
GERMAN TOWNSHIP.¹

THE township of German occupies a position south of a line drawn east and west through the centre of the county. It is bounded north by Luzerne and Menallen, east by South Union and Georges, south by Nicholson, west by the Monongahela River. There are no mountains nor any considerable elevations in

it. The township is well watered, but has no large streams except the Monongahela, its western boundary. Its principal creeks are Brown's, Middle, and Deep, all flowing west and falling into the river. The controlling topographical feature is a series of hills or ridges crossing it from east to west. When viewed from a higher elevation, they resemble a plain covered with a multitude of cones, some large, some small.

¹ By James Ross.



James Robinson



M^r H. Grader

In the northwest of the township a considerable number of those mounds exist which have so long engaged the attention of travelers and philosophers, and of which Mr. Jefferson speaks in his "Notes on Virginia." Their shape has been so often described that a repetition seems altogether superfluous. Many bits of pottery, stone implements of various kinds, pipes, and remains can be found after plowing or hard rains. Along the Monongahela are rocks, upon which are cut strange hieroglyphics. Others are indented with footprints of birds and animals, said to have been done when these rocks were in the plastic state. Just south of Middle Run several rocks may be seen when the water is low, upon which a great many figures could plainly be seen until recently. Of the indentations the rocks below Geneva are full and perfectly formed. These are out of water during most of the year, and are visited by many lovers of the mysterious.

German is one of the nine original townships into which the county was divided by the first court held at Uniontown, Dec. 27, 1783.¹ The following boundaries were ordered by the court: "A township beginning at Oliver Crawford's ferry; thence up the Monongahela River to the mouth of Jacob's Creek; thence up said creek to the head branch thereof, where Michael Franks, Sr., lives; thence to John Wait's; from thence to Frederick Waltzer's; thence to pass between James Downer's and George Watson's, to include the three first-mentioned persons, to the head of the west branch of Jennings' Run; thence by a straight line to the head of the Burnt Cabin branch of Dunlap's Creek; thence down the same and the creek to the road that leads from Uniontown to Oliver Crawford's ferry; thence by said road to the beginning."

The township was settled largely by Germans, hence the name given to it on its erection by the court. Although at first a part of Springhill, its early settlers were altogether different in customs and language from those of the former. According to Withers, "Several families had settled on the Monongahela, in what was once a part of German, as early as 1767. Among these were John W. Provance, Joseph G. Provance, and John Hardin,"—a name famous in Kentucky. Frederick Waltzer is said to have been a very early comer also, but undoubtedly not so early as 1754, at which time he was scarcely three years old. He died Dec. 21, 1834, aged eighty-two years and three months. The oldest land titles are those of Provance's, Gilmore's, and Rabb's, viz.: John W. Provance, warrant dated Oct. 11, 1771; surveyed March 10, 1772; number of acres, 347. Joseph Yard Provance, warrant dated Oct. 11, 1771; number of acres, 366; surveyed March 11, 1772. An-

drew Rabb, warrant dated —; number of acres, 203; surveyed July 11, 1771. Hugh Gilmore, warrant dated —; surveyed 1770. Thomas Moore, warrant dated Sept. 13, 1769. John Mason, date of warrant and survey and number of acres unknown. The names of property holders in the territory then embraced in the township are indicated in the following "Return of the Names of the Taxable Inhabitants of German Township, together with their Taxable property. Witness my hand this 10th day of August, 1785." Signed by the assessor, Jacob Rich, viz.:

Adir, John.	Gilmore, Matthew.
Artman, John.	Gilleland, John.
Aryesmith, Samuel.	Gilbert, Margaret.
Alison, John.	Godbert, William.
Alexander, the Scotchman.	Gilmore, Hugh.
Andrews, John.	Gordon, Robert.
Alton, Mary.	Gilmore, William.
Barkman, John.	Galagher, John.
Brackbill, Jacob.	Hollingsworth, Jesse.
Barkman, Frederick.	Hester, Jacob, Jr.
Brown, James.	Huston, Andrew.
Burns, Andrew.	Hoglebery, George.
Beard, John.	Hester, Jacob, Sr.
Baxter, William.	Hillicost, George.
Balsinger, George.	Hainey, William.
Boyers, Philip.	Hillicost, Conrad.
Baker, Malachi.	Howard, Gideon.
Branbury, Conrad.	Hibbs, William.
Berry, Thomas.	Huffman, John.
Bowman, Philip.	Hoover, Jacob.
Baker, Philip.	Hester, Martin.
Catt, John.	Herber, Thomas.
Chrisly, Michael.	Herman, John.
Cooper, John.	Hillyard, Thomas.
Collens, Henry.	Helmick, Nicholas.
Collens, John.	Harrison, Robert.
Coon, Philip.	Harrison, John.
Carnes, John.	Heald, William.
Catt, George.	Holly, Samuel.
Carnes, Lewis.	Kindle, Reuben.
Caner, Sebastin.	Kindle, Jared.
Catt, Michael.	Kindle, Benjamin.
Core, Henry.	Leckey, John.
Dawson, John.	Lee, Randle.
Dawson, Charles.	Little, Adonijah.
Davison, Thomas.	Lee, Alexander.
Dulap, Robert.	Lawrence, Jacob.
Delenger, George.	Lesly, Thomas.
Debolt, George.	Lesly, John.
Eberly, Nicholas.	Myers, Elizabeth.
Easter, Jacob.	McClean, Robert.
Easter, Jacob, Jr.	Moss, Joseph.
Eberly, Leonard.	Meets, Henry.
Fleck, William.	Mills, James.
Ferst, Jacob.	McMulin, John.
Frame, Thomas.	Myers, Adam.
Frame, William.	McWilliams, Samuel.
Flough, Casper.	McWilliams, John.
Franks, Jacob.	Messmore, John.
Franks, Michael.	Meets, Jacob.
Fast, Nicholas.	May, George.
Gilmore, James.	Myers, Frederick.
	Myers, Henry.

¹ By partition the township is much less in area than when organized. In 1821 a large portion was annexed to Luzerne, and again in 1845 to form Nicholson. In both instances German lost some of the most productive territory in the county, in addition to a loss in wealth and population.

Myers, Andrew.	Smith, Godfrey.
Mitter, David.	Sellers, Christian.
Meets, Leonard.	Sprote, Joseph.
Myers, William.	Stockwell, James.
Mason, Philip, Jr.	Stokely, Thomas.
Myers, John.	Shelby, Joshua.
Mason, Martan.	Shumaker, John.
Mason, George.	Shumaker, Adam.
Mason, John.	Snare, Michael.
Myers, Hannah.	Thompson, James.
Nicholas, Hostaler.	Teefflbough, Conrad.
Nixon, Jonathan.	Shaley, Adam.
Owl, David.	Snodgrass, Charles.
Overturf, John.	Vidman, Christian.
Overturf, Martin.	Vernor, John.
Overturf, Valentine.	Vert, Jacob.
Pitzar, Chrisly.	Vernor, Martin.
Provance, Sarah.	Vernor, Leonard.
Peters, Catharine.	Vandeman, Henry.
Pitman, Jonathan.	Wilson, David.
Provance, Joseph.	Walser, Frederick.
Parker, Samuel.	Work, John.
Rifle, George.	Wilson, Alexander.
Ross, Joseph.	Wilson, James.
Remley, Henry.	Work, Henry.
Rich, Jacob.	Whealing, George.
Robb, Andrew.	Watson, John.
Remly, Hieronomus.	Walser, Peter.
Robb, Samuel.	Walter, Ephraim.
Robb, William.	Webb, John.
Ross, Robert.	Wolf, George.
Rudisil, Michael.	Wolf, Adam.
Riffle, Matthias.	Weaver, Henry.
Riffle, Jacob.	Write, Benjamin.
Shiplar, John.	Isaac, Newman.

Freemen.

Joseph Sproat.	George Wolf.
John Work.	Adam Wolf.
Benjamin Kindle.	Joseph Gween.
George Hoffman.	Matthew Gilmore.
Godfrey Smith.	Black Will.
George Hoover.	Samuel Hutcheson.
John McWilliams.	Jeremiah Brooks.
John Gallagher.	Austin Moore.
Frederick Walser.	Alexander, the Scotch-
Henry Franks.	man.
George Delenger.	Nicholas Hostaler.
John Corns.	John Lasly.

Tavern-keepers are always persons of importance in new settlements. The first individual recommended to court as a suitable person to cater to the wants of the traveling public was John Boltenhouse, at June sessions, 1787. Licenses were subsequently issued as follows: Philip Lawrence, Elijah Moore, Jeremiah Davidson, September sessions, 1796; Zachariah Wheat, June sessions, 1797; William McClelland, September sessions, 1798; David Schroyer, September sessions, 1804; Henry Balsinger, September sessions, 1812; Aaron Maple, June sessions, 1805; Michael Kline, September sessions, 1805; Frederick Struble, September sessions, 1806; James Sangston, August sessions, 1807; John Grove, August sessions, 1810; Elias Parshall, November

sessions, 1810; George Balsinger, April sessions, 1812; David Auld, January sessions, 1813.

William McClelland kept in what is now McClellandtown for many years, as did also Frederick Struble. David Schroyer, Zachariah Wheat, Aaron Maple, James Sangston, John Grove in Germantown. Sangston entertained travelers and sold whisky for the long period of forty years. Messrs. Balsingers owned the stand near where now stands Balsinger's school-house, between McClellandtown and Uniontown. David Auld's is now the residence of Mrs. Catharine Hoover, on the Uniontown and Little Whitely Creek road, south of Rabb's mill.

The only highways known to the primal inhabitants were the cardinal points of the compass. The geometrical roads were unobstructed by anything of which they knew, and the traveler pursued the course he desired to without asking. The earliest road ordered by the court to pass through German was the one from Uniontown to Rabb's mill, on Brown's Run; from thence to the Monongahela River, at the mouth of said run. The following is the order, dated 4th Tuesday of December, 1783:

"On the petition of divers inhabitants of the County of Fayette, representing to the Court the great inconveniences they labor under for want of a road from Uniontown to Andrew Rabb's Mill upon Brown's Run, and from thence to the Monongahela River at the mouth of said Run, and praying that the Court would appoint six suitable men to view the ground over which the said road is desired to pass, therefore considered and ordered that Robert Harrison, John Huffman, Andrew Rabb, Esq., Jacob Rich, John Messmore, and Daniel Culp do view the ground over which the said road is desired to pass, and if they, or any four of them, see it necessary, that they lay out a road the nearest and best way the ground will admit of, and make report of their proceedings therein by course and distance to the next Court."

At the same court an order was issued for laying out a road to connect with Hyde's Ferry road. Mr. Veech, in writing of this road, says, "It came from the Ten-Mile settlement through Greene County, crossing the creek at Hyde's Ferry or the mouth of Big Whitely Creek, passing by the south side of Masontown through Haydentown, or by David John's mill, up Laurel Hill, through Sandy Creek settlement, to Daniel McPeak's and into Virginia." The road from John Gilliland's to Rabb's mill was ordered to be laid out at September sessions, 1788, and Abraham Stewart, John Allison, John Work, Hugh Gilmore, Andrew Rabb, and John Gallagher appointed viewers. This road is the one known as the McClellandtown road at this day. Mr. Abraham Stewart, appointed one of the viewers, was very greatly interested in this road, as it crossed his farm from east to west, he residing at that time and owning the farm now in possession of James Parshall, just out of McClellandtown to the east. The road from Germantown to the mouth of Catt's Run was also ordered, and Andrew Long, James Thompson, William Rabb, James Wilson, Andrew Work, and John Leckey

appointed viewers. There are now ninety miles of road in the township, according to the survey of the supervisors. "The Luzerne Road Law" was extended by the State Legislature so as to apply to German in 1871-72.

There are no macadamized roads nor railroads in the township. The "big roads" are used by all classes for reaching markets or traveling. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad had a route surveyed by Jonathan Knight nearly fifty years ago, down the main branch of Brown's Run to a point on the Monongahela River opposite the mouth of Little Whitely Creek, in Greene County. Short-sighted people and politicians refused the right of way, and forced the road through the wilds of West Virginia. Upon a vote taken for and against granting the right of way through Fayette County there were but two votes in favor of it cast in German (cast by Jacob Newcomer and John Haney). Two other routes have been surveyed in the past few years, viz., the Uniontown and Catt's Run, and Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railroads.

The Monongahela has been the great natural outlet for the Western country from a very early date, and since the era of steamboats and slack-water navigation has become still more important. Three ferries connect German with Greene County,—Brown's, at Middle Run; McCann's, at or near Little Whitely Creek; and McLain's, west of Masontown.

The earliest saw- and grist-mills were built by Messrs. Gilmore, Work, and Rabb. They were taxed on this class of property as early as 1785, but had been engaged in distilling several years previous. Their whisky, "Monongahela, Pure Rye," had even then gained for itself lasting fame. The flour made at their mills was of two kinds, wheat and rye. The practice of eating rye bread prevailed until within the last few years, and does even yet in some localities. There was no home market for flour, and to reach the New Orleans market (the only paying one) caused Rabb to engage in keel-boat building in connection with others. The boats were annually loaded with whisky and flour and sent down the Ohio and Mississippi. The early mills were generally upon creeks, but after a few years several were built upon the river, and to distinguish them from those upon the creeks were denominated "river mills." This class of mills have been superseded by steam-mills, except far up the Monongahela and on its Virginia tributaries.

The first to apply steam motive-power to mills was the venerable John Debolt, who still lives to see the wonderful progress of the age. The engine cost \$900 in Brownsville, and was bought of Cuthbertson & Roe, in 1833. Flour, except for home consumption, is no longer made by the country mills. For the purpose of supplying the people of the township with flour the following-named persons have mills: Jacob Johnson, on Middle Run, steam-mill, with saw attached;

Joseph Mack, on Brown's Run, steam-mill, saw attached; Joseph Galley, on Brown's Run, water-mill, saw attached; Gilmore Brothers, on Brown's Run, water-mill, saw-mill attached. The ruins of old mills and still-houses are found in many localities. Of saw-mills there are in the township those of John D. Rider, Brown's Run, water-power; Isaac N. Hague, portable, Catt's Run; Ephraim Sterling, saw- and planing-mill on Monongahela River, do considerable business. On Catt's Run John Mason had a mill built at an early day. He sold to Simon Yandes. The Yandeses built a still-house, and in turn sold to David Johnson, better known as "Davy Yawnse, or Yonts." He added an oil- and carding-mill. Nothing remains but the crushers of the oil-mill.

A Mr. Grool started a tannery in Germantown, at or near the beginning of the present century. For many years an excellent quality of leather was manufactured. The yard passing through many hands has finally become the property of Josiah S. Allebaugh. A Mr. John McKéan, of McClellandtown, also manufactured some forty years ago. The only person engaged in the business now is Mr. Leonard Sapper, and he only in a small way.

John Debolt started a pottery in Masontown in 1823. The ware made was of an inferior quality in comparison with that made now, but answered every purpose in its day. Salt was made by the "Silver Oil Company" at their works east of Masontown in 1866-69, but bad management or other causes ruined the enterprise. The year 1881 has found German where it started in manufacturing whisky first. Dunlevy, Rabb's distiller, succeeded in getting a yield of two and three-eighths gallons per bushel, and refused to impart his secret. This made Rabb a fortune. At one time twenty-seven stills were running in German. The mash was from three to twenty-five bushels, or according to the capacity of the still or wealth of distiller. Sylvanus T. Gray, the only manufacturer in German, now produces daily more than all these old distillers combined. His works are on Catt's Run. In conversation with the proprietor, in presence of United States officials, he said, "The yearly consumption of grain was thirty thousand bushels;" average yield per bushel, three and one-half gallons. According to the above data, there are produced per year 105,000 gallons, amounting to \$141,750.

A new enterprise is being developed in German. Mr. Enoch F. Brown has erected the necessary works for the manufacture of cement on his premises near the mouth of Brown's Run. The first kiln burnt was drawn July 16, 1879, and the enterprise promises success.

Many years back in the history of Fayette County a Mr. Baker manufactured guns, making all the different parts from the raw material. His shop and premises are now in possession of Philip Kefover's heirs in Nicholson township, formerly German.

Many of the early adventurers who crossed the Al-

leghenies in 1767, '68, '69, and '70 located permanently in what was afterwards erected into the township of German. Among the number were the Provances, Gilmores, McLains, Fasts, Yeagers, and Walters in the southern portion of the township, near the Monongahela River, and north of Jacob's Creek; in the central part, Waltzers, Messmores, Rabbs, and Antils, on the waters of Brown's Run; in the extreme northwest were the McKibbins, Moores, Crawfords, Sprotes, and a few families of less note. These pioneer citizens of original German were nearly all included in the portions annexed to Luzerne in 1820 and 1821, and still later by the act organizing Nicholson township in 1845. The few remaining of the first settlers were the Moores, Rabbs, and Gilmores, after the partitions mentioned. The tide of emigration was almost entirely checked by the Indian troubles between 1774 and 1780, and it was not until 1780 that it again set in. In 1783 one hundred and seventy-eight taxables were returned by the assessor. Of this very great number a few have risen to a prominence which entitles them to notice, viz.: the Wilsons, Hostetlers, Kendalls, Franks, Messmores, Riffles, Sprotes, and Eberlies (now written Everly).

The Franks (or Frankes now) were of French origin. The Frank mentioned (Jacob) was born in 1743. He came to Baltimore, Md., when eighteen years of age, with his father, Michael Frank, Sr. After serving his apprenticeship he married a Miss Barbara Brandeberry, emigrated to Western Pennsylvania, and purchased a large tract of land near High House village, which is called "Frankston." He was prominent in organizing the "Old Dutch Church" in 1785 and 1793. In 1802 he died, leaving a large family. The descendants are scattered over the Western States, and a large branch in West Virginia. The most prominent representative of the family in Fayette County is the present honest and efficient treasurer, Michael Franks, formerly of Nicholson township, but now of Uniontown. In Ohio they have a regular family convention or reunion annually in August.

Of the early life of Nicholas Hostetler little is known except that he was of German descent. He and his descendants were and are hard-working men and women, and embrace many of the best citizens of German township. In addition to their love of hard labor, their fondness for music is characteristic. The celebrated Hostetler blind family are descendants of Nicholas, and children of Daniel Hostetler and Mary Gibbons, who were married nearly sixty years ago. There was nothing unusual in their marriage, except their being first cousins. Their future was as yet unraveled, and time brought them eight children, —five girls and three boys. Of these, two boys and a girl were born absolutely eyeless, and a boy and a girl with but one eye each. Nature, to compensate for her parsimoniousness in withholding sight, gave great musical talents, and from tender infancy these afflicted ones have been the wonder of the land. They

are first-class composers as well as excellent performers on the organ, violin, and other instruments. Their names are John, born Jan. 25, 1829; Catharine, Feb. 15, 1835; Bartholomew, April 21, 1845 (these three were born eyeless); Samuel, born Nov. 12, 1842, was born with one eye, but he has since become totally blind.

James Wilson was born in Lancaster County, Pa., 1764, and came to Fayette County when twelve years of age. He was married twice, his first wife being a Miss Mary Rabb, born 1777; the second Miss Elizabeth Lowrie, or Lowry. He was a large landholder, living upon his estate near McClellandtown, on the Morgantown and Brownsville road, until the day of his death. The family he had by his two wives are many of them living, some in their native township, German, some in Indiana, and other western States. James Wilson was one of the early justices of German, succeeding his father-in-law, Andrew Rabb. He served from 1807 till near 1840, when he became paralyzed. He was unable to articulate for nearly four years before his death. Several of his first wife's children—Dr. William Wilson, Andrew Wilson, and Sarah Yandes—reside in Indiana. John Wilson, Esq., of German, is a son by the second marriage. He has served as justice of the peace, and is one of the most upright and useful citizens of the township. Mrs. Eleazer Robinson, of Uniontown, is also a daughter of James Wilson. Rev. Alexander Wilson and Dr. William L. S. Wilson, of Washington County, are grandsons.

John Messmore was a Swiss by birth, but emigrated to the British colonies at an early day. During the war for independence he was a teamster in the Continental army under Washington. After the time of his service had expired he came West, not with the intention of remaining, but meeting many Germans here he was induced to stay. He raised a large family of children, many of whom became in later years useful and solid citizens. Squire George Messmore, born in 1791, was an honored citizen of German township. He served one term as justice while residing where Joseph Mack now does on Brown's Run. He then sold and moved to the State of Ohio, and located in Wayne County, where he continued to reside until his death, March 28, 1878. His son is now sheriff of the county in which his father died. From the same forefather is ex-Sheriff Isaac Messmore, of Uniontown. He was elected from Luzerne, but was born and reared in German township. He removed to Luzerne in 1854. Ex-Justice of the Peace John Messmore, also of Uniontown, is his brother. While a citizen of German he was twice elected justice of the peace.

Joseph Sprote was an old Revolutionary soldier, entering the service at the age of seventeen, as he said, "without much reflection, but afterwards repented at leisure." He resided southwest of New Salem until the year of his decease. His daughter Ann married Asbury Struble, Esq., of German; Margaret married

a Mr. Thompson; another married Mr. John Huston, of Greene County. Joseph S. Struble and Mrs. Sarah J. Hellen, of Uniontown, are grandchildren of Joseph Sprute.

Jacob Eberly, or Everly, was an honest Dutchman, very piously inclined. He was a consistent member of the "Dutch Church" in German township, the patent for the glebe having been granted to him and others.

Jacob Riffe was a quiet, peaceable man. His talents were not showy but solid. His house was the polling-place where three townships met for many years. His descendants have inherited his estate, with much of his character. They are honest, hard-working, and economical, and several of them have filled township offices with credit to themselves.

Daniel Yandes, Jr., was a son of Daniel Yandes, who owned the property of the late Nicholas Johnson, and called by John Mason "East Abington." Daniel Yandes, Jr., married Sarah Wilson, a daughter of James Wilson, Esq. He sold his farm to David Johnson (known to Fayette County people as "Davy Yawse") and moved to Indiana, near Indianapolis, in 1823. He became very wealthy, and during the Kansas-Nebraska excitement organized a company in the interest of the Free State party. The Yandes are now prominent citizens of Indiana.

Jeremiah Kendall, a justice of the peace for German township, was a son of William Kendall, who emigrated to Fauquier County, Va., from England. Young Kendall was Washington's secretary during the Revolutionary war, and received a wound at the Brandywine battle. After the war he married a Miss Rhoda McIntyre and came to Fayette County. He moved into a house belonging to Hugh Gilmore, the elder, north of Middle Run. After a short time had elapsed he purchased a large tract of land on Brown's Run, southeast of where McClellandtown now stands. He engaged in agriculture and distilling, in which he succeeded financially. He left a large family of children to inherit his estate. Jeremiah, Jr., took the home-place, and at his death left it to his sons and daughters. Isaac P. and John C. Kendall own the homestead, and are the only descendants of the male line in German. Mrs. Jane Deffenbaugh, Mrs. Rhoda Reppert, and Mrs. Jacob Dawson are granddaughters. The oldest son of Jeremiah Kendall, Sr., emigrated to Ohio about 1820. The "White Sewing-Machine Company," of Cleveland, Ohio, is largely owned by members of this branch of his descendants.

Hon. David Gilmore was born near the Monongahela River, in German township, in 1786. He was a representative in the State Legislature and a member of the convention to amend the State Constitution in 1838. In the war of 1812 he was a member of Capt. James A. Abrams' company, and saw hard service in the Northwest under Harrison. His brother Hugh was a lieutenant in the same company. He died April 30, 1847.

The Hon. Andrew Stewart was born near McClellandtown, in German township, in 1791. His life and public services are of national fame. He died near Uniontown, July 16, 1872.

Hon. Henry Clay Dean was born in McClellandtown, Oct. 27, 1822; attended Madison College; clerked for George Hogg, Esq., of Brownsville; taught school, and finally entered the law-office of Hon. Andrew Stewart; was chaplain of the United States Senate in 1855-56, and candidate for elector on the Stephen A. Douglas ticket in 1860. He refuses all office, and says he "considers office-seekers the most detestable spaniels that lick the dust from the feet of power." He lives in Missouri, on a farm of eighteen hundred acres on Chariton River. When not engaged in the courts he employs his time in studying philosophy, history, and literature; admitted to the bar of Fayette County Sept. 11, 1863.

Capt. Cyrus L. Conner, born in 1825, was a soldier of the Mexican war. He was captain of a company in the Pennsylvania Reserves in the civil war of 1861-65; promoted to major and served in Georgia. Died in Masontown, April 5, 1877.

William Parshall, Esq., was born near McClellandtown, Sept. 21, 1822; studied law with Hon. Joshua B. Howell; was educated at Rector, Va., and Washington, Pa.

Seth Ely and George W. Rutter, noted musicians and composers, were both of German township.

Ashbel Fairchild Hill was born near Masontown, Oct. 23, 1842. He was a member of Capt. Conner's company, and lost a limb in the war. During his soldiering he wrote "Our Boys." This was followed by "White Rocks," "Secrets of the Sanctum," and several romances for literary papers. He died at the close of the Presidential contest, Nov. 7, 1876.

Capt. George W. Gilmore was born June 9, 1832. He was a prominent actor during the Kansas troubles,—an aide to Gen. James Lane. He raised a company in Fayette County, and was mustered into the Virginia service at Clarksburg in July, 1861. He resides in Dade County, Mo.

Daniel Yandes was born and raised on the John Mason "East Abington tract," near Masontown. He emigrated to Indiana. His mother was a Rider. He married a half-sister to John Wilson, Esq., and Mrs. Eleaser Robinson, of Uniontown. During the Kansas troubles he acted a conspicuous part on the Free State side.

In the Whiskey Insurrection, after the people had been misled by their leaders, they raised "liberty poles," and proceeded to organize companies for the purpose of forcing the general government to repeal the act of 1791, which imposed a tax on whiskey. The government having raised an army of fifteen thousand men, sent them into the western part of Pennsylvania, where the Whiskey Boys had some seven thousand ill-disciplined men to oppose them. Before this show of force the Whiskey Boys dispersed without firing a

gun. Detachments were sent out to arrest prominent offenders, but generally failed. German had furnished a company of one hundred men under the command of Capt. Robert Ross. A squad of cavalry from Uniontown attempted to capture him, but were not successful.

PHYSICIANS.

Tradition furnishes no clue by which the historian can discover who was the first regular physician to practice the healing art in this section. Indian root and herb doctors were found in almost every family. In 1809, Dr. Joseph Ross was a regular practitioner, having located in Germantown some time previous. His brothers, C. J. and James, were also physicians, having considerable practice in the neighborhood of McClellandtown. Dr. Lewis Sweitzer followed them in 1822, and Dr. David Rhoads in 1825; he had a very large practice, dysentery and putrid sore throat prevailing for a number of years. For several years Dr. John Wilson was in partnership with him. In 1835, Dr. John J. Steel located in Masontown, and soon after Dr. John Fithian. Dr. — Bloomino was also practicing near McClellandtown, while Drs. Merchant and Campbell, of Uniontown, were called frequently in the northern part of the township. The famous Dr. Braddee was often consulted between 1833 and 1839. About 1838-39, Dr. Rhoads took into partnership Dr. George W. Neff, of Uniontown, who was highly recommended by Dr. Hugh Campbell. Neff is said to have been the first dentist in Fayette County, having practiced in Uniontown nearly fifty years ago. Dr. Rhoads dying in 1841, Neff took his practice, which he kept as long as his health remained.

In 1843, Dr. Jesse E. Penny settled in McClellandtown, where he resided for several years. Dr. George Ringland bought him out, and in turn sold to Dr. Casper M. Miller, who, in 1870, sold his property to Dr. H. W. Brashear, and in 1880 was succeeded by Dr. James P. Sangston, who graduated in 1868 at the Charity Hospital Medical College, Cleveland, Ohio, now the Medical Department of the University of Wooster.

In Masontown, in 1848, Dr. N. W. Truxal (now of Brownsville) had a large practice. Near the same place Drs. Charles Myers and Finfrock lived and practiced in 1850.

SCHOOLS.

The ruins of many old cabins used in the past as school-houses are still to be seen. Among these were Mason's school-house in Masonborough; one on the Fast or Bullit tract, now in Nicholson; later, one on Provance's Flats; one near the Seceders' Church, now near the line of Luzerne; one near Rabb's mill, now Hoover's; one on Middle Run, to the right going towards the river on Brown's land; one near High House; one on the German Lutheran and German Reformed Lutheran glebe; one near the cross-roads on the Newcomer lands; one on the farm now owned

by John Riley, near cross-roads; one near Dunlap's Creek, and one or two in the northeast corner of the township. In these huts taught John Knox McGee, Jacob Ish, Samuel Taggart, John Hickenloper, Thomas Green, Fred Frazer, James Anderson, Joseph Deffenbaugh, Amos Gray, James T. Redburn, Moses A. Ross, John Atkinson, and many others; in the past fifty years, Bridget Hainey, John G. Farmer, John G. Hertig, Henry Jennings, and others. The introduction of the free school system inaugurated a new era in the schools.

At January sessions, 1835, the court appointed Jeremiah Kendall, Jr., and Elisha Laughead school directors of German township. The new system met with great opposition, and several years elapsed before its benefits were seen or appreciated.

The rich opposed being taxed for the purpose of helping to school the children of the poor. The real objection was their objection to schools in general at all. By statute they had been taxed by the county for the same purpose before the passage of the law or act complained of. The township was districted and suitable school-houses erected prior to 1837.

Following are extracts from the county records referring to schools in German:

Order of John Hickenloper, of German, for teaching poor children, dated Jan. 4, 1812, am't.....	\$11 25
Sept. 24, 1813, to same for same.....	28.73½
June 23, 1813, to same for same.....	16.19
Jan. 13, 1813, to Samuel Taggart for same.....	4.64

In 1838 the system had made considerable progress, and Nathaniel Darrall, John Ross, Jesse Antram, David Jennings, Isaac Core, and Richard Poundstone were the directors, and all advocates of the system. Its progress from year to year has been good since that time.

Present number of districts in township.....	11
Number of teachers.....	11
Males.....	11

NAMES OF DISTRICTS AND COST OF HOUSES.

Windy Hill.....	\$450	Balsinger's.....	\$1100
Middle Run.....	500	Core's.....	650
McClellandtown.....	500	Ross.....	800
Church Hill.....	550	Mennonite.....	915
Gilmore's.....	650	Crow Hill.....	975
Messmore's.....	950		

NUMBER OF SCHOLARS ON THE ROLLS FOR 1880.

Total.....	461
Males.....	217
Females.....	244
Total receipts.....	\$3116.36
Total expenditures.....	3046.23
School property, furniture, etc.....	1200.00
Cost of school-houses.....	\$040.00
Cost of land.....	500.00

The following is a list of school directors of German township from 1840 to the present time:

- 1841. Samuel Winders, John Mosier.
- 1842. John Poundstone, Henry Jennings.
- 1843. Philip Poundstone, Ellis Freeman.
- 1844. Samuel Winders, George Vance.
- 1845. Thomas Conner, William B. Alton.

1846. Nicholas Miller, William Jeffreys.
 1847. John P. Williams, Alexander Black.
 1848. Ellis Coldren, Joseph Woodward.
 1849. Jesse Overturf, Uriah Higinbotham, William Schroyer.
 1850. Joseph Deffenbaugh, Jacob F. Longanecker.
 1851. William Jeffreys, John Haney.
 1852. Samuel D. Harn, John Brown.
 1853. John Moore, Jacob Mack.
 1854. Vincent Parshall, Jesse Overturf.
 1855. Lewis Campbell, John Haney.
 1856. John Sterling, Allen Q. Darrall.
 1857. Harvey Grove, George Balsinger.
 1858. James C. Higinbotham, Isaac Crow.
 1859. Johnson Dearth, John Emery.
 1860. Thomas Williams, Alexander Black.
 1861. William P. Green, Peter Crago.
 1862. Harvey Grove, Jefferson Sangston.
 1863. John J. Riffe, James Newcomer.
 1864. John D. Rider, John Sterling.
 1865. Isaac Crow, John Ferren.
 1866. Michael S. Franks, Levi Antram.
 1867. James M. Howard, Rezin L. Debolt.
 1868. Westly W. Altman, ———.
 1869. Nathaniel Gray, Isaac N. Ross.
 1870. James M. Harvard, John Sterling.
 1872. Hugh J. Gilmore, George Porter, John D. Rider.
 1873. John D. Rider, Jacob Johnson.
 1874. Joseph Rockwell, Nicholas Johnson.
 1875. John H. Newcomer, George Dearth.
 1876. Jesse V. Hoover, George Porter.
 1877. William H. Brashear, Nicholas Johnson.
 1878. Samuel Campbell, Henry D. Core.
 1879. John Huhn, David S. Longanecker.
 1880. Joseph Gadd, Levi Brown.
 1881. Samuel Beal, Henry D. Core.

CHURCHES.

THE "DUTCH CHURCH."

For the purpose of establishing a church in German township, Michael Franks and others obtained a warrant for a tract of land south of Brown's Run, called the "Straight Narrow Way," Feb. 2, 1785. In 1785, April 25th, it was surveyed, and found to contain 117 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres and allowance. This they received a patent for from Governor Thomas Mifflin, July 22, 1794. Prior to the year 1793 they had built a log meeting-house, the only kind in the county at that time. It had a gallery, a rude pulpit or seat for the minister, and rough seats for the congregation. In 1792 the Rev. John Stough was sent out as a catechist. In May, 1793, he was licensed to preach by the Lutheran Synod in the city of Philadelphia. In the same year he organized the church known since as the Dutch Church, because the sermons were delivered in that language. The minutes of the organization contain twenty-five names, among which are the following: John Huhn, Philip Lawrence, Francis Fast, William Fast, Michael and Jacob Frank, Henry Barrickman, Daniel Schmidt.

The patent was made to Michael Frank, Nicholas Pock, John Mason, John Hartman, — Everly, and Joseph Yeager. In 1846 the old log house was re-

placed by a brick house, the one in use at present. The congregation are about remodeling or erecting a new house. Upon the grounds attached Rev. W. O. Wilson and the church council succeeded in having a cemetery chartered, but not without great opposition. During the time in which the minutes of this church were recorded in German twelve hundred baptisms were performed.

Since the organization in 1793 the following ministers have been in charge: From 1763 to 1806, Rev. John Stough (born in York County, Pa., 1762; died in Crawford County, Ohio, July 25, 1845), Rev. — Redman, Rev. Ravenock, Rev. Henry Weygandt, Rev. Charles Koebler, Rev. John Brown, Rev. Abraham Weills; from 1852 till 1865, Rev. Jacob K. Melhorn (now of Allegheny County, Pa.); 1866 to April, 1873, Rev. Henry Acher; April 25, 1873, to 1881, Rev. William Orris Wilson, of West Chester, Pa. He was educated at Ceylon Grove and other schools. The present membership (1881) of this church is two hundred and forty-five.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

From the most authentic sources it is found that the following-named individuals were the founders of the Methodist Church in German, namely, Andrew Long, Caleb Hanna, and Alexander McDougale, who, in the year 1819, began preparations for building a church. In 1820, in June, the house was nearly completed, when, on the night of the 11th, it was almost entirely ruined by one of the most violent storms that has ever visited this section of the county. It was, however, finished and used until 1833, when, the walls having crumbled, the congregation took measures to rebuild it.

In 1876, when the court erected Masontown a borough, this house was included in the town. Being built by persons of every shade of belief, it has been the bone of contention in many a strife. The most liberal subscribers to the building fund were Ephraim Woodruff and his wife Frances, Miss Rainey Chenowith, Solomon Altman and his mother. A host of worthy ministers have labored here, but to enumerate would occupy more space than can be allotted the subject. The first to preach the Wesleyan doctrine in this new field was Rev. Wesley Webster, an Englishman, in 1818. Then came Revs. Batty and Pool. But the most noted was the eloquent H. B. Bascom. There was connected with this church for nearly half a century an individual by the name of Solomon Altman, licensed in Pittsburgh in 1825 as a local preacher, who was eminent for his industry and benevolence. He died near Weston, W. Va., in 1846. The present (1881) minister in charge is the Rev. H. D. McGrew. The present membership is forty-five,—males, twenty-one; females, twenty-four.

The lot on which the Methodist Church stands, as well as the cemetery attached, was purchased from Caleb Hanna.

REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCH.

By an order of the Redstone Association a church was organized near McClellandtown in 1828. The ministers appointed for the work were Revs. William Brownfield and Francis Downey. The church officers were: Deacons, Elias Parshall, Sr., Erasmus Alton; Clerk, John Grove. Following is a list of the ministers in charge of this church from organization till the year of its dissolution: Revs. William Brownfield, Francis Downey, James Seymore, William Woods, Sr., James McCoboy (not certain), Garret Patton, Thomas Rose, in 1851, when, the congregation dissolved. The church grounds were donated by Elias Parshall, who, with Erasmus Alton, contributed mainly to its support during the period of its existence.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Presbyterianism was not introduced into German until after the Scotch-Irish element began settling here. The members who resided in it were visited by ministers from more fortunate regions at regular periods. The best known of these missionaries were the Rev. Crittlebaugh and Rev. George Van Enem. "At a meeting of the Redstone Presbytery an order was granted for the organization of a church in German township. The ministers appointed for carrying the order into effect were Messrs. William Johnson, Ashbel G. Fairchild, and Samuel Wilson. On the 23d day of November, 1839, the Rev. committee convened at the Baptist Church on Church Hill, west of and near to McClellandtown, for the purpose of executing the order of the Presbytery. After a sermon by the Rev. Ashbel G. Fairchild, Rev. Samuel Wilson presiding, they proceeded to organize a church. Thomas Wilson, Samuel Gettys, William Grove, Joseph Deffenbaugh, and Elisha Langhead were ordained elders." In the year 1843 they erected a brick church, which has been their regular place of worship since (except when being remodeled a few years ago on account of its having been damaged by fire).

From the organization of the church to the present time the following-named preachers have had the congregation in charge, viz.: Rev. Samuel Wilson, Rev. James P. Fulton, Rev. S. S. Bergen. Membership in 1881, fifty.

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

About the year 1839, Revs. Bird and Morgan were sent out by the Cumberland Presbytery as missionaries to preach the new faith. Their success at Masontown induced the Presbytery to select and send "Revs. Abraham Shearer, Isaac Hague, and Daniel A. Murdock to organize a church. These ministers began their labors in the spring of 1840. Having gained twenty-nine members in a very short time, they founded the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Masontown, July 23, 1840." The Methodists kindly permitted the new sect to occupy their building until they should feel themselves able to build

one of their own, which they did in 1852. Their trustees—Samuel Winders, John Henry Bowman, and Jacob Newcomer—purchased a piece of ground of John Ross, west of Masontown, upon which they erected a brick church. On the 7th day of May, 1852, they received the deed for their property.

The following-named ministers have been in charge of this church since its organization, viz.: Rev. Andrew G. Osburn, 1842 to 1853; Rev. John T. A. Henderson, 1853 to 1854; Rev. William Hanna, 1854 to 1858; Rev. Andrew G. Osburn, 1858 to 1863; Rev. James P. Baird, 1863 to 1865; Rev. Jesse Adams, 1865 to 1867; Rev. Ellis E. Bailey, 1867 to 1871; Rev. John S. Gibson, 1871 to the present time. The membership Jan. 1, 1880, as given by Josiah S. Allebaugh, Esq., was one hundred and eighty-three,—males, sixty-seven; females, one hundred and sixteen.

MENNONITE CHURCH.

The followers of the teaching of Menno Simon constituted a very great portion of the early inhabitants of German, but they were without any churches for many years after settling. For religious exercises they met at certain of the brethren's residences till about the year 1790, when they built a log church near the road leading from Uniontown to Masontown, *via* High House, on lands now owned by John Riley. It was used both as church and school-house for many years. In it preached and taught Peter Longanecker, one of the great lights in those days. The Revs. Jacob Newcomer and Joseph Bixler were contemporary. The first house having gone to decay, the congregation in 1838 built another on lands of Nicholas Johnson, which was known as the "Dogwood Church." In 1870 dissensions in the church caused considerable trouble, and ended by Nicholas Johnson, deceased, donating ground for a site for a new house as well as furnishing the necessary funds for building it. In 1871 their present house (brick) was dedicated. It is located east of Masontown, on the Smithfield road.

Ministers in charge: Revs. David Johnson, John Durr, Christian Deffenbaugh. Membership in 1881, forty,—twenty males and twenty females.

DISCIPLES' CHURCH.

The pioneer of this denomination in German was Elder J. D. Benedict, who, in the fall of 1873, held a meeting in McClellandtown. He was followed by Elder M. L. Streater in January, 1874, and in May following fifteen persons professed religion. On the 26th day of July, 1874, the first organization of this sect took place by the election and confirmation of the following persons as church officers, viz.: James W. French, Sr., and Clark B. Scott, elders; Melancthon J. Crow, Elias Parshall, and James W. French, Jr., deacons. The total membership at that time was twenty-nine. In the spring of 1876 nearly the entire congregation emigrated West and South, and at present not more than five or six members remain.

BURIAL-GROUNDS.

The following is a list of cemeteries and burial-places in German township, designating them by the names by which they are commonly known, and indicating their location in different parts of the township, viz.:

Lutheran (chartered), on the glebe attached to Lutheran Church, in Southeast German. Dedicated Oct. 1, 1879.

Leckey, north of McClellandtown.

Presbyterian, Church Hill.

Methodist, Masontown.

Cumberland Presbyterian, Masontown.

Mennonite, on Catt's Run.

There are numerous family and private burial-places located on farms in different parts of the township. These are chiefly old grounds, many of them in disuse. Some of them are fenced, and others lying common with the lands of the farms on which they are located. Among these are the following:

One near old Mennonite Church and school-house lot on John Riley's farm.

Kendall, on Jonathan Galley's farm.

Longanecker, on Louch's farm.

Harrison, on John Sterling's farm.

Gilmore, on Ephraim Sterling's farm.

Bowman's, on Jonathan Sterling's farm.

Gilliland (2), on John Coffin's farm.

Messmore, on George Haught's farm.

Newcomer, on Newcomer heirs' farm.

Bixler, on David Johnson's farm.

Ross, on Asbury Struble's farm.

Coldren, on William Schroyer's farm.

Hostetler, on John Coffin's farm.

Unknown, on William Coffin's farm.

Mason, on Mason Borough farm.

Free Blacks, on William M. Lardin's farm.

Fretz's, on James H. Hoover's farm.

—, on George Dearth's farm.

Gordon's, on Samuel Brown's farm.

Brown's, on Levi Brown's farm.

McClelland's, on John S. Mosier's farm.

Antrim's, on William H. Riffle's farm.

There are three other burial-grounds on lands belonging to Poundstone and others, not well cared for.

LIST OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

JUSTICES, 1785 to 1881.

Andrew Rabb, Jan. 24, 1785, appointed by Governor James Irvine: poisoned by his slave; died at White Sulphur Springs, Va., Sept. 5, 1804.

Ephraim Walter, by Governor Charles Biddle, Nov. 21, 1786; died Dec. 8, 1835, aged 91 years.

Abraham Stewart, by Governor Thomas Mifflin, Aug. 18, 1790.

Jeremiah Kendall, by Governor Thomas Mifflin, July 22, 1799; died Jan. 28, 1843, aged 85 years.

James Wilson, by Governor Thomas McKean; died Feb. 19, 1841, aged 77 years.

John Auld, by Governor William Findley, 1819; died in Brownsville.

Moses A. Ross, by Andrew Schultze, March 17, 1824; died in Alamakee County, Iowa, Nov. 22, 1842, aged 72 years.

Jesse Beeson, by Governor George Wolf, 1832.

John P. Williams and George Messmore, elected March, 1840; Messmore died in Ohio, March 20, 1878; Williams was re-elected in 1845, and died in Greensboro', Greene Co., Pa., 1875, aged 66 years.

James C. Higinbotham, elected 1845; died in Luzerne township, Dec. 18, 1870, aged 66 years.

John Wilson, elected 1849; now living.

Philip D. Stentz, elected 1850; re-elected 1855; died in Connelville.

David Miller, elected 1854; living; age 64.

John Messmore, elected 1858; re-elected 1863; living in Uniontown; age 60 years.

James C. Edington, elected 1859; re-elected 1864; died April 20, 1873, aged 78 years.

John W. Lynch, elected 1868; re-elected 1877; living; age 66 years.

Thomas Williams, elected 1869; living; age 62 years.

James W. French, elected 1873; living in Kansas; age 57 years.

Col. David Gilmore, elected 1874; died Aug. 9, 1876; aged 44 years.

John B. Woodfill, elected 1878; living; age 59 years.

ASSESSORS.

1841. William Grove.

1842. John Weltner.

1843. Harvey Grove.

1844. Isaac Smith.

1845. John Poundstone.

1846. Jesse Antram.

1847. John Brown.

1848. John H. Bowman.

1849. Jacob F. Longanecker.

1850. Robert Moss.

1851. Isaac Messmore.

1852. John Riley.

1853. William P. Green.

1854. John A. Walters.

1855. John J. Riffle.

1856. Samuel Allebaugh.

1857. Alfred Core.

1858. John D. Rider.

1859. Clark B. Haney.

1860. Quincy A. Partridge.

1861. Solomon G. Riffle.

1862. Alexander Leckey, Jr.

1863. Christian T. Rhoads.

1864. Hugh C. Poundstone.

1865. William Poundstone.

1866. Daniel F. Hostetler.

1867. George W. Green.

1868. Reuben Grove.

1869. Isaac W. Coldren.

1870-71. Lewis C. Lewellen.

1872. James H. Hoover.

1873. James A. Weltner.

1874. Michael Crow.

1875. John Sterling.

1876. Henry D. Core.

1877. John H. Crago.

1878. James A. McWilliams.

1879. Henry S. Lynch.

1880. Thomas A. Jackson.

1881. William L. Moore.

AUDITORS.

1841. William McKean.

1842. Stephen Grove.

1843. Isaac Core.

1844. William McKean.

1845. James Wilson.

1846. Isaac Core.

1847. Wm. G. Higinbotham.

1848-49. Jesse Antram.

1850. Isaac Core.

1851. John Wiltner.

1852. William P. Green.

1853. Andrew J. Gilmore.

1854. Cyrus L. Conner.

1855. Isaac P. Kendall.

1856. William Parshall.

1857. Joseph Rockwell.

1858. Hugh J. Gilmore.

1859. William Parshall.

1860. Joseph S. Struble.

1861. Allen Q. Darrall.

1862. John Wilson.

1863. Levi Antram.

1864. Quincy A. Partridge.

1865. James Lewis.

1866. Peter H. Franks.

1867. Thomas D. Bise.

1868. Isaac P. Kendall.

1869. James W. French.

1870-71. Melancthon J. Crow.

1872. David Gilmore.

1872. James H. Campbell.	1877. Jesse P. Brown.
John H. Poundstone.	1878. Isaac W. Coldren.
1873. Thomas A. McKean.	1879. Cyrus W. Porter.
1874. Joseph Campbell.	1880. Charles S. Langley.
1875-76. Jacob Provance.	1881. Samuel Campbell.

MASONTOWN BOROUGH.

Masontown, formerly Germantown, was laid out by John Mason on a tract of land called East Abington. By deed dated the 29th of May, 1798, he conveyed to the inhabitants the streets and alleys, with the usual privileges and franchises conveyed in town charters.

For picturesqueness of location that of Masontown is unsurpassed. It is just far enough removed from the mountains to give to them that dark steel blue color which "lends enchantment to the view." The town, although built upon a hill, is surrounded by a higher chain of hills, except upon the west, or side next to the Monongahela River, from which it is distant one and one-half miles. The distance from the county-seat by the shortest route is ten miles. A daily mail to and from Uniontown puts the town in communication with more important places. There are some seventy dwellings in the town, many of which are large and of modern architecture. Population, four hundred.

The following branches of industry are to be found here: three chair-factories, four wagon- and buggy-shops, two saddle- and harness-shops, three smith-shops, tin-shop, tannery, one cabinet-maker, a large flouring-mill, four stores, two milliner-shops, two eating-houses, two undertakers, post-office, large school building, two churches; one physician, Dr. George W. Neff, who is a graduate of Philadelphia Medical College, March 12, 1870.

At March sessions, 1876, the court granted the town the rights and privileges of a borough. The executive officers from that period to the present are and have been the following-named persons:

BURGESSES.

1876. Hon. Jacob Provins.	1879. S. F. Altman.
1877. M. F. H. Farmer.	1880. Josiah S. Allebaugh.
1878. S. F. Altman.	1881. Stephen F. Altman.

COUNCIL.

- 1876.—Alexander Mack, Christian C. Sterling, Rozin L. Debolt, James Lewellen, Allen D. Smith, Josiah S. Allebaugh.
 1877.—Absalom Longanecker, James Lewellen, Isaac N. Hague, Josiah A. Bowman, Alexander Mack, John M. Deffenbaugh.
 1878.—James Lewellen, Myers M. Altman, I. N. Hague, James A. Bowman, Josiah S. Allebaugh, Aaron Walters.
 1879.—Adam J. Willyards, James Lewellen, I. N. Hague, Josiah S. Allebaugh, Richard Webber, Ephraim F. Walters.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS.

- 1876.—Abram Mosier, Ephraim Sterling, three years; James R. A. Altman, William J. Sangston, two years; Sylvanus S. Gray, James M. Howard, one year.
 1877.—William J. Sangston, J. R. A. Altman, three years; Robert M. S. Temple, two years.

- 1878.—Josiah S. Allebaugh, Josiah A. Bowman, Absalom Longanecker.
 1879.—Andrew J. Sterling, Isaac N. Hague.
 1880.—John F. Bowman, James R. A. Altman.
 1881.—James Lewellen, Josiah S. Allebaugh.

ASSESSORS.

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1876. James M. Howard. | 1879. John F. Bowman. |
| 1877. Christian T. Rhodes. | 1880. Benjamin Herrington. |
| 1878. Andrew J. Sterling. | 1881. Thomas J. Walters. |

AUDITORS.

- 1876.—Theophilus K. Higinbotham, three years; Thomas J. Walters, two years; Solomon J. Honsaker, one year.
 1877.—John C. Lewellen.
 1878.—Lucius M. Speers.
 1879.—James A. Ferren.
 1880.—Miles F. H. Farmer, C. N. Franks.
 1881.—Lucius M. Speers, three years; William C. Sterling, two years; Hugh J. Gilmore, one year.

JUSTICES.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1876. Josiah S. Allebaugh. | 1881. Stephen F. Altman. |
| Stephen F. Altman. | Miles F. H. Farmer. |

SOCIETIES AND ORDERS.

Colfax Lodge, No. 565, Independent Order of Odd-Fellows.—Organized May 18, 1860.

Valley Lodge, A. Y. M., No. 459.—Organized Dec. 27, 1869. Andrew Long was the first Mason known in German township.

Grange Society, No. 413.—Organized Dec. 15, 1874.

In 1801, John Mason and Apalonia, his wife, deeded to the citizens of Germantown "A house and lot on Water Street for school purposes," enumerating the objects intended, viz.: "An education—German and English—in the Arts and Sciences, Morality and Religion." The trustees were Lawrence Rider, Solomon Overturf. This is the first provision made for the purpose of establishing a system of public instruction in Masontown.

Some historical incidents connected with the history of Masontown are worthy of narration. "Fort Mason" was just below or east of the town, to the north of the spring in the field now belonging to Messrs. Gray. It was built by John Mason near 1780, and was resorted to for safety by the early settlers during the Indian troubles. It was threatened with destruction by the Tories and Indians, but was warned by Mr. Carmichael, founder of Carmichael's, Greene Co., in time to prepare for the enemy, which when they perceived they passed by and attempted to capture Fort Burd. In 1823 it was given by Ephraim Walter to Mr. John Debolt, his son-in-law, who had it removed and re-erected on the Main Street, where it still remains, the dwelling-house of Isaac N. Hague, Esq. The Whiskey Boys of '94 had a liberty pole here, around which they rallied during the days of the insurrection. Seth Ely, a famous musician, resided here for many years.

The population of Masontown by the United States census of 1880 was 376.

GERMAN TOWNSHIP.

601

McCLELLANDTOWN.

McClellandtown was founded by a family of that name, who lived there many years ago. William McClelland, the founder, died here July 12, 1815, in the eighty-second year of his age. The town is some eight miles southwest of Uniontown, and two and one-half miles east of the Monongahela River. It is pleasantly situated in the midst of a moral and industrious people, and in a rich country. It has produced many men who have won distinction in their spheres of life. Hon. Andrew Stewart and Hon. Henry Clay Dean were born and raised here. The population is one hundred. It contains a post-office, two stores, three blacksmith-shops, two wagon-makers, two saddlers, a buggy-shop, and several shoemakers, carpenters, and millwrights. Several fine residences have been erected in the past few years, and several more will be added the coming year.

HIGH HOUSE.

High House, a hamlet of six or seven houses, is in the extreme east of the township. It contains a post-office, two stores, and a blacksmith-shop. It is five miles from the county-seat, and commands a full view of the Laurel Hill.

MILITARY RECORD OF GERMAN TOWNSHIP.

The following-named persons were soldiers in the war for independence, and at the time of their death were citizens of German: Joseph Sproat, Ephraim Woodruff, Nicholas Helmick, Robert Ross, Roger Lander. In the Indian war of 1790-94: Nicholas Helmick, Abram Franks, Robert Ross. These fought under "Mad Anthony Wayne." Following is the list of German township soldiers in the war of 1812-15, viz.:

David McCann, Sr.	David McCann, Jr.
Jacob Riddle (lieutenant; resigned).	Edin Clary.
William Boise (Bise).	Jacob Harrison.
Solomon Debolt.	Isaac Harrison.
Rezin Debolt.	Jacob Owl.
Solomon Getty.	George Haught.
James Antil (substitute).	Robert Ross, Jr.
Simon Yandes.	William Graves.
Daniel Yandes.	Thomas Harn.
Henry Black.	Thomas McClain.
Hugh Gilmore.	Philip Lawrence.
David Gilmore (these last two in Capt. McClelland's cavalry).	Abraham Franks.
James Sangston.	Hugh McCann (substitute for E. Walter).
Nathaniel Parshall.	William Hazel (captain, P. D.).
William Sangston.	Jeremiah Hill.
Joseph McClain (substitute).	John Jackson.
Benjamin Provance.	James Sapp.
Thomas Bise.	Christopher Balsinger.
	George Martin.

These soldiers mustered in two places on the day of starting,—first squad at McClellandtown; second, from the old school-house near the Seceders' Church, on the Brownsville and Morgantown road.

A large number of these men were members of Capt. James A. McClelland's company (cavalry). They served in the Northwest under Gen. Harrison, Just before the campaign against the Indians on the Missinnewa, the entire company deserted except six, including the captain. Those who remained were Hugh and David Gilmore, two of the Abrams, and a Mr. Porter.

The soldiers from this township in the war with Mexico were Cyrus L. Conner (returned), Jesse Smith (died), Josiah Winders (killed).

In the war of the Rebellion the following men of German township served in different regiments and companies in the United States service.

In Capt. Stacy's company:

William King.	Ephraim W. Barber.
David Grove.	Sebastian Crago.
Jackson McCann.	William Keener.
Lewis L. Knotts.	John Gue.
Jacob Rider.	John Hostetler.
Samuel Bise.	Isaac Conner.
James A. Bowman.	Rezin Whitehill.
George M. Woolsey.	Solomon Riddle.
Jefferson Walters.	Daniel Hostetler, 154th Regt.
Americus L. Rader.	Thomas Black, " "
George Franks.	William Black, " "
Isaiah Frost.	Christopher Core.
James A. Weltner.	David Honsacker.
Thomas A. McKean (vol.).	John McCann.
Emanuel Turk (vol.).	William Harmony.
William Reed (as a substitute).	Jacob Whoolery.
John Moulton.	James T. Black.
William Bixler.	Alfred Wolf.
William Herrington.	Thomas Williams.
William Kendall.	John H. Smith.
Harvey Balsinger.	Nicholas Miller.
Braden Christopher.	Henry Black.
Ewing Christopher.	Henry Cunningham.
Aaron Towler.	Benjamin J. Conley.
James Barber (vol.).	John W. Conley.
Charley Yawger (vol.).	John Dean.
Joseph Renshaw (vol.).	Andrew J. Farrier (sub.).
John Cunningham (vol.).	Luther L. Linton (capt. of colored company, Florida).
Capt. A. S. Fuller's company:	James Porter.
James S. Darrall (2d lieut.).	John Wilson.
Rezin L. Debolt (O. S.).	Harrison Ingraham.
George A. Provance.	James Bodley, Jr.
Thos. L. W. Miller.	John W. Williams.
David Miller.	David Wilson.
William H. Poundstone.	William Funk.
James R. A. Altman.	John Core.
John P. Altman.	James Rossel.
Andrew J. Todd.	George W. Balsinger.
James E. Alton.	Jacob Deffenbaugh.
William B. Alton.	

Capt. George W. Gilmore enlisted a company partly in German, and mustered into the service of West

Virginia in July, 1861 (for which German was never credited), as follows:

George W. Gilmore, capt.	Joseph Brooks.
Andrew J. Cunningham.	Moses Sangston.
William Ingraham.	Thomas N. Weltner.
Harvey Grove.	Thomas B. Phillips.
Hamilton Bixler.	James P. Grove.
George R. Walters.	Menassch Sedgwick.
James Walters.	

In Capt. John Harper's company of cavalry (Company K, 1st Regt. P. V. C.) from Greene County:

Jesse Hughs. Baltzer K. Higinbotham.

In companies and regiments unknown:

John W. Edington (lieut. in an Ohio company).	David Malone.
John McLain.	John Keener (vol.).
Robert J. Linton (adjt. in Virginia 7th).	George Cruse (vol.).
Lewis Walters.	Joseph Hostetler (vol.).
Henry Brooks.	Andrew B. Watson.
Hiram Shafer.	Samuel Rotharmel.
Thomas Jackson.	Clark Dearth.
Levi Vantussne.	Samuel Newcomer.
Aaron Hostetler.	C. W. Porter (vol.).
Joseph Sese.	James Kline (vol. in cavalry).
James Colvin.	James S. Rhorer (vol., Capt. C. L. Conner's company Penna. Reserves).
Joseph King.	Ashbel F. Hill (vol., Capt. C. L. Conner's company Penna. Reserves).
James Provance (sub.).	Thomas Grooms (vol., Capt. C. L. Conner's company Penna. Reserves).
Jackson Hughs (8th Penna. Reserves).	John Kendall.
David Hughs (8th Penna. Reserves).	Neil Hostetler (vol.).
Hugh Townsend (sub.).	Abraham Liston (vol.).
James Cain (sub.).	John Sisler (vol.).
John Strickler.	William Turner (vol.).
James Malone.	Stewart Christopher.
Aaron Malone.	
Thomas W. Malone.	
William Malone.	

According to the report of the United States enrolling officer there were in German in the year 1863 one hundred and ninety-nine persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five liable to military duty. At an examination held by the authority of the United States twenty-seven were declared disqualified and twenty-seven drafted for nine months. About this time a very great number volunteered. The Legislature having passed an act authorizing school directors to levy a tax, the German township school board levied the requisite amount to hire an equal number of substitutes for those whom the government had drafted. The following are the names of the tax collectors and the amount of their duplicates: Isaac Crow, \$10,190.75; Jacob Newcomer, \$5428.47; Jacob Newcomer, \$7285.82; Thomas D. Bise, \$2094.25. Amount of bounty tax levied, \$24,999.29.

VARIOUS STATISTICS OF GERMAN TOWNSHIP.

Value of taxable property in 1784, as returned by Jacob Rich. Aug. 10, 1785.....	\$54,495.00
Valuation per property roll for 1881, in commissioner's office, Uniontown.....	1,011,454.00
Amount of State and county tax for year 1881....	2,725.85
Amount levied for schools, 1881.....	2,025.76
Amount received from State, 1881.....	412.44
From Masontown, 1881.....	390.00
Number of pupils enrolled.....	490

With no public works in the township, German exhibits her resources. In her limits are the Waynesburg seam of coal, five feet; two smaller veins, three feet each; and the nine-foot vein. These may be seen cropping out of the creek and river bluffs in nearly every part of her area. The Waynesburg seam is six feet in thickness, and but few, even of coal men, know of its existence in German. An excellent quality of oil was obtained at a depth of six hundred feet on Catt's Run, on Gray's land.

The population of German by the United States census of 1880 was 1834, including 90 in the village of McClellandtown.

By actual canvass the following were found to be the production of farms and live-stock in the year 1878 of and in the township:

Wheat raised and thrashed.....	32,235 bushels.
Corn " " cribbed.....	89,089 "
Oats " " thrashed.....	45,451 "
Rye " " ".....	100 "
Hay.....	2,023 tons.
Maple sugar.....	2,000 pounds.
" molasses.....	500 gallons.
Sorghum ".....	2,500 "

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOHN STERLING.

John Sterling, of Masontown, a farmer of distinction, was born on the farm where he now lives, Aug. 12, 1822. He is of English descent. His father, also John Sterling, was born and reared in Fayette County, and was a farmer, and resided on the farm which John, Jr., now occupies. He married Catharine Knife. They had three sons and three daughters. Three of their children are still living, of whom our subject is one, and was educated in the common schools. When starting in life his father gave him a small farm, but his possessions, which are large, consisting of lands town properties, and bank stock, are mostly the accumulations of his own industry and business tact.

Feb. 6, 1842, he married Elizabeth Debolt, a daughter of John and Charity Walters Debolt, of Nicholson township, by whom he has had eight children, seven of whom are living: Ephraim Walters, a general business man; Amy J., wife of Hon. Jacob Provins; A. J., a minister of the German Baptist Church; Charity A., Mary M., and Rebecca B., all now (February, 1882) attending Monongahela College; Jonathan (dead); and John B., a nurseryman. Mr. Sterling has



John Sterling



JOSEPH WOODWARD.

been for many years a member of the German Baptist Church, and Mrs. Sterling is a zealous church-member as well as excellent woman, a good wife and kind friend. Mr. Sterling has held important local offices, the duties of which he always performed in a satisfactory manner. He and nearly all his male relatives are "sterling" Democrats. If Mr. Sterling's life has been marked by one peculiarity more striking than another it is to be found in the fact that he has not labored hard merely through a sense of duty, but because he likes to work,—cannot be idle and happy too. Men like him are apt to thrive, and they ought to be, like him, prosperous.

Mr. Sterling and his son, E. W., are the owners of a large saw-mill and planing-mills located on the Monongahela River, and thoroughly equipped with all machinery necessary for carrying on the manufacturing of "worked" lumber. Mr. Sterling and his son's extensive tracts of land are all underlaid with the nine-feet vein of the Connellsville coking coal, and supplied abundantly with iron ore and limestone. In fact, Mr. Sterling claims to hold, in his own right and that of his sons, one of the best tracts of coal and ore lands in Fayette County. He, with his sons, Rev. A. J. and J. B., own a large nursery, with extensive green-houses, adjoining his home-farm, where they raise all kinds of fruit and ornamental stocks.

JONATHAN STERLING.

The late Jonathan Sterling, of German township, was born March 29, 1820. He was the son of John Sterling, deceased, of whom we have made notice in the accompanying biography of John Sterling (Jr.). Mr. Jonathan Sterling died Aug. 8, 1881. He was all his active business life a farmer, and in childhood attended the common schools. On March 31, 1840, he married Mary Ann Hart, of Nicholson township. They had ten children, of whom five sons and three daughters are living. Mr. Sterling was a prosperous man, and was at one time wealthy, in the local sense. He gave his children good educational advantages, and left them in prosperous circumstances at his death. John, his eldest son, residing in German township, is an excellent farmer, and through his industry and thrift has accumulated a large estate for a young man. Christian C., the second son, owns the most valuable piece of real estate in Masontown borough, the "Sterling House," and is also the owner of a very valuable farm about a half-mile from the borough. The third son, Andrew J., Jr., is an active business young man, alert and expert of calculation. He is an enthusiastic politician of the Democratic school, married and has three children, and resides in German township, where he owns a farm of a hundred acres, besides valuable real estate in Masontown borough. James B., the fourth son, is an active and industrious farmer, and has gathered together quite a property. The fifth and last son

living, William M., owns a valuable farm near Masontown, and is noted as one of the most skillful scribes of the region. The daughters are all well married and in comfortable circumstances. Mr. Sterling was



JONATHAN STERLING.

a very industrious and good man. He never held any but township offices, but fulfilled the duties of these well. He and his wife were members of the German Baptist Church. He was a Democrat, and attended the polls faithfully. The Sterlings are said not to be fighting men, have no soldiers in the family, but are good voters. The principal recreation in which Mr. Jonathan Sterling allowed himself to indulge was voting and hurrahing for the Democratic ticket. To his family, party, and God he was ever faithful.

JOSEPH WOODWARD.

Joseph Woodward, of German township, a farmer, is derived from Irish Quaker stock. His father, Joseph Woodward (Sr.), was born in Chester County, Pa., April 11, 1766, and some time after coming to Fayette County was married therein to Hope Shotwell, a native of New Jersey. He was a farmer. They had eight children, of whom Joseph, Jr., was the third, and was born Nov. 10, 1810, in Menallen township. June 7, 1832, Joseph (Jr.) married Eleanor Buchanan, of German township. They had thirteen children, of whom nine are living. Mrs. Woodward died Feb. 9, 1853, and June 29, 1854, Mr. Woodward married Sarah Ann Bunker, who died Aug. 6, 1872. He again married March 11, 1875, his third wife's maiden name being Sarah Black. Mr. Woodward

settled in his present home early in life, before his first marriage. His children are widely scattered, some living in Illinois, others in Kansas, and some in Pennsylvania, and all are married and prosperous. Mr. Woodward has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for nearly half a century, and an elder in the church for many years. His property consists of lands principally. He enjoys the respect and confidence of his neighbors, always having been noted for excellent good sense, uprightness, and kindly deeds.

DAVID JOHNSON.

The late David Johnson, of German township, was born in Rockingham County, Va., March 5, 1786, and came with his father, Peter Johnson, and the family into Fayette County when David, who was the oldest son, was quite young. They settled in German township. He was educated in the subscription schools of the times, worked on his father's farm, and learned the art of weaving, and remained at home till the time of his marriage to Mary Magdalena Bixler, of German township, June 27, 1809, whereafter he took up his residence with his father-in-law for one year, and then purchased a farm, still in the hands of relatives of his, near Uniontown, whereon he resided for six years, and selling the farm to his brother Jacob, bought the "Yanders farm" near Masontown, upon which he lived the rest of his days. He was the father of nine children, eight of whom were living at the time of his death, which occurred May 24, 1860. All the eight children, six boys and two girls, were also married at the time of the father's death. Mrs. Johnson died some three years before her husband, and both were buried in the private burying-ground on the New-comer farm, adjoining Mr. Johnson's original farm, and which he owned at the time of his death, and which his daughter Frances, Mrs. John Young, now owns.

Mr. Johnson and his wife were members of the Mennonite Church. Mr. Johnson was in early life a Whig in politics, but became a Republican. He was not an ardent politician, and never sought office. It is said of him that "If David Johnson was not an honest man then there are no honest men."

Mr. Johnson owned about sixteen hundred acres of land, the most of which is underlaid with the nine-foot vein of bituminous coal, and left to each of his children a farm of about two hundred acres of land, with house and outbuildings thereon, upon which severally the surviving children are still living in prosperous circumstances.

Mr. Jacob Johnson, the son of David, and the next to the last born of his children, and who, perhaps, more especially than the rest supplies the place of his father in the world, left the old homestead farm, whereon for a long number of years he had wrought, just prior to his father's death, and moved upon "the

Middle Run farm," in the same township, to which he has made many additions by purchase until his present landed estate covers about a thousand excellent acres. He married in 1852 Elizabeth Knotts, a native of Virginia. They have had five sons and two daughters. Four sons and two daughters are now living and residing with their father, and being industrious and faithful children are adding to the worth of the already valuable homestead farm. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Mennonite Church.

CAPT. ISAAC PHILLIPS KENDALL.

Capt. Isaac Phillips Kendall, a worthy farmer and citizen of Masontown, and a gentleman of individual characteristics and varied talents, was born in German township, April 7, 1822. His grandfather, Jeremiah Kendall, of English descent, was born in Virginia, and was a soldier of the Revolution, and at one time private secretary of Gen. Washington. He was wounded at the battle of Brandywine. He married Rhoda McIntyre, of Virginia, a lady of Scotch lineage, and, nearly a hundred years ago, settled in Fayette County, and had "patented" to him at that time the farm upon which Capt. Kendall's father and himself were born, and on which the father always lived, and the captain has resided until March, 1881. Capt. Kendall's father was Jeremiah. He was a soldier of the war of 1812. His wife was Sarah Phillips, of Nicholson township. Capt. Kendall received his education in the common schools and at Rector College, Pruntytown, Va. Nov. 7, 1844, he married Nancy J. Allebaugh, the oldest daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Allebaugh. The latter (referred to in the biography of Samuel Allebaugh) resides with her son-in-law, Capt. Kendall. Capt. and Mrs. Kendall have had no children.

Capt. Kendall has held important township offices, but is no seeker after official positions. He derives his military title from his election to the post of captain, commissioned as such by Governor F. R. Shunk in a volunteer company, Nov. 7, 1846, which company tendered their services for the war with Mexico, but were not accepted. He was afterwards elected major of battalion on a 7th of November. He remembers the date of his military election and re-election because it is the same (November 7th) as that of his marriage. Thus peace and war go hand in hand together with him.

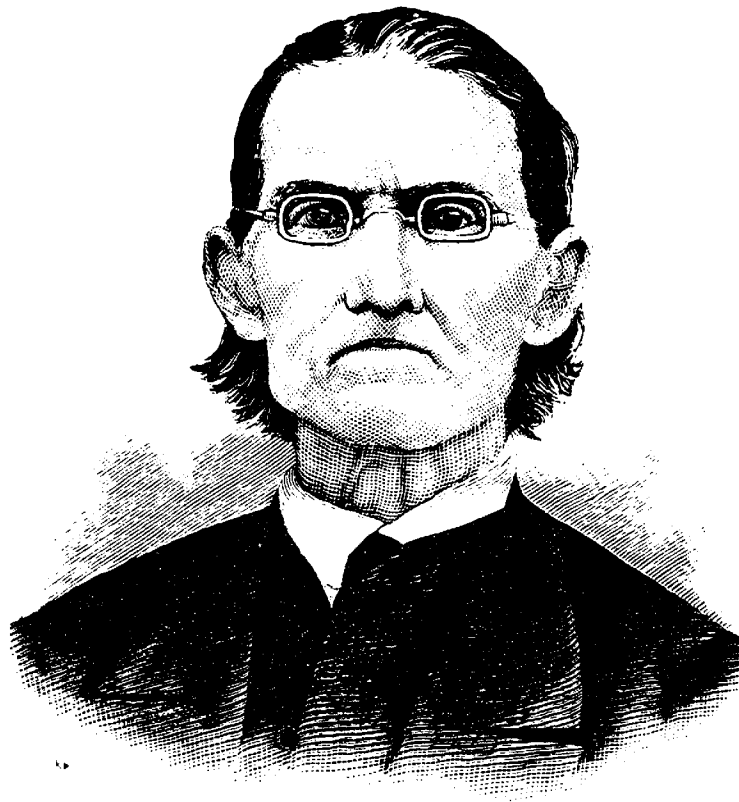
Capt. Kendall is a successful business man, and is now engaged in farming and manufacturing coke. He has always been a farmer, and says that he is a poor one; but his neighbors do not think so. His considerable possessions consist of agricultural lands, coal deposits, bank stocks, etc. He is, in the English sense, a very clever gentleman. Indeed, he may be called a "genius" withal, possessing excellent powers of mechanical invention. He is, moreover, a man of refined sensitiveness, studential habits, and strong in-



J. P. Kendall



David Johnson,



SAMUEL ALLEBAUGH.

dividual traits. In 1866, at the age of forty-four, a time of life when most men, especially those engaged in active business, would be disinclined to commence a new study, the captain, until that time unable to read a musical note, took up the study of music, as a pastime as well as a science, pursuing it faithfully for three years before he felt competent to attempt to instruct in the art. He is now well equipped, a successful teacher, and instructs pupils in Sunday- and common schools. Perhaps he is more noted as a teacher of music than in any other capacity. He would say so of himself; but he is as well noted throughout the region he inhabits as an excellent neighbor, high-minded public citizen, and warm-hearted friend.

SAMUEL ALLEBAUGH.

The late Samuel Allebaugh, of Masontown, was of German stock. His father, Christian Allebaugh, lived in Rockingham County, Va., where he married Catharine Showalter, of the same county, by whom he had ten children, eight sons and two daughters. Samuel was their fourth child, and was born March 3, 1789, and was educated in the country schools of Rockingham County. Growing up he learned the trade of blacksmithing, and finally came into Fayette County, locating at Masontown in 1810. He married Elizabeth Weibel, of German township then, now Nicholson. They had eight children, equally divided as to sex (six of whom are living),—Josiah S., who married Nancy J. Heath, March 4, 1832; James M., who

married Elizabeth Guinn; Andrew J.; William R., who married Mary M. Hill, and died June 13, 1875; Nancy J., married Nov. 7, 1844, to Capt. Isaac P. Kendall; Elizabeth A., who married James S. Rohrer, Jan. 25, 1846; Rebecca C., who married Adam Poundstone, Feb. 8, 1846, and died Nov. 1, 1852; Elmira J., who married Capt. C. L. Conner, Sept. 21, 1843. Capt. Conner was a soldier in the Mexican war and in that of the Rebellion, and was engaged in each from the beginning to its close. He was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and died April 5, 1877.

Samuel Allebaugh died Sept. 16, 1867, and was interred in the German Baptist burying-ground. After leaving Virginia he lived wholly in Masontown, except for a period of about five years which he passed on his farm in German township, on the waters of Brown's Run, and two years which were spent in Fairfield County, Ohio, on a farm which he purchased in 1835, upon which he moved in 1836, and which he sold in 1837, returning in the fall of that year to his old and cherished home in Masontown. His reputation for manly virtues was excellent; in fact, he was noted for his good qualities as a neighbor and citizen. According to his means he generously assisted all his children to a start in life. They had all arrived at maturity before his death. His widow, Elizabeth, in her ninety-second year, is an active, intelligent, and amiable old lady. Mr. Allebaugh was long a member of the German Baptist or Dunkard Church. His children are Cumberland Presbyterians.