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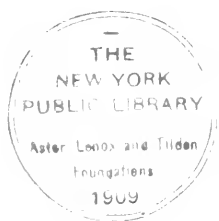
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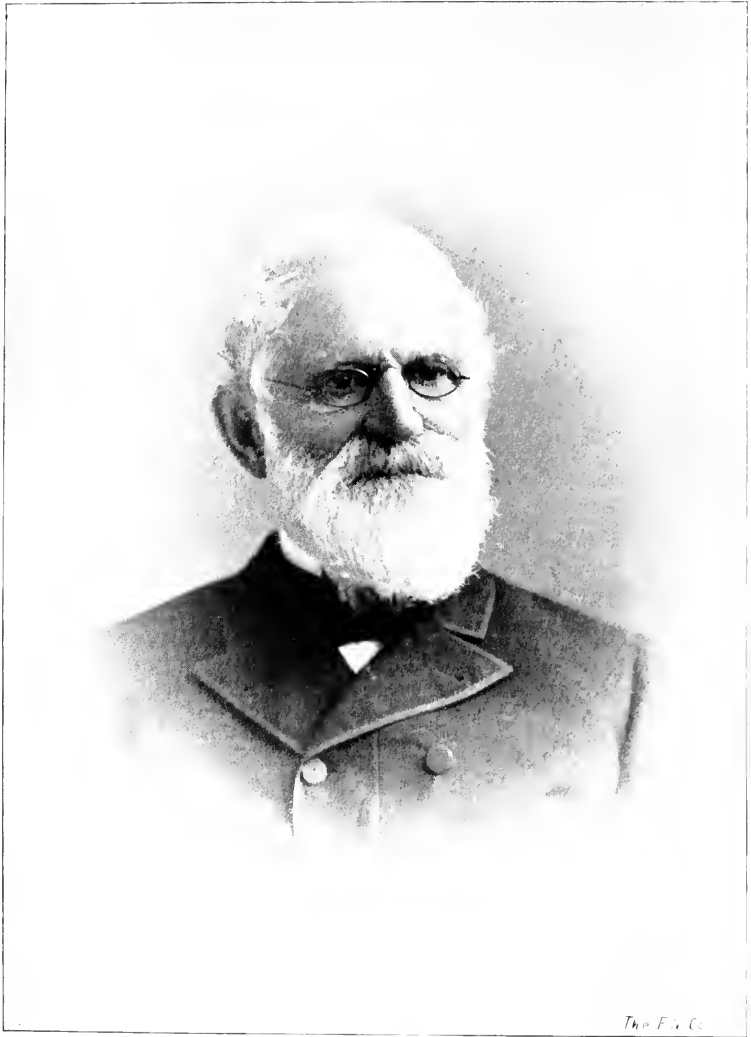
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Corson
Corson







HIRAM CORSON, M. D.

The Corson Family

A History of the Descendants

of

BENJAMIN CORSON

Son of Cornelius Corssen
of Staten Island, New York

by

Hiram Corson, M. D.

of

Plymouth Meeting, Pa.

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The plates for these illustrations, with a single exception, have been prepared expressly for this work. The pictures of the various homes and other buildings, are from photographs made especially for the book, by Wm. H. Richardson, Norristown, Pa.

* This portrait was missing when the book was received, April 15, 1908.
H.S.

PREFACE.

Prior to 1860 I knew almost nothing about the genealogy of our family ; in June of that year an incident occurred that turned my attention strongly to the work of looking it up. I had on the first day of that year's meeting of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society, which I was attending, introduced a resolution that gave much offense, and, in the discussion which ensued, impassioned speeches were made by my opponents and myself. As soon as it was over, Dr. Henry Drayton came to me and wanted to know of what nationality the Corsons were. I told him that I really did not know ; I only knew that we were said to date from Staten Island about two hundred years ago. He said he knew we were Huguenots, but before he could explain himself, other friends, excited by the discussion, pressed forward to speak to me and so intercepted further conversation on that subject. I regretted not to be able to enquire what had caused him to think we were Huguenots, and when I reached home I related what had occurred to my brother Alan, who was sixteen years older than myself. He at once stepped to his library and took down Weiss' "History of the Huguenots," in the appendix of which he found that two ships had left France, bound for Charleston, South Carolina, on which were a number of families fleeing from French persecution. As related in the first chapter of this work, one of the vessels reached Charleston, as intended, but the other was carried by stress of weather, or other causes, to Staten Island. Among the passengers aboard the first vessel, the one that went to Charleston, was one named Drayton, who was doubtless the ancestor of my friend, Dr. Drayton, who had set me thinking about family

history. My friend had evidently been familiar with the names of those who were on board the vessel which landed at Staten Island, and concluded at once that I was a descendant of the one whose name appears in the list of passengers as Coursen. These are the names of others on that vessel : Larselue (now Larzelere), Bedell, Rutan, Poillon, La Conte, Mercaran, Butten, Maney, Cruse (now Cruzen or Kreuzen) De Pue, Martineau, Morgane, Leguine, Journey, and *La Tourette*. I have italicized the last named for cause : Some years ago my son, Dr. Joseph K. Corson, Assistant Surgeon United States Army, while stopping at Omaha, was introduced to Chaplain James A. M. La Tourette, who, on hearing the name Corson, at once said, "You are a Huguenot and my ancestor, Jean La Tourette, was on the vessel that brought your ancestor, Cornelius Coursen, to Staten Island." Chaplain James A. M. La Tourette was, in 1851, "Pastor of my little Church of the Huguenots (Staten Island), built for me in that year." I had much interesting correspondence with this good man, who regretted the paucity of narratives left by the Staten Island Huguenots or Refugees as he called them. He attributed this to the ignorance caused by the Revolutionary War and antecedent disturbances, which prevented the people from taking a normal interest in educational matters. Staten Island being often the seat of trouble, its people were especially affected in this way. Mr. La Tourette has written me interesting accounts of the Staten Island Refugees; of their little log churches which were made to serve as school houses; of how they went in groups to different portions of the Island (then mainly inhabited by the Dutch), and to other places—each group constituting itself into a separate community.

In the forepart of the Eighteenth Century one of these little groups came to Bucks County in the vicinity of Addisville, and there established homes. They built their little log church which served the double purpose of worship and education. In that group were my great-great-grandparents

and their son, Benjamin, the second. The little log school was still standing when I was a boy, just as it was built by our Huguenot fathers. I recollect seeing it very well; John Corson, son of Esquire John, taught school there at that time. The old homestead where the first Benjamin settled when he came from Staten Island was on the "Middle Road" half a mile below the school house, and a few miles further on was another log school or church built by another group of Huguenot settlers. Time and the spirit of improvement have long since destroyed the old home and the little log church, but the graves in the graveyard with their marble slabs are there, much the same as when they were newly made. From the seven rows of graves—one for each family—it would seem that the Addisville group of Huguenots was composed of seven families. I have twice visited the place since 1888, but the little "Huguenot Graveyard," as it was then called, is all that is left to tell us of our early fathers.

The facts, which are here presented, concerning the Corson family, have been gathered in the midst of a busy life and with considerable difficulty. They are submitted with a belief in their substantial accuracy, though knowing full well that errors are almost unavoidable in a work of this kind. I may hope, at least, that the book will serve to stimulate interest in our family history, and, perhaps, become the basis for future records that will be more complete and freer from error.

The various papers supplied by Dr. Corson for insertion in this volume could not have the advantage of his final supervision in making them ready for publication. The task of arranging them in a suitable manner, and of editing the whole work so that it should be presented in most effective form, devolved upon George N. Highley, M. D., of Conshohocken, Penna., a great-nephew of Dr. Corson. The children of Dr. Corson desire to express here their high appreciation of the faithfulness and excellence of Dr. Highley's services.

See N.Y. Gen. & P. Rec.
[Records, Vol. 6, p. 221]

I

CORNELIUS CORSSEN.

Readers of French history know something of the persecutions inflicted on the Protestants after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV on October 18, 1685. Simondi computed the whole number who emigrated from France at that time, at 400,000, and supposed that an equal number perished on the gallows, in prisons, at the galleys, and in attempts at escape. Voltaire said: "600,000 fled carrying with them riches, their industry, and their implacable hatred of King." In 1685 two vessels with Huguenots left France for Charleston, South Carolina, but from some cause, perhaps stress of weather, one of them made a landing on Staten Island. In Weiss' History of French Protestant Refugees, Vol. II, page 315, are given the names of those who came in that vessel. These are the names there recorded: Resan, La Tourette, Cruse (now Cruzen or Kreuson), Corssen, Bedell, Larseleau (now Larzelere), and fourteen others. Weiss refers to the escape of one of the above parties, which is of interest as pointing to the part of France from which some of them, at least, came. He says: "Henri de La Tourette fled from La Vendee, after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. To avoid suspicion he gave a large entertainment, and, while the guests were assembled suddenly left with his wife for the sea coast where they boarded a vessel bound for South Carolina." On that vessel was Cornelius Corssen, the first ancestor of the Corsons in the United States.

There is in the records of Staten Island an account of a patent conveying to Cornelius Corssen, Andrew Jurianson,

Derrick Cornelison and John Peterson, 180 acres of land; sixty acres of which was conveyed to Cornelius Corsen, and forty acres to each of the others, "they yielding and paying therefore yearly and every year, for his royal highnesses use as a quit rent, two bushels of good winter wheat unto such officer or officers as shall be empowered to receive the same at New York." Another patent to the same parties conveyed 320 acres "westward of the Mill Creek"; beside this tract "thirty-two acres of salt meadow where most convenient" was conveyed. All of these were in Staten Island. Very little positive knowledge can be obtained of the family of Cornelius Corsen, but we know from his will, probated in 1693, that his wife's Christian name was Maritie, and that he had children, though he does not mention their names.

There can be no doubt that Benjamin, our ancestor who removed to Bucks County from Staten Island in about the year 1726, was one of his sons. It is equally probable that Jacob, who lived and died on Staten Island, and who made a will on October 8, 1742, disposing of a comfortable estate, was another. There is also good reason to believe that Christian, Cornelius, and Daniel were likewise his sons; for the first is spoken of in 1738, as a Lieutenant and Colonel, and again as a Judge, while Cornelius is mentioned as a Justice of the Peace, and Daniel as a "Clarke" (County Clerk). Among the records we find also that "on December 19, 1689, Lieutenant-Governor Leisler commissioned Cornelius Corsen, of Richmond, Staten Island, as a Justice, and also as Captain." This was very likely Cornelius, the immigrant.

As stated, Benjamin settled in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, but the others remained in the vicinity of Staten Island, and their descendants are to be found in that place, in New York State, and Northern New Jersey at the present time. We are concerned only in this narrative with the history of Benjamin, our ancestor, and his descendants. An account of them will be given in the following chapters. This one may be fittingly closed with the last Will and Testament of the founder of our family in America. It is evident

from the Will that he must have died sometime between December 9, 1692, and December 7, 1693, for on the first named date the Will was signed, and on the last named it was admitted to probate.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF CORNELIUS CORSSEN.

Registered for Maritie Corssen Widow Relict & Executrix to Cornelius Corssen dec'd.

In the name of God Amen ! I Cornelius Corssen of Staten Island within the county of Richmond in the province of New Yorke in America yeoman being sick in body but of sound and perfect minde and memory praise be therefore Given to Almighty God doe make and ordaine this my Present Last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say first and principally I commend my Soule into the hands of Almighty God hoping through the merrits Death and Passion of Jesus Christ my Savior to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all my sins and to inherit Everlasting life and my body I commit to The Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executrix hereafter named and Touching the disposition of all such Temporall Estate as itt hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as followeth

First I will that my debts and funerall charges shall be paid and Discharged

Item all the Rest residue of my Reall and personall Estate watsoever Lands and Tenements goods and chattels I doe give and bequeath unto my Loving and Deare wife Maritie Corssen for and dureing her naturall Live and after her decease the same Lands, Tenements Goods and chattels shall be Equally Divided between all my children Each child to have an equall portion or share but if my said wife Maritie Corssen shall happen to marry then my will and meaning is that the one halfe of all my Estate both Goods & chattels Lands and Tenements at the time of such her marriage shall be equally Divided between my children sufficient security being given by my said wife That the youngest childrens parte and portion of the same or soe many of my children as att the time of her marriage are not of the age of twenty-one years that the same shall be payd faithfully to each of them when they shall attain or come to the age of Twenty one yeares as aforesaid Dureing which age of twenty one yeares my will & meaning is that such young childes portion or parte shall be and Remaine in the hands of my said wife Maritie Corssen for such young childe or childrens Education She giving security for due payment of the same as afosd. and if any of my children shall happen to dye before they come or attain to the age of twenty one yeares that then such childe or childrens part shall be equally divided amongst such of my children as shall happen to survive and I doe hereby make my Loveing & deare wife Maritie Corssen before menconed full sole Executrix of this my last Will & Testament hereby revoking & making void all former Wills & Testament by me heretofore made.

In Wittness whereof I the said Cornelius Corssen to this my last Will & Testament have sett my hand & seale the ninth day of December in the yeare of our Lord Christe 1692.

CORN. CORSSEN [SEALE]

Sealed & subscribed by the said Cornelis Corssen in presence of Cornelis X Nephews Peter X Staes Tho. Carhartt

Benjamin Fletcher Captn. Generall and Governour in Cheife of the Province of New York Province of Pensilvania Country of New Castle and the Territoryes and tracts of Land Depending thereon in America and Vice Admiral of the same their Maj'ts Lieut Commander in Cheife of the Militia and of all the forces by sea and Land within their Maj'eis Collony of Connecticut and of all the forts and places of Strength within the same To all men whom these presents shall come Greeting Know ye that at New Yorke the seventh day of December Instant before me and my delegates the last will and testament of Cornelius Corssen of Staten Island Yeoman Deceased annexed to these presents was proved and allowed of having while he lived and at the time of his death goods Rights and credits in divers places within this Province by means whereof the approbacon and allowance of the said last will and testament and the granting of the adminstracon of all and singular the goods, rights and creditts of the sd. deceased as alsoe the hearing of account or rekonig of the sd adminstracon and the finall discharge and dismission from the same unto mee alone wholly and not unto another Inferior Judge are manifestly known to belong and the adminstracon of all and singular the goods, rights and creditts of the sd. dec'd. the sd. dec'd. and his will any manner of ways concerning was granted unto Maritie Widdow Relict and Executrix in the said will named Cheifly of well and truly administering the same and of making a full and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods reight and credits of the said deceased exhibiting the same unto the Registry of the prerogative Court at or before the seventh day of June now next ensueing and rendering a full and true account of the sd. administration being sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of God. In testimony whereof I have caused the Seale of the prerogative Court to be hereunto affixed at New York the Seventh day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and ninety-three New Yorke the 7th of December 1693. Then Maritie Corssen had the oath of an Executrix administered unto her before me thereunto authorized.

DAVID JAMESON *D. Secy,*

STATE OF NEW YORK,
CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, } *ss.*

I, JAMES F. McLAUGHLIN, Clerk of the Surrogate's Court of said City and County, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of the last Will and Testament of Cornelius Corssen, deceased, with the original record thereof now remaining in this office, and have found the same to be a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original record.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Surrogate's Court of the City and County of New York, this 15th day of Feby, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two.

[SEAL] JAMES F. McLAUGHLIN,
Clerk of the Surrogate's Court.

II.

THE THREE BENJAMINS.

There were more than three, but not of my own direct ancestors. My grandfather, my great-grandfather, and my great-great-grandfather were all named Benjamin. The last mentioned, BENJAMIN the first², son of Cornelius, the immigrant, came to Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in about the year 1726, bringing with him his son, Benjamin the second³, a boy about seven years old.

Many years ago my brother—Alan W. Corson—in looking up the history of the Corson family in Bucks County, discovered in the office of the Recorder of Deeds in that county, in Deed Book No. 5, page 231, the record of a deed given by Jeremiah Dungan and his wife, Mary, of Northampton Township, to Benjamin Corson, of Staten Island, County of Richmond, for 250 acres of land (described by metes and bounds); the consideration being three hundred and fifty pounds (£350). The deed is dated May 19, 1726, and it is likely that he removed from Staten Island to his newly purchased farm in Bucks County at about that time, bringing with him his wife, Nelly, and son, Benjamin, a boy about seven years of age. With them came also other Huguenot families that likewise settled in Northampton Township.

As would be expected of people who fled from their native land because of religious persecution, their first thought was for a place to worship in accordance with the dictates of their own conscience. They erected a small log building to serve as church and school house on the "Middle Road," just

below "White Bear Tavern." In my young days (about 1815) school was taught in this building by Teacher John Corson, son of Esquire John, who lived on the old homestead farm a mile further down the road. (Esquire John Corson was a great-grandson of Cornelius and Maritie Corson, of Staten Island).

The first Benjamin's wife was named Nelly, surname unknown. They lived on the farm which they purchased of Jeremiah and Mary Dungan until their death, the dates of which are unknown. My brother Alan visited the place several times between 1800 and 1823, the year in which Esquire John died, and remembered well the old barn, called the "Low Dutch Barn," with its straw thatched roof, quite high at the peak, but not over ten feet at the eaves. I have myself twice visited the place since 1889, but the old buildings, with the exception of the springhouse, were gone, or so altered that I could not see them as they were originally built.

Many years ago I was informed by my uncle Richard Corson, that his great-greatfather, Benjamin the first², the subject of this notice, was buried in the middle of the aisle of the Old Baptist Church in Southampton Township, near the Buck Tavern. If it was near the Buck Tavern it must have been in the Huguenot Church, as Uncle Richard added: "The old church was torn down and another built adjoining the 'Middle Road,' as being more central, which is now called 'Southampton Baptist Meeting.'" Uncle Richard seemed to make no distinction between the Huguenots, who, before his manhood, had lost much of their distinguishing characters by intermarriage, etc., and the Baptists, who had usurped the leading place.

BENJAMIN the second³, my great-grandfather, came to Bucks County, as before stated, with his father, in about the year 1726, when he was about seven or eight years of age. In reference to his age, the following incident will confirm what I have stated: In August, 1876, I visited New York, and on my return trip stopped off at Trenton to call on my

cousin, Dr. Thomas Johnson Corson, son of Dr. Richard D. Corson, of New Hope, Bucks Co., who resided there at that time. He showed me during the visit a small Dutch Bible, printed in 1734, on the fly-leaf of which was written: "Benj'n Corson His Book: Born in ye year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighteen." This would make him about eight years old at the time of his coming to Bucks County with his father in 1726. So far as is positively known Benjamin the first² and Nelly had but one child, Benjamin the second³, but I think it quite probable that Capt. Henry Corson of the Associated Regulars of Bucks County, who served in 1747-48, was also the son of Benjamin the first² and Nelly.

Benjamin the second³ married Maria Sedam, or Suydam, on the first month, second, 1741-2, at the Presbyterian Church, at Churchville, Bucks Co., Pa., so it is likely that the wife's family were Presbyterians. They had the following children:

- I. BENJAMIN the third⁴, born March 6, 1743, married Sarah Dungan. *April 12th 1761.*
- II. CORNELIUS⁴—married Mary Ann _____
- III. JOHN⁴—"Esquire John"—married Charity Vanzant.
- IV. HENRY⁴—married Margaret Cornell.
- V. RICHARD⁴—married Hannah Maulsby, a widow *nee* Davis
- VI. MARY⁴—married Enoch Marple.
- VII. JANE⁴—(or Jeanette)—married John Kreuson.
- VIII. ABRAHAM⁴.

I. BENJAMIN the third⁴, my grandfather, was born March 6, 1743, and in 1761 he married Sarah Dungan, daughter of Joseph and Mary [Ohl] Dungan. Appertaining to their marriage the following story, related to me by their son Richard⁴ (my great-uncle), may be of interest. He said that both the Corsons and the Dungans were considered quite wealthy, as wealth was estimated in those days; that the Dungans were accustomed "to eat from silver plates," and in many ways gave evidence of their comfortable circumstances. It was agreed between the families—the Corsons and the Dungans—that one should

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See B.
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p. 290*

give as much as the other towards "setting out" the young people ; but a dispute arose between them with the result that neither family gave anything, at least nothing like a farm, which had been promised to grandmother, Sarah Dungan, but after the dispute was given to her sister, Hannah, who married Benjamin Marple. My grandparents were, therefore, compelled to rent a farm, which they did in Dublin Township, then in Philadelphia County (Keen's farm). Nearly all of their children were born there.

Prior to the year 1800 they moved to Longshore's farm, near Dolington, Bucks County. My grandfather also bargained to buy a farm in Northampton Township, but it was so heavily mortgaged and encumbered that he could not get a good title, though he tendered the money which he agreed to pay. He was afterwards subjected to a law-suit for damages, which a jury awarded in the sum of £300. This unjust verdict my grandfather believed was the result of Masonic influence. He afterwards bought a farm of 159 acres in Wrightstown, where he lived until his death, which occurred October 2, 1811. My grandmother died a few months before, on July 2, 1811. Grandfather Benjamin Corson left a will which is recorded in Will Book, No. 8, page 206.

III.

DESCENDANTS OF BENJAMIN THE SECOND³.

In the preceding chapter I have given the names of the children of Benjamin the second³ and Maria Sedam Corson, and also an account of

I. BENJAMIN the third⁴, their eldest child, whose descendants will be described in subsequent chapters; the other children and their descendants are given here.

II. CORNELIUS CORSON⁴ (second son and child of Benjamin the second³), married Mary Ann———. He died Oct. 19, 1823, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. His home was on a part of the original 250 acres purchased by his grandfather Benjamin the first². It was on the "Middle road," left hand side, going towards Southampton Baptist Church. He had two children—BENJAMIN⁵, who died unmarried, and JOHN⁵ who married Mary Lentz, of Barren Hill, Whitmarsh Township, Montgomery Co., Pa. They had one child—MARY⁶, born about the time of her father's death, who continued to live with her mother unmarried, and died before her mother in 1887. Her mother died in the next year, so Cornelius's descendants are all gone.

III. JOHN CORSON⁴, Esquire John, as he was called, resided on the old homestead. He married Charity Vanzant. In 1823-4, their children were nearly all swept away by typhus fever, and all are buried in the little Huguenot graveyard at Addisville, just below the "White Bear Tavern." The further record of the family I obtained from the grave-stones in that grave-yard, where himself, his father and his

children are buried. Their son, JOHN CORSON⁵ was for many years a teacher in the little log church by the graveyard. He was not married, and died of the typhus fever spoken of, January 6, 1823, in his thirty-eighth year. The inscriptions on the grave-stones give the following information :

ESQUIRE JOHN⁴ (the father), died February 5, 1823, in his sixty-third year.

Charity Vanzant Corson (the mother), died February 8, 1823, in her sixty-third year.

1. BENJAMIN CORSON⁵ (their eldest son), died September 4, 1824, in his forty-fourth year.

2. JAMES CORSON⁵ (a son), died November 22, 1827, in his forty-fourth year.

3. JOHN CORSON⁵ ("Teacher John"), died January 6, 1823, in his thirty-eighth year.

4. MARY FINNEY⁵ (a daughter), died March 7, 1823, in her thirty-fourth year.

5. JANE VANARTZDALEN⁵ (a daughter), died June 17, 1816, in her twenty-fifth year.

JAMES CORSON⁵, son of Esq. John, was married to Nancy Addis; they had children. *

In the summer of 1890 my niece, Helen Hovenden, and I went to the grave-yard where the family are buried and then to the old Corson home, which is now in other hands. This first Corson home in Pennsylvania is about half a mile below the "Black Bear"—three-quarters of a mile below the "White Bear Hotel"—as you go down the "middle road" towards Philadelphia, from the grave-yard, After crossing a bridge, just below Addisville (now Richboro—I believe), you come to a gate on the left hand side—the entrance to the old home—and where Esq. John died in 1823. To our regret the old house had been nearly all torn down the year before our visit, and a new one built, but the old spring-house, where, doubtless, great-grandmother Sedam had often skimmed milk, was still in good repair, as was also an out-house.

* See *Life of Mrs. Sarah Jane Corson Downs.*

IV. HENRY CORSON⁴ (fourth son of Benjamin the second³), lived in Plymouth township in 1790. Father attended his funeral at the Falls of Schuylkill in about the year 1800. He died of obesity. Tradition had it that he weighed 400 pounds. His wife was Margaret Cornell, and their children were: 1, BENJAMIN⁵; 2, WILHELMAS⁵; 3, RICHARD⁵; 4, CORNELIUS⁵; 5, ALICE⁵; and 6, MARY⁵.

1. BENJAMIN CORSON⁵, eldest son of HENRY, married Mary Febridge. They had three children:

(1) MARGARET CORSON⁶, unmarried, now deceased,

(2) SUSAN CORSON⁶, married Peter Weaver, no children.

(3) ALAN CORSON⁶, married Elizabeth Francis, daughter of Thomas and Margaret Francis, of Shannonville, Montgomery County, Pa., and their children were: 1, ISABELLA⁷; 2, THOMAS FRANCIS⁷; 3, MARGARET⁷, and 4, MARY⁷.

1. ISABELLA CORSON⁷ and her sister MARY CORSON⁷ are living at the Shannonville home. MARGARET⁷, the third child, died at the age of three years.

2. DR. THOMAS FRANCIS CORSON⁷, only son of Alan and Eliz. Francis Corson, studied medicine with my brother, Dr. William Corson, and, after graduating, went into the drug business. Subsequently he became a real estate agent, a business which he still successfully carries on in Philadelphia, where he resides. He has been twice married. His first wife was Margaret Johnson, by whom he had one child, JANET CORSON⁸. His second wife, who is still living, was Edith McPherson, of Washington, D. C.; they have one child, ALAN CORSON⁸, born in 1876.

BENJAMIN CORSON'S⁵ first wife died, and he subsequently married her sister, Christiana Febridge, by whom he had two children: (4) AMOS E.⁶ and (5) MARY F.⁶

(4) AMOS E. CORSON⁶ married Mary A., daughter of Abram Heydrick, of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. They had one child, SARAH T. CORSON⁷, who married James Van Court; they live in a beautiful home near Fort Washington, Montgomery County, Pa.; they have no children.

(5) MARY FEBRIDGE CORSON⁶ (second child of Benjamin⁵ by his second wife) married Charles Van Court, and they became the parents of five children: 1, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN⁷; 2, JAMES⁷; 3, EMMA C.⁷; 4, HOWARD⁷; and 5, HORACE G.⁷

1. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN VAN COURT⁷, born September 18, 1838, was a civil engineer and conveyancer. He entered the army early in 1862, and was assigned to the Commissary Department of the Army of the Potomac. He was with the army at the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and others. He was taken sick with typhoid fever at Rappahannock Station, returned home, and died February 17, 1864.

2. JAMES VAN COURT⁷, born April 1, 1840, studied pharmacy and was engaged in the drug business for about sixteen years, retiring in 1882. He married in 1880, his cousin, SARAH T. CORSON⁷ (daughter of Amos E. and Mary A. Corson) and they are now living near Fort Washington, this county. They have no children.

3. EMMA C. VAN COURT⁷ was born December 27, 1844, and died in March, 1875, of a disease of the heart. She was a beautiful, refined, and intelligent girl.

4. HOWARD VAN COURT⁷, born November 10, 1848, was connected with the Transportation Department of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company for about fourteen years, and then associated himself with his brother, HORACE G.⁷, and engaged in the publishing business. He married, December 21, 1871, Sarah E., daughter of Joseph and Hannah Rickert, and they have five children: FRANK HOWARD VAN COURT⁸, born December 29, 1872; WILLIAM JAMES VAN COURT⁸, born July 1, 1878; NORMAN VAN COURT⁸, born July 29, 1880; HELEN VAN COURT⁸, born May 3, 1884; and EMMA VAN COURT⁸, born November 10, 1886.

5. HORACE G. VAN COURT⁷, born June 5, 1855, was with the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company for about ten years, and then (1882) entered the publishing business with his brother HOWARD under the business name of H. Van Court & Co. In 1884 he married Annie E., daughter of

Jacob Craft, of Norristown, Pa., and they have one child, LEWIS VAN COURT⁸, born April 29, 1885.

2. WILHELMAS CORSON⁵ (second son of Henry and Margaret Cornell Corson), married Mary Jones; they had two children—JAMES⁶ and SAMUEL⁶—who in 1870 lived near Churchville, Bucks County, Pa.

3. RICHARD CORSON⁵ (third son of Henry), married and moved to Ohio; he died long since.

4. CORNELIUS CORSON⁵ (fourth son of Henry), married and had five children: (1) WILLIAM⁶; (2) HENRY⁶, and three others.

(1) WILLIAM CORSON⁶ (eldest son of Cornelius), was the proprietor of the principal hotel in Doylestown, Bucks County, for many years after 1850. I was acquainted with him—a genial, kind hearted man. The hotel was popular on account of the excellent table which was kept and the kindness of the landlord.

(2) HENRY CORSON⁶ (second son of Cornelius), married Eliza, daughter of Dr. Jesse Beams, of Buckingham, Bucks County. He died many years ago.

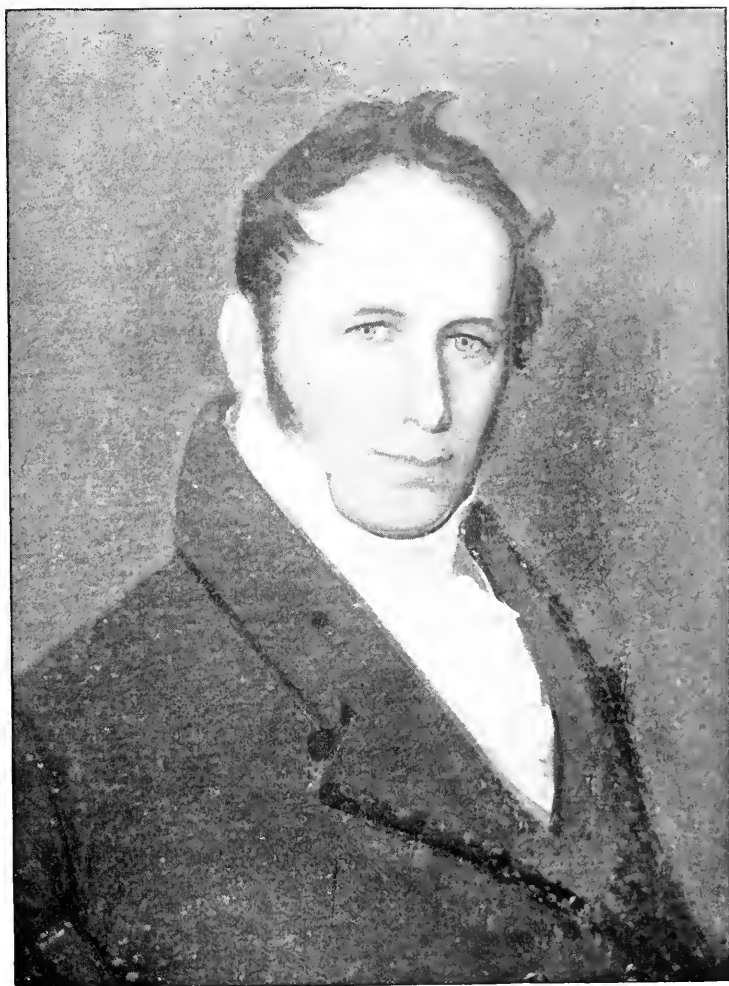
5. ALICE CORSON⁵ (fifth child of Henry), married ——— Vanburen. I do not know their history.

6. MARY CORSON⁵ (sixth child of Henry), married Isaac Bennett. Their son, GENERAL JOHN BENNETT⁶, lives near Johnsville, Bucks County.

V. RICHARD CORSON⁴ (the fifth son of Benjamin the second³ and Maria Sedam Corson), married Mrs. Hannah Maulsby, a widow, whose maiden name was Davis, and who at the time of her second marriage had a son, Samuel Maulsby. They lived near the Neshaminy Creek, on the "Old York Road," a few miles above Hatboro, in Bucks County. From an old Bible in the possession of his son many years ago, I took the following: "Hannah Davis Maulsby, the second wife of Richard Corson (and mother of Samuel Maulsby, Dr. Richard D. Corson, and Hannah Corson), departed this life in consequence of a mortification of her left foot, which began in the

shape of a small pimple on the toe next to the great one, on Tuesday, June 4, 1807, at 9 o'clock A. M." (She was born January 1, 1743.) Richard Corson, her husband, died of a highly inflammatory fever which ran into typhus. He was a man of a remarkably good constitution, but during his last illness, which continued for twenty-four days, he suffered excruciating pain, which he bore with Christian fortitude. He was sensible and spoke to the last and appeared anxious to depart. Having shaken hands and bid the friends good-bye, he gave them these consoling words: "I have been in darkness all my life but have now come to a glorious light—all my difficulties are overcome." He then drew his son, Dr. Richard D. Corson, to him and kissed him, after which he died without a struggle, on Saturday morning, November 14, 1812, about 8 o'clock. He was buried at Northampton, in the small Huguenot grave-yard, by the side of his first wife, Rachel Knowles. His children were: 1, RICHARD DAVIS CORSON,⁵ and 2, HANNAH CORSON,⁵ who married John Bye.

(1) DR. RICHARD D. CORSON,⁵ son of Richard⁴ and Hannah Corson, was born Friday, January 1, 1785. He married Helen Stockton Johnson, of Princeton, New Jersey, and began to practice medicine in Buckingham Township, near by the "Ingham Spring." But prior to his settlement there he had been on a voyage to India and had practiced a year in Calcutta. On his return he landed at Charleston, South Carolina, ill from an affection of the liver, and was kindly cared for by Dr. David Ramsay—the Historian—at his house, during several weeks. I mention this merely to show some important results growing out of this accidental acquaintance. Restored to health he returned home, afterwards married and removed to New Hope. A few years later he invited Dr. David Ramsay to send his son James, then just from College, to him that he might have him as a student of medicine. He was sent and he continued during his two years of study, prior to his graduation, free from all expense. Dr. James Ramsay afterward became Professor of Surgery in South Carolina Medical College. Doctor Corson also named his



RICHARD D. CORSON, M. D.

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eldest son DAVID RAMSAY CORSON,⁶ that he might have before him a daily remembrance of the kindness he had received from Dr. Ramsay.

Dr. Richard D. Corson⁵ had a great many private students, some of them from a great distance, and others from his own county. James Ramsey, of South Carolina; Thomas Miner, of Wilkesbarre; Theodore Dunn, of Rhode Island; Josiah Simpson, of New Jersey; James McNair, and William L. Vanhorn, of Bucks County, Pa. (the latter afterwards a Surgeon in U. S. Navy); Hiram Corson, of Montgomery County, Pa.; George Maulsby, of Plymouth Meeting, Montgomery County, Pa., who in 1838 became Surgeon in U. S. Navy, and died in Washington in —, some years after his "retirement;" R. Kunkel and Henry Ely—all were pupils of his. THOMAS J.⁶ and DAVID RAMSAY CORSON,⁶ his two sons, also studied with their father.

The students of Dr. Corson had reason to congratulate themselves on having a preceptor so careful to prepare them well for graduation at the University of Pennsylvania, and to qualify them to enter on the practice of their profession. His practice extended over a wide region of the populous country surrounding New Hope, Pa., and Lambertville, N. J., and it was his daily habit to take one or more of his students with him to see him treat the patients; so that before they had even graduated they were well prepared to prescribe for the diseases which prevailed in that malarious region.

Dr. Richard D. Corson⁵ was more than six feet in height, of commanding presence and courtly manners; he was a most popular physician and a skillful surgeon. In all my life, of more than ninety years, I have never seen a finer, nobler, specimen of manhood.

Dr. Richard D.⁵ and Helen Stockton (Johnson) Corson had eight children as follows:

(1) CAROLINE CORSON⁶, who died May 4, 1838, of typhoid fever, in the twenty-third year of her age.

(2) DAVID RAMSAY CORSON⁶, graduated in medicine, died January 29, 1841, in his twenty-fourth year, of heart disease.

- (3) HARRIET MATTHEWS CORSON⁶ married Chas. Foulke.
 (4) ELIZA PAXSON CORSON⁶, unmarried, lives in Trenton, N. J.
 (5) RICHARD CORSON⁶ died from fever, in his eighteenth year.
 (6) HELEN N. CORSON⁶ died from consumption, July 20, 1849, in her twenty-fourth year.
 (7) DR. THOMAS JOHNSON CORSON⁶, who married Mary K. Steever.
 (8) ROBERT RODGERS CORSON⁶, who married Rebecca Foulke.

Three of these children of Dr. Richard D. Corson⁵ deserve further notice, viz., Harriet Matthews⁶, Dr. Thos. J.⁶, and Robert R.⁶

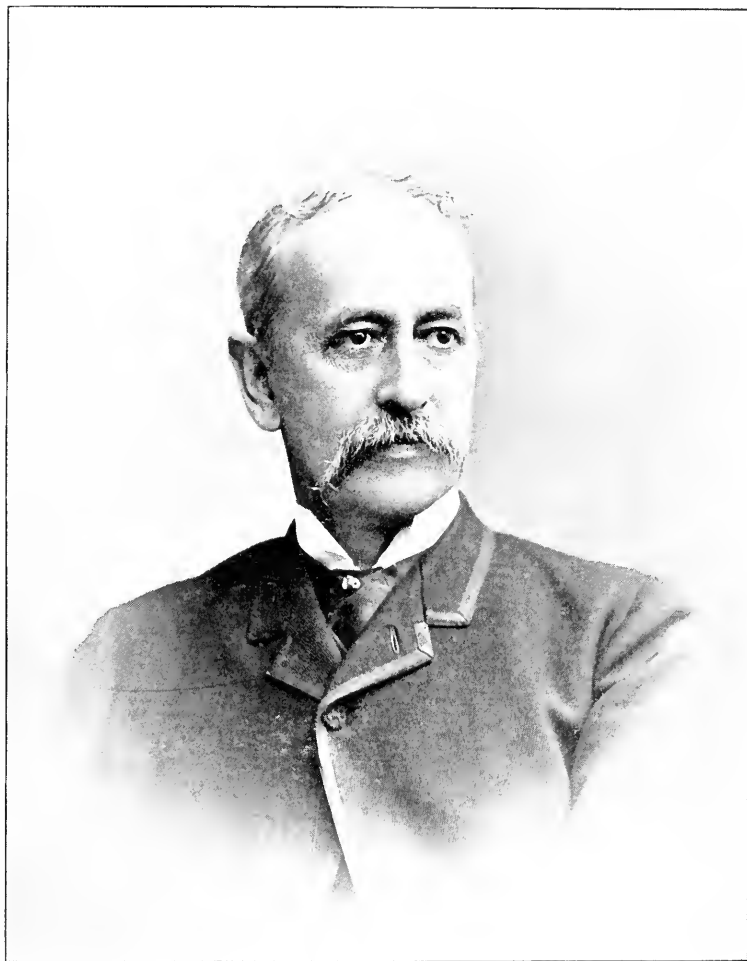
(3) HARRIET MATTHEW S. CORSON⁶ married Dr. Charles Foulke, who succeeded to the practice of his father-in-law, Dr. Richard D. Corson, and continued to enjoy an extensive practice until his death in 1871. Their children are—1, RICHARD C.⁷; 2, EDWARD⁷, and 3, THOMAS⁷.

1. RICHARD CORSON FOULKE⁷, born November 2, 1843, graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and has since practiced in New Hope, Bucks County. He married Louisa Vansant (1872), and they have had three children, two of whom—CHAS. EDWARD FOULKE⁸ and CLARIBEL FOULKE⁸—are now living.

2. EDWARD FOULKE⁷ (sixth of that name), was born March 23, 1847, and married Eliza Vanhorn, of Yardleyville, Bucks County. They have one son—VANHORN FOULKE⁸.

3. THOMAS JOHNSON CORSON FOULKE⁷ was born in March, 1851, and died September 15, 1883.

(7) THOS. JOHNSON CORSON⁶ (son of Richard D.⁵ and Helen Stockton Johnson Corson), was born in 1828, studied medicine with his father, and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania. For two or three years he practiced in Schuylkill County, then returned to Bucks County, where he practiced for a short time, finally going to Trenton, N. J., where he practiced until his death in 1879. He married



ROBERT RODGERS CORSON

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Mary K. Steever, daughter of George Steever, of Philadelphia, and they had four children : 1, GEORGE ROBERT CORSON⁷, who died in 1859, aged two and one-half years ; 2, CAROLINE STEEVER CORSON⁷, who died in 1875, aged seventeen years ; 3, HARRIET FOULKE CORSON⁷, who died in 1887, aged twenty-five years ; and 4, THOMAS JOHNSON CORSON, JR.,⁷ who died in 1871, aged eighteen months.

(8) ROBERT RODGERS CORSON⁶, (son of Dr. Richard D.⁵ and Helen S. J. Corson), was born May 3, 1831. He married Rebecca J. Foulke, of Penllyn, (a sister of my wife, Ann J. [Foulke] Corson) ; they are now living in Philadelphia.

Robert R. Corson⁶ is a distinguished political reformer, and has been an important factor in the movements for pure politics and municipal reforms in Philadelphia during the past score of years. As an Inspector of Moyamensing Prison he was instrumental in having a woman physician placed in charge of the female prisoners, and was also interested in having matrons placed in station houses to receive and care for women picked up at night by the police. Before this reform was established, there were often disgraceful occurrences at the station houses, where only men were in charge.

Robert R. Corson is a humanitarian of high character, who is ever striving to uplift and improve the people who are within the reach of his influence ; and his efforts are ably seconded by his efficient wife, Rebecca J. Corson. They have no children ; so of all of the descendants of Dr. Richard D. Corson⁵, only three children and two grandchildren are now living ; with the death of Robert R., this branch will not have a single one of the Corson name.

2. HANNAH CORSON⁵, (daughter of Richard⁴ and Hannah Maulsby Corson), was born May 6, 1788 ; she died September 5, 1833, and was buried in Friends' Burying Ground at Buckingham. She married John Bye, of Buckingham, and they had three children : (1) RICHARD C.⁶ ; (2) MERCY⁶, and (3) SUSAN M.⁶

(1) RICHARD CORSON BYE⁶ married and went to Illinois in about 1835. He died leaving a widow and two sons: WILLIAM⁷ and LORENZO⁷; all of them are now dead.

(2) MERCY BYE⁶ married Isaiah Ely, of Solebury, who died long since. They had one daughter, HELEN ELY⁷, who married Wm. H. Flitcraft. Wm. H. and Helen Flitcraft are both dead; they left a daughter, HELEN FLITCRAFT⁸ who is now living with her grandmother, Mercy Bye Ely⁶, in Philadelphia.

(3) SUSAN M. BYE⁶ married James Wilkinson, of Buckingham. They had six children: 1, JOHN⁷; 2, HENRY L.⁷; 3, ELIAS⁷; 4, MARY⁷; 5, EDWARD⁷, and 6, EMMA BYE⁷. Of these 2, HENRY L. WILKINSON⁷, married (1871) and was living in Philadelphia in 1890. He has one child, LAURA E. WILKINSON⁸.

3. ELIAS PAXSON WILKINSON⁷ lives in Philadelphia; he is married and has four children.

4. MARY M. WILKINSON⁷ married E. M. Armstrong in 1866. They live in Doylestown and have four children: (1) EMMA W.⁸; (2) ANNIE H.⁸; (3) WILLIAM⁸, and (4) GEORGE ARMSTRONG⁸.

5. EDWARD M. WILKINSON⁷ died in 1870, unmarried.

6. EMMA BYE WILKINSON⁸, youngest child, lives with her mother in Doylestown; she is unmarried.

VI. MARY CORSON⁴ (sixth child of Benjamin the second³ and Maria [Sedam] Corson), married Enoch Marple. Their children were: 1, DAVID⁵; 2, BENJAMIN⁵; 3, ELIZABETH⁵; 4, JOSEPH⁵; 5, ISAAC⁵; 6, ENOCH⁵, and 7, ABRAHAM⁵.

1. DAVID MARPLE⁵ (eldest child of Mary Corson and Enoch Marple), married Hannah, daughter of John Coulston, of Plymouth Township, Montgomery County, Pa., and they were the parents of two children: 1, SAMUEL⁶, and 2, ELIZABETH⁶.

(1) SAMUEL MARPLE⁶ (eldest child of David⁵), married Mary White; both are now deceased, leaving some children, who reside in Philadelphia.

(2) ELIZABETH MARPLE⁶ (youngest child of David⁵), married William Wills, of Plymouth Township, and they had six children : 1, ALAN W.⁷; 2, CLARENCE⁷; 3, WILLIAM, JR.⁷; 4, ANDREW⁷; 5, LOUIS⁷, and 6, ANNIE.⁷

1. ALAN WOOD WILLS⁷ (eldest son of Wm. and Elizabeth Marple Wills), married Hannah Supplee; their children are FRANK A. WILLS⁸ and KATIE WILLS⁸.

2. CLARENCE W. WILLS⁷ (second child of Wm. and Elizabeth Marple Wills), married Harriet Hogan (daughter of Judge Hogan) of Kentucky; they had two children : CORDIE WILLS⁸ and MAZIE WILLS⁸.

3. WILLIAM WILLS, JR.⁷, (third child of Wm. and Elizabeth Marple Wills), married Sarah, daughter of Hon. Wm. B. Roberts, of Upper Merion, Montgomery County, Pa.; they had seven children : 1, SUSAN⁸; 2, ELIZABETH⁸; 3, SARAH⁸; 4, ANNIE⁸; 5, GEORGE⁸; 6, JONATHAN⁸, and 7, LOUIS⁸.

4. ANDREW W. WILLS⁷ (fourth child of Wm. and Elizabeth Marple Wills), married Eleanora Willauer, of Nashville, Tennessee. Their children are : 1, VAN LEAR⁸; 2, WAYNE⁸, and 3, ELEANORA⁸, all of whom were living in Nashville in 1890, when their father sent me the above record. Of Andrew I shall say more hereafter, for he deserves the most honorable mention from myself who have known him during all his life. He was one of the first among our Montgomery County boys, though scarcely of age, to respond to President Lincoln's call for volunteers.

5. LOUIS E. WILLS⁷ (fifth child of Wm. and Elizabeth Marple Wills), married in New Jersey and resides at Atlantic City.

6. ANNIE G. WILLS⁷ (sixth child of Wm. and Elizabeth Marple Wills), married William E. Cochrane, of Philadelphia, and for several years has lived in Atlantic City. They have two children : WILLIAM⁸ and ELIZABETH COCHRANE⁸.

In justice to Col. Andrew W. Wills⁷ I feel that it is proper to insert here what has been copied extensively by the prominent newspapers of the country :

“Col. Andrew W. Wills, who was recently appointed Post-Master at Nashville, enlisted early in the War in the fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry as a private. He was commissioned in December, 1863, as Captain and Assistant Quarter-Master. For years he was Depot Quarter-Master at Nashville, and his vouchers and disbursements covered millions of dollars. When the War ended, at the instance of Gen'l Geo. H. Thomas, he took charge of the location and purchase of National Cemeteries in the Southwest and constructed those at Corinth, Miss., and Pittsburgh Landing, Tenn. He served on the Staff of Gen'l Thomas and Gen'l John F. Miller, and afterwards became Senator from California. He was breveted Major and Lieutenant-Colonel for meritorious services and for bravery in the battles of Antietam and Nashville. He has a certificate of non-indebtedness from the Government, although millions of dollars passed through his hands from August, 1862 to 1868. He has lived in Nashville over twenty years.”

I may add here, not only twenty years, but ever since the war closed.

2. BENJAMIN MARPLE⁵ (second son of Mary Corson and Enoch Marple), married Elizabeth Tompkins and they were the parents of the following children:

(1) ANN MARPLE⁶, who died unmarried.

(2) MARY MARPLE⁶, married Jos. Wolfe; left one son.

(3) AGNES MARPLE⁶, married Daniel Mullen. They live in Schuylkill Haven and have children.

(4) ENOCH MARPLE⁶, married Jane Tompkins.

(5) JONATHAN MARPLE⁶, unmarried.

3. ELIZABETH MARPLE⁵ (third child of Mary Corson and Enoch Marple), married Capt. Daniel Davis, of Plymouth. Their children were: (1) WILLIAM⁶; (2) MARIA⁶; (3) ANN⁶; (4) ELIZABETH⁶, and (5) MARPLE Davis⁶.

(1) WILLIAM DAVIS⁶ married and moved to Harrisburg; he is now dead. Left children.

(2) MARIA DAVIS⁶ married John Vanartzdalen. She is also dead. There were children.

(3) ANN DAVIS⁶ married Lawyer Sebring, of Easton, Pa. They had one daughter, SARAH SEBRING⁷, who married Gen'l John F. Hartranft, distinguished for eminent services during the War of the Rebellion, and afterwards twice elected Governor of Pennsylvania. He died in 1889. His children were : LINN⁸; MARION⁸, and ANNIE⁸.

(4) ELIZABETH DAVIS⁶ married Samuel McNair, of Bucks County, and moved west; they had several children.

(5) MARPLE DAVIS⁶ lives in Norristown.

4. JOSEPH MARPLE⁵ (fourth child of Enoch and Mary Corson Marple), married Phœbe Lukens. He died in 1856, leaving a daughter, ELIZABETH MARPLE⁶, who married Joseph Yerkes, of Plymouth Township, Montgomery County. They had two sons, EVAN⁷ and HIRAM YERKES⁷, who served all through the war, were in many hard fought battles, and marched with Sherman from "Atlanta to the Sea." I was their guardian, appointed by the court. They are both married and have children. They have lived in Philadelphia for many years, as did also their mother until her death.

5. ISAAC MARPLE⁵ (fifth child of Enoch and Mary Corson Marple), was twice married, the second time to widow Van Court, whose son Charles (by her first husband) married Mary Corson, the daughter of Benjamin (son of Henry and grandson of Benjamin second³ and Maria Sedam Corson). (James Van Court, son of Chas. and Mary Corson VanCourt, married Sarah Corson, daughter of Amos and Mary Heydrick Corson.) Isaac Marple died long ago in Bucks County.

6. ENOCH MARPLE⁵ (sixth child of Enoch and Mary Corson Marple), married Sarah Hallman.

7. ABRAHAM MARPLE⁵ (seventh child of Enoch and Mary Marple), married his first cousin, Elizabeth Marple, of Chester County; they had one son, ELWOOD MARPLE, who also married his first cousin, — Marple, from Chester County, and they had several children.

Abraham Marple⁵ survived his first wife and married her sister, Amy Marple; both died years ago.

VII. JANE⁴. Jane or Jannetje, as spelled in baptismal record, or Jannette, as spelled in her father's will, (seventh child of Benjamin the second³ and Maria Sedam Corson) married John Kreusen, descendant of one of the Huguenot immigrants who came over with her great grandfather, Cornelius Corson. In 1868 my brother, Alan W. Corson, wrote: "I visited my uncle Joshua Corson, then eighty-eight years old, who told me that when a young man, he [Joshua] went to Muncy, Lycoming County, to see his brother Benjamin, and then paid a visit to his Aunt Jeannette, who lived in the neighborhood. I have not learned anything more about her."

VIII. ABRAHAM CORSON⁴. I find by the will of Benjamin the second³, that Abraham is the last named, and, presumably, his youngest child. I recollect my father telling me that Abraham lived in Plymouth a short time after father moved there, but he soon moved away and I am unable to find out anything further about him.

IV.

DESCENDANTS OF BENJAMIN THE THIRD⁴.

The children of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson were :

- I. BENJAMIN (fourth)⁵, married Hannah Whitaker
- II. JOSEPH⁵, married Hannah Dickinson.
- III. THOMAS⁵, married Sarah Roberts.
- IV. MARY⁵, married William Harvey.
- V. RICHARD⁵, married 1st, Ann Marple ; 2d, Elizabeth Bennett.
- VI. ELIZABETH⁵, married Issachar Morris
- VII. RACHEL⁵, married Paul Blaker.
- VIII. SARAH⁵, married Matthias Bennett.
- IX. JANE⁵, married ~~William~~ *Jane* Bennett.
- X. JOSHUA⁵, married Hannah Lee.
- XI. AMOS⁵, married Martha Martindale.

I. BENJAMIN CORSON (fourth)⁵, the eldest child of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson, married Hannah Whitaker, and they had ten children—four sons and six daughters, viz. : 1, SARAH⁶; 2, ROBERT⁶; 3, REBECCA⁶; 4, RACHEL⁶; 5, JOSEPH⁶; 6, HANNAH⁶; 7, BENJAMIN (fifth)⁶; 8, JANE⁶; 9, JOHN⁶; and 10, MERCY⁶.

I. SARAH CORSON⁶ (eldest child of Benjamin fourth⁵ and Hannah Corson) married Jonathan Sebring. In 1812 they moved to the "Block House" (now called Liberty) in Tioga Co., which was at that time a wilderness inhabited mostly by wild beasts—bears, wolves and panthers—and providentially, too, by numerous deer, which gave them a good supply of meat. Felix D. Costerisan, who married their daughter Rachael, thus writes me : "I have heard father Sebring say

that he frequently of a morning, when in want of meat, would walk a few paces from his door with his rifle, and bring down a deer. Like all frontiersmen he became a good marksman and at hunting quite an adept. He was, too, for many years, no less famous as a publican; many a weary traveler found good cheer and rest under his hospitable roof." To his excellent and charming wife, who was respected by all who knew her, as a good woman in every sense of the word, is due a large share of the credit of that hospitable home. Though she has long since passed to the other shore, her children still hold her in precious remembrance.

Jonathan and Sarah Corson Sebring were the parents of thirteen children:

(1) BENJAMIN⁷; (2) THOMAS⁷; (3) HANNAH⁷; (4) WILLIAM⁷; (5) RACHAEL M.⁷; (6) JOHN⁷; (7) ROBERT⁷; (8) JONATHAN⁷; (9) JOSEPH⁷; (10) REBECCA⁷; (11) SARAH⁷; (12) GEORGE L.⁷; and (13) HARRIET⁷.

(1) BENJAMIN SEBRING⁷ died crossing the plains, on his road to California; he left a wife and daughter.

(2) THOMAS SEBRING⁷ was in 1882 a prosperous farmer living in California; he had four children.

(3) HANNAH SEBRING⁷ married Daniel Corson (son of Cornelius and Phœbe Corson). Daniel died February 15, 1882, of apoplexy, leaving his wife, a daughter and a son to mourn the loss of a good kind husband and father.

(4) WILLIAM SEBRING⁷ moved to Illinois, married and died there, leaving a wife and three children.

(5) RACHEL M. SEBRING⁷ married Felix D. Costerisan. "We have been blessed with thirteen children—eleven still living now (1882); two in California, two in Iowa, one in Minnesota, and the rest in this State, Wisconsin, Lime Ridge, Sauk County."

(6) JOHN SEBRING⁷ married Marian or Mary Ann Touts, of Jersey Shore, Lycoming Co., Pa.

(7) ROBERT SEBRING⁷ married Phœbe Reed, now of Liberty, Tioga Co., Pa. He resided there all his life, I think.

(8) JONATHAN SEBRING⁷ never married; he died the year his parents moved to Wisconsin.

(9) JOSEPH SEBRING⁷ died in infancy.

(10) REBECCA SEBRING⁷ married Daniel Callahan. They reside in Sacramento City, California.

(11) SARAH SEBRING⁷ married Hulings Thomas. They now (1882) live in Lock Haven, Pa.

(12) GEORGE L. SEBRING married Rosanna Thomas; they had four children: 1, WILLIAM⁸; 2, EMMA⁸ (died a few years ago); 3, ROBERT⁸, and 4, CORA⁸.

(13) HARRIET SEBRING⁷ married Samuel Thompson; they had nine children—seven still living in 1882, viz.: 1, REBECCA THOMPSON⁸; 2, JOHN THOMPSON⁸; 3, ROYAL THOMPSON⁸; 4, ——— THOMPSON⁸; 5, GEORGE THOMPSON⁸; 6, WESTLEY THOMPSON⁸, and 7, OTTO THOMPSON⁸.

2. ROBERT CORSON⁶ (second child of Benjamin [fourth]⁵ and Hannah Corson), died in 1865 in Sauk Co., Wisconsin.

3. REBECCA CORSON⁶ (third child of Benjamin [fourth]⁵ and Hannah Corson), married James Davis and they had seven children: (1) THOMAS DAVIS⁷; (2) JOHN DAVIS⁷; (3) HANNAH DAVIS⁷; (4) JAMES DAVIS⁷; (5) GEORGE DAVIS⁷; (6) MARY DAVIS⁷, and (7) CORSON DAVIS⁷; they are all dead with perhaps one exception.

4. RACHEL CORSON⁶ (the fourth child of Benjamin [fourth]⁵ and Hannah Corson), married John Sebring (a brother to Jonathan, who married her sister Sarah), and they moved to the Block House (now called Liberty) in Tioga Co., Pa., where they still were living in 1877; she died at the age of eighty-two, he at the age of eighty-four, they having been married sixty-two years. They had four children: (1) BENJAMIN SEBRING⁷; (2) JOHN SEBRING⁷; (3) JAMES SEBRING⁷, and (4) THOMAS SEBRING⁷. Of these, BENJAMIN and THOMAS are deceased.

5. JOSEPH CORSON⁶ (fifth child of Benjamin [fourth]⁵ and Hannah Corson), died unmarried in Washington, D. C., April 7, 1862.

6. HANNAH CORSON⁶ (sixth child of Benjamin [fourth]⁵ and Hannah Corson), married William Cox. They had eight children, all of them now deceased except three, viz : (1) MARY COX⁷; (2) REBECCA COX⁷, and (3) ROBERT C. COX⁷. The last named is better known as General Robert C. Cox, and has made a most honorable record for himself as a soldier, civilian and citizen. A brief sketch of his life is here submitted :

General Robert Corson Cox⁷, only surviving child of William and Hannah (Corson) Cox⁶, was born November 18, 1823, in what is now the borough of Montoursville, Lycoming Co., Pa., then almost a wilderness. In April, 1846, he married Lydia Ann Wheeland, whose ancestors were among the early settlers in Loyalsock Township, Lycoming County. After his marriage General Cox settled in Tioga County where he still lives. Until 1854 he lived on a farm, and afterward sold it and engaged in the lumber business ; this he continued until the breaking out of the war. He was Major of the 171st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel of 207th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and received the commission of Brevet Brigadier General, April 9, 1865, and of Major-General of National Guards of Pennsylvania, June 6, 1871. After the war he was elected first, Treasurer, then Prothonotary and Clerk of the Court of Tioga County at Wellsboro, and continued in office until January, 1894, making a total of twenty-four years in all. He is now over seventy-two years of age, but is strong and well. He had three children who grew up and married, but has only one son living. His grandson, Homer, whose mother died when he was only three days old, has always lived with his grandparents, and is now an undergraduate of Cornell University. The children of Robert and Lydia Ann Cox are :

1. HENRY C. COX⁸, born October 31, 1848, Cashier in First National Bank, Wellsboro, Pa., married 1st, Catherine E. ——— ; married 2d, Anna Aleck, July, 1888. HOMER COX⁹, born June, 1872, son of Henry, by his first wife, has already been spoken of.

2. MARY COX⁸, born February 23, 1851, married Jacob Richards, February 22, 1871; died September 11, 1892. Their children were: LEON RICHARDS⁹ and NELLIE RICHARDS⁹.

3. CAROLINE COX⁸, born July 7, 1866, married Alfred P. Dentt, October 13, 1887; died February 24, 1891. She left one child, MILDRED M. DENTT⁹, who lives with grandparents.

Hannah Corson, mother of General Cox, died in Illinois.

8. JANE CORSON⁶, (eighth child of Benjamin [fourth]⁵ and Hannah Corson), married John Tallman, and they had eleven children: (1) BENJAMIN⁷; (2) HANNAH⁷; (3) SARAH⁷; (4) ELIZABETH⁷; (5) DEBORAH⁷; (6) JOSEPH⁷; (7) ANDERSON⁷; (8) THOMAS⁷; (9) MERCY⁷; (10) JOHN⁷ and (11) RACHEL⁷. Four of these are deceased; the others live in western States.

9. JOHN CORSON⁶, (ninth child of Benjamin [fourth]⁵ and Hannah Corson), married Elizabeth or, (as John Sebring says), Alentha Bryan, and they had five children: (1) JOSHUA⁷; (2) CATHERINE⁷; (3) BENJAMIN⁷; (4) CHARLES⁷; and (5) HANNAH⁷.

10. MERCY CORSON⁶ (tenth child of Benjamin [fourth]⁵ and Hannah Corson), married John Chapman and they had seven children—names unknown to me.

The foregoing account of Benjamin Corson (fourth)⁵ and his descendants was furnished me by Felix Costerisan, of Sauk Co., Wisconsin. John Sebring, of Liberty, Tioga County, Pa., writing to me in 1879 said: "The only child of Benjamin Corson (fourth)⁵, now living, is my wife, Rachel. I am now eighty-four years old; my brother, Jonathan, who married my wife's sister, Sarah Corson, is ninety-seven years of age, and at the time of his wife's death they had been married sixty-five years."

II. JOSEPH CORSON⁵, my father, was the second son of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson. His history will be fully given in Chapter V.

III. THOMAS CORSON⁵ (third son of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson), left Bucks County soon after he

became of age, and bought a farm in Plymouth Township, Montgomery County, Pa. (This farm has been recently owned and occupied by Ellwood Ritter, grandson of Jacob Ritter, the Quaker preacher). Uncle Thomas married Sarah Roberts, and they had four children :

1. REBECCA CORSON⁶ married John Stockton.
2. BENJAMIN CORSON⁶ married Rachel Harvey.
3. THOMAS CORSON⁶ died unmarried.
4. JOSHUA CORSON⁶ died in his minority.

About the year 1815, Thomas Corson's wife, Sarah, died, and he then married his first cousin, Rebecca Marple, then the widow Hood. She was the daughter of his uncle and aunt, Benjamin and Hannah (Dungan) Marple. After his second marriage he bought a farm in the Chester Valley, Chester County, Pa., where they lived many years.

The children by his second wife were :

5. SARAH CORSON⁶ married John Phipps.
6. MARPLE CORSON⁶ married Ellen L. Jones.
7. ABEL CORSON⁶ died young.
8. JOSEPH CORSON⁶, now deceased ; so too, is Marple⁶.

Uncle Thomas⁵ died February 10, 1834, and his widow, January 26, 1846.

1. REBECCA CORSON⁶ (eldest daughter by his first wife), married John Stockton, of New Jersey. They lived for a while at Evansburg, Montgomery County, Pa., and afterwards in Philadelphia, where they both died, leaving one son, John, who married —————, and lived in Philadelphia.

2. BENJAMIN CORSON⁶ (second child of Uncle Thomas⁵ and his wife Sarah Roberts Corson), married his first cousin Rachel Harvey. They lived six miles from Williamsport, Pa., where he died June 14, 1870, leaving several children.

5. SARAH CORSON⁶ (fifth child of Uncle Thomas⁵, and first by his second wife, Rebecca Marple Corson), married John Phipps ; they moved to his farm near Lionville, Chester County, Pa., where they lived many years. They had seven children :

- (1) REBECCA CORSON PHIPPS⁷ married John T. Bell.
- (2) CLAYTON PHIPPS⁷ married Nancy Alice Snively.
- (3) MARY JANE PHIPPS⁷ married Geo. W. Miller.
- (4) SARAH PHIPPS⁷ married Jos. E. Hickman.
- (5) MARTHA PHIPPS⁷ married Mordecai H. Steele.
- (6) AMY MARPLE PHIPPS⁷ married John Henry Storm.
- (7) JOHN BEITLER PHIPPS⁷.

The mother, Sarah Corson Phipps⁶, moved to Frazer, on the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad. On April 14, 1882, she was seventy-six years of age, and, to commemorate the event, her children invited the relatives from Bucks, Montgomery and Chester Counties, to assemble at her home on that day. There was a large gathering present, but I was not able to attend. She died January 18, 1891. Her daughter, Amy M. Storm, writes me the following history of the children :

(1) REBECCA CORSON PHIPPS⁷, married John Thomas Bell, and they had three daughters and one son. Her husband is now deceased; she resides in West Whiteland Township, Chester County, Pa. The four children are : 1, MARTHA THOMAS BELL⁸ ; 2, LILLIAN BELL⁸ ; 3, CHAS. PHIPPS BELL⁸, and 4, SARAH PHIPPS BELL⁸. Their second daughter, LILLIAN BELL⁸, married Jonathan Wilmer Thomas ; they live in East Whiteland Township, Chester Co. The youngest daughter, SARAH PHIPPS BELL⁸, married ————— Dowlin. Their son, CHARLES PHIPPS BELL⁸, married Emma Griffeth, and they have two sons, MAURICE⁹ and LEWIS BELL⁹, who reside in Philadelphia.

(2) CLAYTON PHIPPS⁷ (second child of John and Sarah Corson Phipps), married Nancy Alice Snively, and they have five children :

1. ZENLICKA BELL PHIPPS⁸.
2. ANNIE MARPLE PHIPPS⁸.
3. CLAYTON PHIPPS⁸.
4. JOSEPH SNIVELY PHIPPS⁸.
5. JOHN BEITLER PHIPPS⁸, residing in Clarksburg, West Virginia.

(3) MARY JANE PHIPPS⁷ (third child of John and Sarah Corson Phipps), married George W. Miller who is now deceased; she lives in Willistown Township, Chester County, Pa., and has no children..

(4) SARAH PHIPPS⁷, married John E. Hickman.

(5) MARTHA PHIPPS⁷ (fifth child of John and Sarah Corson Phipps), married Mordecai Howard Steele, who was accidentally shot by one of a gunning party, November 21, 1880. Martha lives with her son, GEORGE MILLER STEELE⁸; her daughters, SARAH W. STEELE⁸ and AMY MARPLE STEELE⁸ live in Marple Township, Delaware Co., Pa.

(6) AMY MARPLE PHIPPS⁷, (sixth child of John and Sarah Corson Phipps) [my correspondent], married John Henry Storm; they have two sons, JOHN BELL STORM⁸ and CORSON PHIPPS STORM⁸. They reside in East Whiteland Township, Chester County, Pa., with the mother, SARAH CORSON PHIPPS.

(7) JOHN BEITLER PHIPPS⁷ (youngest child of John and Sarah Corson Phipps), was killed while trimming a willow tree, January 23, 1875. "His death was a severe blow to mother," writes Amy M. Storm, "as he was a fine young man, of great promise, and a great comfort to his widowed mother."

6. MARPLE CORSON⁶ (sixth child of Uncle Thomas Corson, and second by his second wife, Rebecca Marple Corson), married Ellen L. Jones; they lived in Chester Co., Pa. Their children were:

(1) WILLIAM JONES CORSON⁷, born October 28, 1837.

(2) MARY ELIZABETH CORSON⁷, born August 22, 1839.

(3) JOSEPH THOMAS CORSON⁷, born February 18, 1843; died February 28, 1858.

(4) GEORGE WASHINGTON CORSON⁷, born November 18, 1845; died March 2, 1894.

(5) REBECCA JONES CORSON⁷, born September 22, 1848.

(6) CAROLINE WALTZ CORSON⁷, born May 25, 1853.

(7) MARPLE CORSON⁷, born September 16, 1855; died October 25, 1857.

(8) CATHARINE WALDRAWIN CORSON⁷, born September 16, 1857.

(1) WILLIAM JONES CORSON⁷ (eldest son of Marple⁶) married and had children.

(2) MARY ELIZABETH CORSON⁷ (daughter of Marple⁶) married August 17, 1871, Rev. Vincent G. Flinn (who died in 1889), and they had three children: ELEANOR B. FLINN⁸, born June 30, 1872; CAROLINE CORSON FLINN⁸, born January 10, 1875; and FRANK VINCENT FLINN⁸, born January 14, 1879.

(4) GEORGE WASHINGTON CORSON⁷ (son of Marple⁶) married February 12, 1889, Hilda Marguerite Pleyrn, of Christiana, Norway. Their children are GEORGE CLARENCE CORSON⁸, born November 26, 1889; HILDA MARGUERITE CORSON⁸, born in September, 1891; and THOMAS VICKERS CORSON⁸, born December 20, 1893.

Marple Corson, Sr.⁶ died about 1880.

7. ABEL CORSON⁶ (seventh child of Uncle Thomas⁵), died young.

8. JOSEPH CORSON⁶ (eighth child of Uncle Thomas⁵, and fourth by his second wife, Rebecca Marple Corson), was born October 27, 1821. He married first, Caroline Waltz, of Shannonville, and second, Elizabeth A. Stockton, one of the "Princeton Stocktons," a very celebrated family in New Jersey. By his first wife he had one child, EDWARD EVAN WALTZ CORSON⁷, who studied medicine and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania.

His first wife, Caroline Waltz Corson, died January 17, 1848; he married his second wife, Elizabeth A. Stockton, November 11, 1852. He died April 25, 1865. His son (by his first wife), Edward E. Waltz Corson⁷, after graduating in medicine, was admitted to the Navy as Assistant Surgeon, and died July 10, 1880, aged thirty-three years. There were two children by the second wife, but they died very young. The widow, Elizabeth A. Stockton Corson, lives in Philadelphia.

IV. MARY CORSON⁵, (fourth child of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson), married William Harvey. They lived near Dolington, Bucks Co., Pa., until the husband's death ; after which event, MARY CORSON HARVEY⁵ moved with her children to the North Branch of the Susquehanna River, not far from Williamsport, and married again. She had no children by her second husband ; by her first husband, William Harvey, she had eight : 1, RICHARD⁶ ; 2, RACHEL⁶ ; 3, BELINDA⁶ ; 4, SARAH⁶ ; 5, ALLEN⁶ ; 6, BENJAMIN⁶ ; 7, THOMAS⁶, and 8, WILLIAM⁶, all born in the Bucks County home.

1. RICHARD HARVEY⁶, the eldest of these children, married and moved to Philadelphia, where he died. His grandson, JOHN HARVEY⁸, married a grand-daughter of William Jeanes, a member of the Plymouth Meeting Society of Friends.

2. RACHEL HARVEY⁶ (second child of William and Mary Corson Harvey⁵), married her cousin, Benjamin Corson⁶, (son of Thomas⁵, a brother to her mother). They lived near Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pa. ; they left children.

3. BELINDA HARVEY⁶ (third child of William and Mary Corson Harvey⁵), married William Atkinson. They lived in Upper Wakefield, Bucks County, Pa. Both died long ago, Belinda at the home of her son, HARVEY ATKINSON⁷. There were other children who live in or near Philadelphia.

4. SARAH HARVEY⁶ (fourth child of William and Mary Corson Harvey⁵), married first, Peter Blaker, by whom she had eight children :

(1) HENRY BLAKER⁷ lives near Montgomeryville, Montgomery County, Pa.

(2) WILLIAM BLAKER⁷ lived in Champaign County, Illinois.

(3) LEVI BLAKER⁷ lived in Missouri ; may be there still.

(4) PETER BLAKER⁷ went to Missouri also.

(5) BELINDA ANN BLAKER⁷ lived in St. Louis, Missouri.

(6) THOMPSON BLAKER⁷ lived in Bucks County.

(7) AGNES BLAKER⁷ married, and died in St. Louis long ago.

(8) THOMAS BLAKER⁷ married, and died in St. Louis.

In 1877, the first six of these children were living, as was also a child by the second marriage. Sarah Harvey's⁶ second husband's name was John Griffith, by whom she had but one child to which I have just referred. The children by her first husband all married and had children.

5. ALLEN HARVEY⁶ (fifth child of William and Mary Corson Harvey⁵), married ————. He died in Williamsport, leaving three children: (1) AMOS HARVEY⁷ (2) BELINDA HARVEY⁷, and (3) MARY HARVEY⁷.

6. BENJAMIN CORSON HARVEY⁶ (sixth child of William and Mary Corson Harvey⁵)—known among his associates as Corson Harvey—resided in or near Williamsport, Pa.

7. THOMAS HARVEY⁶ and

8. WILLIAM HARVEY⁶ (children of William and Mary Corson Harvey⁵), both lived in Logansport, Indiana. They were both married and had children.

V. RICHARD CORSON⁵ (fifth son of Benjamin the third⁴, and Sarah Dungan Corson) was born December 4, 1768, and died October 29, 1845. He married (first) Ann Marple, by whom he had three children: 1, DAVID⁶, and 2, ANN⁶, who died very young; and 3, ELIZA H.⁶, who grew to womanhood and married Abraham Cornell. Richard lived for a time in Plymouth, but after his first wife's death he moved back to Bucks County. His second wife was Elizabeth Bennett, who died June 29, 1843, at the age of 68 years. They had three children: 4, JOHN BENNETT⁶; 5, MARIA ANN⁶, and 6, NANCY⁶.

3. ELIZA H. CORSON⁶ (daughter of Richard Corson⁵ by his first wife), married Abraham Cornell and they had eight children: (1) ANN ELIZA⁷; (2) RICHARD⁷; (3) CHARLES⁷; (4) CATHERINE⁷; (5) HIRAM⁷; (6) DAVID⁷; (7) HENRIETTA⁷, and (8) GILLIAM⁷.

Eliza H. Cornell⁶ died December 29, 1857, aged 57 years.

(1) ANN ELIZA CORNELL⁷ (eldest child of Eliza H.⁶ and Abraham Cornell), was born January 11, 1823; she married John Gill and they had three children—two sons and one daughter.

(2) RICHARD CORNELL⁷ (second child of Eliza H.⁶), born October 3, 1824, married Mary States by whom he had four children—two sons and two daughters—all living in the West.

(3) CHARLES CORNELL⁷ (third child of Eliza H.⁶), born October 9, 1826, married Martha Ann Ritch by whom he had five children—three sons and two daughters.

(4) CATHERINE CORNELL⁷ (fourth child of Eliza H.⁶), born May 23, 1829, married Thomas Layton; they had no children.

(5) HIRAM CORNELL⁷ (fifth child of Eliza H.⁶), born September 4, 1832, married Mary Jane McKinstry; they had two children: CATHERINE⁸, and JAMES⁸.

(6) DAVID CORNELL⁷ (sixth child of Eliza H.⁶), born February 7, 1837, married Sarah McKinstry; MARTIN⁸ is the name of their only child.

(7) HENRIETTA D. CORNELL⁷ (seventh child of Eliza H.⁶), born July 29, 1840, married William Ardeway; they had one child—CORNELL ARDEWAY⁸—who died in his nineteenth year: his father, William, died a few years previous, and his mother then married John Keppard.

(8) GILLIAM CORNELL⁷ (eighth and youngest child of Eliza H.⁶), born March 15, 1843, graduated in medicine. He married Lucretia Good, by whom he had five children; of these a son and daughter only are living—HOWARD⁸, and LUELLA⁸.

4. JOHN BENNETT CORSON⁶ (eldest child of Richard Corson⁵ by his second wife, Elizabeth Bennett), was born October 6, 1810. He was always called "Bennett" Corson. He married Eleanor Fetter and they had four children: (1) ELIZABETH⁷; (2) MARIA ANN⁷; (3) WILLIAM W.⁷, and (4) MARY E.⁷

(1) ELIZABETH CORSON⁷, born April 5, 1832, died in her seventh year.

(2) MARIA ANN CORSON⁷, born July 19, 1833, married S. Curtis Worthington, of Trappe, Pa., and they had four children: 1, MARYANNA CORSON WORTHINGTON⁸; 2, HARRILT WORTHINGTON⁸; 3, BENJAMIMA ELLEN WORTHINGTON⁸; 4, CLARA WORTHINGTON⁸. Of these, Benjamima Ellen Worthington⁸ married Harry Reed, by whom she has one child, MARIA LOUISA REED⁹.

(3) WILLIAM WARREN CORSON⁷ (son of John Bennett Corson⁶), born April 14, 1836, married Mary Grace Addis, of Pennypack. They have one child—WILLIAM WARREN CORSON, JR.⁸—who married Bertha Dennison. William Warren Corson⁷, the elder, served in the Civil War.

(4) MARY E. CORSON⁷ (youngest child of John B. Corson⁶), died in 1866, in the twenty-second year of her age.

5. MARIA ANN CORSON⁶ (second child of Richard Corson⁵ by his second wife, Elizabeth Bennett), was born May 30, 1813, and died February 21, 1855; she married her cousin, William Warren Bennett, and they were the parents of fourteen children, all dying in infancy except two—(1) LOUISA⁷ and (2) ELVINA⁷.

(1) LOUISA BENNETT⁷, born in 1838, married William Hulse and they had one child, LUTY HULSE⁸.

(2) ELVINA BENNETT⁷, born in 1845, married Samuel Bayles, a sea captain, by whom she had two children, MINNIE BAYLES⁸ and CLIFTON BAYLES⁸. Their home is at Port Jefferson, Long Island, N. Y.

6. NANCY M. CORSON⁶ (third child of Richard⁵ and Elizabeth Bennett Corson), born September 29, 1818, married Jacob Miles Search, by whom she had five children as named below:

(1) ELLWOOD SEARCH⁷, born September 22, 1838, unmarried.

(2) THEODORE C. SEARCH⁷, born March 20, 1841, married Anna L. White of Bucks County and have one child—IDA MAY SEARCH⁸, who married Prof. George Howard Cliff, Principal of Philadelphia Normal School, and a grandchild, ANNA SEARCH CLIFF⁹, daughter of the last named couple.

(3) HENRY LOT SEARCH⁷, born September 18, 1846, married Mary Ann Lefferts; they have two children—SUSANNA SEARCH⁸, born in 1878, and THEODORE CORSON SEARCH⁸.

(4) ERASMUS N. M. SEARCH⁷, born March 7, 1851, married Mary Ella Warren; they have three children, PAULINE M.⁸, LEROY⁸, and ETHEL⁸.

(5) ANN ELIZABETH SEARCH⁷, born March 13, 1853, married Edwin W. Roberts; they have two children, HARRY⁸, (died aged eight years), and HAROLD SEARCH ROBERTS⁸.

Of Theodore C. Search⁷, who has achieved extraordinary success as a business man and who has an enviable reputation as a philanthropist and as an advocate of protection and purer politics, a more extended notice must be given. In a recent publication there appears the following account of his life:

“Theodore Corson Search, son of Jacob Miles and Nancy (Corson) Search, was born in Bucks County, March 20, 1841; he is descended through his father, and grand-father, Christopher, from Charles Search, who came from England about one hundred and fifty years ago and settled in Bucks County. Theodore attended the country schools until his seventeenth year, when he went to Lancaster County and entered the State Normal School. After a preliminary course of study there, he entered what is now the Crozier Theological Seminary, where he remained three years, and completed an unusually solid and thorough literary education, which was given an extra effectiveness by his teaching simultaneously with the progress of his studies. For two years he was principal of the High School, Middletown, Dauphin County, Pa., and for two more had charge of the Academy in the same place; in all he taught seven years and then, in 1868, he decided to go to Philadelphia and then entered upon the business life that he has since followed with marked success.

“His beginning was made in the mercantile house of Davis, Fiss & Banes, wool merchants, whose successors, Fiss, Banes, Erben & Co., engaged in the manufacture of worsted and woolen yarns; in which firm he became a junior partner in 1872. In 1883, this firm was dissolved, to be succeeded by Erben, Search & Co., who placed themselves in the front rank of their department of manufacture in the United States. The building up of their huge business was largely the work of Theodore C. Search, who had labored zealously to make himself master of the art and secrets of textile manufacture, until he became an acknowledged authority in all that pertained to this most intricate and interesting industrial trade. He was master, too, of the business side of this industry; its splendid success demonstrated to his associates, his executive ability, and one of them—the head of the immense corporation bearing his name, the John B. Stetson Company—finding that he



THEODORE C. SEARCH



needed freedom from the vast business which he had built up, sought Mr. Search's services for that company. The result was that Theodore C. Search was made treasurer and practically the executive head of the John B. Stetson Company, in January, 1892, though he did not withdraw from the firm of Erben, Search & Co., until 1894. In addition to these large business interests he has been a director in the Bank of North America for fifteen years, and lately has been chosen President of the Colonial Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He has been for many years a director in the Manufacturers' Club of Philadelphia after having filled the office of President of its predecessor, the Philadelphia Textile Association; he is also a member of the Union League and one of its membership committee. While in the wool business he was one of the Vice-Presidents of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers of Boston, and the American Protective Association of New York; both of these organizations are national rather than merely local in character, including in their membership many conspicuous men of the country at large. In politics he is a pronounced Republican and a champion of the principle of protection to American industry, and took a prominent part in the campaign which resulted in the election of General Harrison.

"Perhaps the work which Mr. Search takes most pride in, is the founding and building up of the Philadelphia Textile School, which is now included in the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art. For more than a dozen years he has sustained and developed it, and for this unselfish service the people of Philadelphia and manufacturers of the entire country owe him a large debt of gratitude.

"The story of the progress of this school, started by Mr. Search in a small room on Spring Garden Street, rented for the purpose, with five pupils, up to its present fine quarters in the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art, at Broad and Pine Streets, with its more than seven hundred pupils, would fill a large volume, if told in detail; it suffices here to say that Theodore C. Search was its sole supporter for some time, until the late William Arrott and Thomas Dolan, hearing of the good work being done by Mr. Search, told him to depend on them for their share of the expense, and thus was the school afterwards supported.

"The fostering of this school has been Mr. Search's most exacting and, at the same time, most satisfying work during the last dozen years of his life; and while he has given to the city and country a unique institution of the utmost practical value—viewed either from the art or humanitarian standpoint—he has unconsciously, also, reared himself a lasting monument. He still labors as zealously and as judiciously and successfully for the institution as he did during the period of its struggles and uncertainty. Within a year he has made impressive addresses in its interest, before the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and before the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, at Boston. His speech before the latter body, together with a striking illustrative exhibit of the product of the school, aroused intense interest throughout the New England States, and elicited the most pronounced and gratifying recognition of the value of this school and of its work, to the textile art and manufacture of America.

"Theodore C. Search is now, and has been for years, Vice-President and Chairman Industrial Committee, Pennsylvania Museum

and School of Industrial Art, into which his Textile School has been merged."

VI. ELIZABETH CORSON⁵ (sixth child of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson), married Issachar Morris. They lived for some years after their marriage at Wrightstown, Bucks County, Pa.; they then moved to Philadelphia, next back to Wrightstown, and, finally, to Lycoming County. Their children were:

1. BENJAMIN CORSON MORRIS⁶ (born 1801), married Anna Oliver.
2. HANNAH MORRIS⁶, married Jacob Evans.
3. JANE MORRIS⁶, married Baltis Titman.
4. SARAH MORRIS⁶, married George Kuder.
5. JOSEPH R. MORRIS⁶, married Elizabeth Ann Kline.
6. ELIZA MORRIS⁶, married Joseph Corson Blaker.
7. GEORGE W. MORRIS⁶, married Maria Thomas.
8. CHARLES MORRIS⁶, married Sarah Thomas.
9. JOHN C. MORRIS⁶, married Caroline Fuller.
10. RACHEL MORRIS⁶, married Zebulon Robbins.

Elizabeth Corson Morris⁵ died in January, 1853; her husband had died nearly eighteen years before, in June, 1835, and both are buried in Columbia County, Pa.

I. BENJAMIN CORSON MORRIS⁶, their eldest son, graduated in medicine and settled at Philo, Illinois. He married Anna Oliver and subsequently moved to Urbano, Champaign County, Illinois, where they both died. His children all lived near their parents in Illinois; their names are as follows:

- (1) DR. ISSACHAR MORRIS⁷.
- (2) JOHN OLIVER MORRIS⁷, a farmer.
- (3) GEORGE W. MORRIS⁷, a merchant.
- (4) MARY OLIVER MORRIS⁷.
- (5) ELLIS MORRIS⁷, a farmer.
- (6) JACOB MORRIS⁷.
- (7) EMMA MORRIS⁷, who married ——— Boice.
- (8) JOSEPH MORRIS⁷, who was killed at the battle of Stone River.

2. HANNAH MORRIS⁶ (second child of Issachar and Elizabeth Corson Morris⁵), married Jacob Evans. They lived and are buried in Columbia County, Pa. Their children numbered five :

(1) ISSACHAR MORRIS EVANS⁷, a farmer.

(2) ANDREW J. EVANS⁷, a merchant—now deceased.

(3) DR. JOSEPH R. EVANS⁷, who lives in Bloomsburg—as do also Issachar M. and the family of Andrew J.

(4) SARAH EVANS⁷, who married ———— Stadin, and lives at Jeffersonville, Montgomery County, Pa.

(5) ELIZABETH EVANS⁷, who married ———— Hartman, a preacher, of Kansas, where they reside.

3. JANE MORRIS⁶ (third child of Issachar and Elizabeth Corson Morris⁵), married, first, Baltis Titman, by whom she had three children :

(1) MARY TITMAN⁷, who married ———— Hampton, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

(2) ELIZABETH TITMAN⁷, now deceased.

(3) ISSACHAR M. TITMAN⁷, also deceased.

Jane Morris⁷ first husband died and she married, second, Daniel Fox, by whom she had five more children :

(4) RACHEL FOX⁷.

(5) ELLEN FOX⁷, married ———— Stout of Shenandoah, Pa.

(6) ANNA FOX⁷, (now deceased), married ———— Creasy of Bloomsburg, Pa.

(7) JOHN FOX⁷, a merchant of Harley, Idaho.

(8) JAMES FOX⁷, a dentist of Catawissa, Pa., who has been a member of the Legislature of this State. John and James are twin brothers.

Jane Morris⁷ second husband also died and she then married, third, Samuel Kisner, Esq., whom she has survived ; she is now living a widow in Bloomsburg, Pa.

4. SARAH MORRIS⁶ (fourth child of Issachar and Elizabeth C. Morris⁵), married George Kuder and moved to Champaign

County, Illinois, where they both died. They had eight children—seven still living, as follows :

(1) ISSACHAR MORRIS KUDER⁷, a farmer of St. Joseph, Illinois.

(2) GEORGE KUDER⁷ and

(3) BENJAMIN KUDER⁷, farmers of Kansas.

(4) HANNAH KUDER⁷, married ——— Hamilton.

(5) EMMA KUDER⁷, who married her first cousin, Paul Blaker.

(6) SARAH KUDER⁷, who married ——— Witte, a farmer of Sidney, Illinois.

(7) PHŒBE KUDER⁷, who married ——— Witte, a farmer of Homer, Illinois.

Soon after the family settled in Illinois, Sarah Morris⁶'s husband (George Kuder), died, and she married, second, Isaiah Wright, who survived her.

5. REV. JOSEPH ROBERTS MORRIS⁶ (fifth child of Issachar and Elizabeth Corson Morris⁵), married Elizabeth Ann Kline, by whom he had five children, as follows :

(1) DR. MATTHIAS K. MORRIS⁷, of Holiday's Cove, W. Va.

(2) JOHN A. MORRIS⁷, who lives in California.

(3) ANNA MORRIS⁷, who married Rev. J. F. Heilner, of Cripple Creek, Col.

(4) DR. A. JUDSON MORRIS⁷, who is physician to the Indians at Rosebud Agency, South Dakota.

(5) JOSEPH R. MORRIS⁷, a lawyer of Salt Lake City, Utah.

6. ELIZA MORRIS⁶ (sixth child of Issachar and Elizabeth C. Morris⁵) married, first, her cousin Joseph Corson Blaker (who was killed by being thrown from a horse, in 1835), and they had three children :

(1) ISSACHAR BLAKER⁷, (now deceased); his widow lives at Shenandoah, Pa.

(2) PAUL BLAKER⁷, who married his first cousin, Emma Kuder; he is now deceased.

(3) GEN'L. CHARLES M. BLAKER⁷, Attorney at Law, Bloomsburg, Pa., (who has given me the information about this branch of the family).

After the death of her first husband, Eliza Morris Blaker⁶ married, second, Vincent Arnwine, by whom she had five more children :

(4) BURTIS ARNWINE⁷, who resides in Wilkes Barre.

(5) MARY C. ARNWINE⁷, who married ——— Parver.

(6) AMANDA A. ARNWINE⁷, who married ——— Bowman, of Wyoming, Pa.

(7) CAROLINE ARNWINE⁷, who married ——— Rich; her husband is now deceased.

(8) JOHN A. ARNWINE⁷, of Wyoming, Pa.

Eliza Morris Blaker's⁶ second husband is also dead, and she is now living, a widow, at Greenwood, about ten miles from Bloomsburg, Pa.

7. GEORGE W. MORRIS⁶ (seventh child of Issachar and Elizabeth Corson Morris⁵), married Maria Thomas and moved to Cook County, Illinois, where he became a member of the Legislature; both are now deceased. Their children were :

(1) FREEMAN MORRIS⁷, of Kansas.

(2) WILLIAM MORRIS⁷, a merchant, of Onargo, Ill.

(3) CORSON MORRIS⁷, who died in Andersonville Prison.

(4) JOHN MORRIS⁷.

(5) DALLAS MORRIS⁷.

(6) EMMA MORRIS⁷.

(7) CATHERINE MORRIS⁷, who lived near Chicago, Ill.

The father, George W. Morris, was killed by a railway train.

8. CHARLES MORRIS⁶ (eighth child of Issachar and Elizabeth Corson Morris⁵), married Sarah Thomas and moved to Cook County, Illinois; he is deceased, but his wife is living in Chicago. They had five children :

(1) FRANCES J. MORRIS⁷, married ——— Doyle of Chicago.

(2) ROSS MORRIS⁷, a farmer of Bloom, Ill.

- (3) ELIZABETH MORRIS⁷, who married ——— Green.
- (4) FREEMAN T. MORRIS⁷, ESQ., a lawyer of Watscka, Ill.
- (5) THOMAS MORRIS⁷.

9. DR. JOHN C. MORRIS⁶ (ninth child of Issachar and Elizabeth Corson Morris⁵), married Caroline Fuller; they are living at Orange, Luzerne County, Pa. By his first wife he had four children:

- (1) ELIZABETH MORRIS⁷, deceased.
- (2) JOHN C. MORRIS, JR.⁷, of La Fayette, Indiana.
- (3) FRANKLIN MORRIS⁷, a teacher of Dallas, Pa.
- (4) WILBUR MORRIS, of Tunkhannock, Pa.

10. RACHEL MORRIS⁶ (tenth child of Issachar and Elizabeth Corson Morris⁵), married Zebulon Robbins—both are deceased. Their children were:

- (1) JOHN M. ROBBINS⁷, a banker, living in Shenandoah, Pa.
- (2) ISSACHAR M. ROBBINS⁷, living at Mt. Airy, Philadelphia.
- (3) DR. HONORA ROBBINS⁷, residing in Bloomsburg, Pa.
- (4) SARAH S. ROBBINS⁷, also of Bloomsburg.
- (5) ELMER E. ROBBINS⁷, a grain dealer of Sac City, Iowa.

The parents lived in Columbia and Schuylkill Counties, but they have long since passed away. General Charles M. Blaker, Esq., (my correspondent) further adds: "The Morris children nearly all lived to see 'three score and ten,' and had large healthy families; so have their grandchildren."

VII. RACHEL CORSON⁵ (seventh child of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson), married Paul Blaker. The following from Mrs. Wynkoop, her granddaughter, is a reliable account of her husband's ancestry in Pennsylvania, and of her children after her marriage:

John Blaker, great-grandfather of Paul, her husband, came from Germany about 1683. His son, Peter, married a Miss Buckman in 1718. John, son of Peter, married a Miss Williams in 1740.

Paul, son of John, was born in August, 1776, and married RACHEL CORSON⁵, daughter of Benjamin Corson third⁴, March 28, 1805. (His wife was born in February, 1776.) He died of heart disease, November, 1839; his wife died from injuries received by being thrown from a gig, September 3, 1844. Their children were: (1) JOSEPH⁶; (2) BENJAMIN⁶; (3) PAUL⁶; (4) RACHEL⁶; (5) JOSHUA⁶, and (6) ALFRED⁶.

(1) JOSEPH CORSON BLAKER⁶ (son of Rachel Corson⁵ and Paul Blaker), born September 1, 1806, married his cousin, Eliza Morris, and they had three children, ISSACHAR⁷, PAUL⁷ and CHARLES M. BLAKER⁷, ESQ. Joseph Blaker⁶ was thrown from a horse and killed.

(2) BENJAMIN BLAKER⁶ (second son of Rachel Corson⁵ and Paul Blaker), married Caroline Walton. Their children were: 1, WALTON⁷; 2, LOUISE⁷, and 3, WILLIAM⁷. Benjamin⁶ died in 1857 of softening of the brain.

(3) PAUL BLAKER⁶ (third child of Rachel Corson⁵ and Paul Blaker), married Sarah Tomlinson. Their children: 1, HENRY W.⁷ (born February 5, 1838); 2, MARY⁷, and 3, HOWARD⁷.

1. HENRY WALMSLEY BLAKER⁷ married Priscilla Cooper about 1863. They removed to Pleasanton, Kansas, in 1880, and engaged in the grocery business. They have three children: (1) LAURA BLAKER⁸; (2) LIZZIE BLAKER⁸, and (3) WILLIAM BLAKER⁸.

2. MARY BLAKER⁷ (daughter of Paul Blaker⁶ and Sarah Tomlinson), born October 25, 1840, married, December, 1864, Benjamin Cooper, a farmer in Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa. They have four children: (1) LUELLE COOPER⁸, born September 29, 1865; (2) JAMES COOPER⁸, born May 3, 1868; (3) ANNIE COOPER⁸, born in May, 1870, and (4) ESTELLA COOPER⁸, born August 17, 1876.

3. HOWARD BLAKER⁷ (son of Paul Blaker⁶ and Sarah Tomlinson), married his cousin, Sarah Bennett⁶, November 25, 1880.

(4) RACHEL BLAKER⁶ (fourth child of Rachel Corson⁵ and Paul Blaker), was born November 17, 1818; she died in middle age, unmarried.

(5) JOSHUA CORSON BLAKER⁶ (fifth child of Rachel Corson⁵ and Paul Blaker), married Ann Croasdale, March 25, 1840. Their children were: 1, RACHEL ANN⁷; 2, BENJAMIN⁷; 3, ALFRED, JR.⁷; 4, EVELINE⁷; 5, PAUL⁷; 6, EMMA JOSEPHINE⁷; 7, SUSANNA⁷, and 8, _____⁷.

1. RACHEL ANN BLAKER⁷ married William Wyncoop, January 6, 1859.

2. BENJAMIN BLAKER⁷ married Addie Brabent of Wisconsin, December, 1872.

3. ALFRED BLAKER, JR.⁷, married Annie Hibbs in 1869; moved to Kansas in 1871, where he went into the grain and lumber business with his brother, Benjamin, under the firm name of Blaker Brothers. They are still there and doing well. Alfred had three children: (1) EARNEST⁸; (2) ELEANOR⁸, and (3) WILLIAM⁸.

(6) ALFRED BLAKER⁶ (youngest child of Rachel Corson⁵ and Paul Blaker), married Susan Roberts, January 15, 1853; they had no children. Alfred, who was born May 1, 1822, was a very prominent man and a Justice of the Peace in Newtown, Bucks County, Pa. He was widely known as 'Squire Blaker. He is now deceased but his widow still lives in Newtown.

VIII. SARAH CORSON⁵ (eighth child of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson), married Matthias Bennett. They lived about one mile west of Addisville, Bucks County, until his death, which occurred about the year 1826. She afterwards resided with her children, of whom there were six:

1, WILLIAM⁶; 2, BERNARD⁶; 3, ELIZABETH⁶; 4, REBECCA⁶; 5, BENJAMIN⁶, and 6, MATTHIAS, JR.⁶

1. WILLIAM BENNETT⁶, the eldest of these children, died unmarried.

2. BERNARD BENNETT⁶ married Eliza Parks and had several children. They lived near the home of his father.

3. ELIZABETH BENNETT⁶ married Andrew Von Boskirk of Hatboro. She died over twenty-five years ago. I was in consultation in her case a few days before her death. She left several children who, I believe are doing well.

4. REBECCA BENNETT⁶ married ——— Hogland; they had several children, but I heard a few years ago that all of them were dead.

5. BENJAMIN BENNETT⁶ married ——— Van Horn; they had four children: SARAH⁷, PHEBE⁷, and two sons.

6. MATTHIAS BENNETT, JR.⁶ married Hannah Croasdale; I have heard that they had two children and lived in Warminster, Bucks County, Pa.

IX. JANE CORSON⁵ (ninth child and youngest daughter of Benjamin the third¹ and Sarah Dungan Corson), married, when nearly forty years of age, ~~William~~ Bennett (brother to *Isaac* Matthias, who had married her sister Sarah). The two brothers lived on adjoining farms, about half a mile from the White Bear Tavern, at Addisville, in Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa. Jane had two daughters, both very intelligent girls. I often stopped to see the family on my way to and from New Hope, during the years 1826-7, and occasionally afterwards. The names of the daughters were: 1, JANE ELIZA BENNETT⁶ and 2, SARAH MARGARETTA BENNETT⁶. How well I remember their tall, graceful, intellectual mother, with her bright eyes, black and shining, beaming kindness and cheer; she was a most lovely woman. How singular that this numerous family of six men and five women (my father and his brothers and sisters), should all have lived until the youngest was fifty years of age; and that, too, they should all have married and had families.

1. JANE ELIZA BENNETT⁶ (eldest daughter of Aunt Jane Bennett⁵), married William Buckman, of Newtown. They lived for some years on her father's farm and then moved to

the mill on the Neshaminy Creek near Newtown; they next moved to a farm in Sadsbury, Chester County, where they were found murdered on the morning of the 24th of September, 1803—she, in her room; he, outside of the house, hanging to a post of the fence with his feet on the ground and a gash in his throat. There were strange stories about these deaths; one of them, at least, was a foul murder. I attended the burials at Newtown, Bucks County, Pa. Their children were two boys: (1) EUGENE BUCKMAN⁷, who went to the war and died, and (2) CLARENCE BUCKMAN⁷, who was in 1882 a State Senator in Minnesota.

2. SARAH MARGARETTA BENNETT⁶ (youngest daughter of Aunt Jane Bennett⁶), married Charles Blaker, now deceased. They had five children: (1) JOHN⁷; (2) ISAAC⁷; (3) JULIAN⁷; (4) WADE⁷, and (5) ABBIE⁷.

(1) JOHN BLAKER⁷ (eldest child of Sarah Margarett Bennett⁶ and Charles Blaker) lived with his mother on the farm which was long in the possession of the Blaker family. He has since moved to some part of the West. During the war he served as a Lieutenant in the Third Regiment of Colored Troops.

(2) ISAAC BLAKER⁷, (3) JULIAN BLAKER⁷, and (4) WADE BLAKER⁷, all live in Kansas.

(5) ABBIE BLAKER⁷ (youngest child of Sarah Margarett Bennett⁶ and Charles Blaker) married Harrison Rice (son of Hiram and Esther Corson Rice—the latter a first cousin to Abbie's mother). They have two children: 1, ISAAC⁸, and 2, JULIAN⁸.

1. ISAAC RICE⁸ married Susan Comly; 2, JULIAN RICE⁸ married and moved to Kansas.

X. JOSHUA CORSON⁵ (tenth child of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson) was born March 6, 1780. He married (1806) Hannah Lee, a sister of Dr. Ralph Lee of Newtown, Bucks County, Pa. They lived nearly all of their married life on a farm four miles below New Hope, on the

"Middle Road." (Subsequently the farm was owned by their son Joshua.) When I went in 1826 to New Hope, as a student of medicine to Dr. Richard D. Corson, their oldest children were then young ladies. The parents continued on the farm until all of their daughters—seven in number—and two of their three sons were married; they then moved to Forrestville. Hannah Lee Corson died August 14, 1860, aged 75 years, 22 days; her husband (Uncle Joshua) died May 29, 1869. Both were buried in the Presbyterian burying ground at Forrestville. Their children were:

1. AMY LEE CORSON⁶ married Charles Heston.
2. SARAH DUNGAN CORSON⁶ married Gilbert W. Ely.
3. AMOS LEE CORSON⁶ married Anna Louisa Thomas.
4. ESTHER CORSON⁶ married Hiram Rice.
5. RALPH LEE CORSON⁶ unmarried—died March 27, 1889.
6. MARY CORSON⁶ married Anderson G. Smith.
7. ANN M. CORSON⁶ married William H. Ellis.
8. JOSHUA CORSON⁶ married Sarah A. Johnson.
9. HANNAH CORSON⁶ married, first, Watson Kirk; second, Thomas White.
10. ELIZABETH HELEN CORSON⁶ married William K. Doan.

All of Uncle Joshua's children are now (December, 1895), dead except ESTHER, MARY, and JOSHUA.

1. AMY LEE CORSON⁶, the eldest child, married Charles Heston, and lived on his farm near Pineville, Bucks County. They had three children: (1) HANNAH ANN⁷; (2) ALBERT AUGUSTUS⁷, and (3) MARY ELIZABETH⁷.

(1) HANNAH ANN HESTON⁷, born November 4, 1837, married December 24, 1868, Joshua Beans, Esq., attorney-at-law and a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature from 1868 to 1870; they live in Doylestown and have had one child: MARY HESTON BEANS⁸, born December 17, 1867; died March 17, 1872.

(2) ALBERT AGUSTUS HESTON⁷, born November 4, 1841, married July 4, 1867, Sarah E. Thompson, of Philadelphia. He was a soldier in the Civil War, serving three years and seven months. Of his nine children five died at an early age; the others are :

1. FRANK E. HESTON⁸, born March 1, 1872.
2. PHEBE THOMPSON HESTON⁸, born May 12, 1873.
3. HANNAH A. HESTON⁸, born January 9, 1879; and
4. JESSE HESTON⁸, born May 11, 1874.

Of these FRANK E. HESTON⁸, married February 15, 1893, Marion Murphy, and on the same day, his sister, PHEBE T. HESTON⁸, married Stephen Vandegrift; the latter have one child, JOHN ALBERT VANDEGRIFT⁹, born November 19, 1895.

2. SARAH DUNGAN CORSON⁶, (second child of Joshua⁵ and Hannah Lee Corson), born August 26, 1808, married December, 1828, Gilbert W. Ely, and lived near to Horsham Friends' Meeting, which they attended. Both are now deceased, Sarah, August 1, 1888, and her husband, September 21, 1889. They had six children :

- (1) HANNAH CORSON ELY⁷, born February 1, 1830.
- (2) JOSHUA CORSON ELY⁷, born September 28, 1833; died July 1, 1853.
- (3) REBECCA SMITH ELY⁷, born January 29, 1837.
- (4) WILLIAM ELWOOD ELY⁷, born September 13, 1842, died July 6, 1892.
- (5) ANNA LOUISA ELY⁷, born March 31, 1847, died March 13, 1883.
- (6) ADELE CAROLINE ELY⁷, born February 28, 1853, died August 16, 1896.

(1) HANNAH CORSON ELY⁷, married December 14, 1854, George Webster, a farmer of Horsham, and they have two children: JOSHUA ELY WEBSTER⁸, born January 20, 1856, and ELLA WEBSTER⁸, born August 27, 1857.

(3) REBECCA SMITH ELY⁷, married George S. Teas, also a farmer of Horsham; they have one child, ELLEN TEAS, born October 18, 1857.

(4) WILLIAM ELWOOD ELY⁷, M. D., graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1864, and served for a time as surgeon in the late war. He married, July 28, 1866, Hannah Conrad, by whom he had two children: FRANCIS EDWARD ELY⁸, born March 26, 1867, and BERTHA ESTELLE ELY⁸, born August 2, 1868. They lived in Lansdale, where Dr. Ely, engaged in the business of broker and real estate agent. He died July 6, 1892. His eldest child, FRANCIS EDWARD ELY⁸, married (1890) Letitia C. Pyle and they have one child, ELEANOR C. ELY⁹. BERTHA ESTELLE ELY⁸, the younger of Dr. Ely's two children, married Lincoln Weingartner.

(5) ANNA LOUISA ELY⁷ married, July 13, 1872, Israel Mullen of Horsham, and they have three children:

1. HOWARD ELY MULLEN⁸, born October 6, 1874.
2. CLARENCE MULLEN⁸, born August 3, 1877.
3. WESLEY MULLEN⁸, born July 8, 1882.

(6) ADELE CAROLINE ELY⁷ married, October 22, 1874, Samuel C. Lukens, a lumber merchant of Philadelphia, where they lived. They had ten children, three of them dying at an early age:

1. ELSIE LUKENS⁸, born February 24, 1876; died July 16, 1876.
2. GILBERT ELY LUKENS⁸, born November 17, 1877; died June 1, 1880.
3. JESSIE MAY LUKENS⁸, born May 22, 1880.
4. MARION LUKENS⁸, born February 11, 1882.
5. EDWARD SAMUEL LUKENS⁸, born December 27, 1883.
6. BARCLAY WALTON LUKENS⁸, born March 27, 1886; died February 19, 1889.
7. HELEN LUKENS⁸, born May 28, 1888.
8. WALTER LEE LUKENS⁸, born May 13, 1890.
9. ARTHUR LEWIS LUKENS⁸, born October 27, 1892.
10. SAMUEL CONARD LUKENS⁸, born June 9, 1895.

3. AMOS LEE CORSON⁶, (third child of Joshua⁵ and Hannah Lee Corson), born May 4, 1810, married Anna Louisa Thomas, daughter of Reese Thomas of Gulf Mills, Mont-

gomery County, Pa. They were married first by Friends' ceremony, January 16, 1834, at the Thomas residence, and four days latter, January 20, 1834, by the Mayor of Philadelphia, in his office in that city. The second ceremony was brought about because it was rumored that the Friends' marriage ceremony was illegal unless it took place in a meeting house; to avoid a possibility of that kind they went before the Mayor and were by him married again. AMOS died July 5, 1879; his wife, Anna Louisa, died April 11, 1891. They had two children :

(1) REBECCA BROOK CORSON⁷, born June 18, 1843.

(2) WILBUR THOMAS CORSON⁷, born March 9, 1853.

(1) REBECCA BROOK CORSON⁷, married, December 10, 1880, George B. Carr, Esq.; they have no children. Mr. Carr is an attorney-at-law.

(2) WILBUR THOMAS CORSON⁷, married, June 30, 1875, Elizabeth Lord Redman of Haddonfield, N. J., and they have two children : ELIZABETH REDMAN CORSON⁷, born March 5, 1876, and MARIA LOUISA CORSON⁷, born August 13, 1885.

4. RALPH LEE CORSON⁶ (fourth child of Joshua⁵ and Hannah Lee Corson), lived at Wrightstown, Pa. He never married, and died March 27, 1889, in his seventy-eighth year.

5. ESTHER CORSON⁶ (fifth child of Joshua⁵ and Hannah Lee Corson), married September 10, 1835, Hiram Rice, and they had three children : (1) WILLIAM RICE⁷, M. D., born March 13, 1836; (2) JOSHUA CORSON RICE⁷, born November 27, 1837; and (3) HARRISON RICE⁷. They lived for a time near the Solebury Meeting House, later in the vicinity of Centreville, and finally at Newtown, Bucks County, where Hiram died, September 10, 1881. Of their children :

(1) WILLIAM RICE⁷, M. D., born in Solebury Township, Bucks County, was educated at the Hughesean School, in Buckingham Township, Bucks County, Pa., and at the Friends' High School, in Philadelphia, completing a classical course at the latter place at the age of eighteen. He then took up the study of medicine, graduating from the University of Penn-

sylvania, in 1860. He began practice in Frenchtown, N. J., of which borough he was one of the Incorporators and for two terms its Mayor. In 1871, he removed to Trenton, N. J., and soon established a large and lucrative practice. He interested himself in municipal affairs, serving three terms as a member of the Board of School Trustees, two terms as City Physician, and was finally, in 1879, elected Mayor of the City; after serving a second term, (having received a re-election) as Mayor, he withdrew from political life and has since devoted his attention entirely to his practice.

(2) JOSHUA CORSON RICE was an invalid for many years until relieved of his suffering by death, January 27, 1877.

(3) HARRISON RICE⁷ married, May 16, 1877, Abbie Blaker⁷, his second cousin, (she was a daughter of Sarah Margaretta [Bennett] Blaker). They lived near Newtown, Bucks County, on a farm. Harrison died January 14, 1885, leaving a comfortable estate. He had two children: LYN-DRETTA RICE⁸, born June 12, 1878, and MAUD ESTHER RICE⁷, born August 9, 1881.

6. MARY CORSON⁶ (sixth child of Joshua⁵ and Hannah Lee Corson), married, in 1838, Anderson G. Smith, a farmer, of her neighborhood. They lived on the "Middle Road" near Pineville. Her husband died May 16, 1894, in the eighty-third year of his age. They had six children:

(1) MARY ELLEN SMITH⁷, born January 14, 1840; died March 12, 1843.

(2) HANNAH C. SMITH⁷, born March 3, 1843.

(3) CLARA A. SMITH⁷, born February 12, 1848; died January 2, 1858.

(4) JOSEPH Z. SMITH⁷, born June 13, 1849.

(5) EDGAR POE SMITH⁷, born December 13, 1854.

(6) IDA MAY SMITH⁷, born April 3, 1859. Of this group

(2) HANNAH CORSON SMITH⁷, married, March 3, 1864, Jacob S. Livezey, a prosperous farmer of Byberry, and their son, EDWARD LIVEZEY⁸, born June 30, 1866, married, March 8, 1888, Ruth Betts. Edward and Ruth Livezey have two

children : CHARLES W. LIVEZEY⁹, born June 26, 1890, and MARTHA LIVEZEY⁹, born June, 1893.

(4) JOSEPH Z. SMITH⁷ married, November 16, 1871, Mary Paxson and they have two children : GEORGE L. SMITH⁸, born January 11, 1873, and EDITH W. SMITH⁸, born September 9, 1881.

(5) EDGAR POE SMITH⁷ married, October 9, 1877, Jennie E. Gurney, of New York State. They have two children : HANNAH MARY SMITH⁸, born July 17, 1879, and CHARLOTTA G. SMITH⁸, born November 23, 1880. EDGAR POE SMITH'S⁷ wife, Jennie E. Gurney, died November 8, 1890; he married again, October 4, 1893, his second wife being Mary Elizabeth Akers.

(6) IDA MAY SMITH⁷, married, January 21, 1885, Edward M. Carey.

7. ANN M. CORSON⁶ (seventh child of Joshua⁵ and Hannah Lee Corson), married in 1833, William H. Ellis, an engraver of note; he died in 1892, at the age of 76; his wife died January 4, 1894, at the age of 77. They left two sons, (1) GEORGE WASHINGTON ELLIS⁷, born February 22, 1839, and (2) WILLIAM GODEY ELLIS⁷, born October 10, 1844.

(1) GEORGE WASHINGTON ELLIS⁷ married, March 30, 1864, Annie Senior, by whom he had one child, THOMAS WHITE ELLIS⁸. Annie Senior Ellis died October 12, 1889; on December 26, 1891, George W. Ellis married Anna Helen Watson. They have had one child, WILLIAM GODEY ELLIS, JR.⁸, born August 17, 1895.

THOMAS WHITE ELLIS⁸, only son by the first marriage, married, in 1892, Clara Childs, of London, England.

(2) WILLIAM GODEY ELLIS⁷, (SR.), married, May 26, 1864, Anna M. Slack, by whom he has two children : 1, GEORGE EDWIN ELLIS⁸, and 2, ENOLA E. ELLIS⁸, the former born May 14, 1865, the latter, November 20, 1876.

1. GEORGE EDWIN ELLIS⁸, married, May 1, 1889, Nettie Hill; they have one child, GEORGE EDWIN ELLIS, JR.⁹, born July 7, 1890.

2. ENOLA E. ELLIS⁵ married, November 15, 1893, Philip R. SCHUYLER.

8. JOSHUA CORSON⁶ (eighth child of Joshua⁵ and Hannah L. Corson), born May 2, 1820, married March 12, 1842, Sarah Ann Johnson, who was born May 2, 1820, and died January 12, 1876. They lived on his father's farm near New Hope, which subsequently became his own. He married again after the death of his first wife, and still lives with his second wife at the old home. His children by his first wife were : (1) JAMES JOHNSON CORSON⁷, born March 2, 1844 ; (2) RALPH LEE CORSON⁷, born April 23, 1846 ; (3) WATSON KIRK CORSON⁷, born November 14, 1848 ; (4) HANNAH LOUISA CORSON⁷, born July 25, 1851 ; and (5) CAROLINE AMANDA CORSON⁷, born April 27, 1853.

(1) JAMES J. CORSON⁷ married, March 2, 1869, Flora Urania Humphrey, of Maine. They had two children : 1, ANNA URANIA CORSON⁸, born April 15, 1870 ; and 2, IDA SMITH CORSON, born December 2, 1875 ; died June 3, 1879.

1. ANNA URANIA CORSON⁸ married, April 18, 1893, Howard E. Young, Assistant Treasurer of Guarantee Trust Company, of Philadelphia, in which city they reside. They have one child, FLORA HUMPHREY YOUNG⁹, born March 5, 1895.

(2) RALPH LEE CORSON⁷ unmarried.

(3) WATSON KIRK CORSON⁷ married (first), October 16, 1872, Rosine I. Merrick, and they had two children : WATSON MERRICK CORSON⁸, born April 2, 1879, and JAMES J. CORSON⁸, born April 14, 1881. His first wife died January 23, 1889, (she was born February 2, 1855), and on December 19, 1889, he married (second) Mattie Slack Keith, who died March 13, 1891, without issue. He married (third), June 16, 1892, Lizzie Dolby Torbert ; they live in Camden, N. J. Watson is engaged in business in Philadelphia.

(4) HANNAH LOUISA CORSON⁷ married, December 30, 1868, John Atkinson Ellis, a farmer ; they live near Forrestville. They have seven children, all living :

1. CARRIE CORSON ELLIS^s, born November 19, 1869; married, November 19, 1891, James R. Cooper.
2. EDWIN MILTON ELLIS^s, born July 7, 1874.
3. MABEL ANN ELLIS^s, born April 15, 1878.
4. ELIZABETH BERTHA ELLIS^s, born May 8, 1880.
5. JOHN ATKINSON ELLIS^s, born May 19, 1885.
6. JOSHUA CORSON ELLIS^s, born April 22, 1890.
7. WINFIELD ROY ELLIS^s, born February 5, 1892.

(5) CAROLINE AMANDA CORSON⁷ (daughter of Joshua and Sarah A. Johnson Corson), married, November 30, 1871, James Pemberton Van Horn, a farmer living near Newtown, and they have two children: EDGAR SMITH VAN HORN^s, and MARTHA E. VAN HORN^s, the former born November 21, 1872; the latter, April 27, 1879.

9. HANNAH CORSON⁶ (ninth child of Joshua⁴ and Hannah Lee Corson), born April 21, 1822, married (first), December, 1844, Watson Kirk, a merchant of Centreville, who died October 18, 1858, in the thirty-eighth year of his age. Hannah married (second), May, 1860, Thomas White, and they continued in the mercantile business at Centreville. Hannah died June 15, 1894. She had no children by either husband, but adopted one who is now a young lady.

10. ELIZABETH HELEN CORSON⁶ (tenth and youngest child of Joshua⁴ and Hannah Lee Corson), born October 19, 1826; married, December 2, 1847, William R. Doan, a near neighbor. They had five children: (1) BENJAMIN EASTBURN DOAN⁷, born January 12, 1849; (2) SARAH ANN DOAN⁷, born February 18, 1851; (3) GEORGE WASHINGTON DOAN⁷, born August 19, 1853; (4) HANNAH KIRK DOAN⁷, born September 18, 1855; (5) MARTHA ELLEN DOAN⁷, born December 24, 1859.

(1) BENJAMIN EASTBURN DOAN⁷ married, January 4, 1877, Louisa A. Baker, a Yankee girl, daughter of Calvin Baker; they live near Elmira, N. Y. They had three children: ANNA ESTELLA DOAN^s, born September 23, 1878; CALVIN BAKER DOAN^s, born January 13, 1881; and JOSHUA CORSON DOAN^s, born June 19, 1887.

(2) SARAH ANN DOAN⁷ married, November 18, 1868, Benjamin W. Rockafellow, a farmer; they live near Forrestville and have had three children: JOHN B. ROCKAFELLOW⁸, born September 6, 1869; WATSON W. ROCKAFELLOW⁸, born July 8, 1871; and WILLIAM ROCKAFELLOW⁸, born September 23, 1873. Their second son, Watson, died January 11, 1886; their oldest son, JOHN B. ROCKAFELLOW⁸, married, January 3, 1894, Louisa M. Fries, and they have a son, born November 17, 1895.

(3) GEORGE WASHINGTON DOAN⁷, died at the age of four years.

(4) HANNAH KIRK DOAN⁷ married, September 18, 1880, Silas A. Selsor. They live in Doylestown, and have had four children: THOMAS WATSON SELSOR⁸, born August 29, 1883; LIZZIE HELEN SELSOR⁸, born in 1885, died in May, 1886; CHARLES ALBERT SELSOR⁸, born July 26, 1887; and LOUISA SELSOR⁸, born July 16, 1889.

(5) MARTHA ELLEN DOAN⁷ married, December 28, 1892, Clinton A. Paul, and they have two children: SARAH ELIZABETH PAUL⁸, born November 17, 1893; and HANNAH LOUISA PAUL⁸, born July 26, 1895.

Here I may add that all of Uncle Joshua Corson's daughters, seven in number, were married, and that all of his grandchildren but three are married. While his children were not members of Quaker Meeting, they all inclined to Quakerism, though Ann and Hannah joined the Presbyterian Church. Speaking of that, Ann Ellis wrote to me: "All married into Quaker families and in spite of all adverse influences, the Quaker will stick out of all of us."

XI. AMOS CORSON⁵ (youngest child of Benjamin the third⁴ and Sarah Dungan Corson), was born in December, 1786. He married Martha Martindale. They lived for a time at the mouth of the Pennypack Creek; then they moved to a farm near Bristol, which they had purchased. After living there several years they sold it and bought the Judge Jenks' farm, two miles east of Newtown, a fine place, where they

lived until uncle Amos' death, July 9, 1861. His widow moved to near Bristol, where her son Richard had bought a farm, and lived there until her death, which occurred on the twenty-second of March, 1869. Both were buried at Southampton Baptist Church. Their children were: 1, SARAH⁶; 2, BENJAMIN⁶; 3, JANE⁶; 4, JOSEPH⁶; 5, RICHARD⁶; 6, ELIZETTA⁶; 7, ISAAC⁶; 8, MARIA ANN⁶; 9, MARTHA ELLEN⁶, and 10, AMOS⁶.

1. SARAH CORSON⁶ (eldest child of Uncle Amos⁶) died in 1827, aged 17 years.

2. BENJAMIN CORSON⁶ (second child of Uncle Amos⁶), born March 5, 1812, married Mary Ann Scull, a lineal descendant of Nicholas Scull, Surveyor General in William Penn's time. Their children were: (1) FRANCES⁷, and (2) LIZZIE⁷.

(1) FRANCES CORSON⁷ married Benjamin Shallcross and they had seven children: 1, JOHN⁸; 2, LEONARD⁸; 3, MARY⁸; 4, ANNA⁸; 5, FRANCES⁸; 6, SALLIE C.⁸, and 7, LETITIA⁸.

(2) LIZZIE CORSON⁷ (second child of Benjamin⁶) married Joseph Merrill and they had nine children: 1, BENJAMIN⁸; 2, RICHARD⁸; 3, JOSEPH⁸; 4, EDWARD⁸; 5, WILLIAM HARRIS⁸; 6, THOMAS ROBERTS⁸; 7, SUSAN⁸; 8, MARY⁸, and 9, MARTHA ANNA⁸.

3. JANE CORSON⁶ (third child of Uncle Amos⁶) married Lewis Shallcross. Their children were: (1) AMOS⁷, (2) LEWIS⁷, and two others, deceased.

(1) AMOS SHALLCROSS⁷ lived at Holmesburg.

(2) LEWIS SHALLCROSS⁷ lived in Philadelphia; he died in 1890, leaving a widow and nine children, who live in Wisconsin.

4. JOSEPH CORSON⁶ (fourth child of Uncle Amos⁶) married Mary Dungan and they had three children:

(1) JOSEPHINE CORSON⁷, who married Robert Barr.

(2) JANE CORSON⁷, who married James Johnson

(3) MARTHA CORSON⁷.

5. RICHARD CORSON⁶ (fifth child of Uncle Amos⁵) married Mary Willard and they had one child, a daughter, born about 1870. They live on a fine farm in Bucks County, adjoining the city of Bristol.

6. ELIZETTA CORSON⁶ (sixth child of Uncle Amos⁵), born in 1818, lived in Bristol with the two orphan children of her sister, MARTHA ELLEN YERKES. Elizetta was unmarried; she died September 11, 1885, and was buried at Southampton Baptist Church.

7. ISAAC CORSON⁶ (seventh child of Uncle Amos⁵) married Sarah Pinto, who died in 1870; he had one child by her, MARY CORSON⁷. After the death of his first wife, Isaac married Eliza Lane by whom he had three children. They lived in Philadelphia.

8. MARY ANN CORSON⁶ (eight child of Uncle Amos⁵), married Jeremiah Linn; they lived in Frankford—had no children.

9. MARTHA ELLEN CORSON⁶ (ninth child of Uncle Amos⁵), married Theodore Yerkes, of Bucks County, Pa., who died in 1870, leaving two children: (1) EMMA STEINMETZ YERKES⁷, and (2) NEWTON YERKES⁷. The children lived with their Aunt Elizetta after their mother died in 1881, leaving them orphans. Newton died in 1888; Emma married Alexander Forsythe, and they are now living in Bristol; no children.

10. AMOS CORSON⁶ (youngest child of Uncle Amos⁵), married (in 1862), Sarah Emma Willard, a sister to his brother Richard's wife. They lived on their farm between Doylestown and Centreville, and had four children: (1) EMMA CORSON⁷, (died in infancy); (2) ISAAC WILLARD CORSON⁷; (3) RICHARD CORSON⁷, and (4) MARIAN C. L. CORSON⁷.

Amos' first wife died, and he then married Sarah R. Hicks; they are living at Holicong, Penna.

V.

JOSEPH CORSON⁵.

JOSEPH CORSON⁵, my father, (second son of Benjamin, the third⁴, and Sarah Dungan Corson), was born March 15, 1764, in Dublin Township, Philadelphia County, on the Keen farm. Until adult age he was not engaged in any other business than farming. He had a good common school education for those times. When he had turned twenty-one years of age, he came, with his friend, Samuel Maulsby, to live on the farm which the latter owned in the Whitemarsh part of Plymouth village. Samuel Maulsby, the friend, was a young man of just about my father's age; he was the son of Hannah Maulsby, who, after the death of her first husband, married Richard Corson, my father's uncle.

In 1786, my father married Hannah, daughter of Joseph Dickinson, (who lived on the farm his grandfather, William Dickinson, of Maryland, purchased about one hundred years before, when he first came to Pennsylvania, and which had been in the Dickinson family ever since). After their marriage, my parents rented the Maulsby farm—which I have alluded to—and brother Alan was born there. The old house has been removed; it stood a few feet north of the barn, now (1891) belonging to David Marple's widow—immediately in front of her new residence.

The whole farm was in Whitemarsh Township, Montgomery County, Pa. It included the whole north east corner of the two roads, the Germantown turnpike, its south boundary, and the Plymouth and Broad Axe turnpike, along which it extended for half a mile, its western boundary.

I will here quote what brother Alan has written about father. "He was born in Dublin, Philadelphia County, from which place the (father's) family removed to Bucks County,



JOSEPH CORSON'S HOME AT HICKORYTOWN



and, when he had passed his minority, he moved to Plymouth, where, after some time, he married, and rented Samuel Maulsby's farm near Plymouth Meeting House, where I was born, and where they lived two years, leaving in March or April, 1789, and going to the farm of John Davis, in Plymouth Township, one-half mile above Hickorytown (now Ralph's farm), where they remained two years. They then moved to a farm along the northwestern side of Plymouth Township, called "Campbell's Farm," (now, 1880, owned by Samuel Stout), of 100 acres, where they remained a few years, paying £30 annual rent. Father afterwards purchased it, or agreed to, at £1000, but it had been entailed, and there being difficulty about the title, it was given up; he then bought the farm and store-house in Hickorytown, to which place they removed in March, 1800, where they remained and continued the store-keeping and farming till his death, fourth month, 4th, 1834. Our mother died twelfth month, 17th, 1810."

Alan and Benjamin (who died before he was five years old) were born on the Maulsby farm; Mary on the Davis farm; Sarah, Hannah (who died under two years) and Joseph D., on the Campbell farm; and Charles, George, Hiram, William, and Hannah, the second (who also died under two years), at Hickorytown, Plymouth Township. The children of my father in the order of their birth are as follows:

1. ALAN⁶, born February 2, 1788; married Mary Egbert.
2. BENJAMIN⁶, born May 12, 1789 (died early).
3. MARY⁶, born June 19, 1792; married Charles Adamson.
4. SARAH⁶, born December 13, 1793; married Thomas Read.
5. HANNAH⁶, born October 23, 1795 (died early).
6. JOSEPH D.⁶, born January 4, 1799; married Ann Hagy.
7. CHARLES⁶, born January 22, 1801; married Sarah Egbert.

8. GEORGE⁶, born January 23, 1803; married Martha Maulsby.

9. HIRAM⁶, born October 8, 1804; married Ann J. Foulke.

10. WILLIAM⁶, born August 8, 1806; never married.

11. HANNAH⁶, born August 29, 1809, (died early).

After mother's death, in 1810, father married, in 1812, Eleanor Coulston, daughter of John Coulston and granddaughter of Bernard Coulston, one of the first settlers of Plymouth Township and a very large land-holder. She was a remarkably neat, smart woman, and was named after her aunt Eleanor Coulston, who was the second wife of David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, who for a time resided in Norriton Township, on the farm owned now by Mr. Gouldsey, and where he made his observations on the Transit of Venus.

About thirty years ago, the Cabinet of National Sciences of Montgomery County, appointed myself and Benjamin Markley Boyer, Esq., a committee to ascertain the spot on which he had placed his observatory and also to get permission to raise a small marble monument to commemorate the event. I saw the owner of the property and he readily acceded to my request, but the Society disbanded and nothing more was done in the matter. It has been my hope that the Montgomery County Historical Society, formed in 1881, would take up the abandoned project, and that long before this the monument would have been an accomplished fact. I still hope that it will be built.

My father was a large man, being a little over six feet in height, but well proportioned, with a fine intellectual head and the keenest and most piercing black eyes. He was a man of great force of character, jocose, witty, and often quite satirical. Not being a member of Friends' Meeting, and mother having a "birth right," she in accordance with the discipline was "turned out for marrying out of meeting;" but notwithstanding this, she continued to go to the meeting and father to go with her. They used the plain language,

and father even wore the plain coat, quite a conspicuous article of dress then, and especially on so large a man. After mother's death, and before the coming to us of a stepmother, our sisters, Mary and Sarah, the former eighteen and the latter sixteen years of age, attended to the household affairs, and cared for their young brothers. Joseph was only eleven, Charles, under ten; George, between eight and nine; myself, six years, and William, four years of age. How faithfully these two frail young girls—I say frail, for our mother and her two sisters and her brother all died under fifty years of age of consumption—cared for us and led us along in safe places; how they shielded us from harmful influences, before, and even for years after, our stepmother came to aid them, the characters of our after lives must testify.

They were fond of reading; the early loss of their mother fell heavily upon them, made them thoughtful, anxious, studious, and thus were they fitted to direct our young minds, to create in us a love of such light pleasant literature as fell in their way. Compared with the present times, there were few books then, but in poetry and history we had some of the best, for father was a reader, and exceedingly sensitive. He would often read aloud, and frequently have I seen him unable to proceed when touched by the earnest pleadings of the orator or the touching sentiments of the poet. Often on these occasions the tears would flow over his cheeks freely. He was kind and generous to his children, a good neighbor, and a man of undoubted courage.

I may here mention an incident illustrative of his promptness and fearlessness. One day while building the house in front of his residence, in which to have grain, feed, etc. (for at that time he sold largely to the people from Berks County, who brought down wheat, and took back salt and other goods for the store-keepers in Berks County, and indeed all the way to Pittsburg), while standing in the yard looking at the builders, a large grey horse, on which was a gentleman equipped with saddle-bags, and to all appearance being an

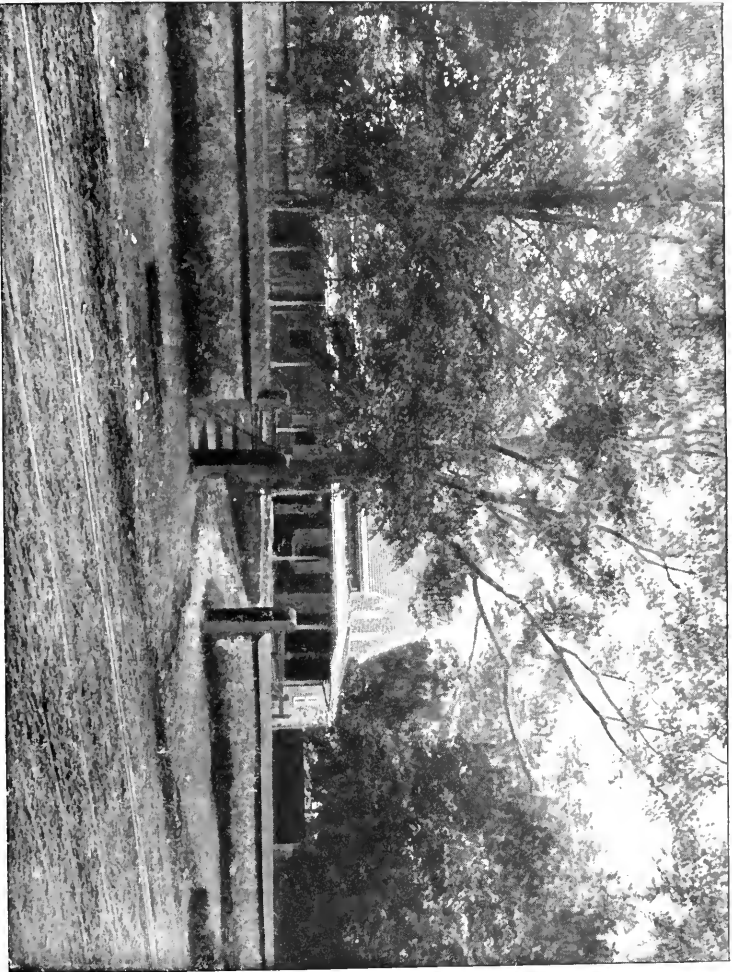
up-country store-keeper (they then always came down on horse-back), despite all the rider could do, came dashing into the yard where father stood. The man in a bland voice asked father to aid him in getting the horse to go on, which father quickly did by taking up a lath and giving the horse a sharp crack along the side. The man then went slowly on his way. After a few hours, men arrived at the hotel opposite our house, in hot pursuit of a man who had stolen from Berks County, the night before, a fine grey horse, owned by a Mr. Boyer. This Mr. Boyer was a frequent dealer with father, and the horse was used, therefore, to come to the place, and into this open yard, where they unloaded their produce and loaded their goods. Father was quite mortified that he had helped the man away. Just two weeks after that time he and I were in the store late in the afternoon when we saw pass, the same man, saddle-bags and all, on a beautiful sorrel mare, trotting slowly and composedly along. Father stepped to the door and looked after the man—he was convinced that he was the one who rode Boyer's horse—he sent to the barn for a small, but speedy mare, as round as a barrel, and putting a horse-pistol, which belonged to my brother Joseph—then a member of a Horse Company—in the pocket of his large Quaker coat, sprang upon her bare-back and rode briskly after the man. When he reached Plymouth Meeting he saw him still riding in the moderate regular gait, and father followed slowly, too, but gradually gaining on him till he came up to him just where now is the Marble Hall School-house. He had approached him so slowly, that the man was not alarmed, and after saluting him and talking along for a short distance, father remarked that his animal was a beautiful one, to which he gave quiet assent. Then father said: "You do not recollect me—I am the person who two weeks ago helped to get your stubborn grey horse out of the yard in Hickorytown"—"Yes"! he recollected it, "now that it was brought to his mind." Father then said he must ride on more briskly, and leaving him, rode to the hotel at Barren

Hill, and told the inn-keeper and loungers there, the circumstances of the case, and proposed to arrest him—he was already in sight and so respectable in appearance that they all positively declined to aid him. There was no time to be lost, and stepping to the middle of the road, he took the horse by the bridle and told the man that he had stolen Boyer's horse, and he suspected that this one too was stolen. The man in the quietest, gentlest way denied the charge, protested against being thus stopped from proceeding on his way, and the man of the hotel became very indignant, and quite out-spoken about the arrest of a man at his house. He seemed to fear that it would injure the reputation of his place, which was then a favorite place for travellers to stop. Others of those present denounced the arrest, but, nothing daunted, father told him he must turn around and go before a squire, and the man reluctantly turned about to go with him to Norristown. Before they reached there, it had become dark, and when they arrived he at once enquired for a lawyer; he was, however, taken before a Justice. Father testified, but it was not considered sufficient, and he then begged the Squire to hold him till he could return home and get testimony. Despite the pleading and threats of the lawyer, he agreed and father came home, got several of those who had seen him on Boyer's horse, and after their testimony the man was placed in jail. There were numbers of people to speak of it as an outrage, and to predict the large damages which father would have to pay. At that time there were no daily papers; country papers were sent by riders once a week, and intercourse even between Counties was very limited, so that, though the affair was published in our country paper, nothing was heard of the owner of the sorrel mare, and it seemed as though the case would depend on the testimony in the Boyer horse case, and this, it was thought, would fail to convict him. Weeks had passed when a lawyer from Norristown, John B. Sterigere, was looking after his political prospects in Lancaster County, where he saw in a tavern a hand-bill describing

the stolen sorrel mare. She was so beautiful, that when the man was arrested, she attracted the notice of the Norristown people, and Mr. Sterigere having seen her, recognized the hand-bill as referring to her. He brought the hand-bill home with him; father wrote to the owner, who came down, recognized the animal, and the man was convicted and sent to the Penitentiary or State Prison for seven years. He had stolen many horses in Lancaster and Berks Counties, and sold them in New Jersey. His plan was to go in the Lancaster, Reading, or Harrisburg stage to a stopping place—even the roadside would do—then taking his saddle and bridle he would steal a horse early in the night, and by next morning, by even slow riding, would be thirty or forty miles away, and could cross the river at Philadelphia before bed-time and have his property in a safe place before morning of the next day. The Boyer horse and some others were recovered after his conviction.

About twenty-five years after this occurrence, I had a similar experience in arresting a horse thief on the turnpike road below Barren Hill, and carrying him off to Norristown, but I will defer the details till I come to speak of my own history.

Father died suddenly from paralysis, in the early morning of the fourth day of fourth month, 1834; just six years after I began to practice medicine, and twenty-four years, nearly, after mother's death. After father's death our step-mother lived awhile at the old place in Hickorytown, then for a year or two with us, but finally moved to her niece's home in Norristown, where she died eleventh month twenty-first, 1846. They are all buried in Plymouth Meeting burying ground, and here I may mention an incident, which at the time it occurred, made me feel both sad and revengeful, but as time rolled on my revengeful feelings subsided, for I came to believe it was the result of conscientious feelings on the part of the actor. Father had put at the head of mother's grave a marble headstone, very small, with merely her name, age,



PLYMOUTH MEETING



etc. There were a few others in the graveyard at that time, but not a great many, though Friends and some others had been burying there for about a hundred years. Laurence Egbert's wife had also had a stone placed at her grave just before the event of which I speak. It was a principle of Friends to avoid all show of that kind and very generally acted on. Old Friend Jacob Albertson, the grandfather of J. Morton Albertson, who died a few years ago, was a very strict Friend and became greatly annoyed by seeing persons placing these memorial stones to the graves. He spoke of it in the business meetings and privately to Friends; but as no action was had to prevent it, he one day took a sledge and broke the tops off the headstones at the graves of mother and Mrs. Egbert. It produced great excitement in the neighborhood and Thomas Egbert sued the old man for breaking his mother's gravestone. There was a settlement effected afterwards without a trial at court. Father went to the yard and finding that the stone had been broken off a few inches below the surface of the ground, had it sunk a little lower and there it is to this day, deformed somewhat by the loss of a part of the very top of the stone, knocked off by the sledge.

And now for the sequel. In what is called the "new ground," that occupied by the Orthodox, in the same yard, are laid Jacob Albertson, Jr.; his wife, Martha; their sons, Samuel, Lewis, and Henry, and at the head of every grave was placed a much larger marble stone than there was at mother's and Mrs. Egbert's graves. Hundreds of them are now to be seen in the Hicksite part of the burying ground; indeed there is scarcely a single person buried there whose grave is not thus marked. They are all low, plain and simply marked with the name, age, etc. No one objects to them now.

VI.

ALAN WRIGHT CORSON⁶.

ALAN⁶ was the eldest child of Joseph and Hannah Dickin-son Corson, and was born February 21, 1788, on the "Maulsby Farm," located at the intersection of the German-town and the Plymouth and Upper Dublin Turnpikes; he married, November 24, 1811, Mary Egbert, daughter of Laurence and Sarah Norman Egbert, and lived for the greater part of his married life on his farm in Whitemarsh Township, a short distance northeast of Cold Point Church. He died on June 27, 1882, aged ninety-four years, four months and six days—a long life, free from the use of alcoholic drinks, and unattended by any serious illness. His enjoyment of good health is the more remarkable when considered with the fact that his mother died of consumption at the age of forty-seven years.

Our friend—the late Moses Auge—in his biography of distinguished men of Montgomery County, Pa., thus speaks of brother Alan :

"Let the mind be great and glorious, and all other things are despicable in comparison.—SENECA."

"Without doubt, the best known and most justly celebrated scholar and scientist in Montgomery County, was Alan W. Corson, (son of Joseph and Hannah Corson), of Whitemarsh Township. We have others whose scholastic attainments are more classical, but in the higher mathematics, botany, geology, mineralogy, conchology, entomology, and astronomy, he was distinguished in our country.

"Born in Whitemarsh Township, second month, 21, 1788, he continued on the farm of his father and attended Friends' School until twelve years of age, when his father, having entered the store business, and needing his services, he entered on his duties there, at which he continued until grown to adult age. That business in the country affords much opportunity for study; and, with an ambition to learn, a good memory and mental capacity, he soon made rapid progress in knowledge. The libraries were visited for volumes of history, science and literature, and he rapidly took place among the brightest young



ALAN W. CORSON



men of his time. He possessed such decided mathematical capacity," says Mr. Auge, "that he was able to master these studies nearly unaided by teachers. By the time he was grown, therefore, he was capable of teaching all the common mathematical branches, as well as other studies usual in high schools. He was thus early a self-taught scholar and teacher also, a profession to which he devoted himself. For many years, in addition to carrying on a farm of about fifty acres, he taught Friends' School at Plymouth Meeting, and afterwards for many years a boarding-school in his own home, in Whitemarsh, his reputation as a teacher being so high that he drew many pupils from Norristown and other places.

"About middle life, however, he abandoned teaching as a profession, and having a large farm and a nursery of trees and shrubs, he divided his time between these and land surveying, an art in which he was regarded as the most accomplished in the county. His reputation in that department was so eminent that he was often called to distant places and employed whenever there were difficult lines to run that required extra skill and accuracy to determine true boundaries.

"In this calling he was not relieved from service until he was nearly, if not quite, eighty years of age, when he deemed it prudent to decline further labor.

"He was also, during nearly all his adult life, because of accuracy in accounts, excellence of judgment and high character of integrity, employed by neighbors and acquaintances to write wills, deeds, and agreements for them; he was frequently also appointed executor by testators or chosen administrator by the heirs of those dying intestate."

* * * * *

"No man could be more careful than was Alan W. Corson to deport himself so as not to give offense; sensitive and unobtrusive, refusing to be put forward in places above his friends, ever ready to discover the appearance of neglect and quick to refuse to receive a favor bestowed with a shade of reluctance—such was his character.

"He became a member of the Society of Friends at a very early age, and attended the meetings very regularly. Once, after an attendance at Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, he was returning on foot (at that time there was not even a stage), when as he reached the hill at 'Robin Hood,' (now Laurel Hill), he saw a neighbor coming behind him in a two-horse carriage, with some of his family in it, but yet a vacant seat. He felt that now he could have a ride home. As they neared he turned and spoke to them, and instinctively held up his hand as they seemed to be passing. They stopped and took him in. He had scarcely been seated before the conviction seized him that but for the gesture he made they would have passed without inviting him in. At once he said he desired to get out. They endeavored to detain him, but he sprang out and afterwards walked home with a very light step. This little incident was most characteristic of the man."

Mr. Auge, in his biography, already alluded to, thus sums up his history:

"A notice of Alan W. Corson would not be complete without further reference to his brothers and sisters, the other children of Joseph Corson, who left a large family, nearly all of whom were well educated

and possessed commanding talents and marked moral characteristics. The author will be pardoned for saying that they exhibit marked peculiarities, reminding him of some of the time honored clans of Scotland. The Corsons will arraign each other sometimes sharply, but to the outside world they are a unit. This results from the very commendable and warrantable pride of the family, or *esprit de corps*, as the French phrase it. Almost all the race possess a keen jocular turn of mind, and some of them a talent for mimicry and critical badinage peculiarly French. The author may also add that he has no knowledge of any man of the country from whom are descended so large a number of cultivated and distinguished offspring, both in the male and female branches, as are descended from Joseph Corson.

"With few exceptions, the whole Corson race have been cultivated in mind and are notorious for their love of free thought. True to their Huguenot origin, they have been outspoken for freedom—the deadly foes of slavery, and most of them life-long teetotalers. As the phrenologists say, the moral instincts have predominated over those strictly religious, Alan W. being the only one of the male members of the family who assumed the strict garb and life of the Friends, although most of them adhere to the Society's teachings. Alan W. is justly noted for his doctrinal unity with those who hold the views of Elias Hicks, and for the conscientious fulfillment of every precept of Christian morals.

"Alan W. Corson's mind received a strong religious bent at a very early age, and his conscientiousness and truthfulness have been controlling characteristics during his long life. Many years ago, with his cousin, John Evans, he used to make annual excursions to the lowlands of Delaware, Maryland, the sandy pine-woods of New Jersey, and even to the Adirondacks, for specimens of botany, geology, mineralogy and entomology, and in search of other scientific matters."

ALAN⁶ was married on the 24th of November, 1811, to Mary Egbert (daughter of Laurence Egbert—see history in chapter on Maternal Ancestry) and they were the parents of seven children:

1. HANNAH CORSON⁷, born November 25, 1812; married James Ritchie.
2. SARAH CORSON⁷, born October 13, 1814; married Isaac Garretson.
3. ELIAS HICKS CORSON⁷, born February 19, 1816; married Emily R. Harris.
4. LUKE CORSON⁷, born February 24, 1818; married Clementine Quinlan.
5. LAURENCE EGBERT CORSON⁷, born April 26, 1819; married Mary A. Johnson.



WHERE ALAN W. CORSON LIVED



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6. JOSEPH CORSON⁷, born January 20, 1821; married Martha H. Cutler.

7. MARTHA CORSON⁷, born April 5, 1827; married Isaac Styer.

Of these SARAH, ELIAS H., and LAURENCE E., are deceased.

1. HANNAH CORSON⁷ (eldest of Alan's children), married August 11, 1847, James Ritchie, a florist of Philadelphia, where they have lived. Her husband was suffocated in his room by gas, about eleven years ago.

Hannah inherited her father's love of the natural sciences, and stands high as a botanist; she has a rare and valuable collection of plants and shells.

Their children are: (1) HELEN⁸, and (2) EMILY⁸.

(1) HELEN RITCHIE⁸ married George H. Perkins of Philadelphia and they have five children: 1, EMILY PERKINS⁹; 2, HOWARD PERKINS⁹; 3, EDWIN PERKINS⁹; 4, JOSEPH PERKINS⁹; and 5, FRANCIS PERKINS⁹.

(2) EMILY RITCHIE⁸ married Dr. John Graham, a successful physician of Philadelphia, and they have three children: 1, BESSIE GRAHAM⁹; 2, WARREN GRAHAM⁹; and 3, LORNA GRAHAM⁹.

2. SARAH CORSON⁷ (daughter of Alan W. and Mary Egbert Corson) married, February 11, 1847, Isaac Garretson, and they had four children: (1) ANNA⁸; (2) MARY⁸; (3) JOSEPH⁸, and (4) ALLEN⁸.

(1) ANNA⁸ and (3) JOSEPH⁸ remained at home unmarried; JOSEPH is now deceased.

(2) MARY GARRETSON⁸ married William P. Livezey and they have three children: 1, LOUIS J. LIVEZEY⁹; 2, HELEN C. LIVEZEY⁹, and 3, JOSEPH LIVEZEY⁹.

3. ELIAS HICKS CORSON⁷, (eldest son and third child of Alan W. and Mary Egbert Corson), was born February 19, 1816, and died November 5, 1877. He lived, therefore, but

a little more than three score of years, yet his was a life of honor and usefulness. Theo W. Bean in his biography thus speaks of him :

“His father, a distinguished teacher, mathematician, and botanist, was able to give him superior opportunities of instruction ; to which primary store of knowledge, he added by reading and observation. At the time of his majority he engaged in lime burning in Chester County, but soon returned and began the same business in Plymouth, where it was continued with energy and profit until his death, November 5, 1877. He was also engaged in the coal business, and was the owner of a fine farm adjacent to the quarries which he cultivated to its fullest capacity.

“Early in the anti-slavery movement, he joined his efforts to those put forth by the friends of human rights, and through the long years of that strife, was active in the cause, contributing freely, and aiding in all proper ways to give freedom to the slave.

“To the temperance cause he also gave his heartiest approval, for which work he was eminently fitted ; no amount of opposition or inconsistency of others being able to tempt him to unbecoming violence, or prevent his administering a deserved rebuke. It may be said of him that few men in this section of the State were better known or more universally esteemed. He displayed a varied knowledge, was quick of apprehension and possessed a rare facility of conversation, combined with the kindness and gentleness of a child. He possessed a strong individuality, was a marked man, in stature, strength and symmetry, and possessed not less remarkable business qualifications than strong mental endowments. He was fond of literature, a reader of the poets, and kept pace with the transactions of the times. His conversation and presence were magnetic, his manner agreeable, and his wit devoid of sting or bitterness. Good, pure, strong, and true, his influence will survive, while to his he remains a bright memory, a spur to noble deeds in the cause of humanity.”

He married March 13, 1845, Emily R. Harris, daughter of Henry and Rachel [Wilson] Harris, of Philadelphia.

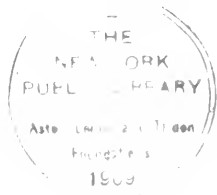
Their children were : (1) HENRY H.⁸; (2) GEORGE⁸; (3) MARTHA⁸, and (4) EMILY⁸, (twins); (5) WALTER H.⁸; (6) CARROLL⁸, and (7) PERCY H.⁸

(1) HENRY H. CORSON⁸, the eldest son, is a shrewd and successful business man of Minneapolis, Minnesota. He married Sarah T. Abrahams, of Minnesota, and they have five children : 1, EMILY H. CORSON⁹; 2, MARGARET B. CORSON⁹; 3, HENRY H. CORSON, JR.⁹; 4, HELEN CORSON⁹; and 5, ANNA A. CORSON⁹.

(2) GEORGE CORSON⁸, (second son of Elias H.), married Elizabeth D. Cadwallader, daughter of Charles M. and Ann



ELIAS HICKS CORSON



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[Conrad] Cadwallader. He has been in partnership with his brother, Walter H. Corson, for about eighteen years, conducting the business of lime burning which had been established by their father, and in which they have been very successful. George is one of the directors of the Tradesmen's National Bank of Conshohocken, Pa. He is a man of sterling integrity and has the respect and esteem of all who know him. His living children are: CHARLES CADWALLADER CORSON⁹ and GEORGE CORSON, JR.⁹; his second child, PERCY CORSON⁹, died in January, 1894, aged nine years.

(3) MARTHA CORSON⁸, (daughter of Elias H.), married Warren H. Poley, of Germantown, where they live. Her husband is the proprietor of two large drug stores and has been very successful, both as a pharmacist and as a business man. They have three children: 1, EMILY C. POLEY⁹; 2, CORSON POLEY⁹; and 3, IRVIN POLEY⁹.

(4) EMILY CORSON⁸, (daughter of Elias H. and a twin sister to Martha), lives at home with her mother. Both MARTHA and EMILY are most intelligent and refined women, who possess the art of kindness and gentleness in the highest degree.

(5) WALTER H. CORSON⁸, (son of Elias H.), born October 28, 1858, is associated with his brother George in the business of lime burning, etc., under the firm name of G. and W. H. Corson. He is a man of good judgment and business ability, and has a wide circle of acquaintances, who enjoy his society not only because of his bright and witty sayings, but, also, on account of his well informed mind and pleasing personality.

He married, first, ANNA ALBERTSON, who died in October, 1884; second, in 1892, KATHERINE IRENE LANGDON, an artist of high talent of New York City, whose landscape paintings have given her a wide reputation as a master in her profession. They have one child, BOLTON LANGDON CORSON⁹, born October 27, 1894.

(6) CARROLL CORSON⁸, (son of Elias H.) graduated in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania, in 1881, and

practiced for a short time at New Richland, Minnesota; then at Bismarck, South Dakota; and finally at West Duluth, Minnesota, where he still resides, having a large practice. He married Helen P. Hillyer, and they have one child, HICKS HILLYER CORSON⁹.

(7) PERCY H. CORSON⁸ (youngest child of Elias H. and Emily H. Corson) was engaged in the flour business in Minnesota for several years, and, while there, married Elizabeth A. Forbes. He subsequently entered the University of Pennsylvania, as a student of medicine, graduating in June, 1894. He has since been engaged in the practice of his profession at his home in Plymouth Township, and success seems now assured to him. He has two children: DONALD CORSON⁹, born August 4, 1889; and ELEANOR CORSON⁹, born August 27, 1895.

Emily Harris Corson, widow of Elias H. Corson, still lives at the home where her children were raised; only her daughter Emily remains in her immediate household, though three of her sons have settled so near her as to be still practically a part of her family.

4. LUKE CORSON⁷, (son of Alan W. and Mary Egbert Corson), born February 24, 1818, married Clementine Quinlan, and they have one child, ALAN CORSON⁸, born July 15, 1854. They reside in Nebraska, in Johnson County, near Tecumseh.

5. LAURENCE CORSON⁷, (son of Alan W. and Mary Egbert Corson), born April 26, 1819, married November 20, 1845, Mary A. Johnson, and they had three children:

(1) ALAN W. CORSON⁸, (second), who has three children: MARY CORSON⁹, BURNSIDE CORSON⁹, and NORMAN CORSON⁹.

(2) SARAH CORSON⁸, who married Robert P. Garsed.

(3) NORMAN B. CORSON⁸.

6. JOSEPH CORSON⁷, (son of Alan W. and Mary Egbert Corson), born January 20, 1820, married June 29, 1843, Martha H. Cutler. He studied medicine in my office, graduating at the University of Pennsylvania, and practiced for



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many years in Portsmouth, Ohio, where he died July 7, 1866. He served in the Civil War as a Surgeon of an Ohio regiment. His children numbered three, all still living, namely:

(1) EDWARD JENNER CORSON⁸, born January 13, 1845, lives in Portsmouth, Ohio, and is engaged in the mercantile business. He is prosperous in his business and is highly esteemed as a man and citizen.

(2) FLORENCE CORSON⁸, born August 16, 1847.

(3) FRANK B. M. CORSON⁸, born February 6, 1855, lives in Portsmouth, Ohio. He is a manufacturer and has achieved pronounced success.

7. MARTHA CORSON⁷, (youngest child and daughter of Alan W. and Mary Egbert Corson), born April 5, 1827, married November 23, 1848, Isaac R. Styer. They have no children.

VII.

MARY CORSON⁶.

MARY⁶, daughter of Joseph and Hannah Dickinson Corson, born June 17, 1792, married Charles Adamson in the spring of 1819. They resided a few years in Gwynedd Township, then moved to Charlestown (now Schuylkill), Chester County, Pa., where they both died, after a residence of many years. They were engaged in merchandising, their store being a base of supplies for a circuit of many miles until the iron works, a mile away, crystallized about them the town of Phoenixville. My sister Mary, for many years of her life, suffered from a bronchial affection, but although experiencing so much physical prostration, she was a most pleasant, cheerful woman up to the time of her death. Gentle in manners and sweet and unselfish in disposition, she yet possessed a strongly marked individuality. Her sense of justice made her an advocate of equal rights before the "suffrage movement" was known. Her love of beauty made her surround herself with plants and flowers, her garden being a delight to the eyes of all passers-by. All about her were recipients of her bounty. Her books, her flowers and fruit were always shared with others and seldom did visitors leave her presence without some tangible evidence to take with them of her genial, generous spirit. But more than all she gave sympathy to the afflicted, hope to the despondent, kindness to the unfortunate and an example of pure, sweet, womanhood to all. In her last years, when confined every winter to her chambers, she literally filled them with growing plants. She believed they had a beneficial effect upon her, though at that time



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physicians considered them hurtful in a sick room. Some years ago when Dr. Anders of Philadelphia was advocating their value in the chambers of the sick, he published my account of her living, as it were, in a green house, and yet continuing to so great an age. She died in August, 1877, aged 85 years, 1 month and 23 days, having outlived her husband four years.

Their children were: 1, JOSEPH⁷, who was, when quite young, thrown by a stumbling horse and killed; 2, HANNAH⁷; 3, SARAH⁷; 4, THOMAS⁷, and 5, CHARLES⁷.

2. HANNAH ADAMSON⁷, eldest daughter of Charles and Mary Adamson, born February 7, 1820, married Elijah F. Pennypacker of Chester County, who died January 2, 1888. Hannah Pennypacker survived her husband until April 23, 1894. Their children were: (1) SARAH⁸, (2) CAROLINE⁸, (3) ELIZABETH⁸, (4) ELIJAH, JR.⁸, (5) MARGARET⁸, and (6) SUMNER⁸. Their father was a distinguished man. In early life, a member of the Legislature and one of the Commissioners of the State of Pennsylvania, he renounced a future of great political promise in order to espouse the anti-slavery movement. About the same time he united himself with the Society of Friends. His wife was above the average in intellectual ability and although much younger than her husband, her character and disposition were such that she could appreciate the sacrifices her husband made for the sake of his convictions and willingly co-operated with him in the work to which he was allied. Delicate health made her daily round a narrow one, but her keen intelligence took her far beyond her visible boundaries. Only those who knew her intimately knew how complete was her knowledge of the past and how wide and sympathetic was her interest in the progress of the great world outside.

Of the children of Elijah F. and Hannah A. Pennypacker, who arrived at maturity, (1) SARAH⁸, and (5) MARGARET⁸, are interested in art—the former being connected for a number of years with the Philadelphia School of Design for

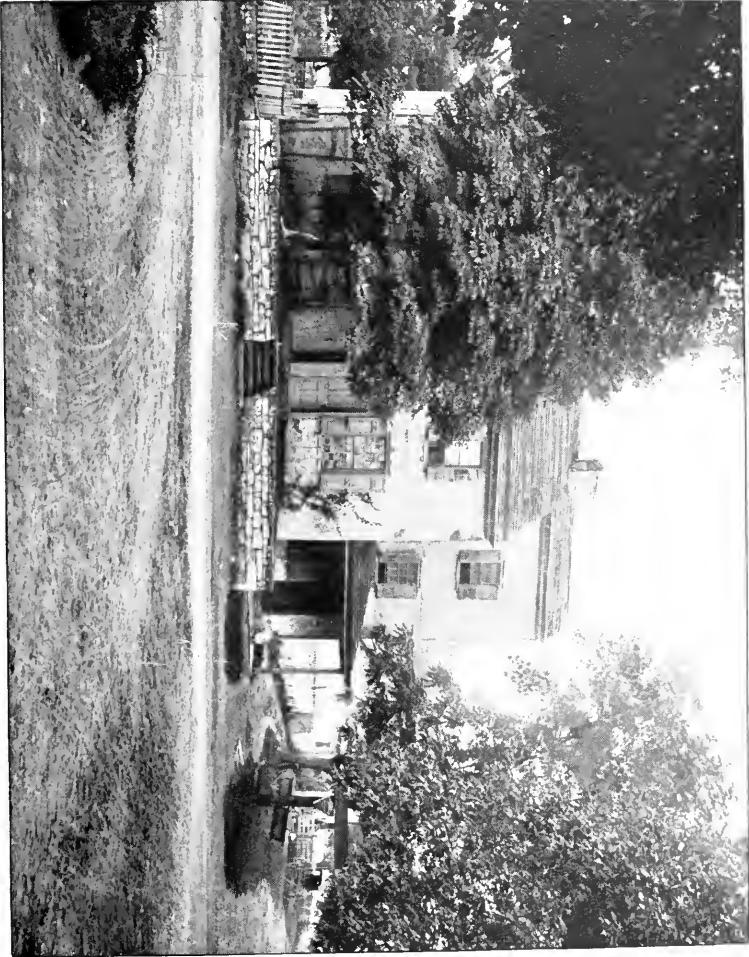
Women; Margaret is teaching in a similar school in Pittsburgh; (6) SUMNER^s has spent some years in the West engaged in the construction of engines; (2) CAROLINE^s and (3) ELIZABETH^s have remained at the homestead; (4) ELIJAH, JR.^s, succeeded his father in the real estate business and settlement of estates. His honesty and sincerity united with good judgment soon won for him a place in the community similar to that occupied by his father. He was suddenly stricken and died in February, 1895, in his thirty-sixth year.

3. SARAH READ ADAMSON^r (third child of Charles and Mary Corson Adamson) graduated in medicine in 1851, and in June of the following year (1852) married Dr. L. C. Dolley and moved to Rochester, N. Y., where she has since lived and practised her profession. Her admission (along with that of Dr. Blackwell and one or two others) to the medical profession marked an epoch in the progress of human thought and its realization was attended with many difficulties. It seems strange now to think that men could be so blinded by prejudice, and perhaps by jealousy or ignorance, as to deny to women the opportunities in the walks of life which they themselves enjoyed. But such was the condition of things forty or fifty years ago. A half century has righted many of the wrongs of women, but the dawn of the twentieth century will, I fear—though I hope not—find a multitude of injustices to her sex, still to be corrected.

Jane Marsh Parker in her book, dedicated to Dr. Sarah R. A. Dolley, and entitled "Rochester, a Story Historical," has written a short account of her life which with a little change and some condensation I will introduce here :

In February, 1851, Sarah R. A. Dolley received her degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Central Medical College of Rochester, N. Y., she being one of the first women upon whom such honor had been conferred, Elizabeth Blackwell having graduated from Geneva College in 1849.

The first application made by the brave Quaker girl for collegiate advantages was to the Philadelphia College of Medicine—Refused. The Jefferson Medical College hears her firm knock upon the door—No admittance. One after another of the medical schools listened to the plea of her preceptor and honored uncle, Dr. Hiram Corson, for her



MARY CORSON ADAMSON'S HOME—SCHUYLKILL, CHESTER COUNTY, PA.



admittance only to say her nay. That women should be taught the science of medicine was not denied but the propriety of their attending lectures—that was the lion in the way.

Dr. Edwin Fussel formerly of Chester County, Pa., then of Philadelphia, consented to take Miss Adamson as his private student in anatomy, and later to find her opportunities for dissection, but just at this time a circular of the Central Medical College of New York, then domiciled in Syracuse, met the eye of her ever vigilant uncle, Dr. Hiram Corson. He at once corresponded with the poet and Anti-Slavery lecturer, Wm. H. Burleigh, who was then living in Syracuse, with the result that arrangements were speedily made for her admission to the College. Dr. William Corson (a brother to Dr. Hiram, who was unable to go) accompanied her to Syracuse, and though the school was a little off color, in that it was Eclectic in its teachings, he did not advise his niece's return, but seemed pleased with the arrangements and with the women students whom he met there, some of whom afterwards became known to fame and honor.

After the graduation of Miss Adamson, she made application to the governors of Blockley Hospital for admission to that Institution and she was the first woman who was accorded the privilege of studying in its wards as a physician and to whom a certificate of such observation and practice was accorded.

In June, 1852, she married Dr. L. C. Dolley and they settled in Rochester—both practising their profession. Dr. Dolley, the wife, soon attracted attention as a woman of talent and ability, and became recognized as a leading physician among women—one who has ever been an honor to her profession, and more than realizing the expectations of her friends. Dr. Dolley has been a close student and a quiet leader of thought among the progressive women of her community. Her home on East Avenue has long been headquarters for scientific classes and committee meetings. She is a member of Monroe County and State Central Medical Societies of New York and of the American Medical Association.

DR. CHARLES SUMNER DOLLEY⁸, only son and child of Dr. Lester C. and Dr. Sarah R. A. Dolley, is well known in Philadelphia, where he resides, and among scientific men has a more than local reputation. He is a member of many learned societies.

4. THOMAS ADAMSON⁷, married Sarah Victoria Wright, of Philadelphia. For some years he was in mercantile business in Philadelphia, but for more than twenty-five years has been in the Consular Service of the United States. First at Pernambuco, then at Honolulu, next Consul-General at Melbourne, Australia, and now Consul-General at Panama, Central America. He is a man of great experience and ability in his profession, and so regarded by the Government.

Their two sons are: (1) JOSEPH ADAMSON^s, who first married Miss Carrie Gleason of Philadelphia, and afterwards, Miss Lena Stovell of Georgia and was for a time Vice-Consul at Panama; and (2) CHARLES ADAMSON^s, a lawyer in Philadelphia, who, a few years since—February 20, 1889—was elected a member of Philadelphia Common Council.

Since writing the above I have received a copy of the *Panama Star and Herald*, of June 14, 1894, with such a detailed account of his doings during thirty-one years as Consul and Consul-General that it is proper to insert it here. He withdrew from the office of Consul-General a few years ago—in 1892—and has since resided in Cedartown, Georgia.

The *Star and Herald*, thus speaks:

THOMAS ADAMSON HONORED.

Made a member of the Order of the Double Dragon. For more than thirty years in the Consular Service of the United States.

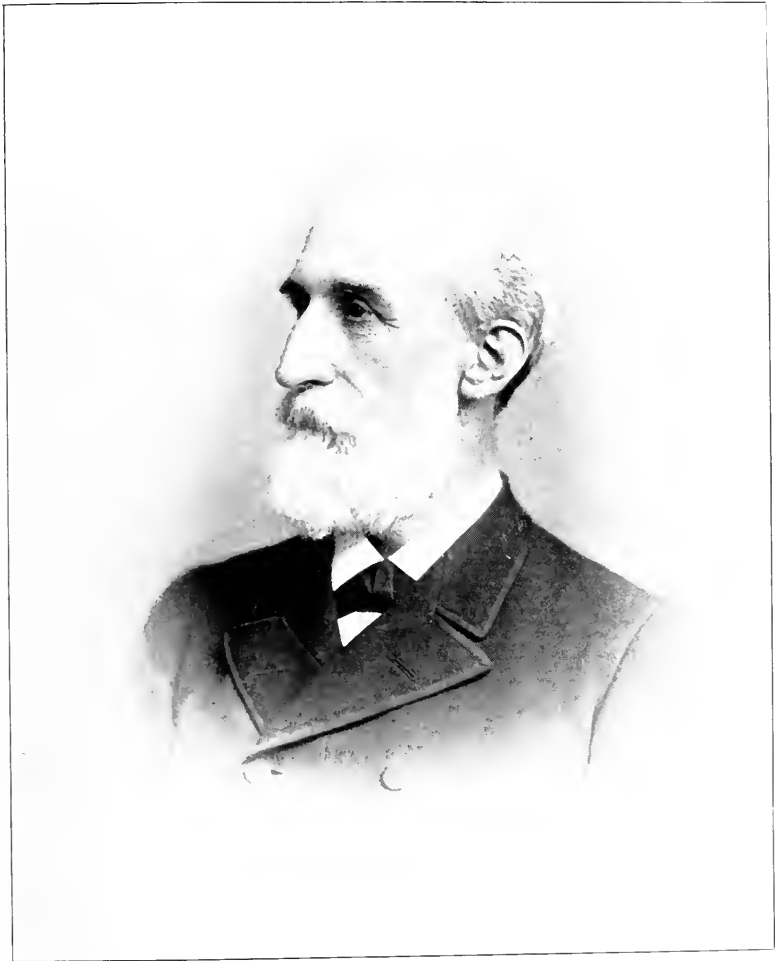
[From the *New York Times*.]

Recently the press announced that Thomas Adamson of Cedartown, Ga., had received from the Emperor of China the star and insignia of the Order of the Double Dragon. Mr. Adamson's life has been a most interesting one. Until recently he was Consul-General of the United States at Panama, and perhaps the most experienced officer in the service. He is a native of Chester County, Penna. His ancestors on his father's side were of the religious society of Friends, or Quakers, and on his mother's side descendants of French Huguenots who came to New York in 1675.

His official life began November 25, 1861, when, on the recommendation of Thaddeus Stevens and other eminent Pennsylvanians, he was appointed by President Lincoln as Consul at Pernambuco, Brazil. The accidents of war made that post one of the most important of our Consulates, for it was in that vicinity that the Anglo-rebel cruisers Alabama, Florida, and Georgia made their most serious depredations on our commerce.

In May, 1863, Mr. Adamson had under his charge 294 of the men taken prisoners by the Alabama and Florida, for whom he had to provide. The United States Government had forbidden Consuls to draw for gold, and bankers in Brazil refused to buy currency drafts, so that for a time it seemed as if the Consul might not be able to feed the captured men. The personal character of the Consul enabled him to borrow of a British banker the money he would not advance on the credit of the United States, and the men were cared for and sent home.

In May, 1863, the Florida entered the port of Pernambuco, and Mr. Adamson made a vigorous protest against her being permitted to coal there. In his discussion of the case he was pitted against the



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President of the province, who was an eminent lawyer, afterward Minister of Foreign Affairs of the empire, and who was assisted by a Judge of the Supreme Court, who afterward became the chief legal adviser of the Emperor. Consul Adamson's management of the difficult cases he had to deal with secured for him the warm commendation of the United States Minister at Rio Janeiro and the thanks of the Department of State at Washington. His watchful care of the disbursements for relief of seamen secured for him the favorable notice of the Treasury Department. His services to vessels in distress caused the Boards of Underwriters of New York and Boston to petition the Department of State to promote him to a still more important position.

In April, 1869, Consul Adamson returned home on leave of absence, and on the 1st of June, 1869, he was appointed to the Consulate at Honolulu. On reporting at the department for instructions, Mr. Adamson was informed that he had been selected for the posts because the department wished certain things done there which it had not been able to get any Consul to do; that in carrying out his instructions the Consul would probably make himself unpopular, but the duty must be performed, even if the Consul had to be sacrificed. Mr. Adamson performed the duty assigned to him, and received the thanks of the Department of State for his faithful administration, which, as Hamilton Fish said, had resulted in turning a Consulate that had cost the Government \$30,000 a year into a source of large revenue.

In February, 1871, at the instance of William D. Kelley, Mr. Adamson was appointed to the Consulate at Melbourne, Australia. Shortly after his arrival at Melbourne he received from a member of the Hawaiian Cabinet an intimation that King Kamehameha would be pleased to have him accept the position of Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hawaiian Kingdom. Mr. Adamson highly appreciated the offer, but preferred to remain in the service of his own country. In Melbourne Mr. Adamson devoted himself to measures for increasing the commerce of the United States, and to the repeal of certain laws that interfered with our shipping. His usefulness was recognized by his promotion to the rank of Consul-General at Melbourne, dating from June 17, 1874, with supervision of all the Consulates in Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania. During his term of office there he succeeded in obtaining the evidence necessary to complete the case of the United States before the Tribunal at Geneva, in regard to the claim for damages done to our commerce by the Anglo-rebel steamer *Shenandoah*, after her departure from Melbourne, where she had added to her crew and stores. This evidence fixed upon the British Government the responsibility for the destruction of thirty American whalships, for which the United States were allowed £1,250,000.

In 1877 Mr. Adamson obtained leave of absence to return home, and April 10, 1878 was commissioned as Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro, where he served for over four years to the satisfaction of the Department of State. At Rio, Mr. Adamson's experience in Consular duties and his knowledge of Portuguese enabled him to detect the peculations of a subordinate, which had for twenty years escaped the notice of his superiors. A part of the stolen money was recovered, and turned into the United States Treasury. From Rio de Janeiro Consul-General Adamson was transferred to Panama, Colombia, because the commencement of work on the Panama Canal gave that post great

importance. On his arrival at Panama, in April, 1883, Mr. Adamson was immediately called to take action in a case in which the local authorities had exceeded their just powers, and violated the treaty rights of two American marines by imprisoning them. William L. Scruggs, United States Minister at Bogota, referring to Mr. Adamson's discussion of the affair with the President of Panama, said that his arguments were unanswerable and covered the whole ground, thus making his own side of the case easy in his controversy with the Government at Bogota. During 1884-5, Colombia was convulsed by civil war. In December, 1884, communication with Bogota was cut off, and for five months our Minister there could not communicate with Washington. This left Consul-General Adamson as the only representative of the United States in Colombia with whom the United States Government could communicate quickly, or from whom it could receive prompt information of the progress of the revolution. Between November, 1884, and May, 1885, Panama had six different rulers, constitutional and revolutionary.

The City of Panama was taken by assault of the rebel forces on the 16th of March, 1885, evacuated by them on the 17th, and retaken on the 31st of March, 1885. On the last named day, the guerrilla chief Pedro Prestan, who had captured the City of Colon, imprisoned the United States Consul at that place, together with other prominent Americans, and on the evening of that day he burned the city, rendering 12,000 people homeless. While these events were in progress, there was a constant necessity for action upon the various emergencies as they arose, and as to which it was impossible to wait for orders from Washington. But Consul-General Adamson felt himself strengthened by the confidence of the new Secretary of State, Thomas F. Bayard, who sent him a message, as follows: "The Department trusts to your judicious management, and the wise discretion which your long experience in the service enables you to exercise during the present trying times, and will omit no proper effort to sustain you."

The burning of Colon and interruption of the Isthmian transit route caused the United States Government to send a large military force thither. During a part of April, 1885 there were 1,200 United States marines and blue jackets ashore. On the 24th of April, Commander B. McCalla, United States Navy, then commanding the United States force ashore, entered the City of Panama and issued a "notice to the public," declaring that "no persons with arms will be permitted to enter the city by land or by sea." He also arrested the rebel General Aizpuru, but soon released him. The notice that no persons bearing arms would be permitted to enter the city was of the gravest nature, because it forbade the landing of the National Army of the Cauca, which arrived to recover legitimate control. Commander McCalla posted a company of United States marines on the only wharf, and ordered them to fire upon any body of soldiers that might attempt to land there. Consul-General Adamson protested against this act, and declared that he had no right to attempt to prevent the National Army from landing on their own soil. As Commander McCalla persisted in his course, Consul-General Adamson cabled to Secretary Bayard, and received a reply to the effect that the action of Commander McCalla was unauthorized and that the United States did not intend any infringement on the sovereignty of Colombia. Consul-General Adamson's action throughout was approved by the Department of State at Washington, and the



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representatives of the Colombian Government addressed to him a letter thanking him for his action in securing the "bloodless pacification of Panama."

In July, 1885, Consul-General Adamson returned home on leave of absence, and tendered his resignation to Secretary Bayard, who requested him to retain his place and return to Panama. Mr. Adamson retained his place at Panama until July 1, 1893, when he was relieved. The last dispatch received by Consul-General Adamson from the Department of State was signed by Josiah Quincy, and expressed the recognition of the Department, of "the valuable and efficient services which you have rendered to the Government during the long period of time that you have been in its service."

5. CHARLES ADAMSON⁷, the youngest child of sister Mary, lives in Phœnixville, Chester County, and has for many years been in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad, overseeing and attending to the many houses of that company in Conshohocken, Norristown, Phœnixville and Pottstown. At present he is enjoying himself in leisure hours by a study of the writings of old poets and the historians of the nineteenth century, a period of the greatest activity and progress the world has ever witnessed in efforts to advance the civilization of our country so that human rights shall be the inheritance of all equally, without distinction of sex, color or nationality.

VIII.

SARAH CORSON READ⁶.

SARAH was the third of father's children who lived beyond their childhood. She was born December 13, 1793, in Plymouth Township, on what was known as the Campbell Farm, near Hickorytown. In 1816 she married Thomas Read. They lived for a short time at Hickorytown, and then moved to Pawling's Bridge, Chester County; next, to a farm and mill in Upper Merion, Montgomery County; and finally to Norristown, where they both died, Thomas on the 23d of September, 1856, Sarah on the 8th of May, 1859. Their children were as follows:

1. SUSAN READ⁷, born in 1815; died at the age of seven years.
2. SARAH READ⁷, born September 13, 1819; married Charles Jones.
3. HANNAH READ⁷, born in January, 1822; married George Schultz.
4. MARY ADAMSON READ⁷, born in September, 1824; married John Roberts.
5. EDWIN READ⁷, died in infancy.
6. LOUIS WERNWAG READ⁷, born July 5, 1828; married Georgine Hurst.
7. JOSEPH CORSON READ⁷, married Minnie Burrins.
8. ALAN WRIGHT READ⁷, unmarried.

2. SARAH READ⁷, second of these children, married Charles Jones, a farmer in Plymouth Township, where they resided until his death, February 14, 1864. They had seven children: (1) ELLEN CORSON JONES⁸; (2) JOSEPH CORSON JONES⁸;

(3) MARTHA CORSON JONES^s; (4) JONATHAN READ JONES^s; (5) CHARLES JONES^s; (6) JAMES CRESSON JONES^s, and (7) SARAH READ JONES^s.

(1) ELLEN CORSON JONES^s, the eldest child, married in 1864 David R. Jones. They have one child, ELIZA R. JONES^g.

(2) JOSEPH CORSON JONES^s (son of Charles and Sarah Read Jones), born December 5, 1841, received a good education and remained on the farm with his father until the breaking out of the civil war, when he enlisted in the Fourth Regiment, Pennsylvania militia, under Colonel Knowerder, of Allentown, and Captain Henry Bonsall, of Norristown. The regiment was taken to Hagerstown, Maryland, where it was held for a time and then mustered out. He then enlisted in the Seventeenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, in the army of the Potomac, and served in all the battles of his regiment from the battle of Chancellorsville to the close of the conflict. The most important are the following: Cold Harbor, Seven Days' battle, Gettysburg, and the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. Although he took part in some of the most hotly contested battles of the war, yet he was never seriously wounded. He was captured while on a reconnoitering party near Lynchburg, Virginia, but soon made his escape. After a faithful and honorable war service, he returned home and resumed farming. His father had died in 1863, so he assumed the active management of the farm, which continued for about three years, when he removed to Conshohocken and became a member of the firm of E. D. & E. Jones, lumber merchants. The firm name was changed in 1880 to Evan D. Jones & Company, and after the death of Evan D. Jones (senior member of the firm and a cousin to Joseph C.), the business passed into the hands of Joseph C. Jones, who continued it under the old name of Evan D. Jones & Co.

Joseph C. Jones is a good business man, careful and methodical, and has been very successful. He has long been recognized as a leading citizen of Conshohocken, in the affairs of which he takes an active interest. He has served at

various times as a member of Town Council, Board of Health, and School Board. He is still a member of the School Board and takes a deep interest in the public school system.

He married, December 5, 1867, Emma Wood (daughter of Charles Wood) and they have five children: NELLIE JONES⁹, who died at the age of four years; CHARLES WOOD JONES⁹, associated with his father in the lumber business; J. C. FRANK JONES⁹, also interested with his father; FLORENCE JONES⁹, and ALAN WOOD JONES⁹. All are unmarried and living at home with their parents.

(3) MARTHA CORSON JONES^s (third child of Charles and Sarah Read Jones) lives with her mother and sister Sarah at their home in Conshohocken.

(4) JONATHAN READ JONES^s (son of Charles and Sarah Read Jones) graduated at the Polytechnic College of Philadelphia and was an architect for a number of years, being associated with Mr. Benner under the firm name of Jones & Benner. They were very successful designing and building many large and important bridges. A few years ago he connected himself with the Alan Wood Company, the large iron manufacturers in Conshohocken, and has since occupied an important position in the management of that Company.

In 1868 he married Hannah C. Wood (daughter of David L. Wood) and they were the parents of four children: 1, PERCY WOOD JONES⁹, who married, January, 1894, Helen Stanton; 2, ARTHUR JONES⁹, deceased; 3, WALTER LAWRENCE JONES⁹, living at home with his father; and 4, JONATHAN RAYMOND JONES⁹.

Jonathan's wife, Hannah C. (Wood) Jones, died January 2, 1892. In March, 1894, he married Dora Siedentoft (a cousin to his first wife) and by her has' one child, BERTRAM WARNER JONES⁹.

(5) CHARLES JONES (fifth child of Charles and Sarah Read Jones) learned the trade of a printer with Morgan R. Wills, of Norristown, and on December 18, 1869, issued the first copy of "The Recorder," of Conshohocken. He has been

for a number of years in the office of the "Evening Bulletin," of Philadelphia. He married, in 1871, Emma White, of Norristown, where they now reside. Their children are: 1, ALBERT W. JONES⁹ (born November 6, 1871, died August 27, 1896); 2, JOSEPH JONES⁹; 3, HELEN JONES⁹; 4, WILLIAM W. JONES⁹; 5, ADA JONES⁹ (deceased); 6, CHARLES JONES⁹; 7, CLARENCE JONES⁹, and 8, HARRY W. JONES⁹ (deceased).

(6) JAMES CRESSON JONES⁸ (son of Charles and Sarah Read Jones) graduated as a civil engineer at the Polytechnic College, Philadelphia. He was first employed on the Plymouth Railroad, afterwards on the Canada Southern Railroad. He died in August, 1872, aged twenty-one years.

(7) SALLIE READ JONES⁸ (youngest child of Charles and Sarah Read Jones) lives with her mother and sister Martha in Conshohocken. She is unmarried.

There are few women who excel these three—Sarah R. Jones and her daughters Martha and Sallie—in those benevolent and unselfish qualities that are essentially present in every truly noble and beautiful character. Intelligent, quick-witted, and full of quiet humor; kind and gentle to all, especially to the poor and unfortunate; inflexibly adherent to principle and right and as strongly opposed to intemperance and injustice—these are some of the qualities that have made them respected and esteemed by all who know them. (Post-script—Sarah R. Jones, the mother, died July 3, 1896.)

4. MARY ADAMSON READ⁷ (daughter of Thomas and Sarah Corson Read) married Nov. 1, 1849, John Roberts, of Norristown. He died December 20, 1864; she on February, 4, 1894. Their children numbered four: (1) ELIHU R.⁸, (2) WILLIS R.⁸, (3) NELLIE J.⁸, and (4) JOSEPH⁸.

(1) ELIHU READ ROBERTS⁸, married Isabella Webster, of Philadelphia; they have one child, GENE ROBERTS⁹.

(2) WILLIS READ ROBERTS⁸, a graduate of Ann Arbor University, Michigan, married Margaret M. Jamison, of Norristown; they have three children: 1, WILLIS READ ROBERTS, JR.⁹; 2, VICTOR JAMISON ROBERTS⁹; and 3, PAUL GREIR ROBERTS⁹.

(3) NELLIE JONES ROBERTS⁸ and (4) JOSEPH ROBERTS⁸, died at early ages.

5. EDWIN READ died in infancy.

6. LOUIS WERNWAG READ⁷ (eldest living son of Thomas and Sarah Corson Read) was born at Plymouth, Montgomery County, July 5, 1828. His life has been a busy one, full of honor and success. Of him Friend Auge thus speaks :

"There are few persons in our State, in civil, military, or professional walks of life, who have had such varied experience as the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. Some of his early years were spent at what was known as "Read's Mill," situated near the Schuylkill, in Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County, and which his father owned for some time. His rudimentary education was obtained in the common schools of the locality, after which he became a pupil for a considerable time at Treemount Seminary under Rev. Samuel Aaron. In 1845 at a very early age he entered from that school, the office of his uncle, Dr. William Corson, to study medicine, and graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1849, about the time of his majority.

"When the Crimean War between Russia and Turkey and its allies broke out, Dr. Read, young and enterprising, offered his services to the Russian Government, then needing surgeons. Bearing the requisite credentials, he sailed for Russia, entered the service of the Czar in 1855 as surgeon, and remained during the war and through the terrible siege of Sebastopol. While there he effected some important improvements in the treatment of gun-shot wounds that elicited the admiration of his fellow-surgeons, and were generally adopted. After the war had closed he spent several months in the hospitals of Paris for the purpose of gaining further experience in the treatment of diseases, and then returned to the United States with advantages of experience possessed by few men of his age. In the autumn of 1857 he opened an office in Norristown and commenced the practice of medicine and surgery, in both of which he speedily attained a leading position. In the subsequent year he married Georgine, daughter of Alfred Hurst, who bore him two children—Nina Boreiche and Alfred Hurst Read.

"Mrs. Read was a woman of rare mental gifts, and her death, which occurred August 5, 1885, was widely lamented.

"On the breaking out of the Rebellion in 1861, although in the possession of a large and lucrative practice, Dr. Read offered his services and experience to the government, and on June 1, 1861, was appointed Major and Surgeon of the Thirtieth Pennsylvania Infantry, First Reserves, the first three years' regiment. He held his position until July 17, 1863, when he resigned to accept the appointment and promotion as Surgeon of United States Volunteers, and soon thereafter was assigned to duty as Medical Director of the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, Third Division Fifth Army Corps, Army of Potomac, which position he filled until November, 1864, when he was transferred from duty in the field and placed in charge of the McKimm United States Hospital at



LOUIS W. READ, M. D.



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Baltimore. He continued in that position until after the return of peace, when the institution was closed and the officials honorably mustered out of the United States service. Dr. Read was brevetted Lieutenant-Colonel, United States Volunteers, January 12, 1866, 'for faithful and meritorious services during the war.'

"It may be related in connection with Dr. Read's services as United States Army Surgeon that in all human probability he was the means of saving the life of General Hancock, while the latter was at his father's house in Norristown and the Doctor at home on a brief visit to his family. The General's wound had been repeatedly probed for the ball by army surgeons to no purpose, they expressing the belief that it did not remain in the wound, which continued intensely painful. On Dr. Read's visit the General seemed despondent of ever being relieved except by death, but at Hancock's earnest invitation Dr. Read introduced a probe, and in a few minutes found the ball and extracted it, to the General's great joy, thus assuring an early recovery which enabled him again to take the field and render important services in the suppression of the Rebellion. This providential relief of General Hancock was a marked professional achievement, and well corresponded with the enterprise and self-reliance that at twenty-two years of age led the Doctor to enlist in a foreign army with a view of obtaining the highest qualifications in his profession.

"In April, 1866, after an absence and public service of nearly five years, Dr. Read returned to Norristown, where he opened his office and resumed practice with an experience still more enlarged by such an extended tour of duty in the field and hospitals of the country.

"Upon the election of General Hartranft as Governor of Pennsylvania and the organization of the Pennsylvania National Guard, Dr. Read was appointed Surgeon-General of Pennsylvania, with the rank of Brigadier-General, on May 15, 1874, [and reappointed to the same position by Governors Beaver, Pattison and Hastings—the last appointment being on the 3d of July, 1895. On the 25th of May, 1895, he was elected President of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States]. He is a member of the Union League, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Historical Society, and the Association of the Sons of the Revolution.

"In 1876 Governor Hartranft appointed Dr. Read to the very responsible position of Commissioner for the Insane of the southeastern counties of the State. This trust involved the selection of a site, choice of a plan and the construction of the buildings at Norristown, all of which duties at great sacrifice of his private affairs, were patriotically performed; and to his self-sacrificing efforts the success of this Asylum—now acknowledged, not only in this country, but also in Europe, to be a model one—is no doubt largely due.

"Dr. Read has for many years been a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society, the Medical Society of Pennsylvania and of the American Medical Association."

7. JOSEPH C. READ⁷ in early life was a druggist. After serving through the entire Rebellion he went to Minnesota, where he engaged in the lumber business; afterwards pursued the same business in Florida, where he married Minnie Burrows.

He died in Fernandina, in 1889, leaving three children: (1) THOMAS READ⁸, who died in infancy; (2) JOSEPH READ⁸, a student of pharmacy living in Norristown; (3) DAISY READ⁸, living with her mother, who is Matron of the Soldiers' Widows' Home at Marshallton, Iowa.

8. ALAN WRIGHT READ⁷ studied dentistry with Brown & Coar in Norristown. In 1857 he joined them in Germany; practiced his profession there a short time; then went to Copenhagen (Denmark) where he still lives. He is unmarried.

IX.

JOSEPH DICKINSON CORSON.⁶

Brother JOSEPH was born in Plymouth Township on the "Campbell Farm," January 4, 1799. He married Ann Hagy, daughter of William Hagy, of Lower Merion, Montgomery County, Pa. Their last years were spent in Norristown, where he died, March 30, 1857. He had an unusually bright mind and possessed special mathematical talent, as did many of our family. His wife died March 20, 1868. Their children who passed their minority were: 1, CATHARINE⁷; 2, HANNAH⁷; 3, HIRAM⁷; 4, WILLIAM⁷; 5, ISABELLA⁷; 6, CLARA⁷; 7, HUMPHREY⁷, and 8, HOWARD⁷.

1. CATHARINE CORSON⁷, died about 1849, unmarried.

2. HANNAH CORSON⁷ is unmarried. Since 1871 she has been Supervisor of the Female Insane in the Eastern Hospital at Norristown, Pa., where there are at present 1000 female patients. It is a responsible position, which she fills to the satisfaction of the Trustees and the Chief Physician. She enjoys her position, as it affords an opportunity for the exercise of her administrative ability and her humanity.

3. HIRAM CORSON⁷, whose brilliant literary career makes him deserve an extended notice, which here follows:

PROF. HIRAM CORSON, LL. D.

Prof. Hiram Corson was born in Philadelphia, on the sixth of November, 1828. Up to the age of fifteen he was carefully educated at home by his parents. His father, who was an able mathematician, kept him at mathematical studies, and when he went to the classical and mathematical school, of which the Rev. Dr. Samuel Aaron was principal, in Norristown, Pa., he was far in advance of all students of his age in mathematics, the study of which he continued, and completed the extended course there pursued. At this school and at the

classical school, of which the Rev. Dr. Anspach was principal, in Montgomery County, Penna., he gave the larger portion of his time, for nearly five years, to the study of Latin and Greek, reading extensively of the literatures of these languages and the *opera omnia* of several authors. In the fall of 1849 he went to Washington, and was, during the following winter, connected with the reporting corps in the United States Senate. He was also, for a while, private secretary to Lewis Cass. In the following summer he became connected with the library of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, then in charge of the accomplished scholar and bibliographer, Prof. Charles C. Jewett, under whose guidance, and in the preparation of the catalogues of the library of Congress and of the Smithsonian Institution, in accordance with the plan originated by Professor Jewett, for the stereotyping of a general alphabetical catalogue of the libraries of the United States, he made a careful study of bibliography and the management of libraries. He assisted Professor Jewett in the preparation of his "Notices of Public Libraries in the United States," which was printed by order of Congress in 1851. This work was prepared in pursuance of a scheme to make the Smithsonian Institution a center of bibliographical knowledge.

Professor Jewett's plan, above referred to, was for stereotyping catalogues by separate movable titles. This plan was presented in a paper published in the fifth annual report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, together with the report of the commissioners, to whom the plan was referred for examination. It was proved to be entirely practicable, and far more economical than any other that had been devised.

A serious disagreement which occurred between Professor Jewett and the Secretary of the Smithsonian, Prof. Joseph Henry, resulted in the removal of Professor Jewett from his position and the grand catalogue scheme, the realization of which would have proved a great service to learning, was unfortunately abandoned.

During the six or seven years of his connection with the Smithsonian Institution, Professor Corson attended all the courses of literary and of scientific lectures given by the distinguished scholars and scientists who were engaged by the Institution at that time. He also made, with the abundant material at his command, an extended study of English, French and German literatures. In September, 1854, he married, in Boston, Miss Caroline Rollin, a native of Paris, a lady who had been highly educated in France and Germany, and who has, during her whole married life, done extensive literary work in the way of translations from French and German, and in original contributions to periodical literature. She has written valuable articles on Faust, Machiavelli, Victor Hugo, etc.

Their only surviving child, Eugene Rollin Corson, is a prominent physician and surgeon in Savannah, Georgia. He has, along with his extensive practice there, since 1880, contributed largely to medical journals. His elaborate paper on "The Vital Equation of the Colored Race and its Future in the United States," has been regarded as a valuable contribution to ethnology.

In 1859 Professor Corson removed with his family to Philadelphia, where he devoted himself, for the six following years, to lecturing on English literature and kindred subjects, in the Ladies' Seminaries of the city and elsewhere. During these years he also prepared students in



PROF. HIRAM CORSON, LL. D.



Latin and Greek and mathematics for admission to the University of Pennsylvania. For three of those years he had his own lecture room in the city, where, in addition to his outside lectures and teaching, he lectured twice a week for twenty-five weeks each year to audiences composed of the most cultivated people of the city. He was also an active member during this time of the "Shakespeare Society of Philadelphia."

In 1864 he received from the College of New Jersey the degree of Master of Arts.

In March, 1865, he was elected Professor of Moral Science, History and Rhetoric, in Girard College, Philadelphia, and was, *ex-officio*, vice-president of the college. By reason of its too onerous duties, he resigned this position in August of the following year, having accepted the professorship (offered him by Dr. Henry Barnard, the newly elected president), of rhetoric and English literature, in St. John's College, Annapolis. During his connection with St. John's, literary study in the college attained to an unusual prominence.

In 1870 he was elected Professor of Rhetoric, Oratory, and English Literature, in the Cornell University. Since the beginning of the academic year, 1890, '91, his professorship has been confined to English literature, a new and distinct chair having been established of English philology and rhetoric.

Professor Corson has contributed extensively to various journals and reviews, articles connected with his line of study, the titles of which alone would occupy more space than can be given in this notice, and has published the following works: "Chaucer's Legend of Goode Women," with an introduction and notes, glossarial and critical, 1863; "An Elocutionary Manual: with an introductory essay on the study of literature, and on vocal culture as indispensable to an æsthetic appreciation of poetry," 1864; "Address on the Occasion of his Induction as Professor of Moral Science, History, and Rhetoric, in Girard College, March 29, 1865"; "A Revised Edition of Jaudon's English Orthographical Expositor," 1866, published for the use of the Southern freedmen; a separate edition of the above essay on the study of literature, and on vocal culture, etc., 1867; "The Satires of Juvenal, with a literal interlinear translation," 1868; "Handbook of Anglo-Saxon and Early English," 1871; "Syllabus of a Course of Lectures on the English language and literature" 1873; (a second enlarged edition, 1876); "Jottings on the text of Hamlet" (First Folio *versus* Cambridge edition), 1874; "The University of the Future: an address delivered before the Alumni of St. John's College," July 7, 1875; "The Claims of Literary Culture"; an address before the Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia, September 27, 1875; "The Idea of Personality and of Art as an agency of Personality, as embodied in Browning's poetry," a paper read at the eighth meeting of the London Browning Society, June 23, 1882, and published in the Society's Papers, Part III, 1882; "The Two Voices and A Dream of Fair Women, by Lord Tennyson; with a biographical and general introduction and explanatory and critical notes," 1882; Response to the Toast, "The True Scholar," made at the sixth annual dinner of the N. Y. Alumni Association of Cornell University, March 31, 1886; "An Introduction to the study of Robert Browning's poetry," 1886. Of this work the poet wrote, "Let it remain as an assurance to younger poets that after fifty years' work unattended by any conspicuous recognition, an over-payment may be made, if there is such

another munificent appreciator as I have been permitted to find ; in which case let them, even if more deserving, be equally gratified." This work has been the most extensively used of all the numerous works on Browning's poetry which have been published since the founding of the Browning Society of London. "An introduction to the study of Shakespeare," 1889 ; this is an introduction to the study of the Plays as plays. The work called forth immediately on its publication the most favorable notices from leading journals, literary magazines, and reviews, in the United States, England and Germany, evincing a general sense of the need of a higher study of the dramatist than the merely textual study pursued in the schools.

The London *Spectator*, in its extended article on the work, February 15, 1890, says : "If we were asked to give any one feature which had especially struck us in reading Dr. Corson's *Introduction to Shakespeare*, we should at once answer—its common sense. Upon reflection, and in dread of misconstruction, we might substitute the expression, clearness of judgment, or simplicity and directness of insight or thought ; but to ourselves, in all the comfort of intimacy, where there is no danger of misunderstandings, we said common-sense, and are tempted to leave the expression for those to whom it will carry its full weight of commendation."

The New York *Nation*, of November 14, 1889, says :

"The volume is full of interest, and is marked by its individuality ; but its great merit is that it exemplifies the spirit in which Shakespeare should be studied, standing squarely against the metaphysical and moralizing perversion, the superfine intellectuality, and all the misconceptions of dramatic art and confusion of æsthetic standards which came upon us from Germany, and have been fostered by the transcendental and latter-day critics of this country. As an 'Introduction' this book sets the student upon the right lines at once, and frees him from many errors before he has time to entertain them ; and the writer speaks with such spirit and decision that he cannot be misunderstood. Altogether, so excellent a volume of Shakespeare criticism has not been put forth by an American scholar in many a day."

"A Primer of English Verse, chiefly in its æsthetic and organic character," 1892. In this work but little attention is given to the mere mechanics of verse ; it introduces the student to the higher study of verse as an inseparable, organic element of poetic expression. It has been extensively used in schools and colleges, and has given a new direction to an important line of literary study—important as conducting to the informing life of poetical productions.

"The Aims of Literary Study," 1895. This work has done much to revolutionize literary study in schools and colleges. The *Atlantic Monthly*, June, 1895, says of it : "The truths which he sets forth are of the kind that enter the mind like light ; they do not knock like an officer of the law." The *School Review* : "The sympathetic insight for the spiritual in literature that Dr. Corson possesses in so high a degree, is a rare possession among the sons of men."

Professor Edward Everett Hale, Jr., writes in *The Dial* : "We have to-day very, very few teachers of English literature who have exercised any such influence over their students as Zarncke exercised for many years over some of the best scholars of Germany. But of these few there can be no doubt that Professor Corson is one. I do not know

who among the younger teachers of English have ever studied with him; but they know themselves, which is the important matter, and their students reap the benefit of it. Among all the teachers in America, I suppose Professor Corson is one of the few who are really men of genius. . . . Professor Corson has a keenness of insight into the living meaning of things that I can compare only with the power of Mr. Ruskin, or possibly of Professor Dowden, among those now living who have given thought and study to the interpretation of literature. It is only of recent years that this power has come to expression in books. And these books, remarkable contributions to criticism as they are, do not adequately convey Professor Corson's influence. It is therefore an excellent thing that he has now endeavored to condense the spirit of his teaching into an essay called 'The Aims of Literary Study.' . . . It has the great merit of conveying successfully just what it attempts to convey. . . . A student of Professor Corson's who reads it feels at once a revival of the old fire that was kindled when he first went into that stuffy lecture-room in White Hall. On others, the effect will perhaps hardly be so striking; but still the book will say what it is meant to say. It is a very small book; in fact, it is an 18mo. I wish it were larger, for it ought to hold a place of dignity on the book-shelf alongside of works of greater size but less excellence. In its present shape, however, it will be easier to bind it upon the tablet of the heart, which is rather more to the purpose."

Says the New York *Evangelist*: "Not Matthew Arnold himself has given, or could give, a more clear and lucid and persuasive exposition of the subject of which it treats. In fact, Arnold's celebrated definition of culture, as a knowledge of the best that has been thought and said in all ages, seems poor and superficial beside Professor Corson's warm and effective contention that culture is not knowing at all, but being, or, at least, knowing for the purpose of being. Never before, perhaps, was the idea of literary education lifted to so high a plane and so successfully carried over from the realm of the purely intellectual into the region of the spiritual. This is the power and persuasiveness of the little book—the light that shines through it is a spiritual light. Its interpretation of things intellectual is a spiritual interpretation. And yet it is very far from being cloudy, or vague, or above the head of the ordinary reader—the ordinary student or teacher of English. Many of the utterances have the precision and brilliancy of epigrams. The little volume contains much that is quotable, much that, if space permitted, we should give to our readers. We would call the attention of parents to what the author has to say on vocal culture as hardly less important than his lofty ideal of literary study."

"The Voice and Spiritual Education," 1896; this work was favorably received as the preceding, and the highest commendations were bestowed upon it by leading literary and educational organs. "Selections from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales (Ellesmere Text), edited with Introduction, Notes, and Glossary," 1896. This work, published but two months ago, bids fair to be the leading text-book, in the study of Chaucer.

Professor Corson, was among the earliest engaged lecturers at the Peabody Institute, in Baltimore. In January, 1868, he gave a course of lectures there on the poetry of Milton to large audiences. During the many years of his connection with the Cornell University (at the

time of the writing of this article, twenty-five), he has been in demand as a lecturer and reader; and when his university duties have permitted, he has accepted invitations to lecture and read in various cities and towns of the country. In June, 1877, he read before the New Shakespeare Society, in University College, London, a paper on the development of Shakespeare's verse as a chronological test. He has been a vice-president of the society for a number of years. In 1878, in consideration of his literary services, St. John's College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. In June, 1882, he read a paper on Personality, and Art as an agency of Personality, before the Browning Society of London, in University College, of which the poet wrote to Dr. Furnivall, the founder of the society: "If your society had produced nothing more than Professor Corson's paper, I should feel abundantly grateful."

Professor Corson has been instrumental in establishing and guiding a large number of Browning clubs in different parts of the country, and has carried on an extensive correspondence with Browning students. He has probably done more to promote the study of the poet than any one else in the country. He had conducted a club in the University, and had lectured on Browning in various places for some years before the London Browning Society was formed, in 1881. Up to that time the general reader had hardly looked into the poet's works, which had the undeserved reputation of being "wilfully obscure, unconscientiously careless and perversely harsh." Their quickening power has, of late years, been experienced by thousands, and thousands are indebted to Professor Corson for their introduction to this power.

In the winter terms of 1883, '84, and '85, he lectured at the Johns Hopkins University, having been appointed for a period of three years lecturer on English literature. The first course comprised ten lectures, five on the æsthetics of English verse, and five on the poetic ideals of the nineteenth century, as exhibited in the poetry of Tennyson, Robert Browning, and Elizabeth Barrett Browning; the second comprised twenty lectures on the poetry and drama of the Restoration period, and on the subsequent drama to Sheridan, inclusive; the third, twenty lectures on Shakespeare. Of the last course, President Gilman, in his annual report, 1885, says: "Professor Corson, whose instructions during two preceding winters had exercised a marked influence in this community, gave twenty lectures upon Shakespeare in January, February, and March. After two introductory discourses, he discussed ten of the principal plays, namely, *Romeo and Juliet*, *King John*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Coriolanus*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Winter's Tale*, and *Cymbeline*. It was the speaker's purpose, as he stated it, "to represent the poet's early, middle, and late work, and, along with a presentation of the organic structure of the plays selected, to indicate Shakespeare's progress in the creation of character, to contrast his portrayal of character with that of Ben Jonson and other contemporary dramatists, . . . in a word to present the plays on the human side rather than on the scholastic. . . . So large a number of persons desired to hear Professor Corson and Mr. Gosse (who gave a course of lectures on the rise of classical poetry in England from Shakespeare to Pope), that the authorities of the Peabody Institute kindly opened one of their large halls to the university, and these lectures were therefore announced as under the auspices of both foundations."

As the result of forty years lecturing on English Literature, and kindred subjects, Professor Corson has a large mass of literary material which he hopes to find time before his working powers fail him, to prepare for publication. This material covers the whole field of English Literature from the Anglo-Saxon epic of Beowulf, of the 8th century, to the present time.

4. WILLIAM CORSON⁷ (fourth child of Joseph and Ann Corson), died unmarried, in Portsmouth, Ohio, October 1, 1864.

5. ISABELLA CORSON⁷ (fifth child of Joseph and Ann Corson), married George A. Lenzi, of Norristown. Their children are :

(1) ANNE CORSON LENZI⁸, married to Thomas Scott of North Wales.

(2) WILLIAM CORSON LENZI⁸, assistant teller in the First National Bank of Norristown.

(3) MARIE BLANCHE LENZI⁸ and (4) CLARIBEL LENZI⁸, the last three unmarried and living with their parents. All the daughters have shown marked artistic ability.

6. CLARA CORSON⁷ (sixth child of Joseph and Ann Corson), married William John Sholl; their children are: (1) ALBERT EDWARD⁸, and (2) ANNA McCLURE⁸.

(1) ALBERT EDWARD SHOLL⁸ married Mary Mills of Canajoharie, N. Y.; they have one child, HELEN CORSON SHOLL⁹, born in 1890.

(2) ANNA McCLURE SHOLL⁸ is engaged in literary work, and has shown considerable talent as a writer.

7. HUMPHREY CORSON⁷ (seventh child of Joseph and Ann Corson), married Ella Bowman of Kent County, Md. He died August 19, 1892. Their children are :

(1) EVELYN CORSON⁸ married Frank Webb Blake of Norfolk, Va., and they have one child, MARY CORSON BLAKE⁹, born in 1890.

(2) EMMA RUBENA CORSON⁸, unmarried, teaching near Baltimore.

(3) WALTER BOWMAN CORSON⁸, unmarried.

8. HOWARD CORSON⁷ (the youngest child of Joseph and Ann Corson), died unmarried at Norristown, January 21, 1870.

X.

CHARLES CORSON⁶.

CHARLES was the third son of Joseph and Hannah D. Corson, and was born at the Hickorytown home, January 22, 1801. He married Sarah Egbert (daughter of Laurence Egbert and a sister of Mary who married brother Alan) and they lived for more than forty years on their large farm at the junction of the Perkiomen and Skippack Creeks, in Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County. There they both died, Sarah on the 23d of August, 1864 (she was born, March 17, 1801), Charles on the 5th of May, 1878, aged 76 years, 3 months, 13 days. They are both buried in Montgomery Cemetery at Norristown.

Though busily engaged in the labors of a farm of 177 acres, Charles was not inattentive to what was passing around him. At the time he and his good wife commenced farming, the anti-slavery subject was beginning to exercise the people of Pennsylvania, and especially of that portion of it between the Maryland line and Philadelphia and Harrisburg.

Charles was an impulsive man with an inborn courage that enabled him to espouse openly, and advocate boldly, any cause which had for its object the bettering of the community. But not that alone; his sympathies were with the sufferer, wherever found, and he therefore entered boldly the ranks of the anti-slavery people—the hated abolitionists as they were then regarded. He entered the contest early, even before the formation of the Anti-Slavery Society of Philadelphia in 1837. The members of the Montgomery County Historical Society have recently asked me, one of

their members, to write an account of the work done by abolitionists in Montgomery County ; from which I may be allowed to draw testimony in relation to Charles' participancy in anti-slavery work. In writing the account the county was divided into sections, so as better to individualize each one's work. The Lower Providence section is made up of a group of ten or fifteen men and women, of whom Charles Corson and wife are a part. The work done by this group was continued for many years and during the lifetime of Charles was carried on by him with great vigor and fearlessness. His house was a station on the "Underground Railroad," where fugitives were housed, secreted, and, when opportunity offered, sent on over the line to the next station, and so on to Canada.

Numerous were the cases brought at night to his house by the other abolitionists of that and the Chester County group. I will mention a single one, the case of Rachel, or "Rache," as she was called. She had been a slave in Baltimore, but had escaped to West Chester, where she remained until the "Master" had her arrested. Her escape from her "Master" and her reception by Dr. Fussell is a thrilling history; but as these incidents occurred in Chester County, we will start with her when she and three others were brought by Dr. Fussell to William Taylor's, in Phoenixville. Mr. Taylor, in speaking of it, said, "I arose and mounted my horse to pilot them; we crossed the Schuylkill River at Phoenixville. There was then (forty-four years ago) no bridge there and the night was very dark. I took Dr. Fussell and his party to Charles Corson's. A large part of the road was through woods and so dark that I had to feel the way and lead the Doctor's horse. We crossed the Perkiomen Creek at Tyson's Mill and got to Charles Corson's about midnight. I left Dr. Fussell and party at Corson's, and returned home at three o'clock that night. The next day Charles Corson geared to his market wagon and took 'Rache' to the home of William H. Johnson at Buckingham, Bucks County (another important

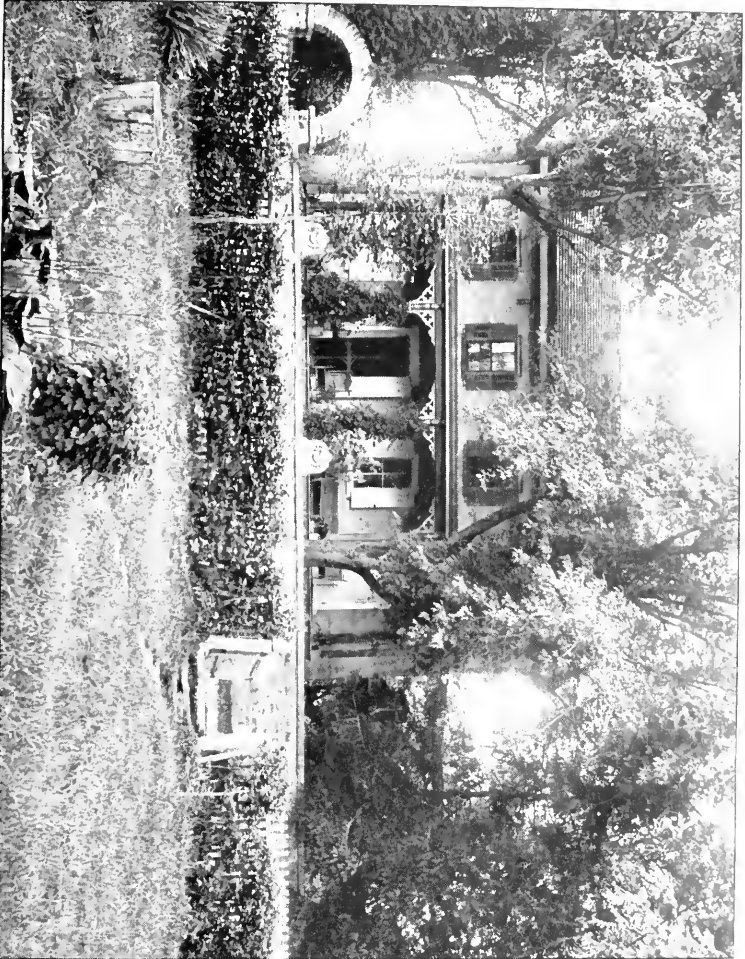
Underground Railroad station)—a distance of about twenty-five miles. Mr. Johnson then wrote to her husband in West Chester to tell him where she was. The husband, who was a free man, gave a power of attorney to some one in West Chester to dispose of his property and forward the receipts to him at Waterloo, Canada, where husband and wife finally reached." He also gives the cases of John and Jane French; Perry and Lucy Simons; Eliza, a slave mother and her son; all of whom came to the Upper Providence Group and were carried across the Perkiomen to Charles Corson, and by him sent on and on, to the Underground Railroad stations in Bucks County, and to all of the others until they were safe in Canada. Mr. Taylor in his account of the work, said "so, it would appear to those who stood aloof, that the road of those engaged in the Underground Railroad was not strewn with flowers, but there was a consolation that outsiders did not understand."

The children of Charles and Sarah Egbert Corson who lived beyond their childhood were :

1. RICHARD REED CORSON⁷, married Louisa Williams.
2. WILLIAM EGBERT CORSON⁷, married Hannah Highley.
3. GEORGE NORMAN CORSON⁷, married Maria Hurst.
4. ADELAIDE CORSON⁷, married Albert Crawford.
5. SUSAN ROGERS CORSON⁷, married Felix Francis Highley.
6. JOHN JACOBS CORSON⁷, married Rebecca Freedley.
7. MARY FRANCIS CORSON⁷, unmarried.
8. LAURENCE EGBERT CORSON⁷, deceased; was unmarried.

Their first born, also named Laurence Egbert Corson, died in infancy, as did also their second born, Joseph Leedom Corson, and their fourth child, Eleanor Corson; their sixth child, Joseph Norman Corson, was drowned at an early age.

1. RICHARD REED CORSON⁷, born October 31, 1825, married December 28, 1863, Louisa Williams (daughter of Edward and Maria Williams), of New Castle, Del. He served with distinction in the Civil War, in the cavalry branch of the service, attaining the rank of Major. After the war was



THE HOME OF CHARLES CORSON—LOWER PROVIDENCE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA.



ended he engaged in the real estate business in Norristown. His wife, Louisa Williams Corson, is a woman of superior intelligence and highly gifted as a musician. They have three children: (1) CHARLES EDWARD⁸; (2) MARIE⁸, and (3) LOUISE HARDING⁸.

(1) CHARLES EDWARD CORSON⁸ is in the real estate business; he is unmarried.

(2) MARIE CORSON⁸, married William E. Albertson, (son of the late J. Morton Albertson,) who is at the head of the Albertson Trust Company of Norristown. They have three children: 1, MARIE ALBERTSON⁹; 2, HOWARD ALBERTSON⁹, and 3, WILLIAM LEE ALBERTSON⁹.

(3) LOUISE HARDING CORSON⁸, married September 24, 1896, George Clay Bowker, son of the late John Bowker, of Philadelphia.

2. WILLIAM EGBERT CORSON⁷ (son of Charles and Sarah Egbert Corson), born October 3, 1829, married January 8, 1856, Hannah Highley (daughter of George and Ann [Francis] Highley), and they had five children, the last two (twins) dying in infancy. The mother also died shortly after their birth. The other three children are: (1) FRANK EGBERT⁸; (2) CHARLES⁸, and (3) ANNIE⁸.

(1) FRANK EGBERT CORSON⁸ married Rebecca Hughes, and they had one child, HELEN CORSON⁹, who is now an orphan, her mother dying several years ago, and later her father was killed by a fall from a building in a Western State, where he was temporarily engaged, working at his trade, that of a carpenter.

(2) CHARLES CORSON⁸ moved to a Western State and married.

(3) ANNIE CORSON⁸ married the Rev. William T. Way, who is the Rector of Emanuel Episcopal Church in Baltimore, where they live.

3. GEORGE NORMAN CORSON⁷ (third son of Charles and Sarah Egbert Corson), was born March 11, 1833. After

teaching in the public schools for a short time, he commenced the study of law and in due time was admitted to the Bar, where he soon assumed a leading position ; he was a member of the Constitutional Convention and has held other important positions. He married, September 29, 1859, Maria Hurst, (daughter of Alfred Hurst). Their children, who have reached adult life, are : (1) GEORGINE^s; (2) SIMON CAMERON^s; (3) ROSALIE^s; (4) HAROLD^s, and (5) CHALFORD^s.

(1) GEORGINE CORSON^s married J. Sherburn Singer and they have one child, J. SHERBURN SINGER, JR.⁹

(2) SIMON CAMERON CORSON^s is a civil engineer ; he is unmarried.

(3) ROSALIE CORSON^s married George N. Weaver, and they have one child, HURST WEAVER⁹.

(4) HAROLD CORSON^s is a conveyancer and Justice of the Peace ; he married Carrie, daughter of the late Ephraim and Margaret A. Gautier ; they have no children.

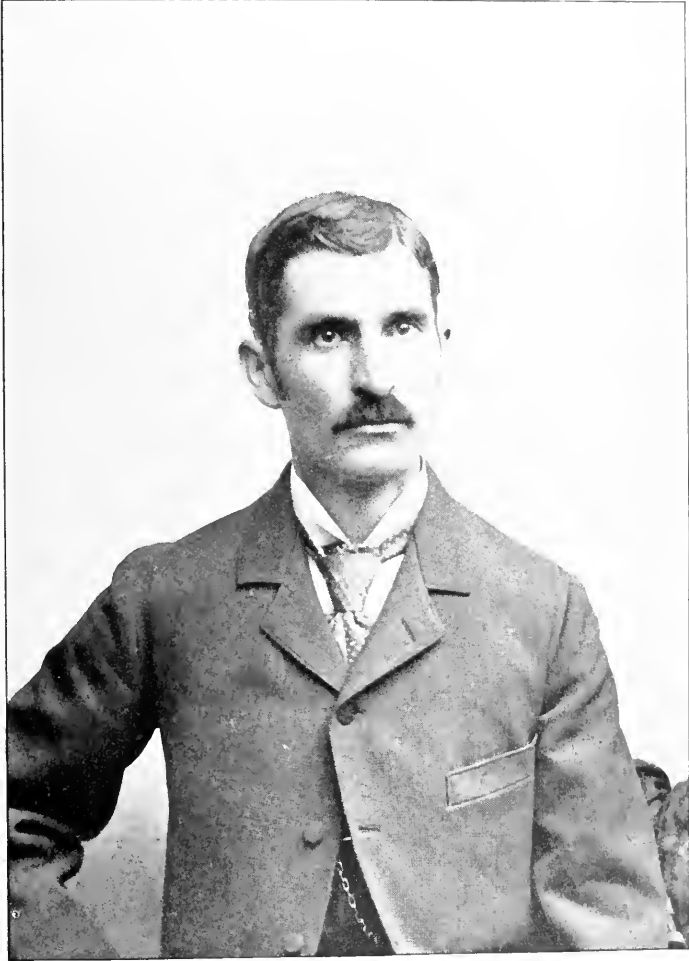
(5) CHALFORD CORSON^s is unmarried.

4. ADELAIDE CORSON⁷ (eldest daughter of Charles and Sarah Egbert Corson), born October 28, 1834, married November 29, 1855, Albert Crawford, a prosperous farmer of Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County, and they are the parents of four living children : (1) JOSEPH^s; (2) J. NORMAN^s; (3) SARAH C.^s, and (4) MARY F.^s

(1) JOSEPH CRAWFORD^s, who is unmarried, is in the drug business in Philadelphia, and has been very successful.

(2) J. NORMAN CRAWFORD^s succeeded his father in the management of the large farm owned by the latter ; he married Josephine, daughter of the late Samuel Rittenhouse, and they have two children : (1) BESSIE FRANCIS CRAWFORD⁹, and (2) ADELAIDE CORSON CRAWFORD⁹.

(3) SARAH CORSON CRAWFORD^s married Wallace B. Henderson, of Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County; she died August 8, 1896. They have two children : 1, JOSEPH CRAWFORD HENDERSON⁹, and 2, ALLEN TRAQUAIR HENDERSON⁹.



GEORGE N. HIGHLEY, M. D.



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(4) MARY FRANCIS CRAWFORD⁸ is unmarried ; she resides with her parents.

5. SUSAN ROGERS CORSON⁷ (daughter of Charles and Sarah Egbert Corson), born December 9, 1836, married January 1, 1857, Felix Francis Highley, a son of George and Ann Francis Highley (and a brother to Hannah, who married Susan's brother William). They lived for about eighteen years after their marriage on their farm in Schuylkill Township, Chester County, at the confluence of the Pickering Creek with the River Schuylkill, and then moved to a farm which they purchased, near Jeffersonville, in Norriton Township, Montgomery County ; finally, in 1884, they moved into their present home, in the eastern suburbs of Norristown, where they have been living a quiet retired life. They have had six children, the eldest of them, ALBERT CRAWFORD HIGHLEY⁸, born March 22, 1858, died at the age of 12 years and 8 days. Their living children are: (1) GEORGE N.⁸; (2) IONE B.⁸; (3) CHARLES C.⁸; (4) SARAH C.⁸, and (5) NANNIE P.⁸

(1) GEORGE NORMAN HIGHLEY⁸, M. D., eldest living child of Felix Francis and Susan Rogers (Corson) Highley, was born August 13, 1859, on the Schuylkill Township farm, in the house (which is still standing) built by his great grandfather, Henry Highley. He studied medicine with his great-uncle, the late Dr. William Corson, and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, March 15, 1881. After practising for a short time in Roxborough, Philadelphia, he moved to Conshohocken (June 12, 1882), where he has since resided. He married, June 1, 1887, Mary Wood Wilson (daughter of the late William and Annie H. [Yerkes] Wilson) and they have had three children : 1, ALBERT WILSON HIGHLEY⁹, who died May 23, 1893, aged 4½ years ; 2, ANNIE WILSON HIGHLEY⁹, born April 4, 1893, and 3, CHARLES CORSON HIGHLEY, JR.⁹, born June 8, 1895.

Dr. George N. Highley is an active member of the Montgomery County Medical Society, the Medical Society of Pennsylvania, the American Medical Association, and the

Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia. He is a Director of the Tradesmen's National Bank of Conshohocken, and is now serving his second term as Burgess of the borough.

(2) IONE B. HIGHLEY⁸, born November 11, 1860, married Henry Lawrence Everett, proprietor of *The Millers' Review* of Philadelphia. Both she and her husband have decided literary tastes and have travelled extensively: they have no children.

(3) CHARLES CORSON HIGHLEY⁸, born February 23, 1862, is unmarried. After having been a student at law for a short period he was appointed (in 1882) Cashier of the Malvern National Bank, which position he still holds, as well as a directorship in the same institution. He is also a Justice of the Peace and a general business man in Malvern, Chester County, whose people hold him in high esteem.

(4) SARAH CORSON HIGHLEY, born October 18, 1863, married George Meade Holstein, a son of Dr. George W. Holstein, of Bridgeport, Montgomery County. Her husband is the general manager of the Bertha Zinc and Mineral Company, Pulaski, Virginia, where they reside. They have three children: 1, ABBY FOU ALBADE HOLSTEIN⁹, born July 19, 1893; 2, GEORGE MEADE HOLSTEIN, JR.⁹, born March 9, 1895; and 3, FRANCIS HIGHLEY HOLSTEIN⁹, born July 16, 1896.

(5) NANNIE PAWLING HIGHLEY⁸, born May 5, 1873, lives with her parents in Norristown.

6. JOHN JACOBS CORSON⁷ (son of Charles and Sarah Egbert Corson), born January 5, 1839, has been a successful business man in Norristown, where he has resided since he attained his manhood. He has been long recognized as a leading real estate agent and conveyancer, and an able financier. He is a Director of the Montgomery Trust and Safe Deposit Company, and is largely interested in the building associations and other financial institutions of the borough. He married, April 8, 1872, Rebecca Pawling Freedley (daughter of Henry Freedley, and great granddaughter of Joseph Heister, a former Governor of Pennsylvania). They have eight children: (1) NELLIE CORSON; (2) SUSAN R.



JOHN J. CORSON



(DAISY) CORSON⁸; (3) ALICE CORSON⁸; (4) JOHN JAY CORSON⁸; (5) HENRY FREEDLEY CORSON⁸; (6) PAULA CORSON⁸; (7) RUSSEL CORSON⁸, and (8) DOROTHY CORSON⁸.

7. MARY FRANCIS CORSON⁷ (youngest daughter of Charles and Sarah Egbert Corson), born March 29, 1841, and her brother, 8, LAURENCE EGBERT CORSON⁷, born November 3, 1842, continued to live at the old homestead after the death of their father in 1878, and until the death of Laurence in February, 1888. They operated the farm very successfully during that time, working in perfect harmony and love—each striving to better the condition of the other. Both were possessed of bright and intellectual minds, and were leaders of thought in their neighborhood and among their circle of acquaintances. Laurence died of an acute illness, February 16, 1888. Mary Francis then took up her residence with her sisters, Susan R. Highley and Adelaide Crawford, alternately. For several years before the death of her brother she suffered greatly with rheumatism and it afterwards afflicted her so much that she became unable to leave her bed or chair and has since remained in that unfortunate condition. Though her body has been deeply afflicted and pain and distress are her constant companions, she has borne it all with a Christian fortitude and forbearance. It can very truthfully be said of her that kindness and Christian charity have characterized her whole life.

XI.

GEORGE CORSON⁶.

GEORGE CORSON⁶ (fourth son of Joseph and Hannah Dickinson Corson), was born January 4, 1803, at Hickorytown, in Plymouth Township. He was an apt scholar with a remarkable mathematical talent, equalling if not excelling his brothers, Alan W. and Joseph D., who were distinguished in their neighborhoods for the same talents, and which was a characteristic of their father. In brother Alan's school, where were congregated some of the brightest minds from different parts of the county, George led them all in that branch of studies; while in reading, and more especially in spelling, he fell behind many of them, being very careless about these branches. When grown to adult age he engaged in store-keeping with Jonathan Maulsby at Plymouth Meeting, and as the business was one to which he had been accustomed, while with his father, he was successful to a great degree. On January 24, 1832, he married Martha Maulsby, daughter of Samuel and Susan Maulsby, *née* Thomas. Samuel Maulsby was the owner of a large and fertile farm at Plymouth Meeting, where in addition to the farming operations the burning of lime was extensively carried on by him. After the death of his father-in-law, George purchased the homestead and the limestone quarries and continued the business successfully until his death from consumption, November 18, 1860, in the 58th year of his age.

Moses Auge, in his Biography of Men of Montgomery County, says of him: "He was justly distinguished for high moral qualities, being a most untiring temperance and anti-



GEORGE CORSON



slavery reformer. Few men have exercised a better influence in the neighborhood, than the subject of this sketch. Though never a member of Friends' Meeting, he and his wife were frequent attendants of it, and their children were brought up in accordance with the principles of the Society." There are a few incidents of his life which will outline his character, better than any eulogium, which after the fashion of biographers would do. At the time of carrying on his varied operations at Plymouth and especially in the lime business where the men employed had long been exceedingly abusive to horses, he exercised a marked influence for good. Not a man was allowed to strike or maltreat a horse, and even the carters in the employ of others, were often stopped in their abuse of the animals, by his fearless interference. No threats of injury from the drivers checked him for a moment. I have several times seen the whip and even clubs raised to strike him, but those who raised them quailed before the courage and demands of the friend of the noble animal.

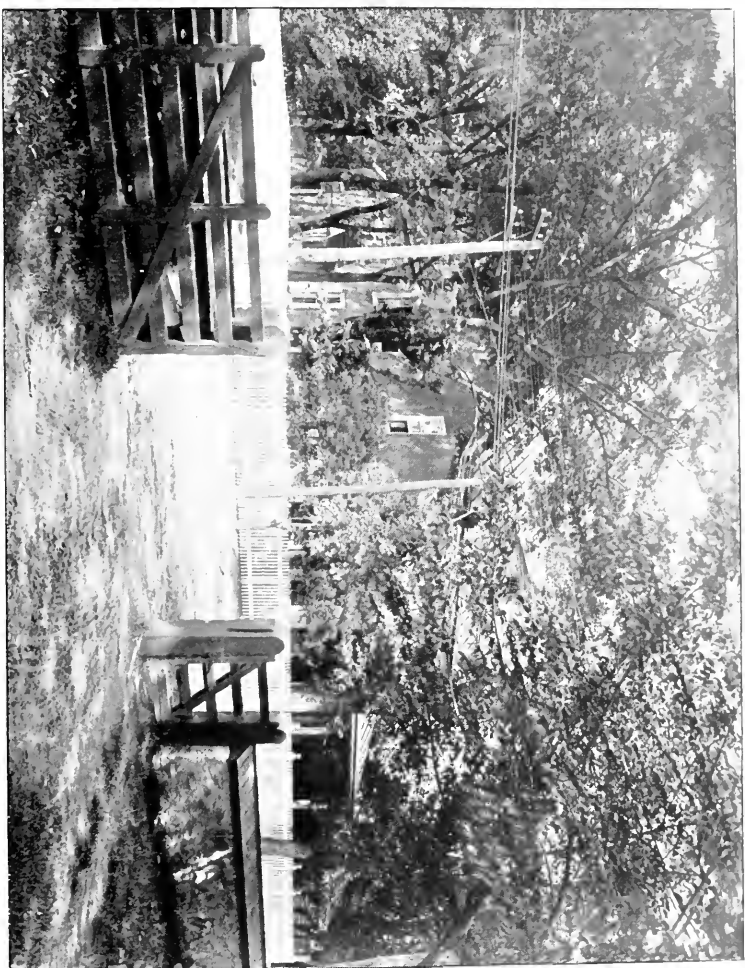
When he added lime burning to his other business operations, it was the universal practice to furnish whiskey to the laborers. Among the workmen were a few called "archers." It was their business to construct the arch. On account of the skill deemed necessary they received double wages. While the men received but a dollar per day the archers received two dollars. They were specialists and went from kiln to kiln in the neighborhood wherever such work was needed. Many of the workmen drank heavily, and there was sometimes great loss by reason of "bad burns," a term in use to designate a failure to have the stone well converted into lime; fights among the men were also common, and George determined to stop the "grog."

When he announced to the men, that no more liquor would be given to them, and that they should not bring any of their own, there were grumbling and oaths in abundance. The archers struck at once. They felt confident that he could not burn lime if they all refused to "arch," and that he would

soon come to their terms, Those people who best knew George Corson, knew full well that there would be no compromise. They felt that a man of his mathematical talent and mechanical genius could easily be "foreman" and "archer," too, if need be. Hiring outside men, in place of those who quit the work, he stood on the top of the kiln and directed raw hands, where to lay the "arch stones," one after another till the arch was completed, and it was a success. From that time the business of "arching" was a lost one. Since then any of the common workmen can arch, and without increase of wages in his business. Other manufacturers of lime continued to give whiskey to the men for a time, some of them for years, but eventually, seeing how much better the business could be done without its being used, it was abandoned. Now, it is not given by any lime burner.

AS AN ANTI-SLAVERY MAN.

As early as 1830, Benjamin Lundy, the little New Jersey Quaker, came to Plymouth to speak about slavery, and to show that the Southern slave-holders were scheming to embroil the United States with Mexico, and then to wrest Texas from that country, in order to have a vast, new and fertile region consecrated to slavery. Friend Lundy was also desirous to procure subscribers to the *Genius of Universal Emancipation*, a paper he was then publishing in the City of Baltimore. He came to George Corson's house and was entertained. George procured the Friends' Meeting-house in which to hold a meeting in the evening. Word was sent around to the residents, but when the time came there were very few present—only Alan, George and Hiram Corson, Jonathan Maulsby and his sister, George Corson's wife, Jonathan Adamson, and two or three others. In a quiet, conversational tone Benjamin gave his views on the enormity of slavery in the United States; told of his travels through Texas, undertaken in order to discover the condition of its people; and especially their views of slavery in the States. He also laid bare the scheme of our Southern people to secure that vast region for the extension



WHERE GEORGE CORSON LIVED—NOW THE HOME OF HELEN C. HOVENDEN



of slavery. This was the awakening of George Corson and his wife to the subject which for many years strongly engaged his attention and sympathy, and led him to give entertainment and encouragement to anti-slavery lecturers. It was the beginning of a generous hospitality which was given to the advocates of anti-slavery for a period of thirty years. He subscribed for the *Genius of Emancipation* and thus kept abreast of the anti-slavery movement so that when William Lloyd Garrison made his famous declaration, George occupied a foremost position.

The Anti-Slavery Society of the nation was formed in 1833, and he was ready to join hands with the hated abolitionists, as they were called. From that time he and his excellent wife, the youngest daughter of Samuel Maulsby, threw open their house to all the anti-slavery speakers, attended meetings, far and near, conveyed speakers to meetings gotten up for them, and while ever they remained in the neighborhood gave them a home. Garrison, McKim, Charles and Cyrus Burleigh, the renowned Lucretia Mott, Miss Mary Grew and her zealous friend, Mrs. Cyrus Burleigh—then Margaret Jones—Abby Kelley, the zealous and eloquent, afterwards married to the abolitionist, Stephen Foster, and many others, were entertained by his good wife and himself. This now seems a trifling matter to talk about, to those who have been born since those days; but to others who know how abolitionists were denounced by nearly the whole of our people, how ministers in their pulpits spoke of them as infidels, for going against slavery which was sanctioned by the Bible and was a divine institution; how the vulgar people, supported by the minister's belief, cursed them and mobbed them; how even Friends "dealt" with those of their members who took active part with the abolitionists; how even their beloved preacher, the amiable and Christian Lucretia Mott and her husband, were treated with extreme coldness and heavy censure by Friends with whom they had a long time worshipped; I say that to those who lived in these times

and knew of those things, the open advocacy of George Corson and his wife and their taking these "hated people" to their home, was not a trifling affair, but a heroic act, born of courage and nobleness.

Only persons of courage and deep convictions were found in the ranks of the abolitionists in the early days of the anti-slavery struggles. It was at that time safe and respectable to be a Colonizationist, for the slave-holders approved it as a means for removing from their midst the free negroes, whose freedom caused the slaves to long for it, too, and made them restless and dissatisfied. So, Northern people, who hated abolitionists, could prate boldly of being Colonizationists, and consequently advocates of freedom for them.

George Corson was, one day, on a visit to his brother Charles, who lived at the junction of the Skippack and Perkionmen creeks, and while coming home on the back road not much travelled, overtook a man on horseback, and behind him on foot a black man, with a rope around his neck, the other end being fastened to the rider's saddle. This unusual and disgraceful sight attracted his attention, but knowing as he did, that many colored men had been caught by their former masters and taken south, he at once took in the situation, and riding up to the master asked him why he was taking the man along in that way; the slaveholder replied, that "the man had been his slave, had ran away, that he had found him and was taking him home." After some further talk, George hurried on to Norristown and got a warrant in order to arrest him. When the slaveholder came to the town he was arrested and taken before a Justice of the Peace (?). The master procured a lawyer, and the office was soon filled with people, indignant that a Southern gentleman (?) should have been thus insulted, and Norristown disgraced, by having him arrested. The Magistrate decided that the master had a right to his property—his slave—and ordered the prosecutor to pay the costs. "The master has a right to his property; you want to rob him of his property," was the battle cry of



ANTI-SLAVERY HALL WERE MANY ANTI-SLAVERY MEETINGS WERE HELD
IN RECENT YEARS USED BY THE LATE THOMAS HENKINSON AS HIS STUDIO

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the pro-slavery people everywhere at that time. George Corson was a small man and at that time a weak one, but a truer, braver man never stood by the side of a friend in his hour of peril. He died November 13, 1860.

Of the children of George and Martha Maulsby Corson, SUSAN⁷, their first born died of consumption in her fifteenth year; MARY⁷ in infancy; DR. MARCUS HEILNER CORSON⁷ in his twenty-third of year the same disease. This son—their fifth child—was a youth of remarkable talents, but died soon after he had graduated M. D. at the University of Pennsylvania. With a wonderful memory, a passion for knowledge, and great studiousness he gave great promise of eminence in his profession, but the fond hopes of his friends were sadly blighted by his early death, which occurred May 23, 1872.

SAMUEL MAULSBY CORSON⁷, the oldest of the sons was a student in the literary department of the University of Pennsylvania, afterwards studied law in Philadelphia, and practiced there for a time; but the law was distasteful to him. Literature was his delight, and like his brother, Dr. Marcus H. Corson, he was a scholar of mark. Too much of a “book worm” to engage in ordinary pursuits he resorted to teaching, for which he was peculiarly fitted and which seemed to be a delight to him. In this he was very successful, and greatly beloved by his pupils. While thus engaged he wrote valuable articles for the newspapers, which were greatly appreciated by the public. An unassuming, kind and scholarly gentleman, he passed away August 7, 1881, in his forty-third year. There are now (1896) only three of the children living: 1, DR. ELLWOOD M.⁷; 2, HELEN⁷ (Mrs. Hovenden), and 3, IDA⁷.

I. DR. ELLWOOD MAULSBY CORSON⁷, after a proper early education, entered on the study of medicine under my preceptorship; but in one year after he commenced the study, the war of the Rebellion came on, and he and his cousin, Joseph K. Corson, entered the Military Hospital, corner of Broad and Cherry Streets, Philadelphia, as assistants to the surgeons there. He attended lectures at the University of Pennsylvania in the

day time, and the sick and wounded in the hospital in the evening and night, until he graduated in the spring of 1863. After graduation he was immediately commissioned Assistant Surgeon and attached to the Sixty-ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was with the army until after the battle of Antietam, where he was taken ill with typhoid fever and sent to Baltimore. This was but a few days preceding the battle of Gettysburg. After his recovery from a severe illness he was sent to New York, and thence on board a monitor to Charleston Harbor. There the vessel remained, daily exposed to a terrible cannonading until the rebels abandoned the city. After the war he continued in the Marine Hospital in Philadelphia as assistant surgeon to his uncle, Surgeon George Maulsby, U. S. N. This service was somewhat distasteful to him, so he soon resigned and commenced the practise of medicine in Norristown in partnership with his uncle, Dr. William Corson, with whom he was associated until the latter's death, 1886. He has since practiced alone. Dr. Ellwood M. Corson has long occupied a prominent position in his profession, possessing superior skill as a surgeon and high art as a practitioner of medicine. As a consultant he is in much demand. He married, November 20, 1866, Margaret Livingston Wilkeson, daughter of Samuel and Catherine Cady Wilkeson, and a niece of Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the talented and eminent Abolitionist. They have three children : CATHERINE CADY CORSON⁸; BAYARD WILKESON CORSON⁸, and LIVINGSTON CORSON⁸.

HELEN CORSON⁷, eldest daughter of George and Martha Maulsby Corson, was educated in art in the School of Design in Philadelphia, and afterwards in Paris, France. She has lived at the old homestead, at Plymouth Meeting, since her return from her studies abroad. She married, June 9, 1881, Thomas Hovenden, son of Robert and Ellen Bryan Hovenden, of Dunmanway, Cork County, Ireland. Helen has executed some fine work in her profession and has an enviable reputation as an artist. Her husband, Thomas Hovenden, whose



ELLWOOD M. CORSON M. D.



paintings have won him world wide fame, met a shocking death at a grade crossing in Plymouth Township, while attempting to rescue a little girl from an approaching locomotive. This occurred in August of 1895. The loss was a severe one to the world of art as well as to his wife. His paintings, "John Brown being led to Execution," "In the Hands of the Enemy," "Breaking of Home Ties," and a number of others, have touched the tender chords of sympathy in thousands of human hearts. *The Chicago Inter-Ocean* in an article published shortly after his death, paid a glowing tribute to the man and his work. Among other beautiful thoughts, it said: "With all due deference to the great artists of the world whose canvases were hung on the walls of the Art Palace in Jackson Park [World's Fair, Chicago], there was no other picture which held the people by a stronger impulse or sent them away with better and tenderer sentiments than the one by Thomas Hovenden, marked 'The Breaking of Home Ties.' In speaking of his work to others he would frequently speak of his wife's talent as being superior to his own. However that may be it is certain that she was both an inspiration and a help to him in the execution of his great work."

Thomas and Helen Corson Hovenden have had two children: THOMAS HOVENDEN, Jr.⁸, born March 11, 1882, and MARTHA MAULSBY HOVENDEN⁸, born May 8, 1884.

IDA CORSON⁷, youngest child of George and Martha Maulsby Corson is a graduate of Vassar College, and has resided in Washington, D. C., for a number of years. She lived with her uncle, Dr. George Maulsby, Surgeon United States Navy, until his death in 1886, and still considers that as her residence, though she passes a large part of her time with her sister, Mrs. Hovenden, in the old home at Plymouth Meeting.

As a fitting conclusion to the history of George Corson, I may add here the testimony of J. Miller McKim, at a meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society. He said: "I hold in my hand a contribution of \$10 to the funds of the Society, which

I do not feel at liberty to hand over to its destination without a word to the Society. It is from George Corson, of Montgomery County. He sent it as the last donation he should ever make, with a regret that he could not enjoy the pleasure of being with us. Our friend is in the last stages of consumption and entertains no expectation of recovery. He fully believes—I was going to say, fears, but that would not be the word—that his end is near at hand, and he calmly awaits the event. It will be no grief to him, but to us and the cause it will be a severe bereavement, for a truer-hearted and a more devoted friend to the slave is not to be found within the bounds of our Society."

XII

HIRAM CORSON, M. D.

I was the seventh child and fifth son of Joseph and Hannah Dickinson Corson, and was born at Hickorytown, Plymouth Township, Montgomery County, Pa., October 8, 1804. My mother died when I was but six years of age, but I received almost a mother's care from my two sisters, Mary and Sarah, who were respectively twelve and eleven years my senior. My early education was received at the Friends' School, at Plymouth Meeting, under Joseph Foulke, a minister in the Friends' Meeting at that place ; later with my brother, Alan W. Corson, who was talented in mathematics and the natural sciences ; and finally, when nearing manhood, at the Friends' Select School, in Philadelphia, under Benjamin Moore. After leaving school, I was engaged on my father's farm and in his store, at Hickorytown, until May 9, 1826, when I entered as a student of medicine in the office of Dr. Richard D. Corson, at New Hope, Bucks County, Pa. The following winter I attended the lectures given in the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, by Professors Physic, Chapman, James, Hare, Horner, Gibson, and Dewees, (who was an adjunct to James). During the second course, in addition to those which I have named, there were lectures by Samuel Jackson, on the "Institutes of Medicine." I graduated in the spring of 1828. After a few weeks rest at home I was invited by my father's family physician, Dr. Leedom (grandfather of Dr. Oscar Leedom), to join him in the practice of medicine. Dr. Leedom was well advanced in years and desired to be relieved of some of the arduous labor of his profession. After a three months' trial the partnership was abandoned, but Dr. Leedom desired me

to remain in the neighborhood, which I did, having obtained board with Jonathan Maulsby and wife. I was soon in possession of a good practice, extending over a large extent of country. Light carriages were not then much used, physicians making their journeys mostly on horseback. The Schuylkill river had no bridge at Conshohocken nor at Spring Mill, but there was a shakly ferry boat at the latter place. At Conshohocken the river had to be forded, and sometimes, when it was swollen with freshets, it was a very hazardous undertaking. So, too, the Wissahickon had to be crossed, and often with great risk of life.

In 1832, the Asiatic cholera made its appearance in this country. It was first observed in Quebec; next (on the twenty-fourth of June) in New York, and then (on the fifth of July) in Philadelphia. When it reached Philadelphia, two hospitals were improvised, one by Dr. Joseph Parrish, and one by Dr. Samuel Jackson. I felt it to be my duty to my patients to visit them and learn what I could of the disease and its treatment. It was deemed by my friends a hazardous thing to do, but I went and saw the patients and felt well repaid for my visit in the personal inspection that I had of the terrible disease. I may remark that of those which were being treated at the time of my visit, all died. In a week from that time the epidemic reached Conshohocken, and in a most violent form. For many nights in succession I was at the bedside of the sufferers, nearly all of whom found relief only in death. Scenes of suffering, such as I witnessed at that time, can never be forgotten, but remain in perfect clearness as long as memory exists.

On the twenty-sixth day of December, in the year 1833, I married Ann Jones Foulke, a daughter of Edward and Tacy (Jones) Foulke of Penllyn, Montgomery County, Pa. We were married in Philadelphia by Mayor Joseph Watrous, and soon afterwards began our married life in the house which I had built during the preceding summer and fall—situated a short distance from Plymouth Meeting. There we lived for



MAPLE HILL



fifty-five years, when death came to my wife, leaving me to make the rest of my life's journey without her comfort, sympathy, and support—upon which I had always placed the greatest reliance. I may say of her that she was a woman of the purest character, kind, gentle, and sweet in disposition; seldom has fate given to husband and children a more lovable and loving wife and mother. Her nine children, brought up under her care and wise instruction, idolized her; and to her I always turned for counsel in the many important incidents of my professional life. Whenever I prepared a paper for publication I invariably read it to her before sending it to the publishers, and none was ever sent without her approval. No home was ever blest with a wife and mother more devoted to the happiness of the family. She died on the 25th of June, 1888, and was buried in the beautiful cemetery at North Laurel Hill.

I still live in the home in which our married life was commenced and completed, and the place, to which I long ago gave the name of "Maple Hill" (on account of the large number of maple trees—most of them planted by myself—about the lawn), has been dear to me these many years. And now, as my life's pilgrimage draws to a close, I look upon it with still more tender affection and sweeter memories.

My life has been a busy one, devoted mainly to the practice and progress of my profession, yet with a good share of my energies given in the interest of public morals and of human rights and justice. My professional experience covers a period of about sixty years, from 1828 until 1888; at which last named date I retired from active practice. During that long period I contributed to the literature of the medical profession, through various medical journals, the "Transactions of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society," and the "Transactions of the Ninth International Medical Congress," about sixty-eight medical papers and two important pamphlets, the one a "History of the Long Waged Struggle for the Recognition of Women Physicians," the other on the "Procuring a

law to have Boards of Trustees of all Hospitals owned by the State authorized to appoint Women Physicians to have the exclusive medical control of the Female Insane in those Hospitals." This last named pamphlet contained about fifty pages. In conjunction with the faculty of the Woman's Medical College, I had one thousand copies of it published and distributed. In addition to the above, papers on special diseases and subjects, reviews and criticisms of papers published by others frequently were given to the medical public. That many of my views—so greatly at variance with those long held—were strongly opposed, is admitted; especially so was the innovation introduced by giving to children, ill with measles, freely of cold water, as a remedy—a thing unheard of before that time (1829). Before that they had, from time immemorial, been dosed, disgusted and made to suffer the torture of thirst and fever. Yet as time rolled on and the great value of the cooling treatment was shown in that and in other febrile affections, denunciations of it were allayed, and now, 1895, the cooling treatment which I so strongly advocated, is universally used among enlightened physicians. But faithful and continuous as were my labors as a physician, never in a single instance, in the sixty years, failing to give as prompt attention to the calls of the poorest as to those of the richest, I do not regard those labors as the great work of my life. My efforts—successful ones—to have women physicians recognized by the medical profession, and to procure a law to have the female insane, in all hospitals for the insane in Pennsylvania, to be cared for medically and otherwise, by female physicians, I regard as my great work.

The Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania was founded in Philadelphia in 1850, and, in December, 1851, graduated seven young women. The college classes increased and each succeeding year greater numbers were graduated and sent forth to practice. This movement of the women was not agreeable to the profession in Philadelphia and elsewhere, and, strange as it now seems, was greatly opposed by many

good men and women, outside of the profession, as being a business outside of woman's sphere, and demoralizing to her. No combined action was taken against them until eight classes had been graduated and established themselves in practice. But on November 10, 1858, the Board of Censors of the Philadelphia County Medical Society reported their disapproval of any member of the Society holding professional intercourse with the professors or alumni of the Woman's Medical College. The following is their report :

"In reply." they say "the censors would respectfully recommend the members of the regular profession to withhold from the faculties and graduates of female medical colleges, all countenance and support, and that they cannot, consistently with sound medical ethics, consult or hold professional medical intercourse with their professors or alumni." This was signed by the Secretary of the Board of Censors, and the Recording Secretary of the Philadelphia County Medical Society. In June, 1859, the above action was reported to the Pennsylvania State Medical Society and that Society appointed a committee of five to report on the subject. On the following day the committee reported that after a careful consideration of the resolutions adopted by the Philadelphia County Medical Society, that "the course proposed is a correct one and such as demands the sanction of the Society, and they would urge its observance by all the County Societies throughout the State." Their report was adopted. Thus far the opponents of women physicians had met with no opposition, and the report of the committee of five was sent to all the County Societies in the State, to be sanctioned by them, after which it was doubtless believed that no physician with proper regard for his success in practice, the friendship of his professional brethren, and the honor of the profession, would hold professional intercourse with female physicians. No delegate from any of the fourteen County Societies expressed dissatisfaction with this action of the State Society. But the end had not yet come.

At the meeting of the Montgomery County Medical Society held in Norristown, May 26, 1860, nine members were assembled, viz. : Drs. William Corson, B. F. Poley, Hiram Corson, (myself), Louis W. Read, Jonathan Comfort, Frank Vanartzdalen, William P. Robinson, John Schrack, and Milton Newberry. (The names are given because on the vote of the majority—the first seven—hung an important issue). I then read the resolutions passed by the Philadelphia County Medical Society, forbidding its members to have any professional intercourse with the faculties of female medical colleges, the graduates of these colleges, and female physicians generally; which resolutions had been sent to the Montgomery County Medical Society for approval. Instead of approval they passed strong resolutions against those of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, and in favor of the recognition of female physicians, with all the rights and privileges enjoyed by the male members of the profession.

The next meeting of the State Society was held in Philadelphia, in June, 1860. As a delegate from the Montgomery County Society, I presented the action of that Society in favor of women physicians, but was instantly opposed and rebuked by many leading members of the profession. Only a single voice was raised in favor of my advocacy of justice for women doctors—that of Dr. John Levergood of Lancaster County, —who tried to say a few words in support of it, but instantly the opposition moved that the subject be laid on the table, and then adjournment took place. I was soon surrounded by members of the State Society, some indignant, some contemptuous, some appealing to me not to disturb the harmony of the Society. Many of those who had been my warmest friends, now turned indignantly away from me, but I was still not turned from my course, and boldly said that the subject should come before the Society from year to year until victory was achieved.

The country was then just entering on the War of the Rebellion, and many members of the profession were engaged in it, so that the subject remained in abeyance until 1866.

When the war was over, the State Society, in 1866, met at Wilkes-Barre, and I prepared again to renew my efforts to secure for the Woman's Medical College professors and graduates, all favorable to the cause, a proper recognition by the male members of our profession. When on my way to the place of meeting, I was fearful lest I could not get any one to "second" my resolution, but, on entering the railroad cars, met a friend, a member of the Montgomery County Society, who consented to do it, but who, after having had an interview with a group of Philadelphia delegates in another part of the train, weakened and asked to be excused from doing it. Fortunately I met with another who agreed to do it, and so, at a proper time, I presented the subject and the contest was renewed. And so, year after year, it was brought up for debate, and new advocates for the rights of the women ranged themselves, alongside of my leadership in the meetings. Finally, at the Williamsport meeting, in June, 1871, the obnoxious resolution of the Philadelphia County Medical Society was rescinded. The law to authorize Boards of Trustees of Hospitals for the care of the Insane in Pennsylvania to appoint women physicians to have the exclusive medical charge of the Female Insane in all these Hospitals, and how it was procured may now be considered. We have seen that in June, 1871, the recognition of women physicians by the male medical profession was accomplished. In consequence of some newspaper articles published by me in relation to the bad management of the insane in the Montgomery County almshouse, and which attracted the attention of Governor Hartranft, I was appointed Trustee of the Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburg, and served in that capacity during seven years. I there saw the bad management of the insane. There was a Chief Physician and two assistants, the Chief having the entire charge of the farm of more than 200 acres, and the entire management of the insane of both sexes. Beside the torturing appliances, pleasantly called "restraining measures," there were cells in which they could be shut up

for slight breaches of rules, and yet not the least employment for the poor inmates. And what to me seemed a shameful abuse was the control over the female insane by young male physicians. In my frequent visits to the Hospital, I became more and more dissatisfied with that part of the management; but as the Board of Trustees had no right to interfere in the least with the despotic Chief Physician, I saw that nothing could come from appeals to him, so concluded to bring the subject before the State Medical Society.

Therefore, in June, 1877—just six years after the status of women doctors had been settled by the State Society—I introduced a resolution, asking for a committee to be appointed to report on the propriety of having a woman physician to have entire medical care of their sex in all our hospitals for the insane. Though this was violently opposed by superintendants of hospitals for the insane everywhere, I, and the friends of women physicians—and they had become numerous—pressed it forward, and got the sanction of the Society, and finally the passage of a bill—drawn by myself—into a law, giving the Trustees the power to appoint women physicians to have care of their insane sisters. This was in 1879—only two years after the introduction of the subject to the State Society. Of this wonderful reform, too much cannot be said. In many States the Trustees are directed by mandatory law to have women doctors for the women insane, in every State Hospital. And what do we now see in Norristown? A thousand female insane—sometimes more, sometimes not quite so many—under the exclusive care of Dr. Alice Bennett—no dark rooms, no torturing appliances, but many agreeable employments for the insane, and the whole government that of kindness and attention to their needs.

Up to the time when the reform was effected, no employment had been furnished to the insane to beguile the weary hours and dispel the ennui that hung as an incubus over them—and yet when it was announced by me, in a State Society meeting, that employment was furnished to the insane in Eng-

land, the superintendent of the oldest hospital in the State declared the statement untrue, and that such a thing as to employ them was impossible. In that very year, in which he made that statement, the physicians of our great South-eastern hospital, Drs. Chase and Bennett, introduced it to the great comfort of the insane, and as one of the most potent governing agencies, and so successful were they, that now it is the practice in all hospitals for the insane throughout the country.

TRIBUTES FROM THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

I was fifty-six years old when I began the opposition to the doings of the Philadelphia County Medical Society against medical women and the Woman's Medical College; sixty-seven when the embittered struggle for the recognition of female physicians was accomplished; seventy-two years old when I began my efforts to procure the law to have only women physicians to have medical care of the insane of their own sex in our State Hospitals; and seventy-five when that law was procured. The struggle was carried on with intense earnestness and conscientiousness during those many years, and yet the very men, many of the most eminent in the State, who so earnestly opposed the so-called reforms, after the battle was over not only acquiesced in the decision, but joined in doing honor to me. In 1883, twelve leading male physicians and twelve women—the faculty of the Woman's Medical College—joined hands in giving a reception to me at the Bellevue Hotel, Philadelphia, during the time of the State Medical Society's meeting, which in that year was held in Philadelphia. The reception was in every way a great success; hundreds of the profession were present. I was then in my seventy-ninth year and still in active practice.

A resumé of honors received and positions which I have held may, perhaps, without impropriety, be introduced here :

- (1) Graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in 1828.
- (2) Elected Junior Member Philadelphia County Medical Society in 1828.

(3) Founded and became a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society in 1847.

(4) Became a member of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania in 1848.

(5) Elected President of the Montgomery County Medical Society in 1849.

(6) Elected President Pennsylvania State Medical Society in 1853.

(7) Elected corresponding member of Page Literary Society of Millersville, Pa., in 1858.

(8) Became a member of American Medical Association in 1862, and at present (1895) a permanent member.

(9) Elected corresponding member Meigs and Mason Academy of Medicine of Middleport, Ohio, in 1873.

(10) Elected Associate Member of Philadelphia Obstetrical Society in 1874.

(11) Elected Associate Fellow of College of Physicians of Philadelphia in 1876. (This honor was greatly appreciated as only residents of the city can be Fellows, and there can be but thirty Associate Fellows in the United States and only twenty abroad.)

(12) Elected life member of Alumni Association of University of Pennsylvania in 1879, and a Vice-President in 1894.

(13) Elected Honorary Member of the Harrisburg Pathological Society in 1881.

(14) Elected member of Historical Society of Pennsylvania in 1884.

(15) Appointed Trustee of Insane Hospital at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, by Governor Hartranft in 1877, and reappointed by Governor Hartranft and Governor Hoyt until 1882.

(16) Appointed by Board of Public Charities "Official Visitor" to Montgomery County Jail and Almshouse and, after many years service, was, in 1884, appointed to same office in the great Southeastern Hospital for the Insane at Norristown, but on account of advanced age declined to accept the new appointment and resigned the old.

(17) Elected Honorary Member of the National Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in 1894.

The following testimonial from the Woman's Medical College of Philadelphia, I prize as highly as any of the honors which have been given me :

"The Faculty of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, believing that the present useful and honorable position of Woman Physicians is mainly due to the disinterested, persistent, and energetic efforts of Dr. Hiram Corson, of Plymouth Meeting, desire to convey to Dr. Corson, with mutual congratulations, their hearty thanks and expressions of the highest esteem.

(Signed) FRANCES EMILY WHITE,
Chairman of Committee.

The above adopted unanimously and the Dean directed to send a copy to Dr. Corson.

Respectfully,
RACHEL BODLEY,
Dean.

Philadelphia, January 28, 1881.

The following action was taken by the Philadelphia County Medical Society in relation to me. So frequently and earnestly had I for months—yea, even for years—published in Medical Journals my experience of the value of bloodletting in pneumonia, pleurisy, and, indeed, in all febrile diseases, and held before the profession the danger and fatality of the use of the poisonous arterial sedatives, and in strong terms held up the proof of the fearful mortality caused by the prevailing practice, as taught in the colleges and followed by practitioners in the city and country, that eventually the Philadelphia County Medical Society invited me to address the Society on the subject, at a meeting to be held in the hall of the College of Physicians, on the thirteenth day of April, 1892. I was confined to my bed at the time the resolution of the Society was passed, and when its invitation was received, I was still ill, but, expecting to be well enough in a few days to do it, I consented. Though almost confined to my room, I wrote the paper. The Society had also appointed the three Professors of the Practice of Medicine, of the three Philadelphia Medical Colleges, to discuss the paper after being read. When the time came, I was not feeling able to go to the city, so I asked my great-nephew, Dr. George N. Highley, to read it before the Society, which he did very well, and also discussed it. It may be of interest to know what was thought of it. The following letter was sent to me by Dr. Oscar H. Allis, after the meeting :

PHILADELPHIA, 1604 Spruce Street,
April 14, 1892.

Dear Dr. Corson :

I was early at the meeting, hoping to have a chat with you, but instead found Dr. Highley, your nephew. The paper elicited much discussion. Besides those appointed to discuss it, Drs. Horatio C. Wood, Daland, Woodbury, Cohen, LaPlace, and John B. Roberts, took part and spoke to a crowded house. Dr. Highley read it well, and spoke manfully and energetically in its behalf. I took no other part than to ask that a typewriter make a copy of it for publication, and the original be bound with a portrait of the author, and presented to the Society. Will you not kindly send us a few lines written on similar paper, with the statement that much of it was prepared while you were

confined in bed? If you do not feel able to do this, Dr. Highley could make such a statement as a brief preface to the article, giving the age of the writer.

Very sincerely,

OSCAR H. ALLIS.

This was followed in a few days, by the following :

1807 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

My Dear Dr. Corson :

Dr. Highley has doubtless told you of the cordial interest in your paper and yourself, so well shown at the Meeting of the County Society. As the President remarked from the Chair : "No other meeting has been so largely attended and no discussion so earnestly pursued for a long time." We are delighted to hear from you in this way, and all are sorry you could not be present. Dr. Highley filled the place assigned, both in reading and discussion, in a way to gratify every one.

Yours very sincerely,

4th mo., 15th, '92.

CHARLES H. THOMAS.

The same day came a letter from the Secretary of the Society, viz. :

Philadelphia Co. Medical Society,
N. E. Cor. 13th and Locust St., Philadelphia,

April 15, 1892.

Dr. Hiram Corson,

Dear Doctor : At a meeting of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, held April 13, 1893, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be tendered to Dr. Hiram Corson for his interesting and valuable paper on pneumonia ; its unsuccessful treatment by arterial sedatives and its successful treatment by bloodletting ; and that the Secretary be instructed to convey to Dr. Corson an expression of the sympathy of the Society in his illness and an assurance of its cordial regard for him always.

Resolved, That the original paper be bound and filed in the archives of the Society, together with a photograph of the author—Dr. Corson—if this be obtainable.

Very truly yours,

T. B. SCHNEIDERMAN,

Secretary.

Our children numbered nine, namely :

1. EDWARD FOULKE CORSON⁷, born October 14, 1834.
2. JOSEPH KIRBY CORSON⁷, born November 22, 1836.
3. CAROLINE CORSON⁷, born April 2, 1839.
4. TACY FOULKE CORSON⁷, born June 26, 1841.
5. CHARLES FOLLEN CORSON⁷, born November 22, 1842.
6. SUSAN FOULKE CORSON⁷, born August 9, 1845.
7. BERTHA CORSON⁷, born December 17, 1847.

8. FRANCES STOCKTON CORSON⁷, born October 25, 1849.

9. MARY CORSON⁷, born November 26, 1852.

Of these, EDWARD, CAROLINE, and CHARLES FOLLEN, are deceased.

I. EDWARD FOULKE CORSON⁷ attended Hannah Williams' Boarding School at Plymouth, for a while, and then entered Treemount Seminary, where he remained several years under the tuition of Rev. Samuel Aaron. He then commenced the study of medicine in his father's office, and attended lectures in the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, graduating M. D. in the spring of 1855, when just turned twenty-one years of age. After practicing for a brief time with his father and at Conshohocken, he was examined by the Navy Board, and passed a highly creditable examination, being second in a class of more than fifty. At that time there were two new and large naval vessels waiting for Assistant Surgeons, and the two highest were immediately appointed. Dr. Bradley, who passed No. 1, was assigned to the "Levant," which was to be sent to the Pacific coast. He went to Boston and embarked on the ship which rounded Cape Horn and was never heard of afterwards.

Dr. Edward F. Corson went on board the flagship "Hartford," bound for China and Japan, on a three years' cruise, and returned in 1861, just after the Rebellion began. After a few months spent at home, he was ordered to the Naval Asylum at Philadelphia, Pa., where he was made a full Surgeon. But the war was in progress and he could not bear to be idle while his friends were rushing forward to meet the enemy. So, though he was well entitled to have a rest on land after a three years' voyage, and had been given a most desirable place, one which he greatly appreciated, he made a request for active service, and was assigned to duty on board the "Mohican," which was sent out to capture the Rebel ship "Alabama," which was destroying our merchant vessels on the seas. For eighteen months they followed the "Alabama" up and down the coast of South America, around the

African coast, and the islands of the Atlantic Ocean, and returned without losing a single man, by sickness, out of 150 men. He was home but a few weeks when he sickened, and died of typhoid fever. He was a pure and brave young man, died June 22, 1864, and was buried at North Laurel Hill.

2. DR. JOSEPH K. CORSON⁷, our second son, was born November 22, 1836, at Maple Hill. His education at first was under private tutors at home; afterward under Rev. Frederick Anspach of the Lutheran Church at Barren Hill; and finally, for some time, at Treemount Seminary, at Norristown, under direction of Rev. Samuel Aaron. He then entered the drug store of William and John Savery of Philadelphia, and graduated in pharmacy at twenty-two years of age. He was then offered a situation in St. Paul, Minn., which he accepted. He was there but a few weeks when the proprietor failed. He returned home and engaged with his cousin, L. E. Corson, in the lime business, near Norristown. The Rebellion began soon afterwards and President Lincoln's call for 75,000 troops was made. Then the young men began to volunteer for the war. Joseph, and Charles Styer, then a student in my office, joined a company of the Fourth Regiment gotten up in Norristown, of which Walter Cooke was captain, and in a few days went to Harrisburg and the next night started for Perryville, on Chesapeake Bay, in Maryland. After a delay there of a week or two, owing to the armed hostility in Baltimore, where the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment had been fired on, they reached Washington by way of Annapolis. His army history in brief runs thus: Volunteered in Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, April 20, 1861, as Corporal; honorably discharged July 26, 1861, as Sergeant, with the expiration of the regiment's three months term of service. Became acting Medical Cadet on duty in the Army Hospital at Broad and Cherry Streets, Philadelphia, from June, 1861, to March, 1863. Then graduated M. D. at University of Pennsylvania in March of that year, and was made Assistant Surgeon of the Sixth Regi-



DR. JOSEPH K. CORSON, U. S. A.



ment, Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, from March 23, 1863, to June 11, 1864. Brevet Major "for faithful and meritorious services during the Wilderness campaign in Virginia," March 13, 1865. Acting Assistant Surgeon at Camp Discharge from November 15, 1864, to May 15, 1865. Engaged in practice of medicine with his father from May 15, 1865, to November 11, 1867.

He entered the United States Army as Assistant Surgeon with rank of First Lieutenant, October 9, 1867; on duty at Governor's Island, from November, 1867, to March 1, 1868, during which time, he went by sea from New York to Galveston, via New Orleans, with over six hundred recruits. At New Orleans the cholera appeared on board and over forty cases occurred before reaching Galveston. After his return to Governor's Island, he was at the Cavalry Depot, Carlisle Barracks from March until September 2, 1868; next at Fort Fred Steele, from October, 1868, to December 6, 1869, with rank of Captain from July 23, 1869; at Omaha Barracks, Nebraska, from December, 1869, to July, 1870; Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming Territory, from July, 1870, to September, 1870; Fort Bridger, Wyoming Territory, from September, 1870, to November, 1872; on "leave of absence," at home, from December, 1872, to April, 1873; at Mobile Barracks, Alabama, from April to September, 1873; Mount Vernon Barracks (because of yellow fever at Pensacola), September, 1873, to May, 1876; at Plattsburg Barracks, New York, from June, 1876, to May, 1878; at Fort Whipple, from June, 1878, to October, 1878; at Fort Yuma, California, from October, 1878, to May, 1882; at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri (Cavalry Depot), from November, 1882, to November, 1886; at Fort Coeur d'Alene (now Fort Sherman), Idaho, from January, 1887, to September, 1890; at Washington Barracks, District of Columbia, with rank of Major, September, 1890, until October, 1895; home on two months vacation and then (December, 1895) reported at Fort Russell, Wyoming, where he has since been. He was present at battles of Gettysburg,

Falling Water, Manassas Gap, Bristow Station, Mine River, Rappahannock Station, Wilderness, Spotsylvania, North Anna River, Bethesda Church, Virginia, and in various Indian scouts in Wyoming and other stations after the war.

He married November 2, 1874, Mary Ada Carter, daughter of Judge William Alexander Carter, of Fort Bridger, Wyoming, and they have had two children: (1) MARY CARTER CORSON^s and (2) EDWARD FOULKE CORSON^s. Their first child MARY CARTER CORSON^s, was born at Mt. Vernon Barracks, Alabama, January 4, 1876. Her parents had taken pains to have her under good teachers in their various western stations, but feeling that she should have other opportunities for education had sent her for two years to schools in Philadelphia. She was an exceptionally bright child, a tall graceful girl of most attractive manners. In June, 1890, she took passage with some friends on a Northern Pacific Railroad train, for home. On the last day of June, after a ride of over fifteen hundred miles, and when within a hundred miles, or thereabouts, from home, where her parents were joyfully looking for her, the train was dashed over an embankment and she was so injured that she died in about an hour. I cannot write of the grief of her parents, and her numerous relatives and friends, who in her various homes had come to love her dearly. When they came from Fort Sherman to reside in Washington, they purchased a beautiful lot in West Laurel Hill Cemetery, and on October 2, 1890, we buried her there. She had reached her fourteenth year and was almost, so far as size goes, a full grown woman. To the writer of this article she was a child worthy of the love of all who knew her.

EDWARD FOULKE CORSON^s, second and only living child of Dr. Joseph K. and Ada Carter Corson, was born February 29, 1883, at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. He attended Friends' School at Washington, D. C., while his father was stationed there, and now, October, 1895, has just entered the Germantown Academy, at Germantown, Philadelphia. His father, Dr. Joseph K. Corson—is at present located at Fort

Russell, Wyoming. He will have reached the age of compulsory retirement with the dawning of the new century—in the year 1900. He may, however, be retired before that time, at the discretion of the President, upon the basis of his thirty years' service.

3. CAROLINE CORSON⁷, our eldest daughter, was born April 2, 1839, and died July 25, 1865.

4. TACY FOULKE CORSON⁷, born January 26, 1841, married William L., son of James and Mary L. Cresson. Their children are :

- (1) CAROLINE C. CRESSON⁸.
- (2) JAMES CRESSON⁸.
- (3) ANN CRESSON⁸.
- (4) MARY CRESSON⁸.

5. CHARLES FOLLEN CORSON⁷, born November 22, 1842, graduated at the University of Pennsylvania and then studied law under William Henry Rawle, Esq., of Philadelphia. He was admitted to the Philadelphia Bar and practiced his profession there until his death, May 30, 1889. He served in the Pennsylvania Militia in the emergency call of 1862–3. He married, first, Mary, daughter of Lewis A. Lukens; she died December 14, 1876. In 1889 he married Margaret, daughter of William Slemmer, of Norristown. His death occurred but a few months after his second marriage.

6. SUSAN FOULKE CORSON⁷, born August 9, 1845, married November 26, 1868, Jawood Lukens, a prominent iron manufacturer of Conshohocken, and a son of Lewis A. Lukens, of the same place. They have no children.

7. BERTHA CORSON⁷, born December 17, 1847, married June 17, 1868, James Yocom, son of James Yocom, of Philadelphia, where they reside. They have seven children, viz.:

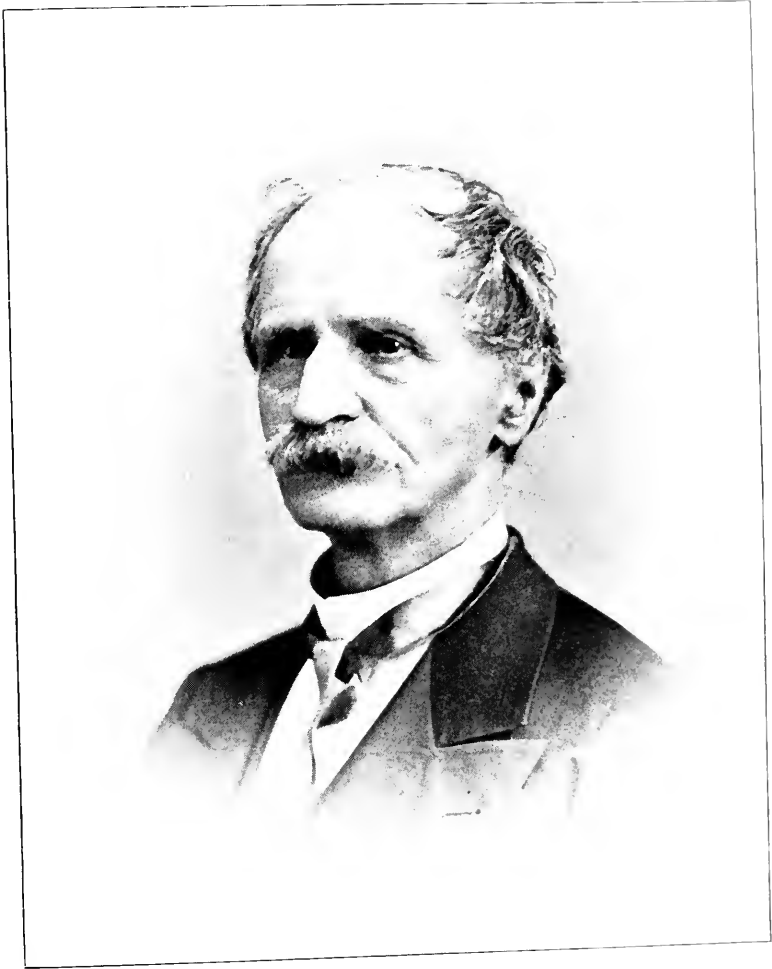
- (1) FRANCES CORSON YOCOM⁸.
- (2) THOMAS CORSON YOCOM⁸.
- (3) BERTHA E. CORSON YOCOM⁸.

- (4) GEORGIANA CORSON YOCOM^s.
- (5) HIRAM CORSON YOCOM^s.
- (6) DOROTHY CORSON YOCOM^s.
- (7) JAMES CORSON YOCOM^s.

8. FRANCES STOCKTON CORSON⁷, born October 25, 1849, married November 12, 1874, Richard Hopper Day, son of Charles and Anna (Miles) Day, of Philadelphia. They live in Germantown and have three children, viz.:

- (1) BERTHA CORSON DAY^s.
- (2) CHARLES DAY^s.
- (3) RICHARD FOULKE DAY^s.

9. MARY CORSON⁷, our youngest child, born November 26, 1852, has lived at home, unmarried; for the past ten or fifteen years she has suffered greatly with rheumatism and is now able to walk only with the greatest difficulty. She bears it all with great patience and fortitude.



WM. CORSON, M. D.



XIII.

DR. WILLIAM CORSON^o.

WILLIAM was the youngest of Joseph and Hannah Dickinson Corson's children and was born at their Hickorytown home on the 8th of August, 1806. He remained at home with his father for several years after he had completed his school days, assisting on the farm and in the store. After I had graduated in medicine, William began the study under my preceptorship and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania as a Doctor of Medicine, in 1831. During the whole course of his medical studies, prior to graduation, he continued to render active assistance to his father on the farm and in the store, yet in spite of these disadvantages he graduated with a creditable standing.

He commenced practice in a house on Main street, near Swede, Norristown, but shortly afterwards moved further east on the same street, just below DeKalb, to a house which he purchased and in which he lived for the balance of his life, a period of over fifty years. He never married, but was devoted to his chosen profession, and to the great principles that uplift humanity to a higher plane of honor and usefulness. For over fifty years he practiced among rich and poor, white and black, among people in widely different circumstances and conditions and of a great variety of religious and political beliefs, yet all received the same willing service. It was his rule and practice to respond to professional calls promptly no matter what the hour or how unpleasant the weather. He had a large practice. For many years he had practically no hours of leisure—indeed, had barely suffic-

ient hours of rest. Strong physically, and strictly temperate, he was enabled to live a long life of labor and usefulness.

When he began to practice in Norristown, there were two other physicians in the borough who did most of the practice for the town and surrounding territory. These were Drs. Isaac Huddleson, an aged man, and George W. Thomas, who had passed the prime of life. Both of them became warm friends of William, as they had always been of each other and they soon established relations with him which were of mutual benefit, the two older physicians by being relieved of some burdensome features of practice ; William by obtaining patients that would not naturally have come to him in those early days and which therefore gave him an earlier opportunity for exercising his talents and capabilities. After the death of Dr. Thomas (who survived Dr. Huddleson several years), William became at once a leader in his profession, rapidly acquiring a large practice, which he continued to hold almost to the day of his death. A short time after the close of the war he entered into partnership with his nephew, Dr. Ellwood M. Corson, and they continued to practice together until William's death in 1886.

My brothers and sisters were all active supporters of the anti-slavery movement, and in this great cause William was especially active. Many and many a fugitive slave received his assistance. A room over his office and another at the stable were frequently occupied by the runaways, and none left without means for supplying their bodily comfort. With the aid of his friends Isaac Roberts, L. E. Corson, Dan Ross, the colored man, and a few others, he gave a welcome and substantial assistance to all of the fugitives who came to Norristown or its immediate vicinity. Often old Dan Ross' house would have fifteen or twenty sleeping on the floor in a single night, and all who were sheltered were sent safely on to the next station, where other friends would assist them, and so on until they had safely reached Canada. William was always proud of the part which he took in the abolition movement,

and he had good reason for his pride. It was in every way a work of honor—now recognized as such—though at the time it was stigmatized as being infamous and unworthy of upright people.

His death occurred at 2 P. M. on November 7, 1886. It had been the wish of his life that he might pass peacefully away after his days of active life should be ended and that he might be spared suffering and distress, and thus it came to pass. I will here introduce some testimony from others, brought out by the occasion of his death, which will make the history of his life more complete, and at the same time show his character as viewed by those outside of the family. The following from an unknown correspondent appeared in one of the public newspapers; it is dated May 14, 1887, six months after his death :

A GOOD MAN WHO CAST HIS BREAD UPON THE WATERS.

A few days ago there died in this town a well-known and respected colored man, aged about 70 years. He had accumulated a little property by care and thrift. Some years before the war the man made his way here, one stormy winter night, from slavery, and was cared for by Dr. William Corson, a prominent Quaker Abolitionist who died a few months aged about 80 years. Dr. Corson asked the man his name. "Samuel," was the reply, giving the name of the family by whom he had been owned. "That won't do," said Corson. "You are free now—suppose we call you Winter—it will suit the season," and by the name of Samuel Winter he was ever afterward known, and strong was his friendship for Dr. Corson. The same Dr. Corson, nearly fifty years ago, was called to attend a small boy, a poor little urchin who had been injured in a mill. "What is your name?" asked the doctor. "John Smith," was the reply. "Oh, that won't do," said the doctor; "there are plenty of plain John Smiths already; why don't you call yourself John Corson Smith?" The boy thought he would do so, and when word of the death of the good old doctor reached Chicago, one of the saddest hearts in that great city beat in the breast of General John C. Smith, ex-State Treasurer, one of the best known men in Illinois.

The *Norristown Herald* contained, soon after the death of Dr. Corson, the following :

DEATH OF DR. WILLIAM CORSON.

Doctor Corson, one of the oldest and best known citizens of this borough, died at his residence, No. 16 East Main Street, Thursday afternoon. He had been in failing health for some weeks and his strength gradually gave way under advancing years. He was confined to his bed only two days, and his interest in affairs about him was kept

up until within twenty-four hours of his death. He was the youngest of the children of Joseph and Hannah Corson, of Plymouth Township, and was born, August 8, 1806. He belonged to a family distinguished for their hostility to slavery and their adherence to the teachings of the Society of Friends, and he grew up thoroughly imbued with their principles, although never assuming the plain garb and language peculiar to them. He lost his mother at the early age of four years and grew up under the care of his sisters. He studied medicine and graduated in the Pennsylvania University in 1831. Dr. Corson began the practice of medicine in this borough and continued it more than fifty years—being nearly all that time at the head of the profession here, his advice and skill being sought by physicians throughout the county and even beyond its borders in difficult cases.

During the war he was appointed on the board of Examiners, in connection with Professor Traill Green, M. D., of Easton, and Dr. Worthington, of West Chester. The duties were to examine those physicians who went to the field as surgeons and assistant surgeons; the work was a responsible one and was well performed. Subsequently he was called upon to fill the position of examining physician in this district, during the drafts made to obtain the quota of men for the army. At the close of the war he was appointed examining surgeon under the act granting pensions to soldiers and sailors disabled in the United States service, and held it until within a short time before his death.

A few years since he was appointed, in connection with General James A. Beaver and Dr. John Curwen, a Commissioner to superintend the building of the Warren Hospital for the Insane. The work in connection with this institution required some sacrifice of time and attention, but was carried through in the most satisfactory manner.

Dr. Corson gave instruction to many young men as students, Dr. Louis W. Read, his nephew; Dr. Washington Nugent, Dr. Thomas F. Corson, Dr. Henry T. Slemmer, Dr. George N. Highley, Dr. David R. Beaver, Eugene M. Snyder, Isaac Hughes, Charles Bradley, S. N. Wiley, Wm. Ramsay and some others. For a number of years, Dr. Ellwood M. Corson, another nephew, has been associated with him in the practice of medicine. He was also among the first to give instruction to female students—Dr. Ellen Zook of Port Kennedy, and Dr. Mary H. Stinson were his students, and became eminent women doctors. He was never married. Dr. Hiram Corson of Plymouth is his only surviving brother. He was a permanent member of the State and National Medical Societies.

When his death was announced, the Montgomery County Medical Society was convened. Dr. Wilson, the President, stated that "the object was to take action on the death of one of the Society's oldest members—Dr. William Corson." A committee of whom Dr. P. Y. Eisenberg was chairman reported the following address:

While we have assembled here, in special session, for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect, there is a vacant seat in our midst, and he who was accustomed to meet with us on such occasions as this, lies

at his residence on Main Street, still and silent in his last sleep. All that is mortal of Dr. William Corson, in obedience to nature's inexorable law will soon join "the innumerable caravan which moves to that mysterious realm where each shall take his chamber in the silent halls of death." While his remains are still with us it is but fitting that we should pause for a moment and recall to our memories the life he led and the example he has set. It is true that the individual characteristics of men often stand out in bold relief and we now remember that some one has said

"All greatness is solitary."

So in the life just closed, the character, created by four score years' contact with his fellow-men, is as sharply defined as any product of the artist's skill and genius. Dr. William Corson may not have been a great man, but he was a remarkable one. Remarkable for his force of character, for his positive convictions, for the fidelity of his friendship, for his unswerving opposition to everything that savored of wrong, or tended in any way to compromise the dignity and honor of himself and of others. He was a man of lofty conceptions, purity of purpose and sincerity of action. He hated sham and pretense, no matter what their form. He was possessed of heroic courage and thrilled by philanthropic impulses. He was ever in the foremost rank, battling for the down-trodden and oppressed. He was generous to a fault. Many times have we seen him drop silver coins into the anxious hands of some needy one in tattered garments. He bore his own burdens uncomplainingly and in silence, and when they gathered around as though they would crush him down to earth, by the weight of his own imperious will he rose majestically above them. In this he was truly great. At times, his manner with those with whom he came in contact seemed harsh and abrupt, but to those who knew him best, he often displayed the gentleness of woman. These diverse qualities having been refined in the crucible of experience were blended and unified harmoniously in his nature.

As a physician Dr. Corson was highly esteemed among his colleagues, and his judgment and diagnostic skill were sought in many a consulting room for a period of fifty-five years. He was a devoted attendant to his patients. His efforts to relieve their sufferings and to cure their diseases, were untiring and unceasing, and while we are here for the purpose of expressing our appreciation of him as a man and physician, in hundreds of households and in thousands of hearts, there is a sadness to-day that cannot be suppressed.

At these meetings we shall sorrowfully miss his presence. We, especially the younger members of the profession, have truly lost a friend and a brother; one who was ever ready with a sympathetic ear and kindly counsel to assist in time of difficulty. To the last his thoughts were not of himself but of others, and on the day before his death he rejoiced in the success of two of his friends, in their triumphant election at the polls to high and honorable stations. And but two days before he breathed his last, when his frame was too feeble to sit erect in his chair, and his hand so tremulous that he could scarcely hold the pen, he wrote a prescription for a patron and friend.

Throughout his gradually increasing infirmities—for weeks—his intellect was clear and vigorous, and occasionally flashes of old time

fire kindled in his eye. When he was fully conscious that he could not rally and the end was drawing near, he expressed a wish that he might be spared the pain and suffering that are often incident to approaching dissolution. Nature graciously granted his request, and as the mellow twilight of an autumn evening fades gently into the deep darkness of night, so the life of our esteemed friend breathed itself out softly and peacefully into that sleep we call death.

Such was his life and such his death, and he has furnished us with an example well worthy of imitation, and it is ours to see that it does not become a fleeting evanescence, but a practical reality—constantly admonishing us that

“ We can make our lives sublime,
And departing leave behind us
Foot-prints on the sands of time.”

The resolutions presented to the Society were unanimously adopted and were as follows :

“ *Whereas*, The members of the Montgomery County Medical Society have learned with profound sorrow of the death of Dr. William Corson, one of the founders of this Society, and

“ *Whereas*, They recognize in the death of their late associate, the loss of one who at all times had the welfare and prosperity of this Society at heart, and feeling desirous of expressing in fitting words, their high appreciation of his many qualities as a man, and as a physician, therefore be it

“ *Resolved*, That in the death of Dr. William Corson, this Society mourns the loss of one of its oldest, most active and talented members, and one who was justly esteemed by all his professional brethren, for many excellent qualities of head and heart.

“ *Resolved*, That while we deeply deplore his death, yet rejoice that his was a well spent life, full of years honorable alike to himself and the profession.

“ *Resolved*, That we tender to his brother, his late associate in practice, and his relatives, the assurance of our heartfelt sympathy and condolence.

“ *Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased, be published in the daily papers of Norristown, and entered upon the Minutes of this Society”—Signed by the Committee, of which P. Y. Eisenberg, M. D., was Chairman.

XIV.

MATERNAL ANCESTRY.

In this chapter will be given some information about a few of the families who have intermarried with the Corsons.

First, the DUNGANS, my grandmother Corson's family.

Second, the DICKINSONS, my mother's family.

Third, the FOULKES, my wife's family.

Fourth, the EGBERTS, my brother Alan's wife's family, which is also the family of brother Charles' wife, they being sisters.

THE DUNGANS—FATHER'S MATERNAL ANCESTORS.

The earliest one of whom we have an account is WILLIAM DUNGAN, of St. Martin in the Field, London, England, who married Lady Frances Weston, widowed daughter of Lewis Latham, Falconer to Charles I., who is said to have lived to a great age : born, 1555, and died, 1655. Frances Latham, his daughter, was a rather remarkable woman. She was married four times, had eleven children and eighty-two grandchildren. She was born in 1611, died in Newport, R. I., in 1677. Her first husband was Lord Weston. Her second husband was WILLIAM DUNGAN, by whom she had one son, REV. THOMAS DUNGAN, and three daughters. Her third husband was Jeremiah Clarke, who brought her and her children to America, to the Baptist settlement that Roger Williams had founded in Rhode Island. Frances Clarke, as her name then was, had seven children named Clarke. After the death of Jeremiah Clarke, she married for her fourth and last husband

the Rev. William Vaughan by whom she had no children. The tombstone of Frances Vaughan can still be seen in an old graveyard in Newport with quite a long inscription on it. As will be seen by the foregoing, William Dungan, of England, left one son only, THOMAS, and it is through him that the once numerous family in Bucks County is descended.

THOMAS DUNGAN became a Baptist minister and married Elizabeth Weaver, daughter of Clement and Mary (Freeborn) Weaver, by whom he had five sons and three daughters. In 1684 the Rev. Thomas Dungan and his grown sons and daughters came to Bucks County, where he built the first Baptist church of Pennsylvania. It was at a place known as Cold Spring, three miles above Bristol, and there he died and was buried in 1688.

On a gravestone in the graveyard of the Southampton Church (Baptist) there is this inscription: "Sacred to the memory of JOSEPH DUNGAN, grandson of Rev. Thomas Dungan, who came from Rhode Island in 1684, and died and was buried at Cold Spring in 1688."

SARAH DUNGAN, daughter of the said Joseph Dungan and Mary Ohl, his wife, married Benjamin Corson, of Northampton Township, Bucks County, and they had born to them eleven children, six sons and five daughters, namely :

- (1) BENJAMIN, married Hannah Whitaker, moved to Muncy, Lycoming County.
- (2) JOSEPH (my father), who came to Montgomery County.
- (3) THOMAS, married Sarah Roberts, moved to Chester Valley, Chester County.
- (4) RICHARD, married, first, Ann Marple ; second, Elizabeth Bennett ; remained till his death in Bucks County, near Addisville.
- (5) MARY, married William Harvey, moved to Philadelphia.
- (6) SARAH, married Matthias Bennett, remained in Bucks County, near to the Corson home.

- (7) RACHEL, married Paul Blaker ; lived in Bucks County.
(8) ELIZABETH, married Issachar Morris ; moved to Muncy, Pa.
(9) JOSHUA, married Hannah Lee ; moved to Makefield, Bucks County.
(10) JANE, married Wm. Bennett ; remained in Northampton, Bucks County.
(11) AMOS, married Martha Martindale ; remained in Bucks County.

Of the above, JOSEPH CORSON came to Plymouth Meeting Montgomery County, and married Hannah Dickinson. Their children were :

- ALAN W., married Mary Egbert.
MARY, married Charles Adamson, of Chester County.
SARAH, married Thomas Read.
JOSEPH, married Ann Hagy.
CHARLES, married Sarah Norman Egbert.
GEORGE, married Martha Maulsby.
HIRAM, married Ann J. Foulke.
WILLIAM, died unmarried.

Their descendants constitute the entire number of Corsons in Montgomery County, save the small family of Corsons at Shannonville, (who are descendants of Benjamin Corson, a first cousin to Joseph [my father], of Plymouth Township).

As it is sometimes very interesting to look back from effects to their causes, it may not be amiss here to enquire why these Baptists of England left home so soon after America began to be settled. "On the restoration of Charles II," says the historian, "there commenced a series of fearful persecutions. In Wales, for twenty-eight years during his reign, they had to meet in the most secret places by night, somewhere in the woods, or on the black mountains, or the 'Rough Rock.' They were obliged to change the place every week, that their enemies might not find them out. Often the friends of the infernal foe diligently sought them, but found them not. But sometimes despite all their care and prudence,

they were caught and unmercifully whipped and fined. Their cattle and household furniture were seized to pay the fines and the expenses of the executioners of the law. The safest place they ever found was in the woods under a large rock, called Darren Ddu, or the Black Rock. It is dreadful steep, and the roughest place we have ever seen."

Rev. Thomas Dungan after his arrival in Rhode Island, heard of William Penn's toleration of the sect in Pennsylvania, so he came to this State, with a colony of followers. It is believed that Penn and Dungan were friends, for the father of William, Admiral Penn, was an English Baptist. So when Dungan came to purchase land, desiring a quiet spot, where he could end his days peacefully, Penn from the love he bore the Baptists and for his sympathy with those who had come out of terrible persecution, it is believed, offered him this Cold Spring, of which he had doubtless heard the Indians speak, for it was one of their great gathering places. It was at this place, Cold Spring, at the mouth of the Pennepack, on the Delaware River, three miles above Bristol, in Bucks County, where for four years, from 1684 to 1688, this Thomas Dungan lived and preached. There he founded a Baptist Church, the first one west of New England, except one in Charleston, S. C., founded one year earlier, 1683. The site of his baptism, at Cold Spring, is one of the most beautiful for such a purpose along the Delaware River. From then until the present time, that spot has frequently been the scene of baptisms. There, in 1688, he died and was buried. In the burying ground at Southampton Baptist Church, in Bucks County, on the tomb-stone of his son, Thomas Dungan, is this inscription: "In Memory of THOMAS DUNGAN, JR., son of Revd. Thomas Dungan, who came from Rhode Island to Cold Spring, in 1684, and who died and was buried there in 1688." This second Thomas Dungan was the father of JOSEPH DUNGAN, who married MARY OHL. Their daughter, SARAH DUNGAN, married BENJAMIN CORSON, third, by whom she had eleven children, already spoken of (*vide* Chapter IV.); the second child was

JOSEPH CORSON, my father, who was born March 15, 1764. When twenty-two years of age (in 1786), he came from Bucks County to Plymouth Meeting, Montgomery County, and, in 1787, married HANNAH DICKINSON.

THE DICKINSONS—MY MATERNAL ANCESTORS.

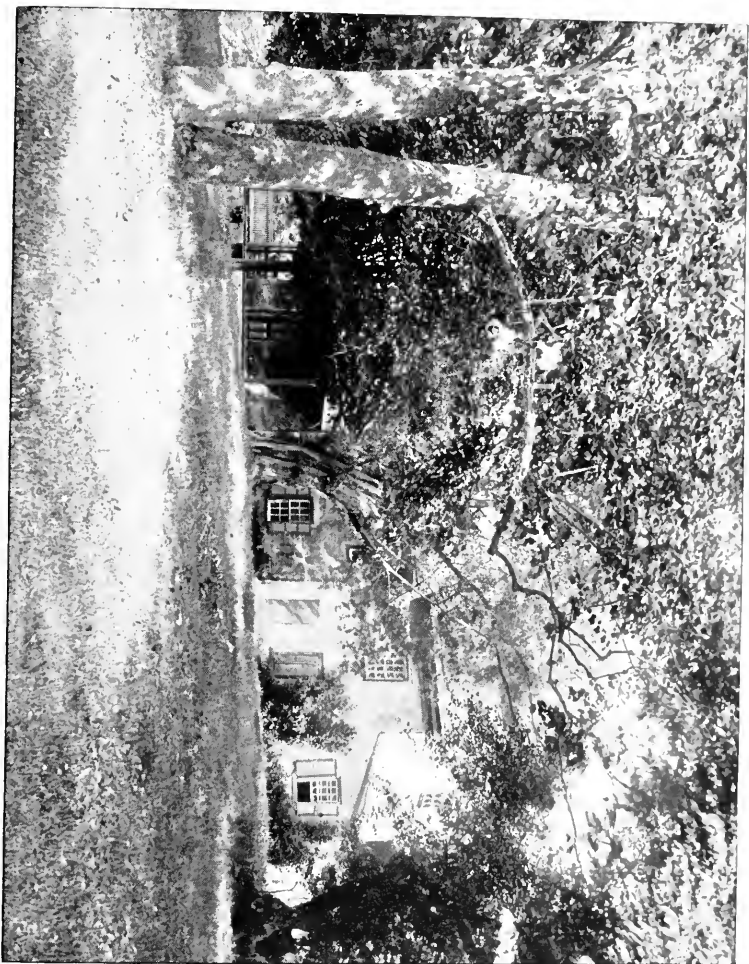
HANNAH DICKINSON, my mother, was the daughter of Joseph Dickinson and great-granddaughter of William Dickinson, whose ancestor, John Dickinson, of the Church of England, received, in 1658, a patent for 420 acres of land on the Patapsco River, in Maryland.

WILLIAM DICKINSON was a descendant of CHARLES DICKINSON, whose line of ancestry has been traced back to a very remote period ; a brief outline is here given.

The earliest of the Dickinson name, of whom we have record, was GAULTIER (WALTER) DE CAEN, a lineal descendant of Ivar, General to Halfdan Heilbein, King of Norway in the year 700. His descendant, GAULTIER DE CAEN, 2d, was with his kinsman, William the Conquerer, when the latter invaded England in 1066. He anglicized his name to De Kenson after having received a grant of land in the old Saxon Manor of Kenson, near the present city of Leeds. Subsequently he married a daughter of William Saxton, Lord of Kenson, and became known as Walter de Kenson. From him descended JOHN DE KENSON, clerk in Chancery during the reign of Edward I. From JOHN sprang HUGH DICCONSON, of Kenson Manor, near Leeds, who lived 1422 to 1475. His son was WILLIAM, and William's son was JOHN DICCONSON, a wool merchant of Leeds, also Burgess and Alderman of the same place ; he married Elizabeth Danby (or Danbie), daughter of Sir Robert Danbie, and died in 1525. John's younger son, WILLIAM DICKINSON, a country squire, moved to Bradley, Staffordshire, and married Rachael Kinge ; he died in 1590. His son, RICHARD DICKINSON, of Bradley Hall, married Eliza Bagnall ; Richard died in 1600. His son, SYMON DICKINSON, a squire of Bradley, lived during the reign of Elizabeth and

married Lady Catharine Dudley, a descendant of Edward the Third. (Direct line as follows: Edward III—his son John, of Gaunt; his daughter, Joane; her daughter, Elizabeth Ferrers; her daughter, Elizabeth Fitz Hugh; her daughter, Elizabeth Greystock; her son, Sir Gilbert Talbot; his daughter, Eleanor Talbot; her daughter, Catherine Dudley, who married Symon Dickinson.)

Symon's second son, JAMES DICKINSON, born in 1568, who held positions of honor under James I., married Bridget, daughter of John Godson, a rich merchant; he died in 1620, at St. James Palace (where he had lived from 1603), leaving six children. CHARLES DICKINSON (the second son of James) was born in 1594, at the residence of his great uncle, Richard Dickinson, in St. Dunstan Parish, London, with whom his father then lived; at the age of nine he went with his father to St. James Palace, where he also held posts of honor until 1610, when he was apprenticed to John Carter, a wealthy merchant of London, whose daughter Rachel he married in 1619. Charles was a great favorite of King James the First, who presented him, on the occasion of his marriage, with a handsome set of silver. Some of the pieces are still in the possession of Wharton Dickinson, of Little Rock, Arkansas. In 1653, CHARLES and his three sons, WALTER, HENRY and JOHN, were converted by the great Quaker Preacher, George Fox, who renewed his acquaintance with two of the sons, WALTER and JOHN, when he visited the Eastern shore of Maryland in 1672. CHARLES died in 1653, aged 59 years. His son JOHN DICKINSON, born in 1624, emigrated in 1654, with his two brothers, to Virginia; subsequently he and his brother WALTER went to North Point, Maryland, and took up 300 acres of land, along the Patapsco River. In 1660 he again moved, going to Talbot County, Maryland, where he purchased 300 acres from Nicholas Holmes, whose daughter, SARAH HOLMES, he married in 1664. Their third son, WILLIAM DICKINSON, born in 1669, married in 1690, to Sarah, daughter of William Harrison (and granddaughter of James



THE DICKINSON HOME—PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA.

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Harrison, who died in Bucks County in 1687), moved to Darby, Pa., in the same year (1690). In 1703 he came to Radnor, as the records of the meeting show, and then bought a large tract of land in Plymouth Township, Montgomery County, Pa., adjoining the Meeting House, where he lived until his death. JOSHUA DICKINSON, his fifth child, born in Darby (?), August 18, 1699, married ELIZABETH MORRIS, only child of Richard and Hannah (Cadwallader) Morris, and moved to Whitpain Township, Montgomery County, on a farm of 200 acres, which his wife had inherited from her father. It was on the "Morris Road," near the present borough of Ambler; JOSHUA died April 20, 1752. His second child, JOSEPH DICKINSON, born in 1729, married May 7, 1754, Hannah Wright, and they had four children, ISRAEL, MARY, ADA, and HANNAH (my mother, who married JOSEPH CORSON).

HANNAH WRIGHT, the wife of Joseph Dickinson (and my grandmother) was the daughter of John Wright, who came from Ireland about 1700, and settled in Hatfield Township, Montgomery County, and engaged in farming. He married MARY MORGAN, who was a daughter of JOHN MORGAN; the latter's wife was a daughter of JOHN JERMAN, the Quaker preacher, who came from Llanidles, Montgomeryshire, Wales, about 1684, with his wife, MARGARET, and two daughters SARAH and ELIZABETH, and settled in Radnor Township, Delaware County. Pa.

THE FOULKES.

My wife, ANN J. FOULKE CORSON, was a direct descendant of EDWARD FOULKE, who came to Gwynedd from the Parish of Llandderfel, Wales, in 1693, and whose ancestry has been traced back, by means of the Welsh records and other sources of information, through sixteen generations to Colwyn ap Morreiddig, King of Gwynedd. (My wife was the twenty-first generation.) Before his arrival, he purchased a plantation in Gwynedd of about 713 acres, which he called Penllyn. His wife, who came with him from Wales, was ELEANOR, daughter

of HUGH AP CADWALLADER AP RHYS, of the parish of Spyter, in Denbighshire. They had nine children of whom THOMAS FOULKE was the eldest. THOMAS, born in Wales, married in 1706, GWEN, daughter of David Evans, of Radnor, Delaware County, Pa., and they had eight children, of whom WILLIAM FOULKE was the second born.

WILLIAM FOULKE, born in 1708, married HANNAH JONES, August 15, 1734. They had thirteen children, of whom AMOS FOULKE, born in 1740, was the fifth child. AMOS married in 1778, HANNAH, daughter of OWEN JONES, SR., of Wynnewood, Pa. They had three children, of whom EDWARD FOULKE, born November 17, 1784, was the second child. EDWARD married December 11, 1810, TACY JONES. He died July 17, 1851. They had twelve children as follows:

(1) ANN JONES FOULKE, born September 15, 1811, married HIRAM CORSON, M. D., December 26, 1833.

(2) JESSE FOULKE, born June 23, 1813; died unmarried October, 1891.

(3) CHARLES FOULKE, born 1815, died 1871; married Harriet M. Corson, great-granddaughter of Benjamin Corson (second).

(4) SUSANNA FOULKE, born 1818, died 1886.

(5) OWEN FOULKE, died in infancy.

(6) PRISCILLA FOULKE, born 1821; married Thomas Wistar; died in 1882.

(7) JONATHAN FOULKE, died in infancy.

(8) LYDIA FOULKE, born February 18, 1827; married Charles W. Bacon.

(9) REBECCA FOULKE, born May 18, 1829; married Robert R. Corson, great-grandson of Benjamin Corson (second).

(10) HANNAH FOULKE, born September 18, 1831; married Francis Bacon.

(11) EMILY FOULKE, born December 2, 1834; married Charles L. Bacon.

(12) OWEN FOULKE, died in infancy.



ANN J. CORSON



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The children of ANN JONES FOULKE and HIRAM CORSON, M. D., are :

EDWARD FOULKE CORSON, U. S. N., born October 14, 1834 ; died June 22, 1864, unmarried.

(2) JOSEPH KIRBY CORSON, U. S. A., born 1836 ; married in 1874, Ada, daughter of Judge Carter.

(3) CAROLINE CORSON, born 1839 ; died 1865.

(4) TACY FOULKE CORSON, born 1841 ; married William L., son of James Cresson.

(5) CHARLES FOLLEN CORSON, born 1842 ; married first, Mary, daughter of Lewis A. Lukens ; second, Margaret Slemmer ; died in 1889.

(6) SUSAN FOULKE CORSON, born 1845 ; married in 1868, Jawood, son of Lewis A. Lukens.

(7) BERTHA CORSON, born 1847 ; married in 1868, James, son of James Yocom.

(8) FRANCES STOCKTON CORSON, born 1849 ; married in 1874, Richard H., son of Charles Day.

(9) MARY CORSON, born 1852 ; unmarried.

THE EGBERTS.

Two of my brothers, ALAN and CHARLES, married daughters of LAURENCE EGBERT, son of LAURENCE EGBERT, and grandson of JAMES EGBERT, who was born January 10, 1695. JAMES EGBERT's wife was Catherine —, born December 6, 1695, and their sixth son, LAURENCE, was born January 20, 1724, and lived in Whitmarsh Township, Montgomery County, during the time of the Revolution. While the army was in his neighborhood it took his son (impressing him into the service), his horses, wagons, and other valuable property, causing him much distress. He married SARAH BLACKLEDGE, who survived him, dying in the year 1800, at an advanced age. Their children numbered seven of whom the youngest, LAURENCE EGBERT, JR., was born in 1757, and died April 19, 1821. His wife was SARAH NORMAN, daughter of David Norman, and granddaughter of ROBERT NORMAN. The

NORMAN'S have always been proud of their name and have boasted of their noble lineage. DAVID NORMAN married MARY STEVENSON (often called Stinson), daughter of JOHN and GRACE STEVENSON, and they had eight children of whom SARAH, the fifth child, who became the wife of LAURENCE EGBERT, JR., was born April 13, 1765, and died July 13, 1836; her father, DAVID NORMAN, died April 27, 1795.

LAURENCE EGBERT, the younger, and his wife, SARAH NORMAN, had six children of whom MARY, the eldest, married ALAN W. CORSON, and SARAH, the youngest, (she and her sister Susan were twins) married CHARLES CORSON, both of them my brothers. Their descendants are given in Chapters VI. and X.

XV.

THE WAR RECORD.

The first ancestor of the Corson family of Pennsylvania, of whom we have any knowledge, was CORNELIUS CORSEN¹, of Staten Island, N. Y., who received a commission as Captain, in 1689, for service in the French and Indian Wars. He died in 1693.—*J. J. Clute's History of Staten Island, N. Y., Archives.*

In the Provincial service in Pennsylvania we find CAPTAIN HENRY CORSON², Associated Regulars of Bucks County Provincial Service, 1747-48.—*Pennsylvania Historical Magazine, Vol. 3, p. 437*

REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

In the Revolutionary War in the "Roll of the Fourth Associated Company of Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa., taken pursuant to the direction of the Committee of Safety, August 19, 1775, Captain Lott commanding," are :

CHRISTIAN CORSEN⁴.

CORNELIUS CORSEN⁴.

DANIEL CORSEN⁴.

CORNELIUS CORSEN, JR.⁵

HENRY CORSEN⁴.

—*Pennsylvania Associators and Militia, Vol. 2, p. 148.*

In the Sixth Associated Company, of Southampton Township, Bucks County, formed August 19, 1775, commanded by Captain John Folwell, was—

BENJAMIN CORSON⁴.

—*Pennsylvania Associators and Militia, Vol. 2, p. 150.*

WAR OF 1812.

RICHARD DAVIS CORSON⁵, M. D., grandson of Benjamin³ and Maria (Sedam) Corson, was a Surgeon at Fort Marcus Hook in the War of 1812.

IN THE CIVIL WAR.

LOUIS W. READ, M. D., grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, was commissioned June 1, 1861, Major and Surgeon of the Thirtieth Pennsylvania Infantry, First Reserves, the first three years' regiment. On July 17, 1863, he resigned this position to accept the appointment of Surgeon of United States Volunteers, and was assigned to duty as Medical Director of the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, Third Division, Fifth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac. In November, 1864, he was sent from duty in the field and placed in charge of the McKimn United States Hospital at Baltimore, and continued in that position until the end of the war. He was brevetted Lieutenant-Colonel United States Volunteers January 12, 1866, "for faithful and meritorious services during the war." Appointed by Governor Hartranft Surgeon General of Pennsylvania, with rank of Brigadier General, May 15, 1874, and reappointed by Governors Beaver, Pattison and Hastings to the same position. The last appointment was on July 3, 1895. On May 25, 1895, Dr. Read was elected President of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States of America.

JOSEPH CORSON READ⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, was Sergeant in Company B, Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers (three months' regiment), April 20 to July 27, 1861; Second Lieutenant Fifty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers (three years), September 2, 1861; promoted to Captain and Commissary of Subsistence July 22, 1862; Colonel and Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Army of the Cumberland, June 9, 1865; brevetted Major and Lieutenant-Colonel, March 13, 1865, "for meritorious services during the war;" honorably mustered out, March 13, 1866; he was personally

engaged in the following battles, viz. : Roanoke Island, N. C. ; New-Berne, N. C. ; Second Bull Run, Va. ; Chantilly, South Mountain, and Antietam. From March, 1864, to March, 1866, he served in the field upon the Staff of Major General George H. Thomas. In the discharge of his duties as brigade, division, corps, and depot commissary, and chief commissary of the Army of the Cumberland, Colonel Read disbursed vast sums of money, and issued an immense quantity of subsistence stores, without the loss of one cent to the Government.

WILLIAM CORSON SCHULTZ⁸, great-grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, enlisted as private in Colonel Baker's Seventy-first Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was wounded in the battle of Gettysburg, July, 1863, and died in October of same year.

HENRY CORSON SCHULTZ⁸, great-grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah Corson, enlisted as a private, Fifty-first Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was killed in the battle of Antietam, September, 1862.

JOSEPH CORSON JONES⁸, great-grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, enlisted August, 1862, in Fourth Pennsylvania Militia (Colonel Knoderer), Company C ; afterward enlisted in Seventeenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company L (Colonel Kellog ; Captain John Reese). He was Corporal and Sergeant and took part in fifty-seven battles and skirmishes, the most important of which were : Chancellorsville, (April 30 to May 2, 1863), Beverly Ford, Gettysburg, Falling Water, Brandy Station (August 1, 1863), Stevensburg, Brandy Station (October 11, 1863), Thoroughfare Gap, Rappahannock Station, Bealton Station, Mine Run (November 29 to December 1, 1863), Kilpatrick's Raid to Richmond (February 27 to March 15, 1864), the battle of the Wilderness (May 7 to May 30, 1864), Cold Harbor, Trevillian Station (June 11 and 12, 1864), thirteen engagements along the Shenandoah Valley (June 23 to December 22, 1864), Sheridan's Raid to the James River Canal and White House (February 29 to March 18, 1865), Dinwiddie Court House (March 30 and 31, 1865),

Five Forks, Scott's Cross Roads, Drumon's Mill, Saylor's Creek, Appomattox Station, and Appomattox Court House (April 9, 1865). He returned home June, 1865.

EDWARD FOULKE CORSON⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, was appointed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. N., April, 1859; sailed in May of the same year to the China Station on the U. S. Sloop of War, "Hartford," the flag-ship of the squadron. Returned in December, 1861; was promoted to Surgeon in U. S. Navy in 1862, and sailed in the latter part of that year on the U. S. S. "Mohican," in search of the "Alabama"; returned in the spring of 1864, and died June 22, 1864.

CHARLES FOLLEN CORSON⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, served in Company C, Eleventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia, in the emergency call of 1862.

JOSEPH KIRBY CORSON⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, was Corporal and Sergeant in the Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers (Colonel Hartranft), from April 20 to July 26, 1861; acting Medical Cadet at Military Hospital, Broad and Cherry Streets, Philadelphia, from February, 1862, to March, 1864; Assistant Surgeon, Thirty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry (Sixth Reserves), from March 18, 1863, to June 26, 1864; present with his regiment at battles of Gettysburg, Pa., Manassas Gap, Bristoe Station, Rappahannock Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna River, and Bethesda Church, Va.; Acting Assistant Surgeon U. S. A. at Camp Discharge, Pennsylvania, from November 15, 1864, to May 15, 1865; Assistant Surgeon U. S. A., October 9, 1867; Major and Surgeon, November 15, 1888; received the brevet rank of Major Volunteers, March 13, 1865, for "faithful and meritorious services in the Wilderness campaign in Virginia."

GEORGE NORMAN CORSON⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, enlisted in Company B, Fourth Penn-

sylvania Regiment (Colonel Hartranft), mustered in at Harrisburg, April 21, 1861; carried mails from Washington to camp and back; Perryville, Annapolis, Washington, Alexandria, Bull's Run; mustered out July 27, 1861.

JOHN JACOBS CORSON⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, entered the Army August 13, 1862, as a clerk, first of the Quartermaster's Department of Bayard's Brigade of Cavalry, Army of the Potomac, until April, 1863, and, afterwards, Clerk in the Quartermaster's Department of the Second Division Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac, until June 30, 1865.

RICHARD REED CORSON⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, enlisted as a private August 3, 1861, in Company B, First Pennsylvania Cavalry; was commissioned First Lieutenant September 19, 1861, and made Quartermaster First Pennsylvania Cavalry; was promoted to the rank of Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, May 12, 1862, and assigned to duty with General George D. Bayard, with whom he served until General Bayard was killed, December 13, 1862, and then served with General D. McM. Gregg as Division Quartermaster until December 15, 1864, when he was ordered to report to General Winfield S. Hancock, at Washington, as Corps Quartermaster, in the Veteran Reserve Corps; was promoted on June 19, 1865, to the rank and pay of Major and Assistant Quartermaster in the service of the United States; mustered out October 7, 1865; certificate of discharge of indebtedness to the Treasury Department was issued to him January 7, 1868.

ELLWOOD MAULSBY CORSON⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, was commissioned Assistant Surgeon in the spring of 1863 and attached to the Sixty-ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was with the army until after the battle of Antietam, when he was attacked with typhoid fever and sent to Baltimore. After his recovery he was assigned to duty on board a monitor which sailed from New

York to Charleston Harbor. He was on board the vessel during her stay at the latter place, during which time (several days) she was subjected to a terrible cannonading by the Rebel batteries. He also had a good deal of experience in hospital service during and just after the close of the war.

EDWARD CORSON⁸, of Portsmouth, Ohio, great-grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah D. Corson, was a private in Company E, One Hundred and Fortieth Ohio Regiment. His father, Dr. JOSEPH CORSON⁷, while not a commissioned officer was sent out from Portsmouth to look after the wounded after the battles of Bull Run and Vienna, and was Post Surgeon during the time a regiment was being raised for the war.

CHARLES J. ADAMSON⁷, grandson of Joseph⁵ and Hannah D. Corson, enlisted in September, 1862, in Company E, Nineteenth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia; re-enlisted in July, 1863, in Company I, Thirty-fourth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and again in July, 1864, in Company I, One Hundred and Ninety-second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers; discharged November, 1864. He served his full term in each regiment, but was in service only about six months in all.

CLARENCE W. WILLS⁶, great-grandson of Benjamin³ and Maria (Sedam) Corson, enlisted in the Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers (three months' service), April 20, 1861; discharged July 20, 1861. Re-enlisted in the Anderson Troop, November 30, 1861; discharged March 26, 1863; died October 10, 1874, at Pittsburg Landing, Tenn., aged 36 years.

WILLIAM WILLS, JR.⁶, great-grandson of Benjamin³ and Maria (Sedam) Corson, enlisted April 20, 1861, in the Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers (three months' service); discharged July 20, 1861; re-enlisted August 22, 1862, in the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry (116th Regiment); discharged January 26, 1864; died January 5, 1888, in Plymouth Township, Montgomery County, Pa., aged 49 years.

LEWIS E. WILLS⁶, great-grandson of Benjamin³ and Maria (Sedam) Corson, enlisted July 1, 1863, in the Ind. Bat. Artillery (State Militia): discharged August 24, 1863; re-enlisted in Battery G, Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (112th Pennsylvania Volunteers), February 13, 1864; discharged July 29, 1866.

ANDREW W. WILLS⁶, great-grandson of Benjamin³ and Maria (Sedam) Corson, enlisted August 22, 1862, in the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. Appointed Assistant Quartermaster and Captain, December 5, 1863, and assigned to staff duty under Major-General George H. Thomas, in the Southwest. He was brevetted Major and Lieutenant-Colonel for meritorious services and bravery in the battles of Antietam and Nashville; received and holds a certificate of non-indebtedness from every department of the government, although some \$70,000,000 passed through his hands while on duty as Depot Quartermaster at Nashville and elsewhere. His force consisted of fifty-two clerks and from 5000 to 6000 employees. He was the youngest Assistant Quartermaster in the United States Army; resigned January 1, 1868, and has since made his home in Nashville, Tenn.

ALBERT AUGUSTUS HESTON⁷, great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, enlisted in Company F, Eastern Shore of Maryland Volunteers; re-enlisted in Company A, Second Maryland Volunteers; served three years and seven months; was in the battles of Falling Waters, Md., July 14, 1863; Piedmont, Va., June 5, 1864; Lynchburg, Va., June 17 and 18, 1864; Snicker's Ford, Va., July 18, 1864; Winchester, Va., July 24, 1864; Martinsburg, Va., July 25, 1864; Cedar Creek, August 25, 1864; Berryville, Va., September 3, 1864; Liberty, Va., June 19, 1864; Salem, Va., June 24, 1864; Hall Town, Va., August 16, 1864.

WILLIAM ELLWOOD ELY, M. D.⁷, great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, was commissioned in 1864 Surgeon in the U. S. A., and assigned to duty at the Fraley Hospital, Washington, D. C., and from there placed in charge

of the Sixth Veteran Reserves, at Sherburn Barracks. He was subsequently transferred to Philadelphia, and assigned to duty in McClellan's United States Army General Hospital, and afterwards appointed examining Surgeon for General Hancock's Corps, Army of the Potomac. He died in 1892, in his 51st year.

EUGENE R. BUCKMAN⁷, great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, enlisted in 1865, while at Millersville Normal School, in Company C, of the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry; was wounded at Amelia Springs and sent to Annapolis, Md., where he died April 25, 1865. He was buried in Newtown Cemetery, Bucks County, Pa.

JOSEPH MORRIS⁷, of Atlantis, Cass County, Iowa, great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, was killed in the battle of Stone River, during the Civil War.

CORSON MORRIS⁷, of Cook County, Ill., great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, enlisted in Company F, Eighth Illinois Cavalry; died in Andersonville prison.

FREEMAN MORRIS⁷, brother of Corson Morris, and great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, enlisted in the First Colorado Cavalry and served three years. He died in Colorado, 1893.

ROBERT CORSON COX⁷, great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, was commissioned Brigadier Inspector, with rank of Major, July 18, 1854, to continue to June, 1859; commissioned as Brigadier Inspector, June 6, 1859, to continue to June, 1864; commissioned Major of the One Hundred and Seventy-first Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, November 18, 1862; commissioned Colonel of the Two Hundred and Seventh Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, September 28, 1864; commissioned Brevet Brigadier-General, April 9, 1865; commissioned Major-General of National Guards of Pennsylvania, June 6, 1871.

HENRY CORSON COX⁸, son of the above and great-great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, enlisted

in the Two Hundred and Seventh Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, September 28, 1864, and acted as Orderly to his father, who was the Colonel of the Regiment. He was scarcely sixteen years of age when he went out, but, his father writes, "he was large and stout for his age and being an only son was very anxious to go with me."

WILLIAM WARREN CORSON⁷, great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, enlisted in the Thirteenth Regiment, F. V. Cavalry, August 22, 1862; was promoted to Second Lieutenant in the same regiment October, 1864, which position he held until he was mustered out July 31, 1865.

B. FRANKLIN VAN COURT⁷, great-great-grandson of Benjamin³ and Maria (Sedam) Corson was chief clerk in the Commissary Department of the Ninth Army Corps for one year. In January, 1864, he was taken ill with typhoid fever and was brought home and died in February of the same year.

THOMAS FRANCIS CORSON⁷, M. D., great-great-grandson of Benjamin³ and Maria (Sedam) Corson, entered the Army August 1, 1862, as Assistant Surgeon Sixty-seventh Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, Infantry; remained in service until after the surrender of Lee; resigned May 7, 1865; participated in the battles of Winchester, Va., June 14 and 15, 1863; Locust Grove about November 23, 1863; Battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 6 and 7, 1864; Bloody Angle, Spottsylvania Court House, Va., about May 15, 1864; Cold Harbor, Va., May 31 and June 1, 1864; Monocacy, Md., July 6, 1864; Opequand, Va., September 19, 1864; Fisher's Hill, Va., a few days after; Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864; front Petersburg, Va., April 2, 1865; Saylor's Creek, April 6, 1865.

ROBERT RODGERS CORSON⁶, great-grandson of Benjamin³ and Maria (Sedam) Corson, was commissioned Military State Agent, June 5, 1862, by Governor Buckingham, of Connecticut; June 28, 1862, by Governor Morton, of Indiana; July 7, 1862, by Governor Andrew, of Massachusetts; July 8,

1862, by Governor Washburne, of Maine ; February 26, 1864, by Governor Corry, of Maine ; July 16, 1862, by Governor Solomon, of Wisconsin ; July 22, 1862, by Governor Holbrook, of Vermont ; July 31, 1862, by Governor Olden, of New Jersey ; October 1, 1862, by Governor Berry, of New Hampshire ; November 22, 1864, by Governor Gilmore, of New Hampshire, with rank of Colonel ; November 5, 1862, by Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island ; November 1, 1864, by Governor Smith, of Rhode Island, with rank of Lieutenant-Colonel ; December 23, 1863, by Governor Cannon, of Delaware ; July 10, 1864, by Governor Bradford, of Maryland ; December 9, 1864, appointed Assistant Quartermaster-General of Massachusetts, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, "in recognition of the faithful, energetic and discreet services rendered the State" ; July 20, 1865, "Commonwealth of Massachusetts, General Order No. 13: Lieutenant-Colonel Corson has the thanks of the Commander-in-Chief for the able, efficient and conscientious manner in which he has discharged the duties appertaining to his office, and for the kindness which he has shown in watching over the sick and wounded soldiers from this State" ; May 22, 1865, received the thanks of the State of New Hampshire through Governor Gilmore, with the expression of "the profound and hearty gratitude with which the people of our State regard your efforts in behalf of our noble soldiers" ; May 26, 1865, received the thanks of the State of Vermont through Governor Smith, who writes: "Your kindness and attention to our brave volunteers has been and ever will be appreciated by them as well as by the State" ; January, 1866, received the thanks of the State by resolution of the General Assembly of Rhode Island "for his untiring energy and self-sacrificing devotion to the interests of our soldiers" ; 1861-1865, Recording Secretary and active member of the Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon, which in connection with a similar organization provided gratuitously for over six hundred thousand soldiers passing through the City of Philadelphia ; 1863, Agent in Philadelphia for the

Boston Committee for recruiting the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Regiments, and sent over four hundred recruits to Boston, who were mustered into those regiments; 1863-1864, general agent of the Supervisory Committee for Recruiting Colored Regiments, with entire charge of the recruiting. Fourteen thousand men were placed in the field without cost to the United States Government; was also an early member of the Union League of Philadelphia and an active member of the Campaign Committee of that organization during Mr. Lincoln's campaigns; 1866-1872, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Freedmen's Relief Association, which supported over one hundred teachers in the South and established schools in Virginia, Maryland, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee; 1881-1885, one of the first secretaries appointed in the Committee of One Hundred and continued an active member in the organization until its dissolution in 1885; first Treasurer and one of the original directors of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; Director and treasurer, since its organization, of the Citizens' Municipal Association; a member of the following boards: Pennsylvania Institute for the Deaf and Dumb; Inspectors of the Philadelphia County Prison; Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity; The Sheltering Arms of the Protestant Episcopal Church; The Philadelphia Fountain Society; The Young American Humane Society; Corporators of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania; Corporators of the Hayes Mechanics' Home; Trustees of The Morris Refuge Association.

JOHN BLAKER⁷, great-grandson of Benjamin⁴ and Sarah (Dungan) Corson, enlisted in Company C of Colonel H. G. Sickles' Regiment. In 1863 he was promoted to First Lieutenant of the Third Regiment, United States Colored Troops.

In Memoriam
Hiram Corson, M. D.

DEATH OF DR. HIRAM CORSON.

TRIBUTES TO HIS MEMORY.

At the ripe age of ninety-one years, four months, and twenty-five days, Dr. Hiram Corson died at Maple Hill, the home in which he had lived nearly the whole of his adult life. Death came to him peacefully and quietly in the early morning of March 4, 1896. For many years he had suffered from periodical attacks of a peculiar palpitation of the heart (Paroxysmal Tachycardia), and it was thought by his medical friends as well as by himself, that this would be the cause of his death; indeed from the time of the first appearance of the affection it seemed likely that it would early compromise his life. But though it continued with him almost up to the day of his death, it apparently had little or no influence in shortening his days and was not a factor in the cause of his death, which was due entirely to general debility resulting from the enfeeblement of advanced age.

The story of his life, written by himself, appears in its proper place in this work, but it seems fitting that some supplementary facts in connection therewith should be added here along with the announcement of his death. Without doubt he may be regarded as the most illustrious and talented member of the Corson family of whom we have knowledge at the present time. To him, perhaps, more than to any other is due the honored position which the name holds among the people of Eastern Pennsylvania and adjoining States, and, in the county and community in which he lived, he was, for over half a century, a recognized leader of thought and an exemplar of the highest type of excellence.

When his death became known, though all felt that his life had been extended to its natural limit, there was a feeling

of sadness in the hearts of the people, followed by a sincere, spontaneous outburst of eulogies on his well-spent life. The leading newspapers of Philadelphia, as well as those in his own and adjoining counties, published extended notices of his death, with sketches of his life, and many of them had beautiful editorial comments on his life and character. The Montgomery County Medical Society met in special session on Friday, March 6, 1896, to take action upon the death of Dr. Corson. The following members were present : Dr. J. C. Spear, U. S. N., who presided ; Drs. J. K. Weaver, C. H. Mann, George M. Stiles, John D. Weaver, S. N. Wiley, H. H. Whitcomb, Alice Bennett, Samuel Wolf, J. J. Kane, P. Y. Eisenberg, E. E. Richards, D. R. Beaver, J. O. Knipe, J. R. Umstead, H. A. Arnold, L. W. Read, E. M. Corson, P. H. Corson, George N. Highley. A committee on resolutions, consisting of Drs. P. Y. Eisenberg, Alice Bennett and S. N. Wiley, were appointed and they reported the following, which were unanimously adopted :

Whereas, The Montgomery County Medical Society has learned, with profound sorrow, of the death of its most honored member who, during a long and useful life, has ever been distinguished for the purity and benevolence of his character, his ability as a writer, his recognized skill as a physician, and his intense devotion to the cause of reform, therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Montgomery County Medical Society realize the great loss they have sustained in the death of Dr. Hiram Corson, who was one of its founders, and for a half century was most active in its service and most interested in its welfare.

Resolved, That it is the sense of his surviving colleagues that the cause of reform has lost a most zealous advocate ; society an upright citizen, and the profession a most useful member.

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Medical Society respectfully tender to his family their sympathy in its affliction, and that the members attend the funeral in a body.

In submitting the above resolutions, Dr. P. Y. Eisenberg made the following touching address :

Mr. President and fellow members of the Montgomery County Medical Society :

We have assembled here this afternoon to pay our last tribute of respect to the honored memory of our late fellow member—the founder of this Society—Dr. Hiram Corson. While we are in our accustomed places, all that is mortal of our good, venerable friend lies at his home,

at Plymouth Meeting, cold and silent in his last sleep. He has been summoned to join

“The innumerable caravan which moves
To that mysterious realm where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death.”

Have we assembled here as mourners? Or do we grieve because our aged friend has passed beyond the river? No; not for him have we come with heads and hearts bowed down. We need not weep for one whom the Great Husbandman has gathered to his garner as a shock of corn fully ripe and ready for the harvest.

But we mourn our loss—the absence of that genial, companionable associate.

We grieve because we shall miss his kindly counsel—because we shall no more see his friendly face.

It is fitting and appropriate, therefore, for us, his surviving friends and colleagues, to pause on the threshold of his interment and recall the life he has lived and profit by the example he has set.

Sorrow may overshadow the heart at the thought of this final parting from our true and tried friend, yet its touch is softened with feelings of pleasure, when we call up before us the sterling qualities of the man.

As the Alpine glaciers score their history upon the abiding rocks over which they pass, so do great men engrave enduring marks upon the records of the age in which they live.

Dr. Corson may not have been a great man in the sense of a world-wide reputation, yet he towered above his fellows in many points.

He was true as steel to his convictions and maintained them in face of almost overwhelming opposition with unflinching tenacity and vigor. His resources in zeal and energy were truly marvelous and his persistence in any cause he espoused was well-nigh boundless.

He was original in his methods in dealing with either questions of reform, or treatment of disease.

His sympathies for the down-trodden found expression in practical effort, and his home on Maple Hill in consequence was designated as a station on the Underground Railroad during ante-bellum days.

He maintained his personal views of the causation and treatment of disease, and practiced his own methods in the face of the fiercest and most adverse criticism, with courage almost heroic.

He championed the cause of woman—her emancipation from the limitations of her sex, her elevation to that plane where she might stand equal to man, her release from the environments of custom and prejudice, until she is now a recognized factor, equal with her brother in the county, state and national medical associations.

His fame has long since leaped the narrow boundaries of home and country, until the scholarly Zievisen pauses to note a few sentences of praise for his treatment of inflammation and fever by the use of cold applications. But why should we multiply words?

His deeds, well known to all of us, are far more eloquent than they. His kindly nature has fashioned in our hearts a memorial of love, more precious to us at least than a shaft of marble or granite. Be it ever ours to imitate his virtues.

The pall bearers selected were his nephews, Drs. Louis W. Read, Ellwood M. Corson, Percy H. Corson and George N. Highley, and Drs. Samuel Wolf, J. K. Weaver, J. O. Knipe and H. H. Whitcomb. The names of Drs. L. W. Read, E. M. Corson and J. K. Weaver were added to those of the Committee of Resolutions to constitute a Memorial Committee which was instructed to arrange for a memorial meeting to be held in Norristown, to which all of his friends were to be invited to be present.

The funeral took place on Monday, March 9, 1896, and, with one or two exceptions, it is likely that it was the largest attended of any funeral that has been held within the limits of Montgomery County. From far and near came his friends by scores and hundreds to have a parting look upon the face of their deceased friend. There were beautiful tributes to his memory by several friends, and then his body was borne to its final resting place in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

The memorial meeting, planned by the Montgomery County Medical Society, and arranged by its Memorial Committee, took place in the Court House at Norristown on Friday evening, May 22, 1896. It was a complete success. Beautiful eulogies on the life and character of Dr. Corson were delivered before a large and cultured audience by Dr. John C. Spear, U. S. N. ; Prof. James Tyson, of the University of Pennsylvania ; Dr. Thomas G. Morton, of the State Board of Charities ; Charles Heber Clark, of Conshohocken ; Dr. Charles Hermon Thomas, of Philadelphia ; Dr. William B. Ulrich, of Chester, Pa. ; James Boyd, Esq., one of the oldest members of the Montgomery County Bar, and William McDermott.

The addresses of Dr. John C. Spear, Charles Heber Clark, Prof. James Tyson, M. D., Dr. Charles Hermon Thomas and Dr. Thomas G. Morton were both beautiful and scholarly, and portrayed so truthfully and completely the character of Dr. Corson that they are here given in full :

ADDRESS BY DR. JOHN C. SPEAR, U. S. N.

Surely there is no one within the confines of Montgomery County to whom the life and services of Dr. Hiram Corson are known that is not ready with some offering of public respect on this memorial occasion. It is for the purpose of giving this desire practical effect that this public meeting has been called. I believe I am quite correct in saying that the occasion is unique—that it is the first time in the history of Montgomery County that one of her deceased citizens has been thus honored. For some years before his death Dr. Hiram Corson came to be looked upon as distinctly the first citizen of this county. This place, if we are right in according it to him, was won without the aid of political office, military rank or great fortune, but solely on his own merits as one who had nobly labored to benefit his fellow man.

In a large farm house, still standing, on the Germantown-Perkiomen pike, in Plymouth Township, Montgomery County, nearly opposite Ritter's tavern, Hiram Corson was born on the 8th of October, 1804. Jefferson was President of the United States, Washington had been dead only four years, and the Revolutionary War was fresh in the memory of the living. Such is the span of a single life! Joseph Corson was his father and Hannah Dickinson Corson was his mother, both being descendants of Colonial families then in this part of Pennsylvania over a hundred years, and both belonged to the Society of Friends, as did their ancestors for several generations before them. Young Hiram first attended school at the village of Plymouth Meeting near by his birth-place, and when he was older he was sent to Friends' Select School in Philadelphia. His first venture in life was to enter the office of the Norristown *Herald* to learn printing, so that he might become a journalist; but he gave up this in a few months and in 1826 began the study of medicine, and two years later he received his degree as Doctor of Medicine from the University of Pennsylvania. Joseph Pancoast, in his day America's greatest surgeon, was a classmate.

Dr. Corson at once began the practice of his profession in the immediate vicinity of his birth-place, and almost directly acquired a large clientele for many miles around his home, succeeding in the course of a few years, to the large practice of Dr. Joseph Leedom, of Plymouth Meeting. In 1833 he built for himself a spacious residence near Plymouth Meeting, which he called "Maple Hill." Here the same year he brought his bride—here his nine children were born, reared and educated and his daughters married; here too a few years ago his wife died; and finally at the beginning of the present year the Doctor himself fell into his last illness and died March 4th, surrounded by his loving daughters, who had come home to him to be with him in his last days.

Of the many good works done by Dr. Corson the founding and sustaining of the Montgomery County Medical Society is not the least, for the profession here has derived great benefit from it in the last fifty years, and the best interests of the community at large have been thereby promoted in many ways. It was on the 12th of January, 1847, in a room in Ward's Restaurant, corner Main Street and Strawberry Alley, Norristown, that the first meeting was held to form a County Medical Society. Dr. Geo. W. Thomas was called to the chair and Dr. Hiram Corson was appointed secretary. A committee was appointed

to draft a constitution and by-laws ; and, on the 17th of April following, at a meeting held in the same room, they were adopted and our society was launched on its career of usefulness. It has grown to be one of the most important of the county societies in the State.

Dr. Corson was one of the first to see the importance of having a vigorous, progressive medical organization in every county to hold the physicians together and elevate them both in professional attainments and in tone, and he worked hard to this end. So prominent a part did he take in this that he was elected in 1852, President of the State Medical Society, being the youngest then who had been honored by election to that office. Our County Society is two years older than that of Philadelphia ; it was one of the original Societies that joined in forming the larger State Society, and later aided in founding the American Medical Association. Practically all this work fell on the shoulders of Dr. Hiram Corson. It was rare indeed he was absent from the meetings, and it is safe to say he read as many as fifty original papers of great value before our Society. Many of them were published in the medical journals, and became familiar to the profession both in this country and in Europe. In this way his reputation as a physician gradually extended and he enjoyed a large consulting practice, oftentimes patients coming from a great distance to seek advice.

Dr. Corson frequently availed himself of Montgomery County Society as a *point d'appui* to initiate medical and other reforms which he nearly always carried finally to a successful issue, thus conferring distinction on the Society where they had their origin.

The minutes of our Society bear ample evidence of the remarkable foresight of Dr. Corson. The day of his funeral a distinguished physician who has closely followed him for forty years, remarked to me, "well it turned out after all that Dr. Hiram Corson was always right, or nearly so!" As early as 1828 he began the use of cold drinks in febrile affections, though no other physician hereabouts did so. On July 12, 1851, he strongly advocated the application of ice and ice-water to the throat in scarlet fever, and in his practice had doubtless employed them in this manner for some years previous to this date. On the fourth of October, 1851, he again, but with more emphasis, advocated this treatment, and also advised when the fever was high, cold sponging of the body. On the fifteenth of October, 1853, at a meeting of the Society, he spoke, condemning the then prevalent plan of treating sun-stroke by bleeding, attributing (and rightly so in the light of subsequent discoveries), the high death-rate to this practice. He advised in lieu of venesection ice-water to the head and chest. Sun-stroke being infrequent in his country practice, he rarely had an opportunity to test the value of a treatment his superior mind had devised, and but little was heard of it in consequence. But with the advent of the thermometer in medicine, cold applications soon became the general treatment in sunstroke, and now thousands of lives, especially in our large cities and in India, are saved, that but for this would surely have perished.

Dr. Corson's early use of cold applications in the treatment of febrile affections has recently been so perfected, and particularly so in typhoid fever, that now the death rate of this very common disease may be reduced at least one-half by its efficient use.

The use of cold to reduce the temperature of the body in disease has latterly become so potent a remedy that I doubt not as a life-saver

it will soon rank second only to vaccination in medicine and asepsis in surgery. We do not claim that Dr. Corson was the discoverer of this treatment, but only that to him is due some of the credit for the early and important part he took in its introduction.

Again, it was in the Montgomery County Medical Society on May 26, 1860, that Dr. Hiram Corson began his efforts to procure the full recognition of women physicians by the profession and after much labor and bitter opposition, he succeeded in doing so in 1871. Then, too, closely connected with this was his beneficent work in securing the enactment of a law in this State, empowering female physicians to have charge of the insane of their own sex. It is difficult to estimate the benefits conferred on the hundreds of women physicians in this and other States by their full recognition in the profession, and no one anywhere can lay equal claim with Dr. Hiram Corson in bringing it about. And as to the great blessing the female insane have received from his thoughtful and human efforts no one can ever know. In both these reforms he was the leading spirit from beginning to end. All honor to him!

I must say a word about the extraordinary amount of work done by Dr. Corson. A simple calculation shows that he must have made at least 400,000 professional visits nearly all in the country; and in doing so must have travelled on horseback or by carriage a distance equal to going sixty times round the world. The oldest sea captain in his fleet-winged clipper ship has not gone half so far! Most of us are weary and want to rest after thirty-five or forty years of professional labor, but he worked on for sixty-eight years. He evidently thought it was better to wear out than to rust out. What exposure and fatigue he must have experienced in the early years of his practice, with bad roads and dangerous streams to ford! I have heard stirring stories in the country here as how he was sometimes kept two or three days on his rounds without once being able to reach his home. Messengers would track and overtake him on the road to call him to other distant patients, so that for several days at a time he would maintain a sort of "head-quarters in the saddle," depending on the farmers for food and fresh horses, leaving his jaded ones behind as he hurried on to other bedsides.

The members of the Montgomery County Medical Society affectionately acknowledge the great and lasting obligations they are under to Dr. Hiram Corson; but though he is dead, his memory is embalmed in our hearts and there it will live honored and cherished. It is not expected that his vacant place will soon be filled for it is rare indeed that one reigns so long and so well as he did.

His success in life was due, we would say, to a sound judgment, a resolute purpose to pursue the right, and an unusual capacity to gather wisdom from experience. He too knew how to inspire others with the soundness of his judgment and the integrity of his purpose. We always listened to him with rapt attention, for he elucidated every subject he spoke upon, and in the meetings of the society brought to our discussions the store of his knowledge and experience with a manner as unassuming as it was captivating.

ADDRESS BY CHARLES HEBER CLARK.

DR. HIRAM CORSON AS A MAN AND A CITIZEN.

The Weight that retards the progress of humanity is Falsehood. Society has moved forward slowly because it has always been barnacled with delusions and lies. The Oriental races have remained upon a low plane of civilization, not because they are inferior people, but because they have been overmastered and stunted by the influence of religion which hid the Truth from their eyes. Thus they have become laggards in the race in which the Western nations have been carried far forward by beliefs resting upon realities. These enlightened nations, in their turn, have made progression precisely in the ratio that they have adjusted themselves to close relation with fact; and, if the most advanced of them all, our own nation, is halted upon its way to high prosperity, explanation is to be sought, not in the operation of occult forces, but in the application, by deluded men, of wrong theories to the business of conducting the government.

The power of clear vision, therefore, the ability to perceive the Truth no matter in what measure ignorance and prejudice may have obscured it, this, surely, is one of the best gifts that can be possessed by man. The few men who have it are the prophets, the inspired seers, and inevitably, in the end, the leaders of the herd of their fellows; and they are called to the performance of a function hardly less high and holy than that to which were summoned the men of ancient time who were the oracles of the Divine vision.

Dr. Corson was a man thus gifted. His mental vision pierced through the incrustations of falsehood and error and penetrated to verity. To his mind, illumined by fact, it was an impossibility that the requirements of justice could be reconciled with the property right of a human being to one of his fellow men; and so negro slavery inevitably presented itself to him as an indefensible outrage against the rights of man. With equal clearness he saw, when other men failed to see, that for women to acquire skill in the dealing with the maladies of women, and particularly for women to direct the treatment of persons of their own sex in institutions where physical ailment has distempered the mind, is demanded by considerations of equity as well as by those of decency and propriety. Nor could century-old theory and the dense opacity of professional prejudice forbid that he should detect and repudiate the folly which would withhold the draught of cold water from lips that were parched with fever-thirst. In these, and in other matters, he saw fact where other men of his time could perceive only illusion which would tempt the rash away from the safe lines of precedent. Were all men like the mass of men, there would be no progression; the world would be smitten with the paralysis of petrification. Were all men like him, we should have celestial harmony instead of the jar and discord which accompany the struggle of the race toward a higher destiny.

But it is possible that a man may have perception of the truth without possessing another quality that is necessary unless the faculty is to be but a dull-edged weapon, and that quality is courage.

The man who, having clear insight, and positiveness of conviction that the thing that is wrong, is set to no pleasing task when he begins the conflict to which he is summoned by the spirit that is in him. The very nature which qualifies him to discern has always a sensitiveness

that opens the door to suffering. It can give such a man no pleasure to place himself in antagonism to his fellows ; to bear the weight of a verdict of dangerous eccentricity ; to accept obloquy and vituperation as his portion. The seer would find life less difficult if he should close his eyes to the vision of truth and join with the crowd in declaring that ancient Wrong is the only repository of Righteousness.

And so it is that the still higher gift, without which the ability to perceive may be but a guide to shame and dishonor, is the Courage that nerves the man to proclaim boldly the Truth that is in his soul ; and to stand fast for it, in absolute isolation, if required, through the conflict in which Falsehood would engage the Deliverer who tries to set its captives free.

The younger men of our time cannot know what the abolitionist of the old slavery days was called upon to endure. The press and the people and the pulpit were against him. Public opinion condemned his action, if it did not repudiate his theories. He was accused of all evil intention, from the theft of the property of his fellow citizens to subversion of the government under which he lived. No epithet was too vile for application to him ; no reproach was too bitter and no violence too fierce and lawless that he might be deprived of his right of free speech. Amid this storm, and amid the storms almost as wild which raged about him when he plead for the rights of women and of the fever patients, Dr. Corson stood erect, undaunted, undismayed. The fight with Prejudice and Ignorance and Wrong was on ; and he, in the front rank of the combatants for Truth, never lost wit or heart ; never failed to wield cogently his weapon of logic and sense, never doubted that his cause would have victory, and never sought ease and peace while the enemy remained in the field.

He was but a country Doctor, with no influence of official authority, operating within narrow limits, never holding a conspicuous place in the view of the nation, and with no agencies at his command but his tongue and his pen for affecting public opinion. But if to do what he did valiantly, persistently, without shrinking from consequences or questioning the possibility of ultimate success, be not heroic, then the world has had no heroism.

Some of us, perhaps, may learn from his life, brave and triumphant, these not unimportant lessons : first, that we should have some other greeting than contumely for the man who, plainly in command of his mental powers, points us to a road different from that we have been traveling, and, second, that we ourselves, if our eyes shall be opened so that we can see Wrong where other men have only seen Right, shall be faithful to our high privilege and shall not fear or waver when the tempest shall burst upon our heads as it burst upon his.

With his qualities of clear vision and steadfast courage, Dr. Corson combined the charity which confesses that wrong opinion is usually the result of delusion rather than of culpability. He hated error, not the man who held it and combated for it while unconsciously its victim. There is doubt if he ever cherished personal animosities, unless in cases where men had yielded themselves to complete degradation and had become vile. There are few traces of invective in his writings or his utterances. He contended with men because they embodied and represented the principle that was hurtful ; but it may be asserted with confidence that his individual opponents were regarded by him with com-

passion instead of rancor. Thus, although he was an ardent advocate of the complete disuse of alcoholic stimulants in social and professional life, and in making contention for his opinions was vigorous and fearless, it is safe to say that he was able to abhor the traffic and to denounce the practice without bitter feeling for those who conducted the one and indulged in the other.

This characteristic appears in his method of controversy. He urged his case with all the potency of logic, sustaining the argument by abundant illustrations drawn from his own experience and that of others; but usually his discourse was enlivened by touches of humor, quaint, kindly and illuminating, of which he was a master. His conversation was made peculiarly charming by this quality. Deeply impressed always with the gravity of the need that men should earnestly endeavor to walk in the right way, still he knew that even the forlornest existence is not wholly tragic. And so, while maintaining his strenuous purpose that wrong should be righted, he could not be indifferent to the comedy that is ever intermingled with the drama of human life.

He was not fond of conversational argument. His practice was to listen patiently to a vehement opponent of his theories, and then, in quiet tones, to ask a single question or to make a mere observation which often was conclusive of the discussion. By nature his temper was quick. He reached conclusions rapidly, and his impulse was to act when his mind was made up. But those who knew him slightly might reasonably have concluded from his manner of speech, and from his general demeanor, that deliberateness and tranquillity were qualities belonging to his temperament.

A man of his intellectual gifts and moral elevation inevitably placed a true valuation upon things of little worth which many other men pursue with eagerness as if they were invaluable. Public honors had no charm for him. He was always ready to serve society; but he coveted no high place and wished for no distinction. He had endured calumny with calm indifference too often to possess any strong thirst for the praise of man or deep regard for it. He had encountered brainless incompetency in responsible office too often to yearn for the place which can bring no honor to the man who deserves none.

And so, also, the soul which always faced itself to fact could not grovel among the delusions which lure the money-getter toward objects which can never satisfy. Wealth had no enticement and laid no snare for him. In all his money obligations he had that scrupulous precision which is, and rightly, the world's test of personal character; but men of his kind inevitably disdain the sordid existence which finds its best satisfaction in gain, and the blind folly of him who expends all his energies in heaping up riches without knowing who shall gather them.

Thus, too, although he had what may be called a deeply religious nature, he did not make any formulated creed fully his own. Perhaps he may have found the widest of them too narrow. Perhaps his charity was broad enough to discover some uplifting element of truth in all of them. We cannot tell, but of this we are sure, that he rested securely upon the conviction of Divine order and direction of the universe; he recognized the Fatherhood of the Creator as the foundation-stone of the Brotherhood of man, and he proved the strength of his faith in the reality and obligation of that Brotherhood by doing what in him lay, to make men better and wiser.

Surely it would be difficult to pay a higher tribute to any human being than this : that he fought only in the battle of righteousness ; and that, because he was valiant and faithful, victory came and with it blessing for the race.

How may a man acquit himself manfully before his fellows better than by building up a spotless character, playing his part without reproach in his home and among his neighbors, obeying every requirement of honor, extending his hand quickly when the cry for assistance is heard, appearing always as the enemy of the oppressor ; always as the friend of him who has no helper ; and, from first to last, offering to the young and to the wayward an example whose mute influence was never less than beneficent ?

How could a man play his part as a citizen more nobly than by warring against an institution which belied the fact, fundamental in our political system, that men have equal rights ; by bearing his testimony persistently against the liquor traffic, which places a heavy burden upon thrift and sends myriads into dishonored graves, and by striving always against the conservatism which would make immovable the error that stands upon the pedestal of truth ?

Dr. Corson will be forgotten, it may be, as time rolls by ; but little would he have cared for oblivion who cared little while he lived for fame. He knew, and we know, that the great things achieved by him or by his help will remain, and remain to bless.

We honor ourselves by honoring his memory here. Well would it be for us, and for those who regard him not, if all of us could use what powers we have as he used his. The holy war between Truth and Falsehood must be waged so long as men stand upon the earth with dull minds and half-shut eyes and with stubborn prejudice against the unaccustomed thing. If any of us covet the laurels of the brave whose warfare has been victoriously accomplished, it is needful that we shall have their valor and consent to become the sharers of their sacrifice.

PROF. JAMES TYSON'S ADDRESS.

DR. HIRAM CORSON AS A PHYSICIAN.

Asking myself the question on receiving the invitation to speak this evening of Dr. Corson as a physician, how shall I characterize the type represented by the precious friend in whose memory we are gathered to-night? the answer comes promptly and unflinching—the honest physician, ardent lover of truth, inveterate and fearless foe of shams, whose single aim was the welfare of the sick and the honor and advancement of his profession.

Dr. Corson became a leader in medicine almost from the moment he entered it, on the 27th of March, 1828, when not twenty-four years old, and perhaps if any lived to tell us I doubt not we would be told he was a leader among the students of his day. With a restless, ardent temperament, though covered by a quiet gentle exterior, it was scarcely possible for him to be anything else than a leader ; and he continued a leader almost up to the day of his death, at ninety-four, after seventy years battling for the truth and the right. And fortunate was it for the right that he was always on its side. For he never tired in his efforts or

ceased in his endeavor until victory crowned them, however long it may have been delayed.

Yet it could scarcely be otherwise than that he should be with the right. Of gentle lineage, dating backward for centuries, a lineage in which each generation was the best of its day, even though it might not reach the ideal of our day, it was scarcely possible that Hiram Corson should be aught than what he was, and that his acts should be else than those prompted by *noblesse oblige*. And I may be permitted to add also that thus is left to the descendants of Hiram Corson a heritage which will exact a similar fidelity to all that is true and just and honorable.

To make more than a passing mention of many of the features and events which characterized Dr. Corson, as a physician, would consume much more time than is allotted me, and I will refer therefore only briefly to a few of such as seem especially characteristic.

One of the most essential, if not the most essential, attribute of the good physician which was possessed by Dr. Corson in an eminent degree was common sense, and it was probably this attribute which prompted him to take most of the stands he took in connection with changes in the practice of medicine. The first of these was the crusade instituted in the second year of his practice against the use of hot liquids, such as teas and the like, in the treatment of measles, and the substitution of the liberal use of cold drinks to satisfy the craving thirst and to reduce the high temperature. The very next year, in 1830, he began the treatment of scarlet fever by cool sponging of the body and advised the practice of holding pieces of ice in the mouth to cool its fevered heat and that of the swollen tonsils. This treatment was even more heretical at the time than that of measles, and when he added to it copious effusions of cold water on the head and external applications of ice to the inflamed submaxillary glands, the hostility excited against this "freezing treatment," as it was called by his critics, scarcely knew bounds. Nevertheless, with his wonted courage he held out, and as was usually the case his methods have received the sanction of modern and enlightened medicine.

It was not by practice alone that he stood by his convictions, but he wrote vigorously in the journals and Society transactions on this subject, trenchant articles, far-reaching in their emphasis and convincing in their argument. Similarly sensible were his papers on "Meddlesome Midwifery," "Puerperal Convulsions," "Diphtheria Treated by Ice Internally and Externally," "Blood Letting in Pneumonia," and many others. But the act which will perhaps prove to be the most beneficent and wide-reaching in its effects, and perhaps the event of which Dr. Corson himself was most proud, was the consummation of his idea that the women inmates of our State Hospitals for the Insane should be provided with physicians of their own sex. In 1877, Dr. Corson brought before the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania a resolution of which he secured the adoption, to the effect that women physicians should have the care of the insane of their sex. A committee was appointed of which he was made chairman, to secure its adoption. And in less than two years after this committee began to work, a law was enacted by the State of Pennsylvania, authorizing Boards of Trustees of State Hospitals to appoint women physicians to have the medical care of the female insane. But the effect was not

confined to Pennsylvania and now many States provide by law for this humanizing course and some require the insane women to be under the separate care of women superintendents.

But as I have intimated it was not simply in his devotion to the best interests of the sick alone that Dr. Corson did his duty as a physician. He sought also to elevate his profession and his restless mind was always on the alert for means to this end. It was more particularly in the medical organizations of his county, State and nation that he could serve the profession thus. One of the founders of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania as well as of the County Society of Montgomery, his well known figure and alert, active intelligence always added an interest to the proceedings and when he spoke on any subject all faces were turned to him and all ears opened to him. He was quick to discern motives and woe unto him who sought to carry any measure which would not bear the light of day. For with scathing speech and pointed finger Dr. Corson always meted out to him the punishment he justly deserved. Always on the side of the oppressed it sometimes happened that advantage was taken of Dr. Corson's absence to put through measures it was known he would have opposed. But as surely as the next year came, and Dr. Corson was present, the action was reversed or good reason was given why it should stand.

I well remember the first time I attended a meeting of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society. It was in Pottsville, I think, in 1875. The late Dr. Andrew Nebinger had a couple of years before made an address before the Society which contained some unpleasant but truthful statements as to practices which characterized Protestant Christians as contrasted with Romanists. These statements did not meet the approval of certain members of the Society who proposed therefore to exclude the address from the published proceedings and had succeeded the previous year in deferring its publication, though I fear Dr. Corson must have been absent on that occasion. At this meeting the question came up again. There was a bitter contest; Dr. Nebinger's enemies vigorously opposed the address being accorded a place in the proceedings. On the other hand Dr. Corson made a powerful speech in favor of it and was followed by Dr. E. A. Wood of Pittsburg. Dr. Wood was an acknowledged agnostic and Dr. Corson a Friend. It seemed to me, then a young physician, a hopeful sign of the times to see the grand old church defended by the Quaker and the agnostic against whom in the olden time it would have hurled its anathema and condemned to eternal torture those who held their belief.

The recognition of women physicians was one of the causes for which he battled valiantly, and as was usual with him, won in the end. Doubtless some abler pen than mine will have described the stages of this struggle. How again and again he rallied his forces until the final victory came. And at the present day over the breadth of the land men are wondering why they could ever have been found among those opposed to the admission of women to our profession and our societies, or denied them the fullest opportunities to make them the best of physicians. And as I sat but a day or two ago at a session of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania and listened to the able papers of two able women clearly and impressively read, and heard with rapt attention by a couple of hundred men—addresses full of useful knowledge culled from actual and ripe experience—again my thoughts reverted

with gratitude to the good man without whose efforts the opportunity might still have been denied us of profiting by the labors of these and other useful medical women.

Oblivion of self was another attribute of our dear friend which it may be profitable for us to dwell upon for a moment. In all our intercourse of over thirty years' duration, in all the addresses of which he has delivered at different times so many, I cannot recall a word to show that any advantage or disadvantage to himself weighed an iota in determining his course. He was not one of those who loved truth because it was useful to him, but he loved it for its own sake. It was always the good cause or the public weal on the altar of which he was ever willing to immolate self, and he would journey far and wide at personal expense and inconvenience to further such cause.

Dr. Corson was fond of nature and his love of nature was an essential and natural part of his being. Indeed it has often occurred to me to observe the almost inseparable association of a love of truth with a love of nature. It had a striking illustration in the learned and great-hearted yet simple and retiring Joseph Leidy, of whom Dr. Corson was an intimate friend and admirer. I believe there is no better way in which I can show the fondness of nature which characterized our dear friend than by quoting from a letter he wrote me last summer, only a few months before he died. It ran as follows :

Sunday, 23d June, 6 A. M. (1895).

Dear Doctor,

As I look out of my window from my desk, on the north lawn, thus early in the morning, and see the chickens and robins scattered over it, hunting their breakfasts, and feel the fresh moist air that enters, the poem of Philadelphia's poet, George Boker, of which I will give you at least one verse, presents itself to me :

“ With song of birds and hum of bees
And odorous breath of swinging flowers,
With fluttering herbs and swaying trees,
Begin the early morning hours.”

And then he adds: “ You must have one more verse so as to appreciate the joy of rising early,”

“ So fair and fresh the landscape stands,
So vital, so beyond decay,
It looks as though God's shaping hands
Had just been raised and drawn away.”

Dr. Corson never said a word to me on the subject of religion. I knew that he was a direct descendant of Friends and a sympathizer with Friends and perhaps himself a member, but of this I have no accurate knowledge even to-day. On the occasion of my last visit to him, however, in September, he said in the course of our conversation, parenthetically as it were, “ I am ready to go ; I am not afraid to die.”

These words have often recurred to me since then. They were spoken, as I intimated, without reference to religion, yet it seemed to me too they were spoken as by authority. At any rate they became to

me an encouragement to believe that if one has performed in the best way he could the task allotted him, however humble, and has been gentle and human in his relations to man and beast, as our dear friend was, it may be all that will be asked of him and he may meet death as he did without fear, and without regret, as he lived above fear and above reproach.

DR. CHARLES HERMON THOMAS' ADDRESS.

DR. HIRAM CORSON AS A CHAMPION OF WOMEN PHYSICIANS.

The history of the movement for the education of women physicians, for their recognition by the medical societies and their subsequent advancement, is a history of contest from the beginning, becoming sharp and severe a few years later and lasting for many years. Dr. Corson's efforts in this cause began at the outset and ended only with his life. The period of storm and stress through which it passed and in which he bore a leading part can be best appreciated by reference to the records of the time, and the purpose of this occasion cannot, probably, be better served than by presenting some citations from the documentary history of the struggle in the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania in particular, from a history of these events as compiled by Dr. Corson himself.

It is now nearly fifty years ago—in the year 1848—that Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the pioneer medical woman of the world, in the face of many discouragements, began her medical studies. In 1849, Dr. Sarah E. Adamson, a niece and student of Dr. Corson, entered upon a like course. The difficulties encountered by Dr. Adamson in obtaining college instruction, as in the case of Dr. Blackwell, were very great. Dr. Corson applied in her behalf for admission to the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania and the Jefferson Medical College, but applied in vain. She afterwards entered a small college for the medical education of both sexes, located in Syracuse, New York, and where she was graduated.

A charter was obtained for the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1850, and in due course a class of seven young women was graduated. From the very beginning the opposition to the entrance of women into the medical profession was great, but it is also true that, in the words of Dr. Corson, "no combined action was taken by the profession against them until eight classes had been graduated and many had established themselves in practice, when the Board of Censors of the Philadelphia County Medical Society reported to the Society their disapproval of any member of it holding professional intercourse with the professors or the alumni of the Woman's Medical College."

This report of the Censors, which was adopted by the Society November 10, 1858, "recommended the members of the regular medical colleges all countenance and support and that they cannot consistently with sound medical ethics consult or hold professional medical intercourse with their professors or alumni."

At the succeeding meeting of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, held in Philadelphia, June, 1859, this resolution of the County Society was presented and referred to a Committee, which reported that

"after a very careful consideration of the said resolutions of the Philadelphia County Medical Society and the important ethical questions to which they have reference, the Committee believe that the course pointed out by the resolution is the correct one, and as such, demands the sanction of this Society and that they would urge its observance by all the county societies throughout the State."

The report was unanimously adopted and sent to the county societies, after which, as Dr. Corson remarks, "it was doubtless believed by its originators and advocates that no physician with proper regard for his success in practice, the friendship of his professional brethren and the honor of the profession would thereafter hold professional intercourse with female physicians."

The resolution thus adopted in 1859 proved not to be the finality its promoters intended, but was destined instead to become a source of protest, contention and discord, occupying much of the time of the Society for more than a decade to follow.

Before the next annual meeting, May 26, 1860, a meeting of the Montgomery County Medical Society was held in Norristown, when Dr. Corson, then Corresponding Secretary of the Society, presented a preamble and resolutions "dissenting from the action of the Philadelphia County Medical Society and the State Medical Society," saying, "we believe the time is fully come when women should not be excluded from the medical profession, but if properly educated and observant of the code of medical ethics should receive the same treatment from the male members of the profession as is accorded to the male members thereof," and directing the delegates of the Society "to lay the preamble and these resolutions before the State Medical Society at its next meeting and ask that they have a place in the minutes of the Society." This was carried by the affirmative vote of seven of the nine members present.

At the meeting of the State Society, held in Philadelphia a month later, Dr. Corson, as delegate from the Montgomery County Society presented these resolutions, where they were met at once as he tells us by violent opposition, and a motion to lay them on the table was promptly carried.

The War of the Rebellion now came on and further action in the matter was postponed until 1866 when (at a meeting of the State Society held at Wilkes-Barre) Dr. Corson again led an attack upon the forces of opposition, introducing a protest from the Corporators and Faculty of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, coupled with a request for the repeal of the resolution passed in 1859. Much heated discussion ensued and the motion to rescind was lost. A motion, however, was carried referring to the several county societies to be reported on by them the following year, a declaration that "the resolution of 1859 is not intended to prevent members of the Society from consulting with regularly educated female physicians who observe the code of ethics." The progress made at this meeting was great, as considering that at its opening, it was only after several fruitless requests that Dr. Corson was able to obtain a seconder to his resolution.

At the next annual meeting, the reports of the constituent societies upon the question were received. Some were in favor, some against, but the larger number took no action. The Philadelphia County Medical Society, however, reported "we cannot offer any encouragement to women to become practitioners of medicine, nor can we con-

sent to meet in medical consultation such practitioners," while the Montgomery County Medical Society "instructed her delegates to use all honorable means to place respectable female graduates and the professors in their colleges on an equality with men graduates and the professors in colleges for males."

Thus again was the issue squarely joined. The test vote was taken on a renewed protest from the Woman's Medical College, including a request for the repeal of the obnoxious resolutions of 1859, when a motion to lay on the table was carried.

The next year the friends of women physicians again renewed the struggle and again their efforts ended in defeat.

A pause of a year now occurred as to the State Society (1869), during which time the Philadelphia County Medical Society adopted further resolutions of the most stringent character, disqualifying professors and graduates of women's colleges from membership in the Society and prohibiting its members from consulting with the professors or graduates of female colleges.

This brings us to 1870, when the struggle was renewed once again, practically on the same lines as heretofore, when a motion prevailed that "the question be laid on the table until the American Medical Association shall have decided upon it."

The issue was now introduced to the American Medical Association by the action of the Woman's Medical College in sending delegates to that body, where it proved the source of the liveliest contention, occupying the larger part of the time of the meeting held in San Francisco in 1871, when, owing to the nearly equal strength of both parties, want of time and some parliamentary confusion, what may be called a drawn battle was the result; this, however, showing a distinct gain for the cause of reform. A few weeks later both sides rallied for what proved to be the final struggle at the meeting of the Pennsylvania State Society in Williamsport, where the motion to rescind the now notorious resolution of 1859 was, after a hot debate, carried by a decisive majority.

Of this event Dr. Corson has said: "Thus, we found ourselves in 1871 with the same resolution before us that we had presented by the Montgomery County delegates to the Society at Wilkesbarre in 1866. But, how different the situation. Then it was in the face of noisy insulting opposition that its mover was allowed to speak in favor of rescinding the obnoxious resolution; now at Williamsport, the forces through changes effected by the lapse of years and the labors of the friends of reform met in nearly equal numbers, prepared to do their best for victory, and, after a free discussion, the resolution to rescind was passed by a vote of fifty-five ayes to forty-five nays amid intense but quiet excitement, and thus ended successfully a movement originated by the Montgomery County Medical Society to blot from the Transactions of the State Society a selfish, odious resolution adopted eleven years before." And he adds, "This report gives but the faintest idea of the bitterness of the contest, of the scorn with which the proceedings of the Montgomery County Medical Society were received and the unkindness manifested against all who from year to year asked for justice to women physicians." With this action of the State Society the conflict came to an abrupt conclusion, all organized opposition ceased and the work entered upon a new era.

This hasty sketch would be incomplete did I not here add that while it is to the lasting honor of the Montgomery County Medical Society that it was the first to resist the oppressive measures instituted by the Philadelphia County Medical Society and adopted by the State Society, to this Society also the distinction is due that it first of all the societies in the State accorded to women physicians the privileges of membership. For in the heat of the conflict, when its position before the State Society and in the American Medical Association even was jeopardized thereby, there was entered upon its records the following minute: "May, 1870, Doctress Anna Lukens was elected a member. This is the first female physician ever elected in a county society in Pennsylvania, or perhaps in the United States, perhaps in the world." At a later date (1890) a further and still higher step was taken when, honoring itself and her, it elected Dr. Alice Bennett to the presidency of the Society.

It may also be added that notwithstanding the unfortunate pre-eminence of the Philadelphia County Medical Society in its antagonism to women physicians, itself accorded justice to the subjects of its former oppression a few years later (1887-1888) when it admitted women to membership; the first to be so elected being Dr. Mary Willets, now of the State Hospital at Norristown.

Again and again, as we have seen, the contest has seemed to lie between the Montgomery County Society on the one hand and the Philadelphia County Society on the other. Small wonder if we are reminded of the combat between David and Goliath, so unequal was the apparent strength of the combatants, so complete the victory of the righteous cause.

With the cessation of active opposition, a period of rest naturally followed, lasting a number of years. Dr. Corson's mind during the time, however, was not idle. He had not gone thus far either to stop or turn back. A plan was forming and data were gathering for the prosecution of a new and aggressive undertaking. He had studied the question of management of hospitals for the insane, especially that of the State Hospitals, for years which he was convinced had not attained the standard of their intended usefulness. He believed that little active treatment was prosecuted in them, and that the care of the female insane especially was defective in one important particular, viz., the treatment of diseases peculiar to their sex. For manifest reasons he held that such special treatment could only be properly conducted under the peculiar conditions existing in asylums at the hands of women physicians.

His indignation had been aroused by the reception given Dr. Mary Stinson at the asylum at Worcester, Massachusetts, where, in her position as assistant physician in the women's wards, he felt that her services were belittled and her work embarrassed by the male superintendent, because of prejudice against her as a woman.

He had now become convinced that women physicians would and could work advantageously only when given positions of professional independence and responsibility; and to remedy a condition of things inherent in the then universal organization of insane hospitals, he took the ground that the system of hospital organization should itself be radically changed. He held that the office of medical superintendent so-called, which then included beside medical superintendence of both male and female departments, the supervision of the business manager,

the steward, the farmer, etc., should be abolished and a steward or business superintendent appointed as in the great general hospitals, whose work should relate solely to administration and who should be responsible directly to the Trustees; the medical department to be under the charge of two physicians-in-chief of equal rank, having only medical duties, the one a man in charge of the department for men, the other a woman in charge of the department for women; each physician responsible directly and only to the Trustees of the hospital; in effect, two separate and independent hospitals under one Board of Management.

With characteristic boldness, he placed before the State Medical Society in 1877 a resolution embodying this plan, and much to his satisfaction, though somewhat to his surprise, it was accorded a favorable reception. He was himself made Chairman of a Committee to report on the same at the next annual meeting, when the powerful endorsement of the Society was given to the plan proposed. He was then made Chairman of another committee authorized to memorialize the Legislature on behalf of the Society with a view to securing the enactment of the necessary laws to render the plan operative.

A large measure of success attended his efforts before the Legislature, though confronted in the Senate by a memorial in opposition, numerous signed by prominent physicians of Philadelphia. In one important respect, however, the act as passed fell short of his desires, in that, while it conferred upon the Trustees the power to appoint a woman as chief physician for the insane, it did not make it their imperative duty. To attempt to remedy this defect became the work of his later years—a work not even yet accomplished.

While these events were taking place (1880) the Southeastern Hospital at Norristown was undergoing organization and preparing for active work. Dr. Corson was well known to the Trustees and had much influence with them. He was earnestly desirous that the new plan should be adopted in this hospital, and, as of first importance, was particularly solicitous that the character and attainments of the woman selected as the Chief Physician should be such as would render her a fit representative of the movement. Dr. Stinson received unanimous election, but owing to failing health, was unable to serve. The choice then fell upon Dr. Alice Bennett, at the time Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, of whose services I may now only say that the success attained by her and the fame with which her labors have been rewarded were an enduring source of gratification and pride to Dr. Corson. He believed that the results achieved by her were the complete justification of the wisdom of his plan, and that notwithstanding her acknowledged ability that such a success would have been impossible under the old system with assistanceship as the highest goal which a woman, however able, might attain. Thus he labored early and late, undeterred by defeat, physical infirmity or the burden of advancing years, to secure the extension of what may be called the Norristown system—or may I say, the Corson system—to the other hospitals under the control of the State.

For the furtherance of this purpose he presented bill after bill at the various sessions of the Legislature, always in hopefulness and courage, and never cast down by repeated failure in its accomplishment. He believed that the cause was right and that it would finally prevail.

The part taken by Dr. Corson in the whole movement is representative of his entire life and character; his sense of justice was of the keenest, and in the pursuit of its ends he was capable of that absolute disregard of precedent which constitutes the born reformer. Not that he was ever attracted by the desire for change or mere novelty. He stood by the ancient testimonies with great tenacity as long as he saw they fulfilled a useful purpose, but when he felt they were outlived he cleared them away with a ruthless hand.

In carrying out the various measures of reform in which he was engaged, he displayed an untiring energy. While he was a clear, strong speaker, well equipped to take his part in debate, his work in this respect by no means represented the chief part of his labors. He possessed a rare gift for correspondence, as those who were privileged to receive his letters will gratefully testify, and this gift was exercised most laboriously in preparing for the various contests in which he was engaged, either before the State Society or before the State Legislature.

His life-long association with the Society of Friends had led him to entertain feelings of entire respect for women in public capacities, and, as was to be expected, he ardently favored the extension of the fields for work for women in all directions, and was, therefore, an earnest advocate of woman suffrage.

The limits of time will permit me to say little more. An event must barely be named in which Dr. Corson took a profound interest and which he has himself said moved him to his most active efforts. I refer to the well-known disturbance at the Pennsylvania Hospital in which the men students endeavored by insulting treatment to prevent attendance of the women students at the clinics.

I must not omit to mention a later and most pleasurable occasion, when a reception was given in Dr. Corson's honor in the city of Philadelphia, a reception in the organization of which the women physicians of the city took the prominent part, in which they were joined by many of those formerly in active opposition and which was attended in large numbers by the members of the Philadelphia County Medical Society and the State Medical Society of Pennsylvania—the latter then in session in that city.

I cannot close without naming a few of his near friends and co-workers—not to make particular mention of his brethren of the Montgomery County Medical Society—prominent among many others on that honor roll stand the names of Dr. Traill Green, of Easton, Pa., Dr. James King, of Pittsburg, Dr. Wilmer Worthington, of West Chester, Dr. William B. Ulrich, of Chester, and Drs. Washington L. Atlee, Winthrop Sargent, Albert H. Smith, and Joseph Parrish, of Philadelphia.

Our friend, honored and beloved, who has gone, has left behind him an unfinished work, and who that knew him well can doubt that if he were asked what monument he would desire to be raised to his memory—before and as better than stone or brass—he would choose as his best memorial the completion of the great undertaking to which so much of the energy of his brave and earnest life was devoted, the reorganization of the other insane hospitals of the State on the plan adopted in the institution at Norristown.

DR. THOMAS G. MORTON'S ADDRESS.

DR. CORSON AS A REFORMER AND PHILANTHROPIST, AS SHOWN BY HIS WORK IN BEHALF OF THE INSANE.

It was with mingled feelings of pleasure and sadness that I accepted the invitation to be present on this interesting occasion, to join with this assemblage in honoring the memory of one who, having faithfully served his day and generation, has gone to his reward. From an intimate personal acquaintance, extending through many years, I very highly esteem this privilege of adding my testimony to the exalted, personal and professional character of our friend, Dr. Hiram Corson.

It has been suggested to me, that I should select for special consideration the life-long and persistent efforts of Dr. Corson in behalf of that most dependent class, the indigent insane, whose welfare and best interests were ever in his mind. His sympathies were more especially enlisted in behalf of insane women in our State institutions, and he saw more clearly than any other man of his time, that this especially unfortunate, helpless, and often friendless class, not only required, but had the right to receive, the direct care, supervision and treatment of physicians of their own sex. Dr. Corson strove for this great principle, by day and by night, with characteristic determination and unselfish devotion.

This important reform in the administration of our hospitals for the insane occupied Dr. Corson's attention for more than thirty years; but he was from the very outset well aware of the almost insuperable obstacles he would encounter, and that the changes in hospital management he desired, were only to be overcome by public agitation, and an entire revolution in the views of the profession, including the County and State Medical Societies. This, he believed would ultimately be secured, and eventually lead to the enactment of legislation, which would at least permit the Trustees of our State Institutions to make the experiment of appointing women physicians to have the entire charge of the female insane.

Into this reform movement in the management of our State hospitals, Dr. Corson entered with all his energies, and with untiring zeal, but his efforts from the very first were under the most discouraging, adverse and perplexing conditions. He labored constantly by his tongue and pen for more than a quarter of a century, until finally he had the proud satisfaction of seeing his original views approved, and his plans fully carried into effect, not only in the hospital at Harrisburg (which was the first to make request for a female physician to take charge of the female insane), but in every one of the six institutions which are, either in whole or in part, under State control in our commonwealth.

Following the appeal made to the Legislature in 1879 by the Trustees of the Harrisburg hospital, the management of the Southeastern Hospital, early in 1880, elected a female physician to have the entire control of the female insane; and subsequently at Dixmont, in 1893; at Warren, in 1894; and finally at Danville, in 1895, women were given the entire medical charge of the female insane. At the Southeastern Hospital here in Norristown, and at the Asylum for the Chronic Insane at Wernersville, female physicians have had the entire care and responsibility of the female patients from the dates of the opening of these

institutions, respectively. Even our private hospitals for the insane have felt the influence of this great reform movement of Dr. Corson's, shown in the appointment of special female consultants; while the Friends' Asylum for the Insane at Frankford has at present a resident woman physician.

Dr. Corson's name first appears among the Trustees of the State Lunatic Asylum at Harrisburg, in 1877, he having received from Governor Hartranft the appointment in recognition of his life-long interest and zealous efforts in behalf of the insane, and in this position, which was accepted with the hope of doing a really good work, he labored in season and out of season, to bring about his long wished for reforms.

When Dr. Corson became active in the Harrisburg hospital work, he found that the Medical Superintendents of all State hospitals for the insane had other than professional duties, which, he believed, greatly interfered with their purely professional work, and with the proper discharge of the responsibilities arising from the care and treatment of the patients, so that much of the medical work devolved upon young and often inexperienced assistants; and to alter this condition, Dr. Corson gave much of his time and attention. The necessity for change in this respect became so apparent to the Trustees of the Southeastern Hospital at Norristown, that they adopted the experiment of releasing the physicians of that institution from all duties, except pertaining to the medical care of the patients. The annual report of the State Committee on Lunacy the following year states: "The Trustees of the Norristown Hospital have taken the advance in this important change in Hospital administration, and have given the resident physicians of that Institution the largest liberty in the management, throwing the entire medical responsibility upon them, and, at the same time, have relieved them of all work other than the professional care and treatment of the patients." The Trustees also stated that "the entire relief of the physicians from the business responsibilities of the Institution has continued to work most satisfactorily and greatly to the benefit of the inmates."

The consummation of his hopes by the appointment at this hospital of a female Physician-in-chief of the female insane, the first in this country or elsewhere, and the divorcement of the purely domestic and administrative duties which heretofore devolved upon the Medical Superintendent, and the gratifying results from these reforms, which were announced in the Reports of the Institution from year to year, were to Dr. Corson a source of great pleasure and satisfaction—his labors had not been in vain.

When Dr. Corson began his first and great reform, he was confronted with the difficulty of overcoming the prejudices of the medical men of that day against women doctors. Thus, by formal resolution of November 10, 1858, the Philadelphia County Medical Society recommended "the members of the regular profession to withhold from faculties and graduates of Female Medical Colleges, all countenance and support," and decided that they "cannot, consistently with sound medical ethics, consult or hold professional medical intercourse with their professors or alumnae." This action was endorsed and adopted also by the Pennsylvania State Medical Society, at its next subsequent meeting, 1859. The Philadelphia County Medical Society, nearly ten years

later, October 21, 1868, reaffirmed the views expressed in the former resolution, and went so far as to state that, not only were the professors and graduates of female colleges disqualified for membership in the Society, but, it also placed under ban any member who should "professionally consult with any professor or graduate of a female college." At the time that this resolution was adopted such distinguished members of the profession as Prof. Alfred Stillé, Dr. Washington L. Atlee, and Dr. Albert H. Smith were among those who refused to recognize the authority of the County Medical Society to dictate to them in this matter. Finally, after an educational campaign extending over a series of years, the State Medical Society of Pennsylvania, June 14, 1871, on motion of Dr. Traill Green, resolved to rescind the resolution adopted at the Session of 1860, by which action the friends of the Woman's Medical College at length gained the professional recognition which had been so long denied to its graduates, and the right to consultation with members of the Philadelphia County Medical Society could no longer be withheld. Subsequently, women physicians were admitted to membership on exactly the same footing as other members of the Society. This somewhat lengthy digression has been made merely to illustrate the early difficulties which Dr. Corson had to encounter, and which he finally succeeded in conquering, after a ten years' war with the opposition, which was of a most bitter and uncompromising character.

Having gained professional recognition of women as Medical practitioners, Dr. Corson next turned his attention to procuring a law which would require the Trustees of State Hospitals for the insane to employ women physicians to have charge of the insane of their sex. At the meeting of the State Medical Society, in 1877, Dr. Washington L. Atlee, on behalf of Dr. Corson, who was detained at home by sickness, offered a resolution, asking for a Committee to be appointed to consider "the propriety of having a female physician for the female department of every hospital for the insane which is under the control of the State." At the following meeting, held at Pittsburg, 1878, this Committee reported in favor of appointing a Committee of seven to memorialize the Legislature of Pennsylvania to enact laws, if any be needed, to authorize the employment, by managers of hospitals under the control of the State, of women Medical Superintendents for the female departments of said hospitals, and for hospitals to be erected for the accommodation of females." Dr. Hiram Corson was appointed Chairman of the Committee, which draughted a bill in accordance with instructions received from the State Society, and presented it at Harrisburg. The bill proposed by the Committee, entitled, "An Act for the better regulation and treatment of the female insane in the Asylums and Hospitals of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania," was finally passed, and signed by Governor Henry M. Hoyt, June 4, 1879.

The act, as presented by the Committee, provided, That in all Hospitals or Asylums now built or hereafter to be built, and under the control of the State, and in which male and female insane patients are received for treatment, the Trustees of said Asylums or Hospitals shall appoint a skillful female physician, who shall reside in said Asylum or Hospital, and who shall have the medical control of said female inmates, who shall report to the Superintendents and also to the Trustees.

It is to be noted that on final passage, the wording of the Act was altered by the substitution of "may" for "shall," thus making the

appointment of women physicians optional instead of obligatory upon the Trustees. This alteration was unknown to Dr. Corson until he received an engrossed copy of the bill, and it was an occasion of great disappointment to him to have the fruits of victory taken from his grasp after such a prolonged and well-fought contest.

Under date of January 9, 1879, the minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburg contain the following: "*Whereas*, the State Medical Society at its last meeting of the Society held at Pittsburg last May, appointed a Committee to memorialize the Legislature to pass laws, if any be needed, to have a female Medical Superintendent to have entire medical control and management of every female asylum or female department of every hospital for insane, under the control of the State, therefore

"*Resolved*, That we the Trustees of the Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburg, being deeply impressed with the propriety of the measure, and believing that many advantages would result to the female patients, from the proposed change, do earnestly desire that the Honorable Senators and Representatives will, in their wisdom, enact such laws as will enable the proposed measures to be carried into effect as soon as conveniently can be done." When the law was enacted, the Trustees, to their infinite credit, promptly carried out its intent by appointing two female physicians, and the Trustees' Report states: "Although these ladies have been but a short time in the Hospital, the greatly improved condition of the patients and wards, under their care, alike show the wisdom of the step taken by the Trustees in determining to have our female patients under charge of physicians of the same sex, and of the choice of the ladies to have such charge." This was in 1880, and since that time the woman physician has become a permanent fixture, not only in the Harrisburg hospital, as already stated, but at Norristown, Dixmont, Warren, Danville and Wernersville. For many years the Insane Department of the Philadelphia Almshouse has had some resident women physicians.

Dr. Corson lived to witness the fulfillment of his cherished desires, in the admission of women physicians into every hospital for the insane, in whole or in part, under State management, and he likewise had the intense satisfaction of witnessing the successful operation at the South-eastern Hospital in this county, of his plan which relieved the medical staff of the institution of all duties not pertaining to the professional care of the patients.

It is a wise observation, that great reforms come slowly, and it is confidently believed that in due time, with the necessary changes in the State laws now governing the other hospitals as to the duties of the Medical Superintendents, these officials will doubtless be relieved of all but purely professional work, thus allowing the Trustees really to govern these institutions in all respects as urged by Dr. Corson.

To but few is given the privilege of living a more honorable, useful, and blameless life than that which we are now contemplating. A man of determined character, with the courage of his convictions, Dr. Hiram Corson was a true friend, a conscientious and devoted physician, and a man of the strictest integrity in word and deed. Such a career inspires emulation, and we are reminded that, "the path of the just is as the shining light," and are prompted to exclaim, with the Hebrew prophet of old, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

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Worthington	43
Wolfe	28
Wyncoop	52
Yerkes	29, 65
Yocom	137
Young	61

Mr. Wilkesforce Eames,

Dear Sir,

Yours received and
I will be pleased to give
you a copy of the Coron
History although there are
only a few copies not dis-
tributed: Perhaps not more
than a dozen altogether.

There are a number of
mistakes we find, but that
is the history of all geneal-
ogies I suppose - Since pub-
lishing the book two persons
have written us to the effect
that to the best of their know-
ledge the family was not
^{French} August but Dutch - I think
even if they were Dutch instead

of French they ~~was~~ had
gone from France to Holland
before going to America
For when ~~was~~ they went
They built ~~several~~ Churches
both on Staten Island
and Bucks Co. Penna.
It is peculiarly appropriate
that a book should be in
the New York Library 43

Early
All the friends of the family
are in New York State —

My father died (in his
92nd year) before he had
his book completed which
was unfortunate as those
who took up the work of
him had little knowledge
of the subject. I enclose
also some data sent me

By an unknown friend after
reading the book. It seems
it carries the family back one
generation further than we had it.

Cor Peterson of New York married
Trijnje Hendricks.

They had

Cornelius Corson m. Marritje Van der
had griest-

Benjamin Corson m. Blandine Vile
and came to Penna &c "

Yours truly
Susan F Lubens

P. O. Address

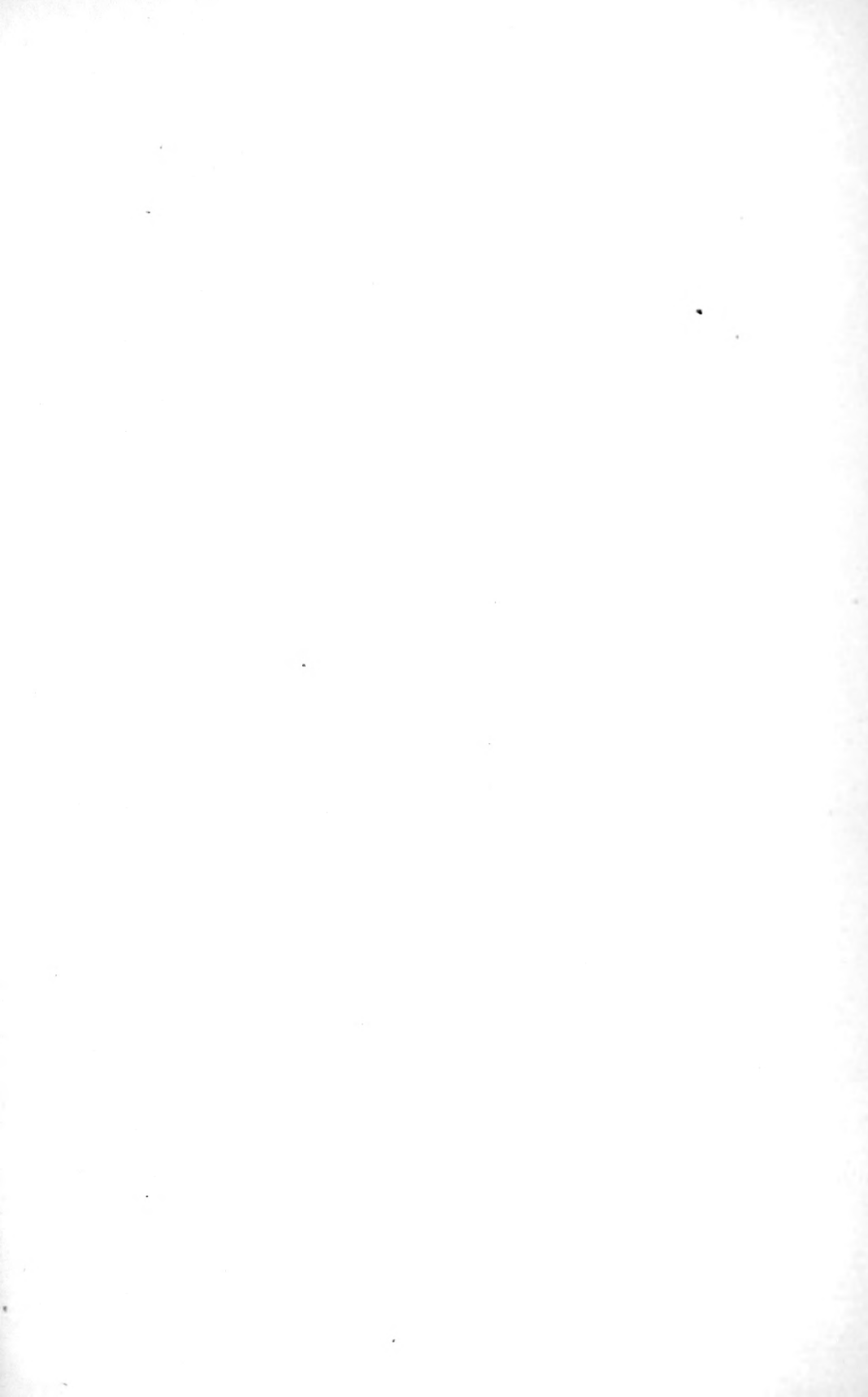
Wm Jawors Lubens
Conshohocken
Pa

	Date	Description	Amount	Balance
✓	1890	Jan 1	100.00	100.00
✓	1890	Feb 1	50.00	50.00
✓	1890	Mar 1	25.00	25.00
✓	1890	Apr 1	12.50	12.50
✓	1890	May 1	6.25	6.25
✓	1890	Jun 1	3.12	3.12
✓	1890	Jul 1	1.56	1.56
✓	1890	Aug 1	0.78	0.78
✓	1890	Sep 1	0.39	0.39
✓	1890	Oct 1	0.19	0.19
✓	1890	Nov 1	0.09	0.09
✓	1890	Dec 1	0.04	0.04
✓	1890	Total	100.00	100.00
✓	1890	Total	100.00	100.00





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