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# INDIAN EVE

AND HER  
DESCENDANTS.

BY  
MRS. EMMA A. M. REEDOLE.

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INDIAN EVE  
AND HER  
DESCENDANTS





DANIEL EARNEST.

See pages 85, 91, 96.





# INDIAN EVE

AND HER

## DESCENDANTS.



AN INDIAN STORY

OF

BEDFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,

BY

MRS. EMMA A. M. REPLOGLE.



HUNTINGDON, PA. :

J. L. RUPERT, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER.

1911.





THE AUTHOR.



## INTRODUCTION.

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**I**N September 1901, when my step-father, Daniel Earnest of near Imlertown, Bedford County, Pa., died, I wrote a sketch of his life for both Bedford papers referring to the following story which I promised to write later. Since then a number of friends have been looking for it. Mr. Scott Dibert, of Johnstown, suggested that I put this story in more permanent form than I had intended, saying "I will take twenty copies at once."

This was in the fall of 1905. Mr. W. E. Nevitt, of Tyrone, (a great nephew of my step-father) and I, were talking over this ancestral subject on the train coming down from Everett to Huntingdon. Mr. Dibert was so interested as he sat opposite us that he came and got acquainted, and then and there the thought was born to do what has been done since. I saw at once the possibility of making an intensely interesting story, but I felt my inability to do it especially in a literary way; besides, I did not have much time to myself, or a quiet place in which to write at that time.

Mr. Dibert was interested in the story because it came down from his father's ancestral home, Dutch Corner. He said he wanted to drive down there some time. He was anxious to connect his line with this one. I found this connection a few months ago and wrote him. His sister replied saying, "Brother is too sick to hear the letter read; my brother Frank came in from Sante Fe this summer and died here in June, and

my father's youngest brother, Abram Charles, from California died here in July. We had planned to go to Dutch Corner in the early summer." Her brother Scott died soon after I received this letter.

I had heard my step-father tell the story over and over again from the time I was a child eight years old when I went with my mother in the Earnest home in 1859. He had this all direct from his father Jacob Earnest, who died about 1830 near Mt. Dallas and his mother Susannah Defibaugh Earnest, who died in February, 1866, at the age of one hundred and one years, in Milligans Cove.

Before I wrote I wanted to get data also from the other descendants of the hero of this story and from the neighborhood where it has been told to succeeding generations. It has been very interesting to find how well these accounts harmonize in almost every detail.

I had the pleasure of spending several days with Mrs. Henry Sill, grand-daughter of George Earnest, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Todd, near Wolfsburg, in the fall of 1906, and of visiting several times since at the Wm. Phillips home, where I got data for the most of this work. My step-father, Mrs. Sill and Mrs. Phillips are the three people who made it possible to get in a connected way what I give. A few others had it but in disconnected facts. Daniel Earnest, I have found, was the only one who had the story connected. Mrs. Sill, Mrs. Phillips and the Greensburg Earnests knew much of it; but these two women were the only ones who made it possible to connect the descendants and give the early history of the community.

Thus we find that some of the most interesting unrecorded history lives in the hearts of old people—they

pass away and it is lost. Such was almost the fate of this story. Daniel Earnest and Mrs. Sill have passed over since I began this: Mrs. Phillips lingers yet on this side with the storehouse of her memory filled with rich things of the past. If I could have been with her longer or oftener I could have gotten more interesting incidents. I spent a day and a night at her home recently, and I was impressed with the manner in which she studied a little as if clearing the mists of the past away and then her face lighting up recalled what we wanted. I thought of Margaret Chandler's words:

"Away and away to memory's land,  
And seize the past with a daring hand."

Besides these three people I acknowledge the generous help of a number of friends. I have tried not to omit any in the following list:

W. E. Nevitt, Tyrone, Pa.

M. B. Kettering, Greensburg, Pa.

Scott Dibert, Johnstown, Pa.

Adam Earnest, Bedford, Pa. R. D. 1.

J. Howard Phillips, Somerset, Pa.

Miss Sarah Kauffman, Bedford, Pa. R. D. 1.

William Dibert, Bedford, Pa. R. D. 1.

Miss Alice Dibert, Bedford, Pa. R. D. 1.

Mrs. Dr. S. P. Earnest, Delmont, Pa.

Miss Florence Dibert, Johnstown, Pa.

Jacob Earnest Nevitt, Michigan City, Ind.

Mrs. Sarah Reip, St. Clairsville, Pa.

Mrs. John May, Bedford, Pa.

Mrs. D. W. Lee, Bedford, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Kauffman, Woodbury, Pa.

Mrs. Sarah Fetter, Bedford, Pa. R. D. 1.

Rev. Zinn for translation of German record.

Miss Ottilie K. Grauer, Teacher of German in Juniata College.

Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Dibert, Kittanning Point, Pa.

Miss Agnes Arnold, Kittanning Point, Pa.

Dr. Geo. W. Dibert, Bedford, Pa. R. D. 1.

Fulton Lyon, Post master at Greensburg, Pa.

I have been fortunate in having such friends as Prof. D. Emmert and Dr. C. C. Ellis criticise the manuscript and give me very helpful suggestions for this work; fortunate also to have Miss Nellie Dibert Kerr, of Bedford, who knows so many in the genealogy do most of the type-writing. I thank these friends for their invaluable help.

In writing this "Story" the following Historical Works have been consulted, to the authors of which I would acknowledge my indebtedness:

#### REFERENCES.

History of the Juniata Valley, by Jones (1855).

Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, (1895).

History of Bedford, Somerset and Fulton Counties, by Waterman, Watkins & Co.

History of Bedford Co., by E. Howard Blackburn, 1906.

THE AUTHOR.

January 30th, 1911.

Huntingdon, Pa.



## CHAPTER I.

### EARLY SETTLERS.

**F**ROM old records and a few good old people we learn that some very early settlers lived in what is now Bedford township, Bedford county, Pa. It seems they were not ousted nor their primitive buildings burned by order of the proprietary governors.

Long before Ray settled at Raystown in 1750 or '51 the old historic house at Mr. Wm. Phillip's home had been built and was doubtless used as a fort. Mr. Blackburn in his late History of Bedford County says, "Who knows but that this may have been the fort called 'Wingawn' which is named among the early forts of Bedford County, but which our learned historians have never been able to locate." So it may have been that those people of long ago fled to this old fort before there was a "Fort-at-Raystown" or a "Fort Bedford."

The lips are all silent that might have told the story, and what we know that is real history about the people fleeing from the Indians, all clusters around old Fort Bedford. There have been many thrilling stories told by our ancestors. The settlers living to the east of Fort Bedford had a very dangerous road through the narrows. When the alarm went out that the Indians were coming, the people fled in great haste and when they came near the narrows, they got close together and all rode in a solid block as fast as their horses could go. My grandmother Arnold, used to tell how they came from about Rainsburg.

The settlers had all fled to the fort once after an Indian alarm. When all seemed quiet a lot of men and a few women went out to their homes to do some work. At her grandfather's home—the old Smith home near Rainsburg—they tried to finish weaving a piece they had in the loom, the men keeping guard. One girl wove so hard she spit blood and was never so well afterwards. They heard of some settlers being shot at near the narrows at Ft. Bedford and they all went back to the fort as fast as they could go. There was a colored woman, named Willis, a servant or slave at the Smith home. When they got near the narrows she cried and said "She would be left behind and shot." She was riding a big clumsy horse that did not keep up with the others. As she was a very good faithful servant, one of the men gave her a little racer she wanted, and they all rode through safely but were shot at by the Indians. The people in the fort were uneasy about them and came out to meet them with music and beating a drum.

There was another colored woman named Chloe—quite a historic character at Rainsburg—I used to have associated with this story. My Aunt Agnes Arnold says it was Willis. Chloe was a great cook and cake baker. She was called to help at big dinners, weddings etc. She liked to tease women who had plenty but were close, telling them that certain recipes required more than they really did. She helped to cook dinner for General Washington and his guard when they stopped at Coulters fort near Centreville in Cumberland Valley on their way from Cumberland, Md., to Ft. Bedford. She was afterwards cook at the Bedford Springs.

The geographical situation of Bedford, with its numerous springs and streams, made it a great place for the Indians before the invasion of the white man. Mr. William Philips says: "My father used to tell how long ago a party of Indians stopped at Bedford and had a great wailing over their dead."

Mrs. Philips tells many interesting and thrilling incidents of the earliest settlers in Bedford township. She says that for some time there were only three houses in all the country just north of Bedford—the old house at their home, and a primitive house at Bridahams, and another in the Dibert corner. These very early settlers had come from Virginia. They called these lands "the Highlands."

The first family of Diberts who settled in the Dibert corner were massacred by the Indians at this place. The first names of the parents are not known. Mrs. Philips says they were the parents of her grandfather, Frederick Dibert. The Indians murdered the parents and some of the children, and burned their house. They took three children along—Fred and a brother and sister. Fred was about seven years old. They made him walk over the bodies of his parents. He saw his mother was still alive. The family had just baked bread and churned butter. The Indians made the children carry the bread and butter and a lot of bedding along with them. The bones of these burned bodies were buried near where the Dibert school house now stands.

The family had a horse with a bell on to give alarm when the Indians were around. The Indians wanted the bell and cut the horse's head off to get it. Then they rang this bell near the settlers' houses in order

to get them to come out. They took a number of horses along with them.

These children got back to Philadelphia at different times being rescued by soldiers. An Indian woman whose son had died kept Fred, clinging to him when the soldiers tried to rescue him. He was gone seven years.

Frederick Dibert had a brother named Charles. They married sisters. Frederick married Madaline Steel, and Charles married Mary Steel. Mrs. Philips has two pretty little crocks given her by these women, her grandmother and great aunt. Also a very old sugar bowl which came down to her mother. She says John Dibert, sr., was also a brother of her grandfather Frederick. See John Dibert—Mary Earnest's line.

The descendants of Frederick and Madaline Steel Dibert:

1. Jacob. Married Elizabeth Earnest. See George Earnest's line.

2. Michael. Married Susan Earnest. See Henry Earnest's line.

3. Frederick. Married Susan Croyle. Took up land at Claysburg. Moved back to Dibert corner. Buried where the massacred Diberts were buried.

1. Jacob married Saran Wysong. This is the Jacob Dibert who dreamed of the lost children of the Alleghanies and told his dream to his brother-in-law, Mr. Wysong.

1. Isaac. 2. Henry. 3. Joseph.

2. Hettie. Married Samuel Wysong.

3. Rebecca. Married Jacob Strayer.

4. Adam. Married Elizabeth Koontz.

1. Michael. Married Catharine Imler, daughter of Isaac Imler.
  1. Edward.      3. Laura.
  2. Shanon.      4. Emma.
2. John died in Army.
3. Adam. Married Sophia Armstrong.
  1. Blanche. 2. Jennie. 3. Hattie.
4. Scott Dibert. Married Maude Amick lives in Pittsburg.
5. Julia. Married Daniel Koontz.
  1. Laura, dead.
  2. Fred. Married Catharine Dibert daughter of Geo. Dibert. See Geo. Earnest's line.
4. Christ. Married Catharine Earnest. See Geo. Earnest's line.
5. Elizabeth. Married Samuel Earnest. See George Earnest's line.
6. Eve. Married John Miller, moved west.
7. Mary. Married Jacob Walter. These are the parents of Mrs. William Philips who has been my constant helper.
  1. Samuel Walter.      3. Jacob Walter twin
  2. Daniel      "      4. Mary Ann      "      "
  5. Ann Margaret
 Samuel Walter. Married Mary Reighard.
  1. Levanda.      4. Annie.
  2. Elizabeth.      5. Charlotte.
  3. Caroline.      6. Nettie.
 Daniel Walter. Married Mary Ann Sill, daughter Abram Sill.
  1. Frank.      2. Sarah Jane, died young.
 Jacob Walter. Married Susan Sill, daughter Daniel Sill.

## INDIAN EVE.

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. Mary.   | 5. Ellen.   |
| 2. Lloyd.  | 6. Malinda. |
| 4. Urilla. | 7. Laura.   |
| 5. Job.    | 8. Etta.    |

Mary Ann Walter. Married Frederick Zimmers.

1. Watson, dead several years.
2. Emma.      3. Bruce.

Margaret Walter. Married W. W. Phillips.

1. Albert.                      4. Hattie, dead.
2. Jacob Howard.            5. Warren.
3. Luther M.                  6. Marguirite.

Charles and Mary Steel Dibert's descendants.

1. Eve. Married to Thomas Wertz of Milligan's Cove.

## Children :

1. Joseph, lived about Everett Had a family.
2. Charles. Married Sarah Foster, large family, Pontiac, Ill.
3. Eliza. Married Daniel Earnest. See Jac. Earnest's line.
4. Jane. Married Frederick Stuby. See Jac. Earnest's line.

Eve was married a second time to Daniel May of Sulphur Springs where she was mistress of the first boarding house at that place.

2. Mrs. Bridaham. One of her daughters married a Gubernauter.

3. Mary. Married Jacob Ripley who had a distillery at the Hughes home. She was buried at Messiah cemetery.

1. Rebecca. Married George Earnest son of Johannas Earnest 2. See George Earnest line. Rebecca married second time Jos. Barnhart.

1. Elizabeth, married to Joseph Stickler.
2. Polly was married to Mr. Alstadt.  
Had one son, John.
4. Hettie. Married Mr. Heinsling. Lived at St. Clairsville. Lizzie.
5. Jacob. Married first time to Hettie Sill. One daughter, Mary who went west. Married the second time to Miss Cook.
6. Thomas. Married a Miss Rock lived part of his life in Snake Spring Valley on the old Studebaker place then owned by the Hartleys.
  1. Andrew. Never married.
  2. William. Proprietor of Washington hotel at Bedford. Moved to Reading.
    1. Samuel. 2. Henry.
  3. Jacob. Married Eliza Ritchie.
  4. Henry. Married Fannie Amstong.
  5. Charles.
  6. Thomas. Married Sally Shuss. Lived near Clearville.
  7. John: Married Sarah Rollins, lived near Clearville.
    1. Dan. 2. Thomas. 3. Mrs. Steel.
  8. Dr. George W. Married Miss Cobbler. Died at Imlertown in 1909.
    1. Mrs. Joshua Kerr.  
Nellie sec. at Juniata College.
    2. Dr. C. Dibert of Buffalo Mills.
    3. David of Imlertown, Pa.
  9. David. Married a Miss Diehl. Lived in Friend's Cove.
  10. Eliza. Married a Koontz.

7. Elizabeth. I think there was an Elizabeth in this family though not mentioned by those who gave me the others. She used to visit her sister Eve, and at my step-father's home in Milligan's Cove, when his first wife, Eliza Wertz, lived. She was her aunt. I have an old "fa-sol-la" note book from our old home, yellow with age. On the fly leaf is written, "Alizabeh Dibert, A. D., 1828, daughter of Charles Dibert."

Eve Dibert Wertz May was perhaps the oldest in this family (I have not given these names according to age exactly but as Mrs. Philips thought they came.) She was a remarkable woman. While she was Mrs. Thomas Wertz and living in the north end of Milligan's Cove she rode horse back over the old "packers path" by "Kinton's Knob" and carried her real "golden-edged" butter and eggs to Bedford scores of times.

Then, as Mrs. Daniel May, she conducted the boarding house at Sulphur Springs—the big long old log house—so old nobody knows who built it. Who that was ever there does not remember the old long porch white as sand could make it, and the white washed walls inside and outside; the yard swept as clean as a floor, and the beautiful garden with its old fashioned "posey bed," not a weed to be seen, and walks swept also as clean as the house; and inside the old chairs, and kitchen floor as white as boards could be made, and above the old kitchen table, along a whole side of the wall, hung over clean papers, was the good old fashioned tin-ware that shone like mirrors.

Bright carpet made with her own hands covered most of the other floors. Then in the bed rooms, were piles of quilts and coverlets of her own labor and linen made also by her own hands, bleached snowy white.



The dining room capped the climax for the city boarder.

The old log house stands yet like a leaning tower. For years after its occupants had passed away old Spring boarders would come up from the later boarding houses and walk all around it.



EVE DIBERT WERTZ MAY.  
DIED IN JUNE 1875 IN HER 83D YEAR.

Miss Florence Dibert of Johnstown, sister of Scott, says, "My brother Frank had at one time a pretty good line of our family many generations back. . . . During the Huguenot struggle de Bere (Diberts) escaped (with life only) into Holland. Some of them remained and married the Dutch maidens and changed the spelling of the name to Dybird and later to Dibert. Some of these de Bere(*t*) went into Austria then the German

province. I have heard of the first coming to this country but now I can not find the record. I know one brother went far into Kentuckey. Bedford Co., seems to have been the Dibert Settlement far back in the eighteenth century. As I remember the Diberts came from Amsterdam to America having been in Holland more than three years. I believe that Charles was the first Dibert mentioned in Bedford Co., though it is thought two brothers settled there and one went south."

Had these Dibert brothers, Frank and Scott lived I would have much more on this genealogy, as they were both interested. While I was in Michigan I had a letter from Frank encouraging me to go on with this work. He held a prominent position in the Santa Fe R. R. Co., and was also engaged in Charity work. The following was his line of work printed on his envelope:

**NEW MEXICO SOCIETY FOR THE FRIENDLESS**  
**GENERAL OFFICE AND TEMPORARY HOME**  
**405 HICKOX AVENUE.**  
**SANTA FE, - - - NEW MEXICO.**

**OUR DEPARTMENTS:**

PREVENTION OF CRIME.  
REFORM IN CRIMINAL LAW.  
JAIL AND PRISON EVANGELISM.  
EMPLOYMENT FINDING AND AFTER-CARE.  
THE TEMPORARY HOME.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE HOME OF THE EARNEST FAMILY,

**A**BOUT the time of the Revolutionary war, out north from old Fort Bedford, along Dunning's Creek, among the frontier settlers was a family by the name of Earnest. They lived up the stream a short distance from where Nelson's mill was afterwards built. The father's name was Henry, the mother's name, Eve. Their children were George, Mary, Jacob, Johannas, Henry and Mike. Mrs. Phillips thinks the mother was a Dibert but she is not sure.

They were clearing land and making rails for fences, and had built a good cabin house. In 1906 old Mr. Jacob Griffith, near Cessna, told me he remembered the house very well. He said, "I could point to the stones of the chimney yet. My aunt lived in the old house 'till it had sunk so she could hardly get in and out the door. It is the farm where Dick Griffith lives now."

George, the oldest son, was born April 3, 1762. No record has been found of the other children so far. Just recently I received a splendid record of Henry's family from Greensburg, Pa. He was born March 28, 1772. Jacob was born about 1766. So Mary was by all accounts next to George. I have tried to find her age among the Diberts but failed. I have been giving George the oldest son; Mrs. Sill thought there was one called Johannas but was not sure. As I was about closing I found this line. He may have been the oldest of the family.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE INDIAN MASSACRE AT THIS HOME.

VERY early one autumn morning several men had come to the Earnest home to help make rails. While sitting around the chimney fire, they heard a noise like owls hooting. One of them said, "We will not make many rails for it is going to rain soon—the owls are hooting." It was the war whoop of the Indians they heard, and in a moment they were upon them. One or two of the men were killed at once. Mr. Earnest reached for his gun above the door but was shot. The men were all scalped.

George, must have been in bed yet, as he sprang up and tried to jump out of a window and go around to the opposite window and reach in to get his gun; he was shot at, fell from the window as if dead, and made his escape in his shirt.

In this time the mother had gone to the loft where Mary and Jacob were perhaps asleep yet. She was about to hide them in tow, but fearing the Indians would burn the house she let them out at the roof. Mary—they called her Molly—ran as fast as she could down through a meadow and made her escape. Jacob slid down off the roof and hid in smart weed. He said, he could see the whites of their eyes glaring as they were hunting for them. Nothing has ever been said as to how Johannas escaped.

The family had a loom and did their weaving. While the Indians were cutting a coverlet out to take along, and parleying about it, the mother pushed her

husband's scalp, and at least one of the others behind a chest. Looking all around after missing the scalps and talking, they thought this was some token and got ready to leave at once.

What a scene at day break on that fatal morning! Here beside the stream they had built their cabin home, and while the father cleared the forest and raised grain for food and flax for clothing, the mother spun, and wove, and sewed, and cooked by the hearth, and took care of the garden besides assisting her husband, in the fields. In a few hours these ties were all broken. The mother stepping over the blood drops of her husband—almost stepping over their scalped bodies, must flee from her home with the savages in great haste, leaving all that was precious behind her, except her little boy Henry and two year old baby Mike. Pressing her baby boy to her bosom with one arm and leading Henry by her side, she went not knowing whither, nor the fate of the other children. By her presence of mind in hiding the scalps she was saved the awful sight of seeing her husband's scalp dangling from an Indian's belt on the long journey.

Mrs. George Kauffman, now deceased, formerly of Woodbury, Pa., (her husband yet living is a descendant) told me the Indians got one scalp and split it to show that they had killed more.

Mr. Kauffman says, "the father held the door and asked his wife or some one to hand him an axe (which they had likely just been whetting) but did not get it in time, and as the Indians burst in, he leaped out over them and made his escape." This may have been one of the other men but not the father, for he was killed. He tells also of this man running down through the field

or meadow and the Indians with their dogs after him. He tripped and fell in a deep gutter, the dogs leaped over, lost the track and he was saved. This may have been Johannas.

Mr. Jacob Griffith said, "It was thought the Indians had been watching around the day before, from the way the grass and weeds were tramped, and their tracks in hollow sycamore trees near by, along Dunnings Creek."

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE JOURNEY.

**I**T is said the whites pursued the Indians as they generally did, and were near them, but they hid their captives in hollow trees and made them hold their hands over their children's mouths if they would cry. Some say the mother could hear the pursuers but she could not make a noise for the Indians were hid near.

Their route was no doubt through "Indian Path Valley," now called "Moses Valley" on through Blair County, and then through the gorge at Kittanning Point, the old Indian trail. This trail was where the reservoirs are now, where her descendants look over daily. They may have stopped long enough to drink at the spring of good water just beyond the toe of the "horse shoe."

From the account of Mrs. Earnest's experiences and the training of her boy Henry in Indian ways, it would seem that they did not go to Fort Detroit as directly as they did some other times. There is no account of her running the gauntlet at the first camp as Mrs. Elder had to do, a woman I shall speak of later.

In their hasty flight, the first day, of course Mrs. Earnest got very tired and gave out carrying her baby boy. Then the Indians wanted to carry him but he was afraid of them and would cry. Then they would get mad and pick him up with both feet and let on to her that they were going to slap him around a tree. She would cry and they would throw him down at her feet and of course she had to carry him again. Sarah

Fetters says, "They hated the fair boy and liked the dark one."

While in camp they worked for the Indians and did not have such a hard life, but following them over the mountains, through forests, marshes and streams was very hard. Once when going over a river in bark canoes, she prayed that they would all be drowned but the Lord did not answer her prayer. Sometimes they did not have anything to eat but deer tallow, and they gave her a small portion for herself and watched to see if she would give any to the boys. At other times they had plenty of meat but it was often spoiled. She sometimes slipped some in her apron and threw it away when they did not see her.

Henry soon learned to ride. Mrs. Geo. Kauffman says, "they had him carry some cooking utensils. He got so tired carrying a frying pan, he let it slide in a stream and told them it slipped in."

Finally they came to Ft. Detroit and were to be sold to the British. Mrs. Earnest said to the officer, "If I can't take both my boys along, I will stay with the Indians." They had Henry dressed in an Indian suit and he could shoot with bow and arrow and liked it. The officer said, "Just come" and winked at her, then gave the Indians a glass of whiskey with a silver coin in it, and while they were looking at this, the officers grabbed the boy and handed him in to the mother.



## CHAPTER V.

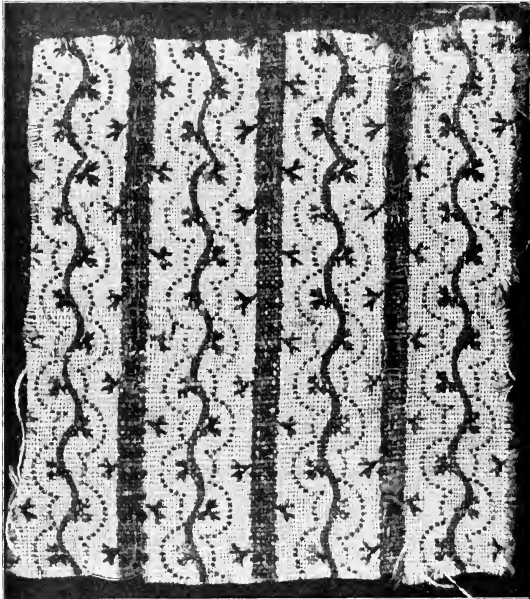
### LIFE AT THE FORT.

**T**HE Indians were not allowed to come near the fort before sunrise nor after sunset. They wanted Henry back. They called him Hanu. Every morning for a long time they came and called "Hanu!" "Hanu!" The mother had to watch or he would have gone out and gone with them.

Henry liked to shoot and hunt and ride better than to be closed up in the fort. Finally they got tired coming and came and demanded his Indian suit and bow and arrow, and said, "he was now a free boy."

Mrs. Earnest worked to pay her ransom while at the fort, like many other women who were sold there. Mrs. Kauffman said "she would get a dollar for scrubbing a room for an officer." She was a very industrious woman and earned more than her daily allowance and saved some money. Besides the work, she made clothes for her boys, perhaps from cast off suits of officers, and, her own clothing. Her great granddaughter Sarah Kauffman of Imlertown, Bedford County has a large piece, part of a back breadth of one of her dresses yet. She gave me the patch from which this cut is made. The colors are darkish red, several shades, and light, - very good, heavy calico once, better than we get now. Mrs. Earnest bought this dress at Fort Detroit and brought it with her. This goods as a relic was handed down from daughter to daughter—from Eve to her daughter Mary, who escaped through the roof, from her to her daughter, Rachel Dibert Kauff-

man, and from her to Sarah. It is about 123 years old.



PATCH OF "INDIAN EVE'S" DRESS BOUGHT AT FORT DETROIT, MICH.

As Mrs. Elder who was captured on the branch must have been in the fort at Detroit as a companion of Mrs. Earnest, I give her history from Jones' History of Juniata Valley in full. I was impressed when I read that Mrs. Elder was captured while visiting the sick.

I have known one family of her descendants all my life—George Elder's of Buffalo Mills, Pa. I think he was a grandson of this Mrs. Elder. I have known of Mrs. George Elder (Peggy Cessna) walking miles and visiting the sick and carrying things to the poor, and of her children doing similar deeds of kindness.

My aunt Agnes says, "Mrs. Elder heard her children coming singing through the woods to meet her just when she was captured. She told the Indians to hurry off for she heard the whites coming and thus saved her children from being killed, or captured with her."

Mrs. Elder was gone two years. The family have in their possession a Bible printed in 1748, presented to her by a British subject for her bravery when she was exchanged, also other relics. She was born in 1741.

I quote also from "Jones" about her husband, which does not agree with the sketches of the Elders in later histories, giving it that Mrs. Elder and her husband settled in Cumberland Valley Township in 1781.

"The first murder committed in Woodcock Valley during the Revolutionary struggle occurred at Coffey Run near the present residence of Mr. Entriken. The victim was a man named Elder, the husband of the woman mentioned in a preceding chapter as having been carried a captive to Detroit by the Indians. He was on his way home with Richard Shirley, when he was shot and scalped. This was in 1778."

"The country between the mouth of the Raystown Branch of the Juniata and what is called the Crossings was thinly settled prior to the Revolution. The land, and general appearance of things, did not strike

settlers very favorably; hence it may be assumed that it was only taken up about 1772, when the new-comers from the eastern counties had already taken up the choice tracts lying continuous to the river.

The first depredation committed on the Branch, near its mouth, by the savages, occurred in May, 1780. A band of roving Indians were known to be in the country, as several robberies had occurred in Hartslog Valley, at houses belonging to men who with their families were forted either at Lytle's or at Huntingdon. A scout had ranged the entire frontier in search of these depredators, but could not find them. They were seen in Woodcock Valley, and information immediately conveyed to the commander at the fort in Huntingdon. A scout was sent to Woodcock Valley, but got upon the wrong trail, as the Indians had crossed the Terrace Mountain, where, it appears, they divided into two parties. One of them went to the house of one Sanders, on the Branch; and just as the family were seating themselves at the table to eat dinner, five of the savages bounded in, and killed Sanders, his wife, and three children. An Englishman and his wife, whose names are not recollected, were in the house at the time, both of whom begged for their lives, declared they were loyal to the king, and would accompany them. The Indians agreed to take them along as prisoners, notwithstanding at that period scalps commanded nearly as high a price as prisoners. The Englishman and his wife were taken to Montreal.

The day following the above massacre, the other party of savages, who it appears had taken the country nearer the Juniata to range through, made their appearance at the house of a Mrs. Skelly, who was sick in

bed at the time, and her nearest neighbor, Mrs. Elder, being there on a visit,. It was a beautiful May-day Sabbath afternoon, when Mrs. Elder prepared to go home, and Felix Skelly, the son, agreed to accompany her part of the way. They had gone probably a hundred rods through a meadow, when Mrs. Elder noticed a savage, partly concealed behind some elder-bushes. She stopped suddenly, and told Felix, who had got a little in advance, to return, as there were Indians about. Skelly said he thought not, and advised her to come on, or it would be night before he could return. Mrs. Elder stood still, however, and soon saw the figure of the Indian so plainly as not to be mistaken, when she screamed to Felix to run, and, when in the act of turning around, a savage sprang from behind an elder-bush into the path, and seized her by the hair. Another seized Skelly, and in a moment the shout of victory went up, and three or more Indians came from their places of concealment. Finding themselves captives, and unable to remedy matters, they submitted with a good grace.

Fortunately for them, the warrior who had command of the party could speak a little English, and was a little more humane than the generality of savages of the day. He gave Mrs. Elder positive assurance that no harm should befall her. He would not, however, give the same assurance to Skelly. They took up their line of march over the Terrace Mountain, crossed over to the base of the Allegheny, avoiding as much as possible the white settlements, and crossed the mountain by the Kittanning Path.

Skelly, although but seventeen years of age, was an athletic fellow, well built, and weighed in the

neighborhood of one hundred and eighty pounds. The Indians, noticing his apparent strength, and in order probably to tire him, so that he would make no effort to escape, loaded him down with the plunder they had taken in Hartslog Valley. In addition to this, they found on the Allegheny Mountains some excellent wood for making bows and arrows, a quantity of which they cut and bound together, and compelled Skelly to carry. Mrs. Elder was obliged to carry a long-handled frying pan, which had been brought all the way from Germany by a Dunkard family, and had, in all probability, done service to three or four generations. Of course, Mrs. Elder, burdened with this alone, made no complaint.

At length the party reached an Indian town on the Allegheny River, where it was determined that a halt should take place in order to recruit. One of the Indians was sent forth to apprise the town of their coming; and on their entering the town they found a large number of savages drawn up in two lines about six feet apart, all armed with clubs or paddles. Skelly was relieved of his load and informed that the performance would open by his being compelled to run the gauntlet. Skelly, like a man without money at one o'clock who has a note to meet in bank before three, felt the importance and value of time; so, walking leisurely between the lines, he bounded off at a speed that would have done credit to a greyhound, and reached the far end without receiving more than one or two light blows. He was then exempt, as no prisoner was compelled to undergo the same punishment twice.

The Indians, disappointed by the fleetness of Skelly, expected to more than make up for it by pum-

melling Mrs. Elder; but in this they reckoned without their host. The word was given for her to start, but the warrior who had captured her demurred, and not from disinterested motives either, as will presently appear. His objections were overruled, and it was plainly intimated that she must conform to the custom. Seeing no method of avoiding it, Mrs. Elder, armed with the long-handled pan, walked between the lines with a determined look. The first savage stooped to strike her, and in doing so his scant dress exposed his person, which Mrs. Elder saw, and anticipated his intention by dealing him a blow on the exposed part which sent him sprawling upon all fours. The chiefs who were looking on laughed immoderately, and the next four or five, intimidated by her heroism, did not attempt to raise their clubs. Another of them, determined to have a little fun, raised his club; but no sooner had he it fairly poised than she struck him upon the head with the frying pan in such a manner as in all likelihood made him see more stars than ever lit the "welkin dome." The Indians considered her an Amazon, and she passed through the lines without further molestation; but, as she afterward said, she "did it in a hurry."

The squaws, as soon as she was released, commenced pelting her with sand, pulling her hair, and offering her other indignities, which she would not put up with, and again had recourse to her formidable weapon—the long-handled pan. Lustily she plied it, right and left, until the squaws were right glad to get out of her reach.

In a day or two the line of march for Detroit was resumed, and for many weary days they plodded on

their way. After the first day's journey, the warrior who had captured Mrs. Elder commenced making love to her. Her comely person had smitten him; her courage had absolutely fascinated him, and he commenced wooing her in the most gentle manner. She had good sense enough to appear to lend a willing ear to his plaintive outpourings, and even went so far as to intimate that she would become his squaw on their arrival at Detroit. This music was of that kind which in reality had "charms to soothe the savage," and matters progressed finely.

One night they encamped at a small Indian village on the bank of a stream in Ohio. Near the town was an old deserted mill, in the upper story of which Skelly and the rest of the male prisoners were placed and the door bolted. That evening the Indians had a grand dance and a drunken revel, which lasted until after midnight. When the revel ended, Skelly said to his comrades in captivity that he meant to escape if possible. He argued that if taken in the attempt he could only be killed, and he thought a cruel death by the savages would be his fate, at all events, at the end of the journey. They all commenced searching for some means of egress, but none offered, save a window. The sash was removed, when, on looking out into the clear moonlight, to their horror they discovered that they were immediately over a large body of water, which formed the mill dam, the distance to it being not less than sixty feet. They all started back but Skelly. He, it appears, had set his heart upon a determined effort to escape, and he stood for a while gazing upon the water beneath him. Every thing was quiet; not a breath of air stirring. The sheet of water lay like a



large mirror, reflecting the pale rays of the moon. In a minute Skelly formed the desperate determination of jumping out of the mill-window.

“Boys,” whispered he, “I am going to jump. The chances are against me; I may be killed by the fall, recaptured by the savages and killed, or starve before I reach a human habitation; but then I may escape, and, if I do, I will see my poor mother, if she is still alive, in less than ten days. With me, it is freedom from this captivity now, or death.” So saying, he sprang from the window-sill, and before the affrighted prisoners had time to shrink, they heard the heavy plunge of Skelley into the mill-dam. They hastened to the window, and in an instant saw him emerge from the water unharmed, shake himself like a spaniel, and disappear in the shadow of some tall trees. The wary savage sentinels, a few minutes after the plunge, came down to ascertain the noise, but Skelly had already escaped. They looked up at the window, concluded that the prisoners had amused themselves by throwing something out, and returned to their posts.

The sufferings of Skelly were probably among the most extraordinary ever endured by any mortal man. He supposed that he must have walked at least forty miles before he stopped to rest. He was in a dense forest, and without food. The morning was hazy, and the sun did not make its appearance until about ten o'clock, when, to his dismay, he found he was bearing nearly due south, which would lead him right into the heart of a hostile savage country. After resting a short time, he again started on his way, shaping his course by the sun northeast, avoiding all places which bore any re-

semblance to an Indian trail. That night was one that he vividly remembered the balance of his life. As soon as it was dark, the cowardly wolves that kept out of sight during the day commenced howling, and soon got upon his track. The fearful proximity of the ravenous beasts, and he without even so much as a knife to defend himself, drove him almost to despair, when he discovered a sort of a cave formed by a projecting rock. This evidently was a wolf's den. The hole was quite small, but he forced his body through it, and closed the aperture by rolling a heavy stone against it. Soon the wolves came, and the hungry pack, like a grand chorus of demons, kept up their infernal noise all night. To add to the horrors of his situation, he began to feel the pangs of both hunger and thirst. With the break of day came relief, for his cowardly assailants fled at dawn. He ventured out of the den, and soon resolved to keep on the lowlands. After digging up some roots, which he ate, and refreshing himself at a rivulet, he traveled on until after nightfall, when he came upon the very edge of a precipice, took a step, and fell among five Indians sitting around the embers of a fire. Uninjured by the fall, he sprang to his feet, bounded off in the darkness before the Indians could recover from their surprise, and made good his escape.

In this way he travelled on, enduring the most excruciating pains from hunger and fatigue, until the fourth day, when he struck the Allegheny River in sight of Fort Pitt; at which place he recruited for a week, and then returned home by way of Bedford, in company with a body of troops marching east.

His return created unusual gladness and great rejoicing, for his immediate friends mourned him as one dead.

Mrs. Elder gave a very interesting narrative on her return, although she did not share in the sufferings of Skelly. She was taken to Detroit, where she lived in the British garrison in the capacity of a cook. From there she was taken to Montreal and exchanged, and reached home by way of Philadelphia.

Felix Skelly afterward moved to the neighborhood of Wilmore, in Cambria County, where he lived a long time, and died full of years and honor."

While gathering data for this story, I spent the winter of 1907 in Michigan at the home of my sister, near Grand Rapids. I saw much in their papers about the Michigan Historical Society, and especially about Detroit. I wrote to one of their members about the old fort. I received the following:

#### THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Detroit, Mich., March 2d, 1907.

DEAR MRS. REPLOGLE:

Your inquiry about old Fort Lemoult, afterward named by the Americans Fort Shelby has come into my hands. This old fort was demolished more than 60 years ago. The city post-office now stands on its site. In excavating for the foundation of the post-office the base of the old flag staff was dug up and preserved, with a suitable inscription; it is now in the city museum.

There is no book devoted to a history of the fort, but there are accounts of it in various histories of the

city and in the volumes of the Pioneer Collection. Shortly after the English took possession of Detroit in 1760 they abandoned the old French fort on the river front and built the new one back on the hill beyond the little creek, Savoyard. This fort the British continued to occupy until they surrendered it to the United States in 1796. During the Revolution the British forces at Detroit led the Indians to harrass the white settlements in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Virginia and many prisoners were captured by them and taken to Detroit. Quite a number of these prisoners continued to live at Detroit or vicinity after their release. Some visited their old homes and then came back again bringing their families, whose descendants are still living in southeastern Michigan. I have not seen a picture of old Fort Lemoult or Shelby and doubt very much whether there is any such in existence.

Very Respectfully yours,

HENRY M. UTLEY, City Librarian.

## CHAPTER VI.

### THE JOURNEY HOME.

**N**INE years after Mrs. Earnest and her boys were taken from their home near Ft. Bedford, they were released at Fort Detroit, and started back to find the old place.

As stated before she had saved some money. She bought a pony and rode back. One's imagination must supply material for this chapter for lack of facts. How different the home-coming from the going! Going in terror under threat of the tomahawk, weary and hungry and longing for her Father above to end it all; coming back with fond anticipation of meeting at least some of her children again! And more than all she could ride a pony instead of walk and carry her baby on her back. Talk about heroes! Here was one. Some of the greatest heroes have been uncrowned mothers.

Henry had grown to be a big strong boy, up in his teens, and likely walked the best part of the way back, while baby Mike was about eleven years old, and doubtless, rode the pony often, while his mother walked.

It must have been summer time when they came, for the marshy forests and streams would have been almost impassible in the winter. At the present time we can hardly realize what such a journey then was through the primitive forests. The most of the country around the lakes was covered with water part of the year. I saw forests in southern Michigan in April, 1907 covered with water, some places several feet deep.

No one knows if she had ever heard whether her other children had been killed by the Indians or not. She may have heard, as there were others in the fort from near Bedford County, at the same time, taken there later than she was, but no one knows. While they came back joyful and happy to be free, they had many hardships, stopping to rest and sleep often no doubt, where the wild beasts were near them. They may have come with other parties or they may have come alone. Not by the Indian trail that they went, but over the Allegheny Mountains, by the Forbes Road they came, and on down to the old town, which had grown larger—a few miles more—imagine that meeting!

It is said by some that she came to the home of her son and told them who she was, and they told her he was at the barn. She went out there where they met and found each other.

## CHAPTER VII.

### LIVING IN THE HOMELAND AGAIN.

IT is not known whether the children after that awful morning, when they came out from their hiding places and found each other, had lived on together in their home or not. Adam Earnest says the children fled to the Fort. It was a day never to be forgotten by them, and they told this story over and over again to their children and grandchildren, and they told it over and over again to their posterity.

The neighbors were not very near in those early days, but they came and buried the body and scalp of the father and the other men in a field near by. Mother and the little boys gone and dread of the Indians again, it would have been great bravery for them to live on in this old home.

When Mrs. Earnest found her children again, her son George had been married to a daughter of Conrad Samuels, named Elizabeth.

After her coming back she was always called "Indian Eve." Sometime after her return, she married George's wife's father--Conrad Samuels. He owned a lot of land and lived in what was then one of the best houses in the country. Mr. Howard Blackburn in his late history of Bedford County gives a good description of this old house, which I quote in full.

Speaking of the oldest settlers of Bedford township, Mr. Blackburn says, "On the farm of Mr. Wm. Phillips, near the village of Cessna, in the northern part of this township, is located what is, in all proba-

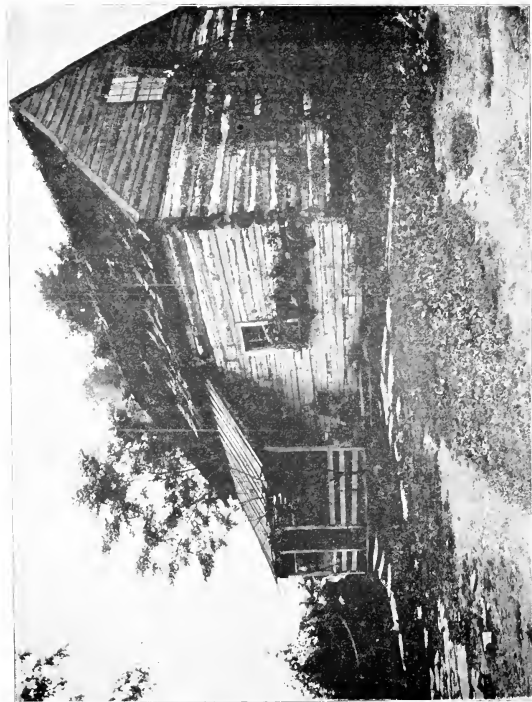
bility, the oldest house in the county. The building is a one and a half story log structure, about twenty eight by forty feet in size. It has a small stone walled cellar at the southeast corner, and a large outside stone chimney on the west end. In its construction the building is not much unlike others of its kind, though the notching and saddling on the corners are deeper and more neatly executed than usual. Just when the building was erected is not now known. Some of the old residents of the community remember having gotten information from an old Mrs. Earnest, who died many years ago at a very advanced age, concerning the history of the house in its earlier days, and from this source we learn that it must have been built nearly two hundred years ago. This theory is supported also by two dates carved upon stones in the cellar wall, the one of which is "1710" and the other "1736." It is presumed that the former is the date of original construction, and the latter that of one of the changes or improvements subsequently made. There are well marked evidences of such improvements in the way of enlarged windows, changing of a door-way to a window, the removal of an inside chimney, and other similar improvements, all of which have been done many years ago. Besides the quaintness of the building in its appearance, and the evidences of its great age, the feature which makes it especially interesting is the tradition that it was at one time used as a fort to protect the settlers from Indians' assaults. There are evidences still to be found that a stockade at one time surrounded or partially surrounded the building, and there are evidences also that a stockade protected a pathway from the building to a spring a few rods distance on



the south side. Who knows but what this may have been the fort called 'Wingawn' which is named among the early forts of Bedford County, but which our learned historians have never been able to locate."

"It is said that a family by name of Earnest was captured at one time near Alum Bank (now on the Rininger farm) and Mr. Earnest killed by the Indians. The mother and two sons, after being held in captivity for some time, in some way procured their release, and returned to this community, the mother riding a pony furnished her by the Indians. Mrs. Earnest married a man by the name of Samuels, who dying, left this house, together with some surrounding land, to his widow, as her share of his estate. It afterwards passed through the ownership of the Earnests and possibly others down to Jacob Walter, whose son-in-law, Mr. William Phillips, is its present owner. Mr. Phillips is a progressive farmer, has new buildings and many other improvements on the premises, but takes considerable pride in preserving this old historic land mark unchanged as far as possible from its appearance of ages past."

This picture was given me by Mr. Phillips and is the same as the one Mr. Blackburn has in his history. This is Mr. and Mrs. Phillips on the old porch. They use it to live in during the summer as it is cool, pleasant and roomy. There are four parts in it down stairs, two rooms on the east side and a kitchen, and room on the west, and a good room upstairs. The stairway in the corner of the kitchen shows a more primitive way of going up. Beneath this is a cellar-way of stone steps of excellent masonry, easy to ascend. They are not used now. There is a good entrance from the out-



WILLIAM PHILLIPS' OLD HOUSE, WHERE "INDIAN EVE" LIVED AFTER HER RETURN, AND, DIED IN 1815.

side at the east. Many of these changes—partitions etc., were made by Jacob Walter, Mrs. Phillips' father. Mrs. Phillips showed me a place in the cellar near the inside stairway where there was a low stone wall around for a milk trough. Here she said the people said " 'Indian Eve' kept her milk and made such good butter."

From incidents given by direct descendants of those who lived in this old historic house, we must come to the conclusion that it was used for a fort very early as I have stated in a previous chapter.

Mrs. Sill said, "When my grandfather, George Earnest, lived here, in the house at the foot of the hill, just below the old one, one time they all went to the fort at Bedford but one man. He said, 'he wasn't afraid.' When they came back he was killed."

Mrs. Sarah Fetters says, "My grandmother was a daughter of Conrad Samuel and they lived in this old house. When she was a baby less than a year old, the Indians came upon them suddenly. They could not get in to get the baby, as it was upstairs asleep; they mounted their horses and escaped to Fort Bedford. They were in great suspense and could not sleep. The next morning a lot of men came out in great fear and found the baby upstairs asleep unharmed."

Mr. Blackburn in speaking of the early churches in Bedford County refers to the Messiah Lutheran Church in Bedford Township as one of the early organizations. He says, "its date is about 1790. A log building, thirty by fifty feet, was erected soon after this time, which was replaced in 1838 by a stone structure 38 by 52 feet in size, which in 1867 gave place to a still larger frame building 40 by 60 feet in size."

When this log church was built Mrs. Phillips says, "Indian Eve cooked for the men who built it. She hung a red handkerchief on a pole when the meals were ready, as it was in sight of this old house where she lived."

While Mr. Blackburn was writing the above the congregation was considering whether they should



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH.

repair the frame church or build a new one. The same year I think they built a fine brick building, this being the fourth church by this large old cemetery.

I shall never forget one morning in the autumn of 1906, when I stood in the sunlight on the porch of this historic old house. Just a few feet to the east is Mr. Phillips' modern house with large lawn—a very pleasant country home. I had spent the night with them. Mrs. Phillips' sister—Mrs. Zimmers—was to be buried that morning. The former had just told me that they had all been reared and married in this old house, and she had always lived on this place. I went over into the old house and walked all through it and came out and stood on the porch. Just then the bell at the new Messiah church, just in view over on a pretty slope, tolled about 87 times, telling the age of Mrs. Zimmers.

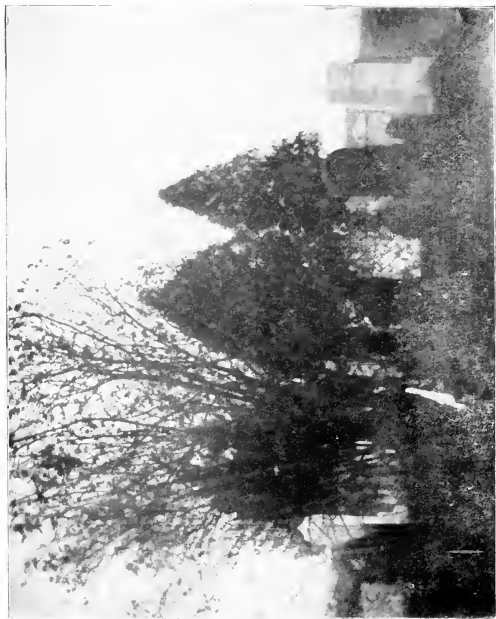
I stood long in silent meditation. It seemed like a sacred place. Here they came in and out in their childhood, here were their glad wedding days, and Mrs. Phillips, the last one left to tell the story. Then I looked at the old shrubbery, some of it planted no doubt by Indian Eve, but the house with its stockades was old when these were planted. If its old walls could speak, what a history!

Mrs. Sill and Mrs. Phillips were cousins, their mothers being Dibert sisters. Mrs. Sill's mother dying when she was young requested Mrs. Phillip's mother, Mrs. Walter, to take her and raise her. So they grew up together in this old house and were married here.

Geo. Earnest's widow lived to be quite old and she told the Indian story again and again to these girls. Mrs. Sill said, "once when I was a little girl, I went down to Grannie Earnest's house as a 'belsnickle' to

scare her. She went by the name of 'Grannie Earnest.' I peeped in and saw her reading in their large old German family Bible. I could not do it."

Indian Eve lived quite a while after her return. She lived sometime after her husband and was left with plenty as he willed her 50 acres of land with the old house.



“INDIAN EVE'S” GRAVE MARKED WITH A SMALL WHITE FLAG.

In the beautiful old cemetery at Messiah Church she is buried. She was laid to rest beside the little log church she helped to build. No marble slab marks her resting place, but a large snowball bush at a gray headstone blooms every spring and tells the story of her life. Just a few weeks ago we scratched away the leaves and read "E. S. 1815," on the old stone.

Her son, George, is buried by her side with date on tomb stone. Born April 3, 1762, died March 28, 1817, aged 55 years. Beside his grave is his wife's, Elizabeth Earnest. Born April 25, 1764, died Nov. 8, 1847, aged 83 years..

All around her lie many of her descendants.

There has been talk of erecting a monument to her memory. Some of the descendants have told me they would help if it is started. Surely such a brave and noble woman ought to be remembered. However, if this is not done the large snowball bush will if it lives bloom on as Mrs. Phillips says, "So beautifully every year." The memory of her brave and noble life is more than marble.

I have learned just recently that Mrs. Sarah Fetters has her trunk as a relic—one of the little old hide covered trunks. Her husband John Fetters was a great grandson.

The Samuel husband is not buried here but in an old grave yard in a field on the farm without tomb stone where doubtless one of his other wives was buried. He had been married twice before. His second wife was called Else. She was of Irish descent. Ludwick Samuels likely a brother of Conrad owned the land south of this farm, now the Zimmers' farm.

After "Indian Eve" died there was a man lived in the old house by the name of Broadhead—a noted early settler. He was a weaver—had a terrible high temper, he would get so angry at the tangled yarn. He had lived in this community when the settlers were at Fort Bedford frequently. He had a large dog that would stay out at the home and come to the Fort when ever the Indians came.

On the morning of the massacre a few miles from this spot it looked as if about all was over for this mother, but what a posterity is hers! What a family tree it would make! There are not many families in this part of Bedford Township who are not in some way connected with her descendants and many are found all over most of the western states.

Starting down the line with each child who escaped there is a lot of interesting history.



## CHAPTER VIII.

### GEORGE EARNEST.

Henry Earnest lived nine miles north of Ft. Bedford. Killed by Indians about the autumn of 1777. His wife Eve Earnest captured at same time.

Children:

- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. George. | 4. Johannas. |
| 2. Mary.   | 5. Henry.    |
| 3. Jacob.  | 6. Mike.     |

George Earnest.

Just when I had commenced on this line, and had almost given up hope of getting dates from the old German Bible which Mrs. Sill and Mrs. Phillips spoke of so often, and which was in possession of Mrs. Reip near St. Clairsville, a grand-daughter of George, Mr. W. E. Nevitt of Tyrone, who has helped so much to get data, went to see the Reip folks and got the record. He found it in such old German script that he could not make much of it out. After much effort he got Rev. Zinn, who was visiting there, to translate a part of it. He tried to get it photographed but could not. Then he found that they would let him bring the record along as the leaves were loose. It was a treat to us to get it.

Mr. Nevitt was very much interested in the Bible. It is well bound with brass clasps—Martin Luther's translation of the Laitn to the German, according to the Augsburg Confession, A. D. 1530, making it 380 years old, and the records back to 1717—almost 200 years.

The old book is more a Samuel Bible than an Earnest Bible, as will be seen, but it has the Earnest record.

The Samuel record:

Conrad Samuel was born in the year 1717, April 20,  
(Written in German.)

Elizabeth Samuel was born April the 5th 1764.

Mary Samuel was born September the 22nd 1769.

(Written in English by a good scribe, and with ink not faded a bit in these 140 years.)

Elizabeth Samuel married George Earnest.

Mrs. Phillips says Mary Samuel married a Reighard.

A page or more might be filled with bits from old hymns in this record, but I could not get any one to take time to translate them as they are not written well like most of the record.

There is one whole page in the old Bible, in beautiful German script, artistic work, which Mr. Nevitt would like to have had photographed for the book but it was large and part of it too yellow with age.

Translated it reads thus:

He who has his Jesus  
As long as this world troubles him  
If he does not leave Jesus  
From the strength of his life  
Let him see in Jesus here  
The open gates of heaven.

Whoever has Jesus  
In all the burdens of pain  
And who can lay all his burdens  
Only upon his Jesus,  
Jesus will make them easy  
And he will have rest.

Whoever turns his mind  
 Only towards his Jesus  
 And lets the wings of faith  
 Carry him over all mountains  
 He will enter upon the path of heaven  
 With his Jesus.

He who hears the lips of Jesus  
 And honors His decrees  
 Who has taken Jesus wounds  
 Upon his own soul,  
 His heart—soul—mind—will be filled  
 With the blood of Jesus.

A. D. 1780.

On another fly leaf: Conrad Samuel, 2£. 12s.  
 George Adam Ernst  
 Anno 1801

Holy Deo Gloria, (some of this written in Old English with black ink that has burned part of the letters.)  
 Also, in Latin: The peace of God be with us during our life.

Written by a good hand but pale ink:

Elizabeth Samuel Her Holy Bible Got of her father  
 Conrad Samuel in the year of our Lord God 1775.

Also: In the year 1753, came into this country,  
 (written in German, perhaps the landing of the Samuel family.)

Record of children of George Adam and Elizabeth  
 Samuel Ernst as it is found in the old German Bible.

1786	14	April	born a son	Johannas
1788	16	May	“ daughter	Molly
1790	29	December	“ “	Elizabeth
1793	12	June	“ “	Catharine
1794	29	“	“ “	Eve Catharine

1797	15	March	“	“	Elizabeth
1800	20	January	”	son	Samuel
1802	11	August	”	daughter	Beckie
1806	6	March	”	”	Natrina

- 
1. 1809 10 January born Daniel
  2. 1811 11 ” ” Polly
  3. 1812 7 February ” Elizabeth
  4. 1814 15 December in the morning between 2 and 3 o'clock Sally was born, and was baptized Nov. 2, 1818. The witnesses of baptism were the parents of the child.
  5. 1817 19 March in the night between 11 and 12 o'clock George was born and was baptized Nov. 2, 1818. Parents themselves were the witnesses.

This strange old record is written by fine German scribes, especially the last group. These proper names are in Old English written by the same hand.

The group above all but the two last names are all written by another hand not quite so good. This was all no doubt written by their different ministers at the old Messiah Church. It looks as if there were two sets of children but there were not, as Geo. Earnest died in 1817 and his wife Elizabeth in 1847, and they were not grandchildren.

A strange thing about it is there were three Elizabeths and two Catharines, and Molly and Polly are considered the same.

Elizabeth was a favorite name all through the connection, and I suppose when one Elizabeth died they named another by the same name. This was common long ago.

A number of these children must have died young

as Mrs. Sill gave me the record of her grandfather with only six children.

I remember of a fine old German marriage certificate at our old home—Daniel Earnest, married to Dolly Shull. I think this was the Daniel.

Another strange thing about the record is that there are no dates, except one, of marriages or deaths. We find the father, George, died Mar. 28, 1817, just when his youngest son, George was 9 days old. But this does not agree with the witnesses at baptism.

“Grannie Earnest” as she was called, widow of George Earnest lived to be quite old, dying 30 years after her husband at her old home where she had always lived—just at the foot of the hill from the old house. This old German Bible she had received from her father in 1775, she had been reading all this time—72 years. A good record. Mrs. Phillips says, “She was going across the road to the spring house one day and slipped on a board and broke her leg. She had to lie in bed two years—never walked again. Old Dr. Watson of Bedford was her physician, Sarah Reighard, her grand-daughter, took care of her and old Johannas Earnest’s wife came and stayed with her often for company.” This Mrs. Earnest, wife of Johannas 1st, was her sister-in-law. I shall speak farther on of another sister-in-law, Jacob Earnest’s widow, called “Grannie Earnest” also.

1. Johannas Earnest, 2nd, oldest son of George and Elizabeth Samuel Earnest. Born April 14, 1786. Married Catharine Fetter, (sister of Michael, who was father of John.)
  1. Margaret Earnest, married Mr. Whitaker. Had family. Moved west.



MRS. DANIEL C. DIBERT.

2. Mary Earnest, married William Carl.
  1. Maria, married Daniel C. Dibert, a great grand son of "Indian Eve." See Mary Earnest Dibert line.
  2. Hester, married Abram Snavelly.
    1. Alice. 2. Minnie. 3. Daniel.
  3. Jacob, married Annie Koontz.
3. Michael Earnest, called California Mike. Spent 20 years in California, came back and lived at Wolfsburg, Bedford Co., Pa. Dead. Married Hettie Ling. (sister of Simon Ling of Bedford.)
  1. Maria, married Phillip Beegle, of Pleasant Valley.
  2. Anna, married Geo. Blackburn, dead.
  3. Mary, married Frank Gilchrist, live in Cleveland, Ohio.
  4. Catharine, married Shunk Defibaugh.
  5. Alexander married Emma Koontz. Widow lives in Bedford. He was killed.
4. George Earnest, married Rebecca Ripley. See Charles Dibert's line.
  1. David, married Anna Cessna. Called constable Dave.
    1. Elmer. 2. Charles. 3. Ross.
    4. Josie, married Joe Barley.
    5. May, married Wilson Adams.
    6. Tenie, married Clay Mulon.
    7. Cora.
  2. Joseph married Kate Wolford of Buffalo Mills. Live in Ohio.
    1. William. 4. Jacob.
    2. Lizzie. 5. Jesse.

3. Frank. All dead.  
Frank and Jacob were sailors on Lake Erie. The ship sank and they were drowned.
3. Mary Ann, married Adam Earnest, grand son of Johannas 1st, son of Henry. See Johannas Earnest's line. Johannas 1st.
4. Jacob, died in Bedford of small pox. Buried at Messiah cemetery.
5. Henry Earnest, married ---  
Thomas, married Susan Zimmers. See Johannas Earnest's line. Johannas 1st. Live in Altoona.
6. Eliza Earnest, married John Lingafelter, Attorney-at-Law Bedford. An invalid for years.
  1. Mary. 2. Almira.
2. Mollie Earnest must have died young. Born May 16, 1788.
3. Elizabeth Earnest, born Dec. 29, 1790. Married Jacob Dibert, son of Frederick and Madaline Steel Dibert.
  1. George, married 1st Mollie Croyle.
    1. Jacob, married Miss Weisel.
    2. Catharine, married Fred Koontz. See Frederick Dibert line.
    3. Mary, married Samuel Mock.
 Married 2nd time Margaret Imler.
  1. Israel, dead.
  2. Joseph.
  3. Margaret, dead.
 Married 3rd time Mary Ann Koontz.



1. Chas. married Ella Long.  
Mary, married Howard Dively son of Ida Dibert. See Mary Earnest's line.
2. Lavanas, married Miss Pensyl.
3. John, married Annie Harclerode.
2. Hettie, married Jacob Fetter, son of Jac. Sr., called constable Jac. See Mary Earnest's line.
3. Elizabeth, married John Wakefoose. Died recently near Everett nearly 100 years of age.
4. Catharine, married John Fetter, brother of Con. Jac. See Mary Earnest's line.
5. Julinana, married John Ling, brother of Simon Ling, son of Dan Ling.

After Elizabeth died, Jacob Dibert married Mary Croyle, widow of Henry Croyle, daughter of Jno. Dibert, Sr. See Mary Earnest's line.

1. Jackson Dibert, married Mary Ann Imler, sister of John. Dead.
4. Catharine Earnest, born June 12, 1793. Married Christopher Dibert, a son of Frederick and Madaline Steele Dibert.
1. Andrew W. Dibert died at Imlertown a few years ago. Married Elizabeth Ritchey.
  1. William W. Dibert, contractor and builder at Imlertown, Pa. Married Jennie C. Triplett.
  2. Catharine, married Phillip Smith. Live in Kansas.
  3. Christ, married Rebecca Imler.
  4. Sarah, married Shannon Dibert.
  5. Annie.
  6. Grant, married Sadie Yount.

## INDIAN EVE.

2. Jonathan, married Mary Jane Croyle.
  1. Frank, married Ella Snider.
  2. Margaret, married Dave Shunk.
  3. Malinda, married Henry Reighard. See Mary Earnest line.
  4. Carrie, married Humphrey Dively.
3. Mary, married Abram Hartzle. Live in Tenn.
4. Rebecca is dead.
5. Elizabeth is not married.
6. Eve is dead.
7. Henry, married Mary Ling, daughter of John Ling. Dead.



MRS. EVA CATHARINE EARNEST FETTER.

8. Susan is dead.

9. Catharine is dead.

Mr. William W. Dibert, of Imlertown, who has helped so much, gave me the records of this family and his grand-father's brother, Jacob Dibert.

5. Eva Catharine Earnest, born June 29, 1794. Called Eve. Married Michael Fetter.

1. Dan, married Katy Croyle.

2. Elizabeth, married Zimmers.

3. John, married Sarah Fetters.

6. Elizabeth, born Mar. 15, 1797. Perhaps died young.

7. Samuel Earnest, born Jan. 20, 1800, died in 1877. Married first, Elizabeth Dibert, born in 1801, died in 1833, daughter of Frederick and Madeline Steele Dibert.

1. Catharine Earnest, married young, first to Geo. Fetter. No children. Married second to Will Earnest. Son of Michael Earnest.

1. Harry in Kansas.

2. Sarah Earnest, married Isaac Reighard.

3. Isaac Earnest, married Catharine Wonder.

4. Maria Earnest, married Henry Sill.

1. Sarah, married John Phillips.

1. Charlie married Josephine Reiswick.

1. Dorothy, a great, great, great, great, grand-daughter of "Indian Eve."

2. Elmira, married Mr. Frank Todd. Live in Bedford, Pa. Had three children. All dead.

3. Henry died when four years old.



MRS. MARIA EARNEST SILL.

On one of the leaves of the record in the old Bible, is a square marked off with pen, which I find contains the record of part of Samuel Earnest's family. I wrote it just as it is, with line below.

Was Born Catherena Earnest April 25th, 1822.

Was Born Jane Earnest May 25, 1824.

Was married Samuel Earnest to

Alizabeth Dibert, June 12th, 1821.

Sarah Earnest was born the 26th of  
March 1828.

Adam Earnest was born the 27th of June, 1836.

It seems strange that the first wife's children are not all here. Adam is the oldest son of the second wife. These are all faded except the two last and the figures in Jane's record. With her record is the subtraction of dates. Thus 1842

$$\begin{array}{r} 1824 \\ \underline{\quad} \\ 18 \end{array}$$

One would infer from this that she died at that age.

7. Samuel Earnest, married second time to Judith Imler.
  1. Adam, born June 27, 1836.
  2. William, living in Friends Cove. Aged 66 years.
  3. Mary, married — Adams. Living in Friends Cove. Aged 59 years.
  4. Lavanda, married — Feight. Died in Friends Cove. Aged 55 years.
  5. Frank, living in Friends Cove. Aged 53 years.
8. Beckie Earnest, born Aug. 11 1802, married Michael Speece.
  1. George, dead. Widow lives in Osterburg. Had six children.

## INDIAN EVE.

2. Elizabeth, married Michael Sill. Went West. Had six sons, all married, live in Illinois and California.
3. Catharine, married Jas. Defibaugh. Lived at St. Clarsville. Six children, all married.
4. Mary, called Polly. Married Mr. Colebaugh. Sick in bed for several years. Six children, all married.
5. Eve, never married, lives with Mrs. John Fetters.
6. Peggy, never married.
7. Maria, died young.
8. Sarah, married Mr. Reip. Live near St. Clairsville. Two children.



MRS. SARAH SPEECE REIP.

9. Tillie, married David Stambaugh. Seven children.
9. Natrina Earnest, born Mar. 6, 1806. No further record of her.
10. Daniel Earnest, born Jan. 10, 1809. No further record of him.
11. Polly Earnest, born Jan. 11, 1811. No further record of her.
12. Elizabeth Earnest, born Feb. 7, 1812. Likely died young.
13. Sally Earnest, born December 15, 1814. No record.
14. George Earnest, Jr., born March 19, 1817. No record.

I had Miss Grauer, teacher of Language, look over the old German record again, and she found below the artistic writing, these initials, in Latin: N. P. N.

## CHAPTER IX.

### MARY EARNEST.

Mary Earnest, only daughter of Henry and Eve Earnest.

When I commenced to gather data for this story, I could not find out what became of Mary after she ran through the meadow. Later, I found her in the biography of Dan C. Dibert, in a Bedford Co. History. I quote this biography.

She is buried on the Dibert farm but has no gravestone.

(Biography in History of Bedford Co.)

Daniel C. Dibert, a well-known farmer and one of the older residents of Bedford township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, is a self-made man; that is, one who has achieved success in life by his own industry, thrift and steadfastness of purpose. A native of this township, born Aug. 3d, 1820, son of John and Barbara Dibert; he is of German ancestry.

The first title to land now owned by him was held by his paternal grandfather, John Dibert, Sr., whose first wife was Ene Ickes, the second being Mary Earnest. The children of John, Sr., and Ene Dibert were: David; Ene, wife of Peter Fetter; Elizabeth, wife of Valentine Rinehart; Barbara, wife of Valentine Fickes; and Susannah, wife of Samuel Roudabush. The children of John, Sr., and Mary Dibert were: John, born probably in 1789, father of Daniel C., Margaret, born October 4th, 1788, married Jacob Fetter, and died Sept. 9th, 1869; Catharine, born April 27th, 1792, married



John Croyle, and died May 15th, 1842; Mary, born Aug. 20th, 1794, married first, Henry Croyle, second, Jacob Dibert, third, Abram Sill, and died July 3d, 1865; Rachel, born Aug. 10th, 1798, married Henry Kauffman, died Jan. 27th, 1885.

Henry Earnest, Mrs. Mary Dibert's father, was killed by the Indians in Bedford Twp. Her mother and two brothers were taken captive and carried away, but after a number of years they made their escape and returned to Bedford.

John Dibert, second, was a pioneer settler of this part of Bedford County and here married Barbara Croyle. He died in 1830, while yet in the prime of manhood. Of his children, two survive, namely: Daniel C. the special subject of this biography; and Mrs. Barbara Zimmers, born in 1826, now the widow of the late Samuel Zimmers, of Bedford township. One son, John Dibert, third, born in 1818, died while young; and David, born in 1822, died in Missouri, Dec. 3, 1898.

Daniel C. Dibert was deprived of a father's care and guidance when a little fellow of eight years. From that time until of age he lived in Bedford township in the family of Michael Fetter, under whose instruction he obtained a practical knowledge of farming, to which he has devoted the large part of his time. His facilities for acquiring an education were meager as compared with those of the present day, but he made the most of such as were afforded by subscription schools.

After working as a farm hand several years he inherited the homestead estate, on which he and his wife have spent the greater part of their married life.

In April, 1852, Mr. Dibert married Maria Carrell,

who was born and bred in Bedford township. They were blest with nine children, of whom seven are living, namely: Loyd C. and Wayne C. both of California; David F. of Manasses, Va.; Alice M. at home; Ida V., wife of Albert Dively; Emma M., at home; and Daniel O. of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Two daughters are dead: Minnie E. and Caroline. Mr. and Mrs. Dibert are members of the Lutheran Church.

#### Descendants of John Dibert.

John Dibert married first, Ene Ickes (some give this as Eve.)

1. David Dibert married Elizabeth Fickes. Her father had held a commission under George the III.
  1. John Dibert married Rachel Blauch.
    1. David Dibert married Lydia Connelly Griffith.
      1. Scott Dibert. Lived in Johnstown. Died a few months ago.
      2. Frank. Lived at Santa Fe, N. M. Died recently.
      3. Florence. Living in Johnstown.
    2. Abram Charles Dibert. Lived in California. Came East and died not long ago.
  2. Ene Dibert (Mrs. Sill gave this name Eve) married to Peter Fetter, went west.
  3. Elizabeth Dibert married Valentine Rinehart. Lived at the John W. Imler farm. No children.
  4. Barbara Dibert, married Valentine Fickes.
  5. Susannah Dibert, married Samuel Roundabush.

John Dibert's second wife, Mary Earnest.

1. Margaret Dibert, born Oct. 4, 1788, married Jacob Fetter. Died Sept. 9, 1869.
  1. John, married Catharine Dibert daughter of Jac. Dibert.
  2. Jacob, married Hettie Dibert daughter of Jac. Dibert. See George Earnest's line.
    1. Mary, married Adam Imler.
    2. Elizabeth, married John May, Bedford.
    3. Margaret, married John Diehl.
  3. Margaret, married Ephraim Koontz.
    1. Jane, married Aaron Cobbler.
    2. Rosan, married Jacob Yount.
    3. Mary, married Thomas Imler.
    4. Margaret, married Mr. Wilson, dead.
2. John Dibert, born about 1789, married Barbara Croyle. Died in 1830.
  1. Daniel C. Dibert, born Aug. 3, 1820, married Maria Carrell, April 1852. Great, great grand-daughter of "Indian Eve" in Geoge Earnest's line.
    1. Lloyd C. Dibert of San Francisco, California.
    2. Wayne C. Dibert of San Francisco, California.
    3. David F. Dibert, lives at Kittanning Point, Pa. Married Sarah Elizabeth Earnest, youngest daughter of Daniel Earnest, son of Jacob Earnest. See Jacob Earnest's line.
    4. Daniel O. Dibert, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
    5. Alice M. Dibert at home.



DANIEL C. DIBERT.



DAVID F. DIBERT.

6. Ida V. Dibert, married to Albert Dively. Howard, married Mary Dibert. See Geo. Earnest's line.

1. Paul. 2. Goldie.

Seventh generation in Mary Earnest's line. Eighth and seventh in George Earnest's line.

7. Emma, married to Roy Imler.

8. Minnie E. Dibert, dead.

9. Caroline Dibert, dead.

2. Barbara Dibert born 1826, died about 1905. Married Samuel Zimmers.

1. Samuel. 2. Amanda.

3. John, born in 1818, died while young.

4. David Dibert, born in 1822, died Dec. 3, 1898. Lived in Missouri.

3. Catharine Dibert born Apr. 27th, 1792, died May 15, 1842. Married John Croyle.

4. Mary Dibert, born Aug. 20, 1794, died July 3, 1865. Married first Henry Croyle. Second Jacob Dibert, brother of Christ. Third Abram Sill, a brother to Henry Sill's father.

1. Sam. 2. Catharine, married Dan Fetter.

3. Mary. 4. Margaret.

5. Rachael Dibert born Aug. 10, 1798, died Jan. 27, 1898. Married Henry Kauffman.

1. John Kauffman, married Mary Riddle, went west.

1. David. 4. William.

2. John. 5. Mary Ellen.

3. Samuel. 6. Mattie.

7. Naomi.

2. George Kauffman, married to Leah Imler.

1. Frank, living in Dunkirk, N. Y.



MRS. RACHAEL DIBERT KAUFFMAN.

2. Jennie, married to H. W. Clouse, Roaring Spring, Pa.
  3. Jacob Kauffman, married Esther Weiant, lived near Imler Valley.
    1. Calvin.      6. Sherman.
    2. Cyrus.     7. George.
    3. Birdine.    8. Jennie.
    4. David.     9. Sarah.
    5. Shanon.    10. Effie.
    11. Rebecca.
  4. Henry Kauffman, married Elizabeth Snavely, sister of Fred. Lived near St. Clairsville.
    1. Frank.    3. Albert.
    2. Calvin.   4. Harry.
    5. Mary.
  5. David Kauffman, married Annie Naugle.
    1. George.   4. Harry.
    2. Charlie.   5. Ella.
    3. Fred.     6. Jesse.
  6. Mary Kauffman, married Samuel Oster. Lived near St Clairsville.
    1. George.   2. Frank.   3. Emma.
  7. Margaretta, married Absolam Reighard.
    1. Edward.   3. Georgiana.
    2. Henry.    4. Nellie.
  8. Sarah A. Kauffman, never married, living at the old home at Imlertown, Pa.
- I am indebted to her for the Kauffman genealogy.



## JACOB EARNEST.

### CHAPTER X.

Jacob Earnest, son of Henry and Eve Earnest, born about 1766, died about 1830 at the brick house just above Mt. Dallas; married Susannah Defibaugh, daughter of Casper Defibaugh, who lived below Bedford at the Fisher farm.

- |               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Eve.       | 1. William. |
| 2. Elizabeth. | 2. Edward.  |
| 3. Sally.     | 3. Jacob.   |
| 4. Susan.     | 4.          |
| 5. Katy.      | 5.          |
| 6. Rosa.      | 6. Daniel.  |

There were six sons and six daughters in this family. Five of the boys died young, as they were all dead before Daniel was born. I have not given all of them according to their ages. Daniel was the youngest son and Rosa the youngest daughter, and next to him in age. Eve and Elizabeth I think were the oldest girls.

Daniel Earnest said "their parents had a Bible with family record. Books were very scarce those days. Some one borrowed the Bible and returned it with record lost or torn."

1. Eve Earnest, married Thomas Nevitt.

The Nevitt record I have from a grandson, Mr. W. E. Nevitt of Tyrone. Also a letter from his uncle Jacob Earnest Nevitt of Michigan City, Ind., the only member of the family living.



THOMAS NEVITT, SR.

Descendants of Thomas and Eve Earnest Nevitt:

1. William Nevitt. (died 1909.) Lived near Swanton,  
Ohio.

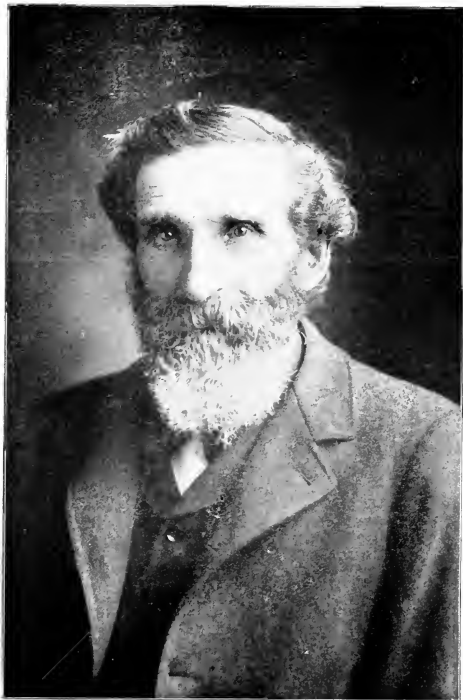
1. George Nevitt.

2. Joseph Nevitt. Married a Miss Rakestraw. Lived at Kankakee, Ill. Had two daughters.



JOSEPH NEVIT.

3. John Nevitt. Never married.  
4. Jacob Nevitt. Married Sallie Sheely of near Everett, Pa. Live at Michigan City, Ind.  
1. Cromwell Nevitt. Living at Puget Sound.  
2. Lydia.



JACOB EARNEST NEVITT.



WILLIAM E. NEVITT.  
THOMAS J. NEVITT.

JAMES M. NEVITT.  
WILLIAM NEVITT.



WILLIAM E. NEVITT.



GUY OSCAR NEVITT.



LILLIAN MAE NEVITT GINTER, AND SON, WENDELL MAXWELL.  
SEVENTH GENERATION IN "INDIAN EVE'S" POSTERITY AND  
FIFTH, IN THE NEVITT LINE.



5. Susan Nevitt. Married first, Philip Weaverling.
  1. Philip.  
Married second to Jacob Wagner. She died at Topeka, Kansas, about 1896.
6. Thomas J. Nevitt. Born Nov. 1, 1832. Died Aug. 29, 1902, at Everett, Pa. Married to Plooney Jane Otis.
  1. John Franklin. Died in 1864.
  2. William E. Nevitt. Married Mary E. Conner. Lives at Tyrone, Pa.
    1. Guy Oscar Nevitt.
    2. Lillian Mae. Married to John S. Ginter.
      1. Wendell Maxwell.
  3. Infant daughter died.
7. James M. Nevitt. Born Sept. 4, 1841. Died Sept. 9, 1908 at Rays Hill, Pa. Married Martha Sams.
  1. Porter G. 3. George W.
  2. Daniel M. 4. Mary.
  5. Hayes.
8. Margaret Elizabeth Nevitt. Born Aug. 11, 1842. Died Dec. 31, 1887 at Everett, Pa., while attending a watch meeting service. Married David Wright.
  1. Mollie. 3. Sallie.
  2. Clara. 4. Annie.
  5. Gertie.

Mr., Thomas Nevitt, Sr., was quite a historic character about Everett and Mt. Dallas in the early days. Mr. William Barndollar of Everett said once, "In his younger days he was as fine a looking man as you would see among five hundred. He was at one time Katy Hartley's coachman and manager."

My stepfather used to tell how he taught his wife



MARGARET ELIZABETH NEVITT WRIGHT.

to make corn pone like they made it in the south. He said "they didn't know how to make corn bread in the north."

His son John Nevitt was with a corps of U. S. Government engineers who plotted the state of Nebraska.

When Thomas, Jr., went to Omaha there were only two houses besides the usual mud houses. As the town grew he followed house painting awhile—later engaged in his occupation coach and wagon-making, his brother Jacob joining him about this time.

Joseph Nevitt was a soldier during the war, and James, also, the latter a member of Co. C., 133 Reg. Penna. Vol.

Lake Front, Michigan City, Ind., Sept. 29, 1910.

My Dear Cousin:

Your letter reached father the other day \* \* \* \*

Pa's father was born in the District of Columbia, in what is now the City of Washington. He was seventy two when he died in 1871. He went to Bedford County, Pa., when a young man. Carried mail on horseback during the War of 1812 and 1813. Carried from Bedford east, but I do not know where to. He married Eve Earnest. She lived near Snake Springs. Her father was a blacksmith and had a shop on the Hartley farm, and when a young man, he used to go into the river some where near the Hartley home, and cut lead out of the bed of the river., and made bullets out of it. William Hartley wanted him to tell where it was but he never did. Your father hunted for the lead vein many times. Father's mother was some forty years old when she died. She was buried

at the old stone church yard in Everett. It was Bloody Run then. They lived at Friends Cove a number of years and father was born there. They also lived at Hartley's. When his mother died they were living on one of the old Tates farms just west of the Everett furnace. Uncle John went west before mother died. He had a claim about forty miles northwest of Omaha. He sold it for five hundred dollars. Father saw him in Omaha just after that. Then he took a boat south and spoke of going to Ohio. That was the last anyone ever heard of him. When your father and pa first went west they thought of going to California but changed their minds when they got to Omaha. Father's grandmother Earnest was born in Germany. Came to this country when five years old. His grandfather and grandmother Nevitt were born and raised in Scotland. Have no pictures of uncle John, Joseph, or aunt Susan.

Father is pretty well considering his age. He was seventy eight last March. He hopes he has been able to give the lady some information. His father never said very much about his people.

From your uncle and cousin,

Jacob Earnest Nevitt.

Lida Henry Nevitt Cady.

To Wm. E. Nevitt and wife of Tyrone, Pa.

I find in the record of taxables in 1772 "Casper Defibaugh, living near Bedford, owned 150 acres of land, 15 improved, horses 2, cows 1." This was not long after he came from Germany, by what Jacob Nevitt says.



LIDA NEVITT CADY AND HER FATHER, JACOB EARNEST NEVITT.

2. Elizabeth Earnest—always called Betsy, married first to a German, Mr. Stuby.
1. Conrad Stuby, a soldier, 138 Reg. Pa. Vol., married Katy May.
    1. Dan. Live on Pacific Coast.
    2. Mary Ellen, Washington state.
    3. John.
  2. Jacob Stuby, married a Miss College. Lived in Hopewell Twp., Bedford Co., Pa. Children, don't know the names.
  3. Frederick Stuby, married Jane Wertz, daughter of Thomas and Eve Dibert Wertz. See Eve Dibert Wertz line.
    1. Henry Heckerman. 3. Maggie.
    2. Charles. 4. Minerva.
  4. Mary Stuby, a cripple from spinal trouble.
- Elizabeth's second husband—Mr. Edenbaugh.
1. Daniel.
  3. Sally Earnest, married Steven Clarke of Bedford.
    1. Eliza, married Mr. Reis. Lived in Pittsburg.
    2. Rachael.
    3. Lydia, lived in New Orleans before the war.
    4. Mary, lived with friends in St. Louis.
- All the girls dead.
5. John, lived with some one near Everett till he was grown. Perhaps living in the west.
  4. Susan Earnest, married a Mr. Wickersham of West Chester. No children living.
  5. Katy, died in infancy.
  6. Rosa, married Thomas Border of Clear Ridge, moved to Athens Co., O.
    1. Abbie. 2. Conrad. 3. Jacob.



ROLL,

OSCAR,  
HARVY,  
EARNEST BROTHERS.

ALGE.



OSCAR EARNEST AND WIFE.



12. Daniel, born July 4, 1818, died in Sept. 1901, married first to Eliza Wertz, daughter of Thomas and Eve Dibert Wertz.
1. William, a soldier in war 138 Reg. Pa. Vol. Lives in Chicago. Married Kate Suters. She died when some of her children were quite young.



IVA, DAUGHTER OF OSCAR EARNEST, SIXTH GENERATION IN  
JACOB EARNEST'S LINE.



ALFRED PHILLIPS AND WIFE, JENNIE EARNEST PHILLIPS.



DANIEL PHILLIPS.

## INDIAN EVE.

1. Harvey, lives at Pearl City, Ill.
2. Dillie, lives in Freeport, Ill.
3. Oscar, lives in Pearl City, Ill.
4. George, soldier in Spanish American **war.**  
Dead.
5. Roll, lives in Pearl City, Ill.
6. Alge, lives in Pearl City, Ill.
7. Daisy in Iowa.
2. Emily Jane, married Alfred Phillips. Live at  
Red Cloud, Neb.
  1. Daniel. 2. Edna, student McPherson Col-  
lege, Kan.



EDNA PHILLIPS.

3. Rosa, married Richard May. Live in Hayes  
Centre, Neb.
  1. Flora, married Mr. John Snee, a ranchman.



FLORA BELLE.  
RICHARD MAY.

BLAIR.  
MINA.

EARL.  
MRS. ROSA EARNEST MAY.



ADA ELEANOR.                    IRENE ROSANNA.                    ELVINA EVALINE.  
SIXTH GENERATION IN JACOB EARNEST'S LINE.





EUGENE NOBLE AND WIFE, BELLE EARNEST NOBLE.  
FAYE ADELE.



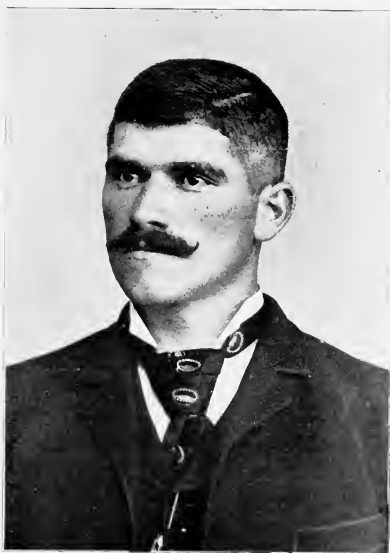


IVA NOBLE, WITH HER PONY ON A NEBRASKA RANCH.

2. Blair, married Sophie Fomoff.
  1. Elvina Evaline.
  2. Ada Eleanor.
  3. Irene Rosanna.
3. Earl, a student at Ann Arbor, Mich.
4. Mina, at home.
7. Daniel Earnest, married second time to Eleanor Miller, widow of Jacob Miller of Buffalo Mills, Pa., and daughter of Peter and Hannah Arnold.
  1. Hannah Belle Earnest, died in 1894, married Eugene Noble of Maywood, Neb. He was killed in a saw mill in 1902.
    1. Faye Adele. Teaching in Mich.
    2. Iva, living with her cousin Mrs. Flora Snee in Neb.
  2. Susanna Rebecca Earnest, married Nathaniel Replogle. She died in 1887 and he in 1891.



PROF. N. S. REPLOGLE AND WIFE, SUE EARNEST REPLOGLE.



FRANKLIN EARNEST.

1. Chester Earnest Replogle. Juniata Academy, 1910. Teaching in Morrison's Cove.
3. Sarah Elizabeth Earnest, married D. [F. Dibert, son of Dan. C. Dibert. See Mary Earnest's line.
4. Peter Franklin Earnest, married Mrs. Verna McDonald of Altoona, Pa. Pa. R. R. Officer, living at Huntingdon.
5. Daniel Henry Earnest, married Bertha King. Live in Altoona.
  1. Alma. 2. Walter. 3. Elizabeth Eleanor.
6. Edward Oscar Earnest, married Myrtle Diehl. Live in Eldorado, Pa.
  1. Iva. 2. Paul.

#### BIOGRAPHY OF DANIEL EARNEST.

In the little romantic valley of Milligans Cove, my memory loves to linger. Like Acadia, "This is the forest primeval." Here, in the very heart of nature, are the famous white Sulphur Springs—all hallowed ground, "the scenes of my childhood," where we loved, "the orchard, the meadow, the deep-tangled wild-wood," with its vines, mosses and flowers; the tall pines, the sparkling mountain streams and brooks.

Here, around the old home fireside, we listened to the stories of long ago, told by my stepfather, or his mother, then about one hundred years old. He told us that, once, when he was a boy plowing in a field near Mt. Dallas, a mother bear came by with some cubs. He caught one, took it home to his mother and had it for a pet till it grew up. It became quite saucy,

and very troublesome, and after quite an experience with it, he sold it.

He told us also, stories of the old wagoners hauling great loads from Baltimore and Philadelphia over the Alleghenies to Wheeling and Cincinnati. He was quite young to be on the road, but large and strong. He was called "Will Nycum's big boy." He hauled for Mr. Nycum, who lived at "the foot of Dry Ridge," now the town of Manns Choice. People just called it "the foot," where there were about three houses, and two of these old taverns, where wagoners and other travelers got plenty to drink before they started up this abrupt ascent towards the mountain. Dry Ridge is quite a plateau, being as high at some points as the Allegheny mountains. At the "foot of Dry Ridge," just above where Buffalo Run flows into the Raystown Branch of the Juniata, the hills are almost perpendicular, some places. What was called "the drovers road" afterwards, went up "Harmon's Bottom," winding around the hills.

Often in winter, lots of places on the ridge and mountain were glittering cakes of ice, over which they had to pass with heavy loads. He said the back part of the wagon some times was nearly around to the front. One time on his way to Cincinnati with a six horse team, one of the horses died on the way. He sent word back with a returning wagoner, for some one to meet him with a horse. A man was sent with a horse, but, he was drunk and made him more trouble than help. (I do not know if this was while he was hauling for Wm. Nycum or Hartleys. He wagoned for Hartleys at the age of 16 years, at \$10 a month.)

But the story most interesting to us was the thrill-

ing Indian story he told so often, while we listened spellbound—the capture of his grandmother and her two little boys by the Indians, and the killing and scalping of his grandfather and the narrow escape of the other members of the family.

Long after we had all gone out from the old home (his home was at this time near the scene of the massacre) when I was back once, I said to him “tell me the old Indian story again.” His eye lit up as in days gone by; it hung yet a clear picture on memory’s gallery. I could detect a little failing, only like the least tinge on a leaf. In two months I came again and he hardly knew my voice.

He always began the story this way: “When daddy was a boy about ten years old his parents lived out near Nelson’s Mill, and early one morning the Indians came upon them very suddenly in their home. Two men had come to make rails. “Hoot, Hoot” they heard and thought it was owls, and one said they would not make rails long, as the hooting of the owls was a sign of rain. But it was the cry of the Indians and in a few moments they were bursting in at the door.”

As I have said several times, I had heard the story so often when a child, but I noted it all down with pencil as he told it, with a feeling of sadness—knowing I was likely hearing it for the last time. I said to him, “and what became of Mollie?” “Oh I don’t know” he said, “you see that was so long ago, and we lived away from here.” He did not know that his youngest daughter Sarah had married one of Mollie’s descendants. Thus, there are scores of people who know they are descendants of “Indian Eve,” but they don’t know in which line they have come down—about two generations

are a blank to them. It is amusing to hear some people talk about it. An old man said "Ah you can see that — had Indian blood in him." I laughed, for he looked more like an Indian than the other man.

Daniel Earnest's father, Jacob, by all accounts, lived most of his life along the old turnpike, between Bedford and Everett, then Bloody Run. Daniel always spoke of him living in the old brick house near Mt. Dallas, dying there, when he was about 12 years old, in 1830. He had a blacksmith shop there.

Mr. Jacob Nevitt writes about him going to a lead vein in the river and getting lead. Daniel often spoke of this. The people tried to watch him, but he would go early in the morning and when he came back his clothes were wet from wading in the river. They said it was pure lead. Some folks gave him whiskey in his shop, thinking he would get drunk, and then tell where it was. He understood them, and said, "I'll never tell you," and with him died the secret.

Jacob had taken up a piece of vacant land near William Hartleys. Several years after his death Daniel had a house built on it for his mother, where they lived when he caught the little bear. During the intervening years they lived near Abram Ritchey's woolen factory, now Valley Mill. He always loved to talk of his boyhood days at this old place. In a few years, he got tired of their little home, as it was not enough for him. Often, when speaking of certain young people not caring or providing for their parents, he would say, "I kept my mother from the time I was 14 years old."

After he was married the first time, he farmed for Hartleys, Nycums and Lutzs. He was only a year at

Nycums when Katy Hartly drove up to the "Foot" to see him, and get him to come and farm for her. He said "I knew where I was going and went." Mr. John Lutz told me, he was farming for his father the year of the pumpkin flood—1847. The water was so high they had to get out of their house at the woolen factory and go in with Earnests in the tenant house.

After his first wife's father, Thomas Wertz, died, he moved to Milligans Cove, and farmed for his mother-in-law. He bought the farm some time after this.

Daniel Earnest's biography would be incomplete without being associated with his mother's—Susannah Defibaugh Earnest, as they always lived together from the time he was born until she died, from 1818 to 1866. She was a wonderful woman. My earliest recollection of her, was putting her two little grand daughters in their trundle bed, tucking them in with their night caps on, and hearing them say their evening prayers, "Now I lay me." Their mother having died they were under her special care. She would want us to be very quiet when it thundered. I can see her yet, sitting so reverently, and we, all around her with hardly a whisper, during a thunder storm. "Hush!" she would say. By we, I mean her two grand daughters and my sister and I. We grew up as real sisters and have always been so. When my stepsisters burned themselves they always ran quick to "Grannie" to blow over the burn and say Dutch words. I didn't have very much faith in it. I think I went to her once.

"Grannie," we called her, used to tell how, "when she was a girl, at her father's home—down along the river, the Indians used to come near them, and look at them, while they did their washing and scouring at the



river bank." I suppose they scoured pewter plates and milk lids, etc. I remember of a great large pewter plate and a smaller one in the old home. She told also, how "the children walked up to Bedford to church in the summer bare footed, and the town boys would spit on their feet." Those early days, the children, especially in the country, didn't have very fine shoes.

Mr. Simon Snider of New Enterprise says "I remember her quite well. She was the doctor in all Snake Spring Valley. When any body was sick they sent for 'Grannie Earnest.'" He relates several incidents of her life.

She could sew without glasses when she was about 97 or 98 years old. Her grand daughter, Mrs. Eliza Reis from Pittsburg, visited her and gave her a cambric handkerchief to hem which she wanted as a relic, also, took a lock of her hair to get braided, which was not clear white yet.

Eliza Reis' sister, Mary Clarke visited her about 1861. She was a lovely girl—had lived at St. Louis with friends, where she had been burned so terribly by gas, that she was disfigured. Just before she left, we children went with her to Summer Ridge and gathered huckleberries, which she took along. We broke off the bushes and carried to her and she picked them off. She was not strong enough to get around. She had her brother John along; she was taking him along to the West. They rode horse back to the Sulphur Springs. She had never been on a horse before. Some one led the horse at first till she got started.

"Grannie" sewed 'till she was almost 100 years old. She hemmed and felled with such short stiches—beautiful work. † Every summer day she sat in the kitchen

door way with her work, mostly mending. She would not sew on Ascension day for any thing till she got a little bit childish, then she said "Dan and all the rest worked, and I will work too."

She got very childish the last year she lived, 1865 and 1866, dying in February 1866, 101 years old, as nearly as her son could tell. She did not know any of the family towards the last. We cared for her like a child.

She was the first person I saw die. I always had a childish curiosity to know how people died. Our parents with the younger children, started early one morning in a sled on a visit to my grandfather Arnold's, in Cumberland Valley, leaving their grist, as they called it then, at Wolfsburg Mill, till they returned. "Grannie" was asleep when they started. She never had been sick a day that we remembered. She did not get up as usual, and was drowsy. We saw there was something wrong and called in a neighbor that evening. The next morning dear old Mrs. Cook said, "children you are just scared about 'Grannie,' she will get better soon," but we knew her too well. I fed her coffee soup, which she ate as usual; the death rattle was in her throat, but I didn't know it. I went to the kitchen then, as she seemed to be resting. In about an hour I heard her, ran in, calling the other children, who were near, but she breathed her last before they got in. I often think of that moment; I, a child of fifteen years alone with that centenarian and the Angel of Death. Away over in Germany one hundred and one years before that, the Angel of birth had come to a home, and they christened a little girl Susannah Defibaugh.

She used to say to my mother, "I had twelve child-

ren, six boys and six girls. My boys all died before they grew up but Dan. He never saw any of his brothers."

Her daughter Betsy saw a great deal of trouble. She had married a German, named Stuby. They lived in Somerset Co. He got money every now and then from Germany. One day he went to the town of Somerset to get his money as usual, expecting to be home till evening. They waited on him for supper; she went out and called and called for him. He never returned. They always thought he had drawn his money and had been murdered. She came back with her children and lived awhile with her mother and Daniel. She married again, a man named Edenbaugh. They lived out from Bedford, I think in the old stone house near Bee Millers. He was working at a lime kiln; got his foot fast in some way, some one poured a bucket of water around his leg. He met a terrible death. Again she came home to her mother—with one child, Daniel Edenbaugh. After the Stuby children were grown they each got some money from Germany—I think over \$2,000 in all. Daniel Earnest used to say "I always had a large family to keep."

Without a father's care or help, supporting his mother and others of the family from boyhood, thrown in company with rough wagoners—a whole bar-room full some times at the old taverns, where they slept on the floor around the big fire places and told stories or cracked their whips and drank and cursed and swore—with such an environment Daniel rose above it all—sober, honest, industrious, pure and upright; despising low and mean acts—one of God's noblemen—a Christian.

The only habit he formed that he regretted was chewing tobacco. He said "the men he worked with gave it to him to chew when a boy. He battled with this habit nearly all his life. At last he conquered it.

He was always a great peace maker in the communities in which he lived. I remember of an incident during the war, at his old home in Milligan's Cove. An old gentleman was visiting his brother, a near neighbor of ours. They differed in politics. The north was jubilant over the fall of Vicksburg and the conquest at Gettysburg on July 4th 1863. This was too much for the one brother. The other one started home in his buggy. It was nearly night and a great thunder storm coming up—the Mullin gap would have been midnight darkness,. My step father went out and stopped him, talked with him and plead wih him not to part with his old brother in such a way. He did not go on. I do not remember if he went back to his brothers or stayed all night at our home. I think though, Daniel went back with him and they became reconciled.

Daniel Earnest lived to a gold age, dying in September 1901 at the age of 83 years. He and my mother are buried in the beautiful cemetery at Messiah church.

## CHAPTER XI.

### JOHANNAS EARNEST.

Johannas Earnest, son of Henry and Eve Earnest. Raised his family in the large old log house over on the hill from the old saw mill, at Imlertown. Adam Earnest says, "he married a wife far away from here. I feel sure he is buried in a little old grave yard near Pleasant Valley; there is no grave stone but my father always helped to clean it up and made me help—as they were relatives. I am sure they lie there."

1. Adam Earnest, married Hettie Holderbaum. He died May 20., 1872, aged 84 years. Hettie died Sept. 27, 1880, aged 82 years.
  1. Betsey Earnest, married Johnathan Bowser.
    1. Emma, married Emery Dicken.
    2. Mary, married Newton Drenning.
    3. Jacob, married Amanda Milburn.
    4. Aaron, married Lizzie Ridenour.
    5. David, married Maggie Little.
    6. Isaac, married Susan Croyle.
  2. Michael Earnest, married Beckie Zimmers.
    1. Sarah, married George Mosey.
      1. Ella, married, lives in Pittsburg.
    2. Philip, married Marietta Wisegarver.
      1. Ella, married Emanuel Hemming.
    3. Beckie. Dead.
    4. Hettie. Dead.
    5. Eliza. Dead.
  3. Hetty Earnest died June 15th, 1903, aged 73

- years, 6 months and 18 days, married David Snavely, died March 16th, 1910, aged 80 years, 9 months and 23 days.
1. John, married Barbara Feight.
    1. Charles, married Myrtle Swartz.
      1. Charles Von.
    2. Gilbert, married Catharine Johns.
      1. John. 2. Catharine.
    3. Gertrude.
    4. Pearle.
    5. Percy, married Phoebe Weaverling.
      1. Richard.
    6. Mary.
  2. Frank, married Catharine Misner.
  3. Dubbs, married Emma Zimmers.
  4. Lizzie, died July 12, 1905, aged 44 years, married Joseph Reighard.
    1. J. Roy. 2. Frank.
  5. Mary, married Geo. F. Zimmers.
    1. Harry, married Nell Hershberger.
      - One child.
  6. Ida, married Bruce Zimmers.
    1. Fred. 2. David. 3. Mary.
  4. Mary Anne Earnest lives in Bedford.
  5. Susan Earnest, married Jacob Zimmers, both dead.
    1. David E., married Annie Imler, daughter of Isaac Imler.
      1. Ella.
      2. Calvin, married Stella Hudson.
        1. Edna. 2. Lourene.
      3. Sarah, married William Claycomb.
        1. Elmer. 2. Erle. 3. Catharine.

4. Alvin.
4. Minnie.
2. Susan, married Thomas Earnest, live in Altoona. See Geo. Earnest's line.
  1. Gertrude, married Geo. Hargreaves.
  2. Alma.
3. Sarah, married James Sill of Kansas. She died Sept. 1910.
  1. Herbert. 2. Oliver. 3. Hattie.
6. John Earnest. Dead.
7. Beckie Earnest, never married. Dead.
8. Adam Earnest, 78 years old. Lives in Pleasant Valley, near Bedford. Married Mary Ann Earnest, daughter of Geo. Earnest. See George Earnest's line.
  1. George Earnest, married Christie Hyde, daughter of Jno. Hyde.
    1. Stella. 2. Gladys. 3. Millie.
    4. George Raymond. 5. Margaret.
  2. William Earnest, married Nora Mechly.
    1. Catharine. 2. Marie.
  3. Malinda Earnest, married Gregory White.
  4. Elmira Earnest, married Lee Diehl, son of Michael Diehl.
    1. Charles Lester. Dead.
  5. Rosa, married George Allison.
2. Eve Earnest, married Henry Claar.
  1. Susan Claar, married — Stickler.
    1. Samuel Stickler, married Polly Imler.
      1. Mary, married — Atwell.
      2. Sadie, married Wm. Bridaham.
      3. Eve, married Charles Atwell.

4. Mike. 5. Isaac.
2. Mary Ann Stickler, married William Earnest. Same Earnest line Johannes 1st.  
Daughter, married Levi Imler.
3. Beckie Stickler, married Jacob Shunk.
  1. Ella, married Albert Hughes.
  2. David, married Margaret Dibert.  
See George Earnest's line.
  3. Henry, married — Hemming.
4. Sarah Stickler, married Daniel Price.
5. Joseph Stickler, married Lizzie Barnhart.
  1. George, married Emma Struckman.
  2. Annie, dead.
  3. William, married Maggie Imler.
  4. David. 5. Calvin. 6. Jacob.
2. Rachael Claar, married Zachariah Koontz.
  1. Maria Koontz married George Yount.
  2. Hettie Koontz, married Frank Beegle.
  3. Mamie Koontz at home.
  4. Adam Koontz, married Mary Eversole.
3. Sarah Claar, married Nicholas Russell.
  1. Peter.
4. Betsy Claar, married Adam Koontz.
  1. Annie, married Michael Koontz.
5. Beckie Claar, married Lewis Ling. Moved to Tenn. Died there.
  1. Sarah. 2. Anna. 3. Frank.
6. Henry Claar, married Rebecca Helsel.
  1. William. 2. Mary. 3. Joanna. 4. Nettie. 5. Laura. 6. Blanche, twin sisters.
  7. Calvin. Six children dead.
7. Rosan Claar, married George Riddle. No



children. Went west. He died there. She came back several years ago and died here aged 80 years.

8. Hettie Claar, married Thomas Amick.
  1. Blanche, married Frank. Herkins. Live in West Huntingdon.
  2. Elmer, married Lizzie Lybarger.
  3. Samuel, married Mary Cole.
  4. Beckie.
  5. Maggie, married Harry Bagly.
  6. Mike, married Lila Smith.
3. John Earnest, died Sept. 15, 1870 aged 73 years, 9 months and 13 days. Buried at the Albright church. Married Mary Stiffler, died at the age of 54 years, 4 months and 12 days.
  1. John Earnest. A very religious man. Attended the Albright church.
  2. Maria Earnest, married John Croyle.
    1. Thomas. 2. Michael.
    3. Emma, married Joseph Smith.
    4. Mary, married Adam Bamer.
  3. Mary Earnest, married David Hite. No children. Lived in old log house for a long time, built a new house at head of dam, never finished it, went west.
  4. Michael Earnest, married Hannah Friend.
    1. William. Lived in Morrison's Cove.
    2. Mary.
  5. Henry Earnest, married Caroline Hoover. Moved west.
  6. Samuel Earnest. Lived at a place called "The Swites."

7. William Earnest, married Mary Ann Stickler, a daughter married Levi Imler.
4. Michael Earnest, died April 27, 1852, aged 52 years, 7 months and 17 days.
  1. William, married Catharine Fetter, daughter of Samuel Earnest. See George Earnest line.
    1. Harry, married Miss Stoudenour.
5. Rachael Earnest, married 1st Samuel Claar, 2nd Riley.
  1. Susan, aged 79 years, married William Murry.
    1. Mary. 2. Chas. 3. William.
  2. Mary, dead. Married William Fletcher.
    1. John.
    2. Eliza, married William Easter.
      1. Laura, married William Imler.
        1. Harry. 2. Thomas. 3. Mary.
    3. Ella, married Dan Mock.
      1. Percy. 2. Frank. 3. Elsie.
      4. Virgil. 5. Dorothy.
    4. Susie.
    5. Thomas, married Miss Miller.
      1. Grace.
  3. William, married Sophia Jones. Dead.
    1. Lottie.
    2. Samuel, dead. Married Bridget OShea.
      1. Edith. 2. Helena. 3. James.
    3. Ella, dead. Married Hershberger.
    4. Ida, dead. Married Bonner.
    5. William.
  4. Emma, aged 68 years, married Adam Leonard.
    1. Jerome, married Savannah Rice.

1. George, married Basil Bee Miller.
2. William. 3. Virginia. 4. Agnes, twin sisters. 5. Walter. 6. Edgar.
2. Ella, dead.
3. Ambrose, married Emma Dugan.
  1. Lida. 2. Mary. 3. Adam.
  4. Thelma, dead.
4. James, married Jane Rice.
  1. Earl. 2. Annie. 3. Charles.
  4. Mary. 5. Theora.
5. John, married Maggie Lehman.
  1. Anastasia, dead. 2. Bernadetta.
  3. Paul. 4. Mary. 5. Regis.
6. Mary, married Henry Straub.
  1. Adam. 2. Francis. 3. Alice.
  4. Magdaline. 5. Faye. 6. Emma.
7. Emma, married F. J. Deckerhoof.
  1. Madalin, dead. 2. Kathlyn.
8. Sylvester, married Lizzie Fachtman.
  1. Dorothy. 2. Bruce. 3. Hubert.
9. Anthony, married 1st Loretto Giffin.
  1. Francis, dead.
- 2nd wife Alice O'Neal.
  1. Marie. 2. Catharine, twins.
  3. Regis. 4. Joseph.
5. Ruth aged 65 years, married Richard Price.
  1. William. 2. Mary. 3. Cleveland.
  4. Walter. 5. Oscar. 6. George.
  10. Lucy.
  11. Alice.
  12. David.
6. Henry Earnest, died Jan. 25, 1881, aged 75 years, 8 months and 10 days. Married

Maria Corboy, died June 22, 1851, aged 35 years, 2 months and 29 days.

1. Eliza Earnest, married Michael Zimmers.
  1. Michael. 2. Frank. 3. Harvy.
  4. Natie, married Charles Reighard.
  5. Lizzie, married Henry Shafer.
  6. Gertie, married Harry Smith.
2. Susan Earnest, married Joseph Kegg. No children.
3. William Earnest, married Angelina Wolf. Live on Pigeon Hills. Had family.
4. Joseph Earnest of Bedford, married Mary Ellen Amick.
  1. George. 2. Calvin.
  3. Daisy, married Arthur Huzzard.
5. James Earnest, dead.
7. Frederick Earnest, married Elizabeth Sill, sister of Henry Sill.
  1. Jacob, went west 40 years ago. Back 2 years ago, took picture of old house, at Phillips' home, said he was a descendant of "Indian Eve."
  2. Daniel, went west.

In the second chapter I said that "Johannas may have been the oldest in the family."

Before last November I had nothing on this line. Mrs. Henry Sill told me before she died that she thought there was one son Johannas. I knew there were a lot of Earnests that likely were his descendants but I could not find any one who could go back far enough. I had about given up finding him when Mrs. Phillips said, "Write to Adam Earnest of Pleasant Valley." I did so, and he replied. "My father was

Adam Earnest, and his father was Johannas Earnest who escaped from the Indians when they killed his father, Henry Earnest, and captured his mother, Eve Earnest and two boys." Adam Earnest was the only one I found who knew that Henry was the name of the father who was killed by the Indians. I had found this in a history of Bedford Co. While gathering data all winter on this line—some of it after the other chapters were off the press, I find that Johannas was the oldest of the family. Mrs. Phillips seemed to have the idea that he was old, as she thought he might have been a brother to Henry, who was killed. Adam Earnest soon set this right, and, I am so thankful, as the genealogy would have been very incomplete without this line. I am also indebted to Mrs. Ida Snavely Zimmers and John Leonard of Bedford, Pa. R. F. D., and Mrs. Frank. Herkins and Mrs. Hettie Flake of Huntingdon, Pa., who have so generously assisted.

I tried to get photographs in this line but failed. If I had found them sooner, I think I could have gotten some.

## CHAPTER XII.

### HENRY EARNEST.

Daniel Earnest always said, "Henry went to Greensburg, and Mike went west." By the records, Henry had been married, and, had lived quite awhile in Dutch Corner, near Bedford, before he went to Greensburg, as his oldest daughter Susan, married Michael Dibert there. After quite an effort, by correspondence with the postmaster, Mr. Lyon, at Greensburg, I found Henry's descendants a few months ago. I give the letters with record.

Greensburg, Pa., Oct. 29, 1910.

Mrs. Replogle,

Dear Madam:

I received your letter and have been trying to collect what I could for you. Your first letter I gave to Charles Earnest and he sent it to his home in Delmont, where Peter and Jacob, two sons of Henry Earnest lived, and I have waited for the return of the letter and any information they could give, but they have so far failed to return the letter or any information. Also, there was an old gentleman, who told me that there was an old history that mentioned Henry Earnest and family, in several places, and he would get it for me, but he has so far failed to do so. I tried to get John M. Hawk to see Charles Earnest, the mail carrier in Greensburg, who represents the Delmont

people, and appoint a meeting and we would see what we could do. But I could not get them together.

Yours respectfully,

M. B. Kettering,

Greensburg, Pa.

R. D. No. 4, Box 100.

P. S. I could not get a photograph anywhere.

M. B. K.

Henry Earnest and wife, Margaret, settled within one mile of Greensburg, the County seat of Westmoreland Co. Pa. He had a large tract of land at first, but sold all but 114 acres that was left at his death, and was divided between the heirs, and there is only two pieces of the land held by any of the relations, the old homestead part is held by a great grandson, Edward H. Kemp, and the other is held by my father, Adam Kettering. Henry Earnest and my father, Adam Kettering paid, a visit to Bedford Co. in 1847 or along there some where. They went in a one horse sleigh instead of a carriage, and when they returned home my father had to walk a good many places where the snow had left.

Henry Earnest was born March 28th, 1772, died March 3th, 1857 aged 85 years and two days. Margaret Miller, his wife, was born October 14th, 1766, died May 17th, 1851 aged 85 years, eight months and three days. They had seven children: Susan married to Michael Dibert; Elizabeth married to George Kettering; Elizabeth had children, their names are as follows: William, Henry, Adam, Michael, Jacob, John, Margaret and Daniel. Elizabeth was born April 10th, 1799, died January 18th, 1894, aged 94 years 9 months and 8 days. John married to Eliza Portzes; they had eight children,

namely: Sarah, Catharine, Eliza, Margaret, Henry, Hannah, John and Jacob.

Jacob married Mary Shaffer; George died when young; Catharine was married to George Hawk; they had eight children namely: Samuel, Henry, John, George, Amos, Margaret, Catharine and Daniel.

Peter was married to Sarah Shaffer. Jacob and Peter were the two that lived at Delmont, and if the friends send anything pertaining to the history, I will forward it to you.

Of these three families living here, there is but five grand children living: in Elizabeth Kettering's family, there is Adam, who was 85 in September, and Michael and Daniel; in John Earnest's family one, Mrs. Eliza Thomas; in Catharine Hawk's family one, Mrs. Margaret Price. My father says the Earnests were captured by the Indians, nine miles above Bedford, and on the trip to Detroit they were treated well, when the Indians had plenty they had plenty. Mrs. Earnest carried her child on her back the greater part of the way. She worked in the harvest field and Henry kept the crows and black birds off of the corn. When in captivity they were prisoners two years and nine months, they were at Detroit when Hannistown was burnt.

You will have to excuse all blunders for this is a new thing to me.

Yours,

M. B. Kettering.

Great grand son of Henry Earnest.

Mr. Kettering says "his father and Henry Earnest came to Bedford Co. in a sleigh instead of a carriage." I had written to him what Mrs. Phillips had told me last summer. "Henry Earnest visited my parents



about 51 or 52 years ago. His son-in-law, Michael Dibert of Claysburg, was with him. They came to our place on Saturday; stayed over Sunday and visited the Diberts and then stopped at our place on their way back. They came in a buggy—one of the first buggies around. If I remember rightly it was a carriage.”

Henry may have made two visits, or only one as these dates are not definite. Coming to Claysburg in a sleigh and from there to Dutch Corner in a buggy or carriage is easily understood.

Nov. 5, 1910.

I received your letter of Nov. 1st and was glad to hear that my letter on the Henry Earnest family would help you.

My father says “Henry was about nine years old when taken prisoner and Mike was about two years old, he says that he heard his grand-father say so.

I have asked a good many old people about Mike and none of them knew any thing about him. My father says he could not tell if he went west. It appears that the Earnest families did not communicate together very much. Father says that he always heard his grand-father and his mother say that they were in captivity two years and nine months with the British and the Indians and at the conclusion of peace they were liberated.

The only thing he can tell is, that the mother had to work in the field and that Henry had to keep the crows and black birds off of the corn.

The fort was on the hill at Hannistown. The property belongs to William Steel, of Hannistown, and the Steel family had their dead buried in the cemetery

where the old settlers were buried and Wm. Steel has erected a fine monument for his family.

I talked to an old gentleman some time ago who asked me whether I had ever seen my great grandfather, Henry Earnest, and he told me, he talked to him many a time, and he said "he was a jolly, good man and was always in a good humor." I tried to find him, but he went away, and his friends say he will not be back for some time.

There are several great grand children here, but I could not get them interested in trying to help me, so, I had to do the best I could.

Respectfully yours,

M. B. Kettering,

Greensburg, Pa.

R. D. 4 Box 100.

About the only thing that the Bedford county descendants and the Greensburg Earnests differ positively about, is the time that Mrs. Eve Earnest and her boys were in captivity.

Mrs. Phillips says "George Earnest was from 12 to 15 years old at the time of the Indian massacre and was married when his mother returned." He was born in April 1762 so, if he was 15 years old at the time of the massacre this agrees exactly with the date I have given it—1777. George Earnest's oldest son, Johannes 2nd was born in April 1786, the year that his mother returned if she was taken captive in 1777 and gone 9 years. Henry Earnest was born in March 1772. This would make him only 5½ years old when they were captured. Mr. Kettering says he was 9 years old then. If the massacre was later this would not agree with George and Jacob Earnest's ages etc., but it would

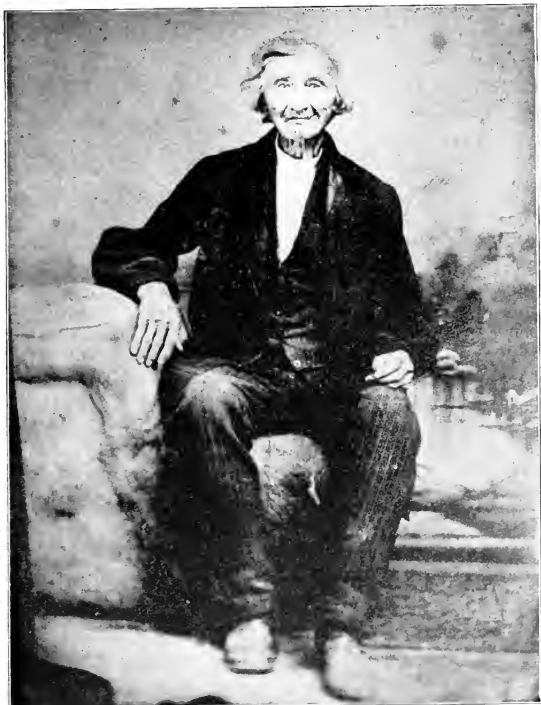
agree with Henry's age, and Mrs. Earnest and her boys being gone only 2 years and 9 months, and liberated in 1883, at the time of the treaty of peace, at the close of the Revolutionary war. But we can not decide the time of their being released by the time of the Treaty of Peace because the British held Fort Detroit until 1796, and some of the captives had been bought of the Indians and had to work a certain number of years for their ransom. The Bedford county folks all say "she was gone 9 years." She made the money to buy her pony by what she earned above her daily wages." Mr. Utley librarian of the Public Library, Detroit, Michigan, says "It is quite probable that there were cultivated fields near the fort and that Mrs. Earnest may have worked in the harvest field, and, that the boy may have driven the crows and black birds from the corn fields." He also says, "I have no knowledge of Hannistown."

Mr. Kettering says, "It appears that the Earnest families did not communicate together very much." This is true, as George, Mollie and Johannas, all raised their families in the old neighborhood, and Jacob's family were raised near Everett, only a half days journey away, yet they did not seem to know much of each other. Those early days they did not write many letters, as there were few post offices, money was scarce and postage high.

Henry Earnest, son of Henry and Eve Earnest, was born Mar. 28, 1772 died Mar. 30, 1857, aged 85 years and 2 days. Married Margaret Miller born October 14, 1766 died May 17, 1851, aged

85 years, 8 months and 3 days.

1. Susan Earnest married Michael Dibert, lived at Claysburg, Blair Co., Pa.
  1. Jacob Dibert lived at Claysburg. Had a store there. Died in 1906. Was killed by an auto scaring his horses while driving in a wagon.
  2. Mary Ann Dibert married ——— Burket. Deceased. These descendants live at Claysburg.
2. Elizabeth Earnest, born April 10, 1779, died Jan. 18, 1894. Aged 94 yrs. 9 mo. 8 days. Married Geo. Kettering.
  1. William, married Eliza Kintz.
    1. Sarah E. 2. Mary M. 3. Margaret.
    4. Frank. 5. Harriet. 6. George.
    7. Henry. 8. Anna. 9. Kate.
    10. William. 11. John.
  2. Henry, married Anna Lowry.
    1. Margaret. 2. Anna. 3. Rachel.
    4. Martha. 5. Helen. 6. Benjamin.
    7. Harry.
  3. Adam, married Eliza Motz.
    1. Michel B. 2. Catharine A. 3. George W.
    4. Emma E. 5. Margaret M. 6. John F.
    7. Edward T. 8. Henry H. 9. Lewis O.
    10. Herman P.
  4. Michael.
  5. Jacob.
  6. John, married in the state of Oregon and I do not know his wife's name, they had two children.
    1. Edward. 2. Emma.



JACOB EARNEST, SON OF HENRY EARNEST OF GREENSBURG.

7. Margaret, married W. G. Moore.
  1. George. 2. Robert.
8. Daniel, married Sophia Zimmerman.
  1. Harry.
3. John Earnest married Eliza Portzes.
  1. Sarah. 2. Catharine.
  3. Eliza Earnest, married Mr. Thomas.
    1. Anna, married Thomas Evans.
    2. Margaret, married Mr. Hensil.
    3. Mary, married Mr. Watson.
    4. Frank. 5. Catharine.
  4. Margaret. 5. Henry. 6. Hannah.
  7. John. 8. Jacob.
4. Jacob Earnest, born Jan. 2, 1805, died Mar. 6, 1884, aged 79 yrs. married Madaline Shaffer, in 1827, lived at Delmont, Pa.
  1. Mary Earnest living, aged 81 yrs. married to Andrew Baker.
    1. Edward. 2. John.
  2. John Earnest, died about 7 years ago. Age 69 years.
    1. William. 2. Mrs. Annie Simpson.
    3. Mrs. Maude Simpson.
  3. Sarah Earnest married Henry Ridenour.
    1. Harry. 2. Clark. 3. Jennie. 4. Bertha.
    5. Emma.
  4. Lydia Earnest, married William Watters.
    1. Israel. 2. Sylvester. 3. Jefferson.
    4. Charles. 5. Harry. 6. Minerva.
    7. Anna. 8. Bertha.
  5. Jacob Earnest Jr. died over 30 ears ago.
    1. Robert. 2. Alexander. 3. Elizabeth.
    4. Mattie.

6. Hettie Earnest, married Obediah Blose.
    1. Jacob. 2. William. 3. Laura.
    4. Harriet. 5. Emma.
  7. Margaret Earnest, married James Wallace.
    1. Mary. 2. John. 3. Robert. 4. Joseph.
  8. Albert Earnest, born Jan. 6, 1848, died Mar. 21, 1884, aged 36 yrs.
    1. Elizabeth Catharine, born Sep. 18, 1871, married Dr. Simon P. Earnest.
      1. Clarence R. Earnest, aged 17 years.
    2. William Charles.
      1. Welty Shrum. 2. Mary Kane.
- P. S. Three children of Jacob Earnest died when young.
- 5 George Earnest, died when young.
  6. Catharine Earnest, married George Hawk. She died in 1854 and the husband in 1862.
    1. Samuel, married Elizabeth Kiper.
      1. Catharine. 2. Harriet. 3. Emma.
      4. Elizabeth. 5. Sarah. 6. John.
    2. Henry, married Rosannah Miller.
      1. George. 2. Amos. 3. Ella. 4. Nancy.
      5. Henry. 6. Francis. 7. Lewis.
      8. Margaret.
    3. John, married Elizabeth Keihl.
      1. Anna. 2. Harriet. 3. Mamie.
      4. Edward. 5. Margaret.
    4. George died when a young man.
    5. Amos, married Catharine Laughery.
      1. Emma. 2. Grant. 3. Anna. 4. Alice.
      5. Nora. 6. Walter. 7. James. 8. Abbie.
    6. Margaret E., married Francis James Price.
      1. Thomas, dead. 2. Edward dead.
      3. Margaret E.

Mr. Price was in the Union Army and fell at the battle of Gettysburg.

7. Daniel, married Anna Harkins.
  1. Harry. 2. Alford. 3. Mary.
  4. Margaret. 5. Arthur.
8. Catharine, married Augustus Allison.
  1. William. 2. Charles. 3. Morrison.
  4. Harvy. 5. Henry.
7. Peter Earnest, born May 28, 1809, died Aug. 23, 1856, aged 47 years. Lived at Delmont, Pa. Married Sarah Shaffer, sister of Jacob's wife, Aug. 6, 1830.
  1. Simon Peter Earnest, born Jan. 1834, died Apr. 1880, aged 45 yrs.
    1. Simon Peter, born Oct. 6, 1865 M. D. D. D. S. Married Elizabeth Catharine Earnest. See Jacob Earnest's line. Jacob of Delmont, Pa.
    2. Clarke Warden, born Dec. 4, 1871.
  2. George Earnest, born Dec. 9, 1835.
    1. Harry George Earnest.
  3. Sarah Catharine Earnest, married William McCutcheon, a Lieutenant in Civil War. Died in service.
    1. John, living in Wyoming.
  4. William James Earnest, born Sept. 21, 1840.
    1. Emma. 2. Adda.
  5. Jacob Benjamin Earnest, born Mar. 17, 1844.
    1. William. 2. Josiah. 3. Elizabeth.
  6. Margaret Amanda Earnest, born June 11, 1846, died in 1888. Married Josiah Martz. No children living.



Mrs. Sarah C. McCutcheon is the only living child of Peter Earnest's family, aged 72 years.

Simon, George, William and Jacob, four sons of Peter Earnest all enlisted in the Civil War. Two died in service. The other two came home broken down in health and died in the prime of life.

Mrs. Margaret E. Price, of Greensburg, Pa., grand daughter of Henry Earnest says:

"I am a daughter of Catharine Earnest Hawk.

My grand father Earnest often told us how he and his mother and brother were taken by the Indians, and the thrilling experiences they had. He was sent out to gather killdeer's eggs and some times he would be so very tired he would lie down and fall asleep. Once when he awoke a very large black snake was close to his head. He said he was awfully scared and ran away as fast as he could go.

He told how the Indians tried in every way to keep him when they were exchanged—had him dressed Indian style—a bunch of feathers tied on his head and a string of beads around his neck."

Mr. M. B. Kettering, of Greensburg, Pa., and Mrs. Dr. S. P. Earnest of Delmont, Pa., have made it possible to give this geneology.

Mrs. Margaret E. Price of Greensburg, assisted also. Through a misunderstanding and sickness John Earnest's family are not as complete as the others. I am sorry for this.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### MICHAEL EARNEST.

All that is known of Mike—the two year old baby boy who was carried to Fort Detroit on his mother's back, is, that he went West.

Mr. Utley, Librarian at Detroit says "there are so many Earnests in that city." I have thought that he might have settled there.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### A CLOSING WORD.

In the beginning of this work, I intended to give the descendants of the hero of the Story, down to about the great, great grand children, running out a few to show the number of generations. I thought that far, would enable all to see where they belonged in the different lines. To give a complete genealogy of all, down to the youngest, was more than I cared to undertake. I have had the experience of all who try to gather such data. A few persons did not even reply; others wrote but hardly gave their names; while many were so interested that they gave complete family records and photographs, and offered to help in any way they could. "What good does it all do" says one. Is there no good in knowing what kind of ancestors we have had? The biography, of good brave and noble ancestors ought to inspire us to do great things with our opportunities and advantages. We do not half appreciate the blessings which are ours, made possible only by the hardships and trials of those who have blazed the way in the past.

And now the work is done—my own part very imperfectly executed. It seemed, some times, like gathering jewels from dear old people, as they stood on the river's brink, looking across to the other shore. I commit to it the descendants of this noble, brave and patient mother. With the labor, there has been pleasure in harmonizing the data from the different lines. The reader will notice the namesakes—Eve.

I have been wondering if there is not some leading spirit in this large geneology, who will start a movement to erect a suitable memorial to mark the grave of this good woman. If not soon, it ought to be done in 1915—the one hundredth anniversary of her death. A marker there, has been a dream of Mrs. Wm. Phillips. I hope she may live to realize its fulfillment.

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### OMISSIONS AND ERRORS.

On page eleven—Thomas Dibert married a Miss Robb, not Rock. On same page there are two children of this large family omitted, Isaac Dibert, and a sister who died from eating wild cherries.

On page fifty-two—Henry Earnest should be David Earnest, married Leah Reighard, daughter of Conrad Reighard. Had several sons in the west.

On same page—same family—  
7. Daniel Earnest, moved to Ill. Died there. Adam Earnest says “He married Dolly Shull.” So on page forty-nine I got the wrong Daniel.

On page fifty-five—some of the copies say “Sarah Fetters.” It should read “Sarah Imler.”

On page one hundred and eleven—the names Lucy, Alice and David, should go above Ruth instead of below.

There are a few other errors.

