



# PENN VALLEY NEWS



Published by Members of the Penn Valley Association for Themselves  
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ISSUE No. 2

PENN VALLEY, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

OCTOBER, 1930

## Penn Valley Five or Ten Years Hence

Modern Homes, Fine Roads,  
Community Activities Are  
Pictured.

Have you stopped to consider the Penn Valley of five or ten years hence? We will be an old community then, the home of fine residences and beautiful estates. Our population should be several thousand and we should be as distinctive as Merion or Haverford—more distinctive, let us hope. We shall have broad and well-paved highways lined with mature flowering fruit trees which will make Penn Valley the mecca of all who love the beauties of "out of doors" particularly during the flowering season in early spring.

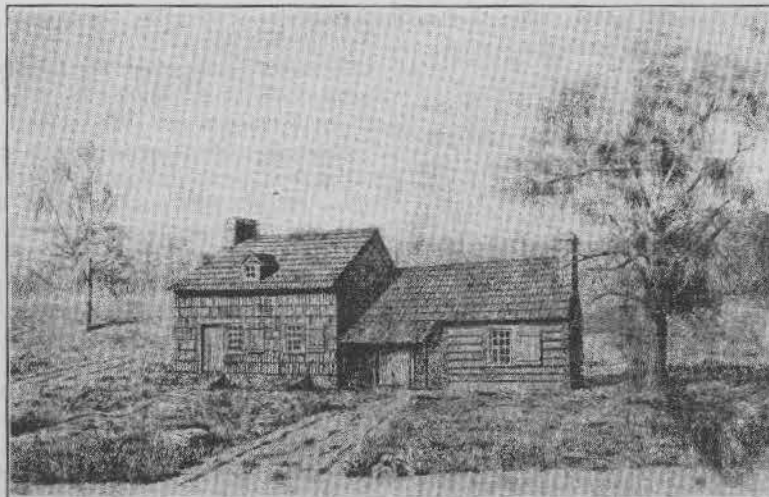
Bryn Mawr Avenue, which we now view with mingled feelings of pride and concern, will be a main artery of travel from the westerly suburbs to northern Philadelphia, although it will not carry much heavy traffic. It will be lined with lovely homes and will be beautifully planted. State Road will be a wide well-paved road and will probably carry considerable heavy traffic. The new State Boulevard to Valley Forge will be open, let us hope, providing us Penn Valleyites with through and quick traffic possibilities to the heart of the city. Viaducts over Belmont Avenue and City Line will mean entrance to the now newly paved West River Drive within five minutes from our homes. Ten or fifteen minutes to City Hall should be the regular program.

On either side this boulevard will be lined with fine homes and the whole area, from State Road to the River, will be Class A residential country. The crossroads—Woodbine, Gulph and Hagys Ford—will run through to the River. Of course the township dump and the piggeries will long since have given away to the march of modern progress.

Ten years from now we shall have built our Community House with its swimming pool and social halls. We shall also have our Penn Valley Golf Club down on the heights near the River. Our own golf, less than five minutes from our doorsteps — how many would like that in the near future? Perhaps there may be a flying field nearby and certainly the Association will make every effort to continue the lovely woodsey roads and trails which now make horseback riding in Penn Valley such a joy. Transportation will come slowly, which is as most of us will wish it. The railroads and trolleys will never reach Penn Valley, but in time we shall have our bus lines.

And lastly, in much less than ten years, the Penn Valley News will be published regularly by Mr. Livingston as one of his chain of suburban papers.

Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Hargett spent their vacation this July in Canada and Vermont.



The log cabin, built about 1683 for Katherine Thomas and family, one of the first Welsh homes in our Penn Valley district.

This pencil sketch was drawn by the artist, Mr. Jonathan Jones, one of her descendants, by a description given him many years ago by his father of the original log cabin.

Many of the early Friends' marriages took place in this cabin before the erection of the Merion Meeting House in 1695.

Sketch given through the kindness of Mrs. Laura Lee Jones.

## Early Days—When Penn Valley Was Penn's Valley

The Colonial and Revolutionary history of the Penn Valley district will interest all of those who now live in that portion of Lower Merion Township.

Traditions, contents of old deeds, local landmarks and lives of the early settlers should make us love the great trees, hills and valleys, running brooks, birds and fauna of Penn Valley.

At the corner of Montgomery Avenue and Woodbine Avenue the Colonial Dames have placed a stone inscribed: "On this and adjacent ground, Washington's Army encamped September 14, 1777." This event took place after their retreat from the Battle of the Brandywine to Valley Forge.

The old house on the Montgomery School property is referred to as Penn Hall and Penn Cottage.

Thomas Penn-Gaskill, a great-great-grandson of William Penn, owned the property in 1846. In his will he calls himself of Ballymaloe, County Cork, Ireland, and Penn Hall, Montgomery County.

Thomas' widow, Mary, in 1852, first month thirty-first, gave a reception and dinner to Granville John Penn, a lineal descendant of William Penn, an Englishman visiting friends in this country. Having invited him to dine with her at her residence, the beautiful Penn Cottage, also the family of Peter Penn-Gaskill and his children, all the descendants of William Penn. The whole entertainment was conducted in a very elegant and expensive manner. It was now 169 years since their ancestor came to this favored land—then a wilderness. And though few in numbers there were present in that parlor the descendants of William Penn by each of his wives.

There were also present descendants of the first President of Councils, first Governor, first Speaker of the First

Legislative Assembly, James Logan, the Secretary of William Penn, The Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, also Anthony Morris, the first Mayor of Philadelphia.

The portion of the Penn Valley of special interest to us is the 612½ acres of the southern part of Penn Valley deed to John ap Thomas, which was the northern part of the Welsh tract consisting of 2500 acres between City Line west of Montgomery Avenue, McClenaghans Mill Road, Montgomery School Line, Righters Mill Road, North of Mary Waters Road, to the Schuylkill River, south to City Line.

September 16 and 17, 1681, William Penn deeded to seventeen Welshmen—John ap Thomas and Dr. Edwin Jones, Trustees—5000 acres of land in Pennsylvania for a consideration of 100 pounds. Half of this land was surveyed above Philadelphia and was known as the Welsh tract. John ap Thomas died in Wales, but his wife, Katharine, sons and daughters settled in 1683 in the Welsh tract and the 612½ acres deeded to them was called "Gelli Yr Cochiad"—"the grove of the red partridge," and to this day the song of the "Bob White" is heard in the meadows and clearings.

Our illustration of the Katharine Thomas cabin, built before 1683, was drawn many years ago by one of our oldest inhabitants. The artist, Mr. Jonathan Jones, was given the design by his father who remembered the cabin before it was removed for the present modern building.

This cabin was located on the Walter Jones farm, east of State Road and north of Mary Waters Ford Road.

The western half of the John ap Thomas plantation, 303 acres, since 1851, was the Magee farm, and the eastern half ran from State Road and

CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE

### 'Phone Listings

Many Penn Valley residents arranged last spring to have their 'phones listed both in the suburban and Philadelphia directories as Penn Valley. If you have not done so already, you should write the Bell Telephone Company office in Ardmore asking for this change in listing. With the growing importance and recognition of our community, the condition will soon arise that a listing under any other designation than Penn Valley will confuse and mislead those who use the 'phone book.

### Treasurer's Report

After giving careful study to the regular needs of the Association it appears that for the year 1930-31 \$2500 will be required to continue the work which has already been started.

So far we have received from about fifty members \$1608.50, and have spent as follows:

Signs .....	\$608.10
Trees .....	340.00
Printing .....	199.95
Miscellaneous .....	130.43
Organization Work .....	208.40

\$1486.88

This leaves a balance in the account of \$121.62.

These requirements appear to be conservative, and in view of the fact that the work which has already been accomplished could not have been done with the money at hand if it had not been for the co-operation of the officers and members who did considerable on their own initiative.

### That Women's Club

So far as the Executive Committee knows there has been no move as yet towards the formation of a women's organization. Now that we are all back from vacation, won't the ladies please try to get together?

It would solve a lot of Penn Valley problems—particularly it would relieve the committee of worry over the refreshments at the association meetings. If someone or some two or three will just indicate a willingness to call a "get together" meeting for some afternoon the committee will be glad to send out notices.

### The Autumn Meeting

At 8 P. M. on Tuesday, October 14, we hold our fall meeting at the Montgomery School. There will be brief reports by your officers and Mr. Peter C. Hess, our Township Treasurer, will give us a description of Township matters. Light refreshments will follow.

Please try and be present.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Burke Wilford, Sally and Edward spent the summer at Whitefield, New Hampshire, at Spalding Inn.

## Horseback Trails in Penn Valley

(This information has been provided by  
Mr. J. A. Lafore)

Perhaps the people in our community do not realize what has been done recently in the way of providing trails for horseback riders, not only in the district north of Penn Valley, but also in Penn Valley itself. Between Conshohocken and West Manayunk there are over twenty miles of bridle paths and dirt roads forming almost continual trails for horseback riding, with only occasional stretches of hard road.

Due largely to the efforts of Mr. Clarence Wunder we now have about three or four miles of trails in Penn Valley itself, with about another mile now being laid out. From the Ludlam place on Mill Creek Road the Township has fixed a stretch of Hagys Ford Road for horseback riding. This connects to Hollow Road, which is a grass road running towards the river. At the intersection of Hollow Road and Sprague Road is the beginning of a trail passing through my place—Penn Valley Farm—which is about three-quarters of a mile long, and which connects with the head of the hill on Flat Rock Road. Flat Rock Road is a dirt road and carries the rider to Mary Waters Ford Road, another dirt road. From there passing up Centennial Road one will shortly find a beautiful trail cutting diagonally across the Lower Merion Township property, and the property recently acquired by Mr. Arthur Dearborn Smith, to the intersection of Mary Waters Ford Road and Conshohocken State Road. This is the point where the post stands which formerly carried the Penn Valley sign which has recently been removed (but which has now been replaced). On crossing State Road one gets on Righters Mill Road, which is a soft road to Hagys Ford Road at a point close to Dr. Bell's school. Then unfortunately comes a small section of hard road which it is hoped will soon be by-passed with a trail. Then from Righters Mill Road, more or less parallel to Mill Creek, is a beautiful trail leading to Sibley Road and another from Sibley Road to Fairview Road. Both of these make connections across Mill Creek to trails on the opposite side towards Conshohocken. There is also a trail from Righters Mill Road, more or less parallel to Mill Creek, to the intersection of Old Gulph Road and Mill Creek Road. These trails are of particular interest when one realizes that Righters Mill Road and a portion of Flat Rock Road, and probably Mary Waters Ford Road, were Colonial roads of considerable importance in Revolutionary and pre-Revolutionary days.

(Mr. Lafore has also provided a map showing the location of these trails. If you wish one, write the Association for it—P. O. Box 205, Narberth.)

## Early Days

CONTINUED FROM THE FIRST PAGE  
Manayunk Road to the Schuylkill River.

The descendants of John and Katharine Thomas were all surnamed Jones, and after the death of Katharine, the plantation passed to the eldest son, Thomas Jones.

Thomas Allen Glenn in "Merion in the Welsh Tract" 1896, gives several interesting references to the Katharine Thomas log cabin.

"There were until recently three houses here grouped near together. One of these was the original log

house built by Katharine Roberts, widow of John Thomas, and the eldest son, Thomas Jones. This ancient landmark, I was informed, was recently taken down, having been first photographed by the family; another house, yet in good condition, is the stone building which, in a few years after the first settlers, took the place of the log hut. The third house is a comfortable mansion erected later in Colonial days and since altered and modernized.

"Before the building of the Merion Meeting House, religious meetings were often held in his house (Hugh Roberts) and until the year 1695, nearly all the marriages among Friends were solemnized at the house of Katharine, widow of John ap Thomas, or that of Hugh Roberts, probably because they were large and convenient for the young people."

It is interesting to know that Mr. Lewis Jones Levick, of Bala, has a handsome cabinet made by combining without changing, two sea chests, handsomely carved which were brought to the New World from Wales; one was owned by Katharine Roberts, or Thomas, and carried her initials—K. R., 1664.

The early Welsh settlers grew flax on their plantation and the women wove the linen, also cloth from the wool.

Katharine's son, Thomas Jones, died in 1727. An inventory of his estate included: Three spinning wheels, two pounds five shillings, flax and hemp, four pounds, wheat and rye in barn, twenty pounds, hay and barley, eight pounds, wheat in the mill, ten pounds, brass pans, kettle and pots, five pounds fifteen shillings, fifty yards fine linen, eight pounds, saddle, bridle and pillion, 3 pounds ten shillings, eleven cows and bull, twenty-five pounds, etc. The entire estate amounted to 320 pounds.

An English pound of those days was worth about \$20 in our present money.

Evans Jones, the son of Thomas, inherited the western half of the Katharine Thomas plantation, which was after 1851 the Magee farm.

The site of the Evans Jones house before 1748 was on Gulph Road near Moreno Road. Mr. Daniel A. Newhall remodeled and added to the old house in building his new home, but he did not alter the old rafters, ceilings, fireplace and stairs.

Evans Jones must have used oxen on the farm, as an inventory of his estate made in 1748 included "pair of oxen yolk," also six pewter dishes and twelve plates, cash in house, eighteen pounds, nine shillings, fourteen rush bottom chairs, three indentured servants, forty-two pounds, etc.

There is so much of interest in our Penn Valley district that we might form a Penn Valley Historical Society and mark the site of the Katharine Thomas log cabin, Penn Hall and other such interesting places.

This article was prepared and written and the cut was furnished by Mr. James F. Magee, Jr., to whom the Association is indebted for this interesting historical description.

Mr. W. D. Fuller recently moved to his new home, "Deanewood," on Righters Road. He has recently had as his guest Mr. John S. C. Head, of Great Missenden, Bucks, England, whose home is close to William Penn's ancestral home at Stoke Poges. Mr. Head repeatedly remarked upon the beauty of Penn Valley and upon its similarity to the English Stoke Poges.

## Interesting Correspondence

### Why Don't You Write?

The first issue of Penn Valley News was fine. I extend my compliments to the officers of the association for their initiative in starting it. May it thrive and become a valuable bulletin of progress in Penn Valley! It will do more than anything else to impress the name Penn Valley on the minds of our residents.

The article concerning the proposed Parkway to Valley Forge is of especial importance to us. We owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Serrill for his suggestion and to the Regional Planning Federation for agreeing to show the route on the preliminary plan which they are preparing.

A few words could well be said here about the work of the Regional Planning Federation. Its efforts should be constantly boosted and encouraged by all residents of Philadelphia and suburbs, and particularly by the property owners of Penn Valley. If the wonderful plans of the Federation are carried out, including the Valley Forge Parkway, it means the opening up of Penn Valley, not in the nature of a real estate promotion, but to the end that the beauties of the section may be preserved for all time.

Getting back to Mr. Serrill's suggestion of the Valley Forge Parkway, a vision came to me while reading about it which I would like to pass along to the readers of the News, with the hope that someone will like the idea and will act on it, or bring it to the attention of someone who will act on it and at once, I hope.

The vision is of a PAY-AS-YOU-PLAY GOLF COURSE on the beautiful heights above the Schuylkill River, or, better yet, a RECREATIONAL CENTRE, including golf course, swimming pools, tennis courts, and other features comprising a SPORTS DEVELOPMENT such as Philadelphia does not yet possess but needs badly.

The proposed GOLF COURSE or RECREATIONAL CENTRE should be laid out with the main entrance and much of its area along the proposed Valley Forge Parkway. Prior to construction of the Parkway there would be ample access to it by means of the present roads.

I recommend the idea as a profitable venture for some far-sighted man like Mr. Powell, who had the courage to develop the Valley Forge Golf Club. The trouble with the latter is that it is too far away. It is 11.6 miles from my house, which makes it about 18.5 miles from City Hall. There is a great need for a SPORTS CENTRE nearer at hand, and now is the time to do it while land is available and not too expensive. And can anyone say that the Valley Forge Golf Club, public as it is, has lowered property values of adjacent property?

There is perhaps still another advantage to the suggestion, and that is that it probably would hasten construction of the proposed Parkway, and as the Parkway is so important to the future of Penn Valley, anything which would hasten it along is to everyone's advantage.

As a precedent for my suggestion, I call attention to an outstanding public development which has already been carried out in Westchester County, N. Y., where all valleys, streams, lakes and wooded areas wherever possible were taken over several years ago for park and recreational purposes. Swimming pools, recreational centres,

golf courses and camping areas were planned, and the residents of Westchester County and surrounding country have been provided with better recreational facilities on a public, yet self-supporting, nature than exist anywhere else, as far as I know. Increased property values have resulted from this, far exceeding all expectations and more than paying for the cost of development.

May this suggestion come to the attention of someone able to carry it through, and may it be fulfilled in the very near future.

V. L. SANDERSON.

## Have You Walked Down Bryn Mawr Avenue?

If you haven't, you will have a treat when you do so. The township has done a real job and we all owe our thanks to the Commissioners and particularly to Mr. Mancill. The new road swings down through the valley alongside of Gulley Run with fine, sweeping curves and through country which we all know is very lovely. It extends from Gulph Road to within about 150 feet of Manayunk Road, where it temporarily stops until some final decision is reached by the State as to how they are going to improve Conshohocken State Road. Bryn Mawr Avenue will then be properly connected up with State Road. The new roadbed is full 30 feet in width, built of concrete topped with asphalt and with a dressing of fine stone to give it a pleasing gray appearance. The road is curbed its entire length and proper drainage outlets have been provided into Gulley Run.

The road will be open to traffic within a few weeks and while a bit bumpy at the eastern end it will at once provide a fine cutoff from Montgomery Pike to Chestnut Hill, Germantown, Roxborough, Manayunk and the northern suburbs of Philadelphia. Residents of Penn Valley whose children attend the Cynwyd School will possibly find it more convenient than the present route down Montgomery Avenue and over Meeting House Lane.

## Fire Plugs and Signs

We have few fire plugs in Penn Valley at present. Here are their location: three on Montgomery Avenue, one at Bryn Mawr Avenue, one at Gulph Road and one near the Wohlert Nurseries; one on Bryn Mawr Avenue at Wellington Road; one at Mill Road near Manor Road, and one at the junction of Mary Waters Ford and State Roads.

Your committee has suggested further plugs at the following locations and we hope to secure at least some of them: Woodbine Avenue at Bryn Mawr Avenue; Bryn Mawr Avenue at Gulph Road; Manor Road at Gilpin Road; Moreno Road half way from Mill Road to Gulph Road; Righters Mill Road at Hagys Ford Road, and Fairview Road near Hagys Ford Road.

Street signs in Penn Valley are not altogether satisfactory and perhaps the association can do something about it. Have you any suggestions?

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Jordan have just returned from Jasper Park, Canada, after a very delightful outing. They also visited Vancouver, Montreal, and Quebec.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Allen and family spent some time this summer at Longport.

*Lower Merion*

*Township*



*Collection of*

*A. C. Chadwick Jr.*

Notes of Adam Sutton, who evidently was writing a book of history concerning Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, in the year 1888. Obtained from papers of Dr. Charles K. Mills, deceased, through his daughter, Mrs. Helen M. Weisenburg.

Pennanship poor and ink fading. Some data may be transcribed in a faulty manner.

<u>Paper Mills</u>	<u>Cotton Mills.</u>	<u>Woollen Factory</u>
Thos. Annis	Wm. Chadwick	Jno. Levering
Jacob Hagy	Geo. McClenachan	Jno Towers
Eliz. Helmstad		R. Wetherill
Llyod Jones		
Evan Jones		
Sam Lehman	<u>Saw Mills</u>	Grist Mill
Abner Levering	Jno. Levering	G. McClenachan
F. Sheetz.	G. McClenachan	Jno Roberts, Estate
	<u>Ferry</u>	<u>? man</u>
	<u>Dying Mill</u>	
	Silas Jonesing	G. Greeves.

Preface:

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In presenting to my fellow citizens this little local history of Lower Merion Township, I do not claim to give account of all the events that have occurred during the two centuries of its settlement. The writer does claim, however, some degree of accuracy in what is presented. He has been actuated by motives of true philanthropy, and hopes that the perusal of these pages may infuse into the minds of some of the rising generation a reverence for the tract and to note well the passing events of the present, so as to hand down to posterity an accurate account thereof. Very much that has been published during the last half century of the early settlers of the township, their doings, etc, has been, to the personal knowledge of the writer, very erroneous. The writers seem to have been informed of a few facts and these drew upon their fanciful imaginations for the purpose of making readable articles at the sacrifice of veracity. It has taken no small ~~xxxx~~ amount of labor and patience to collect the information herein imparted. Tons of publications and millions of paper, of manuscripts, have had to be closely ~~xxxxxxx~~ scanned. Nothing has been taken from mere hearsay, without having it well authenticated. The writer acknowledges his indebtedness for assistance in this work to historians, Buck, Bean, Jones, Smith and others.

An outline of a brief History of Lower Merion Twnshp, from its earliest Settlement to date---1888

Classification of Matter.

- 1: Location, acreage, and square miles etc.
- 2: Organization, Flora, Minerals.
- 3: Early Settlers, Owners; Past, Present and Number.
- 4: Horses and Cows: Past and Present. Slaves Etc per assessment.
- 5: Fords, Ferries and Fisheries & Owners & Freshets.
- 6: Internal Improvements.
- 6: Roads, Railroads, Canals, & Stage Routes, Station, Bridges.
- 7: Stores, past and Present; Hotels, Past and Present, Propts.
- 8: Post Offices, and when Established & Postmasters.
- 9: Schools, Past and Present, and Teachers.
- 10: Churches, When erected: Preachers; Physicians.
- 11: Industries, when and where est, and by whom.
- 12: Banks, when est. officers and capital.
- 13: Supervisors, and time of service.
- 14: Assessors & Auditors & time of service.
- 15: Constables & Justices of the Peace and time of service.
- 16: Marriage of early settlers and where.
- 17: Naturalization of Foreign Citizens.
- 18: Beneficial and other societies.
- 19: Law Suits and the participants.
- 20: Grand and Petit Jurors. Estab. election Polls and where.
- 21: Old buildings. Now in existence.
- 22: Soldiery of Revolution; War of 1812; Rebellion.
- 24: Fatalities: such as murders, fires, accidents.
- 25: Miscellaneous incidents and reminiscence.
- 26: Cemsteries, number acreage, population, the most distinguished, cost of tombs, etc.

OLD PEOPLE.

Jno Llewellyn, son of Griffith, who came in 1690, born in Lower Merion in 1719---died 1786.

Capt. Jno Young, born near White Hall in 1742. died Aug. 19th 1822 Aged 80. Buried in L. M. Baptist Church Ground.

David Young. Sept 15th, 1826 aged 80  
Llewellyn Young, Nov: 28th 1828 aged 84  
Morris Llewellyn, Nov. 29th 1829 Aged 77.  
Jno. Righter, Nov. 29th 1828 " 91  
Azaetna Young Oct. 28th 1827 " 82  
Geo. McClenachan Sept. 8 1832 " 31 neck broken  
" " " Aug 12 1833 " 74

Lieut. Jno L Young, a gallant soldier of war of 1812, died at Indianapolis, Ind., in the fall of 1839, in his 49th year. Mention is made elsewhere of his company.

Mary Taylor, died Dec. 10th 1843 aged 80.

James Wilson, father-in-law of Cartner, -July 5th 1849-aged 99.

Elizabeth Llewellyn, 2nd wife of Capt. Jno. Young died at Merion Square, Feb. 29th 1850, in her 87th year. Inter. at L. M. Baptist Church. Born in L.M. 1763.

Jno Weyner, an old resident of L.M. died April 3rd 1853 aged 84  
Martha Young, April 5th 1855 aged 76  
Sarah Young July 24th 1856 " 76  
Samuel Young Aug. 1st 1856 " 80  
Jno. Young Oct. 30th 1856 " 80  
Mary Smith, May 14th 1857 " 100  
Paul, Jones Sept. 11th 1857 " 82  
Lloyd Jones, Sept 17th 1857 " 92  
Ann Smith Sept 22nd 1857 " 96

Dr. Morris McClenachan, a native of L. M. and son of late George McClenachan and grand son of Blair McClenachan, and distinguished patriot of the Revolution died at Phila. March 16th 1860, in his 63rd year.

Ann Menques, died Dec. 20th 1861 aged 88.

Griffith Young, April 20th 1862 " 77

David Young. Oct. 8th 1863. " 73

Mary Stillwagon Dec. 20th 1863 " 80

Interred at Lutheran Ground.

Jno. R. Smith, July 20th 1864 aged 74

Dr. Jno. H. Levering, an eminent physician died Feb. 13th 1866, in his 49th year, Interred at L.M. Baptist Church. He was a gentlmen of fine social qualities of both head and heart, and all who came in contact with him were constrained to respect him through his genial manners and sociability. He occupied no mean place among the medical fraternity and his untimely death was deeply regretted by a host of friends. Peace to thy ashes.

Abm. Levering, died at Lafayette, Ind. Oct. of 1866, aged 79

Old People #2.

4

David Llwellyn,	died Sept. 8th 1861	aged 80
William McClenachan,	died Feb. 19th 1869	aged 53
Susan Smith	Apr. 13th 1869	" 97
Ann Rust, or Reist,	May 25th 1869	" 96
Jno. Righter,	June 16th 1869	" 84
Jno. Llwellyn,	Dec. 12th 1869	" 82
Asab Glanding	Dec. 13th 1869	" 98

Richard B. Jones, a native of L.M. and son of Jno Jones, Judge, born in 1783, died at Phila., Feb. 14th 1879 in his 87th year. He was buried at Doylestown Cemetery. He fell heir to a valuable plantation and was ~~associated with~~ Associate Judge of Montgomery County for many years. He was present at the bombardment of Tripoli, about the year 1802, and had reputation of being a gallant officer. He was a gentleman of education and refinement and for many years held a prominent position in society.

A. E. McKeever,	died Sept. 2nd 1876.	aged 68
William Meys,	Sept. 27th 1876	" 63
Andrew Crawford,	Oct 19th 1870	" 94
Ann Scheetz,	May 30th 1871	" 96
Jno Whiteman	July 18th 1871	" 82
Ann Grow,	Aug. 10th 1871	" 85
James Grow,	Aug. 15th 1871	" 85
Israel Morris,	Aug. 17th 1871	" 94
Elizabeth Scheetz,	Aug 19th 1871	" 96.
Jno. Newberry	Dec. 9th 1871	" 80
Wm. Llwellyn.	Dec. 27th 1870	" 79

OLD PEOPLE-Continued-

David N. Egbert, a very prominent citizen of L.M. in his day. Kept store and tavern at Merion Square a number of years, and held office of Justice of Peace a long while, etc, etc. He died May 13th 1873, aged 86.

Lloyd Barr,	died Sept. 3rd 1873	Aged 80
Elizabeth Lewis,	Oct. 10th 1873	" 83
Isaac DeHaven	Oct 26th 1873	" 75
Wm. Thomas	Nov. 28th 1873	" 88
Jno Wainwright	July 18th 1874	" 88
Mary Hayes	July 22nd 1874	" 86

Letitia, relict of Morris McClenachan, of L.M., died at Philadelphia, July 8th 1874, in her 74th year. Interred at South Laurel Hill Cemetery. She was a lady of education and refinement and was universally respected for her many noble qualities.

Sarah Givin Jan 26th 1875 Aged 95  
 Mrs. Harriet, relict of David Young, being the matron of General Wayne Hotel, died Oct. 14th 1876, at age of 70. Mrs. Young was a lady of intelligence, kind and motherly unto all with whom she came in contact and won the respect and confidence of all who knew her.

Jacob Stadelman, the inheritor and proprietor for many years of Black Horse Hotel, died Nov. 24th 1874. aged 80. Interred at Lutheran Cemetery.

Sarah Givin (a repetition) died Jan 26th 1875 aged 95  
 Elizabeth Fisher, July 17th 1876 " 80  
 Thos. Whiteman Mar. 16th 1877 aged 82  
 Catharine Sibley Nov. 28th 1877 " 91

Ann McClenachan, a daughter of George McClenachan, of L.M. died at West Philadelphia, April 9th 1878, in her 68th year. She, like other members of her family, was a lady of refinement and highly respected. Interred at L.M. Baptist Churchyard.

Thomas Vaughan, a worthy citizen died Nov. 4th 1878 in his 82nd year.

Jno. Levering, a noted Geometrician, and one of the most refined gentlemen that ever lived, died Nov. 13th 1878 in his 90th year. He was born and always lived a mile and a  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the L. M. Academy, near which place he ended his days.

Col. Owen Jones, a descendant of one of the very earliest settlers died at his home--Wynnewood--Dec. 25th 1878. in his 59th year. Interred at Laurel Hill Cemetery. At breaking out of Rebellion Mr. Jones ~~enlisted~~ raised a company of cavalry among his personal friends, in L.M., and adjacent townships. The officers were: Capt. Owen Jones; 1st lieutenant J. Stadelman; 2nd Lieut. Theo Sheat. Col. Jones' military record is to be commended, so long as he remained with the army. He entered army as Captain July 1st 1861, of 1st Penna Cavalry, 4 days afterward he was promoted to rank of Major and in Oct. following to Lieutenant Colonel. He led his regiment at Drainsville, and when Stonewall Jackson appeared in the Shenandoah Valley, his regiment was sent thither to check his operations. He was in action almost constantly from this time and went through sharp encounters at Cedar Mountain, 2nd Bull Run, Harrisonburg, Port Republic, Cross Keys and Fredericksburg. After McClellan's resignation and Hooker's succession to the Army of the Potomac, Jones resigned and retired to private life, until the end of life, which terminated quite suddenly while on his way to spend an evening with a friend. He was found dead upon his own premises, south of the P. R. R. He awaits the dawn of the last day at ~~xxxxxx~~ Laurel Hill Cemetery. He was possessed of ample means, but seldom used it except for his own personal ends.

Jesse Stillwagon	Died Jan 13th 1879	aged 89
Priscilla Tunis,	Feb. 5th 1879	" 89
Eleanor Curwin,	Feb 6th 1879	" 91
Rudolph Scheetz,	Mar 26th 1879	82
Wm. E. Taylor	May 3rd 1879	75
Susan Smith	Aug 19th 1879	87
John Deal	" 24th 1879	83

Charles Kryles died at his residence, at Ardmore, October 28th 1879, in his 95th year. He was born of Jno and Harriet Kryles, who kept ~~xxxxx~~ Seven Stars Hotel for many years. From 1824 to 1870 he served as a school director. From his majority until breaking out of Rebellion he was a Democrat in politics and was elected by that party to State Legislature, in 1842. In 1861 he affiliated with the Republican party and continued a warm supporter of the party until called from earth. During his sojourn here he served his fellow citizens in many public capacities and was frequently chosen as executor and to manage



Old People #4

6

trusts. He was a man highly respected and of warm, peaceful integrity. He died in house where he first saw the light of day.

Hannah Hoffman died Jan 7th 1880 aged 91  
Hannah Stanley died April 13th 1880 80  
Horatio G. Litzenberg, for many year proprietor of the Red Lion Hotel, and store, died Mar 23rd 1880, in his 66th year, leaving a valuable estate. Interred at L.M. Baptist Churchyard.

Jno Hoffman, near Academy, died Nov. 17th 1880 aged 88  
Ann Nippes, of Mill Creek, died Jan 11th 1881 " 91  
Matilda McClanachan, died at West Philadelphia, Dec. 4th 1881. in her 69th year. Interred at L.M. Baptist Church. She was youngest daughter of late George McClenachan, of L.M. and granddaughter of Blair McClenachan. She bequeathed \$1000 to Baptist Church and \$100 to Lutheran S.S. and a set of china which belonged to Joseph Bonaparte to a friend. She was an estimable and accomplished lady.

Margaret Robeson Died Feb 16th 1881 aged 87  
Charlotte Jones " Aug. 29th 1881 " 84  
Mary Amos (?) youngest daughter of late Thomas Amos, who was a well known paper manufacturer, on Mill Creek, died at West Philadelphia, September 27th 1881 in her 72nd year. She was a woman highly esteemed and was interred at Lutheran Church grounds.

Mary Miller, died Nov. 14th 1881 aged 102 years  
Emily Gorman, died Dec. 12th 1881, in her 79th year.  
Jane Warner, relict of Isaac Warner and mother of Warner men at Haverford College, died at her residence there, May 15th 1882, in the 93rd year of her age. She occupied house in which she died some 74 years and never rode in a railroad car.

Patrick Scanlon, on old country man, but long time resident of L.M. died Jan 27th 1883, in his 88th year.

Wm. Dunne, also an Irishman and long a resident of L.M., near Spring Mill, died Feb. 4th 1883, in his 88th year.

George Prince, died Feb 14th 1883 aged 88 years.  
Mary Jones, 2nd wife of Ont. Jones and step mother of late Col. Owen Jones, died Feb. 13th 1883, aged 90.

Hilary Krickbunn, a descendant of a well known resident of L. M. died Feb. 24th 1883, aged 81.  
Catherine Levering, relict of Abm. Levering, died at Lafayette, Ind., Nov, 25th 1883, in her 92nd year. She was a daughter of Wm. Hagy, proprietor of a paper mill on Mill Creek in the past Century. She removed West with her husband, Abm. and family in 1856.

Mary Ann Vaughan, relict of Reuben, died Nov. 10th 1883, in her 79th year.

Deborah Barr, Oct. 2nd 1884, in her 80th year.

William Rudolph, a licentiate of the M. E. Church, died April 12th 1885, in his 75 year.

Elizabeth Young, a natice of L.M. and daughter of Captain Young, died at Wissahickon, June 17th 1885, in 91st year. She lived in Merion 84 years.

Margaret Young, another daughter of Capt. Young, died at Llwellyn, Oct. 6th 1885, in the 92nd year of her age. The family originally consisted of 13 children, all born in Lower Merion, 8 of whom, including Elizabeth, died at ages varying from 70 years upwards. Her father Capt. ~~YAKEM~~ Jno. Young was a good soldier of the Revolutionary War and was born in Lower Merion, 1742, and lived to be 81, her to be 87. The only surviving member of the family is the youngest, Thomas L. Young, who now lives with his son Charles L. Young of Wissahickon. Margaret's death was due to senile debility. She had never been seriously ill in her life and retained possession of all her faculties until near the close of her life. She never rode ina railroad car.

Hannah Stadelman, wife of Jacob. Died Dec. 18th 1885, in her 83rd year.

Catherine Colflesh, of L.M. died 1886 in her 86th year.

Sarah Young, a native of L.M. and resident of the place 67 years, died in Hatfield (?) Township, Montgomery County, Sept. 5th 1886.

Margaret Young, a sister died Sept 8th 1886, in her 73rd year. Ann Rose, wife of Thos. Rose, and sister of the above named, died in L.M. Sept 12th 1886, in her 75th year. Thus 3 sisters in one week.

Edward R. Price, of L.M. died at his residence where he was born and lived all his life, Aoril 18th 1887, in his 77th year. He was a worthy and respected citizen and expired to the sorrow of his friends, and in his will remembered the old meeting and the friends who served him faithfully and left a large bequest for educational purposes.

Mary Vaughan, relict of Thos. Vaughan, died May 27th 1887, in her 80th year.

Jesse Vandegrift, a descendant of old settler died Jan. 31st 1887, in his 80th year.

During the last half century, there have passed from confines of Earth, natives or residents of Lower Merion as follows:

Died between 70 and 80 years	Some	32
" " 80 and 90 "	"	67
" " 90 and 100 "	"	36
" over 100 years	"	3

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A list of some of the pioneer settlers of Lower Merion who were naturalized in pursuance of "An Act of Parliament, made in the thirteenth year of the Reign of His Majesty, King George, the Second, entitled, 'An Act for Naturalizing such Foreign Protestants, and others therein mentioned, as are entitled or shall settle in any of His Majesty's Colonies in America'"

Name	Time of Taking Sacrament.
Melchoir Meng	1751
Jacob Hagy	1751
Andreas Warner	1751
Jacob Yoacham	Sept. 20th 1761
Frederick Bicking	Apr 3rd 1763
Stephen Goodman	Apr 3rd 1763
Frederick Groh	Sept. 11th 1763
David Suldrick	Sept 8th 1764
Jesse Guyger	Sept 8th 1764
Wendel Kingfield	Sept 8th 1764
John Growar (?)	Sept 22nd 1764
Leonard Heidley	Sept 22nd 1767
Martin Miller	Sept 30th 1767
Jacob Peterman	Apr 3rd 1763
Peter Pechin, of Haverford	Aug 25th 1763
George Ott, of Bristol, Bucks Co. Pa.	April 3rd 1763
Rowland Young	April 3rd 1763
William Stadelman	April 11th 1762

Attested by William Allen, Esq.  
Chief Justice of Supreme Court.

A record of the overseers or supervisors of Roads in Lower Merion Township, from 1703 to 1887.

1704	David Price and Cadwalader Morgan
1705	Owen Roberts
to	" "
1710	" "
1710	Jonathan Jones
1711	Thomas Jones and Benjamin Humphreys
1712	Benjamin Humphreys
1713	" "
1714	" "
1715	Peter Jones and Peter Yokeham
1716 and 1717	Edward Reese and Daniel Thomas
1718	John Roberst Jr.
1719 and 1720	John Roberts
1721	Robert Roberts and Hugh Evans
1722	Richard Harrison and Jonathan Jones
1723	Robert Roberts and Hugh Evans
1724	Abel Thomas and Wm. Walker
1725 and 1726	Owen Thomas and Jno. Jones
1727 and 1728	Evan Apevan and Thomas David
1729	Morris Llwellyn and Thomas Lloyd
1730	Robert Jones and Wm. ce Thomas
1732	David Price and Reese Thomas

Overseers: continued:

- 1732 Jno. Griffith and Thos Nicholas
- 1733 Richard Hughes and Reece Phillips
- 1734 Robt Evans and Jno Roberts
- 1735 Jno. Roberts and Jos Williams
- 1736 Evan Jones and David Davis
- 1737 Reece Price and Jas. Johns
- 1738 Reece Price and Gerard Jones
- 1739 Edward Price and Jos. Tucker
- 1740 Morris Llwellyn and Wm. Havard
- 1741 Jno. Roberts Carpenter and Henry Pugh
- 1742 Richard George and Robert Jones
- 1743 Jno. Humphreys and Jos. Humphreys
- 1744 Griffith Llwellyn and Hugh Evans
- 1745 Jos. Roberts and Jno. Roberts.
- 1746 Jno. Roberts Carpenter and Jno. Roberts Miller
- 1747 Dennis Conrad and Jas. Winter
- 1748 David Evans and Jos. Wiley
- 1749 David Evans and Matthias Tolby
- 1750 " " " " " "
- 1751 Anthony Tunis and Hugh Jones, Blacksmith
- 1752 Jno. Lloyd and Jacob Jones
- 1753 Wm. Stadelman and James Much
- 1754 Richard Pearce and Isaac Taylor
- 1755 and 1756 Jno. Rodgers and Robert Faries.
- 1757 Abram Tunis and Enoch Davis
- 1758 Jno. Price and Alexander Cruickshanks
- 1759 Jno. Roberts and Thomas Cochran
- 1760 Jno. Llwellyn and Anthony Levering
- 1761 Robert Jones and William O Duddell
- 1762 " " " " " " " " " " " "
- 1763 William Thomas and Edward Price
- 1764 Hugh Roberts and Jos Tunis
- 1765 Wm. Stadelman and Abraham Nanna
- 1766 Robert Roberts and Jno. Brookes
- 1767 Robert Roberts and Stephen Goodman.
- 1768 Jacob Jones and Jno Robinson.
- 1769 Isaac Taylor and Paul Jones
- 1770 " " " " " " " " " " " "
- 1771 and 1772 Hugh Jones and Jno. Price
- 1773 and 1774 Stephen Carpenter and Jno. Zell
- 1775 Anthony Levering and Jno. Riter (Righter)
- 1776 Thomas Cochran and Anthony Levering.
- 1777 and 1778 Thomas Cochran and Jno Roberts Carter
- 1779 Owen Roberts and Jno Roberts Carter
- 1780 and 1781 " " " " " " " " " " " "
- 1782 Jno, Roberts and William Holbert
- 1783 and 1784 " " " " " " " " " " " "
- 1785 Jno. Jones, of Gulph, and Wm. Stadelman
- 1786 Reece Price and David Briggs,
- 1787, 1788, 1789 and 1790 Abel Thomas and Peter Evans
- 1791 Abel Thomas and Jno. Jones
- 1792 Jno. Curwen and Jno, Roberts Carter
- 1793 Nathan Jones and Joseph Wilson
- 1794 " " and Peter Evans
- 1795 Hugh Knox and Conard Krickbaum
- 1796 " " " Hugh Tarrance
- 1797 " " " Wm. Colflesh
- 1798 " " " Henry Colflesh
- 1799 and 1800 " " " " "

1801 Hugh Knox and Jno. Taylor  
 1802 " " " Hugh Tarrance  
 1803 Titus Yerkes and Jno. Taylor  
 1804 " " " Jno. Horn  
 1805 " " " " "  
 1806 Jno Roberts " " "  
 1807 " " " " "  
 1808 Hugh Tarrance and Lewis Knox  
 1809 Lewis Knox and Hugh Tarrance  
 1810 " " " Peter Pechin  
 1811 " " " " "  
 1812 " " " Jno. Horn  
 1813 George Hansel and Jno. Horn  
 1814 " " " " "  
 1815 Jno. Horn and Lloyd Jones  
 1816 " " " " "  
 1817 Wm. Stadelman and Jno. Robeson  
 1818 " " " Jno. Matheys  
 1819 Jno Matheys and Jno. Taylor  
 1820 Jno, Horn and Silas Jones  
 1821 " " and John Taylor  
 1822 Jas. H. Jones and Jacob Sibley  
 1823 " " " " "  
 1824 Samuel Young and Jacob Sibley  
 1825, 1826 and 1827 same  
 1828 Samuel Young and Jacob Cartner  
 1829 David H. Egbert and Jacob Sibley  
 1830 Samuel Young and Christian Shank  
 1831 " " " " "  
 1832 Jacob Sibley and Jno. Wilson  
 1833 " " " " "  
 1834 " " " " "  
 1835 " " " " "  
 1836 " " " " "  
 1827 Anthony L. Anderson and Jno. Wilson  
 1838 Charles Leedom and " "  
 1839 Lloyd Barr and Morris Sibley  
 1840 " " " " "  
 1841, 1842 and 1843 same  
 1844 Morris Sibley and Reuben Vaughan  
 1845 Jos. Thomas and " "  
 1846 and 1847 same  
 1848 Reuben Vaughan and Alexander Brooke  
 1849 Jos. Thomas and Alfred Edwards  
 1850 Jacob Rodenbaugh and Wm. G. Smith  
 1851 " " " " " "  
 1852 Thomas Vaughan and " " " "  
 1853 Thomas Vaughan and Jonathan Haycock.  
 1854 Jesse Vandegrift and " "  
 1855 " " and ~~David Yetter~~ David Yetter  
 1856 " " and Wm. G. Smith  
 1857 Wm. Gray and Wm. G. Smith  
 1858 " " " " " "

## Auditors of Township Accounts: Lower Merion.

1766	Jas Jones, Jno Roberts Carpenter, Jno Price and Jacob Jones.
1767	Jno. Righter, Abrm. Nanna, Reese Thomas and Hugh Roberts.
1768	Jas Jones, Edw Price, Jno Roberts and Jno Righter.
1769	Wm. Thomas, Edw Price, Jno Roberts and Jno. Llwellyn.
1770	Jno Roberts Carpenter, Jno Roberts and Thomas Cochran.
1771	Jas Jones, Jno Roberts, Nathan Jones and Jacob Jones.
1772	Jacob Jones, Jno Roberts, Nathan Jones and Jno Hughes.
1773	Jno Roberts, Jno Roberts, Anthony Levering, and Thos Cochran
1774	Jno Roberts, Jno. Price, Thomas Cochran and Nathan Jones.
1775	Jno Price, Abrm Nanna, and Paul Jones.
1776	Jacob Jones, Jno Price, Nathan Jones and Thos Roberts.
1777	Abrm Nanna, Jno Price, Jno Righter, Algernon Roberts.
1778	Reese Price, Algernon Roberts, Arm Nanna, Israel Jones.
1779	Abrm Nanna, Paul Jones, Israel Jones, Rees Price
1780	Jno. Price, Thos. Cochran, Jno. Righter, Alg. Roberts.
1781	Israel Jones, Alg. Roberts, Jno Righter Thos Cochran
1782	" " " " " " Llewellyn Young
1783	" " " Paul Jones, " " Richard Tunis
1784	Benj. Brooke, Alg Roberts " " " "
1785	Thos Cochran " " " " " "
1786	Thos Roberts, " " Thos Cochran, Paul Jones
1787	Jno Righter, Jos Price " " " "
1788	Thos Cochran, Jno Jones, Richard Tunis, " "
1789	Alg. Roberts, Benj Brooke, Jno Curwin " "
1790	Jos Price Jno Roberts, " " Jno Righter
1791	" " Richd Tunis, Benjamin Brooke " "
1792	" " Jont. Rambo Jno Jones, David Roberts
1793	" " Thos Cochran, " " Hugh Knox
1794	" " Benj Brooke, Wm Hagy, Llewellyn Young
1795	" " Alg Roberts, Jno Jones, " "
1796	" " " " " " Benj Brooke.
1797	Samuel Evans, " " " "
1798	Jos Price, Jno Righter, Wm Stadelman, Jno Jones.
1799	" " David Roberts, Wm Hagy, Samuel Evans.
1800	Abel Thomas, " " , George McClenachan.
1801	Benj. Brooke, Wm. Stadelman, Wm. Hagy, Jos Price.
1802	George McClenachan, Jos Price.
1803	Jos Price, Wm Hagy, Alg. Roberts
1804	" " , Wm. Stadelman, Hugh Tarrance
1805	" " Jont, Jones, Jos Robeson, Wm. Hagy.
1806	" " " " " " " "
1807	Geo. McClenachan, Geo. Jarrett, Geo. Weest, Conrad Krickbaum.
1808	" " , Jos Price, Jont. Jones.
1809	Peter Wallower, Jno. Wagner, Jont, Jones, George Weist
1810	Jos. Price, Titus Yerkes, Jno, Curwin.
1811	" " Thos <del>Rxxx</del> Price
1812	" " William Holgate.
1813	" " Wm. Stadelman, Jas H. Jones.
1814	Titus Yerkes, Paul Jones, Jacob Hagy.
1815	Jos. Price. Titus Yerkes.
1816	" " Jno. Rickard, Jno Elliot, Jno, Matheys.
1817	" " Titus Yerkes, " "

1818	Jos. Price, Jacob Hagy, Samuel Stearne, Jno Righter, Jr.
1819	Jno Elliott, Samuel Young, Paul Jones, Jacob Latch
1820	" " Blair McClenachan, Abner Levering
1821	Jno Matheys, George Righter, " " Ed P Walters
1822	Jos Crawford, Daniel Nippes, Jacob Stadelman, " "
1823	Jacob Latch, B. McClanachan, George Pechin, " "
1824	Jacob Hagy, " " Thomas Price, Jno, Levering
1825	Rees Harry, Edw Walters, George Pechin
1826	Jno. Litzenberg, Jno Rickard, " " E. P. Walters
1827	Rees Harry, Jno Roberts, " " Samuel Reeves
1828	Jos Crawford, " " Abner Levering Jacob Hagy
1829	Chas Kugler, Jos W. Thomas, I.W. Roberts, Samuel Shubert.
1830	Abm. Levering, Jno, Litzenberg, Jacob Sibley, George Pechin.
1831	" " Jos. Crawford, Jno. Levering.
1832	George Pechin, " "
1834	Abm Levering, George Pechin, Chas. Kugler
1835	Samuel Ott, " " " "
1836	" " George Righter " "
1837	" " " " " "
1838	" " " " Paul Jones.
1839	Thos. G. Lodge, George Righter Paul, Jones.
1840	" " " Silas Jones " "
1841	" " " " " George Pechin
1842	Ed Price " " " "
1843	" " " " " "
1844	" " " " " "
1845	" " " " Jno. Levering
1846	" " Jno Young " "
1847	Owen Jones, " " " "
1848	" " Chas. Kugler
1849	N. Evans, " "
1850	" " David Morgan, Chas Kugler (or Kuyler)
1851	" " " " E. R. Price
1852	Chas. Kugler " " " " "
1853	" " Jno. Levering, " " "
1854	" " " " " "
1855	" " " " Wm. Hagy
1856	" " " " " "
1857	" " " " " "
1858	" " H.G. Litzenberg.
1859	Wm. Sibley.

## EARLY MARRIAGES.

A register of some of the early settlers as gleaned from Pennsylvania Archives.

Those united at Christ Church, Philadelphia, are as follows:

July 22, 1711	Griffith Jones and Sarah Morris
Nov. 28th 1720	Griffith Jones and Elizabeth Thomas
Oct. 13th 1726	Griffith Jones and Mary Bevan.
Feb. 23rd 1728	Matthew Roberts and Sarah Walter
June 28th 1727	Owen Jones and Ann Davis
Feb. 15th 1730	Jno. Jones and Elizabeth Roberts.
Nov. 25th 1734	Cadwallader Jones and Sabel Hooven
May 9th 1744	Jos Price and Hannah Jones
Aug. 20th 1751	Samuel Jones and Rachel Thomas.
Mar 26th 1761	Robert Holland and Jane Price.
Nov 26th 1779	Jno. Roberts and Abigail Rees.

Early Marriages: Continued.

August 5th 1772 Llewellyn Young and Ariadore Young.  
Aug. 15th 1771 Jno. Jones and Mary Rowland.  
Sept 10th 1804 Richard Roberts and Rebecca Jones.  
We give place here to notice the nuptials of a  
noted character of Revolutionary fame:  
Anthony Wayne and Mary Penrose. Mar 25th 1776.

THOSE AT SWEDES CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA:

April 9th 1783 John Young and Elizabeth Llewellyn

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL.

Dec. 12th 1706 Hugh Jones and Jane Pugh.

GERMAN REFORMED.

Dec. 24th 1782 Jacob Latch and Jane Rau (?)  
April 5th 1788 Melchoir Meng and Elizabeth Lehman,  
Aug. 30th 1768. Johann Bonner and Elizabeth Stadelman

FIRST BAPTIST.

Dec. 1st 1764. Jonathan Roberts and Ann Starr  
July 4th 1776 David Zell and Elizabeth Roberts  
April 4th 1802 Andrew Anderson and Hannah Levering.  
May 3rd 1791 Jacob Holgate and Elizabeth Scheetz.

PHILADELPHIA MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS:

12th Mo. 24<sup>th</sup> 1726 Benj. Humphries and Esther Warner

ST. MICHAEL'S And ZION CHURCH.

June 6th 1769 Reece Price and Hannah Roberts  
Sept. 29th 1778 George Helmbold and Elizabeth Scheetz  
Oct 26th 1778 Abraham Llewellyn and Mary Baldwin  
Nov. 19th 1781 John Bicking and Catherine May  
April 17th 1783 Jack and Flora (Negroes) By Master's consent.  
Feb. 7th 1783 Adam Litzenberg and Hannah Widerman  
Sept 9th 1790 Wilhelm Stadelman and Catherine Mey  
May 19th 1799 George Latch and Lydia Thomas  
April 8th 1794 Peter Ott and Margaret Meis.  
Nov. 3rd 1796 John Supplee and Hannah Jones.

ST. PAUL'S Church.

June 11th 1763 John McClenachan and Elizabeth Taylor  
Sept 25th 1788 Jacob Ott and Mary White, of Oxford.  
Mar 6th 1790 John Duncan and Judith Smith (free blacks)  
Jan 2nd 1795 George McClenachan and Mary Morris.



Early Marriages.

Jan 24th 1776 Wm. Llwellyn and Susannah Hacket

Mar, 1747 Abel Lodge and Hannah Wood

Aug 5th 1772 Llwellyn Young and Ariadna Llwellyn

Aug 31st 1762 Blair McClenachan and Ann Darragh

June 11th 1763 Jno McClenachan and Elizabeth Taylor

April 10, 1773 George Markert and Margaret Stellwagon

June 6th 1769 Reese Price and Hannah Roberts

March 24th 1774, Abel Thomas and Elizabeth Roberts.

July 24th 1769 Benj. Jones and Tazy Roberts

Aug 29th 1768 Jno Bonner and Elizabeth Stadelman

Aug. 22nd 1745 Benj. Levering and Elizabeth Jones at Christ Ch,  
Philadelphia.

## SOLDIERS OF 1812.

The Roll Book of Captain Jno. L. Young's Company happens to be preserved in the possession of one of descendants, and being in accord with records of Pennsylvania Archives, a copy is here appended:

Captain Jno. Rawlins,  
1st Lieutenant, Jno. L. Young,  
2nd Lieutenant, Edward Armstrong,  
Ensign, Jno. Haley, Jr.,

Sergeants: 1st Elijah Elwell  
2nd Jno. Grant  
3rd Henry Fritz  
4th Isaac Haley

Corporals: 1st David Colfash  
2nd George Sedinger  
3rd Jno. Coleman,  
4th Chas. Tryer

Privates:  
Simon Litzenberg,  
Wm. Haley,  
Jonathan Vaughan  
Jno. Gunn  
Jas Holland  
George Roman,  
Jno. Stillwagon  
Wm. Tunis  
Jonathan Meeker,  
James Murphy,  
Morris Williamson  
Barrett Terlinden  
Jos Carpenter  
Jonathan Robeson  
Jno. Sedinger  
Wm. Smith (farmer)  
Christopher Lentz  
Wm. Horn,  
Wm, Sendinger  
Thos. Dagharty  
Wm, Hare,  
Jno Jones,  
Wm. Smith  
Wm. Young  
Wm. Halfman  
Jno. Wells,  
Saml. L. Llewellyn  
Jno. ~~xxxxx~~ Jarrett  
Jno, McGee,

Musician  
William Hurst.

Young's commission as 1st lieutenant given by Governor Simon Snyder August 1st 1814. The pay per day was as follows: 1st lieut. 4 shillings, 4 pence; 2nd lieut. the same; Ensign, s shillings 2½ pence; Drummer and Fifer, 1 shilling 1½ pence and Privates the same.

Copy of Correspondence:

Major Jno. Young to Governor Snyder:

Aaronsburg, June 18th 1812.

To His Excellency, Simon Snyder, Gov. of Penna.

Sir: Herewith I have the honor to transmit the tender of service to your excellency of the Rifle Company attached to the 83rd Regiment, of the 1st Brigade, 11th Division, Pennsylvania Militia, in substitution of the draft required from that regiment, I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's obedient humble servant,

John Young.

Inspt. 1st B. Eleventh Div.

-----

Capt. Jno. McGarry to Maj. Jno, Young,  
June 18th 1812.

To Major John Young, Inspector First Brigade, 11th Division, Penna Militia:-

Sir:- The Rifle Company attached to the 83rd Regiment, the above brigade and division, who have honored me with their command, have this day resolved to tender their services to the Governor of Penna. through you, as the quota of militia required to be drafted from this regiment, in substitution of the draft.

We are ready to march at a moment's warning.

I have the honor to be

Sir, Your obedient servant,

Jno. McGarry,

Captain.

-----

Major Jno Young and Capt. Jno McGarry.  
June 18th 1812.

To Captain Jno McGarry,

Sir: I shall lose no time in transmitting to His Excellency the patriotic tender of service of the Company under your command, in substitution of the draft required from your regiment.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, Your humble servant,

J. Young,

Inspt. 1st B. D. P. M.

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REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS:

In Volume #2, of Pennsylvania Archives: In Continental line of 10th Pennsylvania, in Major James Grier's Company, I find a Jno Young, a corporal, on March 29th 1771 appointed March 1st 1780.

In same Volume, Page 676 in Roster of Field and Staff Officers, under Col. James Irvine, is found the name of Davis Llewellyn, promoted from Ensign, to Lieutenant, August 10th 1779, vice Jno. Markland, of 6th Penna, not accepting.

Same Volume, page 454, the name of Hugh Jones, appears as a private of 3rd Pennsylvania Reg. Continental line, and that he was promoted to be a corporal Feb. 18th 1780.

Same Volume, Page 441. Jno. Young is recorded as a private in Captain Tolbert's Company.

Same Volume, Page 385, Jno. Goodman's name is recorded as a private, in 1781, of 1st Penna. Regiment of 18th month men under Col. Craig, Capt. Lush, and of deserting Nov. 17th 1781.

Same Volume. Page 337, in an incomplete roll of Capt Charles Craig's Company, the name of Rees Price appears as a private in 1st Pennsylvania Regiment.

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## CONSTABLES OF LOWER MERION:

1704 Cadwallader Morgan  
1705, 1732 and 1775 Owen Roberts  
1706 Rowland Richards  
1707 Richard Jones  
1708 Wm. Walters  
1709 Morris Llewellyn  
1710 Henry Pew (Pugh)  
1711 Evan Harry  
1712, 1713 Benj. Humphrey  
1714 Jonathan Jones  
1715 Jno. Roberts Miller also 1749  
1716 Robet Evans  
1717 Hugh Hughs  
1718 Owen Thomas  
1721 Jno. Williams  
1722 Jno. Roberts  
1723 Wm. Havard  
1724 David Davis  
1725 Richard Hughes  
1726 Thomas Lloyd  
1727 Jos Williams  
1728 Hugh Jones  
1729 James John  
1730 1737 Robert Jones  
1733 Gerard Jones  
1734 Griffith Llewellyn  
1735 Robert Roberts  
1736 Thomas Ballance,  
1738 Jos Roberts  
1739 Algernon Roberts  
1740 David Evans  
1741 Wm. Thomas  
1742 Evan Rees,  
1743 Anthony Tunis  
1744 Robt Jones Jr.  
1745 Richard George  
1746 Jon. Jones Jr.  
1747 James Dodamed  
1748 Evan Griffith  
1750 Uriah White, also 1751  
1752 Dennis Conrade  
1753 Anthony Levering  
1754 Edward Price,  
1755 Jno Lloyd,  
1756 Jno Lee  
1757 Jacob Jones,  
1758 Nicholas Lockman  
1759 1760 George Horn  
1761 Samuel Wells,  
1762 Allan Poague  
1763 Jno , Groves,  
1764 Henry Lewis,  
1765 Jno Roberts Jr.  
1766 Philip Krickbaum,  
1767 Abraham Tunis,  
1768 Frederick Bicking,  
1769 Jno Zell,  
1770 Wm. Tolbert,  
1771 Abraham Manna

## CONSTABLES (Continued)

1772 Martin Miller,  
 1773 Thos Morgan  
 1774 Peter Mey  
 1776 Windle Kingsfield,  
 1777 Nehemiah Evans also 1778  
 1779 Wm. Stadelman,  
 1780 James Russell,  
 1781 Micael Smith  
 1782, Jno Jones of Gulph  
 1783 Conrad Goodman,  
 1784 Algernon Roberts  
 1785 Jesse Jones, also 1786  
 1787 Benjamin Brooke.  
 1788 Jesse Thomas  
 1789 Llewellyn Young,  
 1790 Mordecai Taylor,  
 1791 Wm Hagy  
 1792 Jno Young,  
 1793 Jno, Righter  
 1794 Jonathan Walter  
 1795 Lloyd Jones  
 1796 Jno Taylor,  
 1797 George McClanahan  
 1798 Samuel Evans  
 1799 Henry White,  
 1800 Jonathan Robeson  
 1801 Jno Yocum,  
 1802 Wm. Carter  
 1803 Jacob Latch, also 1804 1805 and 1806  
 1807 John Horn, also 1808, 1809, 1810 and 1811  
 1812 George Grow,  
 1813 George Savage, also 1814, and 1815  
 1816 Jacob Bealer,  
 1817 and 1818 Wm, Holgate,  
 1819 and 1820 George Lowery  
 1821 Evan Jones  
 1822 and 1823 Charles Leedom  
 1824 Jacob Hagy,  
 1825 David H. Egbert  
 1826 Daniel Shubert  
 1827 Farmer Poners(?)  
 1828 Samuel L Robeson,  
 1829 Jno Waggoner,  
 1830 Wm. Keech, also 1833  
 1831 Griffith Jones, also 1832  
 1834 and 1835 Samuel B. Law,  
 1836 Henry G. Keech,  
 1837 George Pechin,  
 1838 Wm. R. Hagy, also 1839  
 1840 Benj B? Yocum,  
 1841 Samuel Atkinson  
 1842 Isaac DeHaven and also 1843  
 1844 and 1845 Jno Armstrong.  
 1846 Wm. Sibley,  
 1847. Abraham Levering,  
 1848, Jos T. Pierce,  
 1849 and 1850 Jno C. Diehl,  
 1851 Henry D. Cornman also 1852  
 1853. and 1854 Ben. Gilbert  
 1855 Jno Whiteman.

Papers of Adam Sutton: Dr. C. K. Mills Collection:

Notes: Roads:

The Haverford road, probably the oldest in the Township, was laid out in 1703, from Haverford Meeting House to Philadelphia.

"The road from Meeting House to Powell's Ferry was confirmed from 1704." Report of a survey of the road from Merion to Radnor confirmed March 1713.

Old Lancaster Road, from Lancaster to High Street Ferry laid out November 23rd 1741.

The Gulf (Gulph) Road, noted on L. Evan's Map of 1749, from Valley Forge to near Haverford College station.

In 1766 Court was petitioned for road from Jno. Roberts' Mill to Reece Ap Edwards' Ford on Schuylkill.

At March Sessions, 1758, Anthony Levering petitioned for road from his mill to Lancaster road, on north side of Merion Meeting House. Wm. Stadelman and Jno. Jones were supervisors.

Righter's Ferry Road, laid out in 1767.

The 20<sup>th</sup> 6 mo. 1748: Being sickly time, some having the lumbago and other having distemper.

"Merion, being the place of my newdwelling the 8", of 1 mo. 1712-1713" Abel Thomas.

"The 20th of 4 mo. 1717 I began to reep rye".

The 26th " of 4 mo. 1720 had out hay in.

The 4<sup>th</sup> day of 3d mo. 1714. Thos Wilson and James Dinskinson were at Merion Meeting.

Mills: Gun and saw mill on the Schuylkill river a few yards above T. Vaughan's destroyed by the great pumpken freshet, 1793, Young.

Mills Creek Mills

Thomas Amies, paper

A small mill, Scheetz

Scheetz, Paper mill

John Roberts Snuff mill

John Roberts gun and saw mill

Woolen Mill---Evan Jones

Righter Mill

J. Hagy Mill

Bicking Mill.

Rinkle gun factory

Hagy A (?) distery

Wm. Hagy's mill.

Conrad Krickbaum's Grist mill. (at mouth of Mill Creek in

Notes: Flat Rock dam commenced 1807

Charter for Falls Bridge granted by act of Legislature, Feb. 22nd 1808. Rec, Law Book #11, Page 187, Robert Kennedy and Conrad Carpenter. Authorized to erect.

Rock Hill Road. Petition May session 1820.  
Book 5½. Page 299. Viewers Mathew Roberts, George Holstein, Jno. Hughes, Richard Moore, Thoas Lowry and Peter Rambo.  
Report Page 320 in Book 5½ Aug. 15th 1820 Report read and confirmed. width 33 feet.

Nov. 25th 1820 Opening order to Thos. B. Ogle, Judge Jno. Ross. River road from Levring Mill to Flat Rock Bridge.

Report #17, on Page 321 of Book 5½ Opneing order granted Nov. 30th 1820 to Jno Roberts. Width 33 feet.

Act establishing Spring Mill Ferry passed Sept 8th 1787 to Peter Le Gauz

Road from Friends Meeting House to Leverings Mill petitioned by Anthony Levering at March Sessions, 1788. Viewers appointed Jos Paul, Jno. Jones, Joe (?) Robt. Shannon, Benjamin Brooke, Samuel Holstein and Abraham Nanna. Width 33 feet.

Charter for Bridge at Flat Rock granted by Legislature, March 22nd 1809. Recorded in Law Book #11, Page 307.

Inter county bridge at Pawling's Ford. Charter grated by Act of Legislature, April 3rd 1809. Recorded in Law Book #11, Page 361.

Charter for Bridge at Upper Ferry on Schuylkill, about near where floating bridge of Abraham Sheridan. Passed March 18th 1811. Recorded in Law Book #12, Page 342.



Some time after 1741 the Righters Ferry was laid out from said Ferry near Pencoyd Iron works, to a point on Ford Road opposite Highland avenue. In March 1767, Anthony Levering petitioned for road from his mill, near Ashland Paper mills at west end of Manayunk Bridge, down the river to what is now Iron works, and over Righters Ferry Road to where is now West Laurel Hill Cemetery stables, and on up the hill through the Roberts estate to Ford road at what is now known as Five Points and to be called Leverings Mill road. The viewers were Jno. Jones, Jacob Engle, Jacob Morris, Jacob Knox, Jacob Keyser, and Wm. Miller. Length 2 miles, 124 perches Width 40 feet.

The Ford road, from what is known as Bowman's Bridge, near Merionville Five Points and on past Magills, through what is now Fairmount Park to the river opposite steamboat landing at Laurel Hill Cemetery (Nicetown Lane) was used early in 1700, and was used by the early Gwynedd Friends in coming to Merion Meeting.

In March 1785, Anthony Levering applied for road from Levering's Ford, now Ashland paper mill, to old lane road north of Merion to Meeting. Wm. Stadelman and Jno. Jones were the viewers.

SOME REVOLUTIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

Lower Merion, August 15th 1777.

To His Excellency, Thomas Wharton, Jr., Esq., President of The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

The Petition of divers inhabitants of the Township of Lower Merion and Blockley humbly sheweth:

That the repeated injuries, insults, and abuses daily received and increasing, so as to render it a matter of the most alarming nature, to our lives and properties, from the Battalion of the State of Georgia, commanded by Col. John White, now incamped in said Township, renders it our indispensable duty, and constrains us (though with reluctance) to lay our distressed situation before Your Excellency for that relief, which we have not the least doubt your goodness will grant. It is notorious that from the first day of their incamping they began to shew their aversion for all law, Divine or Human, abusing travelers, robbing the Neighborhood ~~xxx~~ of everything they could lay their hands on, pillaging their dwellings, houses, Spring Houses and Barns, Burning their Fence rails, cutting down their timber, Robbing Orchards, and Gardens, Stealing their Piggs, Poultry and Lambs, and sometimes killing them through wantonness, or bravado, and when complaints were made they, with the most unparalleled impudence, would threaten the lives of the Complainants, or their Houses, with ~~xxxxxx~~ fire, frequently damning the Congress, and Swearing they will never fight against ~~the~~ King George, etc, etc.

This Representation is far from being exaggerated, and can be proved should there be a necessity. We have, moreover, the additional apprehensions that, as the Indian Corn which is a principal support of the Farmer and his Cattle, is drawing to a

state of maturity, in a few days we may be tototally deprived thereof.  
 We therefore, humbly beg Your Excellency's kind interposition, that  
 you will be pleased to take our deplorable case into your most  
 serious consideration, and order an immediate removal of those  
 troops, from whom we have every mischief to apprehend, or grant us  
 other relief, as in your Wisdom shall seem requisite, and your  
 petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Algernon Roberts         | Richard Tunis             |
| Anthony Tunis            | Lewis Thomas              |
| Thomas George            | Nehemiah Evans            |
| David George             | Jesse Thomas              |
| Edward Roberts           | Abel Thomas               |
| Wm. Hadelman (Stadelman) | Anthony Levering          |
| Jno, Zell                | John Leacock              |
| David Zell               | John Smith                |
| Abram Strepper           | James Jones               |
| Jno Roberts              | Bostine Eals              |
| Jacob Jones              | Rudolph Latch             |
| Isaac Lewis              | Lawrence Trexler          |
| John Robinson            | Jesse Jones               |
| James Jones, Jr.         | Michael (His mark) Smith  |
| Reese Price              | Anthony (His mark) Warner |
| Robert Holland           | Martin Garrett            |
| Silas Jones              | Jno. Price.               |
| Paul Jones               |                           |
| Amose George.            |                           |

---:---:---:

List of Prisoners taken by the Indians From Penn's Valley,  
 Phila., 7 mo. 20, 1780.

The following persons were, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of 4th Month, 1780 taken  
 from their Settlement in Penn's Township, Northampton County,  
 Penna., by 10 Indians and one other persons, supposed to be a  
 white man, and acrried, as is supposed, to Niagra to a Colonel  
 Butler.

Andrew Harger, a laborer, hired by Benjamin Gilbert, who was  
 splitting rails some distance from the House, was Surprised and  
 taken by three Indians and carried to said Gilbert's house, where  
 there were 8 others, and were, when Harger came there, packing  
 up such goods as they thought fit to carry off: They loaded three  
 Horses belongin to said Gilbert; and one horse belonging to a  
 Neighbor, which at that instant had come with a Girl to the Mill.  
 They hurried away and set fire to the dwelling house, Grist Mill  
 and Saw Mill, of said Gilbert, and burnt all the Goods and  
 furniture and etc, except what they took with them, and one  
 Kettle and Side Saddle.

- The names of those taken, (besides Andrew Harger, as above:
- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Benjamin Gilbert, aged about          | 69 years   |
| His wife, Elizabeth " "               | 55 years   |
| John Gilbert, his son " "             | 41 (Must be wrong) or else<br>age of mother is. (Stepson?) |
| Jesse Gilbert, another son            | 19 years   |
| Sarah Gilbert, wife of Jesse          | 19 years   |
| Rebecca Gilbert, daughter             | 16 years   |
| Abner Gilbert, a son                  | 14 years   |
| Elizabeth Gilbert, daughter           | 12 years   |
| Benj. Pearl, son of B. Gilbert's wife | aged 27 years  |

Elizabeth Pearl, his wife aged 20 years  
 A sucking child of B. Pearl and wife aged 9 mo.  
 Tjos Pearl, another son of above " 23 mons.  
 Benj. Gilbert, son of a widow Gilbert, who also  
 lived in the family of B. Gilbert 11 years old.

All the foregoing were of Benj. Gilbert's family and lived in two houses near each other.

Dodson, a girl, who came to the mill that morning, aged about 14 years. Eight of these persons were members of the Religious Society called Quakers, and the Rest descendants of Friends and Made no other Professions except the girl named Dodson, and all quite harmless lot of people.

They were journeyed about 25 or 30 miles the day they were taken. Joseph Gilbert and Thomas Pearl had a rope tyed about their necks and were led in this manner. The Rest were drove without being tyed and Commanded upon their lives not to look back or Make a Noise. These Indians could all talk English except one. Andrew Harger, after journeying 10 days with them, being permitted in an evening to go for some water, made his escape and thro much suffering and difficulty, got back to his neighborhood; and Relates that after they had crossed Summer Hill, they eat breakfast and so further on their dinner and supper together. Their lodging was hard that night, the men being all tyed. They allowed Benj. Gilbert to have his Great Coat to lay on, and the women some blankets to cover them. After Easting the next morning they proceeded along a path, and then took to the woodsmand kept to the right hand of Wyoming Fort, after traveling about Fifty miles they came to Tinalusing Path and thence upon this side of the Susquehanna River along the path to Niagra. Two days journey after crossing the Susquehanna he left them, when they were all living. The usage of the men was hard, but to the women more favorable. All the men except B. Gilbert were obliged to carry loads; they suffered him and his wife at times to Ride, and took the women on Horseback ~~xxx~~ over all Great Waters. He was told they were 5 days journey from Niagra when he left them.

(Why this story is with the tale of Lower Merion I cannot guess. ACC)

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Inasmuch as Lower Merion was a part of Philadelphia County prior to 1784, it may ~~be~~ not be out of place to append the following.

"Call For Troops, Aug. 1st 1780.

"An account of the number of Militia, Waggon and Horses, and Flour, etc, wanted from each County in the State:

- 3,465 Militia
- 5,000 Berrells Flour Monthly
- 225 Hghds of Rum
- 9,142 Bushells of Short Forage.
- 1,500 Horses
- 250 Waggon, attached to the Army
- 150 " for Transportate Flour

Militia For Phila City	300
" " " County	200
	<u>500</u>

Philadelphia City to furnish 3000 bush. Indian Corn or double short forage. Oats 3000 bush. County 1000 bush.

FIRST DEEDS OF THE INDIANS TO WILLIAM PENN.

They are preserved in the Archives of Pennsylvania Historical Society.

In the early negotiations of Penn with the Indians we find their meets and bounds were not as accurately defined as at the present time. The first dated July 15th 1682.

The first purchase that we have been enabled to find of Penn from the Indians of territory included within the bounds of Montgomery County, was of the Chief Wingbone, June 25th 1683, for all his lands west of the Schuylkill. The next appeared to have been from Secane and Idequoguehan and others for tracts extending from Chester River and Schuylkill northwest, to a point as near as we can locate it somewhere about lands belonging to estate of Moro Phillips, on west bank of the Schuylkill opposite Conshohocken. On the same day, he treated with Nenshickan, Malebone, Neshanocke, and Oserenson, for such of their lands as lay between the Schuylkill River and Pennepeck and extending as far as Edge Hill. One June 3rd 1684, Maughonquink conveyed his right to title lands along the Perkiomen Creek. One June the 7th, of same year, Mettamicont disposed of his right to lands on both sides of the Pennepeck. One July 30th 1685, Shakhoppa, Secane, Malebone and Tangoras disposed of all their rights to lands lying between Chester and Pennepeck Creeks and extending in a north-westerly direction, two full days journey. On July 5th 1697, we find another purchase made from Tamany, Wheeland, Whequeekhan, Gagueekhan and Quenamockqued for all their rights to lands lying northwest between the Pennepeck and Neeshaming Creeks, extending in a northwest direction from the Delaware as far as a horse could travel in two days. The last purchase gave to Penna title from the Red Men to all the lands lying within blunds of Montgomery County including some in Bucks County.

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PROCLAMATION OF GENL. WASHINGTON, 1777.

By His Excellency Geo. Washington, Esq., Genl. and Commander in Chief of the Forces of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

By virtue of the Power and direction to me especially given, I hereby enjoin and require all persons residing within 70 miles of my head quarters to thresh out half of their grain by the first day of Feb., and the other half by the first day of March, next, ensuing, on pain, in case of failure, of having all ~~xxxx~~ that shall remain in sheaves after the period above-mentioned, seized by the commissaries, and the Quarter Masters of the Army, and paid for as straw.

Given under my hand at head quarters near Valley Forge, in Philadelphia County, the 20th day of Dec. 1777.

George Washington,

By His Excellency's Command.

Robt. H. Harrison, Esq.

## RAILROAD STATIONS:

The Philadelphia and Reading System has but four; namely: Pencoyd, West Manayunk, Rose Glen and West Spring Mill. None of these structures meets the demands of the times, in style of architecture, or dimensions, and are rather uninviting than otherwise, excepting the one first named. The Reading Company have been so neglectful of the requirements of the travelling public as to subject themselves to great loss. All the stations named are not worth \$5000.

The Schuylkill Valley have two and a third in cotemplation. Bala and West Laurel Hill Cemetery, and Waiting Sgelter at Cynwyd. The two stations are models of neatness and the grounds are all that can be desired. The costs of these buildings cannot be less than \$6000

The Pennsylvania has 7 stations, namely: Merion, Elm, Wynnewood, Ardmore, Haverford College, Bryn Mawr and Rosemont. All these stations reflect credit to the Co. The different styles of construction and neatness of surrounding grounds all conduce to the patronage of the road, and the appointments to the comfort of the patrons. Too much praise cannot be extended to the Company for their kindly consideration for the wants of those of the travelling public.

## STAGE LINES.

A stage line was established between White Horse and Phila. by ~~xxxxxxx~~ Jno. Levering about the year \_\_\_\_\_ and was quite well patronized, considering the limited number of trips per day.

A line was also established between Merion Square and Athensville, now Ardmore.

April 25th 1886.  
Perry Anderson, Esq.

Dear sir:

The following bit of history may not be uninteresting to the readers of your book a few years since, at the request of friends ~~that~~ I had it published in the Manayunk Sentinel you can use it as you think proper.

Yours truly,  
Thos L. Young.

At the close of the administration of the elder Adams a liberty pole was raised at a small village about ten miles north of Phila. now called Merion Square. A flag was suspended from the pole bearing the significant motto "down with all tyrants, no gag laws, liberty of death" by these sterling patriots Cap. John Young, Morris Llwellyn, Samuel Young and others.

Upon word reaching the city that the citizens of Lower Merion had planted in their soil the emblem of Liberty, and equality a Squad of Troops was sent out from the city to enforce the Sedition Act, who arrested Morris Llwellyn and took him to the city, where he was imprisoned. a great crowd of farmers and butchers attended his trial and would have attempted his rescue had he been convicted, but the jury returned a verdict of not guilty. He was carried from the court house upon the shoulders of cheering friends. The other parties implicated in the affair, to escape from arrest, fled to the woods and caves of The Schuylkill Hills.

In the year 1817 a Serious riot occurred at a village then known far and wide as The War-Office, at a later period this military name was changed at the suggestion of B. N. Egbert, and other citizens ~~xxx~~ to Merion Square? The name of the leader of the mob I have no desire ~~xxx~~ at this late day, to drag before the public. The riotous fifteen of twenty powder monkeys were from Cops Creek, Del County. The riot started at the William Penn Hotel, a short distance below Ardmore on the Lancaster pike. here the rioters amused themselves in abusing the landlord and his family and smashing everything they could lay their hands of. Lewing "the Penn", they proceeded direct to the "War -Office", where after committing other outrages grossly insulted the landlord's daughters, fourteen and sixteen years old, compelling them to dance nude in the presence of the drunken mob. This dastardly insult to two young and respectable girls caused intense excitement in the neighborhood, measures were at once taken to bring the violaters of law and decency to Justice. warrants were issued. The Sheriff posse and military called out. The rioters arrested and lodged in Norristown jail. Their trials resulted in their conviction and punishment. The ring leader was not convicted owing to one of the jury, William Henderson, of Norristown, standing out.

REV

BOND

DIBICYCLOX

EVLON

THE  
BOARD  
OF  
DIRECTORS  
OF



OLD MILLS OF MILL CREEKLOWER MERION

By Charles R. Barker,

In The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography,

Volume L No. 1 1926

Singing but faintly "the song of long ago" the shrunken stream of Mill Creek winds through Lower Merion Township of the half-score or more millwheels that it once kept in motion, not one if turning. Fingerboards, indeed, from the neighboring neights, point the way to Righter's mill, McClenachan's mill, Roberts's---but these may not be found; and, except for a building or two converted to other uses, only crumbling fragments of masonry mark the sites of once thriving industries.

Let us see how these industries developed, and why they declined. The immediate needs of the first settler were food and shelter. At first he lived in a hut or cave and bought food from the Indians. Meanwhile, he cleared the land and raised his log house, and for mortar carried lime from the kilns of upper Merion, or Plymouth. After the hard labor of felling big trees came the tilling among the standing stumps, then, the sowing, and in due time, the harvest.

But grinding the grist was another matter. With water rights reserved to the Proprietary and his few favored associates, individual venture in water mills was prohibited. The first Proprietary mill was on Chester Creek, in 1683, and, although ten to twelve miles distant must have been resorted

to by Lower Merion farmers; for Joseph Price, in his unique diary, relates a family tradition that his great grandfather Edward Rees, used to shoulder a bag of wheat and tramp off to the mill at Chester Creek, or perhaps (he adds) it was Naaman's Creek! But the Proprietary venture proved unsuccessful; in 1687 Thomas Coeburne built a water mill on Chester Creek; in the following year Haverford Mill on Cobb's Creek, was in operation and within two years more the first mill in the present bounds of Lower Merion---that of John Roberts---was being turned by the waters of Mill Creek.

John Roberts, a Welshman, had been an early purchaser of land in Lower Merion, and his two hundred and fifty acres embraced both banks of Mill Creek from near Merion Square Road to Murray's Mill. On this property in 1690, he built a log house, which although outwardly changed, is still standing. On the site of the ruin which is now placarded "Ye Olde Grist Mill" he raised his earlier grist mill---earlier by half a century---and gave the place an old Welsh name "Wain". A year or two more saw a road (perhaps not the present one) opened from the gulph to Roberts' Mill. Another, now known as Cherry Lane, led to "Wain" from the "Meirion Road", now Montgomery Avenue. Over the first the corn of Upper Merion was brought to the mill; over the second "the meal that comes carted from John Roberts' Mill" was hauled by way of Powell's Ferry at Fairmount, to Philadelphia.

In 1690 John Roberts "of Waym", Philadelphia County, bachelor" married Elizabeth Owen. He died in 1704, leaving three young children, Rebecca, John and Matthew. John was apprenticed to a wheelwright; Matthew, to a blacksmith---very necessary trades in those days of makeshift carts and backwoods roads. On coming of age John fell heir to "the dwelling house and plantation mill".

Trade was thriving; two roads now connected the mill with Upper Merion; and in 1712 one of these, together with its extension eastward to join the "great road" (Montgomery avenue) was laid out by the court of quarter sessions as a public road; and was returned as opened in the following year. But the new proprietorship was short lived. In 1721, when less than 26 years old, and having married the year before, John Roberts died. A son, born after his death, was named for the father, John.

The will of John Roberts, wheelwright, bequeathed to his wife, "my dwelling house and plantation together with one grist mill" towards her maintenance and "bringing up and educating my children (in case I have one)". The widow re-married, and removed to Chester county; and lessees, presumably, operated the mill until the heir came into possession.

In 1743, ten months after attaining his majority, John Roberts, 3rd of the name, married Jane Downing of Chester county; the same year he obtained a patent for his estate on Mill creek. Here he built, in 1746, as the date stone attests, a stone grist mill, probably replacing the older building. Perhaps as early as 1758 he built a paper mill, where old Murray's mill now stands. Business increasing, he raised a second grist mill, together with a saw mill, near the site of the present township pumping station; and in 1762, the court granted a road (now mistakenly called "old gulph road") to give access to these new industries. Roads to Barren Hill and to the site of Ardmore had already been opened. The miller now became a flour merchant also. His cooper shop, at the height of his prosperity contained "150 flower caks" and "15000 staves and heading" and nearby were "a great number of outhouses of divers kinds", so that a small village, towards which all the townships roads seemed converging grew up around the colonial dwelling (known in late years as

the haunted house) where lived John Roberts, the miller.

By purchase John Roberts acquired otherreal estate. Part lay on the Schuylkill, extending back along Mill Creek. With this land came a saw mill; a powder mill was built here (as we shall see) 1776-77; and in 1779 there was also an oil mill on the tract. John Roberts became one of the township's largest landholders, owning in all, nearly 700 acres and controlling both banks of Mill Creek for 2 miles. No wonder the stream was sometimes called "John Roberts' Mill Creek"!

A birthright member of the Society of Friends, John Roberts was active in the Society's counsels. He was appointed a trustee in 1763, for the purchase of land for Merion Meeting. His neighbors recognized his integrity and business ability by making him executor or trustee of their estates; and those who proved willing, when the need arose, to sign themselves his beneficiaries, were numbered by the score. He was made a commissioner for improving Schuylkill navigation in 1773; was appointed to the committee of Correspondence, to protest the Boston Port Bill in 1774; and was a delegate to the convention for the Province of Pennsylvania held at the state house, in 1775, for the suppression of slave trade. Then came the Revolution---and the tragedy.

We must not here attempt to establish the innocence of John Roberts, or to refute the mediaeval folk-stories which like ivy transplanted from some old ruin have obediently spread ~~xx~~ its tendrils over the fragment of his grist mill. Incensed at the banishment, by the Revolutionary government, of some of his friends, he joined the British Army, on its approach to Philadelphia, in September of 1777, with the purpose of having the exiles released. For this, and acting, it was charged, as guide to the British, the Supreme Executive Council declared him outlawed. An attainder of treason issued against

him, and , despite efforts of family and friends, was relentlessly pressed. His execution followed, in November of 1778.

No less ruthless was the confiscation of property. Household and live stock, land and mills--all were ordered to the auctioneer's block. Of the 200 acres on the Schuylkill, Thomas Roberts, the miller's eldest son, made good his claim to the greater part; the residue, remaining unsold until 1794, was then, by an eleventh hour act of restitution, returned to the widow of John Roberts. All else of ~~xxx~~ value was swept away. On December 16th 1780, the homestead, four miles and 378 acres of land were sold to one, Edward (or Edwin) Milner, of Bucks County. Four days later, Milner re-conveyed the whole for the same consideration to John Maxwell Nesbitt, John Donaldson and William Erskine. As Nesbitt was Treasurer of the Council of Safety, as well as of the Board of War, the reader will not fail to draw his own conclusions. Nor, perhaps, will he wonder at the magnanimity of the Revolutionary government in paying the widow of the man they executed, an annual pension.

Reading Howell's Map, published in 1792, indicates the position of Donaldson's grist mill near the present township pumping station. In that year, the property was again put up for sale. Among an array of buildings it ~~xxx~~ included a three-story stone merchant mill (the one now placarded "Ye olde grist mill") a two-story grist mill, a stone paper mill, and a saw mill. In 1797 the whole was bought by George McClenachan, son of Blair McClenachan, that picturesque figure of the Revolution, whom William Cobbett, the satirist called

"Blair, the great ,

"The Irish guardian of the state".

Ten years later George McClenachan sold the paper mill, but remained in possession of the rest of the property until his

death in 1833.

Because of the inaccessibility for other parts of Lower Merion of its Schuylkill shore, some of the industries there were founded by men from Whitmarsh and Roxborough, to whom the easily-forded river offered less obstacles than did the almost trackless woods to their neighbors of the opposite side. The streams flowing down from Lower Merion slopes provided power for the mills; and the Schuylkill, a natural highway for the transportation of their raw material, as well as for their products. As the need of lumber grew, saw mills to supply the demands sprung up all along the Schuylkill. One of these was built by Thomas Rees, a Roxborough stone cutter, on land he had purchased in 1735, on Mill Creek. The property was described as "fronting upon Schuylkill", so that the said mill may be cheaply supplied with timber. Rees's executors sold the mill in 1741, and in the next thirteen years it changed owners half a dozen times. David Davis, who owned it in 1748-49 called it "very convenient for water carriage, both for bringing loads to the mills and rafting timber to Philadelphia". In 1754 it was bought by Christopher Robins, of Whitmarsh, of whom more later.

In 1768 Robins sold the saw mill property to John Roberts, miller, who gave it, with adjoining lands, to his son, Thomas, but made no deed for it. It was therefore served, in 1779, as the father's estate; but the son exhibited his claim before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

(see following pages)

and the lands were awarded to him. In 1792, he sold out his interest. Within the next few years, the saw mill changed hands several times. In 1806, two generations after our first notice of it, it was still there, and, presumably, still running.

Following the news of the battle of Lexington, a hurry call had gone forth for munitions. With Old World supplies practically cut off, the Colonies found themselves thrown upon their own resources, with the urge of necessity as a spur to their development. Powder, above all things, was wanted quickly, and in quantity; and to hasten its manufacture, the Committee of Safety for Pennsylvania offered to lend money, on security, to "such persons as are willing to erect powder mills in this Province within fifty miles distance of this City." All powder made in such mills was to be bought by the Committee, which was, moreover, to find all saltpetre.

In February, 1776, George Lush reported to the committee that he had rented two powder mill seats, one of them being "on the stream call'd the Mill Creek, in the possession of John Roberts, about 10 miles from town" Being duly encouraged, he went about setting up his mill on Mill Creek, close to the Schuylkill. In March, 1777, "Jacob Losch, of Lower Merion, in Philadelphia County, powder maker," represented to the committee that he had completed a mill, and had "worked up the greatest part" of five tons of saltpetre in the manufacture of powder; but he had "no Brimstone to work up the quantity of Saltpetre left." He made a pathetic appeal for both ingredients, but, perhaps, in vain. All gunpowder had by this time been removed from the mills at French Creek and Norrington (Norristown) to a safer place; in September, 1777 the British occupied Philadelphia, and in the rolling December, Cornwallis raided Lower Merion so thoroughly that we may hardly believe the powder mill was ever looked.

In 1779, however, this powdermill is mentioned in the inventory of the confiscated estate of John Roberts, to whom, therefore, it must have reverted. Roberts had already given the property to his son Thomas under the latter's ownership, the powder mill was set running again. From this time on, its history is read chiefly in the light of its numerous "flares." In July, 1788, 150 pounds of powder exploded, demolishing the mill, but, fortunately, harming no one. But in the following August, Richard Mill, in trying to empty mortars with a chisel, set off sixty pounds of powder and was blown to the roof, receiving fatal injuries.

A partnership for the manufacture of gunpowder was formed, in December 1791, between Rees Price and Richard Tunis, of Lower Merion; Henry Fraley carpenter, of Germantown and Henry Deyser, Cheltenham, powdermaker. A new mill, with forty stampers, was completed in the following summer. It had been running less than a month, however, when, with a detonation that was heard at Schuylkill ferry, and there was supposed to be an earthquake, a great quantity of powder -- thought to have been several tons -- let go, killing Deyser and three others, and seriously injuring Fraley and his daughter.

Such disaster naturally brought operations to an end, and quickly as practicable the surviving partners disposed of their rights in the property. But general war in Europe made powder making profitable,

and in spring of 1804, a new mill started, under the firm name of Young and Homes. A series of disasters followed.

In October, two men were fatally burned by the explosion of the mill. Only two months later, the graining house, containing several hundred weight of powder, blew up, killing two more; and in May, 1806 the roof was blown off the mill, and the miller killed. "And" significantly remarks the burial record of Merion Meetin, "they now give out mekeing."

A few years later, the building of Flat Rock dam so raised the level of the river as to render useless the site of the ill-starred powder mill.

As early as 1746, David Davis had a fulling mill on Mill Creek, where customers might have "all sorts of woollen cloth, or druggets

mill'd, dy'd, shear'd and pressed, after the best manner; also tammies and duroys scour'd and pressed; linen or woolen dyed blue, either in cloth or yarn; old garments scower'd and pressed; stains or mildews taken out of pieces camaged by sea." Goods could be delivered wthner at the mill, in Merion, or at John Chapel's at the sign of the Black Bull in market St, Philadelphia. In 1748, having removed down to Darby, sold mill, house and one hundred acres of land, to Conrad Scheetz, a German town papermaker. Betw en Harriton and the Schuylkill, a distnace of four four miles, mill creek has a fallof two hundred an fifty feet, while its pure, clear and abundant water once made it, perhaps, more than usually adaptable to the manufacture of white paper. favored by these conditions, unmerous paper mills sprang up along the creek, and for many years, papermaking was the leading industry of the township of this industry, Conrad Scheetz (or as he was sometimes mistakenly called schultz ) was the poineer. Scull and Heap's map of Philadelphia and Parts Adjacent, published in 1750 makes Shultz Paper Mill appear as a frontier outpost of Lower Merion and apparently, high and dry--but this map is inclined to fanciful as regrds part adjacent to the city. In 1769, Conrad Scheetz was taxed for two paper mills. One of these, the lower mill, stood, with the house, at the ford, by the 10 mile stone, where the ruins of both may yet be seen. Picturesque Dove Lake, impounded in 1873, covers the site of the Upper Mill.

Among the servants and apprentices that were indentured just previous to the volution, one, George Christopher Helmbold, was bound to Henry Kammerer, Philadelphia for two years. In 1778, this George Christopher Helmbold, now become a paper-maker married Elizabeth, daughter of Conrad Scheetz. Another daughter, Mary, married Simon Stetkorn, also a papermaker. The "Pennsylvania Gazette", for June 15th, 1785, tells of a fatal accident which befell an employee "at the paper mill of Mr. Simon Steddikorn, near this city". Catharine, a thrid daughter of Conrad Scheetz married Henry Kammerer, paper dealer of Philadelphia. The minutes of the Supreme Executive Council, for 1789 and 1790, show that sundray orders were drawn on the treasurer, during that period, in favor of Henry Kammerer, for writing paper furnished for the use of Council and of the Comptroller Genera:. In view of Kammerer's relationship to the Scheetz family, these records lend color to the tradition that paper for Continental currency was made at the Scheetz Mills.

After the death of Conrad Scheetz, in 1771, the mills were run by his widow, Catharine, and sons, Benjamin and Frederick. The Revolution intervening, the estate remained unsettled until 1788, when, the widow being then deadland the children all of age, the property was awarded after some litigation to Henry Kammerer, who then deeded the upper mill to George Helmbold, and the lower to Frederick Scheetz.

With each mill, went sixty acres of land, for the original survey had included a large "overplus". In 1798, George Helmbold sold his portion, with the mill, to Thomas Amies, cordwainer, of Philadelphia.

Thomas Amies appears in the Philadelphia city directory as "cordwainer" or shoemaker, with shop on South Second street, until 1809; then he is "paper manufacturer", at the same address, for about ten years. Then, these interested are directed to inquire for him at 109 High street, which may be taken to mean that increase of business called his contanuous attendance at the mill! A quarter-century after his purchase of the mill, there is the first mention of "paper mill, Lower Merion, Montgomery County. Orders left at Isaac Pearson's, 109 High street, always attended to." Later, customers are directed to leave orders at Thomas DeSilver's book-bindery; then, at Charles Dull's paper warehouse. In 1839 (the year of his death) Thomas Amies is set down as "merchant" with office at 13 Minor street.

Because of its watermark---a dove and branch---a device already in use at the Willcox Ivy Mills, Chester, where, it is said, Amies had



been superintendent--the Amies Mill in Lower Merion became known as "Dove Mill". Much of the product of this Dove Mill was used by the Second Bank of the United States, which then occupied its handsome building (now the Custom House near Fifth and Chestnut streets) Philadelphia. Examination of letters, orders, and printed blanks of the Bank, for the period 1820-30 reveals the mark of the dove, sometimes lacking the branch and looking more like a crow, with the identifying name variously given as "Amies"; "Amies, Philada". etc. One brand of paper bears the additional mark "Congress, U.S." Some of the record books used in the offices of nearby counties, during the same period, are found to be made of Dove paper. A sample of the actual paper, forms an illustration in Dard Hunter's monograph, "Old Papermaking".

Lyman H. Weeks, in his "History of Paper Manufacturing in The United States", relates that in the year 1817 a quantity of paper was produced by Thomas Amies for the purpose of printing the Declaration of Independence. This paper, says Weeks, "was designed to surpass everything that had been attempted in that way in America. The moulds and felts were got up expressly for the purpose, the size of the sheet was 26 x 35 inches, and nothing was used but the finest rags. Each ream weighed 140 pounds and the price was \$125. Amies was at one time superintendent of the Willcox Ivy Mills, at Chester, but when he made this paper he owned and operated the Dove Paper Mills, Lower Merion, Montgomery County."

In 1754 a tract of land, with a saw mill, lying along Mill Creek, at the Schuylkill, was conveyed by John Johnson and wife, of Germantown, to Christopher Robins, a German with an Anglicized name, who is best known as the proprietor of the Three Tuns tavern in Whitmarsh. In January 1758, Robins bought an adjoining

tract , with a house, and at the following June term of Court, he with others, "inhabitants on both sides of the River Schuylkill" presented a petition setting forth "that your petitioner hath built a convenient saw mill and paper mill on a stream of water in Lower Merion, and that there is now road to and from the said mills, but what is altogether on sufferance; therefore may it please the Honourable Justices to take your petitioner's case into consideration and grant they may have a road from the said mills to the Conestoga road, and also another road from the sd. mills over Schuylkill to Norriton Road."

At the September sessions this road, an original draft of which is found among the Morris mss, in possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, was confirmed and ordered opened, and was known as "Christopher Robins' Mill Road", until 1769 when its proprietor (having already disposed of his saw mill) sold the paper mill to Jacob Hagy, papermaker of Whetmarsh. The highway then became "Hagy's Ford Road", a name which it still bears, although much of the original route has been vacated.

Jacob Hagy evidently placed his son, William, in charge of the paper mill on Mill Creek, for in 1785, the former conveyed to the latter (who was then living in Lower Merion) the mill and 71 acres of land. William Hagy became a man of prominence in the township, serving in several township offices and representing his district in Legislature. In his will, made in 1832, he styles himself "gentleman" and refers to # the messuage and plantation whereon I now live, together with the mills, situate in the township of Lower Merion, aforesaid, containing 179 acres."

Forty years later members of the family still held an interest in the paper mill, on Mill Creek, with part of the original plantation.

John Righter, son of Bartle Righter, of Roxborough, and

brother to Peter, the Schuylkill ferryman, was a yeoman, living Lower Merion, where in 1760, he bought from the widow of Richard Harrison, Esq., a tract of 102 acres. This farm, lying athwart the Mill Creek Valley, extended from Summitt Avenue to Gladwynne and downstream from Murray's Mill to the little bridge there, until recently crossed by Righter's Mill road. In 1760, however, this road was yet a horse path, which, for forty years had connected the trail to Rees Ap Edward's ford (Young's Ford Road) with that leading to the mouth of Mill Creek (Hagy's Ford Road). Just above where the path met the creek, John Righter built a dam (the abutments may yet be seen) and raised a stone grist mill and saw mill. On the strength of these improvements he petitioned the Court of Quarter Sessions, in March 1763 to have the horse path viewed and opened as a public road; and in the following ~~XXXX~~ September it was accordingly returned and confirmed as such. Righter, had meantime, bought an additional 75 acres adjoining his mill property on the eastward. But in doing so, perhaps, he had incurred too great an obligation, for in 1769 handbills advertising the sale of his personal property were posted up at the local taverns by Joseph Redman, the sheriff. Among the effects were "two waggons and gears, a pair of timber wheels, screw and carriage---a parcel of buckwheat in the mill, a quantity of scantling boards and logs, a cross cut saw, chain millstones, etc. Likewise a Negro man about 25 years of age who understands milling and sawing".

In the following year the owner himself put up for sale all his real estate, comprising 175 acres in "Lower Merion, about 9 miles from Philadelphia", including "a valuable and well accustomed grist mill, with two pair of stones, one French burr, the other country stones, together with two boulding cloths, a fan and hoisting gears, all going by water"; also a saw mill, etc.

Some of this land he sold but the rumblings of the Revolution probably spoiled the prospect for the mills.

"A valuable Mill Seat", in Lower Merion, with 26 acres of land, was offered for sale by John Righter in 1793. "The Mill Seat", he said, "is well adapted by erecting a paper mill on it, having 13 feet fall, and spring water can be brought into the engine at small expense."

The next year he found a purchaser in his neighbor, Johnathan Robeson, a blacksmith. The deed conveys, with the land, which lies on both sides of Mill Creek, the right to dam the creek, and the use of the road leading into Righter's Road. "Robeson is going to build his paper mill", writes a local diarist, "in May 1795"; and in the following September the same hand records a fatal accident "which has befallen David Lloyd, who fell off the gangway carrying stones at Jonathan Robeson's Paper Mill".

With the paper trade booming, John Righter entered his own mill as a paper manufactory, and, evidently, with some success. Weeks refers to him (although with mis-spelled name) as one of well known paper makers in the vicinity of Philadelphia. Righter employed one John Reader, an Englishman, who at the time of his death in 1798 was said to have been the first in this country to bring paper-making to perfection. Weeks doubts this, but credits him with having been an expert at his trade.

In his will, made in 1808, John Righter styles himself "papermaker" and in a codicil signed two years later refers to "my plantation, mills, houses, etc in Lower Merion". He is likewise called "papermaker" in a deed executed by him in 1812. He died in 1824 having reached the good old age of, perhaps, 90 years. and having been twice married. His first wife, Hannah, daughter of Anthony Tunis, the Lower Merion weaver; his second Jane, daughter of William MacAfee, of the same township. In his will

William Macafee, or McAfee, made his son-in-law John Righter an executor, and Joseph Price, in his diary, notes that he attended the funeral to Middletown Presbyterian Church, and that as regards expenses, "Righter paid all"--- a matter of some moment to to Joseph, who gave freely of his time and labor to all men and was poor in consequence.

Adjoining John Righter's property on the eastward, Frederick Bicking, another papermaker, bought in 1762 a tract of one hundred and fifty acres, extending for a mile down Mill Creek. From the main tract, a long arm of land, probably for the purpose of including a small stream of water reached out over the mill now known as Fairview). Although Frederick Bicking was living in Lower Merion when he made this purchase, he had probably learned his trade elsewhere. When, in 1762, he had married at St. Michael's Church, Germantown, the daughter of Johannes Unverzagt, of that place, the good pastor who made the record, set him down as "a young member and -----miller". One of Bickings own daughters afterward married a grandson of William Dewees, the noted Germantown (Wissahickon valley) paper maker. These facts indicate an early acquaintance with the paper mills of the Wissahickon.

In 1763 Frederick Bicking took the oath of allegiance to King George the Third. In 1769 he was taxed for one paper mill and 150 acres in Lower Merion. The following year he bought a tract of 105 acres adjoining his property and extending to the Schuylkill at Runnel Falls. (now Flat Rock Dam). By this purchase he also acquired two valuable shad fisheries. One of these, including an island in the Schuylkill, he sold in 1807; the other, known as Runnell Falls Fishery, remained a source of income until disposed of in 1810 by his executors.

In 1784 he bought from the estate of Robert Jones, 50 acres more, lying at an angle of the road leading to Hagys Ford, on top

of what is now Fairview Hill. He also owned, from 1793 to 1798 a large tract with saw mill, at the mouth of Mill Creek.

He shared in the usual trouble of employers. The newspapers of the period set forth not a few of his advertisements for runaway servants---German, English and Negro---and in 1776 the general conscription of labor for the Continental Army made him one of the signers of a memorial to the Committee of Safety, praying that papermakers be exempted from service. Although evidently not a Lutheran, he contributed liberally to several funds of "the Dutch Church"(Now St. Paul's, Ardmore), where, doubtless, some of his workmen regularly attended. He served the township as constable in 1768.

He died in 1809, having bequeathed his house, paper mill and 110 acres to his son, Frederick, and a log house to his son David. By the provisions of his will all his other real estate was sold; and numerous deeds of record show how <sup>the</sup> large tract was divided among various small purchasers. A part, however, was accepted by the testator in these words: "the burial place now a part of the said land to be used as the same is now enclosed with a stone wall by my family and their descendants and husbands and wives as a family burial ground forever."

This little cemetery is now embraced in "Penshurst", the estate of Mr. Percival Roberts, Jr., Here, in a plot 50 feet square, screened from the road by a patch of woodland, lie the remains of the old miller, his first wife, Catharine, their daughter, Sarah, and numerous others, known and unknown---family, neighbors, and humble workers in a nearby paper mill. The tombstones inform us that Frederick Bicking was a native of Winterburg, Germany, and that Catharine, his wife, was born in Otwiller, in Germany, also.

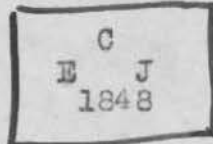
Mention has already been made of the sale in 1807, by George McClenahan, of a portion of the original Roberts Mill tract, with

the paper mill. The buyer was Peter Walover, a Lower Merion papermaker. Previous to making this purchase he had operated on lease the Paul Jones paper mill, near West Manayunk; but after the sale of that property to George Helmbold, another papermaker (of whom we have already spoken) he probably found it desirable to set up for himself.

To Robert Sutcliffe, a noted friend, we are indebted for what is undoubtedly a picture of Walover and his mill. Although Sutcliffe's quaint delicacy forbids his referring to anybody except by initials. The account, as extracted from his Diary, is as follows: " Having been several times in the neighborhood of Merion, where I spent the afternoon pleasantly. The situation is beautifully romantic, being a narrow deep valley, the steep hills on either side of which are covered with wood. The mill which would be considered as an extensive one, even in England, is almost wholly employed in the making of writing and printing paper, with large quantities of which he supplies the printers and stationers of Philadelphia. During the visit he gave me a little history of his life. About twenty years ago, being then 12 years of age, he left Mentz, his native place in Germany, accompanied by his father who died on the passage to this country. Being of that class of immigrants called redemptioners already mentioned, P. W. on the arrival of the ship in the Delaware was hired by Henry Drinker, and was employed about the house as a waiting boy, and assistant to the girls in the kitchen. After spending nearly four years in this family and having acquired the English language, he had the good sense to discern that it would be more to his interest to be taught some manufacture; and requested liberty of his master to be put apprentice to a papermaker, which was ~~at once~~ readily granted, although his first indenture was not yet expired. After

having obtained knowledge of the manufacture of paper, he, by industry and care acquired sufficient property and credit to enable him to begin business; which he has now, for several years carried on to advantage. I was never in a papermill where the business was managed with more neatness and order."

This is surely a picture of prosperity, but unfortunately the picture has two sides. For a sheriff's sale swept away the little property which was knocked down to Evan Jones. The latter continued to operate the paper mill until 1848; then changed it to a cotton and woollen mill, probabaly making , at the same time, alterations in the building , as the present date-stone reads:



From Evan Jones the property passed to his son, Evan G. Jones, who fitted it up as a grist mill, thereafter conducting his business under the name of Merion Flour Mills. Speaking of this mill in 1884, Bean's "History of Montgomery County" says that "it is in excellent condition notwithstanding its great age." In later years it has been best known as the property of Edward S. Murray, who has added his name to the date stone. But the greatest change of all came in 1924, when, under the ownership of James Crosby Browne, of whose estate "Clifton Wyngates", it now forms a part, the old mill was metamorphosed into a modern apartment house, whose blue shutters and brass door knocker are not the least attractive features of that picturesque corner of Lower Merion.

The first paper mill in America was founded by William Rittenhouse on a branch of the Wissahickon Creek; and throughout the Colonial period , Pennsylvania held the lead thus taken in the papermaking industry. The many streams which drained the steep slopes within a few miles of Philadelphia, not only provided any



power needed for the mills, but also furnished an abundant supply of the pure, clear water so necessary in the manufacture of white paper. There was timber, too, in plenty for the making of wood pulp for printing (Note by A.C. This the writer may have forgotten is practically a modern procedure) papers. With the coming of the redemptionists, the skilled labor of Germany was always ready to hand, while the crown law prohibiting importation cut off the competition of continental Europe.

So the home industry flourished apace. At the outbreak of the Revolution the paper mills in the county of Philadelphia (which then included Montgomery) outnumbered those in all the rest of the continent combined. There were in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, forty or more mills, producing annually 100,000 pounds sterling worth of paper and of these, Mill Creek, in Lower Merion Township had four---as many as could be found in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire together.

But with the opening of the war trouble began. Although the Revolutionary government needed paper badly, it needed men, too. The conscription officer was armed with a writ which he served without fear or favor. The paper makers threatened with the loss of their skilled labor, wasted no time in forwarding to the authorities a petition which is here given in full:

"To the Honourable the Committee of safety for Pennsylvania:

"The Memorial of the subscribers, being paper makers in the County of Philadelphia, of behalf of themselves and the rest of the paper makers in that neighborhood, humbly representing:

"That when at this present time it is insisted on by the Officers and Privates in the Association, that every man, from 16 to 50 years of age, shall join the troops now marching to the camp out of the province, Your Memorialists conceive they ought to submit ~~xxxxx~~ to any inconveniences which on the occasion are

Common to all men of all grades and occupations; but that at the same time it is their indispensable duty to mention to Your Honourable Board That is the Paper Makers, Masters' Apprentices, and Journeymen within the ages aforesaid should now leave the trade and follow the camp then all and every of the paper mills in Philadelphia county, making the majority of the paper mills on this continent, must immediately be shut up, and, of course, in a few weeks the printing offices, even cartridge paper, would soon fail. Leaving this matter to the wisdom of your Honourable Board, Your memorialists most humbly pray for your order and Direction in the premises. And Your Memorialists, as is duty bound, and Etc.

Henry Katz,  
Frederick Bicking."

That this appeal was not barren of results, is shown by a notice which was set forth, in the "Pennsylvania Gazette".

"In Congress, July 19th 1776

"Resolved that the paper makers of Pennsylvania be detained from proceeding with the Association to New Jersey. Extract from the minutes.

Charles Thomson, secretary."

this was emphasized by an order which appeared the following month, in the columns of the same journal:

"In Council of safety, Philadelphia,  
August 9th 1776.

"The Honourable congress having resolved that the paper makers in Pennsylvania be detained from proceeding with the Association to New Jersey, all officers of this state are required to pay a strict regard to the same.

By order of the Council of safety,  
Thomas Wharton, Jr., President "

Another petition to Congress, at about his time, resulted in the ordering home from war of Nathan Sellers, of Darby, who had joined the Continental Army and on whose expert knowledge of the

manufacture of moulds that the paper makers depended upon. No further proof is needed of the importance of the industry at this time.

war had its certain aftermath. With the cessation of hostilities the price of paper, which, soon after the Declaration of Independence had been advanced by the publishers, went soaring. Post war labor came so high that it tended to discourage publication of anything except laws, newspapers and pamphlets. On the other hand, however, the competition of foreign papers, which would naturally have been felt at this time, was entirely cut off by the European War. So business continued to boom. Within a few years after the Treaty of Paris, which ended the American Revolution, there were fifty paper mills running in Pennsylvania. Of these five were on Mill Creek in Lower Merion Township.

Instead of the scarcity of men, there was now a dearth of raw material, and word went forth to "save rags". Meanwhile new mills were going up. Lloyd Jones, in 1791 raised his paper mill on a small stream (Gulley Run) near West Manayunk. Two years later Paul Jones put up another, nearby. It contained "three presses, and two iron screws, a large drying loft, together with every other requisite" and was "situate on a never-failing stream of water in Lower Merion Township". In 1795, as already noted, Jonathan Robeson ~~xxx~~ built a paper mill on Mill Creek.

A heavy rain in July of 1795, which carried away nearly all the dams in Lower Merion, including those of Bicking, Hagy and Paul Jones, seems to have brought only a temporary interruption to trade. In 1804, an old resident of Lower Merion, attending the funeral of a child who had been killed in "Bicking's Old Mill", observes that it is "amazing what number of people that crick does employ"-----at the "paper mills there is seven of them in less than three miles---the hills swarm with children". These seven

mills employed, perhaps, 100 persons, and supported several times that number. They were democrats, too, almost to a man; and the more conservative Federalists "viewed with alarm" the doubtful prospect of a township controlled by "Journeyman paper makers".

In 1810 there were 60 paper mills in Pennsylvania; in 1813 there were 64; and four in the state of Delaware. A few years later, at the peak of prosperity, the 70 mills of Pennsylvania and Delaware were employing 950 persons, of whom half were women and children, while \$800,000 worth of paper was being produced annually within 40 miles of Philadelphia. Then, following peace in Europe, came the flood of foreign papers, and the American mills which hitherto had used only the hand process, were brought into competition with the machine-made products of the Continent.

By 1820 the number of vats at work in Pennsylvania and Delaware had fallen to 17; the number of employees from 950 to 175; and the paper makers were urging a duty on paper to save their business from ruin.

With the decline of paper making and the conversion of its mills into woollen and cotton factories and manufactories of buttons, kettles, "Deringers" and what-not (About which another and longer chapter might be written) the family names so long associated with the industry began to disappear from the neighborhood. The most of them were Germans, well bearing out the statement of Dr. Benjamin Rush that paper making was one of the industries in which the German immigrant excelled. One or two of these names may still be found in Lower Merion, but of Conrad, Frederick and Francis Sheetz (Schutz) Frederick Sicking, senior and junior; Christophere Robins (Rap); Jacob, William and Joseph Hagy; George and Henry Helbold; Jacob Newhouse, Simon Glass; Simon Steddikorn; Peter Bechtel, Philip Fritz, Christian Oblinger, Peter Wallover, John Boy and John Richter, all lessee, owners,

journeymen or masters, in the trade of paper making----the busy township of today knows nothing.

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