

GEORGES TOWNSHIP.¹

IN 1783, when Fayette County was formed from a part of Westmoreland, this was one of the original townships, and was bounded and described as follows: "Beginning at John Main's, on Jacob's Creek; thence to Jesse Bayle's; thence in same direction to the line of Wharton township; thence by the same until opposite Charles Brownfield's; thence by Charles Brownfield, Thomas Gaddis, the Widow McClelland, and the residue of the line of Union township to the head of Jennings' Run; thence by the lines of German township to the beginning, to include the three first above-mentioned persons, to be hereafter known by the name of George² township."

This township seems to have possessed many natural attractions, and was settled at a very early date. The fertile valleys, the abundant supply of excellent water, the superior timber, and many other attractive features of this township led to its rapid settlement, and soon made it one of the most populous and important townships of the county. Before Westmoreland County had been erected this region had quite a number of settlers, and when Fayette was struck off from Westmoreland, after the burning of Hannastown by the Indians, this was quite a densely-peopled section of the new county. In December, 1845, a part of Georges township was taken to form Nicholson.

This township in its varied and picturesque beauty is excelled by few in the United States. Here we have the "White Rocks," famed not only for their great natural attractiveness, but aside from this they are noted as the place where the "Polly Williams murder" occurred in August, 1810. The chasm is some fifty feet in depth, and the huge gray stones stand in mute grandeur with all their romantic history clustered around them. In ages to come, when they have gathered all the enchantment which time can lend, and the additional charm of ancient remembrance shall have caused the facts to be thought of as traditionary, then will the traveler come for hundreds of miles to look upon the place where the base inhumanity of man was displayed, and examine the great gray stones where the crimson heart-blood of Polly Williams was shed by the hand of her seducer.

¹ By M. M. Hopwood.

² The name of this township, originally *George*, has become by general usage *Georges*, and the latter is therefore adopted in this history.

For a hundred years past the Delaney Cave has been sought as a place worthy of the sight-seer. Located as it is near the summit of the Laurel Hill range, and commanding thus a magnificent view of the beautiful lands towards the setting sun, it affords attractions not possessed by the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky. It would be difficult for the most accurate observer to form any definite conception of the vastness of space here presented to the eye. Miles toward the north and south, the fair valley at the base of the mountain is visible, while stretching far toward the west the beautiful landscape is shut out from view only when the horizon limits it, far away over the Monongahela in Greene County. A description of the cave, from the pen of John A. Paxton, of Philadelphia, who visited it in 1816, is given in the general history of the county. The manner in which this cave derived its name is readily traceable to the fact that a Mr. Thomas Delaney was owner of the lands beneath which the cave is located. About the year 1800 two men, Crain and Simmons, from Smithfield, went to the cave to explore it; they were lost in it, and remained there two days and two nights before the people succeeded in finding them. When found they were locked in each other's arms, and were almost dead for want of water and food.

This township is very rich in mineral resources, and on this account the early settlers, seeming to understand thoroughly where to locate in order that they might have rich possessions in mineral lands, came and settled near the base of the mountain, and soon thereafter the ores they had discovered were worked into iron, and the coal was dug and used as a fuel, although not to any great extent, for the wood was everywhere abundant at that time. As early as 1790 coal was dug by George Hertzog in this county, on the Springhill Furnace property, not far from Haydentown. It was the Upper Freeport vein, and people came many miles to get some of the wonderful fuel dug from the earth. In addition to the bountiful supply of coal and iron ore, the hand of Nature has provided the very best fire-clay in the country. On the property of Abraham Low there is a silver-mine, which, perhaps, might be worked in paying quantities if capital was brought into requisition. It is said that Mr. Low was at one time offered five thousand dollars for his mine by an experienced mineralogist. The silver-bearing rock is of a dark color, and when

broken the metallic lustre can be seen on every face of the fracture. It is stated that the Indians had a lead-mine in this township, and used the lead in moulding bullets. Evidently it must have been very pure ore, or it would not have been either possible or expedient to have used it as we use merchantable lead. Upon several occasions the Browns and other very early settlers attempted to find out the locality of this mine, for lead was in demand on the frontier; but, owing to the fact that they risked their lives if found watching the Indians, they never succeeded in finding the treasure for which they sought.

The earliest settlement of which any positive information can be gathered is that which was made upon the land now owned by Mr. Joel Leatherman. This settlement was made probably as early as 1730, which is demonstrated from the following facts: The grandfather of Basil Brownfield settled in this county soon after Braddock's defeat, say 1760; he lived to be a very old man, and Mr. Basil Brownfield said that when he was a little boy he often heard his grandfather and father mention the French village which had once stood upon the Leatherman farm. At some time, early in the eighteenth century, a party of Frenchmen settled there and built a village; they were on good terms with the Indians, and to some extent intermarried with them. They were a progressive and intelligent community, and immediately began to improve their new home. After having resided there a number of years, they from some cause vacated the premises, and when the next white settlers came upon the scene, some thirty years later, the village had gone to wreck, and a dense thicket had taken its place.

Towards the close of the century Mr. Joel Leatherman's father purchased the tract of land from Richard Reed, and soon thereafter they proceeded to grub the thicket of hazel-bushes, and after due preparation it was sowed in grass. Upon plowing it they found the remains of the houses, one of which had a solid stone foundation and a floor of stone. Some articles of crockery-ware were also found, and irons of peculiar device; the remnant of what had been a well; also a macadamized road running through the farm; and upon opening the coal-bank near by it was found that it had been mined before and considerable of coal used. To make all of these improvements would require a good many years of labor for such a small colony, and the land, too, was densely overgrown with hazel-bushes when the first permanent settlers came into Fayette County. In order to have erected this village and added all the improvements it would, as we have stated, have required no brief time; then after it had been abandoned it must have taken a series of years to have reduced such durable buildings to ruins so that a thicket might spring up and occupy the place where the buildings had been erected. All of which would tend to impress us with

the fact that there were settlers of our own color in this county long before the coming of the permanent settlers, such as the Browns, Gists, and others. What the name of this French village was we never may know, neither can we expect to learn of the particulars as to the length of its duration or the causes which led to its abandonment; yet it is a satisfaction to know that there were white people who had a home in these beautiful valleys a century and a half ago. In addition to this fact, Georges township has the credit of one of the earliest permanent settlers. As early as 1752 or 1753, Wendall Brown and his three sons, Maunus, Thomas, and Adam, settled in Provance's Bottom, on the Monongahela River, but changed very soon to Georges and Union townships, where some of their descendants yet live. The change from the place of their original settlement was brought about by the Indians, who assured them that their new home, in what is now Georges township, would be better, the land being, as they said, much richer. When Washington surrendered Fort Necessity in 1754 the Browns accompanied him and his troops back to their old Virginia home, but a few years thereafter returned to their former frontier home, after Gen. Forbes had reinstated the English dominion.

In 1787 the number of property-owners in Georges township had increased until there were more than two hundred, as follows: Jacob Abraham, Ichabod Ashcraft, Daniel Ashcraft, Richard Ashcraft, Riah Ashcraft, Robert Allison, John Archer, William Archer, Robert Brownfield, Charles Brownfield, Bazil Howell, Alexander Buchanan, Joseph Boultinghouse, John Boultinghouse, John Bell, Humphrey Bell, Ezekiel Barnes, Sylvanus Barnes, Jeremiah Bock, Catherine Bavens, Peter Byrnhardt, Samuel Bovey, Melchior Baker, John Carr, Moses Carr, Thomas Carr, Elijah Carr, Absalom Carr, Joseph Coombs, John Coombs, William Coombs, Edward Coombs, Jr., George Conn, William Cubert, William Cross, John Chadwick, John Coon, James Calvin, Christley Coffman, Jr., Edward Coombs, Sr., Owen Davis, James Dale, Roger Dougherty, William Downard, Jacob Downard, James Downard, Benjamin Davis, John Drake, Samuel Drake, James Dummons, Evan Davis, William Davis, Lewis Davis, Sarah Drake, Thomas Downard, John D. Duval, Peter Edwards, Benjamin Everett, Henry Efford, John Fowler, John Finley, Daniel Ferrel, William Forsythe, Mark Graham, Daniel Green, William Green, Uriah Glover, James Graham, Charles Glover, Moses Gard, William Graham, John Graham, Benjamin Hardin, John Hutson, John Hustead, Matthias Hawfield, Peter Hawfield, Catherine Hawfield, Elizabeth Hawfield, Thomas Heddy, Sr., Thomas Heddy, Jr., James Heddy, John Hayden, John Harrison, John Harnet, James Hay, William Hoagland, Isaac Hoagland, Robert Hannah, David Johns, John Jenkins, Philip Jenkins, James Jameson, "Little"

Daniel Johnston, James John, John Jackson, Henry Jennings, Joseph Kinnison, James Kinnison, Sr., James Kinnison, Jr., James Lupton, Alexander McDonald, Isaac McDonald, David McDonald, Mary McDonald, John McDowell, Arthur McChristy, Abraham McCafferty, William Mininger, Daniel Minson, David Meredith, Daniel Moxford, William Mitchell, John Moore, Rachel McDonald, Adam McCarty, James McClean, Sr., James McClean, Jr., Alexander McPherson, Jeremiah McDonald, John McDow, Stephen Mackey, George Main, William Nixon, Christopher Noon, Allen Oliver, James Orr, John Phillips, Isaac Phillips, Thomas Phillips, Jenkins Phillips, Benjamin Phillips, Richard Poundstone, John Patterson, William Patterson, John Pierson, John Quarden, Adam Quarden, Richard Reed, Thomas Reed, Samuel Reed, Caleb Reed, Andrew Reed, Giles Reed, Thomas Reed, Jr., Robert Ritchey, James Robinson, Joshua Robinson, Henry Robinson, William Robinson, Philip Rogers, Sr., Philip Rogers, Jr., Henry Rogers, William Rhoades, Jacob Riffle, Nathaniel Reeves, Jonathan Rees, William Sallisbury, John Shacklet, Peter Smith, Charles Smith, Henry Smith, Philip Smith, Phelty Smith, George Smith, Corbet Smith, William Smith, Andrew Smith, G. Sangston, Zadoc Springer, John Street, John Shanks, Peter Snider, Joseph Stillwell, Jacob Southard, John Scott, Basil Sillwood, Samuel Stephens, Philip Slick, James Steel, William Sharon, Obadiah Truax, Hendrick Taylor, John Taylor, John Tucker, Joseph Thomas, George Tobin, Levi Thomas, U. Vandeventer, James White, John White, Sr., John White, Jr., James White, Jr., Levi Wells, Samuel Woodbridge, James Walker, William Welsh, William Watson, Jesse Worthington, Zachariah Wheat, Abraham White, Isaac White, Daniel Wood, David Wood, Ruth White, Ephraim Woodruff, Jesse York, Jeremiah York.

The quota of tax for Georges township in 1796 was \$272.57. In 1808 it had increased to \$337, and had nine mills, five forges and furnaces, three tan-yards, seven distilleries and breweries, four hundred and ninety-two horses, five hundred and eight cattle; the total amount of the assessment being \$223,660. The number of acres of land taken up in 1796 was more than twenty-three thousand. In 1810 the population was two thousand and eighty-six. In 1820, when the census was taken, it was found that there was a decrease of fifty-five in the population. At the next census of 1830 the population was two thousand four hundred and sixteen.

OLD ROADS.

Georges township has the honor of the first road after Fayette County was organized. An old trail, known as the "Cherokee" or "Catawba Trail," ran through Georges township, entering Fayette County at Grassy Run, in Springhill township, and passing through the land of Charles Griffin by Long's Mill, Ashcraft's Fort, Philip Rogers' (now Alfred Stewart's),

William James'; thence through the remaining portion of Georges township almost on a line with the present Morgantown road. It was on this trail that the Grassy Run road was laid out. It was confirmed and ordered opened up, thirty-three feet wide, at March sessions, 1784, which was the second sessions of the court. At the previous sessions the view had been prayed for, and Empson Brownfield, Henry Beeson, James Neal, John Swearingen, and Aaron Moore appointed viewers. The "Sandy Creek" road was in existence long before Fayette County came into being. It came from the Ten-Mile settlement in Greene County, crossing the Monongahela River at Hyde's Ferry, and thence passing through Haydentown to David John's mill; thence up Laurel Hill, through the Sandy Creek settlement, to Daniel McPeck's and on to Virginia. It was by this road that Rev. Joseph Doddridge traveled in 1774 when he made his tour west of the Allegheny Mountains, at which time he preached at the Mount Moriah Presbyterian Church, in Springhill township, near New Geneva. After the organization of the county this was the second road viewed and ordered opened by the court. This was opened as so ordered Dec. 28, 1785. The viewers were Zadoc Springer, Philip Jenkins, John Hill, Owen Davis, and William Hill.

ASHCRAFT'S FORT.

On the property now owned by Mrs. Evans Willson, in this township, and on the line of the Cherokee trail, stood the Ashcraft fort. To this place of refuge the settlers were accustomed to flee when Indian difficulties were feared. It was named after Ichabod Ashcraft, who took up this property (199 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, called "Buffalo Pasture"), receiving his warrant for it, dated May 29, 1770. Here they built their fort near a bubbling spring. Long since the fort has disappeared, but the spring gushes forth to the sunlight just as it did a century and a quarter ago. The fort was built on the same plan as other early forts,—the second story projected out about one foot over the lower, so that in case the Indians should attempt to fire the fort they could be readily shot from the loop-holes above. There was a stockade of an acre with a ditch and picket-line for the purpose of protecting the stock from the depredations of the savages. It is related that one morning Mrs. Rachel Ashcraft was awakened by the call of a turkey gobbler. She told her husband that she believed she would go out and kill it. Her husband said she had better not, it might be an Indian. The call was repeated, and Mrs. Ashcraft cautiously opened one of the port-holes and looked out. Presently the call of the turkey gobbler was repeated, and then out came the head of an Indian to see if any one was stirring in the fort. She quietly took down her trusty rifle, and the next time he gave the call and protruded his head from behind the tree she sent a bullet through his head, striking him square between the eyes. Ashcraft's fort was built at the crossing of two Indian

trails. At this cross-roads suicides were buried, in conformity with an old English custom. It is said that the Indian shot by Mrs. Ashcraft was interred at this place. It is also related (but how truly is not known) that he was skinned, and his skin tanned and made into razor strops, which were distributed among the settlers as trophies.

In the valley, near Fort Gaddis, Daniel Boone and his companions encamped when on their way to the Western wilds. This was previous to the year 1770. Mr. Basil Brownfield said that an old man who died a great many years ago—in fact, soon after the commencement of this century—informed him that he saw Daniel Boone when he was camped near Gaddis' Fort.

There was an Indian village near where Abraham Brown now lives, four miles west from Uniontown, and there was an Indian burying-ground near the village. In this graveyard some bones of immense size have been found, indicating an unusual height for the person when alive.

HAYDENTOWN.

This town is located upon a tract of land known as Haydenberg, which was patented by John Hayden in 1787. Haydentown was laid out soon after 1790, and at first bore the name of Georgetown. By deed for one-fourth of an acre of ground, lying in Georgetown, from Robert and Mary Peoples, dated Nov. 20, 1793, we learn that there was a forge there then, and one of the boundaries in the description is Forge Street. Robert Peoples evidently owned much of the land, and may have laid out the town. The forge spoken of is evidently the same one which was sold to Hayden and Nicholson in the previous spring.

John Hayden was the son of William Hayden, who came from the East to Georges township in 1781. His mother was a daughter of a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia by the name of Nicholson. We believe that it was Mr. Nicholson's son who was State comptroller, and embarked with John Hayden in the iron manufacturing business. In the town named in honor of John Hayden there was more iron made in 1810 than in the city of Pittsburgh, the iron being worked into hoes, axes, sickles, scythes, log-chains, trace-chains, etc. The subject of this brief notice was a good soldier in the war of 1776, and an estimable and energetic citizen thereafter, doing much to promote early industries. He raised a family of twenty-two children.

The first store ever kept in Haydentown was probably that of Jesse Evans, who had one there about the year 1800. Since then Joseph Kyle and James D. Low have had stores.

In 1818, Jehu Shadrack was making scythes and edge-tools in Haydentown. Samuel Anderson learned the trade under him, and followed it successfully at Haydentown and at his stand on the Morgantown

road. Mr. Shadrack also carried on the wagon-making business.

James Miller had a powder-mill here in 1810. He pulverized the charcoal by hand in a mortar, and made both rifle and blasting powder. He also made grindstones, and he was the man who took a stone such as he used for grindstones and cut the inscription upon it and put it up at his own expense to mark the last resting-place of the murdered Polly Williams.

The Haydentown flouring-mill was built about 1775. It was afterwards owned by Philip Jenkins, who received it from his father, John Jenkins. In February, 1790, it was sold to Jonathan Reese. March 7, 1792, Reese disposed of it to Robert Peoples, who remained in possession of it for a number of years. Afterwards it was owned by William Nixon, Abraham Stewart, John Oliphant, Jehu Shadrack, Andrew McClelland, Joseph Davison, Philip Victor (who remodeled it), and the present owner, William Swaney. This was one of the very earliest flouring-mills west of the mountains. Previous to its erection it was the custom to go to Cumberland for flour.

Public-houses were kept by William Spear, James Miller, George Nixon, Matthew Doran, — Davis, Joseph Victor, Otho Rhoades, Jacob Kyle, and Joseph Kyle. The first school ever taught in Haydentown was taught by Andrew Stewart, before 1810.

For a number of years, commencing about 1825, Rev. Peter T. Laishly held religious service in the house of Philip Victor, and organized what was called the "Bible Christian," or "New Light Church." Some years afterwards he left the New Lights, and connected himself with the Methodist Protestant Church, and preached for that denomination for a number of years. About fifteen years ago the adherents to this church succeeded in building a house of worship in Haydentown.

In the vicinity of Haydentown was the old Fairview Furnace, previously known as the "Mary Ann" Furnace, with considerable settlement clustered about it. At this place Melchior Baker manufactured guns about the year 1800. Abraham Stewart made knives, forks, spades, shovels, stirrups, bridle-bits, trace-chains, etc. He was what was called a whitesmith. Col. John Morgan and the Hon. Andrew Stewart (son of Abraham) both learned the trade of whitesmith in Stewart's factory. Here at the Mary Ann Furnace, which ran about a ton and a half of metal daily, the pig-metal was converted into salt-kettles, tea-kettles, etc. These were usually taken to New Geneva, and shipped by the river down to New Orleans. They were also sent to Canada. At that time there were eight or ten moulding-shops there in full operation. The place is now but a ruin of what was once a prosperous and thrifty village.

Not far from Haydentown is the Woods tannery, which was built by George Patterson about 1825.

He was succeeded by Charles Brownfield, Zadoc Brownfield, Henry Stimple, George Woods, and Smith Fuller, and William H. Baily. Dr. Smith Fuller is now the proprietor. The new tannery was built about 1857.

Before 1800 Joseph Page had a carding-machine above where Smith Brownfield now has one. The new one of Brownfield's was built in 1868. There was one other before that, located farther up the Pine Grove Run; it was built by Alexander Brownfield.

IRON INDUSTRIES.

This township was one of the first west of the Allegheny Mountains to introduce the manufacture of iron. Here, about the year 1790, Thomas Lewis built the old Pine Grove Forge, which was located on the Pine Grove Run, on the property now owned by Mr. Thomas Farr. The first mention of the old Pine Grove Forge is in the minutes of the Mount Moriah Baptist Church, in Smithfield, showing that Richard Reed had loaned Thomas Lewis one hundred pounds of Pennsylvania money, and was to receive in payment four tons of iron from his forge. Previous to this he had been making iron, and Mr. Basil Brownfield said that he had always understood from old people that Pine Grove was the very first forge west of the Alleghenies, and Mr. Brownfield was raised at Smithfield, but a few miles from the location of this forge, and could remember back as far as 1800. Jacob Searing, when a very old man, informed Joseph Hickle that he dug ore for Thomas Lewis for a number of years before he failed, and the failure occurred in 1799. The earliest mention of this forge which we find upon the county records is in a mortgage made by Thomas Lewis to Philip Jenkins, of Georges township, in 1796, which embraced "all that certain tract of land, located in Georges township adjoining lands of Joseph Stillwell, John Shacklet, the heirs of Augustus Smith, and William Davis, with his forge, houses, and all manner of buildings." All of this tract of land was held by warrant and improvement.

At this forge, by the use of charcoal, they worked the raw ore into bar iron of unusual toughness. The ore used was specially adapted to their crude process, and was excellent when made into bar iron; it was what is known as the "Red Short;" the thickness of the vein is about two and one-half feet.

The forge property was finally sold at sheriff's sale to Isaac Sutton, for one hundred and forty-five dollars. After this sale by the sheriff in 1800 we find that Thomas Lewis mortgaged one-half of a four-hundred-acre tract, upon which was erected a forge, dwelling-house, etc. This tract was located on Georges Creek.

About the year 1789, John Hayden dug out what he supposed was limestone from the creek-bed of a tributary to Georges Creek, in Georges township. The location is said to have been on the line which divided the properties of the late F. H. Oliphant and Rev. Isaac Wynn. He attempted to burn his sup-

posed limestone, but found it would not work; taking some of it he went to an old blacksmith-shop which stood at the corner of an orchard on the property of Richard Reed, bought by the Leathermans in 1799, and at present in the possession of Mr. Joel Leatherman. Here he soon discovered that the supposed limestone was iron ore of the best quality. After making his discovery, Mr. Hayden hurried off to Philadelphia to see if he could there interest some wealthy person or persons in the manufacture of iron. We find he was successful in his efforts, for in 1799, March 31st, he entered into partnership with John Nicholson, State comptroller, under articles of agreement, by which a forge and a furnace were to be built and put in operation on land which had been purchased by Hayden, and on other lands in Georges township to be purchased of Joseph Huston, then sheriff of Fayette County. The result of this agreement, the completion of Hayden's forge, but failure to finish the contemplated furnace, will be found more fully mentioned in another part of this work, in the account of iron and iron-works in the county, as will also be found separate mention of the old "Fairfield," the "Mary Ann," the "Fairchance," and Oliphant's Iron-Works, which were erected at different periods in Georges township.

COKE MANUFACTURE.

This business has recently taken rapid, progressive strides in this township, and it is only a question of a few years until there will be a continuous line of ovens through Georges township, along the line of the Southwest Railway. Already the Fairchance Iron Company have ovens manufacturing coke, which they consume in the furnace. The "Fayette Coke and Furnace Company" erected extensive coke-works in 1881 at Oliphant's, and have now one hundred and thirty ovens in successful operation.

The "Marie Coke-Works," owned and operated by Bliss & Marshall, of Uniontown, are located on Georges Creek, about half a mile from Fairchance, on the land known as the Jacob Kyle farm, which is one of the finest mineral farms in Fayette County. Fifty or sixty acres lie on water-level. The ores are of superior quality,—Blue Lump, Big Bottom, and Red Flag,—all of them the finest of blue carbonates. The coal is worked from crop. The land on which this plant is located is admirably adapted in every respect for furnaces and for the manufacture of coke, being abundantly supplied with pure water from copious springs and from Georges Creek, which runs through the farm. The present number of ovens at these works is sixty, which will be increased to one hundred, giving employment to about forty men.

MILLS.

One of the earliest industries of the township was the erection of mills. One of the first mills west of the mountains was that at Georgetown, now Hayden-

town. Before the erection of this mill, and Beeson's, at Uniontown, the people went to Fort Cumberland for their flour. This mill was built, it is said, by Robert Peoples and Jonathan Reese, two of the most energetic business men of the frontier country. It was in existence at the opening of the Revolutionary war, and was owned by Philip Jenkins as early as 1787. Other proprietors have been William Nixon, Andrew Stewart, John Oliphant, Jehu Shadrack, who was succeeded by Andrew McClelland. Philip Victor, when he came into possession of it, remodeled it and sold it to Jehu Shadrack, after which it passed into the hands of William Swaney, who operated it a number of years, but long since it was allowed to pass into disuse, and is now but a remembrance of what it was in past years.

Near Smithfield, Jonathan Reese built a saw-mill before 1790, and it was at this mill that the timber was sawed for the Mount Moriah Baptist Church in 1785. At first horse-power was used; afterwards they substituted water-power for its propulsion.

Nixon's mill, now Abel's mill, was built before the year 1800. It was originally constructed by Moses Nixon, who disposed of it to Jefferson Nixon, after which it passed into the hands of Pierce Vernon and John Vernon, then J. Mackeldowney, who sold it to Bryson Abel, and it still remains in the possession of this family. This was an excellent flouring-mill in its time.

The Ruble mill was originally the property of Meshack Davis and Jesse Evans, and was a log structure. After Davis and Evans sold it, Lyons and Thomas Batt came into possession, and they sold to Nathaniel G. Hurst. In 1844, Mr. Hurst had the new mill built upon the site of the old one, the millwright being William S. Barnes. The contractors upon the framework were Robert Britt and Robert Britt, Jr. The mill was remodeled by Mr. Mickey. Mr. Hurst traded it to George T. Paull for a farm in Dunbar township about the year 1858. Mr. Paull disposed of it to William Mock, of Westmoreland County, from whom the present owner, Mr. Jacob Ruble, purchased it. He has remodeled it recently. It has been a good mill, and the water supply is sufficient to run it all the year.

Weaver's mill was built about 1806 by Charles Brownfield, who eventually disposed of it to James Downard. Other owners have been William and Henry Brownfield, William and John Ritenour, John Weaver, and the present proprietor, Jacob Weaver, who has constructed in recent years one of the best grist-mills in this section of the county.

About 1825, George Patterson erected what was afterwards known as Whistler's mill; it occupied a site near where Wood's tannery is at present located.

TAVERNS.

For the accommodation of the public taverns were established at a very early date. Soon after 1800

these houses of entertainment had increased until they numbered fifteen or twenty in Georges township alone. A considerable number of these were located on the Morgantown road. One feature of the hotels of that day was their peculiar signs; for example, Patrick Gallaher kept the tavern where he had as a sign the "Jolly Irishman;" Daniel Dimond, the "Black Bear;" John Emery, "The Green Tree;" John Chadwick, "The White Horse;" Moses Nixon, "The Fox and Dogs;" William Spear, in Haydentown, the "Cross Keys;" James Miller, in Haydentown, "The Black Bull." In 1791, Hugh Marshall was keeping tavern, licensed by the court of Fayette County; in 1792, Conrad Maller was added to the list; Caleb Hayes in 1793; John Chadwick in 1794; Joshua Jamison, 1795; Thomas Jackson, 1795; John Mintun, 1796; Patrick Gallaher, 1796; John Stark in 1796; Barnet Evertson in 1797; William Spear, 1798; and in the same year Paul W. Houston, Isaac Groover, Richard Whealen, Robert Brownfield; and from 1800 down to the present time the following persons have kept tavern, some for a brief time, others for a series of years: Samuel D. Bowman, Thomas Pugh, Joel Kendall, Jacob Hager, David Curry, William Moore, Lott W. Clawson, Nathaniel G. Smith, Joseph Lewis, Samuel Wiley, Aaron Joliff, George Traer, David Trystler, Nathan Style, Joseph Victor, Moses Nixon, John Thompson, Joshua Brown, James Miller, Daniel Dimond, David Victor, Joseph Taylor, John Emery, Otho Rhoades, David Hare, Thomas Iliff, James Bryant, Andrew Collins, George Nixon, David Parks, James Doran, Zachariah Wheat, Jacob Johnston, Matthew Doran, Nathan Morgan, David Fisher, Jacob Kyle, Elias Bailey, Joseph Kyle, Thomas Gaddis, John Richards, Peter Goff, William Campbell, Andrew McClelland, Aaron Stone, Thomas Stentz, John Hall, Henry Kyle.

DISTILLERIES.

Both previous and subsequent to the Whiskey Insurrection whiskey was the staple commodity of the country west of the Allegheny Mountains. The facilities for shipping grain were poor indeed, and the settlers of the Redstone country soon found that they could distil the grain into whiskey, and thus ship it in a form not so bulky and more valuable. Soon distilleries sprung up on almost every farm of pretensions, and a goodly portion of these establishments were in Georges township. Among the number may be mentioned John Vernon's, near Fairchance; Thomas Downard's, near Walnut Hill, in the Brown settlement. Moses Nixon had one at Fairchance at the time of the Whiskey Insurrection. Richard Reed had one at the same time, located upon the farm then owned by him, now in possession of Joel Leatherman. Col. Zadoc Springer had one at the same time. Squire Ayres had one at an early date. There was also one in Smithfield, one on the Smith property

near the Leatherman place, and Charles Brownfield had one as early as 1790.

MILITARY MEMOIRS.

Some of the inhabitants of this township took part in the Revolution. Prominent among these was Thomas Gaddis, who lived just on the border line between South Union and Georges. He was an officer in the Revolutionary army, and towards the close of his life he drew a pension from the government. Col. John McClelland was also in the Revolutionary war as an officer. His home was in the Brown settlement. Zadoc Springer was also in the Revolution, and held a commission. Others were Dennis McCarty, Joseph Stillwell, Robert Allison, William Colvin, John Pierson, Robert Hustead, John Bowen, Hugh McClelland, Alexander McClelland, John Hayden, and last, but not least, Tom Fossett, who was a soldier for many years. He served under Washington in the Virginia Rangers, and was with Washington at his first battle at Great Meadows. We next find him accompanying Braddock in his ill-fated expedition against Fort du Quesne, and finally in the ranks of the Continental army in the Revolution. Nearly all of these men served through the Indian wars. Col. Thomas Gaddis was with the ill-starred expedition of Col. Crawford in 1782, and returned in safety. In this same campaign Capt. John McClelland met with death at the hands of the Indians. Thomas Headdy was also killed in Crawford's campaign.

There were two companies raised in this community for the war of 1812; one was commanded by Capt. James McClelland, of this township, the other by Capt. H. Yeager, who belonged to that part of Georges township now forming the southeastern portion of Nicholson. The following are the names of the soldiers of 1812, as nearly as we can gather them: Basil Bowel, Stephen Pollock, Aaron Ross, Jeremiah Archer, Rezin Reed, Jacob Price, James Price, Cato Hardin, Joseph Eaton, Morris Morgan, Jacob Greenlee, Thomas Bowel, Joseph Thompson, John Getzendiner, Abraham Croxen, John Thompson, George Herod, Thomas Porter, John Trimble, John Gaddis, James Mallaby, James Abraham, Jacob Akles, Edward Coombs, John Coombs, James Hamilton, Thomas Devan, Caleb Brown, Melchoir Hartman, Thomas Reed, Hugh Tygart, Thomas Thompson, Jeremiah Kendall, William Parnell, Jonathan Parnell.

The soldiers in the Mexican war who were from this township were as follows: Jacob Farr, Daniel Koontz, William Pixler, Thomas Brawley, Davis Victor, Henry Bryan, John Sutton, Oliver Jones, and John Stillwell.

In the war of the Rebellion (1861-65) there was a numerous representation from Georges township, as

follows: Jacob Farr, Alfred Swaney, Ralph Jones, Jesse Jones, Jesse B. Jones, Robert Brownfield, James S. Brownfield, Zadoc Brownfield, Alexander Brownfield, Thomas Brownfield, Stephen Brownfield, Luther Brownfield, James Utt, Allen Mitchell, William Utt, Samuel Conn, Henry W. Moser, John Farr, William Sessler, Wesley Sessler, James D. Low, James Goodin, William Balsinger, John Hartman, Aaron Hickie, Lowry Campbell, George Campbell, Robert Deyarmon, Ewing Deyarmon, John Deyarmon, Capt. Ashbel F. Duncan, Lieut. James M. Husted, Lieut. Albert G. Hague, John C. Pastories, Washington Pastories, John Pastories, George Cover, Philip Hugh, William H. Swaney, Daniel B. Swaney, John Daniels, William Smith, William Shumabarger, Joseph Kinneson, George Low, William S. Bailey, Benjamin Marshall, Benjamin Showalter, Joel Reed, Henry O'Neil, Joseph A. Rankin, John Humbert, Benjamin Robinson, Rees Moser, Samuel McCarty, George Hardin, Samuel Artis, George Artis, Frank Abel, Oliver Abel, Benjamin Wilson, Jesse Wilson, Melchoir Hughes, George Fields, Calvin Burrier, Robert B. Cooley, Asa Cooley, James Pastories, William Yunkin, Henry Abel, Allis Freeman, Moses H. Freeman, Oliver Stewart, Lieut. Ethelbert Oliphant, George Hiles, Joseph Rhoades, Frederick Martin, Samuel Davis, Philip Miller, James Victor, Napoleon B. Hardin, Alexander Swaney, Andrew J. Hibbs, Sturgeon Goodin, Chaplain Andrew G. Osborn, Wilkins Osborn, H. M. Osborn, Isaac B. Osborn, S. F. Osborn, Alexander Osborn, Joseph Osborn, John Smith, David Grove, Peter Hughey, James Hughey, James Hugh, Moses Sangston, Joseph Sangston, Henry Reese, John D. Reese, Albert Woods, Kern Ward, Samuel Higg, William Higg, Andrew Humbert, Neff Hicks, Benjamin Black, Harvey Monteith, George Smith, John Thompson, George Hays, Josiah Mitchell, Ellis Mitchell, Albert Ramage, Duncan Ramage, Washington Ramage, Jarrett Tedrick, John Malone, Armstrong Doyle, Benjamin Jordan, Joseph Bedingover, Jackson Smith, Charles Deyarmon, Samuel Hague, William Hague, Lucien Leech.

Capt. James M. Hustead, of the Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, was brought up in this township. In 1862 he enlisted in Capt. Duncan's company, and was elected to the first lieutenancy. After Capt. Duncan's death he was promoted to captain. At the close of the Rebellion he entered commercial life, and has been very successful. He is at present the proprietor of the Dunbar store, and he and Mr. Isaac Semans have a store at Oliphant's.

The McFall Murder.—One of the most prominent features of the history of this township is her criminal annals. Here occurred the McFall murder, for which he was tried, convicted, and executed, being the first one who suffered the death penalty in the county. The statement of facts here given is from "Addison's Reports," p. 255:

"FAYETTE COUNTY,
"December Term, 1794. }

Pennsylvania vs. John McFall.

"This was an indictment for the murder of John Chadwick, on 10th November, 1794. In the morning of this day McFall was drunk, came to the house of Chadwick, who kept a tavern, and got some liquor there. One Myers, a constable, came there. McFall had expressed resentment against Myers for having taken him on a warrant, and had threatened to kill or cripple him the first time he met him. When McFall saw Myers he jumped up and said he would have his life. Chadwick reproved McFall for this. McFall rubbed his fists at Chadwick, and said he was not so drunk but he knew what he was doing. Myers soon went away. McFall went out after him, and again said he would have his life. Myers rode off. McFall returned into the house again. Chadwick bade him go home, for he had abused several people that day, and had got liquor enough. McFall shook hands with Chadwick and went away. Chadwick shut the door. About two minutes after he returned, Chadwick rose to keep the door shut; McFall jerked it off the hinges, dragged Chadwick out, and struck him several times with a club on the head. His skull was fractured by the blows, and he died the second day after. . . ."

McFall then fled to Virginia, where he was that night arrested by Robert Brownfield and one Jenkins. He would not admit them to the house at first, but upon their stating that they were neighbors and there was sickness he admitted them, whereupon they arrested him and brought him to Uniontown and committed him to jail.

At the Court of Oyer and Terminer, December term, 1794, an indictment was presented against John McFall for the murder of John Chadwick. The jury empaneled in the case were Wm. Taylor, Adam Dunlap, Jacob Lyon, Basil Brashear, James McCune, Robert McGlaughlin, Elisha Kerr, Thomas Rogers, John Work, Matthew Neely, Moses Wells, and Zadoe Springer. James Ross, of Pittsburgh, appeared for the defendant, and — Galbraith for the State. The verdict of the jury is as follows: The jury "do say that the prisoner is guilty of murder wherewith he is charged in the first degree." After conviction he escaped from the jail, and was apprehended at Hagerstown. He was executed in May, 1795, between two trees that stood close together on Douglas Thicket, or Douglas Bottom, on the banks of Redstone Creek, about three-quarters of a mile from Uniontown, immediately north of the Fair-Grounds. Col. James Paull was sheriff, and employed one Edward Bell as executioner. He was disguised, and not till years after was it known who performed the execution.

The Murdered Peddler.—Soon after 1800 a peddler stopped at a tavern stand in Smithfield, intending to stay overnight. John Updyke and Ned Cassidy were there, and they made themselves very agreeable to the peddler upon learning that he carried a considerable sum of money with him. They drank at this tavern and at the White Horse tavern until the convivial spirit rose to its highest degree. Proving hail-fellows well met, they persuaded the peddler to go to Hayden-

town with them. At a late hour the trio were seen starting for Updyke's, but were never seen together again, and the peddler was never heard of again. There was a field of Updyke's near his house which had a dense thicket in it. A man passing by there the next day heard cattle lowing, and saw them tearing up the ground and much disturbed; he went in to find out the cause, if it could be ascertained, and to his surprise he saw traces of blood and other indications pointing to foul play, and most likely a murder committed there. The place where a horse had been tied and evidences of its having been frightened were apparent. The gentleman secured the aid of a few others, and they tracked the horse to a pair of bars which led out of the field, and there they found the print of a man's bloody hand upon the bars, where he had taken hold of them to let them down. Updyke and Cassidy were never arrested. Soon after Updyke was taken down with a loathsome disease, which was said to have been superinduced by poison given him by Cassidy, who was afraid that Updyke would divulge the crime or turn State's evidence. He soon died a most horrible death. Ned Cassidy went West as soon as Updyke had died. He there committed another murder, for which he was tried, convicted, and before being executed he made a confession, in which he stated that he and Updyke had murdered the peddler, and after securing a handsome sum of money they sunk his body in Brownfield's mill-dam. William Sturgis has the confession.

The Polly Williams Murder.—This tragedy occurred at the White Rocks, in this township, May 12, 1810. Philip Rogers, the perpetrator of this crime, lived near New Salem, in the valley east of the town. His victim lived at or near New Salem. Rogers had been paying attentions to her for some time. Mr. Williams, Mary's father, was going to Steubenville, Ohio, to live, and desired his daughter to accompany him, but Rogers persuaded her to remain where she was, and, she being engaged to him, was influenced to do as he wished. The father of Mary Williams had had suspicions of Philip Rogers on more than one occasion. At one time Rogers tried to persuade her to accompany him to the river after he had seduced her, intending doubtless to drown her, but she would not go. One day he told her they would go to Woodbridgetown and get married. Accordingly they started afoot for Woodbridgetown as she supposed. Instead of going to that place they went to the White Rocks, a secluded place on the summit of the mountain. Here the terrible tragedy occurred which has since marked that place, and will for years to come distinguish it as the spot where innocent blood was shed. From those who were there when her lifeless body was found we learn the following facts: It seems that some persons were gathering huckleberries near by, and upon hearing her screams they ran from the mountain thinking it the screams of a panther. In a few days after there were some other persons near the

White Rocks gathering huckleberries, and they were attracted by the barking of a dog they had with them. Upon going to the place where the dog was, they found the murdered girl. Mr. Basil Brownfield¹ was present, and says that there were signs of the fearful struggle on the verge of the rocks, as though she had escaped from him and had run some distance into the laurel-bushes, where she had been overtaken by Rogers, and the place where the struggle took place was torn up for several yards around. She was a strong girl, and he could not drag her back to the cliff of rocks. It appears as if the struggle must have lasted several minutes, and that, fighting for her life as she was, she could not be overcome until the villain grasped a large stone in his hand and struck her on the head with it until she was insensible, then dragged her back to the precipice, but here she must have shown signs of recovering, for it seemed as if he was afraid to approach the summit of the rock and throw her over for fear that she might in the death-struggle drag him over with her. There is a passage-way to the base of the rocks, and through this there were indications of her having been dragged. He then went to the summit of the cliff of rocks and cast boulders down upon her. One of these stones Mr. B. Brownfield has in his possession; when he picked it up it had both blood and hair upon it. In the laurel thicket where the chief struggle occurred was found the bloody stone with which he struck her.

The news of the tragedy flew as though on electric wings, and soon hundreds gathered at the base of the mountain, where the poor murdered girl had been taken, and viewed the crushed and mangled remains. She was buried and afterwards disinterred, and the gentleman from New Salem with whom she had lived having arrived, he recognized her as Mary Williams. Soon after, Phil. Rogers was arrested, and the following mention of it is taken from the court record: "Commonwealth against Philip Rogers. Murder, a true bill. In custody, Jacob Moss" [the man with whom she lived], "for himself and wife, of German township, tent in \$200; Dennis McCuiker, of German township, tent in \$100; Moses Nixon, of Georges township, tent in \$100. Conditioned that they shall appear at the next Court of Oyer and Terminer to testify. August 22, 1810. Indictment for murder found at August sessions, 1810. November 22, 1810, defendant being arraigned, pleads not guilty. Issue and rule for trial. Same day tried and verdict not guilty. Same day prisoner discharged." Thus terminated a farce of trial by jury, and on a technicality of the law, together with the eloquence of Jennings, of Steubenville, Ohio (formerly from the vicinity of New Salem), the lawyer for Rogers, he was acquitted. Rogers afterwards went to Greene County, where he married, reared a

family of boys, and when his miserable life was ended his remains were refused interment in any graveyard.

SCHOOLS.

One of the first school-houses in the territory west of the Allegheny Mountains was the old log school-house located between Smithfield and Haydentown. This building was erected before 1780, and one of the pupils in it at that early date was Robert Brownfield, father of Basil Brownfield, from whom much interesting data for this history was gathered. A Mr. J. Jameson was the first teacher. Robert Ritchey, for twenty years justice of the peace for Georges township, succeeded Mr. J. Jameson as teacher in this ancient school.

About 1803, when the Presbyterian Church built their log church building, they also took into consideration the feasibility of erecting a school-house, so that their children might secure a rudimentary knowledge of the English language, and here alongside the church they built a rude log school-house, and in 1812, April 27th, they advertised in the *Genius of Liberty* for a teacher. The following is the advertisement as it appears in the *Genius* of that date: "A Teacher Wanted.—A young man who can come well recommended as a teacher of an English school will meet with good encouragement by applying to the subscribers, who live adjoining the meeting-house." Signed by Rev. James Adams, John Knight, and Moses Dunham, trustees.

Soon after 1800 the citizens living in the vicinity of where Leatherman's school-house now stands concluded to erect a building for school purposes. In accordance with this desire a sufficient sum was soon collected and a log building was erected, which served as a school-house for many years. It was known as Miller's school-house, and was located on the property of the gentleman for whom it was named.

At Woodbridgetown there was a log school-house. John Tedrick was the schoolmaster, and was succeeded by Phineas G. Sturgis.

Paull's school received its name from George T. Paull, who aided the enterprise by donating the lot of ground upon which the building was erected. After the passage of the common-school law at the session of Assembly in 1834 the educational interests took an advance step. At January sessions of court, 1835, Squire Ayers and James Robinson were appointed school directors for Georges township, and held their position until an election had taken place. Under this common-school law many schools have sprung up through the township, and one of these is Paull's. There have been two houses devoted to common-school education at Paull's. The first was a brick structure, and remained but a few years in use, until it was succeeded by the present school-house, which was erected about 1855. The teachers who have taught here have been William Johnson, Samuel Rotharmel, James Showalter, Milton Sutton, James Hol-

¹ When this account was written (June, 1881) Mr. Brownfield was living and in full possession of his powers of recollection. He died not long afterwards.

bert, Clayton Richards, Clay Showalter, Sallie Ruble, James Provance, L. Rhoades, Lizzie Abraham.

The Pleasant Hill school came into existence about 1840, the first building, like the present one, having been a brick structure. In this school Frederick Martin, Nancy Martin, Rev. William R. Patton (before entering the ministry), Samuel Rotharmel, Clayton Richards, and Altha Moser taught. In 1871 the new building was completed, and since then the teachers have been Dr. James F. Holbert, William A. Richards, James Provance, Oliver P. Moser, Aaron C. Holbert, Maggie Field, and I. Sturgis Stentz.

The Upper Haydentown school building is of stone. The teachers have been Henry Mitchell, Sallie Ruble, John Tamkin, I. S. Stentz, and Hannah Ruble.

The Lower Haydentown school was built about 1870. It is a brick building. The teachers have been Clayton Richards, Martha Robinson, Snyder Hague, John C. Miller, Sallie Ruble, and Leah Carothers.

The Three-Mile Spring school, three miles above Haydentown, was erected one year ago. It is a log school-house. The teacher during the last term was James Showalter.

The Leatherman school-house was built about 1840. The first house, like the present one, was of brick. The teachers in the old building were Lucien Leech, John G. Hertig, Clark Vance (who afterwards became a Baptist preacher), Rev. John S. Gibson (at present a Cumberland Presbyterian minister), Rev. James Power Baird (also a Cumberland Presbyterian clergyman), Samuel J. Acklin, Hugh Smith, James Henry Dougherty, James W. French (afterwards a Baptist minister), James W. Showalter, Albert H. Smith. In 1870 the old structure was torn away, and a commodious new brick was built to take its place. The other teachers have been James F. Holbert (at present practicing medicine), J. C. Miller, Isaac Coldren, Annie Oglevee, James Miller, Michael Franks, and Lizzie Black.

The Custer school was opened about 1840. The structure was of brick. In the old building the following persons taught: James M. Hustead, James French, William Patton, John Anderson, Amadee Trader, Sarah Conn, Albert Smith, and Lucien Leech. In 1873 the new school-house was built, and since then the teachers have been Isaac Coldren, James Presley Smith, William Fouch, and Oliver P. Moser.

The Deyarmon was one of the first common schools in the township after the law went into effect. Some of the instructors have been John G. Hertig, Robert Allen, James W. Showalter, Milton Sutton, William Nixon Canan, Joseph C. Stacy, Hervey Smith, Carrie Herbert, Abraham Humbert, Albert Hutchinson, Frances Mackey. This building has been twice remodeled. The latter alteration was done by the Uniontown Planing Mill Company, during the summer of 1880.

The White Rock school was organized in 1879. The teachers have been Hannah Ruble and Mollie Griffith.

The first building erected for the common schools was at Smithfield as early as 1836. The frame building is yet standing, but is no longer used for school purposes. During the past few years the directors have rented the academy for the use of the common school. The teachers have been Gideon G. Clemmer, Nathaniel Walker, Eliza Showalter, Joseph C. Stacy, George G. Hertzog (at present a professor in the California Normal College, Washington County), George D. Purinton, James W. Showalter, James Provance, A. C. Gilbert, Aaron C. Holbert, William Richards, John C. Miller, Lizzie Abraham, Michael Franks, Lizzie A. Black.

The Fairchance school was commenced in 1838 in a frame house. The new building, a brick one, was constructed in 1875. Revs. J. Gibson and J. P. Baird both taught in the old house, and since the new one was built the following teachers have acted as instructors: Leah A. Carothers, James W. Showalter, Jennie R. Griffith, John C. Miller, Martha Robinson, James P. Smith, Maggie Field, Lizzie Wilson.

The Walnut Hill school was originally known as Brown's school. The present house is the second within the past forty years; the first was built of logs, the present of brick. Some of the teachers have been J. P. Blair, Elias Green, — Frazer, Carman Cover, Noble McCormick, W. Osborn (now a practicing physician in Kansas), Albert H. Smith, Abraham Humbert, Mollie Griffith, Sallie Dawson, J. Newton Lewis.

GEORGES CREEK ACADEMY.

The Baptist Church in Smithfield saw, as early as 1854, the necessity of an academy of learning in the town. The subject was brought up at the monthly meeting. The Methodists and other denominations were willing to aid the enterprise, and thus the project took definite shape, and in 1856 the court at March sessions granted a charter to the Georges Creek Academy, and constituted the following persons a body politic to carry into effect the object for which it was founded, viz., "A seminary of learning." The original trustees were Enos Sturgis, Rev. Isreal D. King, Hon. John Brownfield, Dr. H. B. Mathiot, Benjamin F. Brown, William Conn, Isaac Franks, John Summers, Gideon G. Clemmer, A. J. Patton, Luther W. Burchinal, William P. Griffin, James Hess, John Downey, Rev. Caleb Russel, John E. Taylor, Aaron W. Ross. In 1856 the contract was awarded to Luther W. Burchinal & Co. to build the necessary school-house. In the spring of 1857 the academy was ready for occupancy. Since then the Georges Creek Academy has been one of the sources of knowledge for that whole community. Sometimes during its most prosperous sessions there have been more than one hundred students attending. The professors who have had charge of this academy are as follows, viz.: C. A. Gilbert, Mrs. C. A. Gilbert, Aaron Ross, Joseph Smith, H. H. Bliss, J. B. Solo-

mon, A. L. Purinton, Fannie Gerard, Miss Bryce, Carrie Mathiot.

Gen. Alexander McClellan had built an academy upon his farm long previous to the erection of the Georges Creek Academy. He used it for school purposes and also for preaching, but we will not refer to it here at length, as it belongs to the portion of Georges township which was given to Nicholson when it was formed in 1845.

After the passage of the act of 1834 establishing public schools, the January term of court of Fayette County in 1835 appointed Squire Ayers and James Robinson school directors. The amount of State appropriation for this township for 1835 was \$124.46½, and county appropriation \$248.93½. The township reported to the county treasurer Jan. 5, 1836, in compliance with the requirements of the law.

The subsequent school directors of this township have been Stephen Richards, William Moser, William Miller, Henry Bowell, James Franks, Frederick Roderick, Daniel Smith, Nathaniel G. Hurst, Jonathan Custer, Henry Brownfield, Jacob Haldeman, Henry Hayden, Isaac Harvey, Jacob Kyle, John L. Patton, Samuel Vance, James Hugh, Reuben Hague, Teagle Trader, William McCleary, Joseph Swaney, Ethelbert Sutton, John A. Sangston, John A. Patton, Humphrey Humphries, William Vance, Hugh Deyarmon, U. L. Clemmer, Joseph Moser, John N. Freeman, Moses Nixon, Alexander Swaney, John First, Wm. Sturgis, George D. Moore, Solomon Smith, Robert Britt, George T. Paull, Joel Leatherman, Henry B. Mathiot, William Hague, John M. Clark, Alexander Deyarmon, Peter S. Haldeman, Isaac Franks, Abraham Hibbs, John Swaney, Abraham Brown, William Custer, William Rhoades, Jackson Wilson, William D. Nixon, Warner Hugh, Otho Victor, S. A. Fouch, William Trader, H. J. Dougherty, William Shoof, Henry Kyle.

CHURCHES.

One of the earliest churches of the county was on the Philip Rogers farm, in the township, the property being now owned by the Fairchance Iron Company. The log church was built upon the summit of a hill, near the Morgantown road and the old Cherokee trail. The site commanded a view of the country eastward to the mountain, and westward over the valley then owned by the Carrs, now in the possession of the Colliers. This church was built before the Revolution. It was a German Baptist Church. Nothing is left to mark the location but a very ancient graveyard. When the Corbly family was murdered by the Indians in Greene County a messenger came to this church and informed them of that terrible slaughter. When the news was brought they were at worship.

Among the ministers who cared for this frontier church we may mention John Corbly, the father of the ill-fated family, Thomas Stone, Mayberry, David

Loveberry. It was the custom to gather in the morning and remain nearly all day at the church; the people invariably carried their trusty old flint-lock rifles with them, and were ever on the alert for their red foe. This building was eventually destroyed by fire, which originated in the forest. A few logs were left to mark the site of the ancient temple of worship. In 1820 these logs were visible, but within the space inclosed within the logs were walnut-trees of thirty years' growth apparently. One feature of the pioneers of this section evidently was their religious zeal, and it was handed down to their descendants, thus founding the Christian religion, and lending to this community all the prosperity attendant upon the worshippers of God.

Mount Moriah Baptist Church was originally a branch of Great Bethel Baptist Church of Uniontown. On the 30th of October, 1784, it was constituted an independent church, with twenty-seven members, viz.: William Wells, Rebecca Wells, Joseph Thomas, Jane Jenkins, Owen Davis, Hannah Davis, Joseph Brown, Abigail Brown, David Morgan, Robert Hanna, Ann Griffin, Jeremiah Becks, Dinah Becks, Thomas Bowell, Ann Bowell, Richard Reed, Sarah Reed, Ann Coombs, Eliza Carr, Eliza Ashcraft, Sarah Hardin, Jonathan Pane, Balthazar Drago, Margaret Wood, Philip Jenkins, Jesse Coombs, Abraham Hardin.

After the church had been organized the first pastor to preside over the congregation and minister to their spiritual needs was James Sutton, a brother of Isaac Sutton, then preaching for the Great Bethel Church. The messengers to the Association, Sept. 10, 1785, were Philip Pearce, Thomas Bowell, and Rev. James Sutton. At a business meeting held on Sept. 9, 1786, the following-named persons were appointed to meet at the house of William Archer, each one being requested to bring a horse, in order to draw logs to the saw-mill to make seats for the meeting-house: David Morgan, William Wells, Richard Reed, Jeremiah Beck, Charles Griffin, Philip Jenkins, Joseph Brown, and John Taylor.

Rev. James Sutton acted as pastor until May 12, 1787, at which time he was dismissed at his own request, to accept a call to the Mount Pleasant Church, Monongalia County, Va. Rev. Samuel Woodbridge was the second preacher for this congregation, accepting a call as early as March 1, 1786. At that time it seems to have been quite common for the churches to have two or more preachers at the same time. One would preach twice in each month, and the other minister would alternate with him. On the 3d of November, 1788, Rev. George Guthrie was chosen pastor. At this meeting it was decided to meet during the winter at the house of John Griffith; this was necessary on account of the church needing some repairs. Dec. 13, 1788, Philip Jenkins was appointed to assist William Wells in settling the ac-

count for repairing the church. Rev. John Corbly was the next minister, having received his call Dec. 13, 1788. On the 13th of June, 1789, David Love-borrow was called and accepted, becoming their fifth preacher. At the monthly meeting Oct. 10, 1789, it was decided to complete the carpenter-work on the meeting-house, and to meet the next Friday to plaster the house. Dec. 10, 1791, Owen Davis was appointed to lay out the grounds where the meeting-house and graveyard were, so that the graveyard could be fenced. At the monthly meeting, Sept. 8, 1792, Robert Hannah and David Morgan were appointed "to select men to put in joice at the meeting-house." At this same meeting a call was extended to Rev. Benjamin Stone, of Hampshire County, Va., who became their next minister. Rev. John Patton assumed the pastorate in 1811, and continued for many years in charge of this church.

It was decided Feb. 10, 1816, that "the congregation must have a new church." The old church had served its purpose well, and now the movement was to replace it with a more commodious brick church. Accordingly Richard Patton and Robert Hannah, Jr., were appointed to procure a lot for the same. Subsequently Michael Franks and Robert Britt were appointed to receive from Charles Brownfield a deed for the burying-ground and lot for the new church. The new church building was erected by Gideon Way as contractor and builder, and was completed in 1825. About this time Rev. James Frey was called to the charge, and remained pastor until 1831, at which time Rev. George J. Miles, of Milesburg, Centre Co., Pa., was called to preach for this people. On the 13th of February, 1832, Rev. Benoni Allen succeeded G. J. Miles, at a salary of \$150 per year. Jan. 12, 1832, Rev. John Thomas was chosen to preach once a month. In 1833, Eliel Freeman was granted permission to hold a singing school in the church.

Oct. 10, 1835, Rev. David Thomas was called to preach once a month, at a salary of \$50 per year. In March, 1836, a Mr. Gould was permitted to talk upon the subject, "The Abolition of Slavery," in the church. He proceeded to lecture, and considerable controversy springing up, it was thought best that he should not speak again in the church. When he could no longer secure the church for his lecture against slavery he procured a room in the house at present occupied by William Campbell as a hotel, and would have spoken there but for the timely knowledge received from a friend that a plan had been perfected whereby he was to be kidnapped and handed over into the hands of the Virginians, who were anxious to lay hands upon him.

In 1837 it was decided that the members of the church should hand in their valuation of property, and support the preacher according to their means. May 12, 1838, Joseph Grover, *alias* William F. Milsildine, of Medina County, Ohio, was called, and accepted the call at \$150 per year. After acting as

pastor for a time he became popular and married into one of the most highly respectable families in the church. Soon there came a report injurious to his character; upon inquiry it was found to be true. Upon finding that his true character was known he left the country and never returned. The succeeding preacher was Rev. J. W. B. Tisdale, who came Dec. 8, 1838, at a salary of \$200 per year. At the meeting of Feb. 9, 1839, an Auxiliary Mission Society was organized in conjunction with the "Monongahela Home Missionary Society." In this society Squire Ayers was made president; Enos Sturgis, vice-president; N. R. Walker, secretary; and D. Patton, treasurer. In 1843, Rev. A. J. Penny was called as pastor, at a salary of \$200 a year. The next minister was Rev. Caleb Rossel, who was called March 7, 1846. He was followed by Rev. J. M. Purinton, March 8, 1851. At the monthly meeting Feb. 7, 1852, it was resolved to open a Sabbath-school in the church April 1, 1852.

On the 13th of May, 1854, Rev. Israel King was chosen pastor. In 1855, John Sutton was appointed to take charge of the singing. April 12, 1856, Rev. D. B. Purinton was called to minister to the church, and he served until Sept. 12, 1857, at which time he was succeeded by Rev. A. J. Collins. In 1858, John E. Patton took charge of the choir. In 1859 the church purchased a house from William Hannah for four hundred and fifty dollars, which they converted into a parsonage.

For a number of years the church building, which had been completed in 1825, had been considered unsafe; accordingly the church concluded to erect a new house of worship. The following building committee was appointed: Phineas G. Sturgis, Jeremiah Burchinal, Luther W. Burchinal, Samuel Anderson, and William Conn. In 1862-63 the present large brick church was built at a cost of about four thousand dollars, one hundred thousand brick being required in its construction. The lot upon which it was built was bought of William Parshall, Esq. The new church was dedicated in January, 1864. During the two years required for the erection of their new house of worship the Methodists kindly gave them permission to hold service in their church.

This church has had since its organization in 1784 the following ministers: James Sutton, Samuel Woodbridge, George Guthrie, John Corbly, David Love-borrow, Benjamin Stone, James Estep, John Patton, James Frey, George J. Miles, Benoni Allen, John Thomas, David Thomas, Joseph Grover, J. W. B. Tisdale, A. J. Penny, Caleb Rossel, J. M. Purinton, Israel King, A. J. Collins, D. B. Purinton, J. M. Hall, Jonathan Smith, J. Moffatt, and William Wood. This church has licensed the following persons to preach, viz.: James Patton, Nov. 12, 1809; William French, Sept. 13, 1823; Jeremiah Burchinal, Sept. 13, 1823; William Wood, Sept. 30, 1830; Levi Griffith, Sept. 30, 1830; David Evans, Sept. 30, 1830;

John Rockafellow, Aug. 24, 1832; Abraham Bowman, June 8, 1833; Garret Patton, Jan. 13, 1839; S. Kendall, April 9, 1842; W. W. Hickman, Nov. 11, 1843; Lewis Sammons, Feb. 8, 1851; Benjamin F. Brown, Aug. 12, 1854; Phineas G. Sturgis, Oct. 7, 1854; George W. Hertzog, Jan. 13, 1855. Some of the secretaries have been Philip Jenkins, Jeremiah Sutton, Richard Patton, Moses Jeffries, Robert Hannah, Reuben Sutton, David Evans, W. Miller, Eugene Sturgis, D. P. Smith, Phineas G. Sturgis, T. J. Conn. Some of the treasurers have been A. J. Sutton, T. Burchinal, and Gideon G. Clemmer. The following were among the early deacons: Owen Davis, Feb. 12, 1785; Robert Hannah, Sept. 8, 1792; Jeremiah Kendall, Jan. 13, 1798; Michael Franks, Feb. 9, 1822.

TENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This church was organized a number of years before the present century. As early as Nov. 14, 1792, David Smith was licensed by the Redstone Presbytery to preach, and at once settled at the Tent and at Georges Creek. These two appointments he continued to fill until shortly before his death, which occurred Aug. 24, 1803. He was the father of the Rev. Joseph Smith, who has in his "Old Redstone" done so much to embalm the history of the Presbyterian Church. At the time when Rev. Smith was pastor over this congregation it is most likely that they worshiped in an old log house; but previous to 1792 this church had derived its name from the fact, it is said, that they worshiped in a tent. In 1805 the Union Presbyterian Church of Georges township bought from Daniel Dimond a lot of ground upon which to build a house of worship. They immediately proceeded to erect their church building, which was a large log structure. In this church they worshiped for a considerable length of time. About this time Ebenezer Jennings was their pastor. Rev. Jennings was raised on Dunlap's Creek, near New Salem, this county, and was a brother of the noted attorney from Steubenville, Ohio, who defended Philip Rogers, and was successful in clearing him in the Polly Williams murder trial.

John Adams was preaching for the Tent Church during the war of 1812. Then came William Wiley, who was pastor about 1820. Rev. Ashbel Fairchild took charge of the church in 1827, and remained its pastor for a great many years, during which time there was great prosperity. The church had decided to build a new church. In tearing down the log structure a melancholy accident occurred, which resulted in the death of Thomas Heddy and Henry Dimond. The weather-boarding on the western gable had not been taken off, and the rafters having been stripped of all the boards a puff of wind struck the gable and blew the rafters against one another, there being nothing to stay them, and before they had warning sufficient to save themselves they were caught between the rafters and were crushed to

death, and it was with considerable difficulty that their bodies were extricated. Mr. Dimond's residence was near by, almost opposite the present residence of William James. The pulpit taken from the old log church is at present used by a Presbyterian Church near Elliot's Mill, in Wharton township.

The brick building, the walls of which are yet standing, took the place of the former rude building, and met with no accident until April 14, 1878, when, as the sexton was kindling a fire for the morning service, the building was fired from a defective flue and was soon destroyed. The members of the church immediately set about rebuilding, and the contract was soon thereafter let to Fuller, Laughhead & Co., of Uniontown, who soon had the new church ready for the dedicatory ceremonies, which occurred Aug. 4, 1878, Rev. S. S. Gilson, of Uniontown Presbyterian Church, preaching the sermon, and Rev. S. L. Bergen being installed pastor. In addition to the names of the ministers already mentioned the following have preached for this church: Revs. Rogers, J. C. Hench, and J. B. Dickey.

The Rev. Ashbel Green Fairchild, D.D., was born at Hanover, N. J., May 1, 1795, and graduated at Princeton College in the class of 1813. He was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of New Jersey in April, 1816, and was ordained an evangelist by the Redstone Presbytery, July 1, 1818. He commenced preaching at Georges Creek in 1822. In 1827 he resigned from that charge, which was connected with Greensboro' and Morgantown, and was installed pastor of the Tent Church. He was the author of the "Great Supper," "Baptism," "Unpopular Doctrines," and "What Presbyterians Believe." He died June 30, 1864, after a long and useful life, and left a lasting influence for God and the right.

The Rev. David Smith, the first pastor of the Tent Presbyterian Church of whom we have any knowledge, was born in 1772, and after graduating at Hampden Sydney College he came West, and was licensed by the Redstone Presbytery to preach, Nov. 14, 1792, and settled at Georges Creek and the Tent Churches. He was the father of Rev. Joseph Smith, the historian of "Old Redstone." He died Aug. 24, 1803.

SMITHFIELD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This society was organized about 1819, by Dennis Batty and a Mr. Stevenson. The place of their meeting was at Dr. Sackett's residence, one mile south of Smithfield. James Smith applied to the preacher on the Redstone Circuit to organize a church, and a sufficient number of members having been secured the society was organized. At that time Redstone Circuit included all of Fayette County. The original members of this church were as follows: James Smith, Candacy Smith, Rachel Smith, Martha Smith, Freeman Smith, Stephen Smith, Mary Smith, Hannah Smith, Benoni Freeman, Mary Freeman, Lydia Dunham, Eve Sackett, Rebecca Cooley, Nancy

Griffin, Gen. Alexander McClellan, and, soon after, Dr. Sackett.

The preaching was continued at the house of Dr. Sackett for two or three years, after which it was changed to the house of James McCormick, who had in the mean time connected himself with the church. At sundry times they had service at Benoni Freeman's and James Smith's. The church had the service of a minister every two weeks. Henry B. Bascom, — Poole, John Watterman, Simon Lauck, and Thornton Fleming were some of the eminent ministers who preached for this church in its infancy. Occasionally the presiding elder would come to Smithfield. The most prominent of these elders was the Rev. Thomas M. Hudson. He was considered the most eloquent divine that ever preached in this part of the county. When it was announced that Rev. Hudson would preach the church would not hold the congregation, and hundreds would stand on the outside and listen to his eloquence. He not only possessed remarkable power and magnetism as a speaker, but was one of the best singers west of the Alleghenies.

In 1833 a camp-meeting was held in the grove on Gen. Alexander McClellan's place, on the hill above where Georges Creek Academy now stands. Gen. McClellan advertised that he would keep all of the preachers who came to the camp-meeting. This proved to be a great meeting, and thoroughly built up and established Methodism in the vicinity of Smithfield. Among the ministers who were present and preached were Revs. Drummond, George Holmes, W. Stevens. On Sabbath there were about three thousand people present.

Jan. 27, 1834, the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church bought from Thomas Gaddis a lot in Smithfield, containing nine thousand six hundred square feet, the consideration having been fifty dollars. The names of the trustees were Benoni Freeman, James McCormick, Stephen Smith, Thomas Batt, and Alexander Brownfield.

The preachers in this church have been, in addition to those already named, as follows, viz.: J. K. Miller, John Martin, John J. White, David L. Dempsey, David Hess, William Tipton, Hamilton Cree, Warner Long, Ebenezer Hays, Henry Kerns, Richard Jordan, John L. Irwin, Samuel Wakefield, — Gorden, M. Ruter, — McClaig, John S. Lemon, L. A. Beacom, Joseph Horner, Henry Long, William K. Foutch, William C. P. Hamilton, W. K. Brown, H. Snyder, Isaac P. Sadler, John McIntire, E. B. Griffin, Thomas H. Wilkinson, A. L. Chapman, J. L. Stiffy, Charles McCaslin, J. Momyer, D. J. Davis, Sylvanus Lane, M. D. Lichliter, R. J. White, John T. Stiffy, and W. L. McGrew, who is the present pastor. Under the pastorate of John T. Stiffy, in 1878, a substantial brick parsonage was erected at a cost of about fifteen hundred dollars.

This church has produced the following-named

persons for the local ministry: Henry B. Mathiot, James H. Green, S. E. Feather, and W. Richards.

The leaders of classes have been William McCleary, John Downey, R. C. Baily, William P. Green, John L. Whetstone, and Wesley Laken. At an early date there were others.

The stewards of the church have been Henry B. Mathiot, Ignatius Feather, Thornton F. Farmer, William E. Reynolds, James McCormick, Aaron Ross, J. H. Stumm, William McCleary, and P. S. Haldeman.

FAIRCHANCE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

This church was built jointly with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, about the year 1840. About 1855 the Cumberland Presbyterians sold their interest in the house of worship to the Methodists, and the latter church has until the last few years used this church building for their meetings. Recently the building has become so thoroughly unfit for meeting, on account of want of repairs, that the house has been abandoned. The congregation thought that it was not worth repairing, and have now collected sufficient money to erect a commodious house of worship, which has been already let to the contractors, and will be completed in the present season (1881).

Among those who organized this church the following members may be mentioned: Elias McIntire, Theophilus Ellsworth, John Means, Jacob Waid, John Pugh, Samuel Colley, Isaac Harvey, John Carr, Abram Hayden, and their several wives.

The ministers who have preached to this congregation are as follows: Denton Hughes, Peter T. Laishley, Amos Hutton, William Betts, F. H. Davis, Isaac Francis, Henry Palmer, Jesse Hull, James Phipps, John Tygert, John Rutledge, Milton Stillwell, Peter T. Conaway, Henry Lucas, George G. Conaway, William Wallace, and Edward A. Brindley.

FAIRCHANCE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This society was organized about 1840. Among the first members were A. J. Osborn, William Campbell, Solomon Smith, Joel Leatherman, Mrs. John Hayden, and Adam Canan. As early as 1830 there were some members of this branch of Presbyterianism in Georges township. Prominent among them were William Nixon, Isaac Nixon, and Judge Samuel Nixon.

On the property of William Nixon, now owned by Col. J. Robinson, there was a Cumberland Presbyterian camp-meeting held in 1833, and for several years subsequent. There were a number of substantial tents erected, and the arrangements were complete for camp-meeting. The Revs. Donnell, Bryan, Sparks, Bird, and John Morgan were present during the exercises, and preached to the large concourse of people that gathered to attend something new in that region. The church was much strengthened by the additions from the camp-meeting. Afterwards the members succeeded in building a church in union

with the Methodist Protestants, and had preaching for some fifteen years. During the time while the society flourished Revs. Andrew J. Osborn, James Power Baird, William Hannah, and J. Henderson were pastors over the flock.

WOODBIDGETOWN SEVENTH-DAY BAPTIST CHURCH.

This church was a log structure, and was built by the Rev. Samuel Woodbridge, somewhere near 1790. Mr. Woodbridge acted as pastor himself for many years. Enoch David was also a preacher here; he died Nov. 28, 1798, and his remains were interred at the graveyard near the church. Other preachers were John Corbly, — Stone, — Mayberry, and Thomas Hersey, who was chaplain of a regiment in the war of 1812. William Brownfield preached there sometimes. It has long since gone to ruin.

GROVE GERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH.

On Sept. 15, 1837, William Moser, of Georges township, sold to Samuel Ache, Ephraim Walters, and Daniel Moser, trustees for the Georges German Baptist Association, fifteen and a half perches of land in Georges township, for the purpose of erecting a church. In 1838 this church (a log building) was built. The families who constituted the membership of this church were the Bakers, Gans, Leathermans, Mosers, Aches, Covers, and Longaneckers.

The ministers presiding over this congregation have been Joseph Leatherman, Isaiah Custer, James Kelso, James Fouch, James Quinter, Jacob Mack, Joseph I. Cover, A. J. Sterling, and John Johnson. The two last mentioned are the present pastors. About 1861 the old log structure was torn down, and the site was used for the new frame church which is now used by the church. About 1860 there was a Sabbath-school organized in connection with this church, through the labors and under the superintendency of William Moser. It remained in existence some three or four years.

WALNUT HILL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

There was a society at Walnut Hill as early as 1815, and shortly after that (in 1821) they were successful in building a church, which they used for many years and then converted it into a school-house. The building stood near the residence of Mr. William Trader. George Watters was the chief mover in the organization of this society. Others of the original members were George Griffith, Michael Mink, Noble McCormick, Mrs. Michael Mink, Harriet McCormick, Mary McCormick, Catherine Griffith, Sarah Griffith, Elisha Griffith, and Mrs. Elisha Griffith. On the 17th of January, 1821, a deed for the lot of ground upon which the church was to be built was made by Thomas Downard and Barbara, his wife, to George Griffith, Michael Mink, and Noble McCormick, trustees of the church, the consideration having been ten dollars, for a certain lot from the tract of land called Thomastown, situate in Georges township, adjoining of James

Fouch and Joseph Hadden, containing fifty-eight perches. When this building had become so much dilapidated that it was no longer fitted for the purpose for which it had been built, the society held meetings at private houses and the school-house. About the year 1850 the members concluded that it was best to have a new house of worship. A subscription paper was started, and with such able men as John A. Sangston, John N. Freeman, Howard Griffith, and Andrew McClellan to aid in the progress of the work it soon took definite shape, and the elegant new brick church building in which the congregation now worships was built. John N. Freeman, John A. Sangston, Howard Griffith, and Andrew McClellan all aided with both means and influence to the project. Since that time this church has been very prosperous. The Sabbath-school, which was organized soon after 1850, has been kept up as a summer school. Mr. John N. Freeman bequeathed to the Methodist Episcopal Church five hundred dollars at his death. He was for a great many years actively identified with this the church of his choice. Some of the ministers have been L. R. Beacom, who was pastor in charge when it was built; Joseph Horner, Henry Long, William K. Fouch, William C. P. Hamilton, H. Snyder, W. K. Brown, Isaac P. Sadler, John McIntire, E. B. Griffin, T. H. Wilkinson, Richard Jordan, A. R. Chapman, J. L. Stiffy, Charles McCaslin, J. Momyer, D. J. Davis, Sylvanus Lane, M. D. Litchliter, R. J. White, John T. Stiffy, and W. L. McGrew, the present pastor. It has belonged to Fayette Circuit, and has been allotted the same pastors the other charges have had. Sometimes John Waterman, H. B. Bascom, John Fielding, Simon Lauck, Thornton Fleming, and other prominent ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church preached to this congregation. Some of the officers in more recent years have been: Stewards, John N. Freeman, James Lewis, William Trader, James Sessler, and Joseph Sangston; Leader, James Lewis; Trustees, John N. Freeman, James Lewis, William Trader, James Sessler, Joseph Sangston.

Squire Hayden has been a local preacher, and is connected with this church. In 1878, under the pastoral charge of Rev. John T. Stiffy, this church was remodeled and painted and papered at an expense of two hundred dollars.

SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

Perhaps the very first Sabbath-school in the township, and certainly one of the earliest in the county, was called the "Ore Bank Sabbath-school." Eliel Freeman was the superintendent in 1825. It was a Union school.

In 1842 a Sabbath-school was organized at Leatherman's school-house. Solomon Smith, Esq., was superintendent. This was a Cumberland Presbyterian school. For the past twenty years there has been a Union school at the Leatherman school-house. Dur-

ing this time Solomon Smith, Reuben Hague, Humphrey Humphreys, Esq., John C. Miller, and Lucien Leech have acted as superintendents. This school is in session about six months in the year.

The Tent Church Presbyterian school was organized about 1828, Eliel Freeman having been the first superintendent. He has been succeeded by the following gentlemen: J. Kennedy Duncan, Alexander Deyarmon, Alfred Stewart, William Custead, John Smith, and John Oliphant. It is a summer school.

The Fairchance Presbyterian school was opened by the efforts of Dr. Ashbel Fairchild, J. Kennedy Duncan, and Fidelio H. Oliphant. The superintendents of this school have been Fidelio H. Oliphant, William Pastories, J. Kennedy Duncan, Samuel Duncan, Joshua V. Gibbons, and Esquire Humphrey Humphreys.

The Mount Moriah Union school was one of the first in the field. Previous to 1820 Mr. Basil Brownfield attended Sabbath-school in the old "Log Meeting-house" at Smithfield. At that time Phineas Sturgis was the superintendent. At that early day there was some dissension as to the propriety of having the school in the church; subsequently it was held for a number of years at private residences. In 1852 the Baptist Church organized a school, and held the sessions in the "Brick Church." In 1838 the Mount Moriah Church held Sabbath-school services in the church for a while. Since the last organization, April 1, 1852, the school has been continued, and the place of meeting has been the church. The school is in session twelve months.

The Methodist Episcopal school was organized by William McCleary about 1850. The next superintendent was William P. Green, and since that time Dr. Henry B. Mathiot and John Downey have presided over the school in the capacity of superintendent. Under the superintendency of William McCleary the school made wonderful progress. He acted as its presiding officer until his removal from Smithfield. In 1861 the numerical strength of this school was one hundred and twenty-five. The number on the roll at present is in excess of one hundred. The school is in session all of the year.

The Haydentown Union school was organized as early as 1838, in the school-house, by F. H. Oliphant and Thomas Faw. Since then the school has had for its superintendents Rev. John McCarty and James D. Lowe.

Paull's Union Sabbath-school has been in existence for about twenty years as a summer school. Mr. George T. Paull was instrumental in securing its organization. The superintendents have been Phineas G. Sturgis, John E. Patton, Joseph Hickie, Andrew J. Stewart, George Miller, and Charles H. Mathiot.

For a number of years a Union Sabbath-school was in existence at the Fairchance Methodist Protestant Church.

The Walnut Hill Methodist Episcopal Sabbath-

school was organized about 1850. The superintendents have been Benjamin King, John M. Freeman, and Lucien Leech.

WOODBIDGETOWN.

This was originally Mifflintown, named, we believe, in honor of Governor Thomas Mifflin. It was then a town of some importance. Here John Hall, Joseph Taylor, Aaron Joliff, and David Trystler kept tavern. Col. Thomas Brownfield had a tannery soon after 1800; this tannery was built and for a time operated by Joseph Mendenhall. Benjamin Paine had here a carding-machine before 1800. There was an old school-house here. John Tedrick taught here, as also Phineas G. Sturgis.

FAIRCHANCE.

This place has grown with the increased prosperity of the furnace, until at present it is a town of considerable importance. In this town there are two churches, viz., Presbyterian and Methodist Protestant, and for a time there was a Cumberland Presbyterian. The history of these churches will be found under their respective titles. For a great many years F. H. Oliphant and others who were engaged in the furnace business have had a company store at this place. In more recent years the Fairchance Iron Company's store and those of Robert Goldsboro and James Shay have been doing the mercantile trade.

SMITHFIELD.

This town was laid out by Barnabas Smith on the 13th day of June, 1799. The tract upon which it was laid out was known as "Beautiful Meadows," and was originally the property of Jonathan Reese, who patented it Feb. 10, 1787. Barnabas Smith married Elizabeth Reese, daughter of Jonathan Reese, and through her received this tract of land. John Fisher bought a lot in the town, which was then known as Smithfield; his purchase was made on May 13, 1801. Another lot was bought by Samuel D. Bowman, May 30, 1801. The consideration he paid was fourteen dollars for No. 11 in the plan of Smithfield. Other lot-buyers were Robert Brownfield, Benjamin Wheeler, David Hartman, Isaac Groover, and Samuel Kennedy.

From the very first the name of the town was Smithfield. The Brownfields owned land nearly all around the town. About the time of the war of 1812 it was decided by the governmental authorities to open a post-office in Smithfield, and then the question arose, What should the office be named? Some were in favor of Smithfield, while others favored Brownfieldtown. To settle the matter in dispute it was left to the voters of the township to decide what the name of the new post-office should be. Robert Brownfield furnished whisky freely to one of the tavern-keepers, and Barnabas Smith gave an equal quantity to another tavern-keeper, and these gave the ardent freely to the voters. The day was almost gone, and no vot-

ing had been done as yet, when Col. John Oliphant put in an appearance on the scene, and seeing that the voters were too drunk to properly exercise their right of suffrage he mounted a store-box, and calling them to order he said, "We have met for the laudable purpose of giving a name to our new post-office, but as the day is far spent and I see no chance of deciding by ballot, now I propose to decide *viva voce*. I would like to accommodate both of the gentlemen with at least a part of the name. Mr. Smith's first name is Barnabas, but we all call him 'Barney'; Mr. Brownfield's given name is Robert, but we all call him 'Bob.' Now I move you that the name of this town hereafter be 'Barney Bobtown.'" The motion received a second, was put, and unanimously adopted. But the name of the post-office always remained Smithfield. The first postmaster was Andrew Collins, who kept the mail in his store-room. This was during the war of 1812. The mail was received once a week. David Campbell was mail-carrier, and made the weekly trip on horseback. After Andrew Collins James Caldwell was postmaster, and the office has been maintained ever since its organization, a period of nearly seventy years.

About the year 1800, Henry Whistler had an oil-mill where Wood's tannery now stands.

In and before 1800, Thomas Wynn had an oil-mill at Fairchance, and made flaxseed oil.

James Martin had a wagon-making shop on the Morgantown road for about ten or fifteen years. He bought from Edward Coombs, who erected it about 1830, and operated it many years.

Isaiah Jones made powder for a number of years at the works built by Jones & Sammons, about 1830, near Woodbridgetown. Some of their powder was used by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company for blasting purposes.

An old blacksmith-shop was carried on at the cross-roads near Deyarmon's, on the Morgantown road, for many years. Henry Smith manufactured powder on York's Run before 1800. Recently Jacob Ruble has erected a blacksmith-shop near his mill. It is in charge of Mr. Rhodes.

Israel and John Sheeler built a foundry, which was afterwards owned and operated by Stephen Richards, G. G. Clemmer, John E. Patton, and John McCurdy. The last named were the last operators as a foundry, after which it passed into the hands of Isaac Franks, who converted it into a grist-mill. He associated Jacob Ruble with him in the business. Some three years ago the mill was burned and never rebuilt.

John Semmes, Jere Archer, Lewis Grimes, John Getzendiner, Elijah Sutton, William Utt, Samuel Reese, Washington Reed, Jacob Fordyce, Daniel Fordyce, Johnston Divilbess, James Huhn, and Squire Bradley have followed the trade of blacksmithing in the township.

There have been two pottery establishments in the town. One was built about 1800 by Robert Brownfield. In 1803 he sold it to John Fisher. Another came into existence afterwards. These were carried on by Stephen Richards, Matthias Allensworth, Charles Brownfield, Jr., and Dunn & Clemmer. Both of them ceased operations long since.

The merchants of Smithfield have been Phillips, George Traer, Richard Patton, Andrew Collins, John Hagan, William Stewartson, Daniel Thomas, William Gans, Joseph Victor, Hugh H. Gilmore, Albert West, James Oliphant, Thomas Mitchell, Israel Painter, James Caldwell, Samuel Sackett, Stephen Richards, John Brownfield, F. H. Oliphant, Joseph Kyle, Thomas Ocheltree, Robert Jones, Joseph Hyde, James Schroyer, David Patton, William Walker, H. S. Sparks, William McCleary, James Davenport, John Worthington, Ignatius Feather, E. O. Ewing, Dunn & Poundstone, Sturgis & Burchinal, A. J. Stewart, Eugene Brownfield, Feather & Jacob, Thomas Conn, Mrs. E. T. Brownfield, Mrs. I. Feather, and Jacob High.

Drug-stores: D. Patton and William Brownfield, E. A. Hastings, John M. Hustead, John Moore & Co.

Saddlers: Henry Rockafeller, — Lockwood, William Campbell, Lewis Clemmer, Abraham Rogers, Allen Byers, John E. Patton, A. B. Crow.

Tin-shops: Eugene T. Brownfield, W. Woods.

PHYSICIANS.

Dr. James Todd was the first regular practitioner of medicine to settle in this vicinity. He commenced the practice of medicine in Smithfield in 1822. Since then there have been Emanuel Showalter, — Fleming, Henry Matthews, George Gans, Brown Brownfield, Henry B. Mathiot, U. L. Clemmer, D. Vowell, Samuel Sacket, Jr., Frederick Patton, James T. Beazell, James Holbert, Clayton Richards, William Longanecker.

DENTAL SURGEONS.

Drs. T. F. Farmer and Mr. Watson.

CABINET-MAKERS.

John Jackson, Thomas Gaddis, James Ocheltree, and Samuel Sutton.

COOPERS.

Lewis Sammons, John Downey.

CARPENTERS AND BUILDERS.

Henry Huhn, Mr. Phillips, James Vance, John Kramer, Luther W. Burchinal.

WAGON-MAKERS.

George Burris, Samuel Kendall, Orlanzo Lytle, Simeon Zearly, William Hannah.

I. O. OF O. F.

Gallatin Lodge, No. 517, I. O. of O. F., was organized under charter granted by Sovereign Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, dated June 26, 1855, and instituted

under D. D. G. Master David L. Walker, of Connelville, Pa., with the following persons as charter members: Dr. U. L. Clemmer, H. J. Dougherty, Capt. J. Hickman, J. E. Patton, J. D. Field, W. T. Goodwin, Capt. James Abraham, Maj. James M. Abraham, Enos W. Field, Simeon Zearly, Gideon G. Clemmer, G. R. Miller, W. T. Ellis, T. P. Burchinal, J. L. Showalter, H. B. Mallaby. The first officers were as follows: N. G., Dr. U. L. Clemmer; V. G., H. J. Dougherty; Treas., Gideon G. Clemmer; Sec., G. R. Miller; Trustees, H. J. Dougherty, L. W. Burchinal, James Abraham.

Past Noble Grands: U. L. Clemmer, H. J. Dougherty, G. G. Clemmer, G. R. Miller, J. L. Showalter, L. W. Burchinal, Enos W. Field, James Abraham, H. B. Mallaby, James M. Abraham, W. R. Griffin, B. F. Black, Simeon Zearly, W. T. Goodwin, J. E. Patton, J. D. Field, W. T. Ellis, T. P. Burchinal, J. L. Whetstone, J. M. D. Low, J. W. McCarty, W. H. Heston, W. E. Reynolds, J. W. Hugh, P. T. Sturgis, John Downey, John Martin, A. J. Miller, B. F. Martin, J. C. Miller, P. S. Haldeman, E. S. Hayden, E. M. Martin, W. E. Moore, Joseph Ewing, James Vance.

THE GEORGES CREEK TRADING COMPANY

was organized in 1816, to do a general banking and trading business in the town of Smithfield. The movers in this enterprise were James Brownfield, B. Stevens, A. McMasters, William Abraham, John Showalter, James Showalter, Basil Brownfield, and Richard Patton. Of these James Brownfield was made the first president. The clerk elected was Richard Patton, and the directors or board of managers were B. Stevens, A. McMasters, William Abraham, John Showalter, James Showalter, and Basil Brownfield.

The officers of the company were to consist of a president, clerk, and board of managers. Those first elected to these offices should retain their positions until the last Monday in March, 1817, at which time a new election was to be held. The capital stock was not to exceed fifty thousand dollars. The shares were to be twenty dollars each, payable in gold, silver, or current bank-notes equivalent thereto.

The banking-room was in the brick building then owned by Mr. Basil Brownfield, and now owned and occupied by Mr. William Campbell as a hotel parlor. This banking institution was in existence in 1819, October 10th (see Mount Moriah Baptist Church minutes, volume xi. page 22). In 1822, by action of the stockholders, it was decided to dissolve the partnership and discontinue the business, accordingly all the outstanding paper money of the concern was called in, redeemed in coin, and burned.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

The township was well represented in this office in the days when the justices were appointed by the Supreme Executive Council. The first occupants of the office after the organization of Fayette County

were Philip Rogers and Robert Richey; the latter gentleman served in this capacity for more than twenty years under appointment from the Governor. Others holding this office have been Andrew Oliphant, Enoch Abraham, Abraham Stewart, Richard Patton, Daniel Thomas, Stephen Richards, Samuel Nixon (at one time associate judge), Squire Ayers, William Abraham, James Brownfield, Solomon Smith, Joel G. Leatherman, George Hertzog, Thomas Trader, James Beeson, Alexander Brownfield, Thomas Williams, Humphrey Humphreys, Alfred Core, George Meason, John R. Means, Henry Hayden, Reuben Hague, Isaac Peters, William Conn.

Hon. John Brownfield, son of James Brownfield, was born near Smithfield, Dec. 28, 1808. On the 10th of January, 1833, he married Belinda, daughter of John Hustead. Both are living. Mr. Brownfield has twice had the honor of associate judge conferred upon him, serving in that capacity from 1852 to 1862.

Dr. Emanuel Showalter commenced the practice of physic in Smithfield some forty or fifty years ago, and afterwards went South, where he became eminent in his profession.

Alexander Clear was one of the early school-teachers of Fayette County, and a very excellent one he is said to have been. About the time of the war of 1812 he was engaged in his calling in the town of Monroe. He afterwards settled in Georges township, and taught for a number of years. He was a Christian gentleman, and was noted for his fine accomplishments as a penman. He removed, with his son Thomas, to Cumberland about 1845.

Dr. William Hampton McCormick, son of James McCormick, was born near Smithfield in 1826. After reading medicine with Dr. Smith Fuller, Uniontown, he attended Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, where he graduated, after which he began the practice of his profession at Donegal, Westmoreland Co., Pa., where he practiced for a while, and then changed his location to Grantsville, Md., and from there he went to Cumberland, where he has been practicing ever since. His practice has been a remunerative one, and he has amassed a considerable fortune.

Dr. James F. McCormick, son of James McCormick, was born near Smithfield, July 6, 1839. He received an academical education at Carmichaelstown, Greene Co., Pa., and at Georges Creek Academy, Smithfield, after which he read medicine under his brother Hampton and attended Jefferson Medical College. After completing his studies he located at Petersburg, Somerset Co., Pa., but afterwards went West, and commenced practicing at Quincy, Ill., and from there he went to Menden, Ill., and from thence changed to Fowler, where he built up a good practice, but his health failed, and he died there in 1874.

Dr. Alcynus Young McCormick, son of James McCormick, was born and raised near Smithfield. He attended school at Carmichael's, Greene Co., and

Georges Creek Academy with his brother. He then read medicine under his brother Hampton in Cumberland, attended Jefferson Medical College, where he completed his studies, and then located in Frederick City, Md., where he practiced during the latter part of the Rebellion. When his brother James became sick he located at Fowler, Ill., on the Quincy and Burlington Railroad, and is still practicing there.

Rev. Samuel Woodbridge was the founder of the town which bears his name. He came to this community at a very early date. He was the pastor of the Mount Moriah Baptist Church as early as 1785. Almost contemporaneous with the erection of the church just spoken of he built in Woodbridgetown a Seventh-Day Baptist Church.

Dr. James Brownfield, son of ex-Judge John Brownfield, was born and reared in the town of Smithfield, studied medicine, and is at present practicing in Fairmount, West Va.

Dr. James Holbert was born in Georges. He taught in the public schools for a number of years, after which he attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College, and is at present practicing at Fairchance.

Rev. W. W. Hickman was licensed to preach by Mount Moriah Baptist Church Nov. 11, 1843, since which time he has presided over the Flatwoods, Uniontown, and Waynesburg charges. He is a man eminently fitted for the ministry, and exceedingly popular and useful in his sacred calling.

Rev. George W. Hertzog was raised in this township. In January, 1855, he was licensed to preach at Mount Moriah Baptist Church, and since then has been actively engaged in his ministerial duties.

Phineas G. Sturgis was licensed by the Mount Moriah Church to preach Oct. 7, 1854. For a number of years past he has been engaged in merchandising, and is at present following that business, having as a partner Mr. Luther W. Burchinal, who has been for many years one of the most enterprising business men in this township. His occupation originally was that of architect and builder. He had the contract for building the Georges Creek Academy and the Mount Moriah Baptist Church.

Gideon G. Clemmer was prominently connected with the Georges Creek Academy and the organization of Gallatin Lodge of Odd-Fellows. A number of years since he went West, where he is now engaged in the banking business.

Dr. U. L. Clemmer was raised near Smithfield, practiced medicine in that town for several years, after which he removed to Brownsville. For a number of years he was editor and publisher of the *Greenback Banner and Labor Advocate*.

Dr. Clayton Richards was born in Smithfield, educated at Jefferson Medical College, and is now practicing in West Virginia.

Mr. A. J. Stewart has been one of the most enterprising and successful merchants of Smithfield for a number of years.

Rev. Joseph Leatherman came to Georges township in 1799. He was a Dunkard or German Baptist preacher, and was for a number of years pastor of the Grove German Baptist Church in this township.

Rev. Isaac Wynn, a Baptist minister, has always been a resident of this township, and preaches very acceptably to the people through this and adjoining townships, usually holding his meetings in the school-houses. He resides near Oliphant.

Rev. Andrew J. Osborn, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister, was raised near Fairchance. During the war of the Rebellion he acted as chaplain of the Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. He had six sons in the service. Four of his sons belonged to the same company he enlisted in, viz., Company E. He preached for the Cumberland Church at Fairchance for a number of years.

Dr. Frederick Patton, son of Alexander Patton, read medicine under Dr. H. B. Mathiot, and after attending the lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, he practiced for a while as partner of Dr. Mathiot. About ten years ago he went to West Newton, Pa., and located there, where he still remains.

It has been persistently claimed and believed by many that Gen. Sam Houston, President of the republic of Texas, and afterwards Governor and United States senator from that State, was a native of the township of Georges, born at Woodbridgetown, where his father, Paul Houston, was a tavern-keeper about the year 1800, and that the young Houston was in his youth a schoolmate of Basil Brownfield, in Georges. It is no doubt correct that there was a Samuel Houston of which all this was true, but that it was not Gen. Houston, of Texas, is rendered more than probable from the testimony of one who unquestionably knew whereof he spoke. That one was no less a personage than the Hon. Thomas H. Benton, United States senator from Missouri, who, in his "Thirty Years in the United States Senate" (vol. i. p. 676), says, "Gen. Sam Houston was born in the State of Virginia, county of Rockbridge; he was appointed an ensign in the army of the United States during the late war with Great Britain, and served in the Creek campaign under the banners of Jackson. I was the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment to which he belonged, and the first field-officer to whom he reported."

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

F. H. OLIPHANT.¹

"It is in men as in soils, where sometimes there is a vein of gold which the owner knows not of."—DEAN SWIFT.

Fideleo Hughes Oliphant was the third son and fourth in the order of birth of a family of ten children

¹ The steel-plate engraving accompanying this sketch is from a daguerreotype taken when he was between forty-five and fifty years of age, and is an excellent likeness of the original at that period of his life.



J. H. Oliphant

—four sons and six daughters—of John and Sarah Oliphant. Hughes, the subject of this sketch, was born on the 4th of January, 1800, at Old Fairfield Furnace, on Georges Creek, in Georges township, Fayette Co., Pa.) Of this old furnace, the rival of another on Jacob's Creek, Westmoreland County, Pa., for the distinction of being the first at which pig iron was made west of the Allegheny Mountains, in which both localities have zealous advocates, nothing but the cinder pile and some of the larger stones of the stack remain to mark the spot where its proprietors, pioneers in what has grown to be the great industry of Western Pennsylvania, saw and heard their first bantling heave and sigh.

His father, Col. John Oliphant, was born in Chester County, Pa., and his mother, Sarah McGinnes, born in Philadelphia, Pa., was the only child of a sea-captain, who was lost in shipwreck. Left an orphan at an early age, she was adopted by her uncle, the Rev. Samuel Woodbridge, of the Seventh-Day Baptist persuasion, with whom she crossed the mountains on horseback in 1778 or 1779, mounted on bales of goods strapped upon a pack-saddle.

Her uncle Woodbridge settled in Springhill township, founded the village which bears his name, built a church in which he preached every seventh day, and erected a dwelling-house, which in its day and locality was considered stylish and commodious. He preached without money and without price there until his lips were sealed in death. His remains rest in the old graveyard adjoining the church, and by his last will and testament he left some of these village lots for the perpetual maintenance of the church and graveyard in good order, which benevolent intention has been sadly neglected. Squatters and trespassers profane the sacred soil with which pious faith meant to cherish and protect "God's half-acre." Church and churchyard both feel the cold hand of time heavy upon them, and the colder charity of neglect chills every pilgrim to this sacred shrine.

Tradition says that Col. Oliphant and Sarah Woodbridge (she took her uncle's name) "made a remarkably fine couple" when they stood up before the venerable uncle of the bride to be united in marriage, some time in the year 1790. Their remains rest in the old churchyard at Woodbridgetown.

(Andrew, the grandfather of Hughes Oliphant, had his home in Chester County, Pa., previously to the war of the Revolution. He was a trader, and transported goods over the mountains on pack-horses, exchanging them with the Indians and settlers for furs and land, for there was no money there at that time. Gen. Braddock, in his campaign against Fort Du Quesne in 1755, pressed him and his pack-horses into his service.) When Braddock fell, mortally wounded, at the battle of the Monongahela, on July 9, 1755, he was carried on a litter swung between two of these horses, under the direction of Andrew Oliphant, in the retreat to Dunbar's camp, the rear-

guard of the army, where he died on the fourth day after the battle, and was buried in the road, near the site of Fort Necessity, where Washington fought his first battle, on the 3d of July, 1754. Tradition says Andrew Oliphant assisted in the construction and defense of Fort Necessity.

After the war he moved out to Fayette County, and settled on land near to Merrittstown. His remains rest in the graveyard of the Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian congregation.

John Oliphant and Andrew, his younger brother, commenced the iron business at Old Fairfield Furnace, and soon added Fairchance, on the same stream, to it. Subsequently to this they built "Sylvan Forges," on the lower waters of Georges Creek, near the village of New Geneva. They made pigs at Fairchance, and converted them into bar iron at Sylvan Forges; built boats, launched them on the Monongahela at Geneva, and floated their iron down the river to Pittsburgh and points below on the Ohio to market.

They continued as partners in business until 1816, when they dissolved and divided the property. Fairchance and Sylvan Forges being considered about equal in value, John gave his younger brother, Andrew, the first choice. He took Sylvan Forges, and the property was partitioned on that basis, without invoking the aid of the courts.

F. H. Oliphant's first schooling was in a log house, still standing in the back-yard at "Liberty Hall," where his father then lived, two miles from Fairfield and half a mile from Fairchance. The teacher was Thomas, father of Gen. A. G. Porter, lately elected Governor of Indiana.

His next experience was with Alexander Clear at Morris X-Roads school-house, where Col. Samuel Evans, the Morris, Hardin, Tobin, Gans, and Griffin boys and others were among his schoolmates. Here he learned to "read, write, and cipher as far as the single rule of three," and acquired some knowledge of English grammar, geography, history, and book-keeping.

After leaving Mr. Clear's school he went to Brownsville, in the same county, to attend a school of Rev. James Johnson, and while there, in consideration of boarding and lodging, assisted Mr. James Brading in his store mornings and evenings. He then secured the life-long friendship and confidence of Mr. Brading, and by his industry and attention to the duty before him attracted the notice of George Hogg, Jacob Bowman, and Joseph Thornton, leading men of that part of the county, and made them his friends for life.

This, with one session of five months at Jefferson College, where his older brothers, Woodbridge and Orlando, and subsequently his younger brother, Ethelbert, graduated, finished the course of his education before he was seventeen years old.

About this period of his life, financial trouble, the

result of too much lending of his name, falling upon his father, with the accumulation of years, he entered his office at Fairchance, and at eighteen years of age the entire business devolved upon him. He paid just debts and resisted the payment of unjust claims until all were settled and the property relieved.

On the 8th day of November, 1821, he married Jane Creigh, the oldest daughter of Samuel Duncan, Esq., of the Fayette County bar, from which came a family of eleven children,—John, Duncan, Orlando, Henry, James and Ethelbert, Elizabeth, Mary Louise, Jane, Sallie Ann, and Ellen. On the 8th of November, 1871, they celebrated their golden wedding at the residence of the oldest daughter, Mrs. R. P. Nevin, Sewickley, Pa., at which all the children living and many grandchildren were present. June 5, 1876, his wife Jane died, and he afterwards married her younger sister, Mary E. Duncan, who survives him.

In 1820 or 1821 he purchased Franklin Forge, at the Little Falls of the Youghiogheny River, hauled pigs from Fairchance, hammered them into bar iron, and with the fall and spring freshets floated the iron down the Youghiogheny and Monongahela Rivers to Pittsburgh, and sometimes down the Ohio to Cincinnati, selling what he could for cash, and trading the balance for store goods and provisions for the furnace and forge.

In 1823–24, in connection with two other gentlemen of Pittsburgh, he built the Pennsylvania (now the Wayne) Rolling-Mill, and not agreeing cordially with his partners, he sold his interest to Messrs. Miltenburger & Brown, returned with his family to Franklin Forge, and conducted the business there in connection with Fairchance for a number of years without a dollar of money. It was all barter and trade. Franklin Forge was a centre of business. His iron was the currency of the country. Farmers brought in their produce to the mills, traded it for iron, taking what they wanted for present use, and a certificate of deposit for the balance. His office and iron-house became a bank of deposit. There was no money in the country, and so this system of trade went on for years, the iron not leaving the warehouse only at the semi-annual freshets, when all on hand went down the river, and a new stock would accumulate at the warehouse. The wagons that brought pigs from Fairchance returned loaded with flour and other supplies accumulated in the mill at the forge. He has often declared that this was the most satisfactory period of his business life. But he looked beyond the beautiful hills and wild, romantic surroundings of the "Little Falls" for wider fields and deeper mines. He saw the day of the forge-fire and the tilt-hammer passing away, and in 1832 sold Franklin Forge to Messrs. Miltenburger & Brown, of Pittsburgh.

Leaving his family in Uniontown he started for Tennessee, with a view of entering into the iron business there with Messrs. Yateman, but not being pleased with the situation, he returned to Cincinnati,

purchased a steam-engine and the option of a lot of land in Covington, rented a house in Cincinnati, and made other arrangements for building a rolling-mill.

Coming home, he yielded to the eloquent pleadings of the gray hairs of his father and mother and the tears of his sisters, abandoned the Cincinnati scheme, brought the engine to Fairchance, and in the fall of 1832 commenced building a rolling-mill, nail-factory, etc., alongside the furnace, which in the spring and summer of 1833 were in full operation.

He made a superior article of iron and nails. They became popular as soon and as far as they were known, and these iron-works went on through good times and hard without a strike or stop, except for necessary repairs, until after the property was sold to a New York company in 1870–71.

In hard times dicker and trade was resorted to again, as in previous years at "Little Falls." Wagons were loaded at the works, started on the old National road, selling in the towns through which they passed, and the balance converted into store goods and groceries in Baltimore. These in turn were loaded into the wagons to "plod their weary way" back to the works.

He had coal and iron ore and limestone in the ground, and timber for charcoal in the mountains. He had only labor to pay for. The raw material went into the furnace, and came out bar iron and nails at the other end of the same building, almost without getting cold in the process. When times were hard and iron was dull, selling for cost, or less than cost, the store made a little profit, or made up the loss.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad having made its way out to Cumberland, these tactics had to be and were changed to another direction. The surplus of iron accumulated at the works was shipped on steamboats at Brownsville, and bartered and traded down the river for anything that would be useful at the works, or for which there was a market in New Orleans. There the balance of the iron and such other freights as had been collected by the way were converted into sugar, coffee, tobacco, etc., one part being shipped up the river by steamboats for the works, another shipped by sea to Baltimore and sold or exchanged for dry-goods, which in turn found their way to Fairchance.

In 1848 he purchased "Springhill Furnace," and in 1870 sold two-thirds of both these properties to a New York company, and subsequently sold the other third to the same parties. He seemed then to be entirely out of active business, but in the mean time he had purchased the "Sunnies Brae" property, on the Southwest Branch, Pennsylvania Railroad, from the heirs of Moses W. Nixon, and the site being eligible, and the building of the railroad secured, visions of another furnace soon began to float through his brain.

In the summer of 1875 he commenced preparations, and in the fall and winter of 1875–76 built "Oliphant

Furnace," on the Sunnie Brae property, getting into operation early in the summer of 1876, but this venture did not prove a success. The times were too hard to make money on pig iron, and to add to other drawbacks, in the night of the 7th of November, 1878, the furnace buildings took fire and burned down, and on the 11th of the same month he sold the Sunnie Brae and Oliphant Furnace property to his son Duncan, who at once rebuilt the furnace, put it in operation again in the early spring, added numerous improvements in the way of dwelling-houses for hands, new hot-blast, etc. Under this management it was continued in blast until November, 1880, when it was again sold to the Fayette Coke and Coal Company.

While operating "Franklin Forge" Mr. Oliphant introduced a new process in making iron between the pig and the forge fire or puddling oven, which he called refining, blowing the iron in an open coke fire. It was a very simple and inexpensive addition, was an economy in the end, and improved the quality of the iron.

While in Tennessee he was the first to think of and suggest placing the engine boilers at the top of the furnace stack, instead of consuming and wasting large quantities of wood or other fuel under them on the ground below. Among other improvements he adopted this plan when he came into possession of "Springhill Furnace," where the stone coal was not of a very good quality or very plenty.

In 1836-37 he successfully experimented, and, as is claimed, was the first iron man in the United States who had a real and substantial success in making iron in any considerable quantity with coke. He was not well prepared for this experiment; the furnace stack was old, built for cold blast and charcoal, and but little alteration was made in the blast. The furnace ran a blast of about five months on coke, making a fair quality of iron, good enough for nails, but, although he rolled and piled the iron and then rolled it again, it was not "Oliphant's iron." Timber was still plenty for charcoal, and he went back to his first love.

In the spring of 1837 he deposited in "Franklin Institute" of Philadelphia specimens of the ore, coal, and limestone, and iron and nails made from these raw materials, where they still remained at last accounts, and although the managers conceded that he had substantially earned the medal offered in 1835 it was not awarded, on the technicality that the iron had not been made within the time limited in the offer.

The superior quality of Mr. Oliphant's iron was indisputable. L. W. Stockton, president of the "National Road Stage Company," used large quantities of it at their "stage-yard" in Uniontown, and although they were not on friendly terms, he often declared emphatically that "Oliphant made the best iron that ever went into a stage-coach." Through

Mr. Stockton it was introduced to the notice of the War and Navy Departments, where it more than stood every test to which it was subjected, and he sold hundreds of tons to the government for gun-barrels and chain-cables.

In this connection his iron came under the observation of Asbury Kimble, a very ingenious and intelligent man, who believed from its quality that it would make good steel. He visited the works, and the result was the building of a steel furnace at Fairchance in the fall of 1837, in which a good quality of steel was made from this iron. But consumers would not believe it to be as good as the imported; there was little or no sale for it. The enterprise was abandoned, leaving Mr. Oliphant with a stock of steel on hand of his own make large enough to last him for the rest of his business life at Fairchance. He used none other,—the best proof of its good quality.

"F. H. Oliphant inherited all the nobler traits of character which distinguished his father. He was particularly noted for kindness to those in his employ. In their temporal welfare he manifested a deep personal interest. He built comfortable homes for them, planted fruit-trees in their yards, and in every way sought to assist them in lightening the burdens of a toilsome life. He has made tens of thousands for others where he has made hundreds for himself."¹

"The subject of this notice was no ordinary man; he was a remarkable man, and his entire business career, throughout a long life of untiring energy and unselfish and unflinching integrity of purpose, has shown it. In addition to his regular business at times he took hold of others, such as plying steamboats between Pittsburgh and Western and Southern ports. Before the railroads pierced the Allegheny Mountains he owned and ran a fast wagon line between Cumberland and Wheeling. This line carried only fast freight, and soldiers during the Mexican war. His wagons were lighter than the ordinary *regulars*, and were drawn by mule teams, which were changed at fixed points along the road.¹

"Perhaps there was no wider known, or more generally respected gentleman in all his time in this county. Of active habits, he did much to develop the mineral wealth of this section of the State, and its people are largely indebted to him for the prominent part he has all the time taken in building up its interests and promoting its welfare."¹

On the 16th of April, 1870, "about one hundred of his employes, men, women, and children, and a sprinkling of neighbors and friends, assembled in the rolling-mill, and sent for Mr. Oliphant. When he walked into the mill he was naturally very much surprised, and inquired what it all meant. This inquiry was hastily answered by the Rev. Peter T. Lashley, who mounted a store box, and after making a neat and appropriate address, presented him, for the

¹ American Standard of Feb. 24, 1870, and March 13, 1879.

people assembled, with a valuable gold-headed cane. When the speaker handed the old captain the cane in token of the donors' respect, the venerable gentleman of iron constitution, as well as manufacturer, read the inscription carefully, and while tears trickled down his cheeks he said, in words ever to be remembered, 'My friends, I have not words to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks and gratitude for this valuable expression of your regard.' The boys threw up their caps and cheered, while the old men and women went forward and grasped his honest hand with the expression, 'God bless you!' trembling on every tongue. After a few side remarks, they passed out, with tears of sorrow and affection flowing profusely down their cheeks. There were but few dry eyes in the crowd."¹

In his private life and in his family he was kind and affectionate, consulting more the convenience and comfort of others than his own. With strangers and those who did not understand him he was supposed to be harsh and severe in his nature; but he was a man of deep and strong feelings, and in a way was very sensitive, though a proud reserve kept the secret of this quality so close that few suspected it was there. He was of strong physique, and of extraordinary powers of endurance, often surpassing those of young and vigorous men, working his brain and his body as unsparingly as if they had been machines made of his own iron, insensible to the pleasures or necessity of rest. His manner was sometimes brusque, and more decided than the occasion seemed to require. His words were outspoken frankness when he had anything to say, and sometimes gave offense when none was intended. Always ready to forgive an injury, he was a firm and constant friend, and, like his father before him, seriously damaged his fortune "by the too much lending of his name." Of great moral and physical strength and courage, he "dared do all that might become a man," feeling, with the great poet of nature, that "he who dared do more was none." Strong in his convictions, he was hard to move from them. Impressed by the precepts and the examples of his father and uncle, he naturally fell into political ranks adverse to the Democratic party, but not to Democratic ideas, and remained so through life. Of iron nerve, he seldom gave outward signs of emotion, and those who knew him best can recall but one or two instances in which he was known to have been unmanned. In his younger days he was fond of military parades and displays, loved poetry, and could to the last recite long passages from Scott and Burns. Especially fond of the old Scotch songs, when he was well stricken in years and had an evening at home his daughters charmed the hours away with the music and words of the same airs and lines with which his "Bonnie Jane" chained his heart and hand "in days o' auld lang syne."

From the outbreak to the close of the war of the Rebellion he was intensely loyal to the Union, and nearly depleted his iron-works of hands to put men in the field; nor did he spare his own family. When taking leave of his son Duncan, starting with his company into service, he said, "Go, my son, and do your duty; I would rather see you in an honored grave than hear that you had faltered." There was no tear in his eye, only the faintest tremor on his lip; then added, "I once heard your grandfather say 'No one of the name ever turned his back on a friend or an enemy;' you will not be the first to break the chain. Farewell."

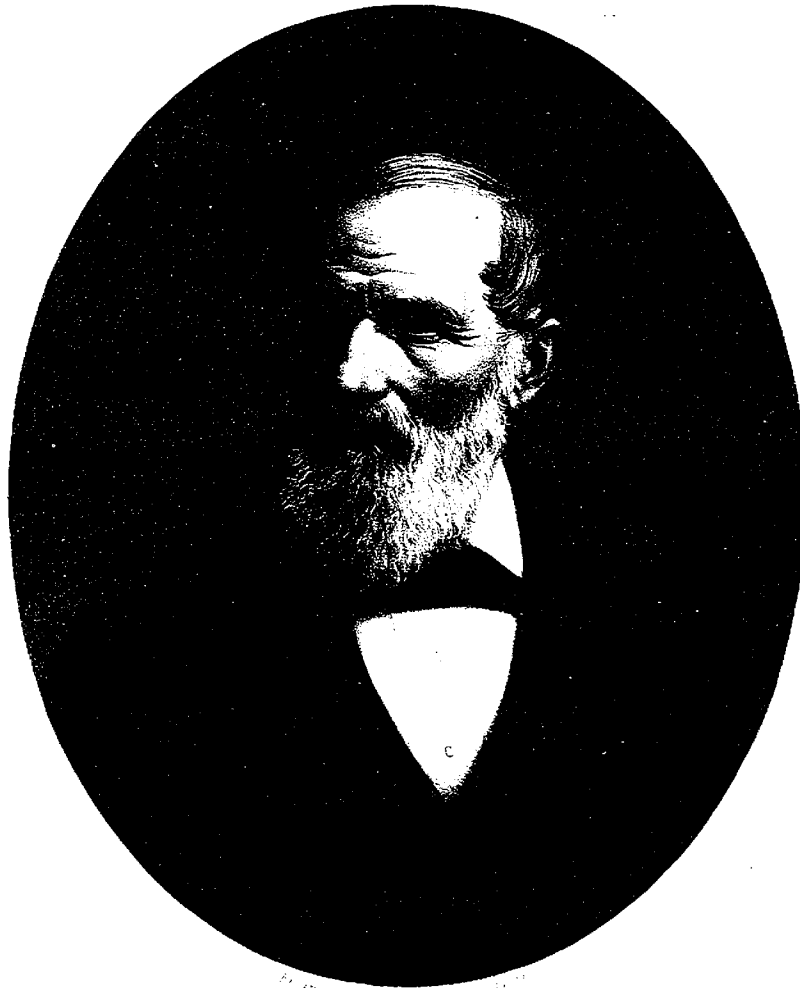
One of the instances in which he was known to have been unmanned was when the cane was presented to him on retiring from business. He was quite unnerved with emotion: sweet and sad memories seemed to crowd upon him, and the strong man, like Jacob of old, "lifted up his voice and wept" tears of joy and grief. And again when the death of his youngest son, "Bertie," at Yorktown, was announced to him, his head sank upon his wife's shoulder; they mingled their tears and sobbed aloud together for their "Benjamin" of eleven children.

It was no unusual thing for him to mount his horse (famous old Marmion, almost as well known through the county as his rider) in the evening after a hard day's work at the forge, ride to Pittsburgh, thirty-five miles away, for breakfast, be on foot all day long, and home again for breakfast next morning; and this often occurred with him in his business between the "Little Falls" and Fairchance. He said he could "sleep quite refreshingly a good part of the time on old Marmion."

About the year 1820-21, in company with other young men of the locality, he raised and organized the "Fayette Cavalry," of which he was elected captain; commanded the company until he moved to Pittsburgh, and after two years' absence, returning to Fayette, he was again elected captain, and continued in command until 1836. Nor had his military proclivities entirely forsaken him when the war broke out in the spring of 1861. He raised and organized a company of mounted men for any service that might fall to it at home or in the field, in which some of his old comrades of the Fayette cavalry joined him.

Hearing that the "Black Horse Cavalry" was plundering Northwestern Virginia and threatening Morgantown, he loaded wagons with provisions, mustered his troop, and started for them. "By the time they reached the Cheat River the command had swelled to two hundred. This advent into West Virginia was greeted with the greatest enthusiasm. The women rushed into the roads, throwing up their hands, and shouting, 'The Pennsylvanians have come! the Pennsylvanians have come!' When he reached Grafton the accession to his force had augmented it to five hundred. There was but little

¹ Uniontown Democrat, Dec. 11, 1879.



A. B. Mathiot

military discipline among the men, but they were all well armed and good marksmen, and to a body of irregulars, like themselves, would have proved no insignificant foe. The rebels abandoned Grafton as they entered it, and there seeming no further use for them they returned home."¹ It is believed this unauthorized raid saved West Virginia to the Union. This troop maintained its organization throughout the war.

There were four things he disliked with a cordial hatred,—whisky, tobacco, a lawsuit, and Gen. Jackson. Once, and only once, a candidate before the people for office, he ran as the Whig candidate for Congress in 1838 against Enos Hook, Esq., a lawyer of Waynesburg, Greene Co., and, as he expected, was badly beaten, but his candidature well illustrates one of these three traits of his character. Being accosted one day by a man who was drunk, he said, "Go 'way, Jack, you are drunk; I won't shake hands with you." A friend suggested "that was no way to be a candidate." He answered, "I can't help it; I won't be seen shaking hands with a drunken man, and if I can't be elected except at the expense of my self-respect I shall stay at home."¹

He banished whisky from the furnace and works, so far as he could control it, from the start. Tobacco was a necessary of life with furnace men, almost as urgent as bread itself, and he had to endure it. His dislike of lawsuits resulted in part from the fact that they would not always go his way, and then the law, the court, the jury, and the lawyers would be all wrong, and he never could get it through his head, although he had a brother and a son at the bar, that lawyers half earned their fees.

His dislike of Gen. Jackson commenced with the high hand with which he carried things in Florida,—hanging Arbuthnot and Ambruster, and imprisoning the Spanish commissioner, Callava, in Monroe's administration, and for some irregularity or failure of memory on the general's part in regard to an order for a number of large iron salt-pans, evaporators, which he ordered while stopping over night in Uniontown, on his way to Washington, as a member of Congress, to be made at Fairchance, to be boated down the river to the mouth of the Tennessee, on the Ohio. He also disliked him later on account of his war on the tariff and the Bank, which he firmly believed would ruin the business prosperity of the country.

When Jackson was a candidate for President there were frequent animated tilts between him and his sister Juliet, who, in sympathy with her husband, Capt. James A. McClelland, was a stalwart Jackson *man*, and on one occasion, when words were running higher between them than she liked, their mother laid her command upon them to stop, and said, "Hughes, you are a good deal of a Gen. Jack-

son yourself when you have the power, and Juliet you are entirely too much of a politician for a woman."

Growing warm in a discussion during the war, he declared a wish "that old Jackson was back to shoot down rebels and hang up traitors to the Union." "What!" said some one present, "would you bring old Jackson back?" "Yes, to save the Union," was the answer. "Forgive him his war on the tariff and the Bank?" "Yes; and the salt-pans too; anything to punish Rebellion and save the Union," was his reply.

Within a year after the sale of the "Oliphant Furnace" property he began to fail in physical health, and the decline continued until his lamp of life went out on the morning of the 10th of November, 1879, at the residence of his oldest son, John, on the Sunnie Brae farm, within two miles of Fairfield, where he was born, within two miles of Fairchance, where he toiled, and within the sight of his last lingering look upon earth he could see over the intervening woods and vales the "old Tent Church" in which he and his wife together, in 1825, professed the faith in which they lived and died, and in which he became a ruling elder in 1838.

On the 12th of November, 1879, he was borne from the Presbyterian Church in Uniontown, where the funeral services were conducted by the Revs. S. S. Bergen and Isaac Wynn, by six of his grandsons, and buried in Oak Grove Cemetery.

HENRY BERNARD MATHIOT, M.D.

Dr. Mathiot, of Smithfield, was born at Connells-ville, Fayette Co., Pa., Aug. 31, 1815. He is of French ancestry, having descended from a French officer who, at the time of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, obeyed the voice of conscience rather than that of the king and charged on the priests with his regiments, for which he was compelled to fly from France. But the king, winking at his official misconduct, furnished him a letter intended to serve as a warrant of immunity from civil arrests, and he returned to France seeking to regain his estates. The family still found France dangerous ground on account of the priests, and Jean Mathiot, grandfather of the doctor, emigrated to America in 1754, settling in Lancaster, Pa. He had the previous year married Catharine Margaret Bernard, daughter of Hon. Jean James Bernard, mayor of Dampierre, France. They had three sons,—Christian, who located in Baltimore, John, who remained in Lancaster, and George, who was the father of the subject of this sketch.

George Mathiot was born Oct. 13, 1759, and raised in Lancaster, Pa., where he enlisted in the patriot army Nov. 18, 1776, and served until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He then located at Elk Ridge Landing, near Ellicott's Mills, Md., where he was married Oct. 31, 1787, to

¹ *American Standard*, Nov. 13, 1879.

Ruth Davies, daughter of Joshua Davies, of Anne Arundel County, Md. This lady was a Quakeress, a perfect type of the gentle but strong character we are accustomed to associate with the sect to which she belonged. In 1796 they moved west of the mountains and located in Connellsville, Fayette Co., Pa., where they resided until his death, which occurred April 4, 1840, at the advanced age of eighty-one. He was a man prominent in his day in affairs of church and State. He was commissioned in 1800 justice of the peace for Bullsken township by Governor Thomas McKean, to serve "so long as you behave yourself well," and served until the infirmities of age compelled him to relinquish the office. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His house was the home for itinerant ministers, whom his Quaker wife cordially and kindly entertained. George Mathiot was the father of eleven children, viz.: Jacob D., Eliza, Catharine, Mary, Joshua D., Cassandra, John, Susan, Ann M., George F., and Henry B. Of these but two are now living, namely, Ann M. Dorsey, widow of George W. Dorsey, who now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Stephenson, of Parkersburg, W. Va., and Henry B., the youngest of the family. Some of them were prominent in business life and public affairs, and all lived to raise families.

Dr. Mathiot's oldest brother, Col. Jacob D. Mathiot, was well known among the business men of Western Pennsylvania, being extensively engaged in the manufacture of iron at Ross Iron-Works, Westmoreland County. He represented this county in the State Legislature in the session of 1833-34.

Another brother, Joshua D. Mathiot, located while a boy in Newark, Ohio. He became a lawyer, and represented his district, then the Thirteenth, in the United States Congress in 1841-42, refusing a reelection. A daughter of this gentleman married the distinguished Dr. Cuyler, of Brooklyn, N. Y. The doctor's eldest sister, Eliza Mathiot, married Col. Davidson, an officer of the war of 1812. Col. Davidson was in Hull's command at the time of the surrender of Detroit, and marched out the forces immediately under his command and escaped.

Dr. Mathiot had only the advantages of a common-school education, and began life on his own account when, as a boy, he left home with his wardrobe in a cotton handkerchief and fifty cents in his pocket, walking forty miles in a deep snow to accept a position as clerk in the office of his brother at Ross Iron-Works. The courage and self-reliance here displayed in the youth foreshadowed the indomitable energy that has enabled the man to achieve success against every obstacle. In 1837 he went to Newark, Ohio, and entered the office of Dr. Anderton Brown as a medical student. He returned to his native county in 1840, and began the practice of his profession in Smithfield as an under-graduate, which was the common practice of the time in Pennsylvania. He graduated at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in

the class of 1852. Nature as well as education made him a physician, and his success was assured from the beginning. For more than forty years he has ranked at the head of his profession in his community. With cool judgment and quick perception he unites large sympathy and an exceeding cheerful disposition. In the sick-room he at once commands the respect and secures the confidence of his patients. Perhaps he has obtained reputation and practice as much from his cheerful, sympathetic manner with patients as his superior skill in administering remedies. His physical endurance has been wonderful. For twenty-five years his professional field embraced an extent of territory that made his average day's riding about thirty miles, and his visiting-list immense. This was done in the saddle, and the older inhabitants well remember his celebrated horses "Bill" and "Charley," which were never seen with their rider, going up-hill or down, in any gait but a full gallop. He is one of the very few old-fashioned doctors who answer all calls, night or day, regardless of weather or roads, attending rich and poor alike.

He married Rebecca Ruth Brownfield, daughter of Col. Thomas Brownfield, of Georges township, Fayette Co., March 19, 1844. His domestic life has been most fortunate and happy. His wife has been a helpmeet in the grandest sense. Her husband's comfort and her children's happiness have been her greatest care, and to her wifely devotion he is largely indebted for the comforts of his home, the hospitable doors of which are ever open. It is proverbial that no house in the community entertains so many persons, friends and strangers, as Dr. Mathiot's. In politics the doctor has been a decided and positive Whig and Republican, an earnest advocate of the principles and measures of his party. He has twice been the candidate of his party for the State Legislature, but as the opposition had an overwhelming majority in the district, he was on both occasions defeated. He is an earnest and persuasive public speaker, and for a quarter of a century his voice has been heard in advocacy of every moral, temperance, and religious movement that has agitated the community in which he lives. Since 1851 he has been an active and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has held most of its official positions. He was ordained a deacon by Bishop Morris in 1859, and was ordained an elder by Bishop Simpson in 1872, and consequently occupies the responsible position of a minister in his church. His services are much sought, especially by the poor, to officiate at funerals, as he regards it one of the crowning glories of the Christian dispensation that the gospel shall be preached to the poor.

He is possessed of a comfortable home, most desirably located, and sufficient means to render his old age secure from want. His family has consisted of ten children, five of whom are now living: Caroline, Charles H., Ida F., Edward B., and Perie A. Several of these evince excellent mechanical and artistic tal-



Reuben Hague



Justus Dumm



Robert Britt

ent, in which the doctor takes a father's pride. The daughters are young ladies of careful mental discipline; Charles is engaged in the drug business in his native town; Edward is just graduated (March 30, 1882) from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, with every promise of success in his profession. Dr. Mathiot, like many of our self-made men, has been an assiduous reader and thoughtful student of the various subjects touching public interest and general culture, thus largely supplying the lack of a collegiate education. But few vocations in life furnish so many opportunities for usefulness and wide-spread personal influence as that open to an intelligent, Christian physician, imbued with public spirit and possessing a mind richly stored with the fruits of years of careful research. With unremitting energy and conscientious zeal the doctor has endeavored to discharge the manifold duties thus open to him, and is still, at the age of sixty-seven, an active man, earnestly engaged in the various occupations of his busy life.

REUBEN HAGUE.

Reuben Hague, of Smithfield, is of English stock, and was born April 16, 1809. Of his ancestors we have no special account save that they were Quakers; but his maternal grandfather was a farmer of some note, of whose history the legend has been preserved that he plowed in the forenoon the field of Brandywine whereon the famous battle took place in the afternoon. Mr. Hague has resided in Fayette County sixty-five years. He was educated in the common schools, and is a bricklayer by trade, and has worked in all parts of Western Pennsylvania. When he started out in life for himself at eighteen years of age he had only a "quarter" and a "fippenny-bit" in his pocket, in all thirty-one cents. He helped lay up the first brick dwelling in Allegheny City. He was once a cavalry officer in the Virginia militia, and has served as a school director of his township for nearly twenty years. For over fifty years he has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and has for a long time been an elder therein. He is a rigid temperance man, and has been a constant worker in the cause of temperance since he became twenty years of age. He never spent but three cents for whisky for his own use. He cannot be turned from his course by the taunts and jeers of wine-bibbers. Mr. Hague is the possessor of one of the best fruit-orchards in Fayette County. His property consists mainly of real estate. Whatever criticisms the liquor-loving portion of the community may indulge in over his extreme but consistent observance of abstinence from intoxicating beverages, his neighbors say no harmful words of him.

Feb. 14, 1836, Mr. Hague married Mary Swan, who died July 1st of the same year. Feb. 14, 1839, he married again, being united to Mary Lemley. Of

this marriage there are six living children,—Samuel; Rebecca Ellen, who married William Booth; Emily; Frances; Jeffries; and Snyder. The second Mrs. Hague having died, Mr. Hague married a third time, Nov. 27, 1862, his wife's maiden name having been Jane Abraham. A son, James A., is the issue of this marriage.

WILLIAM H. TRADER.

William H. Trader, of Georges township, is a man of mark, distinctively of that honorable class called "self-made," having fought the battle of life to financial success by his own energy and skill. He was born in Maryland, near the line of Virginia, Jan. 15, 1818. When he was two years of age his father left Virginia and settled in Georges township. Mr. Trader never enjoyed opportunities of schooling. What he learned he picked up as he could. His summers were employed cultivating the home farm, his winters in threshing with a flail, until he became eighteen years of age, when he left his father, or "turned out," without money or education, to make his own way in life, first working for a farmer of his neighborhood.

In 1841 he married Charlotte Franks, of Nicholson township. By her he has ten children, all living,—threesons and seven daughters,—all of whom but one are married. Mr. Trader has held the office of school director and other important township offices. Both himself and his wife are members of the Baptist Church. He is a modest, unassuming man, and enjoys an excellent business and general reputation. He has lived upon his present farm thirty-five years, and has steadily worked on to fortune, accomplishing the purpose of his early life, and is now regarded wealthy, his estate being estimated by his neighbors at from sixty thousand dollars to seventy-five thousand dollars. About two hundred and fifty-seven acres of Mr. Trader's homestead farm are underlaid with the five-foot vein and the nine-foot vein, also, of Connellsville coking coal.

ROBERT BRITT.

Robert Britt, of Smithfield, is of Irish descent, and was born in Chester County, Pa., June 4, 1805, and removed from there with his father to Springhill Furnace, Fayette Co., in August, 1811. He received his education in the common schools. Mr. Britt is by occupation a carpenter. He spent two years working at his trade in Kentucky, and, following his vocation, passed eight years of his life in Virginia; the rest has been spent in Fayette County. He has resided in his present home for thirty-two years.

Dec. 11, 1831, he married Asenath Greenlee, a lady of Irish stock, whose mother was three years old only when brought to America. Of this union are three children,—Mary Emily, married to Benjamin

Franklin Goodwin; Frances Elizabeth, wife of Albert S. Miller; and Frank P., who was educated in the common schools at Washington and Jefferson College, and the Allegheny Theological Seminary, and is now pastor of the Pisgah Presbyterian Church at Corsica, Jefferson Co., Pa. Mr. Britt and his wife have been members of the Presbyterian Church for more than a quarter of a century. In December, 1881, they celebrated their golden wedding. Mr. Britt has held the office of school director, and other responsible township offices. He has always been a Jefferson Democrat, and never swerved from his party.

JUSTUS DUNN.

Justus Dunn, of Georges township, is a prosperous farmer and stock-dealer, and was born in Erie City, June 8, 1817. He is the son of Simeon Dunn, of Irish stock, and who served in the war of 1812 as a "dispatcher," carrying orders or dispatches from Erie to Buffalo, N. Y. He bore the first news of Perry's victory to Buffalo.

Mr. Dunn began business life at the bottom of the financial scale, chopping wood at twenty cents per cord when he first came to Fayette County; but he is now in good circumstances, and owns a valuable tract of land, which is well improved. He settled in his present location in 1844. He has been treasurer of Fayette County for two years and eight months. On May 26, 1852, he married Mary A. Zearly, of Nicholson township, by whom he has had eleven children, four of whom are married and have left the homestead, seven remaining at home. The Dunn family is hardy and long-lived. Mr. Dunn has an uncle who is ninety-eight years of age, and was married for the second time when he was ninety-four. An aunt of his died a few years ago aged over one hundred years.

Mr. Dunn is a good business man, and commands the respect of his neighbors and all others with whom he deals.

COL. JAMES ROBINSON.

Col. James Robinson, of Oliphant Furnace, represents the Scotch-Irish Presbyterian stock. His grandfather settled in 1780, in what was then Georges township, now Nicholson, upon a farm which remained in the Robinson name for ninety-nine years. James Robinson was born Nov. 27, 1806. He was educated in the common schools, and spent over twenty years of his early manhood in the iron business with F. Hughes Oliphant, at Springhill and Fairchance Furnaces. The greater part of this time he was superintendent, as which he was not only successful, but by his unassuming yet potent influence obtained and held the respect and good will of all in his employ. In all business transactions he is a man of the most strict integrity. He obtained his military title by election to the position of colonel in the State militia, receiving his commission from Governor Wolf during the latter's first term in the gubernatorial chair. Jan. 27, 1857, he married Mrs. Catharine Saams, of Allegheny County, who died Sept. 9, 1863, leaving three children,—Margaret Ann, John Taylor, and Emma Caroline. The colonel was again married Feb. 13, 1866, to Miss Lavinia P. Caldwell, of St. Joseph, Mo., and has no living children by his second wife. He was elected director of the first railroad built from Connellsville to Uniontown, now owned by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company (and in which he is yet a stockholder). He was also elected a director of the National Bank of Fayette County at its organization, and held position as such for a number of years, and was elected director of the People's Bank of Fayette County, which position he still holds. Coal lands, railroad and bank stock, and United States bonds constitute his chief possessions.

Col. Robinson is an energetic man, of few words, pleasant and unobtrusive in manner, of a kind, benevolent spirit, especially to the worthy poor, greatly attached to home and fireside, and walks blameless before, and is popular with, his neighbors. Withal, a true gentleman of the old school.