches, of Longacoming (Berlin) Waden River, Clark's Little Log Meeting House, Clark's Mill Meeting House, Blackman's Meeting House and others now unknown, were neglected, abandoned, swept into oblivion, until in our own day the discovery of their burial grounds, deeds or ruins afford the Presbytery of New Jersey the first knowledge they ever existed.

The individual churches of this denomination will be given in the next year's work of the Society.

1843, the Presbytery of West Jersey was transferred from the Synod of Philadelphia to the Synod of New Jersey, from which time we will consider the individual establishment of churches in this county in the next year's work of the Historical Society.

BLACKMAN'S MEETING HOUSE AT BARGAINTOWN

Extract From Letter of Rev. Allen H. Brown to Rev. Thomas Brainard in 1764.

"Cedar Bridge Meeting House," called also Blackman's Meeting House, was near the village of Bargaintown, and about ten miles southeast of May's Landing. It was built of planks nailed perpendicularly.

The following extracts from a deed recorded in Trenton liber X., folios 407, 408, a copy being certified by James D. Wescott, Secretary of State, will prove the existence of a Presbyterian Church and to whom the property belongs:

ZION M. E. CHURCH, NEAR BARGAINTOWN

"This Indenture, made the nineteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four, between Andrew Blackman, Cordwainer, of Egg Harbor, in the county of Gloucester and Province of New Jersey, of the one party, and Joseph Ingersoll, John Scull, Joseph Scull, and Return Babcock, of the aforesaid township, county and province, of the other party, Witnesseth, that the said Andrew Blackman for and in consideration of the sum of two pounds, proclamation money, to him in hand paid before the ensealing hereof, by Joseph Ingersoll, etc., etc. * * * hath granted, sold, etc., etc. * * *; containing one acre, more or less, together with the mines, etc., * * * for the

erection, building and standing of a Presbyterian Meeting House for the carrying on of Publick Religious Worship for all that shall incline to meet and assemble in it; together with a publick Burying-yard, for the interment of the deceased of all denominations. * * *

"A certain piece of land situated, lying and being in the township of Egg Harbor, in the county and province aforesaid, near the Doles Branch, Beginning at a stake standing in the line of Joseph Doles and Atwood, near the Branch, thence south 21 degrees east, 15 perches to a stake, thence south 69 degrees, west 13 perches, thence north 21 degrees west to Atwood's line, bounded by Atwood's line north 80 degrees east to the place of beginning at Doles line, containing one acre, more or less, together with the mines, etc."

Three years afterward, June 2, 1767, a memorandum was writ'en on the back of the deed, explaining the views of the persons named, and proving that the house had been erected. It read as follows:—

"We, the within Grantees, * * * having been chosen Trustees to carry on and manage the building of a Presbyterian Meeting House upon the lands within granted and sold for that purpose, do hereby acknowledge that the said land and meeting house is not our own personal property, but is bought and built by a subscription of many persons; neither do we claim any other interest in it but what we have in common with all who have subscribed hereto; and, though the legal title is vested in us, yet we hold it only in behalf of our constituents and do promise that it shall be kept as a house of publick worship and the land for a free Burying-yard, in which all may have equal privileges with ourselves, without monopolizing it or engrossing and applying it to any private use of our own.

A memorandum whereof we leave on the back of this instrument that posterity may not be defrauded of their right or mistaken about the intent thereof, which is to secure a House of Public Worship, as before mentioned. In testimony whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names, hands, and seals." * * *

Respecting the subsequent history of this house, we content ourselves with adding that, before it was decayed, the materials were removed, and upon a portion of the very site of the old building stands now a brick edifice.

HEAD OF THE RIVER CHURCH, 1762

By Laura Lavinia Thomas Willis

The old M. E. Church standing at the head of the Tuckahoe River has a history which is perhaps unequalled by any church of that denomination in South Jersey.

It was built in 1762, and probably dedicated by Benj. Abbot. The first M. E. preacher visiting these parts was a man named James, who in 1780, came on horseback to the house of David Sayers in a driving snow storm and asked permission to stay all night. Sayers had previously said that no Methodist preacher should ever stay in his house. He was a very profane man, and James reprimanded him for his profanity. He did lodge there and from that visit Sayers became changed. His heart was touched and he professed conversion. Many of the Methodist preachers of that time were men sent over by Wesley and were under bonds of loyalty to the king of Great Britain; although they said but little, for some did not sympathize. They thought probably that the weapons of their warfare were not carnal. Sayers at that time held a commission of the continental army, hence the remark that no Methodist preacher should ever lodge in his house.

They arranged for preaching at Smith's Mill. Jeremiah and William Smith were here. [illegible] a large number of descendents in this section and it was mainly through their energy that this house was built, urged on by Abbot, who then travelled, what was known as Salem Circuit. That remarkable man seems to have had wonderful power over men. Great fruits attended his labors as he journeyed through Gloucester, Salem and Cape May counties, and perhaps did more to establish Methodism and built up the church than any other man, until the coming of Pitman in 1831.

The land was given by Daniel Benezet, a large land holder. The house was unfinished until 1813 when the floors and galleries were put in. Benezet died before the deed was given; his heirs conveyed the property. One of his daughters, afterward the wife of Rev. Jos. Pillman, of Pillman Boardman fame, not

being of age when she signed it, the deed was invalid and a new deed was given in 1813 by Joss. Jones and wife, commonly called "Coffee Jones." He also married a daughter of Benezet. He sold the adjoining property to Aetna Furnace property, at one time doing a thriving business. The church was connected with Cumberland Circuit, embracing all Cumberland and Cape May counties, and began to have Sunday morning preaching. Thomas Neal was presiding elder in 1835. He was also a man who did a great deal of good, and had strong faith. It is related of him that he was attending a camp meeting here. There was

OLD CHURCH AT HEAD OF THE RIVER, TUCKAHOE

a protracted drought, the earth was parched and vegetation dying.

He retired into the woods and alone with God, he prayed for a drenching rain. He told the people to look out for there were signs of an abundance of rain. In the afternoon meeting thunder was heard, the heavens gathered blackness and soon there was a powerful rain in answer to prayer, as he believed.

The church was struck off from the Cape May Circuit in 1839. Joseph Atwood was then preacher with Thomas Van Gilder as first recording steward, still continuing Sunday morning preaching. There have been some very remarkable revivals of religion the greatest the church ever enjoyed was in 1842,

when William A. Brooks was preacher in charge, about 130 professed conversion. Some fell away from grace, only four or five now remain and by far the larger share have joined the silent majority. The Sunday morning preaching continued until 1893 when the church was repaired and set off with a station with preaching Sabbath morning by Jacob T. Price, whose labors were blessed by the conversion of seventy-five souls, most of whom remained faithful.

It remained this way until 1899 when it was remited with Tuckahoe Circuit.

In 1884 the grove adjoining the church was purchased of the "Estells" and nicely laid out through the efforts of Cap. T. Weeks, and others. Nearly all the old members of this church lie in this grave yard. Such men as Joseph Champion, local preacher; Nathan Smith, exhorter, and an efficient man in church, Benjamin Weatherby, Sr., trustee; Mathias Steelman, Nathaniel Stephart, John Barker, Richard Sheppard and Richard Champion, all who were official members of the church, and contributed liberally of their means for its support, and also others who esteemed it a pleasure as well as a duty to journey to the Old Church every Sunday morning.

The names of the ministers who have officiated were: Rev. Jacob T. Price, J. F. Morret, C. W. Heisley, M. C. Stokes, H. J. Downs, William Margroam, William Lane, E. H. Murrell, J. B. Wescott, William N. Osborne and Z. L. Dugan. The present Board of Trustees are: George L. Dukes, President; Samuel M. Champion, Anthony I. Parker, Jr., Benjamin Wetherby, William Goff, John Burley, all gentlemen of the highest reputation and well known in their native village.

The 123rd anniversary of Head of the River Church was held on Sunday, October 10, 1915. People come many miles to attend these anniversaries, which is made possible by automobile—which are in such numbers as to remind one of a great County Fair; there are also large numbers of carriages.

The church and cemetery are kept in excellent condition.

The church has very recently come into two endowments—one of $1300, from Mrs. Swauger, formerly a Miss Williams, daughter of one of the owners of the Aetna Furnace; one of $300 from Mr. John Wallace.

One of the first Baptist Churches in South Jersey was directly across the road from Head of the River M. E. Church. The ground was given by Daniel Benezet, a Judge of Gloucester Co., who owned great tracts of land.

It is supposed to have been built about the time of the M. E. Church. Now there is no trace of a building ever having been there. In 1858 the church was still standing.

Aetna Furnace, Tuckahoe River

HISTORY OF THE TUCKHOE BAPTIST CHURCH

By Morgan Edwards, A. M.

This church is distinguished as above from the river which runs near the meeting house. The house measures 28x24. It was built in 1751, in Egg Harbor Township, and County of Gloucester, 60 miles southeast from Philadelphia.

The lot on which it stands contains about one acre; and is the gift of James Hulbard, his deed is dated May 15, 1750; the house is now in a ruinous condition, but the people are talking of building another in a more convenient place: Alderman Benezet promises to give them land, timber, glass and nails; there is another house which the church occupies, but is not their own; it stands on May's Landing about 12 miles off of this.

The families which usually assemble at Tuckihoe are about 60, whereof 63 persons are baptized, and in the communion, here administered the first Sunday in every month; salary about 20 pounds. The above is the present state of Tuckihoe, April 14, 1790.

In 1770 Rev. James Sutton came hither with a view to settle among them; this put them on thinking of becoming a distinct church; accordingly, they were, July 23, 1771, incorporated, by the assistance of Revs. Van'horn and Heaton. The names were: Rev. James Sutton, Joseph Savage, Esq., Jonathan Smith, William Goldin, Jacob Garrison, Joseph Ingersol, Thomas Ireland, Elias Smith, John Ingles, Esq., Lemuel Sayres, Lemuel Edwards, John Scull, Isaac Scull, Katharine Garrison, Mary Goldin, Jane Ingersol, Delora Lore, Tabitha Scull, Mary Ireland, Elizabeth Garrison, Jane Camp, Mary Camp, Abigail Scull and Catharine Weaver. The same year they joined the association.

This church is the daughter of Dividing Creek. It has now existed 19 years and increased from 24 to 63.

Rev. Benjamin Sutton resigned in 1772; Rev. William Lock, 1773, resigned 1779; Rev. Isaac Bonnel, ordained pastor September 17, 1783.

NOTE.—On the last page of this book is given a list of subscribers and then goes on to say, "I have 150 copies left, they may be had at the stone house in Second street, Philadelphia; price, one-third of a dollar." This volume owned by the Philadelphia Historical Society; size about 7x4 inches; is valued at $600.00.

Headstones in Baptist Church Yard (is a thickly covered woods now):

Rev. Peter Groom
Pastor of the Baptist Church of West Creek
Died Jan. 16, 1807
Age, 56 ———

Anne Groom
Wife of Rev. Robert Groom
Died May 4, 1796
Age, 46 Years

Isaac Bonnell
July 26, 1794
In the 64th Year

Robert Campbell
Son of
Henry and Ellen Campbell
March 20, 1854
In 8th Year

Millicent Price
July 28, 1826
Age, 56 Years, 4 Days

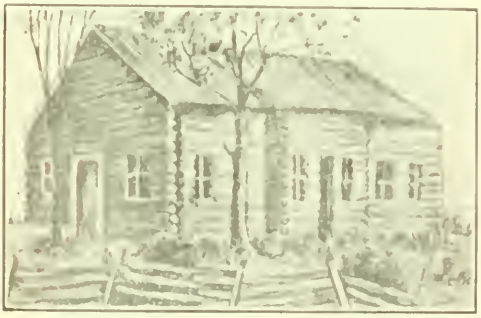
By L. L. T. WILLIS

OLD CHURCH AT WEYMOUTH

By Laura Williams Colwell

"The old Log Meeting House at Weymouth was built about 80 years before the present building, along the banks of the great Egg Harbor River and seventy-five feet west of the one now standing."—L. W. C.

In a beautiful oak grove on the high bank of the Great Egg Harbor River stands the neat little church at Weymouth. For



The Old Log Meeting House at Weymouth

nearly a century it has served the purposes for which it was erected and in the adjacent cemetery are the graves of persons some of them long since widely known for more than ordinary talent and usefulness. Sir Joseph Ball, the Quaker merchant and relative of Washington, was one of the owners and founders of Weymouth, when this edifice was erected. From a recent sketch compiled by Mrs. Charles R. Colwell and read at the 91st anniversary, the following is taken:

"The building of the Weymouth Meeting House was begun in 1806 and completed in 1807 at the expense of the Proprietor of Weymouth. The time book shows the carpenter work to have

been done by 'Eziel Prickett and his son,' the former working three hundred and sixty-five days at $1.25 and the son three hundred and sixty-six days at $1 per day. The plastering and mason work was done by C. McCormick, the material and work on the building coming to $3,690.00. The Weymouth Meeting House was intended as a non-Sectarian place for religious meeting, more especially for the benefit of employees of Weymouth. Both

STEPHEN COLWELL

tradition and record show that it has been chiefly used by Presbyterians and Methodists, although services have been conducted and sermons preached by Episcopalians, Baptists, Dutch Reformed and in February, 1825, a sermon was preached by 'Miss Miller,' presumably a Quakeress. No records are accessible of the occupants of the pulpit of Weymouth Meeting House from its completion until 1813. From 1813 to 1845 the Time Books of Weymouth furnish the names of many preachers and dates of service."

At this time Sir Joseph Ball had sold all of his interest in the Weymouth tract to his nephew, Samuel Richards, who built the Meeting House for the employees of his furnace.

Sarah Ball Richards, daughter of Samuel Richards, married Stephen Colwell.

She inherited one-half of Weymouth, and at the death of her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Richards Bell, Stephen Colwell bought

CHARLES RICHARD COLWELL

her interest in the Weymouth tract, which tract covered 86,000 acres or 12x14 miles wide.

Stephen Colwell was born in Brooke county, West Virginia on the 25th of March, 1800. He died in Philadelphia on the 15th of January, 1871, nearly completing his 71st year. He studied law and was admitted to the Bar in 1821 in Ohio. Practiced law until 1836. He became a manufacturer of iron first at Weymouth and later at Conshohocken, Pa., on the Schuylkill

River. He was a writer of note and recognized as a man of great ability.

In 1852 Mr. Colwell drove Dr. Da Costa and Mr. John Hay, of Winslow, in his family carriage to Absecon, there they took a boat across to Absecon Island and on that day decided to build the C. & A. R. R.

Mr. Colwell put in $150,000—later the other gentlemen withdrew and Mr. Colwell put in an additional $150,000.

The first two years the road only ran to Ellwood Station (formerly Colville), and for 10 years one passenger car was run behind the freight.

The road did not pay for 20 years.

Charles Richard Colwell, son of Stephen Colwell and Sarah Ball Richards was born in Philadelphia January 21, 1844; died April 10, 1901. Mr. Colwell was one of the promoters of the Narrow Gauge Railroad and was president and afterwards receiver when the Reading bought it in. He invested $350,000 in the road. Mr. Colwell married Laura Williams Ritz, daughter of Judge Charles and Susan Williams Ritz, of Lewiston, Pa.

NOTE.—It is through the efforts of Mrs. Charles R. Colwell that the anniversary services are held at Weymouth Meeting House each year, this being the 110th anniversary on September 26th, 1915.

Cannon were made at Weymouth during the Revolution. A cannon ball made at Weymouth is now used as a hitching post on Water street, Philadelphia, and is marked with a W (Weymouth).

At the Anniversary Service in 1914, which was attended by the Atlantic County Historical Society, Rev. William Abbott told of conducting a revival service at Weymouth and Zion in 1876. He said that at the first meeting he was to conduct at Weymouth, he and Capt. Reuben Babcock drove over and lost their way in the woods. Afterwards, most spiritual meetings were held and twenty-eight converts made. He also stated that his father and one of the Richards family organized the first Sunday school here.

This church was one of the early appointments of Rev. Benjamin Collins.

There is a beautiful memorial tablet in the church bearing the following inscription:

In Memoriam
Charles Richards Colwell
Entered into Rest
March 10, 1901
"A friend of the poor."
"A patron of Education"
"An honest man, one of God's noblest works."

This monument attests the sorrowing love of his wife.

HISTORY OF FRIENDSHIP CHURCH

Near Landisville By Charles Wray

It is by no means an easy task that has been assigned to me, viz.: to write a history of this church. Though I have known of it for perhaps over twenty years, yet I have had no connection with it except for the past four or five years. When you take into consideration the above statement, together with the fact that outside of the title deed, there are no books or papers in the possession of the church Official Board that afford even a suggestion of its history, you will perceive I spoke but the truth when I said mine was no easy task. If, under the circumstances, this paper should prove uninteresting, I trust in the foregoing statement I have said enough to secure your pardon and favorable consideration. Perhaps it would be as well to state here, that the reason why there are no books or papers available, is presumed to be because the church has always been one of perhaps three or four or half a dozen stations on one circuit; in its earlier days a very long circuit, too, with as many as sixteen preaching stations in 1854 and 1855. It is thought the records of all these churches were kept in one book, and that book was in the hands of the preacher in charge, who either retained the book in his possession after his pastorate had closed, or he left it with the Board of the principal church on the circuit, or in the hands of his successor. Friendship has always been a small church, therefore, the books or papers were never left with it. I also wish here to acknowledge my great indebtedness to various old members of the church, and old residents of this locality, for whatever may prove of interest in this history; and especially am I indebted to Bro. A. P. Vanaman, without whose memory and knowledge of the later events connected with the church, this paper could not have been prepared.

The deed is dated May 14th, 1808, and is certified as recorded in the Clerk's Office of Gloucester county, Nov. 4th, 1808. There was no Atlantic County in those days, and this

ground where the church stands was part of Weymouth township, Gloucester county. We think it a remarkable circumstance that a Methodist church should have been located in this place at so early a date. The great Methodist Episcopal Church was not organized until 1784, and was even then largely a distinct revival and reform movement within the Church of England, in America, as well as in England. As far as New Jersey is concerned, we believe this to be one of the oldest, if not the oldest M. E. church building in the State, now standing and used for church purposes. There were, perhaps, a few built before this, but as far as we have been able to ascer-

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH NEAR LANDISVILLE

tain, none are now standing and used for worship regularly at this day.

In 1808, this country was almost an unbroken wilderness, covered with a primeval forest, specimens of which growth we can yet see in some of these grand old oaks, which are still standing on the grounds of this church. The farms and clearings were few and far between; the only one in the immediate vicinity was probably the place just across the New Jersey Southern R. R., on the Weymouth road, lately known as the "Bushey" farm, but which at the time the church was built, was owned by the Smith family. The dwelling house, which stood there in 1808, was burned down in September, 1855, on which occasion three persons lost their lives, so sud-

den and complete was the destruction. It has been reliably ascertained that previous to the erection of the church, religious meetings were held in that house, and some, at least, were converted to God, though the exact number is not known. So that even previous to 1808 there were Methodists in this locality, and they were alive, too. In connection with the mention of the services held in that house, perhaps it would be well to state here, that we are enabled to assert positively that the church was erected at or about the time the deed was granted, by the fact that in 1852, an old resident of this locality, George Smith by name, came back here on a visit, and stated to Bro. A. P. Vanaman that he had left here in 1810, and the church was built before that, and furthermore that he was one of the persons converted at the meetings held in the dwelling house before spoken of, and that at that time the house belonged to the Smith family, the head of which was a close relative of the said George Smith, but whether a father or brother, Mr. Vanaman does not remember.

Mrs. Nancy Vanaman, mother of A. P. Vanaman, now in her 84th year, and present with us today, and one of the oldest residents of this neighborhood, distinctly recalls the church as one of the prominent landmarks when she was a little girl.

Besides the "Bushey" place before mentioned, at the time the church was built, there was another dwelling on what is now known as the Collins place; another where Mr. Thomas Howell now lives, and another at or near Landisville. What is now known as the Buena Hotel, was also standing, and used as a public inn and change house on the old stage route to Cape May, Tuckahoe and Philadelphia. About three miles east of the church there was an old saw mill, and in fact there is one there now, at what is known as Pancoast on the South Jersey R. R. It was located there over a century ago, by a man named Champion Campbell. He was what is known as a "squatter," and he lived there and operated the mill for quite a term of years. He did not farm any, except perhaps to raise some things for family use, but game of all kinds was plentiful, and a haunch of venison was not an infrequent or unappreciated addition to the homely viands of the family meals. He was only interested in lumber, for it is related of him that when told that the land he occupied had been taken up by Benj. B.

Cooper, under the homestead or some similar land law, he said he did not care who owned it, as he had sawed up about all the logs there were on it that were worth anything. It is probable the lumber used in building the church was sawed in Campbell's mill.

As to the towns in the vicinity of the church in 1808, May's Landing was but a very small village, Millville likewise, Bridgeton not much larger, and Hammonton and Vineland were not in existence, and for fifty years or more after the church was built, where those two thriving towns now stand, was but a forest of oaks, pines and cedar swamps, with here and there perhaps a wood chopper's shanty or a smoking tar kiln or charcoal pit. None of the residents of that early day paid any attention to agriculture, except to grow a little rye, buckwheat, corn and potatoes, and some other few crops for their own consumption. They were too far away from a market to make farming pay; for remember, in 1808, there were no railroads or steamboats in New Jersey, nor anywhere else in this great country, nor in the whole wide world, so a journey to Philadelphia in those days was quite a big undertaking. The people down here had to turn their attention and labor to lumbering, the manufacture of tar, charcoal, and kindred industries. To burn a charcoal pit or a tar kiln, was a matter of eight or ten days, so there were at least two Sundays in that period, and some of the old residents, with perhaps some not so very old, either, recall that it was customary to attend church in the morning, and then go to the kiln in the afternoon to see the tar run, if it was ready to be drawn. When the tar or the charcoal was ready for shipment, it was loaded on to the wagon, two yoke of oxen were harnessed to it and it was hauled away to Philadelphia for sale, the team bringing back such articles as were needed and could not be procured in this vicinity. This journey and return usually took three or four days, for oxen are but slow travelers, and the roads were far from good. Horses were scarce and too costly, and much of the church going was performed with the aid of that old, reliable, steady going, easily kept animal, "Shank's mare." Apropos of that style of traveling, it is well known that an immense spreading, shady old oak tree, which, up to about twenty-five years ago, stood about half a mile east of the church was known as the "Dinner Oak,"

from the fact that some of the old residents utilized it for the purpose of resting and eating their dinners there, when on their way to church. Sometimes on account of the length of the circuit, it was found necessary to have preaching on a week day instead of Sunday, and this statement recalls an incident which proves that though the people down here in those times worked hard and lived economically, yet their industry and economy did not exempt them from financial trouble, for it is related that while one of them was seated in the church on a certain week day, prepared to enjoy the services, it was whispered to her (for it was a woman) that the constable had made preparations to seize her household goods that very day for debt, whereupon she immediately took her departure, and it is said she arrived at her home before the officer of the law, and succeeded in secreting her belongings where he could not find them, and no doubt she took to the woods herself, which was a very needful proceeding likewise, for those were the days of imprisonment for debt.

Now, although these people were not generally possessed of much of this world's wealth, as we understand that word today, yet what they did have they used in God's service, with an unstinted liberality. To prove that, look at the size of this building, which, though small as compared with modern village or town churches, is yet, and always has been much larger than was needed to accommodate any membership the church has ever possessed, or is likely to. For that day and time and this locality, it was a *very large* building. Why, I read the other day of another country M. E. Church, built before this one, but in a much older settled and populated neighborhood, but which is now demolished or disused for church purposes for nearly fifty years, which was so small that at one time in its history, when there was a split in the congregation, it was loaded up on a wagon, in the night, I think, by one of the opposing factions, and carted off to another site several miles distant from the original one. A view of the frame of this building will convince you that that would have been an impossible undertaking as regards old Friendship. The original Building Committee of this church were not built that way themselves, nor did they build that way, either. The sills and plates are something to look at in these days of flimsy and showy building. When first used, the church had a vaulted or oval ceiling, the

timbers used to support it were 6x14, the gallery joist are 3x12, the rafters 4x8, and the original wooden pillars to support the gallery were one foot square. The joints of the frame work of the whole building are all dove-tailed or lock mortise tenon and pinned. The lumber is all oak or heart pine, as sound as the day it was put in. Such nails as were used are of the old-fashioned hand-made sorts. The lath are all frowed or split ones.

We are apt to think of those old settlers as devoid of taste, with no appreciation of embellishment and no desire to bestow their labor for anything except utility; but we are wrong in our ideas brethren, and unjust to those old time fathers and mothers of the church, for we can see evidences of loving hands and a desire to make the House of God goodly to look upon, and far exceeding their own homes in appearance, in the facts that the original weatherboarding was all beaded on the lower edge, and the gallery columns were fluted and carved quite beautifully, and all was done by painstaking, slow and irksome hand labor. From the time the church was built until 1853, the gallery remained in an unfinished state, only the frame work being in position, the ceiling, as mentioned before, was an oval one up to that date; the pulpit was also up to that time, one of the old-fashioned high kind, with a flight of steps up each side, and furnished besides the seat, with little doors to shut to, if the preacher saw fit to do so.

At that time there were no pews, but ordinary benches with backs, somewhat like those in the gallery now. The benches were not fastened to the floor, and were long enough to reach from the side of the church to the central aisle, and were without division of any kind their entire length. The stove was what is known as a ten plate stove; it was large enough to take in a three foot stick, and it was connected with the chimney by a long, straight pipe, extending clear up to the roof.

No changes have been made in the interior of the church since 1853, and while the necessary labor was being performed then, the congregation, far from forsaking the worship of God, and true to their character as a live church, continued divine services in the school house, which stood then on the same lot where public school, No. 3, of this township, now stands. The work of repair and alteration was begun in the fall of 1853, and finished in June, 1854, and the occasion was made a time of rejoicing

and reconsecration. In 1893, the exterior of the church was repaired, new siding and roof put on and the vestibule added, and the building painted.

As to the cemetery, in the old days before the church was built, there were a number of private burial grounds in this vicinity, probably three or four, the principal one was about a mile east of the church and quite a number were buried there, but after the church grounds were opened, they began to be used quite generally, not only by residents of this neighborhood, but also people from Millville, Weymouth, May's Landing and other villages and neighborhoods; even nowadays, funerals of non-residents are not infrequent, though the dead are usually those who have lived in the vicinity at one time, or they are related to the families of former residents.

Speaking of the cemetery, recalls the fact that in the old days the duties of the office of sexton or janitor rather, were performed in turn by the members of the congregation, without pay. A collection was taken up from time to time to defray expenses for candles, etc., etc. These sextons or janitors did not usually dig the graves.

From the deed we find that the grantors and original owners of the land on which the church is built, were William Hollinshead and Hope, his wife. It is likely the site was a gift to the church, as the sum named in the deed is the nominal one of one dollar.

The first Board of Trustees were John Smith, Joel Stewart, William Ackley, John Veal, John Smith, Jr., George Smith and Thomas Champion.

These, you will perceive, are all well known Jersey family names, and no doubt many of those present here today will recognize in them, that of a grandfather, or great grandfather, for some of their descendants are yet about us. They were all common everyday men, making their living by hard labor, and we believe them to have been God-fearing and God-serving men; and that they were full of faith and love toward God, the building of this church proves. That they were mostly uneducated, as far as the wisdom of this world is concerned, goes without saying, for public schools were unknown here in 1808, but we feel sure they had not only a knowledge, but a saving knowledge of God's love, as manifested in the blessed gift of His son.

No statue, or column, or tablet in any of earth's temples of fame are erected to their memory, but this church is a monument which shall count for far more than any of those, in that "dread day of the Lord, which will come as a thief in the night, in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the element shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also, and the works that are therein shall be burned up."

Written on the deed we find the names of the following Boards of Trustees: One elected July 29th, 1824—John Veal, William Ackley, Aquilla Downs, Nathan Girard and Henry Veal. Another elected June 26, 1860—Charles Downs, Secretary; George Downs, Wesley Vanaman, Ambrose Pancoast and Archibald Campbell. Finally, one elected June 4th, 1866—Osborn Downs, President; John Walker Downs, Secretary; George Downs, Treasurer; Archibald Campbell and Wesley Vanaman. In this latter case note is also made that Brother George Downs was appointed to collect money, (an old and well established Methodist habit you observe,) and Brother Shimp, who was the preacher at that time, was appointed to purchase a new carpet for the church.

Through the courtesy of Rev. J. H. Payran, Secretary of this Conference, we are enabled to present the following list of the pastors of the church. We include in it the names of all who were appointed on the charge since its organization in 1803, as no doubt previous to the erection of the church in 1808, these men of God preached in the Smith house before mentioned.

For a long time these appointments were made in pairs, the first mentioned being known as the preacher in charge, and the other, the assistant. The charge at its organization was known as the Gloucester circuit, and it retained the name for many years. The church was on this circuit until 1886; changes made on and after that date will be found noted below. From 1803 until 1837, when the present New Jersey Conference was organized, the Gloucester circuit was in the West Jersey district of the Philadelphia Conference; changes in the district on and after 1837 are also noted in the list:

1803, Benjamin Iliff, Daniel Higby; 1804, David Dunham, Asa Smith; 1805, Jos. Totten, Wm. Bishop; 1806-7, Nat. Swain, Sam. Budd; 1808, Rich. Sneath, W. S. Fisher; 180[illegible], Thos. Dunn,

Chas. Reed; 1810, Peter Vannest, J. Osborn, T. Davis; 1811, J. Fox, John Fernon; 1812, J. Fox, J. Townsend; 1813, Dan. Ireland, Wm. Smith; 1814, John Woolson, Edward Stout; 1815, Dan. Fidler, Amos C. Moore; 1816, John Walker, Amos C. Moore; 1817, Solomon Sharp, Wm. Smith; 1818, Peter Vannest, James Long; 1819, David Bartine, T. Davis; 1820, David Bartine, R. W. Petherbridge; 1821, Edward Stout, R. W. Petherbridge; 1822, Edward Stout, David Dailey; 1823, Watters Burrows, James Moore; 1824, Watters Burrows, Wm. Lummis; 1825-26, John Woolson, Eliphalet Reed; 1827, Edward Page, William Lummis; 1828, Edward Page, J. Iliff; 1829, Jacob Gruber, Richard M. Greenbank; 1830, Wm. Williams, R. M. Greenbank; 1831, Wm Williams, Sedgwick Rusling; 1832, John Henry Jacob Loudenslager; 1833, Edward Stout and a supply; 1834-35, Wm. Lummis, John F. Crouch; 1836, Jas. Long, T. Christopher.

New Jersey Conference, Bridgeton District—1837, J. W. McDougall, A. Owen; 1839, Edward Stout, George Jennings; 1840, Joseph J. Sleeper, George Jennings, 1841, Joseph J. Sleeper, B. N. Reed; 1842, A. K. Street, T. Christopher; 1843, Jos. Atwood, Jos. Gaskikll; 1844, Jos. Atwood, John Fort; 1845, Nathaniel Chew, John Fort; 1846, David Duffell, W. A. Brooks; 1847, David Duffell, A. J. J. Truett; 1848, A. J. J. Truett, B. Andrews; 1849, N. Edwards, B. Andrews; 1850, N. Edwards, A. Gearhart; 1851, A. Gearhart, D. T. Reed; 1852, J. White and a supply; 1853, J. White, L. J. Rhodes; 1854-55, J. C. Summerill, C. W. Heisley, 1856-57, Samuel M. Hudson, Albert Matthews; 1858-59, H. S. Norris, J. P. Connelly, S. C. Chattin; 1860, Edwin Waters, Albert Atwood; 1861, Edwin Waters, E. S. Marks; 1862, W. C. Stockton, J Wilcox, Jos. H. Mickle; 1863-64, L. O. Manchester; 1865-66, M. H. Shimp.

Camden District—1867, S. Wesley Lake; 1868-9, J. L. Souder; 1870-1, E. C. Hancock; 1872-3, J. Warthman; 1874, P. Y. Calder; 1875-6, E. F. Moore.

Bridgeton District—1877-8, C. A. Malsbury.

Camden District—1879, J. L. Nelson; 1880-2, J. B. Whitton; 1883, Wm. Blackiston.

Bridgeton District—1884, J. O. R. Corliss; 1885, John G. Edwards.

Friendship Circuit—1886, R. Brooks Robbins.

Harmony Circuit—1887, W. Vanderherchen; 1888-9, L. N. Clark; 1890, Samuel C. Johnson.

Richland Circuit—1891, John G. Clark; 1892, Frank Coleman.

Friendship Circuit—1893, J. Sault, A. Jaggers; 1894-5, A. Jaggers; 1896 A. Jaggers, J. Casto.

Minotola and Friendship—1897, Thomas Huss; 1898, Chas. H. Barnes.

M. E. CHURCH IN PORT REPUBLIC

By Anna C. Collins Fleming

Bishop Asbury first introduced Methodism into South Jersey; and Nehemiah Blackman was converted under his preaching in his father's house in English Creek, and the first Methodist meeting, in what is now known as Port Republic, was probably held in the house of Micajah Smith, with 12 members, and probably the same number in Smithville which has now grown to 264 members and 225 children in the Sunday School, with two fine churches and a nice parsonage property. 1786 New Jersey was divided into four circuits, Newark, Trenton, East and West Jersey. West Jersey embraced all that section of the state south of Burlington. 1788 it was divided and Salem Circuit formed the lower part in 1800. There were 550 members. Rev. Richard Swain and Rev. Richard Lyon were the traveling preachers and Rev. Soloman Sharp presiding elder over all New Jersey. The extent of their circuits took from four to eight weeks to make the round of their preaching places, their way often being through miles and miles of forests with no path, save the Indian trail.

The first house of worship in Port Republic was erected near the beginning of the 19th century, on property owned by Micajah Smith and was known as Smith's Meeting House; an old burying ground marks the spot. The preaching place was one of the appointments on Salem Circuit until about 1811, when Gloucester was formed.

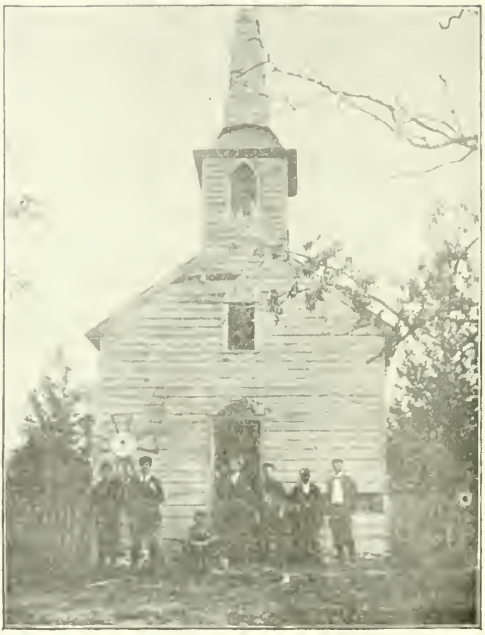
The meeting house was a two-story frame building, 25 feet square. It was never dedicated but as soon as weatherboarded meetings were held in it in the summer, but in the winter for several years services were held in the upper room of Nehemiah Blackman's house. In 1809 windows were put in and a ten-plate stove purchased. The house was never plastered, but was ceiled up with boards. In 1812 they purchased planed boards and had benches made with pieces across the back to rest the shoulder. Their lights were tallow dips, in tin candle sticks. The traveling preacher came once in four weeks and even then could not always make his appointment, and the local preachers, exhorters and

class leaders had to take charge a large share of the time. Bargaintown Circuit was formed 1828, from the lower end of Gloucester and a small part of New Mills, and included the following places of preaching: Zion, English's, West's, Absecon, Wrangleboro, Leeds', Simkins', Pine Coaling, Gloucester Furnace, Westcott's Pleasant Mills, Green Bank, Glass Works, Dutch Mills, Lake, New Friendship, South River, Estel's and Weymouth Furnace, May's Landing and Shore School House.

In the early days Port Republic was known as Wrangleboro. This name antedates authentic history. The church for many years was called Union Chapel, Unionville. The church at Smithsville was known as Leeds. Since 1805, the last division of the circuit, the two have been Port Republic and Smithville charge.

The first Quarterly meeting of Bargaintown Circuit was held at a camp meeting in Bargaintown, June, 1828, Chas. Pitman, first presiding elder; the preachers making the journey on horse back. A conference was held in Port Republic, Sept. 23d, 1854, F. Morrell, J. P. Cake and John R. Doughty were appointed a committee to look after the interests of our church in Atlantic City. Next meeting this committee reported in favor of establishing a church there. Rev. David Teed, who succeeded Mr. Morell as preacher in charge, informs us that he used to preach in Atlantic City in the house of Mr. Chalkley Leeds, before any church was built on the island. In 1868 the trustees of the church purchased from James B. Johnson and wife the present parsonage property for $12,000, giving a mortgage for over $7,000. This was subsequently paid and the whole church property is free from debt. Prior to this date the preacher in charge resided in Absecon in a rented house. Hammonton and Winslow, first appear as appointments on Bargaintown Circuit, 1835. After 1830 these two places with Gloucester Furnace, Westcott's and Pleasant Mills are not mentioned in the minutes and it is presumed they were formed into a separate circuit. After 1851 May's Landing, Weymouth, Catawba, Shore School House, Joslin and Estelville disappear from the record. 1855 Absecon Circuit was set off with Absecon, Oceanville, Smithville and Port Republic as preaching places. Isaac Felch was presiding elder and David Teed pastor. 1862 Salem was added to Absecon Charge and so continued for three years.

CATAWBA CHURCH ABOUT THE YEAR 1810



In writing a history of Catawba Church which was located about three miles below May's Landing, overlooking the great Egg Harbor River, little is known of its early history. It is known that George West gave an acre of land on which to build the church, and he being a local minister of the M. E. Church, acted as clergyman to his own people, also adding the liturgy to the church services to suit the varied creeds of the congregation. It disappeared from M. E. minutes in 1851. The church was named by the West's "Catawba." Although the West family never disclosed their past lives or residence, it was surmised that the name "Catawba" was in some way connected with their family history, and the church was built in memory of past scenes. It was an elegant little structure. Its influence of beauty as well as the home of the West's went far in educating the taste of the community to the love of the beautiful.

The church has now fallen into decay. The gravestones of the West family in the graveyard adjoining, are all so battered and worn that the inscriptions upon the stones are almost obliterated They are as follows:

GEORGE WEST, Esq.
Born Aug. 1, 1774
Died Sept. 10, 1829.

AMY WEST, Widow of George West.
Born Jan. 20, 1777
Died Sept. 15, 1829.

GEORGE S. WEST, Son of George and Amy West
Born May 7, 1806
Died Sept. 3, 1829

JAMES S. WEST, Son of George and Amy West
Born April 7, 1810
Died Aug. 24, 1829.

The following poem was written by Joseph Weintrob, a native of Rumania and had his home near by Catawba. He is now one of the principals in Atlantic City's High schools.

THE OLD CATAWBA CHURCH

Hard by the road where the sumachs bloom,
And the pine trees cast their stately gloom,

Where the sky and trees in concord blend
O'er the river's silent onward trend;

Torn and battered and old and gray
Stands Catawba Church by Catawba Way.

Time's cold fingers have lingered there;
Left it withered in mute despair.

Touched its walls with a ruthless hand
And circled it round with a hoary band.

Gone are the windows, broken the door,
Thick lies the dust on the rough-hewn floor.

Empty the belfry, where once the bell
Tolled a doleful funeral knell;

Or rang out in accents free and gay
To the organ's tune of a wedding lay.

Strange grey bats have made it their home,
Fluttering ghostly, around it they roam.

The pulpit is empty, silent and still;
Bare are the benches, cobwebbed the sill.

The voices that once rose in prayer to God
Are sleeping in peace 'neath the church-yard's cold sod.

Tall grow the weeds, hiding each grave;
Sadly above them the tall pines wave.

Hushed are the voices that swelled in a hymn,
Now quietness reigns there, silent and grim.

Not e'en an echo lingers within,
Oft have I listened, often looked in;

All is forgotten, in sorrow it falls,
Naught but sad memories cling to its walls.

There, on the hillside, facing the West,
It seems to peer anxiously over the crest.

Mournfully the wind sings 'neath the eaves,
Wildly the Autumn gale pelts it with leaves;

Then o'er the shingles, covered with moss,
It seems to glide softly, bemoaning its loss;

In through the windows, out by the door,
Caressing the tear-stained benches and floor.

Poor old relic of by-gone years,
Naught left for you but sighs and tears.

Hard by the road where the leaves are blown,
It stands; fast falling, silent, alone.

Away in the distance the river flows,
And catches and holds the sunsets glows;

Then throws the reflection far and high
On Catawba Church alone 'neath the sky,

Till the lights as they fall on its grey old face,
Seem to form a halo of holy grace.

The shadows grow thicker, and darkness falls
Like a benediction on its dimmed old walls.

JOSEPH WEINTROB.

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CATAWBA GRAVES

HISTORY OF ZION METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1814, FOUNDED 1764

By Rev. John A. Naylor

Methodism was introduced into South Jersey by Bishop Asbury. Preaching places were established in many private homes or houses. In 1780 New Jersey was divided into four circuits: Newark, Trenton, East and West Jersey. West Jersey Circuit embraced all that section of the state south of Burlington. In 1788 the West Jersey Circuit was divided and Salem Circuit was formed in the lower end of it. In 1800 there were five hundred and fifty members on the Salem Circuit. The Rev. Solomon Sharp was then the Presiding Elder over all New Jersey.

Bargaintown was one of the preaching places on the Salem Circuit. Prior to the year 1814 the Methodist Society had no permanent organization. They worshipped in the Blackman's Meeting House. In the summer of 1814 they resolved to form a permanent organization according to the laws of the state. They have left the following record: .

Whereas, The members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, that assemble for divine worship at Blackman's Meeting House, in the Township of Egg Harbor, in the County of Gloucester, and State of New Jersey, there being more than thirty families who steadfastly assemble at that place, for public worship, have thought proper to elect Trustees, for the better government of said house; did on the twenty-third day of October, in the year of Our Lord, eighteen hundred and fourteen, at the place aforesaid (agreeable to the laws in that case made and provided), elect Thomas Garwood, Japhet Ireland, John Price, Philip Smith, Daniel Tilton, Daniel Edwards and Richard Devinny, Trustees for said House.

We, the above named Trustees, do hereby certify that we have assumed the name of the Trustees for the Methodist Society to Blackman's Meeting House, in the Township of Egg Harbor, in the County of Gloucester.

"In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands

and seals, this twenty-eighth day of October, in the year of Our Lord, eighteen hundred and fourteen (1814)."

This was signed by each one of the above named Trustees; each Trustee also subscribed to three separate and distinct oaths:

First, To support the Constitution of the United States; Second, To bear true faith and allegiance to the government established in this State, under the authority of the people; Third, To faithfully fulfill the trust reposed in them as Trustees for the Methodist Society at Blackman's Meeting House in the Township of Egg Harbor, according to the best of their ability and understanding.

We here notice that the Trustees were elected on the twenty-third of October and signed their acceptance of their duty on the twenty-eighth of the same month, 1814.

The second record is a deed for the land where the Church stands, dated October thirty-first, eighteen hundred and fourteen, from one Joseph Sharp, Esq., and Hannah, his wife, of Galloway Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey, for the consideration of twenty-five dollars in specie to them paid, by Thomas Garwood, Japhet Ireland, John Price, Philip Smith, Daniel Edwards, Daniel Tilton and Richard Devinny, Trustees in trust, that they shall repair the house thereon, for a place of public worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopalian Church, in the United States of America; according to the rules and discipline of the said Church, or build or rebuild, or cause to be built or rebuilt, or repaired or be repaired, a house thereon, for the aforesaid purpose; to be ruled and governed in all things agreeable to the discipline of said Church, and the laws of this State; and that any of the aforesaid Trustees, or their successors, may be removed from the office of Trustee, or their vacancies supplied according to the discipline of said Church and the laws of this State. This deed begins at a Black Oak tree marked for a corner, being a corner to Thomas Garwood's land, and calls for one acre of land; and recites that Christian Blackman, Administratrix of Andrew Blackman, deceased, under a decree of the Orphans' Court of the County of Gloucester, made the fourth day of January, 1813, did sell at public auction the said lands to Joseph Sharp. By this deed of conveyance, the Methodist Society became the prospective owners of Blackman's Meeting House.

Zion Meeting House

The question of repairing, rebuilding or building a new meeting house to comply with the requirementts in the deed from Joseph Sharp and wife, to the Society, continued to agitate the minds of the members of this Society until the year 1821, when definite action was taken to build a new meeting house, when the following heading was made to procure subscriptions for that purpose:

"List of subscribers for the new meeting house, to be built at Blackman's Meeting House; sums subscribed and the time fixed by the Trustees, for the payment, being in four equal installments.

"Thomas Garwood, Treasurer."

The time fixed for the first payment was April 1st, 1822: the second payment, July 1st; third payment, October 1st, and the fourth, January 1st, 1823. The total amount subscribed was $1525.95.

Bargaintown Circuit was formed in 1828. "At the Philadelphia Conference" for the year of Our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and twenty eight, a new circuit was laid off of the lower end of "Gloucester" circuit and a small part of "New Mills," which included the following places for preaching, viz: Zion, English's, West's, Absecon, Wrangleboro, Leeds', Simkins', Pine Coaling, Gloucester Furnace, Westcott's, Pleasant Mills, Green Bank, Glass Works, Dutch Mills, Lake, New Friendship, South River, Estell's, Weymouth Furnace, May's Landing, and the Shore School House.

The first Quarterly Meeting of Bargaintown Circuit was held at a Camp Meeting at Bargaintown on June 14, 1828. The Rev. Charles Pitman, Presiding Elder, presided. Hammonton and Winslow first appear as appointments on Bargaintown Circuit in 1835. After 1830, these two places, with Gloucester Furnace, Westcott's and Pleasant Mills are not mentioned in the minutes and it is presumed that they were formed into a separate circuit. After 1851, May's Landing, Weymouth, Catawba, Shore School House, Joslin's and Estleville dropped from the record. In 1855 Absecon Circuit was set off with Absecon, Oceanville, Smithville and Port Republic, as preaching places. In 1862,

Salem was added to Absecon Charge. In 1871 and for some years following there were four preaching plpaces in the Bargaintown Circuit: Zion, Asbury (English Creek), Central, (Linwood), Bethel, (Somers Point). Then Central and Bethel were made a separate charge and Zion and Asbury continued as the English Creek Charge. In 1911, under the pastorate of Rev. W. F. Atkinson, Zion and Asbury became separate charges, each having its own pastor. During the winter of 1911-12 a new modern parsonage was built at Bargaintown on ground donated to the church by Mr. Andrew Marcus and wife. Various improvements have been made under different pastors, memorial windows, altar, vestibule and belfry have been added, so that we now have an up-to-date church and parsonage.

The members of this Society may be justly proud of its one hundred or more years' history and say with the Psalmist, "And of Zion it shall be said, this and that man was born in her; and the highest himself shall establish her."—Psalm 87:5.

The writer is indebted to Mr. Wm. Lake, of Ocean City, and Mrs. C. K. Fleming, of Absecon, for most of the historical facts related above.

EARLY HISTORY OF OLD SHORE OR FRAMBES SCHOOL HOUSE, NEAR THE BEGINNING OF 18TH CENTURY, FOLLOWED BY SALEM M. E. CHURCH 1857.

Maria Collins Thomas

When the first Methodist sermon was delivered in America by John Wesley, under the famous oak tree still standing in Southeastern Georgia, this part of New Jersey was occupied by the Absequam Indians, a branch of the Delawares. Here they lived, loved, feasted, and buried their dead. Along our shores may still be found the shell mounds where the red man was laid to rest with his belongings on which was inscribed the totem of the Delawares, the turtle.

The Delawares were a branch of the large and powerful tribe, the Lenni Lenape of New York state.

In 1758 the Colonial legislature appointed five commissioners to pay any and all just rights and claims that might be due the Indian nations of this Colony. Seventy-four pounds of this money paid was expended to purchase 3044 acres of land for a reservation. This reservation was near Atsion, in Burlington County. Here Rev. John Brainard labored among them and called the settlement Brotherton. It is now known as Indian Mills

During the early period the Quakers predominated in this sparsely settled region. As early as 1726 there were three selected places for holding Friends' Meetings: Leeds Point, Absecon and Somers Point.

Methodism was first introduced in New Jersey by Bishop Asbury. One of the earliest places in which he held meetings was the home of David Blackman, in English Creek. The names of those converted in this home would include the ancestors of the most prominent families in Atlantic County today.

The first Presiding Elder was Rev. John McClaskey. His district was not small as it included all of New Jersey, and Newburg, Delaware and Albany in New York. He was a mem-

ber of the Conference of twenty members that met in the old St. John's Street Church in 1784, when the Methodist Book Concern was founded.

Rev. John McClasky was born in Ireland in 1759, the year in which Dr. Richard Collins emigrated to America and settled at Collins' Mills, near what is now known as Smithville. Sixteen years later John McClasky came to America and made his home at Salem, N. J. He went from curiosity to hear the Methodist preachers when they came near that vicinity, and was converted, entering the ministry in 1785.

In 1780, New Jersey was divided in four circuits, Newark, Trenton, East Jersey and West Jersey. The West Jersey Circuit included all of New Jersey south of Burlington.

In 1788, the West Jersey Circuit was divided, and the lower half called the Salem Circuit. In 1850 there were five hundred fifty members on the Salem Circuit; there were two traveling preachers, Rev. Richard Swain and Rev. Richard Lyon. Rev. Solomon Sharp was Presiding Elder of all New Jersey. There were then seven circuits in the state, with three thousand thirty members and fourteen traveling preachers. There are now, 1914, two hundred fifty eight charges and 50,428 members.

The "traveling preachers" are identified with the early spread of Methodism, and were inspired with great religious zeal, which enabled them to withstand great discomforts and hardships. They traveled on horseback to reach their various preaching places, usually taking from four to eight weeks to make the rounds of their circuit. They carried their library and articles of attire in their saddle bags. Most of South Jersey was then but forests and pine barrens, and the trail often unbroken except as an Indian trail. The meals of these religious pioneers were timed by their arrival at the homes of the members and friends. Their coming was an important event in the lives of the settlers.

One of these travelers was John Collins, son of Dr. Richard Collins, and who married Sarah Blackman, daughter of David Blackman, of English Creek. He was converted in 1794 and was soon licensed to preach as a local preacher. In 1803, he and his family and his brother-in-law Lardner Blackman removed to Ohio where he took up an extensive tract of land in Clermont County. Rev. Collins preached the first Methodist ser-

mon in Ohio, in Cincinnati in 1804, and was one of the most forceful and successful among the pioneers of the West. His name is found on one of memorial windows in the Metropolitan Memorial Church in Washington, D. C., being placed there in recognition of his religious work.

In 1811, Gloucester Circuit was formed from the Salem Circuit, and in 1828, at the Philadelphia Conference, Bargaintown Circuit was laid off the lower end of Gloucester Circuit, with a small part of New Mills.

Bargaintown Circuit included the following preaching places: Zion, English's, West's, Absecon, Wrangleboro, Leeds', Simkins', Pine Coaling, Gloucester Furnace, Westcott's, Pleasant Mills, Green Bank, Glass Works, Dutch Mills, Lake, New Friendship, South River, Estells, Weymouth Furnace, May's Landing and the Shore School House.

The first Quarterly Meeting was held for the Bargaintown Circuit at a camp meeting in Bargaintown in 1828.

The first Presiding Elder was Charles Pitman. In the warm weather the Quarterly meetings were usually held in groves near the meeting places. Whole families would drive in from miles around for the all day service, bringing well filled lunch baskets. These services were anticipated for a long time as a social feature and as an occasion of great religious activity.

Among those whose eloquence rang through these resounding aisles of woodland were: Ezekial Cooper, Charles Pitman, Father Lummis and others.

The Shore School House and Church stood on the site where the late Nathaniel Risley's residence now stands.

Mrs. Asenath Risley, wife of Nathaniel Risley, said the lot was given the community to build a school upon by Alexander Fish, with the proviso that when no longer used for such purpose, it should revert to the Fish estate. Owing to the difficulty in locating deeds of Gloucester County of a date previous to 1800, I have been unable to find this deed of gift as yet. However the services requiring a more commodious place of meeting, a new church and school, called the Salem M. E. Church was built in 1851; the Shore School House was torn down; and the lot sold to Nathaniel Risley by Alexander Fish and Milisent Fish, their deed dating May 25, 1853. Mr. Risley owned the lot several years before he built upon it. The Shore School

House was built about the year 1800 from brick burned by John Lake in his brickyard on what is now known as the Fred Carmen place.

This school was also known as the Frambes School, probably because a number of families by the name of Frambes lived near it.

Mr. Wesley Ingersoll, who was born in 1833, says in his earliest recollections the Shore School House appeared to be a very old building. The regular preacher on the Bargaintown Circuit preached here once a month, but Class and Prayer meetings were held every week, usually Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Mr Ingersoll's early memories of his father, Daniel Ingersoll, a wheelwright and undertaker, and his mother Ann Ingersoll, is their faithful attendance at church, one Sunday at the Shore School House, the next driving to Absecon, and the third attending services at Zion. He also remembers David Bartlett, father of the late William Bartlett, walking by the Ingersoll residence, from his home on Delilah Road, faithfully and regularly to attend divine services in the Shore School House.

Mr. Ingersoll first became interested in seeking salvation while attending a Methodist Protestant Camp Meeting back of the Bakersville school house in the fall of 1844 and 1845. These meetings were conducted by Rev. Jacob Timberman, and his brother John Timberman, who conducted services both at the Bakersville school house and at the Mount Pleasant Church, which then stood where the Mount Pleasant cemetery is now. Here Mr. Ingersoll was converted, but united with the church of his parents in the Shore School House.

Ezra B. Lake, one of the founders of Ocean City was converted at the same time.

Mr. James Ryon, who was a boy of fifteen at this time, says that these meetings were of far reaching influence, and that nearly all of the young people of this section were converted either in these meetings or from the influence of them. Among those converted to God then were: Eliza Frambes, John Lake, Sarah Ingersoll, Elijah Adams, Alice Ryon, Emmeline Ryon, Mariette Ryon, Peter Frambes, John Sampson and Thomas Sampson. All of these joined the Shore School Church except

Peter Frambes, who joined the Mount Pleasant M. P. Church, at Bakersville.

One of the preachers who was a powerful speaker in this church was Rev. Joseph Atwood. John Adams and Samuel Steelman were exhorters.

One of the teachers in this school was Steelman S. Sooy, who lived in the little red house now standing at the corner of Edgewater Avenue and Main Street, having purchased it from Pardon Ryon, who in turn had purchased it from John Bryant.

During the summer months a prospective teacher, frequently from "down East" would make a house-to-house canvas soliciting pupils to attend school the following winter, at a charge of about $3.50 per quarter for each pupil. There were no free schools in those days. If the teacher secured enough subscribers he would return, if not some other pedagogue would follow.

In March 1844, a Miss Emeline D. Huntley, of Connecticut, was hired as a teacher in this section at the munificent salary of $10 a month and board. She would "board around" among her patrons. Her contract is signed by Jeremiah Baker, Joseph Ireland and James English.

Samuel Steelman, father of Benjamin S. and Lewis Steelman, was a Class Leader, and lived at the corner of Park Avenue and Main Street, where this edifice now stands.

Among those converted in the Shore School House were Asenath and Caroline English, of English Creek, who were sent to the home of their uncle, Daniel Collins, to board and attend school. They were converted to God in a prayer meeting in the absence of any regular pastor. Asenath joined the church previous to her marriage to Nathaniel Risley. Caroline married Barclay Leeds in whose home the first meetings of the First M. E. Church of Atlantic City were held.

Among those who were members of the church in the Shore School House were: David Bartlett, John Frambes, Sr., John Frambes, Eliza Dennis Frambes, Michael Frambes, Sarah Frambes Sara Sampson, Samuel Steelman, Ezra B. Lake, Daniel Ingersoll, Ann Ingersoll, Wesley Ingersoll, Asenath English, Caroline English, Talitha Sooy, Steelman S. Sooy, John T. Lake, Elisha Adams, Alice Adams, Alice Ryon, Emmeline Ryon, Mar-

iette Ryon, Nathaniel Disbrow, Peter Watkins, James English, Joseph Race and others.

In 1850, there was an increased activity in the church affairs under the pastorate of Rev. Philip Cline, and the members of the Shore School Church met in that building on Oct. 13, 1850, and arranged to erect a more imposing church edifice. A board of trustees were elected consisting of the following: Pardon Ryon, John Frambes, Jr., Nathaniel Disbrow, Mark Adams, Jonathan Albertson, Absalom Doughty. The new edifice was to be known as the Methodist Episcopal Meeting House at Smith's Landing. The Certificate of Trustees was recorded at May's Landing in 1851.

The plot of ground on the road leading from Smith's Landing to Risleytown, on which the church was to be erected, was given by Pardon Ryon and his wife, Elizabeth Ryon.

Many citizens not members of the church became interested, and contributed toward the building, as the basement was to be used as a school.

Some members gave their contributions as labor, such as excavating and carting.

The contract for the building was given to Adam Conover.

In 1855, Absecon Circuit was set aside from the Bargaintown Circuit with Absecon, Oceanville, Smithville and Port Republic as preaching places. In 1862, Salem was added to the Absecon Circuit, and so continued until March 29, 1870, when it became an independent charge. The records state that grave fears were entertained for its ability to be self-supporting.

The first musical instrument used in the church was a melodeon belonging to Miss Rachaelette Sooy, who afterward became Mrs. Arnold B. Race. Miss Sooy was the first organist. This instrument is now in the possession of her son, Robert L. Race.

The use of this instrument in the church service was the cause of much discussion, some of the members claiming an organ to be worldly and of the devil. One dear old lady said she always put her hand over her eyes as though sleeping whenever it was played, so as to shut out all the worldly thoughts she could.

The first child baptized in the church was Annie Disbrow, now Mrs. William Taylor, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah Dis-

brow, and who presented the beautiful baptismal font in the present church as a memorial to her mother.

When the church was built in 1851, Joseph Race placed the altar rail; at the rebuilding in 1889, his son, Arnold B. Race made the altar rail, and, in the present building the grandson, Robert L. Race had the honor of making the altar rail.

For many years there was no bell in the church, and after the Smith's Landing school was built, the sexton of the church, would ring the school bell to call the people to divine service.

In 1889, the church was remodeled, the brick basement being taken away entirely. It was then considered one of the prettiest churches along the shore.

For the following quarter of a century worship was continued in this remodeled building, when plans were formulated for the present handsome stone edifice.

The cornerstone of this building was laid by District Superintendent Sanford M. Nichols, with impressive ceremonies, on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 27, 1912.

The old building was sold to the (colored) Asbury M. E. Church, of Pleasantville, and the building moved to their lot at Bayview Avenue and Shore East Line R. R.

The new edifice was completed and dedicated by Bishop Joseph F. Berry, on Dec. 7, 1913.

THE HISTORY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ATLANTIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

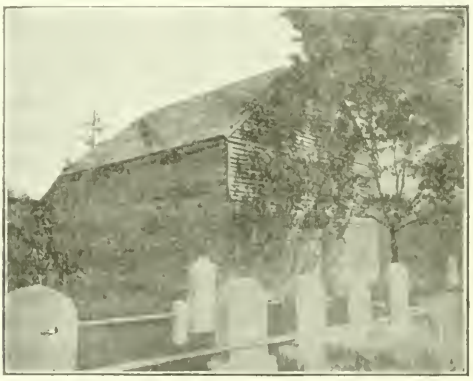
St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in the Pines, Pleasant Mills, New Jersey. Founded About 1820.

Scattered through the pine lands of Southern New Jersey are several deserted or partly deserted villages, where, over seventy years ago, industry and prosperity reigned, but now ruin and desolation are seen everywhere. Streets that were once hardened with the traffic of hundreds of people, are now overgrown with wild grass and weeds and but little used. The houses are silent and slowly falling to decay. The churches are seldom opened, and some are gone entirely and their very sites disputed. The old iron forges and furnaces are in ruins, or only remembered by the black cinder piles which mark their sites. Three of the tall chimneys still stand, ready to topple over at any time.

Two of these old villages are of interest to the Catholics of New Jersey, because in, or near them, were established two of the first Catholic parishes in New Jersey. They are Pleasant Mills, in Atlantic County, forty-two miles from Philadelphia, and nine miles from Hammonton. The settlement at Pleasant Mills was made about 1718, when a saw mill was erected at the head of the old Fresco pond, now caller Nesco-hague. This drew a colony of sturdy wood choppers, who levelled the original pine forests and white cedars sending the heavy timbers to the mill to be sawed into lumber or split into shingles and piled the branches in great heaps, to be converted into charcoal. The lumber was loaded on vessels and shipped down the Mullica River and on to New York. The charcoal was transported by wagon to Philadelphia where it was sold for fuel. This was before hard or soft coal was known here, and these were the charcoal burners, the traces of whom are still frequently found in South Jersey.

Yet not all the charcoal was sent away, for much of it was used in the old iron furnaces and forges, called bloomeries, for as early as 1766 we find a large iron furnace established at Batsto, Burlington County. This was the era of the iron workers, and brought to New Jersey hundreds of men who found employment either as wood choppers, teamsters, day laborers or skilled mechanics. In 1777 we find that the wood choppers received two shillings and six pence per cord for their labor, and an industrious man could chop one and a half cords per day.

The forges and furnaces were set up near the water courses in those parts where the bog iron ore was abundant. Thus we find this old iron industry at old Gloucester, near Egg Harbor,



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AT PLEASANT MILLS

at Martha, Weymouth, Atsion, and they manufactured all kinds of iron ware for house as well as for implements. Here at Batsto was made much of the ammunition used in the American Revolution, but when after the better magnetic ores of Pennsylvania and Northern New Jersey were discovered the old bog iron furnaces were abandoned and the workmen moved to new centres of work. About this time also, 1761, shingles were split from the real cedar trees, which abounded in the swamps of this district. These were carted to Egg Harbor and shipped to New York and elsewhere.

Next came the glass workers, when Casper Wister built and operated the first American glass factory near Allowaystown in

Salem County. These colonies came from various parts of Germany to convert the Jersey soil into hollow ware and window lights. Again with these came new bands of wood choppers and teamsters. Among the various artisans, mechanics and laborers were many Catholics, single and married, who, feeling the religious persecution of the old world, sought peaceful homes in America, only to find that bigotry and race hatred had also crossed the sea, and confronted their new homes. Ready to give their labor and skill of their hand and heads to the upbuilding of their adopted land, yet they refused to accept or follow the religious systems that had so cruelly persecuted their ancestors in Ireland and Germany. They cherished their Catholic faith and practiced it in private under the scorn of bigots or the ridicule of fanatics, until such times as circumstances permitted them to build their chapels and bring their priests to have services for them. These were brave and fearless people, strong of character and big of body, and danger was unknown to them as disloyalty to church was hateful. It was by such men that the little parish of Pleasant Mills and Batsto was founded. When they had no church in which to assemble, they gathered in private houses, and here they met their priests whenever chance or appointment brought one in their midst. But as time went on prejudices lessened and the Revolution found Catholic and Protestant combined to defend their common country on the bloody field of battle, and when the smoke of eight years' strife had cleared away and the young nation had cast off the tyranny of England, their rights were recognized and respected. And when the names of the fallen heroes were called, many Catholics were orphans and widows. Again the glass works and iron forges were set in motion and another colony gathered, and Pleasant Mills and Batsto became centres of travel. The Richards family bought the place and infused new life into both towns.

In 1826, Jessie Richards offered to donate a plot of land and help to erect a church for his faithful Catholic workmen. Accepting this kind offer from their generous employer, they collected money, and worked together under the direction of their zealous young pastor, Rev. Edward R. Mayne, who was a convert from Protestantism, until they had succeeded in erecting at Pleasant Mills, the first Catholic Church south of Trenton,

and perhaps the third in New Jersey. This was in 1827, and Father Mayne remained in charge, living at St. Augustine's, Philadelphia, and coming down monthly for services. The church, however, was not formally dedicated until 1830, as there was no Bishop in Philadelphia at that time, Bishop Conwell having gone to Rome, leaving Father Mathews in charge. In 1830 Rev. Patrick Kenrick was appointed Bishop of Philadelphia, and on August 15th, 1830, dedicated the little church under the title of St. Mary's of the Assumption. In the meantime, Father Mayne, who had fallen into consumption, went to Florida for relief, and, finding the climate beneficial to him, remained there and became pastor of St. Augustine, where he died on December 21st, 1834, aged 32 years.

In 1833 we find Rev. James Cummisky attending from Philadelphia.

1834—Rev. William Whelan, occasionally from Philadelphia.

1835—Rev. Patrick Reilly, occasionally.

1836—Rev. Edw'd. McCorthy, S. J., monthly from St. Joseph's, Philadelphia.

1837—Rev. Richard Waters, S. J., monthly from St. Joseph's, Philadelphia.

1838—Rev. Edward Sourin, St. Charles Seminary, Philadelphia.

1839—Rev. Jas. Miller, C. M., Philadelphia.

1840-43—Rev. Wm. Loughran, from St. Michael's, Philadelphia.

1844—Rev. B. Rolando, C. M., Seminary, Philadelphia.

1845-48—Rev. Hugh Lane, from St. Philips, Philadelphia.

1849—Rev. Hugh Kenny, St. Michael's, Philadelphia.

1850—Rev. J. Finnegan, Gloucester, N. J.

The following is the translation of all that now remains of Father McCarthy's Latin Baptismal Register concerning Pleasant Mills Mission, as received from Rt. Rev. James A. McFaul.

August 9, 1835, I baptized Michael, born at Philadelphia,

on the first of May, this year, from Daniel McNeil and Elizabeth Dunn. Sponsors: Michael Dunn and Mary McGonigal.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

August 9, 1835, I baptized Nicholais, born Dec. 26, 1834, of Samuel Crowley and Parnelia Saney. Sponsors: Herman Myrose and Catherine Myrose.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

October 11, 1835, I baptized Samuel, born March 28, from Abraham Nicholas and Mary Ann Crowley. Sponsors: Herman Myrose and Anna Maria Cliff.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

September 11, 1836, Mary Ann, born Aug. 5, 1836, from Patrick and Catherine Kelly. Sponsors: John Moore and James Daly.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

September 11, 1836, I baptized James, born Feb. 5, 1830, from James McCambridge and Anna Miller. Sponsors: Thos. Murphy and Mary Ann McIntyre.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

September 11, 1830, I baptized Sara Ann, born March 17, 1836, of Terance Daly and Sara Onslan. Sponsors: James McDermott and Jno. McCambridge.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

September 11, 1836, I baptized James, born Aug. 31, 1836, from Thomas Fox and Elizabeth McDermott. Sponsors: Jno. McCambridge and Sam Crowley.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

September 11, 1836, I baptized Patrick, born Aug. 3, 1836, from Patrick Monaghan and Bridget Dohan. Sponsors: Michael Doolan and Mary McIntyre.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

September 11, 1836, I baptized Andrew Stout, born June 13, 1836, from Philip Kane and Anna Westcott. Sponsors, Edward Daly and Sarah Daly.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

September 11, 1836, I baptized John, born Aug. 27, 1836, from Hugh Gibbons and Catherine Morison. Sponsors: Patrick Clark and Margaret Morison.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

October 9, 1836, I baptized Charles, born May 13, 1836, from Samuel Crowley and Parmelia Saney. Sponsors: William Smith and Catherine Cobb.

Rev. Edward McCarthy, S. J.

An old account book was found in the church by Father Van Reil, of Egg Harbor, when he took charge and is the handwriting of Edward Daily. The list below shows the names of the Catholics who contributed to the monthly expenses of the church from the year 1834 to 1860:

John Cuningham, Terrence Daily, James Kelly, Jas. Sweeney, Henry Boyle, Sr., John McIntyre, Edw. McIntyre, Jeremiah Fitzgerald, Peter McDermott, Wm. Troy, Jas. Kane, Edw. Daily, Jno. Gillan, Philip Brogan, Philip Kane, Jno. Nugent, Patrick Lafferty, David Berry, Wm. Boyle, John McDaniel, John Kane, Michael Murphy, Cornelius Kelly, Hugh Smith, Samuel Crowley, Arthur Travis, Patrick Kane, Herman Myrose, Jas. McDermott, Michael McDermott, Patrick McDermott, John Martin, Jno. Desane, William Dougherty, Jas. Boyher, William Kelly, Jno. Dougherty, "Peddler", Jno. Sweeney, Owen Murphy, Jno. Clark, James McCambridge, Rob. Walls, Sarah Campbell, Jas. Tonner, Bryan Hart, Michael McCorkle, John Connor, Andrew McAlister, Wm. Dunlap, Jas. McWiggin, Jas. McNally, Wm. Harkins, Anton Fraelinger, George Stinzer, Chas. Freeling, John Hanlon, Oswald Reinboot, Jas. Dealin, Jas. Leading, Thos. Leading, Chas. Freath, Patrick Murray, Wm. McDermott, Patrick Clark, Jno. Smith, Wm. Smith, Jno. Mason, Jno. Aniese, Jno. McGovern, John McIntyre, Dominic Daily, Andrew Kenan, Patrick Milligan, John Waters, Wm. Maxwell, '36, Patrick Hacket, 36, Patrick Henry, Jno. McGinty, Wm. Conly, Wm. Dolan, Patrick Clark, Henry Mison, Thos. Murphy, Thos. Darbey, Peter McGoldrick, Harry Boyce, Jr., Wm. McCormick, Henry Lafferty, Bernard Lafferty, John Lafferty, John Moore, Jno. Boyle, Cornelius Gibbon, Hugh Gibbons, Peter McAleer, John Waters, Rob't. Smith, Michael Leonard, John McDermott, James Waters,

James Cawe, John Doran, John Coyle, Darby Gillen, Francis Clarke, Michael McLaughlin, Patrick Grey, Thos. Fox, Rob't. McNeil, John Donigan, James Fisher, Denis Corbley, Henry Lee, Patrick McDevit, Dan.

In 1848 this parish passed to the care of Father Waldron, and as Mission of Gloucester it was attended by Fathers Finnegan, 1853, and Hannegan, until, in 1850, it passed to the Camden parish, under Father James Moran.

In 1857, Father Moran of St. Mary's, Camden, officiated there. From 1855 on, this parish was attended from St. Mary's Camden.

In 1848 three Redemptorists from St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia, found their way to Pleasant Mills at different times. These were Father Bayer, Cowdenhave, and Hotzer. In June, 1849, Father Bayer also visited this place, and again in December. A priest from this church visited Pleasant Mills again in 1851 and 1852. The last visit of a priest there seems to have been December 11, 1853, when we find the congregation dwindled to the following named persons: Rob't. Dougherty, Hugh Farron, Jno. Gillen, P. Bannon, Jno. Walters, Jerry Fitzgerald, Mrs. Garritt, Michael Pharroah, Jno. McGovern, Daniel Bannon, Thos. Bannon, Jno. McCorristan, Jno. Mallory, Michael McCorristan, Wm. Kelly, James Dillett, Darby McGonigal and James Plenney.

Shortly after the building of the church, a house was built by the people, about 1830, with the idea of renting it to a Catholic family who would care for the priest on his monthly visits. This house was occupied by old Jerry Fitzgerald and later was sold, in 1865, to Charles D. Smith, now of Elwood, N. J., who sold it to Dr. Stille, of Atlantic City. After the opening of the church the priest lodged with Mr. Richards, an Episcopalian, and his daughter took charge of the altar. John, Hugh and Daniel Farron were faithful from '35 to '60; their descendants are good Catholics.

The church remained closed until 1865, when a young Dillet woman from that district appealed to a Philadelphia priest, and laid the condition before him; she was directed to Camden, and explained matters to Father Byrne, who made a pilgrimage to the spot and found things as described. The church was deserted, the few remaining people had lost their faith. There stood the little church surrounded by pines, hidden away, but in a good

state of preservation, everything just as it had been left by Father Daly—but even the memory of it was being lost when Father Byrne re-discovered it in the wilderness, and, strange to say, the few Catholics then around cared not to assemble within its walls, so that he held services in a private house, whilst he boarded with Mr. Paterson, a Protestant gentleman, who received him most hospitably.

When, in 1866, Father Thurnes was made pastor of Egg Harbor, Pleasant Mills was one of his missions. He attended it when necessary as did also his successor, Father Esser, '78-'85, and Father Van Riel, '85, until the Hammonton Parish was formed, when it became a part of that parish. At present, October, '05, there is only one Catholic family at Pleasant Mills, and none at Batsto Mr. A. T. McKeon and his children. They attend the church at Hammonton, driving there on Sundays, a distance of nine miles, and this for thirteen years, proving their sterling faith and loyalty. Father Van Reil moved the pews to Hammonton, where they are still in use, also a beautiful old oil painting of the Crucifixion. The church was completely destroyed by a forest fire in April 1899. The cemetery is enclosed with a neat iron fence, placed there by Mrs. Copperthwaite, McKeon, etc. The stones and graves are in good condition owing to the care of the McCambridge boys.

The earliest missionary work of the Catholic Church was done by the Jesuits, followed by the Augustines, as early as 1705. For 30 years they attended the spiritual wants of New Jersey. Father Neal was the last of the Jesuit Missionaries. He went to Georgetown 1798. There was not a single Catholic structure in New Jersey. The church is closely connected with the beginning of the glass industry of the United States. From an old record we learn that the pioneer glass blowers of New Jersey were Casper Halter, John Martin Halter, Simon Grisemeyer and John Wentzel, skilled glass blowers from Belgium, who came to Salem under contract to blow glass for Casper Wister and teach his son Richard. He paid for their passage 58 pounds and 8 shillings. Later other families followed.

This historical extract is contributed by *Mrs. George W. Leech, (Weihl).*

QUAKERS—FRIENDS

GATHERED FROM THE HISTORY OF THE M. E. CHURCH
BY ANNA S. COLLINS FLEMING.

The Quakers were by many years the first religious organization in the county. When the M. E. Church was first organized in Smithville, the Friends Society was well nigh 100 years old. So far as I know there is no printed account of their early meetings in this vicinity, but their records are well kept, and through the courtesy of Hon. John Clement, of Haddonfield, and the kindly research of Sarah Nicholson, a friend of the same place, and information of Japhet Leeds' family, I have been enabled to give my readers this account of the Friends of Leeds Point. In 1676 the Province of West Jersey passed under the exclusive control of Wm. Penn and his associates, Friends, who completed and published a body of laws of which Goodrich says: "This simple code enacted by the Friends in America, rivaled the charter of Connecticut in the liberality and purity of its principles." Before the end of the year over 400 families of Friends had arrived, from England, and found homes in West Jersey. There in the lower counties of the state the Friends antedated by many years all other religious societies, and many of the best families with justifiable pride claim descent from these first Quaker settlers. For nearly a generation the Friends as a Society have ceased to exist in Leeds Point.

The date of their first meeting for worship is not known, but the Hon. John Clement, of Haddonfield, an authority on local history, says: "Daniel Leeds was an important man in the early history of West Jersey. He was the first surveyor general. In 1698, he made several surveys in Egg Harbor, and removed there, about which date, I suppose the Friends Meeting at Leeds' Point was established. In 1704, he *published the first Almanac in America*, and continued the publication until 1716." What we know as two villages, Leeds' Point and Smithville, seem to have been known as Leeds until 1844.

The Haddonfield Quarterly, gives that as early as 1726,

there were three places for holding Friends' meetings in Atlantic county, namely: Japhet Leeds', Peter White's and John Scull's. J. Leeds doubtless lived at Leeds Point, (a son of Daniel Leeds). Peter White was at or near Absecon, and John Scull in the vicinity of Somers Point. He was one of the five men who in 1695 purchased land and probably formed the first settlement in what is now Atlantic County. 1726 several Friends of Great Egg Harbor and Cape May addressed a letter to the quarterly meeting of Gloucester and Salem, which convened in Haddonfield 7th month and 16th day, asking for a monthly meeting. Their request was granted, and it was ordered to meet alternately, at Richard Somers', on Egg Harbor side, and Rebecca Garretson's, on the Cape May side, which lasted until 1804. 1806 Egg Harbor met alternately with Galloway, and were a branch of Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting the first and second day, 9th month, 1726. Richard Townsend was appointed clerk. Peter White and Jonathan Adams, as overseers of the meetings held at Japhet Leeds; Peter White and John Scull.

1740 the meeting which had been held at Japhet Leeds' was removed to Robert Smith's. 1744 Friends at upper end of the shore make request to build a meeting house. This probably was *the first public house of worship in Atlantic County* and was situated directly west of the present site of the Methodist Episcopal Church; the burying ground adjoining is still used and is known as Quaker burying ground.

Friends are ever educators. As early as the first quarter of the 19th century the only school house in this vicinity adjoined this meeting and was under the control of the Friends. Their preacher at this time was Samuel Leeds, who taught part of the time, and kept a store at Leeds Point, near the present residence of John Anderson. Services were held every first and fifth day. He was far in advance of his time in temperance principles; his was the only store in the neighborhood which did not sell intoxicating liquors. After the first meeting house had served its day, a new one was built about a mile east of the old site. When no longer needed for a house of worship, it was rebuilt into a dwelling and is now occupied by Absalom Higbee. Thus after an honorable history of over 150 years the last meeting house in Atlantic county was closed. One has since been established in Atlantic City.

NOTES RELATING TO THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE FRIENDS SOCIETY OF GREAT EGG HARBOUR, NEW JERSEY

By Mrs. Emily Steelman Fisher

I deem it a special honor to be one of the number whose privilege it is to help rescue from oblivion the memories of our Quaker ancestors, of Great Egg Harbour.

It has been my aim to collect a few local facts, most likely to interest the society. I collected most of this data, in the search I made for my own Quaker ancestry, a few years ago. Among these "Fragments" I found many historical sketches illustrating the origin and places of meeting for worship and spreading of Friends principles in this section of New Jersey.

There has heretofore been too great an indifference prevailing in respect to the memories of the early Quaker settlers, as most of the first settlers were peace loving friends.

There is no record of massacres or treachery by the Indians in this section of New Jersey. No doubt but this was owing to the love of peace and justice, also to the liberal code of laws instituted by the Quakers. I always feel the great charm (to us of the present day) consists chiefly in this fact, also that they lived here in the early period of our county's history and that of itself will always be interesting to all lovers of history.

It may not be amiss before entering into the history of Atlantic County "Quakerism," to give a brief history of the first yearly meetings of Friends in Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. It appears by the records, that the first yearly meeting, for the province of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, was held at Burlington, New Jersey in the house of one Thomas Gardiner on the 31st day of the 6th month 1681 (O. S.). In the year 1685, it was unanimously agreed and concluded by the yearly meeting, that "There be one yearly and general meeting in Penn'a. and New Jersey." It is interesting to note that at a quarterly meeting first held at Friend William Biles, it was agreed "That Friends ought not to sell rum to the Indians."

We will now turn our attention to the first meeting of the Friends, at—what is known by us, of the present generation—as the town of Somers Point. We may in imagination picture their first meeting, and to quote from records before me: "The first meeting of Friends met at the house of Richard Somers on the 7th day, 9 month, 1726. At this meeting Peter White, and Jonathan Adams were appointed overseers of the meeting, which was to be held at Japhet Leeds, Peter Whites and John Sculls. Again, 6th day 11th month, 1726, at said meeting John Scull was appointed overseer in place of Jonathan Adams, dec'd."

From a list I have reaching from 1726 to 1769, a period of forty-three years, I find Edmond Somers was the first Friend appointed to attend Quarterly Meeting (from Great Egg Harbour Meeting) at Haddonfield, N. J.

Fourth day, 11 month, 1726, Richard Somers and Jacob Garetson were appointed to fill the office of Treasurer. Fourth day, 8th month, 1736, at said meeting it was concluded that a weekly meeting should be "sett" up for ye friends, at ye house of Widow Somers, one fourth day, and at the other fourth day at ye meeting house.

Passing to year 1764, we find that on 1st day, 10th month, "Two friends are appointed to treat with friend John Somers, concerning our holding meeting in his house, and to hire a privilege of him for that service and make report thereof at next meeting."

At next meeting the two friends report, that friend John appeared willing that they should meet at his house, but not willing to take pay, but at next meeting we find, "The meeting agreeing to pay him, twenty shillings a year." We also find as late as 1770 the sum of twenty shillings was "put in the hands of a friend to pay John Somers, for the use of his house." Another item of interest we note is a portion of the will of James Somers (of July 15, 1695) in which he wills one acre of land, for Quakers where meeting house stands "forever more." Mrs. Anderson informed me, that the Friends Meeting House, at Somers Point, was on Shore Boulevard near the residence of Mr J. Scull, that during the life of Mrs. Anderson's grandfather, Jesse Somers, Sr., he made two dwelling houses of the building.

The first marriage—that is the first I've been able to find record of—celebrated according to the usages of the Friends was that of Richard Somers and Judith LeTart, who published their intentions of marriage with each other, 2d day, 11th month, 1726 "At said meeting Richard Somers and Judith LeTart, appeared, and this meeting consents that they take each other in marriage, and appoints Jonathan Adams, and John Scull, to be present at said marriage, 6th day, 12th month, 1726. At said meeting one of ye persons appointed to be at Richard Somers, and Judith LeTart's marriage, made report that it was orderly accomplished. I have records of many marriages but will only give one more, as to give all would be too tedious. This second marriage is of much interest to many—who are members of this society—as well as myself. I refer to Judith Steelman, widow of Ancestor Andrew Steelman (year 1730). We find in the monthly meeting held at Somers Point under date of 7th day, 6th month, 1738, the following:—"At this meeting our friend Charles Dingee (widower) and Judith Steelman (widow) declare their intention of marriage with each other, 4th day, 7th month, 1738. Charles Dingee produced a certificate from the meeting where he did belong which was 'read' and gave satisfaction, at said meeting Charles Dingee and Judith Steelman declared their intention of marriage, with each other second time. Two friends are appointed to see the marriage orderly accomplished. Judith Steelman-Dingee, was soon a widow second time. She died 2d day, 1st month, 1751. Her will is an instrument of much interest especially the codicil, she being a Friend. The most unique article mentioned by her is that of a pair of bracelets, which she wills to a granddaughter. We cannot reconcile ourselves to the idea of great-great-great grandmother Judith the Quakeress, being owner of so sinful an ornament as a "pair of bracelets," and we cannot by any stretch of our imagination see Ancestress Judith decked out in them, as we feel the woman friends would call upon the men friends to assist them in getting up a "testifacation," against Friend Judith for her "Outgoings" in the matter of wearing ungodly apparel. Just here I feel safe in saying that the wills of our ancestors are the most valuable manuscripts that remain. They develop interesting views and characters, and exhibit portraits of mind, far more valuable then personal likenesses. In recalling the past, we are apt to forget that the lives

of our colonial ancestors were filled with very much the same matter-of-fact details as we fill our lives with at the present time. With them, as with us, it was births, marriages and deaths, and so "the great eventful tale is told."

It may interest many, and amuse some to hear that our meek and lowly Quaker ancestors, were, at times sorely tried by the pranks cupid, "The God of love," played. I find recorded in the minutes of the meeting of 4th day, 2d month, 1760, James Somers, Jr., hath sometime ago married his first cousin contrary to the good order established in our society, and friends have waited sometime for his repentance; therefore, two friends are appointed to draw a testifacation against him." We wonder, did the testifacation take due effect and did James the Quaker repent? If so, one doesn't envy Mrs. James, the Quakeress. Also another youth, Isaac Somers, having "gone out" in his marriage from the order of Friends, two friends were appointed to speak with Friend Isaac, and at next meeting report that they had spoken with him and that (like a true and gallant gentleman he was) he replied "that he did *not repent*, and should not make any *satisfaction.*

There seems to be many cases like the above, but I will only quote one case more, 28th day, 5th month, 1764. At this meeting " Our women Friends requested our assistance in testifying against Margaret Adams for her outgoings in marriage from the Order of Friends. Second day, 7th month, 1764, a testifacation against Margaret Adams was produced, read, and approved." I was unable to find the name of the man, Margaret the Quakeress married. It would be interesting to know if the "Fair Margaret" has any descendants, members of our Society, if so, they will be much interested in her "out going."

It may also interest the society (if the fact is not already known) that the first newspaper, published in New Jersey, was the "New Jersey Gazette," printed at Burlington, N. J., December 5th, 1777, by a Quaker, one Isaac Collins. Being a member of the Society of Friends, he was not willing to fight, but he could and did edit and print a paper. We fancy Friend Isaac Collins felt that in his case, "The pen was mightier than the sword."

Apropos to the Quakers to take up arms in defence of this country during the Revolutionary war, we extract from the writings of a New Jersey Quaker, the following: Ninth month,

1776, "Now did troubles much encrease, Friends having their goods taken from them for not contributing to the support of war." Again "very great fear fell on our young men, they strove to keep themselves hid for fear being forced to go to war." It is well known that Quakers would not "make oath." While making researches at Trenton, N. J., I found a document of much interest to me, as dealing with an Uncle "of ye olden times." Three witnesses had signed, two "made oath," one, my kinsman refused, but he affirmed. The officer, before whom the three men appeared, added an explanatory note at foot of document, saying, "John Steelman, being one of those people called Quakers, refused to make oath." At present I cannot carry the history of the Great Egg Harbour Friends Society any farther in this paper, but surely the memories of our Quaker ancestors, ought not to be suffered to perish on the soil which they honored and blessed.

HISTORICAL NOTES

By C. F. Green.

The site of Pleasant Mills was formerly occupied by a hunting village of the Leni Lenape or Delaware Indians, by whom it was named Nescochague. Here the Red men and their families were accustomed to spend a portion of each year, and to stop on their way to and from their great festivals by the seashore.

The few traditions that have come down from aboriginal days are full of interest, and fully worthy of preservation in song and romance. On Absecon Beach was an Indian mint, where their money or wampum was manufactured from shells; the interior or black portion of the shell was the more valuable and was the gold of the Indian currency.

The first white settlers located at Pleasant Mills in the year 1707, and appear to have been of English and Scotch origin. Their manner of living at first was almost as primitive as that of the Indians, who preceded them. Their subsistence was gained by hunting, fishing and tillage of the soil, such articles as they could not make for themselves including salt, gunpowder and cloth were at first brought from Philadelphia by pack horses and later from New York by way of the Minelola or Mullica River.

The first mechanical industry was a saw mill, built by one Mullin, about the year 1752. The first church was erected by Col. Elijah Clark and was known as Clark's Meeting House. Within the walls of this unpretending edifice some of the most famous pulpit orators of olden days proclaimed the message of salvation to listeners, who received with sincere and unquestioning faith. Among the preachers of that era was Brainard whose missionary labors among the Indians form an interesting and important part of American church history. The present church was erected in 1808 and for many years the old meeting house was used for school purposes.

Within 30 years from the arrival of the first settlers, the original log cabins had given place to neat cottages, and farm

houses and the place had become an ideal colonial village. The building known as the Aylesford Mansion, was erected in 1762 by an English gentleman whose wife is said to have been the daughter of a British Lord; this lady died in 1774, and her daughter (The Kate Aylesford, of Peterson's Romance) was sent to finish her education in England. She returned to America in 1778, shortly after the death of her father, to whose fortune she was left sole heiress. In 1780 she married an American officer, who was in command of the military post at the Forks of the Mullica. There is a tradition to the effect that this officer (Major Gordon) was sent to a post on the northwestern frontier, where he was accompanied by his wife. They appear to have left no descendants. During the war for Independence the men of Pleasant Mills were prompt in answering their country's call for volunteers and most of them entered the army either as regular soldiers or rangers, who were of great service in hunting down and destroying the various bands of outlaws that infested the counties of Burlington and Gloucester.

The most notorious of the outlaw chiefs was a dare devil named Mulliner, who after terrorizing the country for years was captured, duly tried and hanged as a spy and traitor. His remains were buried near the Old Buttonwoods. This group of venerable trees (now falling into decay) have been famed in local annals for two centuries. Their great height gave them a commanding view of the surrounding country for miles and one of them was used as a lookout station in Revolutionary days.

THE OLD BUTTONWOODS

They stand like spectres, gray and grim;
In time's devouring flight,
Crumbling slowly, limb by limb,
From their once majestic height.

Landmarks of an eventful past
Famed in history lore,
They feel the touch of doom at last
And soon will be no more.

Yet, had these trunks the power of speech
What legends might be told,

The Old Buttonwoods

What thrilling lessons they might teach
Anent the days of old.

Here once the Indian hunter roved
And at the twilight hour,
Held converse with the maid he loved
In yonder sylvan bower.

Once from the towering lookout bough
The watcher oft might spy,
Upon the placid flood below
The light craft gliding by.

Here Patriot and Royal bands
Clashed in their martial pride,
And the dark river's pebbled strand
With gore and crimson dyed.

None mourn the forest giant's fall
Save haply one like me,
Whose reprospective thoughts recall
Their name and history.

Time levels all, the things of earth
Will quickly pass away,
Not human strength nor pride nor worth
The powers of fate can stay.

C. F. G., Pleasant Mills, N. J.

PULASKI'S RIDE—1778.

Five score years ago and more
When blazed the lurid flames of war
From Nesco-chague at break of day
Pulaski led his brave array.
Loud and clear that Autumn morn
The bugle's brazen call was borne;
Each trooper sprang to his seat, amain
And gave his gallant steed the rein

Down the shore road under the pines
Swiftly moved the serried lines
Numbered among that dauntless band
Were stalwart sons of the Fatherland
With Jersey woodsmen strong and bold
As the famed Palladins of old
And Polish exiles in danger tried
With Yankee and German rode side by side.

Not once they paused in their career
Until the enemy's lines were near.

"Halt!" said the chief, "In order form,
Then forward! like the vengeful storm."
As the avalanche of Alpine snow
Crashes down to the vale below
They hurled themselves upon the foe
And the sons of Britain back did reel
Before the shock of flame and steel
Swift as the jagged bolt of heaven
From the dark storm cloud fiercely driven
The charge with whirlwind fury sped
Till the red coats wavered, broke and fled
In headlong haste to their ships again
Finding their scheme of conquest vain.

Pulaski, the last of a noble name
Has left his mark on the rolls of fame
And those who followed at his command
Still live in the archives of our land.

C. F. Green, Pleasant Mills, N. J.

The ranger company above referred to, included among its members three of the original trustees of Pleasant Mills Church, Simon Lucas, Simon Asheraft and Lawrence Peterson. Simon Lucas was also one of the first pastors. He died in 1838 at the advanced age of 87 years.

EARLY SHIP BUILDING

By Mrs. S. Johnson and Middleton

Somers Point was the old port of entry for Gloucester County. The Custom House was established in 1797 by the States at that time.

In 1800, it is said that Christopher Vansant built a full rigged vessel at Bargaintown, along Patcong Creek.

About eighteen or nineteen years later five ships were built along the same creek, and in 1825, we hear of the John Somers ship yard at Sculls Bay.

In the half century beginning 1830, shipbuilding was at its height. It is said that a hundred vessels were built from timber obtained from the Colwell Estate alone. The United States at this time led the commerce of the world, and held the record of the world's finest ships, and the best trade in the Mediterranean, West Indies and South America. A line of trading schooners made regular trips between Gravelly Run and Manhattan, now New York. They were about thirty or forty tons capacity, and carried charcoal, wood, pig iron and other products of the foundries, and brought back food supplies, and various mixed cargoes.

Bassett Steelman ran a packet steamer between Philadelphia and Somers Point, and brought the iron work all fitted for use in the ship yards.

[A more exhaustive account of ship building will follow in next edition.—Editor.]

AN OLD STAGE LINE

That Ran From Market Street, Philadelphia, to Atlantic City.

From Woodstown Year Book.

We have a well preserved poster announcing the running of a line of stages from Philadelphia to the Seashore.

The line left Pierson's Ferry, the upper side of Market street, at 4 o'clock in the morning on three days a week—Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Half an hour was allowed for passengers and baggage to be landed on the other side of the river, where, from John Knissell's Ferry, Camden, the coach left at 4.30 o'clock.

Some of the villages and crossroads passed on the route to Great Egg Harbor will not be recognized by present-day travelers, who are swiftly carried to Atlantic City in something less than an hour from Camden, although, with few exceptions, the old villages and towns on the route retain their ancient names. From the poster it is learned that the line passes through Haddonfield, Long-a-Coming, Tansboro, Blue Anchor, Winslow Glass Works, Weymouth Iron Works, May's Landing, Bargaintown, Somers Point, Smith's Landing to Absecon. Return journeys were made on Mondays' Wednesdays and Fridays, and passengers from Absecon had to be ready by 4 o'clock in the morning. Those at Somers Point need not be on the coach until 4.30.

In addition to this United States mail stage line, the proprietors, who were John C. Briggs, James Stoy, Samuel Norcross, William Coffin, Jr., Uriah Norcross and William Norcross & Co., announce that they had established an accommodation line between Philadelphia and May's Landing. This line was operated on alternate days with the mail and left Philadelphia at the same early hour. As the announcement calls special attention to the use of "elliptic spring coaches," it is presumed travellers over the line had as comfortable a journey as stage journeys went in those days.

Long-a-Coming is now known as Berlin, and Penny-Pot,

which, although not noticed on the poster, was a posting house on the line between Winslow and Weymouth, is now known as Newtonville. Bargaintown remains, but the traveller on the steam road is not aware of its existence unless he is on his way to Somers Point. Smith's Landing remains, and Pleasantville has come into existence. The distance by stage from Camden to May's Landing was forty-eight miles. Bargaintown was ten miles further and Absecon about the same distance to the northeast although by the stage route, it was about twenty miles. In those days Atlantic City was simply known as Absecon Beach and, while visited, was not a resort.

Haddonfield was a town of 140 buildings; Long-a-Coming a village of only forty buildings; Blue Anchor and Penny-Pot mere groups of houses around taverns of those names. Weymouth was a small manufacturing place, with a population of about 450. May's Landing, at the head of navigation on Great Egg Harbor River, about eighteen miles from the coast, had a population of 250. A route book of the time adds that it has "a Methodist church, five stores and as many taverns," so it must have been something of a metropolis on the coast. Bargaintown was a small settlement of fifty buildings, and Absecon about the same size. While the poster does not advertise any schedule for running time, from what is known of stage lines seventy-five years ago it may be assumed that about ten hours were required to make the journey from Camden to Absecon.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

STAGE ROUTE FROM ABSECON TO PHILADELPHIA

By L. J. Price

Long before the time which the writer describes a stage line was established between Great Egg Harbor and Philadelphia, but this time is in the early years of Atlantic County, and the history is peculiarly our own.

Looking backward, we may see the old stage coach as it rolled along the highway, with its driver, Billy Norcross, cracking his whip over his horses, and blowing his horn that people desiring passage might know the stage was coming. The great lumbering vehicle, with its rack strapped with luggage, and the boot filled with smaller bundles, mayhap a bandbox or two. This as it rolled along in the '40's and till the great time of the building of the railroad to the (our)sea, is the time which we describe and is Atlantic County's own.

The coach left Absecon at three or four o'clock in the morning, for Somers Point, stopping for passengers in the intervening villages. Bargaintown for the mail would be included either to or from Somers Point.

Returning from Somers Point by the back road which connects with the road to English Creek and May's Landing at the Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church, the coach did not always travel the same road. If notified the route was changed for the convenience of people desiring passage. Sometimes the way would lead by Doughty's Tavern, or by English Creek and Catawba, or striking the May's Landing road through a woods road, but what woods road is not designated. Evidently all roads leading to May's Landing merged in one on the upper part of the way.

Breakfast was eaten at May's Landing at eight o'clock and the horses changed. Weymouth lay between May's Landing and old Camden. Here we found a prosperous town, iron works, church, store, homes for employees and the Colwell home. Colwells were managers of the enterprise.

Penny-Pot, a settlement of other years, one large house remaining. At Penny-Pot sand was encountered so deep that

wheels sank to the hubs. Bark was scattered over the road to enable the coach to proceed. New Germany was the next stop, here the horses were changed again. New Germany was a new settlement. Men and women were engaged in clearing land. Houses were built of logs, and huts made of slabs. This town was afterward called Wooley Field and is now Folsom. Winslow, a town of greater facilities was next on the route, here we found glass works, Andrew K. Hay, proprietor

Blue Anchor had a post office and store, a public house, with the sign of a blue anchor. Tansboro, a small village with a public house. Cross Keys the next town, through which the coach passed, had a public house, with a sign of two large keys, crossed on a high sign post. Dinner was served at three o'clock at Long-a-Coming, which was generally abbreviated to Long-Coming, and was scheduled as such on the early time cards of the Camden and Atlantic Railroad, but for many years has borne the name Berlin. Long-Coming had its public house and post office. White Horse is described as having a hotel with a large painted sign of a white horse. Haddonfield, a Quaker town, with handsome homes. The lawns were bordered with box brush trimmed in the form of tumblers. From Haddonfield to Camden was a gravelled pike, the first in the journey, now White Horse Pike. When the days were long, the journey was ended at sunset, but in the winter long after dark.

Ferry boats with steam power were used at this time. The return journey was made the next day, leaving Camden in the early morning and arriving in Absecon at nine o'clock in the evening

This route is as described by Mrs. Elizabeth A. Price some years ago, before it had entered the minds of men to organize a society to preserve Atlantic County's history.

Should exceptions be made to the roundabout way of a part of the route, this was necessary in order to collect the mail, from the various post offices. Mrs. Price made this journey, important in those days, for the first time, when a girl in her teens, in care of her uncle, the late Captain Jeremiah Baker. Captain Baker pointed out the things of interest as they approached the city. A man who had entered the coach in the upper part of the county, remarked that the city was a great contrast

to one coming from the pines, to which Miss Baker replied with spirit that she was not from the pines, but from the seashore.

Mr. James Ryon tells us the fare to Philadelphia was five dollars. Mr. Ryon tells that the stage coach was often very late on its return journey. His father, the late Pardon Ryon, was the post master at Smith's Landing. Mr. Ryon would wait until midnight for the mail; if it did not arrive at that time, the office was closed.

Oft-times it would be four o'clock in the morning when the stage arrived. At this early hour the driver would herald his coming by blowing his horn at the top of Michael's Hill, (Michael Frambes was the Michael referred to, and the hill through which Wright Street runs.)

PLACE NAMES

By Mrs. Richard S. Collins

Chestnut Neck is teeming with history but this paper is to give the origin of names of different points and places.

The most prominent place on Chestnut Neck, except the monument recently erected by the Gen. Lafayette Chapter N. S., D. A. R., is Fort Island, so called in that vicinity. It is where the fort stood when it was burned in the battle of Chestnut Neck in 1778.

Another place is Payne's Creek, which received its name from the tavern that stood there, and was burned at the same time as the fort. From its foundations, which still show plainly, it must have been a large building. When I visited the place and was looking at the heavy imported stone used for a part of the foundation, I saw several of the old bricks in some very fine sand. Perhaps it was not very patriotic in me to appropriate one of them, and thus remove even a small part of an old landmark, but I wished to show it to others. The traces of fire still show very plainly on it. It must be over 130 years old. When the Historical Society has a headquarters I will gladly donate the brick to them should they desire it.

Port Republic was at one time called Wrangleboro. It must have received the name from the pugnacious disposition of some of its inhabitants, caused by their using so much intoxicating liquors, sold to them not only by three taverns, but also by several stores. One old gentleman told me that when his father, then a young man, first came to Port Republic he was quite surprised at the number of young men who wanted the pleasure of fighting with him. But in time the better element prevailed, every liquor license was revoked, and for over sixty years no liquor has been legally sold in Port Republic. We are proud of our dry town.

At the time when the name was changed from Wrangleboro to Port Republic, the place was becoming quite a port. Many vessels came in, taking away vast amounts of wood and charcoal and returning with all kinds of merchandise. Many

boats were built here, and as it was already a port, the inhabitants called it Port Republic and the post office received that name. It was the second post office appointed in Galloway Township and was kept, I have been told, by Lewis Clark. The first post office was at Leeds Point.

There is a part of Port Republic still called Hewitt Town though every family of that name have gone or moved away.

Port Republic still has the beautiful mill pond and mill dam. The old mill was recently torn down. The charter of this mill was granted in the time of George III, of England. There are also traces of Clark's Mill, and faint traces of an old colonial mill owned by one James Morse. Two of the family, it is said, were in the battle of Chestnut Neck. The name through the course of years was corrupted into the word "Moss." So the road leading to that mill is still called Moss' Mill Road.

Leeds Point was named from the family of Leeds that came from Leeds, England. They were Quakers. John and Japhet Leeds took up a large tract of land which they bought for twelve and a half cents an acre. They called it, at that time, Leeds. The first post office in Galloway Township was held in a stone house owned by Japhet Leeds, and built by him. This house is now occupied by Mr. Jesse Mathis.

The old Friends' Meeting House is still standing in Leeds Point. It is now converted into a dwelling house. It stands across the street from the home of Mr. John Higbee. It is the second Meeting House built by the Friends. The first stood near their burying ground, which is adjacent to the M. E. Church at Smithville, and presented to that society by the Friends. The Quakers at that time must have been a very large society and very devout. There is a place on the Mullica River near Leeds Point called Swimming Over, which received its name from the fact that at this point the Quakers mounted on horse-back, would swim their horses to the other side of the river when they wished to attend the Friends' Meetings at Tuckerton.

The information I have given in this paper I obtained partly from papers given me by Mr. Roland Ashley; also, from facts given me by Mr. Jesse Mathis who has, in his possession, some very valuable papers; and, from an old historical collection of facts compiled by J. W. Barber.

Smithville was a part of Leeds and was so called from

the family of Smiths who once owned much property there. A part of the old Smith's Tavern still stands. It used to be a famous hostelry and the stopping place for the stage coach that came from Philadelphia and Camden.

Oceanville was at first called Tanners Brook. Over a 100 years ago there was a tannery there. It is said that it took about a year at that time and at that place to tan a cow hide properly. The villge at Tanners Brook was first called Centerville. The name of Oceanville was given to that section below the bridge at the time that the M. E. church was built which was burned down in 1899. The section was still called Centerville above the bridge until the post office was given them during Cleveland's Administration. The post office being moved above the bridge resulted in the whole place being called Oceanville.

Absecon I find is spelled in several ways. In some histories, Absecombe and Absecom, also Absecum, called so by the Indians which in their language meant beach or place for swans, from the number which once resorted there. It is said that the whole Absecon tract originally belonged to one Thomas Budd who sold large tracts to actual settlers and each deed contained this clause, "With the privilege of cutting cedar and commomidge for cattell on ye swamps and beaches laid out by ye said Thomas Budd for commons."

Clark's Landing received its name from the illustrous family of Clarks who settled there in colonial days from Connecticut.

May's Landing was named by George May, who bought the land where the town now stands. In 1810 Hammonton was built on the so-called Hammonton tract of land. Judge Richard, J. Byrnes and Charles K. Landis opened a section of N. J. and by liberal terms and advertisement drew many settlers from New England who brought with them culture and education. They clustered about a station which they named Hammonton, after John Hammond.—*Coffin.*

Elwood was first called Weymouth Station, but in order to have a post office it changed its name to Elwood, named after one Elwood Matlack, taking the name of Elwood instead of Matlack. Weymouth proper was a few miles distance, contain-

ing in those days foundries and factories which have long since shut down.

Brigantine Beach is one of the oldest resorts on the New Jersey coast. It has a very interesting history. It is over 200 years old, receiving its name from the fact that a large brigantine went ashore there about two hundred and twenty-five years ago.

I think that I can vouch for the authenticity of every item that I have written and have gone to much careful study to have them authentic.

THE WHIPPING POST

By L. J. Price

The whipping post has existed in our town within the memory of our oldest citizens, but not as an instrument of punishment. When this medium of punishment was abolished, our informants have not stated. But that the whipping post stood years after its abolition as a penal mode, has been asserted by those who recall this grim preserver of law and order, as standing in the days of their childhood.

The whipping post was located by the tavern of Espress Tilton. Looking westward from the suburban trolley line, as the conductors call Morris Avenue, but more properly Zion Road, one may see a house, standing facing the Shore Road, some two hundred feet distant; this marks the spot where the whipping post stood as closely as we can identify. The broad space between the house and the Shore Road was used for a drilling ground for the House Guards of 1812.

The late Constant Adams, who was born in 1818, related witnessing, when a lad, the whipping of a colored boy for theft. This boy is supposed to have been a slave in the possession of a member of the Tilton family, and the last person to receive public whipping. Were it possible for us to be transferred to the first quarter of the past century, we might travel our roads in fear of beasts of the forest.

It is related that one day, as Espress Tilton was riding to the mill with a bag of grist, a panther sprang from the large overhanging branches of the trees along the road, about where the home of Mr. Job. Frambes is located. The beast failed to strike the horse, but Mr. Tilton thinking it unwise to proceed, turned about, and rode down the Shore Road, gathering a company of men to assist in hunting for the animal. Though the woods were searched, the panther was not found.

BLACK LUCE

By L. J. Price

While every State north of Mason and Dixon's Line by 1850 had set the black man free, there were still two hundred and thirty-six negroes in bondage in New Jersey. As late as the '70's there was one slave living in Leedsville (Linwood). To those of our Society who remember Luce, will recall her, as a large woman, darker than the mulatto, but not the ebony face of many negroes.

Black Luce appears to have been the property of the Doughty Family, of Revolution naval fame. Luce, when an old woman, was purchased from the auction block in Leedsville, (Linwood) where the Masonic Hall in Linwood now stands, by one Holdcraft. (Thomas Winner? auctioneer). The sum paid for the slave, as related by different people varies from twenty-five cents to two and a half dollars. There are still at this time, (1914) people living, who witnessed this transaction.

It is told us that the purchase of a slave at this time necessitated on the part of the purchaser, care and sustenance of the negro for life. Luce is said to have lived to be over one hundred years old. When a very small child the writer accompanied by her oldest sister, returning from Leedsville, (Linwood) in passing Townsend's Tavern, (old Linwood Hotel), was asked by Mrs. Holdcraft, Mrs. Townsend's mother, to deliver a message to Luce, who lived in the old Holdcraft home, and by the block from which she had been sold.

The message to Lucy I cannot recall. Rain had fallen, and it was about sunset as my sister and I entered the house. A roaring fire evidently, just kindled was burning in the fireplace. Tongues of flame were shooting up the chimney, and I was fearful lest something would take fire. I was accustomed to seeing fireplaces, but this one of smaller size, and with whitewashed bricks was a matter of wonder, for my early years.

No one appeared, so my sister called Lucy repeatedly at the top of her voice, and opened the stair door, perchance she should

be upstairs, but no one responded. So with darkness gathering we pursued our homeward way.

The writer recalls this large woman of powerful physique at one of the Bakersville Agricultural Fairs, with a sontag around her shoulder and a knitted hood on her head. My impression is that she was employed as a helper. A colored person at this time of shore history, was not commonly seen.

Old Lace was a bugbear to unruly children. Whether she merited this claim, the writer cannot state. She had a son known as Samson Rattler, whose home was with some one at Smith's Landing.

Samson's affection for children was well known. It is told of him as he drove his team along the road, he would throw candies to the children. While the writer was never the recipient of his gifts, the story is told of an older sister who strayed in the path of the horses tracks, was rescued by Samson, and delivered to her parents. Also gifts to the children of wonderful fruit made of candy is told of him.

HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Atlantic County Historical Society of New Jersey, was held at the home of Mrs. M. R. M. Fish, Pleasantville, New Jersey, July 23, 1913. Members present were: Mrs M. R. M. Fish, Mrs. Emma Cordery Johnson, Mrs. Martilla Price Ketchum, Miss Lizzie J. Price, Miss Sarah Risley and Mrs. L. Dow Balliett. The following officers were elected.

Mrs. L. Dow Balliett, President.

Mrs. M. R. M. Fish, Vice-President.

Mrs. Martilla Price Ketchum, Secretary.

*Miss Sarah Risley, Treasurer.

Weekly meetings were held during the remainder of the Summer and during the Autumn months. Monthly meetings have since been held.

Four pilgrimages were taken to historical places within the county.

The annual meeting was held July 23, 1914. The following officers were elected:—

President—Mrs. L. Dow Balliett.

First Vice-President—Mrs. R. M. Fish.

Second Vice-President—Mrs. Samuel Johnson.

Third Vice-President—Mrs. Maria Collins Thomas.

Fourth Vice-President—Mrs. Carl A. Hoptf.

Secretary—Mrs. William Lear.

Assistant Secretary—Miss Mattie Collins.

Treasurer—Mrs. Job C. Stebbins.

Librarian—Miss Lizzie J. Price.

Assistant Librarian—Miss Mae Ireland.

Press Correspondent—Miss Mattie Collins.

Editor—Laura Lavinia Thomas Willis.

Entertainment Committee—Mrs. J. C. Thomas, Mrs. George Leach and Mrs. Kate Adams.

*Miss Risley resigned, and Mrs. Job Stebbins filled the vacancy.

Trustees for One Year—John F. Hall, Mrs. John F. Ryon and Mrs. Jane Fifield.

Trustees for Two Years—Hubert Somers, Mrs. T. S. Middleton and Mrs. C. D. Nourse.

Trustees for Three Years—Allen B. Endicott, Mrs. Preston Adams and Mrs. Martilla Ketchum.

CHARTER MEMBERS

Mrs. L. Dow Balliett
Mrs. M. R. M. Fish
Mrs. Emma Cordery Johnson
Mrs. Martilla Price Ketchum
Mrs. Hester A. Stebbins
Miss Lizzie J. Price
Miss Martha K. Collins
Mrs. Maria Collins Thomas
Miss Sarah A. Risley
Mrs. Flora Collins
Mr. John F. Hall
Mrs. Samuel Somers
Mrs. Isora Blackman Somers
Mrs. Mame H. Ryon
Miss Cornelia Cook Frink
Mrs. Thomas E. Scull
Mrs. Aneita F. W. Leech
Miss Hannah Frambes
Mrs. D. E. Collins
Miss May Elizabeth Irelan
Mrs. Carl A. Hopf
Mrs. Mary Bowen Tomlinson
Mrs. George H. Adams
Mrs. James E. Steelman
Mrs. Susan Somers Dubois
Mrs. William Lear
Miss Harriet L. Frambes
Mrs. Margaret S. Middleton
Mrs. Sarah Somers Tilton
Mr. Job Frambes
Mr. Hubert Somers
Mrs. Hubert Somers
Mrs. Anna B. Wilson
Mr. Allen B. Endicott
Mrs. Elizabeth Boice Nourse
Mrs. Martha D. Scull
Mrs. Nettie C. Leeds
Mrs. Stella P. Kappella
Mrs. Irene C. Imlay
Mrs. Emeline E. Collins Race
Miss Margaret Sarah Race
Mrs. Robert M. Willis
Mrs. Richard S. Collins
Mrs. Preston B. Adams
Mrs. S. J. Fifield
Mrs. Helena Simkins
Mrs. Susan Baily Ireland
Mr. Arthur Adams
Mrs. Emily Steelman Fisher
Mr. A. M. Heston

Honorary Members

Hon. Champ Clark

Life Members

State Senator Walter Edge
Judge E. A. Higbee
Mrs. Hannah Somers Hayday
Walter J. Buzby
Emery Marvel, M. D.
Henry W. Leeds
Judge Allen B. Endicott
Stewart R. McShea
Harry Bacharach, City Commissioner
John J. Gardner, Congressman
Carleton Godfrey, Speaker of Assembly
Daniel Myers
Alexander Weintrob
Hubert Somers
Mrs. Elizabeth Nourse
Laura Williams Colwell
Robert Moore Willis

The first pilgrimage of the Atlantic County Historical Society took place on June 16, 1914, when about thirty members and friends visited the historical points of interest in the vicinity of English Creek and Scullville.

The Society members were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dennis, of Scullville.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis accompanied the party to the site of the old Catawba church, and Mr. Dennis pointed out the beautiful site of the old Joseph West mansion.

Mr. Dennis furnished the Society with some interesting and valuable data.

Inscriptions were copied from this church yard, as well as from the church yards of the Asbury and Zion churches.

Mrs. John G. Thomas,
Chairman of Pilgrimage Committee.

Second Pilgrimage

The Atlantic County Historical Society as a body attended the 109th anniversary services of the Old Weymouth Meeting House, at Weymouth, on Sunday, July 29th, 1914.

A most cordial welcome was extended by the church and an able address rendered to the Society by Rev. Wm. T. Abbott, of Asbury Park. A beautiful reply was made by our honored president, Mrs. L. Dow Balliett.

A great privilege was also extended by the courtesy of Mrs. Charles Richards Colwell, who exhibited the many valuable relics and curios in her lovely home.

An invitation was extended to make this an annual pilgrimage of the Society.

Mrs. John G. Thomas,
Chairman of Pilgrimage Committee.

THIRD PILGRIMAGE.

The last pilgrimage of the season was a trip to the 122nd anniversary service of the Head-of-theRiver Church at Tuckahoe, on Oct. 11, 1914.

It was well worth the trip to see the quaint interior of this historic edifice.

A large number of the Society attended and the occasion was considered one of the pleasantest events of the season's program.

Mrs. John G. Thomas,
Chairman of Pilgrimage Committee.

ANNUAL MEET OF HISTORIANS

CLIPPING FROM ATLANTIC CITY DAILY PRESS,
FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1914.

President Mrs. L. Dow Balliett Gives Sound Advice at First Annual Meeting.—Lauds Hall-Heston.

Speaking before the first annual meeting of the Atlantic County Historical Society yesterday afternoon, President Mrs. L. Dow Balliett urged the members to continue with their efforts until they had placed upon the shelves of libraries in every state in the union, records of the early life and advancement of the county. She lauded the work of John Hall, and Alfred M. Heston, and counseled her co-workers never to drop a project until it was seen that the worth did not justify the effort. In her remarks she stated:

"When the Divine within the hearts of men realize a certain need, that will lend its benefits to future generations, the universal in nature takes to itself the thought, and when the great cycle of time's impulse concentrates itself into one desire it influences the minds of men into motion and action—Then something is born. A year ago this society was the culminating point—and it was formed. You as its members are its visible expression. You will agree with me we have had but one aim and that aim was to give the county a correct history, one that must ever bear uppermost the one essential, for without it the work is valueless and vain. Its motto should be an unfaltering fidelity to truth. This society should not waver until they place upon the shelves of libraries throughout the States, Atlantic County's history as accurate and full as those of the other counties of our State. The work they have previously done we are now doing.

"I see no reason for discouragement with members whose hearts are sincere and desire to teach their children the recorded deeds of their ancestors. We are grateful to our individual pioneer historians, A. M. Heston and John Hall, for their past efforts and our hopes for future work. As members of this society you have need to look into each others faces with just

pride. Your papers read before the society bear not only the stamp of painstaking truth, but more literary merit than is unusually found in new societies. An unusual condition exists among the faces before me, a condition perhaps that could not be found to exist with equal strength in any other part of the state. It is that of blood. This holds and links us together as one family. As our ancestors have married and inter-married until we seem not only of one race, but also of one blood, individual effort seems over-shadowed in the greater love of delineating truthfully the history of our many and somewhat compositive ancestors.

"We now are ready for general good work. We have a constitution with its charter members whose names show the strength of this society. We must become incorporated, we must join hands with the officials of this county in helping them preserve the historical places under their care, and, above all, let us be free from the deadening influences of spasmodic effort which dies and destroys from a lack of vitality.

"When this society puts its hands to a project let it continue until it falls from lack of worth and not from effort. I am well aware that you are decendants of men and women who with dauntless courage made the history of Atlantic County. The call has again come clothed in another form. Its message is to record their deeds in the accuracy of printed words. Who will say the work is less worthy than theirs when judged by your children's children. Let us ever hold before us the one fundamental law of Truth, which shall be our watchword."

THE END

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