
MENALLEN TOWNSHIP.

MENALLEN, one of the most prosperous agricultural townships of Fayette County, contained in June, 1880, a population of 1461. The assessment for 1881 gave the total valuation subject to county tax as \$626,827, a decline of \$25,044 as compared with 1880. The township is bounded by Redstone and Franklin on the north, Georges, South Union, and German on the south, Franklin, North Union, and South Union on the east, and German and Redstone on the west. Menallen has as yet no railway line, but that famed highway known as the National road crosses it from east to west, and is a great convenience to the people. There are three small post-villages in the township, —Upper Middletown (or Plumsock), on Redstone Creek; New Salem, six miles westward therefrom; and Searight's, on the National road, five miles westward from Uniontown. Mill streams are abundant. Among them are Redstone Creek, Dunlap's Creek, Jennings' Run, and Salt Lick Run. The surface of the township is uneven. Coal and iron ore are found in great quantities, but beyond supplying the wants of home consumers do not contribute to local wealth, for the reason that lack of railway transportation facilities puts out of the question the matter of profitable mining operations. The valuable coal and iron interests of Menallen, however, will soon be developed, as a result of the opening of the Redstone Branch of the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railroad, which passes along the northeast border of the township, and is now near completion.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

Of the considerable number of settlers who were found located in the Redstone Valley when the Rev. John Steele made his tour of observation in this region, in the spring of 1768 (and whose names were

given by him in his report to the Governor on his return east), it is not known which or how many of them were settled within the territory that now forms Menallen township, though there is no doubt that some of them were living within its boundaries. A very early settler, and not improbably the first within the township of Menallen, was William Brown, who came here in 1765. His children were Sarah, George, Mary, James, Alexander, Alice, and John. The last named (and youngest) is now living in Kansas, at the age of ninety-six years. Little beyond this has been ascertained of the history of this first settler, William Brown. The tract on which he settled is now a farm owned (but not occupied in person) by his great-grandson, Richard H. Brown, of Franklin township. As early as the year 1765 the Rev. James Finley, then living upon the Eastern Shore of Maryland, came out through Southwestern Pennsylvania on a tour of exploration in the service of the church with which he labored, his mission being presumably to learn how the people of that region were supplied with the means of religious worship. He was accompanied on his journey (made on horseback) by a Mr. Philip Tanner, a fuller by trade, whose object in undertaking the excursion was the looking for a favorable land location. This object had likewise something to do with Mr. Finley's journey, for he had a family of six sons, and he conceived the idea that perhaps he might find for his boys a place where they might grow up with a new country and lead a life of independence. Mr. Finley is supposed to have been the first minister of the gospel to penetrate westward of the mountains for the purpose of spreading the influences of religion among the inhabitants. Army chaplains had been there before him, but they could scarcely be classed in the same category. He

preached wherever he found a place and opportunity, and returning to the same country subsequently on similar expeditions in 1767, 1771, and 1772 became well known. In 1771 he selected some lands lying in Redstone and Menallen townships, and in 1772 brought out his son Ebenezer, a lad of fourteen, whom he intended to be trained in the hardy experience of a pioneer. With his son he brought also a few negro slaves and Samuel Finley (not related to the Rev. James), to the latter of whom he gave the charge of the lands and the guardianship of young Ebenezer.

The Rev. Mr. Finley himself never became a resident of Fayette County. He lived in Maryland until 1783, when he accepted a call to preach for a church in Westmoreland County, Pa. There he remained in charge of the congregation until his death in 1795. Ebenezer Finley grew to manhood and prospered. He became an owner of much land in Redstone, German, and Menallen townships, but had his home in Redstone. A more extended reference to him will accordingly be found in the history of that township, where he died in 1849, aged eighty-eight years. In 1826 his son, Ebenezer, Jr., moved into Menallen, and settled upon some of his father's land. There he still resides, hale and hearty, although nearing his eightieth year. He and his excellent wife celebrated in 1876 the golden anniversary of their wedding, and on that occasion gathered within their hospitable mansion friends, relatives, and children even from distant parts of the country. The reunion was a joyous and memorable one. Another son of Ebenezer Finley the elder, living in Menallen on a portion of the early Finley purchase, is Eli H., whose home is near the village of New Salem. There is an amusing story told of the appearance of Rev. James Finley and Philip Tanner in the Dunlap's Creek Valley. It recites that Messrs. Finley and Tanner rode up to the house of Capt. John Moore, of German township, and upon their near approach were espied by Capt. John's youthful son Aaron, who, running as fast as he could into the house, cried out almost breathlessly to his father, "Pap, pap, there be two great men out there. I know they're great men 'cause they've got boots on." Evidently "men with boots on" must have been rare objects in that country at that day.

There were many of the Society of Friends among the early settlers of Menallen. They came from Virginia soon after the close of the Revolutionary war, and in considerable numbers located in the neighborhood of New Salem, in Menallen, German, and South Union townships. Among them were James Sidwell, Joseph Mendenhall, William Dickson, John Hackney, Caleb Antram, Abraham Vail, John Woods, the Campbells, and many others. At Sandy Hill, on Jennings' Run, upon the road between New Salem and Uniontown, the Quakers built at an early day (as early as 1784, and perhaps before) a log meeting-house, and laid out a graveyard. The meeting-house

stood for many years, and was long a place where the Friends assembled regularly for worship. After a while, however, the members of that sect, lessening by deaths and removals, became so few in number that meetings were discontinued, and by and by the meeting-house was demolished. The graveyard, thickly dotted with old headstones, is still used for its original purpose.

Joseph Mendenhall was a prominent figure in Menallen's early history, and although he was known as a Quaker, and attended at the Quaker meeting-house, he was said to exhibit at times a boisterous disposition utterly at variance with the peaceful tenets of the Society of Friends, and is indeed reported to have gone so far on more than one occasion as to swear roundly. Mr. Mendenhall came from Philadelphia directly upon the close of the Revolution, and settled in what became the Mendenhall school district, on a stream, and at a place called to this day Mendenhall's dam, where he built a saw-mill. He claimed to have been a captain in the Revolution, and for that reason, more perhaps than for any other, he was known as "the fighting Quaker." His greatest delight was to be chosen supervisor, so that he might follow the bent of his inclinations, or hobby more properly, towards the working of the township roads. He was township supervisor many successive years, and always filled the office with the highest credit. Although he was generally chosen without much opposition, he worked hard at each election, and invariably carried to the polls a jug of whisky, upon the contents of which he and his adherents would make merry over the result. The jug, and sometimes more than one, bore a prominent part in the supervisors' highway labors, for he ever made it a point to provide whisky at his own expense for the refreshment of those whom he called to the work of repairing the roads. Inasmuch as he frequently had as many as fifty or sixty men laboring at that business at a time, his expenditures for whisky must have amounted to a considerable sum. Mr. Mendenhall lived to be ninety-four years old.

James Sidwell, a Quaker, came from Martinsburg, Va., in 1790, and made his home upon a tract of three hundred acres of land that he had bought of Benjamin Whaley, who had bought the land of the patentees, Grant, Pitt, and Buchanan, to whom the patent was issued April 24, 1788. Upon that land now lives Hiram H. Hackney, grandson of James Sidwell. The latter had but two children, and they were daughters. He died on his Menallen farm in 1815, aged seventy-seven years. One of his daughters married James Stevens, and moved to Indiana. The second became the wife of John Hackney, of Luzerne, who settled on the Sidwell homestead.

Although James Sidwell himself took no part in the Revolutionary struggle, all of his brothers—to the number of three—fought through the campaigns with conspicuous gallantry. There was a Quaker named

William Dickson adjoining Sidwell on the west when the latter settled, and near him a number of Quakers. John Hackney died in 1868, at the age of eighty-five. He had seven children, of whom four are living. Of these Hiram H. and John are residents of Menallen.

In 1793 there was a school-house on the Sidwell farm, at which John Hackney's wife (James Sidwell's daughter) took her first lessons in education from Daniel Roundtree, who taught a long while there and in the neighboring school-houses.

Caleb Woodward moved from Chester County at an early day, and set up a blacksmith's shop in Menallen, on James Sidwell's farm. He was a somewhat noted mechanic, and was esteemed especially skillful in the manufacture of plows, chains, etc. The plows of his day were made of wood and plated with strips of iron. People came to him from afar off, nine miles and more, to have him make for them chains and plows. He did also a brisk business in plating saddles. He settled eventually on a farm now occupied by Joseph Woodward, and died in New Salem. Caleb's brothers, John, Joshua, and Joseph, located in Menallen about the same time. All of them were farmers. Joshua's home was on the place now owned by his son Ellis.

William Barton came also from Chester County about 1775. He bought of a man named Rayall the land now occupied by J. W. Barton. His sons were William, Joseph, Robert, Thomas, and Benjamin. His daughters were two in number. All the children were born on the Menallen place. His son Thomas married Priscilla B. Gaddis, of South Union. She died in Menallen, aged, it is said, one hundred years. Her father, John Gaddis, saw an extended period of active service during the war of 1812. There was a school-house near the Barton place in 1805, to which Barton's children went, and in that year had as teacher a Mr. Thomas.

The Quaker settlement near New Salem was increased in 1795 by the arrival of Caleb Antram, himself a Quaker, who migrated from Virginia, with a family consisting of a wife and three children. He bought one hundred and fifteen acres of land of Henry Vandement, and after he had been in a short time bought also the William Dickson farm. Antram died in 1840, aged eighty-seven years. Of his seven children but two are living, Caleb and Joshua. John Butterfield was living upon the site of New Salem village when Antram made his location, and there were also in the vicinity, besides those already mentioned, the Rodericks, Campbells, Millers, Woods, and Johnsons. Daniel Johnson had been living on the present Abram Roderick place since 1783. He was a cabinet-maker by trade.

Robert Jackson settled about 1790 on the John Dearth farm. His son Zadoc married a daughter of Caleb Woodward. Giles McCormick, a native of Ireland, came to Fayette County in 1808, and bought of Mr. Watt a farm in Menallen, upon which James

Gaddis now lives. There Mr. McCormick died in 1835. Samuel Harris and Ralph Higinbotham were early settlers in the Mendenhall neighborhood; Jeremiah Piersol (who died in 1881, aged ninety-five), the Campbells, the Shaws, the Grables, Colleys, and Keys, near Searight's; and the Vails, Gaddis, McGinnis, Works, Fullers, Rutters, Coopers, Osborns, Kellys, and Radcliffs, near Plumsock.

Redding Bunting, who died May 22, 1878, was born near New Salem, and was one of the noted stage-drivers on the National road; was stage agent, tavern-keeper, mail contractor, and generally a busy man in matters appertaining to stage-coaching in its palmy days.

Immediately after the close of the Revolutionary war, Col. William Roberts migrated from Bucks County to Southwestern Pennsylvania, and settled upon a three-hundred-acre tract of land that included what is now known as Searight's, on the National road. William was commissioned colonel of the Fourth Battalion of militia in Bucks County, May 6, 1777, and after serving through the war, was at its close commissioned major of the Third Battalion of Bucks County militia, Oct. 11, 1783. Both commissions are now in the possession of his granddaughter, Mrs. Zenas Van Kirk, of Redstone township. She has also a certificate of the marriage of William Roberts and Rachel Griffith, dated Aug. 7, 1760. The document is signed by the contracting parties, the officiating clergyman (John Thomas), and no less than fifteen witnesses. Col. Roberts lived in Menallen until his death. All of his sons except Benjamin moved to the far West. He lived a while at Plumsock, and ended his days at the house of Mrs. Zenas Van Kirk, in 1845. His brother John had been one of the county commissioners, and he himself a justice of the peace twenty-five years. His son, William B., of Uniontown, was an officer in the Mexican war, and died in the city of Mexico.

"Searight's," on the National road, five miles westward from Uniontown, has for many years been a well-known locality to travelers upon that thoroughfare, and in the days of great traffic over the road was a somewhat famous stopping-place for stage-coaches and freighters. There are at that point now a tavern, post-office, store, blacksmith-shop, and perhaps a half-dozen houses, but the bustling activity that once marked the spot when the National road was in its glory has given place to a dozing quietude, albeit the tavern still greets with entertainment occasional wayfarers. The tavern was built by Josiah Frost in 1819, but before he had made it ready for business he sold it and adjacent landed property to William Searight.

William Searight was by trade a fuller, and in 1807 had a mill on Dunlap's Creek. From there he moved to Cook's Mills, and thence to Perryopolis, where he built a fulling-mill. While there he bought the tavern stand property, and when he had completed the erection of the buildings, including with the tavern a

blacksmith's and wheelwright's shop, he leased them, but to whom is not now remembered. In a little while Mr. Searight sold his Perryopolis mill, and removing to his new possessions on the National road, became himself the landlord of the wayside inn, which he soon made a noted and popular halting-place. In that day there was a great volume of travel over the National road, and as the tavern was maintained in most excellent order, "Searight's" soon became well known from one end of the road to the other as a place where good cheer for man and beast awaited all comers, and where great numbers of people and teams were constantly entertained. Four-horse passenger-coaches rolled over the road in rapid succession, and as Searight's was a "stage-house," there was always plenty of business, bustle, and profit at the "Corners."

Before James K. Polk was chosen to the Presidency, and while he was a congressman, he rode with his wife by stage-coach over the National road *en route* to Washington to attend a congressional session. When near Searight's the stage-coach broke down, and it being decided that the journey could not be resumed before the following morning, Mr. and Mrs. Polk walked to Searight's, where they proposed to pass the remainder of the night, it being then well on towards morning. They found the landlord up, in anticipation of their arrival, and they found, too, the floor of the great bar-room thickly strewn with sleeping wagoners, who had halted there for the night. In response to their request for a room with a fire the landlord made ready to execute their commands, but expressed the fear that they might be annoyed over the delay in the making of the apartment comfortably warm. At this declaration Mrs. Polk, looking earnestly at the cheerful, brightly-burning fire in the bar-room grate, as if charmed with its inviting warmth, proposed that they should sleep there. A "shake-down" was accordingly made, and they passed the remainder of the night in the bar-room. In the morning they breakfasted and went forward upon their journey. The accidental visit of Mr. and Mrs. Polk to Searight's was for a long time afterwards a topic of interesting discussion among those who tarried to enjoy the hospitality of the tavern, and Searight's was greatly profited by the incident, in fame if not in exchequer.

One McDermott was a landlord at Searight's at an early day, and so was old Johnny Gray, but it is likely that some Boniface had possession before McDermott's time. Mr. Searight himself did not take charge of the tavern until 1828, or two years after his marriage. He presided as landlord a few years, and then retired to his adjacent farm, after leasing the tavern stand to Joseph, son of old Johnny Gray. Mr. Searight was appointed by Governor Porter superintendent of that portion of the National road passing through Pennsylvania, and in 1852 he received the Democratic nomination for the office of canal commissioner. Before the election he died,

August 12th. Col. William Hopkins, of Washington County, was nominated in his stead and elected. Mr. Searight's widow, who survives him, lives in Uniontown, where also live his sons, Thomas B., William, and J. A. Fwing, another son, resides upon the old tavern property.

In 1830, Mr. James Allison (who had worked in Mr. Searight's fulling-mill on Dunlap's Creek) came to Searight's, and at the Corners he has lived ever since. He found Hugh Keys keeping a store there. In 1833 a post-office was established at Searight's, and Thomas Greer, the blacksmith, appointed postmaster. He served until 1834, when the office was discontinued. In 1849 it was revived and James Allison appointed postmaster. He was the incumbent until 1880, when Elias Hatfield, the present postmaster, was appointed.

Hugh Graham, a carpenter and architect, landed in Philadelphia in 1822, and worked two years for Stephen Girard. His entire possessions upon reaching Philadelphia amounted to ten guineas and a chest of carpenter's tools. In 1824 he journeyed on foot from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, and although suffering from an injured foot (is said to have) made the trip of three hundred miles in six days,—most excellent time if true. *En route* he passed the house of Jacob Black, in Menallen, near which, at a spring, he saw Mr. Black's daughter Margaret washing clothes. She was so much amused at the appearance of Graham's foot-gear, consisting of a big boot and a small shoe, that she laughed most immoderately. This incident was Graham's introduction to Margaret Black, and as he happened to return that way from Pittsburgh, after a sojourn of two weeks at the latter place, he stopped for rest at Jacob Black's house, and renewed his acquaintance with the young lady. The acquaintance proved to be so satisfactory upon both sides that Miss Margaret eventually became Mrs. Graham. Mr. Graham became a builder and architect of some renown at Uniontown, and in 1835 he retired to a farm in Menallen that was originally taken up by Hugh Crawford. In 1840 he came into possession of the Jacob Black farm, and lived there until his death, which occurred May 19, 1878, when he had reached the age of eighty-five years. His father-in-law, Jacob Black, was a German, and came to Menallen about 1790. His location was made upon the farm now occupied by his grandson, Thomas B. Graham, and there he died.

William Wheatley enlisted from New Jersey for the war of the Revolution, and served through the conflict as captain of a company of light cavalry. After the Revolution he settled in Menallen. An old account-book kept by him and beginning with the date June 15, 1785, is now in the possession of his great-grandson, John S. Marsh, of Cook's Mills. Mr. Marsh has also a full set of silver buttons worn by Capt. Wheatley upon his Revolutionary uniform. Anthony Cumard, an early settler in Franklin, mar-

ried one of Capt. Wheatley's daughters. She used to tell how during the battle of Trenton she sat in the Wheatley mansion when a cannon-ball tore its way through the house. Anthony Cummar himself fought through the Revolution, and shared in the victory of Yorktown. Thomas Marsh, grandson of Capt. Wheatley, died in Indiana. His living children are Mrs. Westcott, of Fayette City, Mrs. Duval, of Ohio, and John S. Marsh.

In 1808, Menallen's taxable property was assessed at \$117,950. The quota of county tax was \$177. The taxable acres numbered 12,944. There were seven mills, one forge, one rolling-mill, two tan-yards, eleven distilleries, one slave, three hundred and sixty-five houses, and three hundred and twenty-eight cattle.

EARLY ROADS.

At the March term of the Court of Quarter Sessions in 1793 mention of an early road was made in the following report: "We, the undersigned subscribers, being by Your Honors appointed to view a road from Ebenezer Finley's saw-mill,¹ to intersect the road leading from Uniontown to the old fort at or near the Episcopal church,² according to order, etc." In September, 1785, a petition was granted by the court to Menallen for a road from Jeremiah Pears' saw-mill³ door (from which the Uniontown road bore south 16° 45' east), past Robert Gadds' house, on the middle of Peters Street and centre of Middle (Meadow) Alley. June, 1784, a petition was presented for a road "from Robert McGlaughlin's to Jeremiah Pears' mill, from there to strike the road that leads from Uniontown to Middle Run near John Watson's." December, 1794, a petition was presented for a road from Meason's furnace (in Dunbar) to Pears' forge,⁴ to intersect a road from Uniontown to Redstone.

EARLY TAVERNS.

At the March term of court in 1784, John McMartin was recommended for a license as tavern-keeper in Menallen, but he did not at that time obtain it. At the December term, 1784, Reuben Kemp and Jacob Hewitt were licensed; December, 1785, Matthew Campbell; June, 1786, Joseph Price and John Heath; June, 1790, Patrick Tiernan and John Farguar; December, 1791, George Kruman. In addition to the list given, Josiah Tannehill was licensed June, 1788; George Mitchell, March, 1789; Zachariah Doty, June, 1789; Ephraim Hewitt, March, 1795; Robert Willis, John Ayers, and William Ayers, June, 1795; George Kinnear, September, 1790; Jonathan Hickman, Richard Weaver, Anthony Swaine, John Brown, and John Grier, September, 1795; William Cox, December, 1795; Amos Wilson and Benjamin Bowman, September, 1796; John Jones, Fran-

cis Griffith, and Peter Kinney, September, 1797; James Brown, December, 1798, and Alexander Williamson, March, 1800.

TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION AND LIST OF OFFICERS.

Menallen was one of the original townships created by the Court of Quarter Sessions at the December term in 1783. The court decreed as follows:

"A township, beginning at the mouth of Redstone Creek; thence up the same to the mouth of Jennings' Run; thence up the same to the head of the west fork thereof; thence by a straight line to the head of the Burnt Cabin branch of Dunlap's Creek; thence down said branch and Dunlap's Creek to the road that leads to Oliver Crawford's ferry; thence along the said road to McKibben's Run; thence down the same and Dunlap's Creek to the river; thence down the same to the beginning, to be hereafter known by the name of Menallen township."

In March, 1797, the petition of sundry inhabitants of Menallen township prayed for a division of the township. In response thereto the court, at the December term in 1797, set off and erected Redstone township from the west and northwest part of Menallen.

The records containing the civil list of the township are imperfect. From 1784 to 1808 the elections of township officials are recorded and kept. From 1808 to 1840 nothing of consequence has been preserved. From 1840 to 1881 the records have been kept, and from them the lists for that period have been taken, as given below:

AUDITORS.

1840. Robert Boyd.	1861. James McCormick.
John Cunningham.	1862. William McCormick.
1842. Adam McCray.	1863. L. Colly.
1843. Wilson Scott.	1864. W. McGinnis.
1844. Joseph Gray.	1865. G. Colley.
1845. William McGinnis.	1866. J. Dixon.
1846. Robert S. Henderson.	1867. W. McCormick.
1847. Ebenezer Finley.	1868. G. McCrary.
1848. Adam McCray.	1869. T. Jeffries.
1849. Robert S. Henderson.	1870. W. McCormick.
1850. William McGinnis.	1871. J. McCormick.
Simon Johnston.	1872. James Nickel.
1851. Thomas Barton.	1873. W. J. Johnston.
1852. William Bolsinger.	1874. James McCormick.
William McGinnis.	1875. Abram Osborn.
1853. William Johnston.	1876. Alfred Frost.
1854. William McGinnis.	T. B. Graham.
Albert G. Hague.	1877. E. Courtney.
1855. Hugh Poundstone.	Charles McCormick.
1856. Hugh Keyes.	1878. Ewing Searight.
Andrew Lynn.	1879. S. W. Colley.
1857. John McCray.	Ewing Searight.
1858. Nathan Holloway.	1881. Joshua Woodward.
1859. William I. Johnson.	Hiram B. Jackson.
1860. William McGinnis.	

TOWNSHIP CLERKS.

1840. Adam McCray.	1850. Joseph Smith.
1842-46. John Dixon.	1851-52. John McCray.
1847-48. Andrew Springer.	1853. William Krepps.
1849. Aaron Beal.	1854. John Ferren.

¹ In Redstone.

² In Menallen, on the National pike.

³ In Menallen, at Plumsock.

⁴ At Plumsock.

1855. John McCray.
1856. Joseph I. Smith.
1857. George Friend.
1858-60. Joseph Smith.
1861. Francis Marion.
1862-65. F. M. Smith.
1866-69. A. Stewart.

1870. N. Holloway.
1871-72. A. Stewart.
1873. Joseph McCray.
1874. W. Gunison.
1875-79. F. M. Smith.
1880. F. M. Smith.
1881. Amos Fry.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS.

1841. Ebenezer Finley.
William McMillan.
1842. Hugh Graham.
James Dunn.
1843. Warwick Miller.
Thomas Hazen.
1844. Caleb Antram.
James Allison.
1845. Thomas Dixon.
Daniel Espey.
1846. Nathan Lewis.
Simon Johnson.
1847. John M. Claybaugh.
James Campbell.
1848. Robert Boden.
Taylor Jeffries.
1849. Miffin Jeffries.
William McGinnis.
1850. David Poundstone.
Robert Powell.
1851. Jesse Johnston.
Robert Powell.
1852. Charles S. Sexton.
Thomas Moxley.
1853. Warwick Miller.
James H. Lewis.
1854. Isaac Cowell.
David Phillips.
1855. Thomas Moxley.
S. C. Chalfant.
1856. C. V. Tracy.
William J. Johnston.
1857. Samuel Lynn.
Robert Finley.
1858. Warwick Miller.
Daniel Binns.
Nicholas Deffenbaugh.
1859. William Boyd.
Taylor Jeffries.
1860. Robert Powell.
Peter Colley.
1861. Isaac Coma.
John Kelley.

1862. Taylor Jeffries.
I. I. Harris.
1863. J. C. Grable.
Peter Colley.
1864. I. Cowell.
J. Kelly.
1865. T. Jeffries.
I. I. Harris.
1866. P. Colley.
J. C. Grable.
1867. J. Kelly.
I. Cowell.
1868. J. Woodward.
William McGinnis.
E. Searight.
1869. E. Campbell.
J. Graham.
J. Dixon.
1870. H. McGinnis.
E. O. Leonard.
1871. J. Woodward.
M. V. Whetzel.
E. Searight.
1872. J. Cromwell.
A. Colley.
1873. J. B. Graham.
M. V. Whetzel.
1874. John Dearth.
Hiram Miller.
1875. Benjamin Beall.
John Williams.
1876. J. B. Graham.
M. V. Whetzel.
1877. Joseph Woodward.
Ethelbert Courtney.
1878. W. B. McCoy.
John Shaw.
1879. M. V. Whetzel.
Levi Beall.
1880. Ethelbert Courtney.
Levi Beall.
1881. E. Campbell.
John Shaw.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

1840. Simon Johnson.
William Morrison.
1845. William Balsinger.
James Dixon.
1848. John Kelly.
Hiram McCoy.
1850. Hiram Jackson.
1852. William Allison.
1853. Joseph W. Miller.
1854. John Kelly.
1857. Hiram H. Kackney.
1858. Daniel Binns.

1860. Matthew Arison.
1862. John Kelly.
Lyman S. Herbert.
1867. J. Kelly.
R. A. Moss.
1868. T. Dixon.
1869. M. Hess.
1872. W. McGinnis.
A. J. Tait.
1877. A. J. Tait.
M. V. Whetzel.

THE TOWN OF NEW SALEM.

New Salem, also known as "Muttontown," is a small village of about one hundred and fifty¹ inhabitants, lying on the western border of Menallen township. It contains three stores, a post-office, an Odd-Fellows' hall, three churches, and a fine public school, the district in which it is included being independent in school matters from the township. The village site was owned by John Butterfield in 1790, and later by James Vandement, who was also the owner of no inconsiderable land tracts in that locality besides. David Arnold bought the village property in 1799, and August 17th of that year laid out a village which he named New Salem, containing sixty lots. Why he called it New Salem no one knows. From a copy of the original plat of the town it appears, however, that the land upon which he laid it out had been called "Stuffle's Policy." The nucleus of the village was James Thompson's grist-mill, a rude log structure, built some time before Arnold conceived the idea of founding a town. Others than himself thought favorably of the village prospects, for one Solomon Hickman opened a tavern there in 1802, at the same time that his father, Dr. Hickman, located as the village physician. In 1803, John Funk came from Maryland in pursuit of a favorable opening for trade, and found at New Salem one to suit him. He put a few goods into a log cabin on the "Odd-Fellows' corner," and traded a year, until 1804, when he died. There was John Boner, the village blacksmith, and soon afterwards Alexander Campbell, who thought the field so promising that he too opened a smithy. Campbell was, moreover, a firm believer in his ability to discover the secret of perpetual motion, and bestowed so much time upon his efforts in that direction that he did not spare much time to the blacksmithing business. He did something in the way of making pottery, but perpetual motion was his hobby, and of course he wore himself out without achieving the object of his ambition. Dr. Hickman and Alexander Campbell lived in two log houses that stood near together. Campbell's house has been demolished; Dr. Hickman's still stands, and is now the home of Henry Funk, son of John Funk, store-keeper in New Salem in 1803, at which time Henry was two years old. After that he lived back from the village until 1835, when he resumed his habitation at New Salem and set up a blacksmith-shop. Since 1835 he has lived in New Salem, although long since retired from active business.

For some reason unexplainable at this day New Salem soon assumed and maintained a reputation for immorality and disorder that made its name a by-word and reproach among peaceful and law-abiding people. What especial circumstance led to this is not now apparent, nor is it necessary to inquire. But by common consent New Salem was mentioned as a

¹ The population by the census of 1880 was 158.

place conspicuous for dram-drinking, horse-racing, drunkenness, and vicious idleness. Well-behaved people shunned it, and in derision rechristened it Muttontown,—some say because many a stolen sheep was traced to the village. Taverns, so called, but really whiskey-shops, were numerous and flourishing.

In 1816 certain keen-eyed speculators concluded a bank would pay at New Salem, and accordingly built a stone banking-house in that year upon the lot now occupied by J. W. Scott's store, and without delay began to issue seductive-looking bank-bills of all denominations, ranging from six and a quarter cents upwards. The bank was called The Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of Fayette County, at New Salem. Aaron Torrance was president, and Timothy Smith cashier. The people of the surrounding country failed to exhibit any very great confidence in the matter of depositing money in the bank, but Messrs. Torrance, Smith, and others managed to keep themselves moderately busy and the bank in a state of temporary prosperity by an industrious issue of bills, which penetrated not only into remote corners of Pennsylvania, but into Maryland, Ohio, and other States. In a little while, when no more bills could be issued, the collapse came, for of course a collapse was inevitable. The banking-house was closed. Torrance, Smith, and their associates departed for other scenes, and the unhappy bill-holders, whose name was legion, were left to bewail an overweening confidence in promises to pay. This New Salem bank was from the outset looked upon with distrust by the State banking authorities. It appears that a letter of inquiry concerning the bank came to the Union Bank at Uniontown in June, 1816. To that letter the cashier of the Union Bank made the following response:

"UNION BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA, July 11, 1816.

"DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 27th ult. was duly received. As I could not answer it before this day (when our Directors meet), I laid your letter before them; they say from information received in regard to the Association named in your letter that they have reason to believe that such does exist, but that the persons composing it are not of sufficient respectability to render it reputable; for myself, I know none of the names mentioned, and from that am led to believe they are not men of much consequence. The village where the bank in question is to be established contains a few small log houses, as I am informed; 'tis situated about six miles from this place, and five or six miles from Brownsville, where there is a chartered bank.

"I am, respectfully, your ob't servant,

"J. SIMS, Cashier.

"E. P. HARRISON, Esq."

There is still in preservation one of the plates from which were printed bills of the New Salem Bank of the denominations of one, three, and five dollars. The one dollar notes bore the vignette of a recumbent female holding a sheaf of wheat. Over the figure is the line "Instituted in 1816." Below the figure appears the following:

"The Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of Fayette County promise to pay ———, or bearer, on demand, ONE dollar out of their joint funds according to their articles of association.

"NEW SALEM, ———, 18

"———, Cashier. ———, President."

The three and five dollar notes were essentially similar to the one described, except that the vignette of the three is a soaring eagle, and of the five an eagle perching upon the back of a lion.

Of this bank one Peter Black was one of the directors. An advertisement appearing in the *Genius of Liberty* under date of April 20, 1819, thus alludes to Mr. Black:

"\$100 REWARD, and all necessary expenses, will be given by the subscriber for the apprehension and delivery of Peter Black in any jail in the United States. Said Black is charged with the murder of Crawford Laughlin. Peter Black is a man six feet high, of dark complexion, has a large head thickly covered with black hair, has prominent cheek bones, and large shoulders. He is a man of about thirty years of age. He had on when he went away a blue surtout, pants, and vest, and it is supposed he has also taken with him a quantity of gray clothes. He was formerly a director in the Muttontown, or New Salem Bank of Fayette County, Pa., and he will be doubtless recollected in Ohio, where he distributed large quantities of the paper of that bank. It is supposed that Black has gone into the State of Ohio. The circumstances attending this horrid deed are as follows: On the 20th inst., while the deceased was at the house of Black, in Fayette County, a dispute arose between the deceased and another man. Black interfered and stabbed deceased in the neck, making a gash about one and a half inches deep.

"HUGH LAUGHLIN.

"March 27, 1819."

Alexander Wilson had a store in 1811 on the Jonah Dearth place.

Harmon Ficke came here in 1816, announcing that he had come from Baltimore for the purpose of starting in trade at New Salem. He put a few goods into John Funk's old store building, and declared himself ready for business. Ficke claimed to be a doctor as well as trader, but his medical and surgical skill were not made apparent. He kept his store open six or eight years, and departed because store-keeping in New Salem was overshadowed in importance by whisky-selling and rendered a profitless undertaking. There was no store at New Salem for many years after Harmon Ficke left, but taverns abounded and whisky was king. Martin Wolf was one of the tavern-keepers at this time, and soon after him came two others, named Emmons and Mitchell. At one time there were three taverns in the village. Jacob Balsinger was one of the later and most widely known of New Salem's tavern-keepers, but during his time the popular voice made itself heard in emphatic protest against a further continuance of whisky traffic at the village, for matters had been going from bad to worse, and, like other evils, that evil had got to the point where it was likely to cure itself. A temperance society was organized in 1835 at the village

school-house, and at that meeting speeches were made by Gen Joshua B. Howell and Dr. Hugh Campbell. The temperance reformers once fairly started, kept the ball in motion and worked assiduously. The whisky men fought to stop it, but to no purpose. Balsinger finding his business waning, sold his tavern—the only one then in the village—to James Downard. Downard got the impression that the temperance wave would exhaust itself and eventually leave him master of the field, but the longer he waited the more certain became his conviction that the temperance crusade had come to stay. All the village dram-shops but his had been driven out of existence, and his was doomed. One day he received a note of warning, threatening him with an immersion in the horse-pond if he failed to close his bar within a week. Discretion prevailed with him, and within less than a week his house was closed and he on his way to other parts. That was in the year 1843, and from that day to this no strong drink has been sold in New Salem. From one of the worst and most disorderly it was changed to one of the most orderly and peaceful villages in the State. Persistent hard work by the persevering and unfaltering advocates of temperance worked a reform for which that section of the country became grateful years ago. Ebenezer Finley, who took a leading part in the contest against whisky and disorder, was chosen the first president of the temperance society, and has been its president ever since. To him belongs a very large share of the credit for the wholesome results that followed the warfare.

About 1840, Joseph Gadd and William Boyd were keeping a store at New Salem; Balsinger had a tavern, and in it the post-office was kept, his son being postmaster. There was no village physician in 1840, although there had been previous to that date. In 1844, Dr. Jacob Post made New Salem his home, and lived on the Joshua Scott property. To go back a little, there was a school-house in 1812 upon the site of the present school-house, and in that year Thomas Campbell was the teacher. After him an old man named Gray taught school. It will be well also to mention that William Allison, a gunsmith, had a shop at New Salem as early as 1820; that Neddy Hughes was that year the village shoemaker, and that in 1821 Ebenezer Finley organized a Sunday-school. The old log grist-mill passed from James Thompson to Robert Boyd, and from Robert Boyd to his son Samuel, who built a new mill, the same now owned by Jesse Frost, Sr.

Dr. Hickman has already been mentioned as being a resident physician in New Salem in 1802. He remained only a couple of years, and then there was no resident doctor until 1811. In that year Dr. Joseph Rose and his brother Erasmus located and practiced in conjunction for several years. After their departure there was a lack of village doctors until 1844, when Dr. Jacob Post opened an office and re-

mained a village fixture for some years. He removed to Winona, Minn., and there died. While Dr. Post was here Dr. Fitz came in, but stayed only a short time. Then there appeared in succession Dr. C. D. Chalfant in 1867, and Dr. I. C. Hazlett a little while thereafter. The only village physician now is Dr. Samuel E. Johnston, who has been practicing in New Salem and vicinity since 1870.

New Salem's first postmaster was Christopher Balsinger, who was appointed in 1820 and served until about 1840. He was succeeded by C. S. Seaton and Mr. Kline. J. W. Scott followed Kline in 1861, and in 1868 was succeeded by W. D. Swearingen, who held the office less than a year. C. H. Scott was the incumbent from 1869 to 1877, and in the latter year William P. Green, the present postmaster, received his appointment.

NEW SALEM LODGE, No. 559, I. O. O. F., was organized in 1858. The membership is now twenty, and the officers William Jeffries, N. G.; J. C. Moore, V. G.; S. E. Johnson, Sec.; Elijah Tracey, Treas.; A. J. Tint, Asst. Sec.

UPPER MIDDLETOWN.

Upper Middletown village, better known as Plum-sock, is a small hamlet lying upon Redstone Creek, on the eastern side of the township. It is simply a rural town without special industry, beyond the maintenance of such business as is afforded by the support of the adjacent rural population. The name Plum-sock has clung to the place since the time its village existence begun, but why it was so christened is not known. Various stories are told to account for the origin of the name, including one about an intoxicated individual, who, while riding through the place, fell from his horse into the mud, and remarked, "Here I am, plump sock!" The expression is said to have so pleased the ears of those within hearing that they concluded to call the town "Plumsock" to commemorate the incident. How true the story is it is perhaps not important to inquire. Another story traces the origin of the name as far back as 1794, when a company of "Whiskey Boys" rendezvoused on the village site. 'Tis said they contracted with a certain citizen of the neighborhood to supply them with subsistence during their stay, and that when the citizen delivered his first load of provisions the "Boys" endeavored to cajole him into giving them credit for a few days. At that proposition the purveyor is said to have waxed wroth, and exclaiming, "No, sirree, my men; if you want me to supply you you must pay me the cash, 'plumpsock' on the nail," was about to depart in displeasure, when they came forward with the cash, and agreed unanimously that the place ought to be called "Plumsock" forever afterward in commemoration of the man's business principle.

Nov. 28, 1789, Jeremiah Pears (or Pearce, or Peairs) patented a piece of land containing one hundred and twelve acres, called "Prophetic," and lying in Men-

allen and Franklin townships. Edward Hall and Jeremiah Pears held land adjacent to this tract, and laid out lots in the form of a town, which they called Middletown (now known as Upper Middletown, or Plumsock). Hall sold to Rev. Robert Warnocks. The one hundred and twelve acres mentioned as belonging to Jeremiah Pears included the site of the Meason rolling-mill, hereafter to be mentioned, and for a long time popularly known as Forgetown. On that site Pears had a mill as early as 1784, and perhaps before, for in the road records of the county, under the date mentioned, "Jeremiah Pears' mill" is noticed. In 1794, "Jeremiah Pears' forge" was recorded as being then at the same point, and in 1804 he had there a saw-mill, grist-mill, forge, slitting-mill, and rolling-mill,—quite a large collection of industrial enterprises for the time. Thomas Cook, then of Perry, and afterwards of Cook's Mills, in Redstone, was one of the builders of the Pears' forge, which was probably erected in 1794. Pears carried on the manufacture of iron at Plumsock until about 1804, when he sold out to George Dorsey. Dorsey sold in 1809 to Benjamin Stevens, he to Meason & Keller in 1813, and Keller sold his interest to Col. Isaac Meason in 1815.

In a recently published account of early iron industries in Western Pennsylvania occurs the following: "The first rolling-mill erected west of the Alleghenies to puddle iron and roll iron bars was built in 1816 and 1817, on Redstone Creek, about midway between Connellsville and Brownsville, at a place called Upper Middletown, better known as Plumsock, in Fayette County." The inceptor of the enterprise was Thomas C. Lewis, and it was carried into effect by Col. Isaac Meason, of Union Furnace, in Dunbar. The chief engineer in the erection of the mill was Thomas C. Lewis, whose brother, George Lewis,—both Welshmen,—was turner and roller. The mill was built "for making bars of all sizes and hoops for cutting into nails." "The iron was refined by blast, and then puddled." Active operations were carried on at this mill until 1831, Mr. Arthur Palmer being in possession to the date named. By a flood in the Redstone the mill was partially destroyed. Subsequently the mill machinery was conveyed to Brownsville. Concerning this rolling-mill Samuel C. Lewis, son of Thomas C. Lewis above mentioned, said that his father and his uncle, George Lewis, not only superintended the erection and put in operation the mill of which notice is here made, but that he himself as a boy assisted in rolling the first bar of iron, his uncle being chief roller. Besides the two Lewis brothers, Thomas and George, there were also Samuel Lewis, heater, and James Lewis, catcher, who participated in starting the mill and in the rolling of the first bar. Henry W. Lewis, another brother, was a clerk in the office. Samuel C. Lewis was then a boy of fifteen, and "heaved up" behind the rolls. There were in the mill two puddling-

furnaces, one refinery, one heating-furnace, and one tilt-hammer. Raw coal was used in the puddling- and heating-furnaces, and coke (for a short time) in the refinery. James Pratt worked the refinery. David Adams was the puddler.

The State report on iron-making in Pennsylvania, published in 1878, says, "We think it extremely probable that at the Plumsock rolling-mill was done the first puddling, and that here was rolled the first bar of iron in America." Careful inquiry in well-informed quarters fails to discover the existence in the United States of any rolling-mill to roll bar iron and puddle pig iron prior to the enterprise at Plumsock in 1816.

Benjamin Rutter, who lives near Plumsock, worked for Arthur Palmer at the Plumsock rolling-mill, as did also Francis Duff, whose widow now lives in the village. One of the early rolling-mill proprietors was J. L. Keller, who built a great roomy brick mansion near the mill. Keller's house was a fine building for that day, and is to-day even a handsome-looking residence. Since 1858 it has been the property of James Nickel. Mr. Keller died after a few years' occupancy of the premises, and when a family of strangers undertook to occupy the red brick house their stay was soon brought to a hurried close by the idea that the house was haunted. They averred that old Keller's spirit roamed through the mansion at will, that doors were opened and shut by unseen hands, and with a great noise, while unearthly and discordant sounds made every night hideous and the lives of the tenants a torture. People to whom they told these stories laughed at them and scouted the stories as the result of excited imaginations. When, however, another family moved into the red brick and moved quickly out again, declaring that ghosts and goblins peopled the house, public belief was inclined to think that there might, after all, be a haunting presence in the mansion. When a third family was precipitately driven forth after but a two days' occupancy opinion generally conceded that the house was indeed haunted. By that time the circumstances were public gossip, and while the curious came to look with awe upon the mysterious abode of alleged spirits, no one cared to undertake the task of living in it, although it was offered for rent at a nominal price. So it was suffered to be untenanted for some time, when a matter-of-fact family took possession, and kept possession peaceably too. The supposed spirits seemed to have taken a permanent leave of the abode, and have not reappeared to this day. Although keen investigations were set afoot in pursuance of a desire to discover the source of the disturbing elements that drove people out of the house after Keller's death, no satisfactory result was achieved.

Time dispelled the fears of the timid, but to this day there are seemingly intelligent persons who insist that old Keller's ghost did haunt the house. The story goes that Keller, who married a daughter of

Gen. Douglass, and built the brick house in 1812, squandered in various ways money that had come to him through his wife. She had taken great pleasure in the embellishment of their home, and when Keller's failure entailed the loss of that home she felt much embittered against him. Declaring that she could never forgive him for causing the loss of so much that she had endeared to herself, she vowed that she would haunt the place after she was dead. Therefore people who firmly believe that the house was haunted must always be in doubt whether the visitation was by the spirit of Mrs. Keller or by that of her husband.

Before the rolling-mill enterprise had been put in operation, Isaac Meason carried on at Plumsock a small forge that Jeremiah Pears had built. That forge was the beginning of manufacture at that point. There was a pottery there in 1822, that was started by James Lewis, and continued by him and his son Nathan for twenty-seven years afterwards. James Lewis worked at the rolling-mills before he was married, and it was during his time there that a nail-factory was attached to the works. Thomas Duncan, now of Brownsville, was also one of the rolling-mill hands. Nathan Lewis, of Franklin township, says that when he was a lad of twelve he worked at Plumsock for Arthur Palmer, the iron-worker, and that in 1823 he was employed to wheel coal from a coal-bank to a coke-oven that Arthur Duncan (father of Judge Duncan, of Brownsville) had built for Palmer and was in charge of. This oven, Mr. Lewis thinks, was erected before 1823, and in it Mr. Palmer burned coke for use in his iron-works. It was constructed entirely of stone, and held about forty-eight bushels. Slack or fine coal only was burned. Palmer had at his works a rolling-mill, a puddling-furnace, refinery, saw-mill, and grist-mill. The immediate locality of the works was known as Forgetown until the departure of Mr. Palmer and the abandonment of the iron manufactory in 1831.

The inauguration of the rolling-mill industry at Plumsock created a village near there, and of course a store and tavern sprung quickly into existence. Robert Thompson was the store-keeper as early as 1808, and Henry Dick tavern-keeper in 1806. John Bate succeeded the latter in 1809. A Mr. Bodkin was in 1813 the tavern-keeper (or, more strictly speaking, the whisky-seller, for a village tavern then meant "whisky-shop" more than it meant public-house). Bodkin's tavern was simply a log shanty, and presently Elijah Gadd opened a second tavern in another shanty. Of Gadd it is said that he sold his whisky to the mill hands, and took his pay at the mill once a month in bar iron. When the mill stopped Gadd had on hand sufficient bar iron to pay for a good farm. Some of Gadd's successors as tavern-keepers at Plumsock were William Stevens, John Gadd, and Edward Jones, but that either made the success in the business that Elijah managed to achieve is extremely

doubtful. There was a small log grist-mill close by the rolling-mill, and although it was a crude and clumsy concern, it was one of the prime necessities of the locality. It was built by Jeremiah Pears, and afterwards continued by successive mill-owners. Keller, the proprietor of the rolling-mill, had a store, and Palmer probably kept a stock of goods on hand while he carried on the iron-works. After the mill interest ceased Plumsock fell into a disheartening quietude. There was no store there or very much call for one after that until 1831, when John Morrison built the brick residence now owned by James Lewis and stocked one corner of it with goods.

About 1820, Henry Creighton was the village blacksmith, and Reuben Jones the village carpenter. The first cabinet-maker in Plumsock was Daniel Whetzel. In 1824 there was a log school-house at the village, in which Macklin Mayer taught, and in which Joseph Garrett and Oliver Sproul were his immediate successors. A post-office was established at Plumsock about 1825, and a Methodist Church was built in 1829. There was probably no resident physician until 1840 or later. Robert Muir should have been mentioned as the landlord of the Cross-Keys tavern about 1820. He kept it for some years, and rented it then as a dwelling. In 1847, Henry Fuller reopened it as a tavern, and kept it twenty years. Since 1867, Plumsock has been without a licensed tavern.

In 1844, Thomas Hazen was keeping store in the Lewis brick, and David and John Huston one at the upper end of the town. The Hustons sold out to Abram Hornbeck, who was for a time both store-keeper and tavern-keeper. In the Hornbeck building Edward Roddy afterwards carried on trade about twelve years. Then came William Smith, Gibson & Arri-son, and Gibson & Thompson, who moved from the old quarters into the building now occupied by Mansell & Thompson. Daniel Binns & Co. occupied the Lewis brick in 1857, and in 1858 moved to the Keller mansion. In 1864, Binns retired, leaving his partner, James Nickel, to succeed the firm.

The post-office succession at Plumsock may be given as follows: Joseph Gadd was appointed about 1825, and resigned in 1828. Henry Creighton, the blacksmith, succeeded him, and in 1840 William Morrison became the incumbent. Morrison held the office until 1857, when Edward Roddy received the appointment. To him succeeded Daniel Binns, William Smith, and Daniel Binns (second term). James Nickel served from 1865 to 1869; Samuel Thompson, 1869-70; D. T. Gibson, from 1870 to 1880; and Hugh Thompson, from 1880 to the present.

The first physician to locate at Plumsock was a Dr. Rogers. Just when he came is not easy to say, but the time was not far from 1840. Drs. Brownfield and Crane were in village practice shortly after Rogers departed for the West in 1844, but their stay was brief. There was no resident physician afterwards until 1851, when Dr. Samuel B. Chalfant opened an

office and established his home at Plumsock. He continued steadily in practice at the village until his death in 1877. Meanwhile, Dr. W. W. Osborn came in 1870, and still remains. Dr. John Hankins came in 1875, and removed to Uniontown in 1878. Besides Dr. Osborn, there is now one other physician in the village, William H. Hopwood, who located in 1878.

REDSTONE LODGE, No. 499, I. O. O. F., was organized at Plumsock in 1852. The membership in March, 1881, was twenty-five, and the officers Nathan Holloway, N. G.; M. V. Whetzel, V. G.; A. N. Osborn, Sec.; James Lewis, Treas.

CHURCHES.

GRACE CHURCH (PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL).

Grace Church, located on the National road, near Searight's, was organized before 1793, in which year the congregation were occupying their own house of worship. There are, however, no records from which to write a history of the early days of the organization, and as human recollection is of course unavailable as a matter of reference, absolutely nothing can be said with certainty touching the events that attended upon the organization of the church, except that Robert Jackson donated some land for a church and churchyard. The first house of worship was a homely log structure, but it did excellent service for nearly fifty years. In 1840 it was replaced by the house now in use. For the erection of the latter the subscribers were Hugh Keys, William Searight, Hiram Jackson, Zadoc Jackson, William Hogg, George Hogg, Robert Clark, John Bowman, John Snowdon, Eli Abrams, Samuel J. Krepps, Henry Sweitzer, Christopher Buchanan, David Jackson, John Moore, Aaron Moore, William Moore, John Hibbs, Johnston Van Kirk, Ebenezer Finley, Ebenezer Finley, Jr., Elizabeth Finley, Joseph Gadd, E. Balsinger, Joseph Wilson, Joshua Antram, Caleb Antram, Jr., Richard Beeson, J. C. Simmons, Benjamin Roberts, Arwind McIttree, John Gadd, N. P. Bowman & Co., Jacob Bowman, Wesley Frost, G. W. V. Bowman, G. W. Cass, G. W. Curtis, William Sloan, John Allison, John Dawson, Rezin Moore, D. N. Robinson, Joshua B. Howell, N. Given, R. P. Flenniken, A. Stewart, James Fuller, Isaac Beeson. The congregation, at no time large, includes now perhaps twenty families. At no time has there been a resident rector. Rev. R. S. Smith supplied the church from 1868 to 1878. The present rector is Rev. S. D. Day, of Brownsville. The wardens are James Allison and Ewing Searight. The vestrymen are James Searight, Ewing Searight, Thomas Graham, Buchanan Jeffries, Andrew Keys, Hiram Jackson, and Levi Beal. The superintendent of the Sunday-school is James Allison. The graveyard at the church, laid out some time before the year 1800, has within it as the oldest headstone now distinguishable a tablet erected in 1799 to the memory of a member of the Jackson family.

UPPER MIDDLETOWN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

About 1825, when Arthur Palmer took charge of the Plumsock rolling-mill and established his home in the Keller mansion, he began to hold Methodist meetings therein, himself being the preacher. Mr. Palmer was a very energetic worker in the religious field, and preached regularly at his house once a fortnight until 1829. In that year he succeeded in effecting a church organization and in causing the erection of a stone church known as Asbury Chapel. As far as can now be remembered, the organizing members of the first class included Arthur Palmer and wife, James Hedden and wife, John Lewis and wife, William Bradley and wife. In 1840 the stone church was replaced with the present brick structure. The preacher in charge is Rev. O. E. Husted, of the Redstone Circuit. He preaches once a fortnight. The class numbers now about forty. The leader is William Hormel.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF NEW SALEM.

Public worship by Methodists was held in the New Salem school-house in 1834, and in that year a class was organized with twelve members. Among these were Booth McCormick and wife, Richard Miller and wife, Mr. Carpenter, his wife and wife's sister, and Nancy Whitehill. Booth McCormick was the leader. In 1840 a spirited revival set in and about forty persons joined the church. In 1850 a house of worship was built, and in 1851 the membership was fully one hundred and twenty-five. Prosperity attended upon the progress of the organization for a while, but afterwards dissensions were created by a disaffected member, and with such disastrous results that in 1867 the total membership had been reduced to five persons. Dissolution was imminent, but the few energetic ones worked hard for a reawakening of interest to such good effect that the membership steadily increased, and the church rested once more upon a sure foundation. In March, 1881, there were in good standing about thirty active members. The leader was then Johnston Roderick, and the preacher Rev. Mr. McGrew, of the Smithfield charge.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL.

A Presbyterian chapel was built at New Salem in 1853 by members of the Dunlap's Creek Church, and since that time has been used simply as an adjunct to the last-named organization, whose pastor preaches also at New Salem. A Presbyterian Sunday-school was organized at New Salem by Ebenezer Finley, Sr., in 1825, and to this day it has had an uninterrupted and active existence. The elder Finley was the superintendent from 1825 to 1849, and his son Ebenezer from 1853 to 1881.

PLEASANT VIEW (CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN) CHURCH.

During the years 1832 and 1833 Revs. Morgan Bird, and Bryan were preaching in Fayette County as the advance guard of the Cumberland Presbyterian

ministers just then being sent out from Tennessee to Pennsylvania. They were invited to preach at the Centre school-house, near John C. McCormick, and from that time forward there was more or less preaching there for several years. Mr. McCormick himself became a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Uniontown, where he was a ruling elder ten years or more. Afterwards he joined Hopewell Church, in Luzerne township, where he remained until the organization of Pleasant View in 1859. During the years 1857 and 1859 Rev. John S. Gibson, pastor of the East Liberty Cumberland Presbyterian Church, frequently held services in the McCormick neighborhood, and one result of his ministrations was the organization of a Sunday-school by E. Campbell and John McCormick. The Sunday-school being well on its way, attention was turned to the subject of a church organization. The Union Presbytery being appealed to, authorized Revs. Jesse Adams and A. G. Osborn to take charge of the business. Accordingly they organized Pleasant View, Oct. 1, 1859, in a school-house that stood near where the church now stands. The constituent members numbered twenty-four, viz.: Emanuel Campbell, Mary Campbell,¹ Samuel Brown, Louisa Brown, Henry Hornbeck, Sr.,¹ Rebecca Hornbeck,¹ Henry Hornbeck, Jr., John G. Hornbeck, James Ridlinghafer, Catharine Ridlinghafer, Robert Hagerty, John Ball, Jr.,¹ Mary Hess, Eliza B. Powell, Margaret Wheaton, Sarah J. Arison, Mary Mitchell,¹ Mahala Hill, Amy Work,¹ Anne Stewart, Ebenezer Hare,¹ Rebecca Hare, John C. McCormick,¹ Hannah McCormick.¹ The elders chosen were John C. McCormick, Emanuel Campbell, and Samuel Brown. In 1860 a house of worship was erected. The trustees were Robert Hagerty, John Ball, Jr., and James Ridlinghafer.

The first pastor was Rev. Andrew G. Osborn, who served from April 1, 1860, to April 1, 1862. Eli E. Bailey was pastor from April, 1862, to April, 1866; J. Power Baird from April, 1866, to April, 1880. Since Mr. Baird's departure Rev. William Hays has been the supply. Several gratifying revival seasons have marked the history of the church. In 1866 about twenty persons were received as members under the preaching of Rev. E. E. Bailey; and in 1871, 1874, and 1875, during the pastorate of Rev. J. Power Baird, large accessions, to the number of one hundred and twenty-eight, increased the strength of the church. There are at present one hundred and fifty-two members. The elders are Emanuel Campbell, Samuel Brown, John E. Craft, and Thomas H. Higginbotham. Martin Hess donated, in 1860, one acre of land, lying two and a quarter miles north of Seairight's, for church and cemetery. In 1878 two acres were added by purchase.

¹ Since deceased.

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW SALEM.

Fairview Church, now the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of New Salem, was organized by Rev. Samuel E. Hudson. Members of the denomination living in the vicinity of New Salem, who attended for public worship at Uniontown and New Hopewell, expressed a desire for a church organization, and in response thereto Rev. Samuel E. Hudson, then supplying the church at New Hopewell, began, in the spring of 1842, a series of protracted meetings at New Salem. A number of conversions followed, and in June, 1842, the Lord's Supper was commemorated at the New Salem school-house. In September of that year about one hundred persons joined in a petition to the Union Presbytery for the organization of a congregation in the New Salem neighborhood. In the spring of 1843 the Presbytery appointed Revs. Samuel E. Hudson and Carl Moore, with Isaac Beeson and John McCormick, as a committee to attend New Salem for the purpose of effecting the desired organization, and authorized Rev. Samuel E. Hudson to supply the new church for the space of one year. One hundred and five persons were received as constituent members. Among these the names of the following only have been preserved upon the record: Caleb Antram, Samuel Brown, Eliza Brown, Miranda Luckey, Hugh Poundslow, John Hackney, Sr., John Hackney, Jr., Lydia Hackney, Amy Hackney, Joseph Rockwell, Catharine Rockwell, Jacob Allamon, Levi Linn, Joseph Woodward, Nancy Woodward, William Jeffries, Jane Jeffries, Taylor Jeffries, Sarah Jeffries, E. F. Moss, Rebecca Johnson, Hannah Walters, Lydia Jackson, Eliza Hacock, Hannah Dunlap, Jane Luckey, Sarah L. McWilliams, Louisa Gilmore, Catharine McDougal, Jane Carey, Henry Funk, Zabina Keener, Lydia Worley, Keziah Watson, John Watson, Mary Jeffries, John Williams, Sarah A. Williams, Elizabeth Sickles, and Mary A. Poundslow. The elders chosen were Caleb Antram, Joseph Rockwell, Abel Campbell, Jr., and William Thompson. Caleb Antram donated land for a church and churchyard, and in 1844 a brick house was built at a cost of two thousand dollars. In April, 1856, the church had so prospered that the membership aggregated one hundred and eighty-four. The pastors of the organization have been Revs. Samuel E. Hudson, A. B. Brice, J. T. A. Henderson, Alexander Blackford, Jesse Adams, and J. S. Gibson. Mr. Gibson has been the pastor since 1872. The membership in March, 1881, was one hundred and eighty-one. The Sunday-school has fifteen officers and teachers and eighty-three scholars. The superintendent is Christopher Woodward. The elders of the church are Joseph Woodward, Joseph Rockwell, H. H. Hackney, Lewis Antram, and John Funk. The deacons are Christopher Woodward, J. W. Hackney, Taylor Jeffries, Samuel Newcomer, and A. J. Tuit.



Wm Searight

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

WILLIAM SEARIGHT.

William Searight was born near Carlisle, Cumberland Co., Pa., on the 5th day of December, 1792. His father came from Londonderry, Ireland, in the year 1760, and first settled in Lancaster County, Pa. His mother, Anne Hamilton, removed from Belfast, Ireland, the same year to the same county. His mother was an aunt of James Hamilton, once Governor of South Carolina, was a sister of William and McHugh Hamilton, wealthy and influential citizens of Lancaster County, and was remotely connected with Alexander Hamilton. Her ancestry were of Scotch descent. A granduncle of William Searight was in the "siege of Derry." He lived to get out of the besieged city, but soon afterwards died from weakness and exhaustion. In 1780 the parents of William Searight removed from Lancaster County to Cumberland County, Pa., settling near Carlisle. The names of their children were Samuel, Alexander, William, Mary, John, and Hamilton. About the beginning of this century they moved into Indiana County, Pa., where they remained only a short time, and came over into Westmoreland County, Pa., and settled permanently on the Loyalhanna River, a few miles above the town of Ligonier, where they lived until their death. About the year 1810, Samuel Searight settled in Tippecanoe County, Ind.; Alexander Searight settled in Ohio County, Va., and William Searight settled in Fayette County, Pa. The remainder of the family lived, died, and were buried in Ligonier Valley without issue. William Searight received only a plain English education. He was endued with the precepts of stern integrity and honor, the elements of his future success in business, and of his elevated character. In the neighborhood in which he was reared he had learned the business of fulling cloth, a knowledge of which, his native energy and honorable character being his only stock with which to commence and push his own fortune. He arrived in Fayette County at about the age of twenty-one, and commenced business at an old fulling-mill on Dunlap's Creek, known as Hammond's mill. He afterwards prosecuted his vocation at Cook's mill, on Redstone Creek, and again near Perryopolis. He next purchased a farm and hotel at Searight's, the property and village deriving its name from him, and there made his permanent settlement. In 1826 he married Rachel Brownfield, daughter of Thomas Brownfield, of Uniontown, Pa. Here he laid the foundation of a large fortune, and his integrity, united to a generous and benevolent heart, gave him a high place in the esteem and affection of the community in which he lived. His sound judgment soon impressed itself upon his own county, and he became one of her most influential citizens. Mr. Searight was a prominent and zealous old-time

Democratic politician, and wielded a large influence. On one occasion he rode on horseback from Searight's to Harrisburg, a distance of over two hundred miles, to aid in preparing to nominate Gen. Jackson for the Presidency.

In the early history of Fayette County political conventions of both parties were accustomed to meet at Searight's and plan campaigns. A memorable meeting, of which Mr. Searight was the chief instigator, was held there in 1828, known as the "Gray Meeting," from the name of the then keeper of the local hotel, John Gray. At this meeting the Jackson and Adams men met to measure their strength. They turned out in the meadow below the hotel, formed in rank, and "counted off." The Jackson men outnumbered their opponents decisively, and it was regarded as a great Jackson victory. In the political campaign of 1856 a large Democratic meeting was held in Uniontown, and the delegation from Searight's bore a banner with the inscription, "Menallen, the battle-ground of the 'Gray' meeting." Many prominent political leaders of the olden time were there. Among them, on the Jackson side, were Gen. Henry W. Beeson, Col. Ben Brownfield, Westley Frost, William F. Coplan, Henry J. Rigden, James C. Beckley, Benedict Kimber, Solomon G. Krepps, William Searight, Hugh Keys, William Hatfield, Col. William L. Miller, John Fuller, Provance McCormick, William Davidson, Alexander Johnson, and Thomas Duncan. On the Adams side were Andrew Stewart, John M. Austin, F. H. Oliphant, John Kennedy, John Dawson, Samuel Evans, James Bowman, William Hogg, Stokely Connell, William P. Wells, Basil Brownfield, George Mason, Kennedy Duncan, and John Lyon. The many similar political meetings with which William Searight was identified go to show the esteem in which he was held by the citizens of the county by all parties. But Fayette County, although the first, was but little in advance of other communities to learn and admire his worth. He early became known and appreciated throughout the entire State. He was appointed commissioner of the Cumberland (National) road by Governor Porter, in the most prosperous days of that great thoroughfare, a position he held for many years. In 1845 he was superseded by Col. William Hopkins, of Washington, Pa. Subsequently an act of the Legislature placed the road in the hands of trustees appointed by the courts, and these trustees restored William Searight to the commissionership, the duties of which office he continued to discharge with great fidelity and industry. He was thoroughly familiar with all the hills and valleys of that grand old thoroughfare, once so stirring and active, but now still and grass-grown. Previous to his appointment as commissioner of the National road he was a contractor on the same. He was one of the contractors who built the iron bridge over the mouth of Dunlap's Creek, between Brownsville and Bridgeport. He was

also a contractor on the Erie extension of the Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal.

At the time of his death he was the candidate of the Democratic party for one of the most dignified and important offices of the State, that of canal commissioner. To this office he would have undoubtedly been elected had not death interposed and called him from the active duties of this life to the realities of another world, as after his death William Hopkins, of Washington County, was nominated by the Democratic party for the same office, and was elected by a large majority. He died at his residence in Menallen township, on the 12th of August, 1852. He left a wife and six children,—Thomas, Ewing, Jane, William, James, and Elizabeth.

William Searight was a man of the most generous and humane character, ever ready to lend his counsel, his sympathies, and his purse to the aid of others. Though a strong political party man, yet he ever treated his opponents with courtesy. In religion he was, like most of the race to which he belonged, imbued with Calvinism. The brightest traits of his character were exemplified at the last. So far as human judgment may decide, he died a Christian, in peace. Although death plucked him from the very threshold of earthly honors, yet it caused him no regrets. The scenes upon which he was about to enter presented higher honors, purer enjoyments. To him they offered

"No midnight shade, no clouded sun,
But sacred, high, eternal noon."

A more emphatic eulogy than is in the power of language to express was bestowed upon him on the day of his funeral by the assembling around his coffin to perform the last sad duty of friendship of as great if not a greater number of citizens than ever attended the funeral ceremonies of any one who has died within the limits of Fayette County. Among that vast assemblage were both the patriarchs of the county and the rising youth, all come to give their testimony to the lofty worth in life of the distinguished dead. A few days after his death a large meeting of the citizens of Fayette County, irrespective of party, convened at the court-house for the purpose of bearing suitable testimony to his memory and character.

The following gentlemen were chosen officers: Hon. Nathaniel Ewing, president; Hon. Daniel Sturgeon (ex-United States senator) and Z. Ludington, vice-presidents; John B. Krepps and R. P. Flenniken, secretaries. On motion of Hon. James Veech (later author of "Monongahela of Old") a committee on resolutions composed of leading citizens was appointed, which committee presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, viz.:

"When a valued citizen dies, it is meet that the community of which he was a member mourn their loss. A public expression

of their sorrow at such an event is due as some solace to the grief of the bereaved family and friends, and as an incentive to others to earn for their death the same distinction. In the recent death of William Searight, Esq., this community has lost such a citizen. Such an event has called this public meeting, into which enter no schemes of political promotion, no partisan purposes of empty eulogy. Against all this death has shut the door. While yet the tear hangs on the cheek of his stricken family, and the tidings of death are unread by many of his friends, we, his fellow-citizens, neighbors, friends, of all parties, have assembled to speak to those who knew and loved him best, and to those who knew him not the words of sorrow and truth in sincerity and soberness. Therefore as the sense of this meeting,—

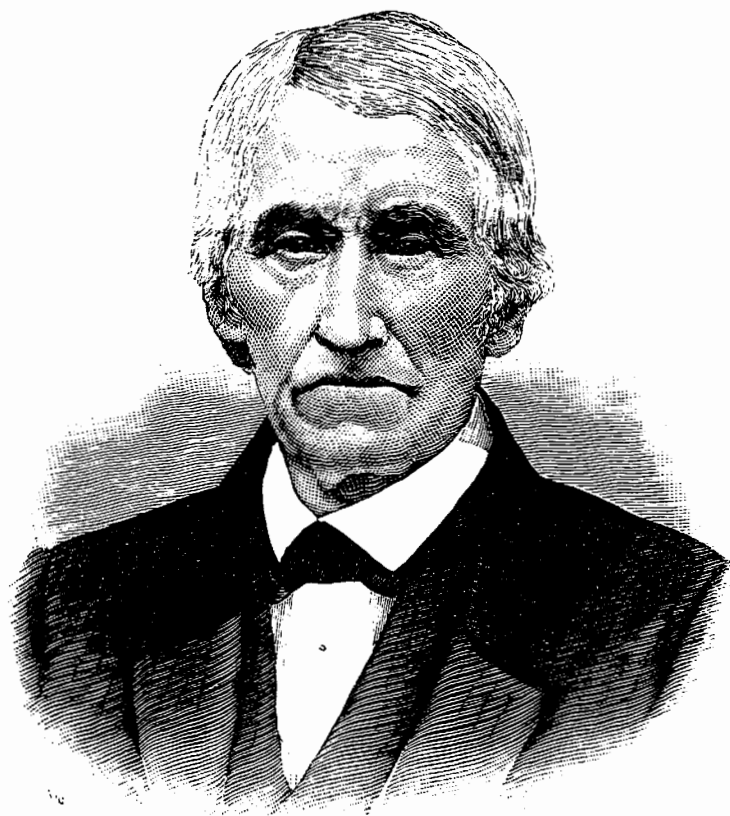
"Resolved, That in the death of William Searight Fayette County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have lost one of their best and most useful citizens. The people at large may not realize their loss, but the community in which he lived, over whose comforts and interests were diffused the influences of his liberality and enterprise, feel it, while his friends of all classes, parties, and professions, to whom he clung, and who clung to him, mourn it.

"Resolved, That while we would withhold our steps from the sanctuary of domestic grief, we may be allowed to express to the afflicted widow and children of the deceased our unfeigned sorrow and sympathy in their great bereavement, and to tender to them our assurance that while in their hearts the memory of the husband and father will ever be cherished, in *ours* will be kept the liveliest recollections of his virtues as a citizen and a friend.

"Resolved, That among the elements which must enter into every truthful estimate of the character of William Searight are a warm amenity of manners, combined with a great dignity of deportment, which were not the less attractive by their plainness and want of ostentation, elevated feelings more pure than passionless, high purposes, with untiring energy in their accomplishment, an ennobling sense of honor, and individual independence, which kept him always true to himself and to his engagements, unfaltering fidelity to his friends, a liberality which heeded no restraint, but means and merit, great promptness and fearlessness in the discharge of what he believed to be a duty, private or public, guided by a rigid integrity, which stood all tests and withstood all temptations, honesty and truthfulness in word and in deed, which no seductions could weaken nor assaults overthrow, in all respects the architect of his own fortune and fame. These, with the minor virtues in full proportion, are some of the outlines of character which stamped the man whose death we mourn as one much above the ordinary level of his race.

"Resolved, That while we have here nothing to do or say as to the loss sustained by the political party to which he belonged, and whose candidate he was for an office of great honor and responsibility, we may be allowed to say that had he lived and been successful, with a heart so rigidly set as was his, with feelings so high and integrity so firm, and withal an amount of practical intelligence so ample as he possessed, his election could have been regretted by no citizen who knew him, and who placed the public interests beyond selfish ends and party success. As a politician, we knew him to hold to his principles and party predilections with a tenacious grasp, yet he was ever courteous and liberal in his deportment and views towards his political opponents.

"Resolved, That in the life and character of William Searight we see a most instructive and encouraging example. Starting in the struggle of life with an humble business, poor and unfriended, with an honest mind and true heart, with high pur-



JEREMIAH PEIRSEL, SR.

poses and untiring industry, he by degrees gained friends and means which never forsook him. He thus won for himself and his family ample wealth, and attained a position among his fellow-men which those who have had the best advantages our country affords might well envy. That wealth and that position he used with a just liberality and influence for the benefit of all around and dependent upon him. Though dead, he yet speaketh to every man in humble business,—go thou and do likewise, and such shall be thy reward in life and in death.

“Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be furnished for publication in all the papers of the county, and a copy thereof, signed by the officers, be presented to the family of the deceased.”

JEREMIAH PEIRSEL.

Jeremiah Peirsel was born in what is now Perry township, March 4, 1787, and died in Menallen township, Nov. 20, 1880. He was of Welsh descent, and educated in the common schools. He was married to Mary Beal, of Menallen township, in 1810. They had twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. He was always a farmer, and located upon the farm where his son Samuel now resides in 1824, and remained there until his death. He was an exemplary member of the old Redstone Baptist Church for more than sixty years. He never held a political office; never had a lawsuit; never had any difficulties with his neighbors. His long life was due in a measure, no doubt, to his amiable disposition. He had all the good qualities that usually attend a lovable disposition. He belonged to a long-lived family. The average age of himself, brothers, and sisters is eighty years.

His father, William Peirsel, came to Fayette County from Chester County, Pa., early in life. He married Grace Cope. They had eight children. Jeremiah was the third. William died in 1848, supposed to be over one hundred years old. Grace died in 1854, aged ninety-four.

Seven of the children of Mr. Peirsel are living,—Elizabeth, married to James McLaughlin; Samuel, married to Maria Radcliffe; Jeremiah, Jr., who married Melvina N. Frasher, and has one living son, Isaac F., who has received a liberal education, is a farmer, and is married to Mary Hormel, and has one child, Arthur L. Peirsel, the only grandchild of Jeremiah, Jr. The other four children are Sarah, married to Henry Frasher; Anne, married to Jacob Grant; William, married to Catharine McKay; and Uriah, married to Dettie Swayne. One of his sons, Levi, was killed in the late war at the battle of Petersburg.

For a great part of her life the wife of Mr. Peirsel was seriously afflicted by mental maladies, and he took the utmost tender care of her, never being heard to complain of his unhappy lot.

Jeremiah Peirsel, Jr., well maintains the goodly name he bears, is industrious and thrifty, and in the enjoyment of a comfortable home and a competency, which he has acquired through his own energy and business sagacity. He, like his father, has the con-



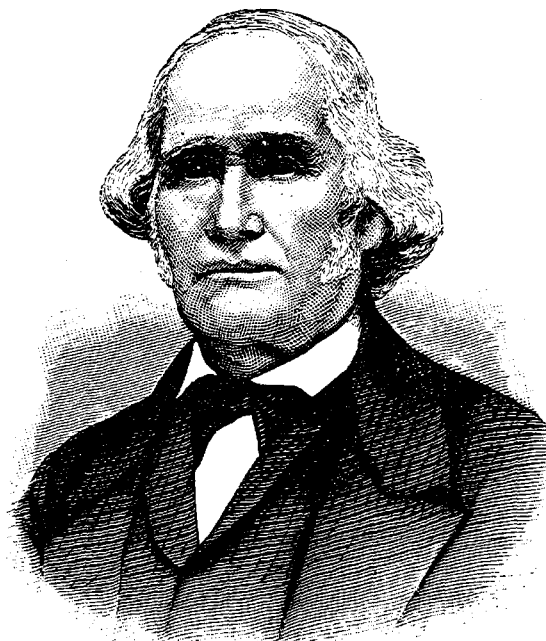
JEREMIAH PEIRSEL, JR.

fidence of his neighbors, and if not so gentle and retiring as his father it is because the latter was extremely so.

JAMES ALLISON.

James Allison, without whose biography the history of Menallen township, and particularly of the village of Searight's, would be incomplete, was born near Laurel Hill, in Fayette Co., Pa., Dec. 22, 1801. His parents lived and died in that neighborhood, and their remains were buried in the Laurel Hill graveyard. In early life James Allison moved from the locality of Laurel Hill, and settled on Redstone Creek, Fayette Co., Pa., and learned to be a fuller of cloth under William Searight, in whose family he ever afterwards made his home. When William Searight bought the homestead on which is the village of Searight's, James Allison moved with him to it, where he lived and died. He was born to no other inheritance than that of a noble character and good name, and was in early life thrown upon these his only resources. He held the responsible office of commissioner of the county from 1837 to 1840, and, as was the case in all his business transactions, acquitted himself creditably and honorably. He also held the office of justice of the peace for many years, and was postmaster at the village of Searight's from the time of the establishment of the office in 1845 until within a very short time of his death, having filled the longest continuous term of office of any postmaster in the State, and perhaps in the United States. So long and so very attentively did he occupy this position that he became a part of the town, thought to be entirely indispensable. He was a conscientious and consistent member of the Episcopal

Church, and was for very many years senior warden of Grace Church, Menallen. He was married in early life, and his wife died shortly after their marriage. He had no family. The life of James Allison is well worthy of imitation. It was straightforward, unfaltering, unchequered, and uneventful. His habits were extremely plain, simple, sensible, sober, temperate, and industrious. His manner was free, open,



James Allison

friendly, frank, and courteous. His character was a perfect light-house of honesty, truthfulness, and uprightness. So highly was he esteemed for these qualities, it became a common saying in the surrounding community of which he was a part that "If Jimmy Allison says it is so it must be so;" or, "If Jimmy Allison did so it must be right." These sayings still reverently linger in the memories of his old neighbors. He died suddenly on July 4, 1881, of a congestive spasm, to which he was subject. His remains were interred in Grace Church burial-ground on July 5, 1881. The Rev. R. S. Smith, rector of St. Peter's Church, Uniontown, and Grace Church, Menallen, officiated at his funeral, and in the course of his remarks said that he had known James Allison intimately for twenty years, and for that period had been his personal friend, and he knew of nothing in his life and character that he would have blotted from the book of remembrance. Notwithstanding it was mid-harvest, and the weather was extremely hot, Grace Church was crowded by neighbors and friends to witness the funeral rites of James Allison—an honest man—"God's noblest work."

ROBERT JACKSON.

Robert Jackson was born in Menallen township, upon the farm where he now resides, Oct. 11, 1831. He is of Irish descent, and was educated in the common schools. He learned the business of farming, and has always been engaged in it. He was married Nov. 7, 1867, to Catharine Murdock, of Pittsburgh,



ROBERT JACKSON.

Pa. They have no children. He has never held any office, and never sought one, and is not a church-member. His father left him a small legacy, to which he has added yearly by good farming.

His father, Zadock Jackson, was born in the same township, and was a farmer. He married Lydia Woodward. They had a family of eight children, only three of whom grew up. Robert is the eldest. Zadock, the father, died May 7, 1861, aged fifty-six; Lydia, his widow, is still living. Mr. Robert Jackson is a modest, unassuming man. He has a good farm, and enjoys the respect of his neighbors. He takes delight in his business, does all his work well, and is noted for his hospitality, charity, and industry. Mr. Jackson is a Republican in politics.

HUGH GRAHAM.

Hugh Graham died at his home in Menallen township, May 19, 1879, aged eighty-three years. He was born in the northern part of Ireland in 1796, and was of Scotch extraction, his father and mother having been born in Scotland. His education was received

in the "pay schools" of Ireland. At an early age he learned the carpenter's trade in all its branches. When twenty-two years of age he emigrated to America. He stopped in Philadelphia for a short



HUGH GRAHAM.

time, and was there in the employ of Stephen Girard, for whom he built some of the finest houses then in Philadelphia. He then moved to Pittsburgh, thence to Uniontown. Here he remained and worked at his trade for a number of years, building some of the finest houses in the county, among which are the Gallatin house of Springhill township, now owned by Mrs. John L. Dawson; the residence of Col. Samuel Evans, of North Union, the dwelling occupied by Judge Willson, the fine house on Main Street, Uniontown, formerly owned and occupied by the late Judge Nathaniel Ewing, etc. In 1822 he was married to Margaret Black, an estimable woman, of Menallen township. They lived together for fifty-two years,

she dying about five years before her husband. They had eight children,—Catharine and William died young; Jacob married Caroline Gaddis, and is a farmer; Albert Gallatin graduated at Jefferson College, read law, and practiced in Jonesboro', Tenn.; he was also editor of the *Jonesboro' Union*, and is now dead. Margaret married L. B. Bowie; Thomas Baird, who attended Emory and Henry College, near Abingdon, Va., read law and graduated from the Lebanon Law School of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., and practiced in Tennessee, Missouri, and at Pittsburgh, Pa., for several years. He is now engaged in farming. Hugh died when eighteen years of age; Jennie G. married William Thorndell, deceased.

Mr. Graham held several important township offices; was also director of the Poor Board. In all public positions he discharged his duties well. He was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for a number of years. Although his early opportunities for education were limited, he by careful study during his spare moments stored his mind with a vast fund of useful knowledge. He possessed a retentive memory, and having once learned a fact he was able to repeat and detail it with the ease and grace of the true gentleman. He was a great admirer of the poet Burns, and could repeat from memory probably more of his poems, in their Scotch dialect, than any man who ever lived in Fayette County. He was ever ready with the Psalms of David and sacred lyrics learned at his mother's knee. He was especially noted for his retentive memory, his genial Irish wit, his great physical ability, honesty, charity, and industry. Mr. Graham was reticent in regard to his charities; in other words, modest, apparently not letting his left hand know what his right hand did. Like all generous, really strong men, he was never boastful, and was quiet in demeanor. Probably no man exceeded him in a due sense of all the proprieties of life and society. He suppressed all scandalous tongues that wagged in his presence, carrying out practically the maxim, "Let no evil be spoken of another."