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Magazine of the

Jefferson County Historical Society

Volume I
December 1935

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Magazine of the

JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Organized May 21, 1927

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RESEARCH COMMITTEE: Susan Gregg Gibson, Helen B. Pendleton, Ella M. Turner, Carrie B. Wilson.

Jefferson County, West Virginia (then Virginia) formed 1801. Part of Berkeley County from 1772 to 1801. Part of Frederick County from 1738 to 1772. Part of Orange County from 1734 to 1738. Part of Spottsylvania from 1720 to 1734.

ADDRESSES DELIVERED BEFORE THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

November 5, 1927

Formation of Jefferson County—F. L. Bushong.
Early Settlers in Jefferson County—Miss Helen B. Pendleton.

February 3, 1928

Gunsmiths and Locksmiths of Shepherdstown—H. L. Snyder.
The Armory and Arsenal at Harpers Ferry—Dr. Henry T. McDonald.

May 5, 1928

History of Apple Industry in Jefferson County—Mrs. Ralph Border.

August 13, 1928

Pioneer Preachers and Pedagogues of Jefferson County—Miss Ella May Turner.
Joseph Barry—Dr. W. E. Dittmeyer.
John Hess and the Elk Branch Academy—Boyd Link.

November 9, 1928

Old Taverns of Jefferson County—Mrs. Annie Darke Engle Baker.

February 5, 1929

Railroads of Jefferson County—Tracey L. Jeffords.
The Potomac River—H. L. Snyder.

May 10, 1929

Historical Places in Jefferson County, with lantern showing—Read by Wright Denny.

October 26, 1929

Minute Men of the Revolution—Andrew Price, president of the West Virginia Historical Society.

February 7, 1930

Highways of Jefferson County—Marshall McDonald.

May 16, 1930

Wynkoop, Selby, Hamtramck Families—Miss Helen B. Pendleton.

August 1, 1930

Jefferson County in the Nation's History—Dr. Louis Knott Koontz, University of California at Los Angeles.

November 7, 1930

General Kyd Douglas—Capt. John Kyd Beckenbaugh.

April 9, 1931

Old Books and Early Newspapers of Jefferson County—Boyd B. Stutler, West Virginia Review.

May 4, 1931

George Washington Bi-Centennial Celebration—Mrs. Rose Gouverneur Hoes, Washington, D. C.

August 28, 1931

Early Courts and Jurists in Jefferson County—Peyton R. Harrison.

March 4, 1932

Daniel Morgan, Pioneer and Patriot—B. Floyd Flickinger, Winchester, Virginia, Historical Society.

May 21, 1932

Presentation of Tablet on Post Office at Charles Town, marking the Inauguration of the First Rural Free Delivery of Mail in the United States—Dr. Henry T. McDonald, chairman Historic Spots Committee, Jefferson County Historical Society.

Acceptance of Tablet—Postmaster John W. Irvin.

Acceptance of Tablet—Colonel B. D. Gibson, on behalf of the Community.

Historical Address—C. V. Martin, Brumfield, Ky., National Rural Letter Carriers Association.

August 12, 1932

Washington, the Pioneer—Dr. Louis Knott Koontz.

February 3, 1933

The Virginia and Maryland Bridge Company—L. Taxter Welshans.

Robert Harper, Founder of Harpers Ferry—Henry M. Sydnor.

Charles Town and Its Historic Homes—Miss Hannah J. Howell.

May 5, 1933

Some Notes on the Founding of Maryland—Matthew Page Andrews.

July 21, 1933

First Settlement of the Shenandoah Valley—Dean O. D. Lambert, West Virginia Wesleyan College.

November 10, 1933

Washington, Jumonville and Fort Necessity—Dr. Charles Ambler, West Virginia University.

February 1, 1934

Potomack, Early Settlers and Early Churches—C. S. Musser.

May 11, 1934

General William Darke—Miss Ella May Turner.

November 9 1934

Fraternal Organizations in Jefferson County—Dr. W. H. S. White.

February 8, 1935

West Virginia Scenic and Historic Markers—Francis W. Daniel.

May 17, 1935

Spanish Art in Relation to American Colonial Art—Miss Blanche King.

November 15, 1935

Items of Local Interest from the Draper Papers—Miss Ella May Turner.

EARLY SETTLERS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

By Helen B. Pendleton

The elusive date as to when the first white settlers arrived to make their homes in this northern section of the Shenandoah Valley has been much discussed, but with more historical inference than actual certitude.

The most careful students of our early history, however, accept the tradition that a number of German families, with perhaps a sprinkling of Swiss among them, settled on the south bank of the Potomac, and in its neighborhood, some years before Thomas Shepherd obtained a patent for 222 acres of land from Goveronr Gooch of Virginia. This land transferred by Joist (Jost) Heydt (Hite), who had originally obtained it from Isaac and John VanMetre (Van Meter), was obtained by Hite in 1731 and transferred to Thomas Shepherd in 1734. There is no guess work about these dates nor that this tract was the location of the little town called Mecklenburg and many years later named Shepherdstown.

But who these early settlers were and when and whence they came is unknown. Mrs. Danske Dandridge records having copied the inscription on the tombstone of one "Katharina Shel, begraben 1728, war alt 85." She further mentions the grave of one George Kukus with the date of interment, 1725. This name transformed into Cookus is still borne by citizens here.

The wealthy land speculator, Joist Heydt (Hite), with the Dutch name, who is said to have come from Strasbourg (witness the town he named in our valley), may have had something to do with this first German settlement. Contracts for land were made with the distinct understanding that people were to be induced to "plant the wilderness." It is known that Hite lived for a time in Kingston, New York, where the Van Meter and DuBois families settled, and that he was connected by marriage with those families and therefore with Thomas Shepherd.

But actual knowledge before land grants began to be issued vanishes in a mist of conjecture. Why the village was

named Mecklenburg has never been explained. The Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin lies toward the northeast in Germany, far away from the Palatinate whence it is certain the great mass of German immigration came.

Was there some prominent citizen here who had influence enough to induce Thomas Shepherd to name the town after his homeland? Or is it not possible that Thomas Shepherd, about whom so little is known, was of German parentage himself? A note in the pamphlet by Miss Lucy Forney Bittinger, "The Bittinger and Bedinger Families" quotes from an early chronicler of the Bedingers,—"In the Spring of 1762 he" (Henry Bedinger) "removed to Shepherdstown, Frederick County" (now Jefferson) (W. Va.), "a town then recently founded under the name of Mecklenburg by the Pennsylvania German, Col. Shepherd (Schaefer)." Again, there is no answer.

In Shepherdstown today the descendants of only one of these forefathers of the village can prove by documentary evidence where their ancestor came from. Some years ago I saw and took a few notes from a paper which had been handed down from generations in the Entler family. It was a well preserved certificate beautifully engraved on parchment but in agonizingly difficult German, with an occasional Latin word interspersed. It was headed:

"PHILIPUS ADAM ENDLER, Metzger," and stated that he was "the son of the honorable and discreet Mr. Michel Endler, a high citizen and carpenter of Ettlingen (J) by Mr. Johannes Endler, citizen and butcher in the high, free" (untranslated word here) "place Ettlingen from Bartolomeo Anno 1733 till Bartolomeo Anno 1736 his full three years learn time.." The paper further stated that "he is willing to go to foreign countries to improve his well-learned trade. So written in (untranslated word here) in the law room, August 24th, 1736. Signed by two lawful masters" (Names not copied) Signed by two lawful witnesses" (Names not copied)

The parchment as I remember it showed the first letter of Ettlingen more like an I than an E but Ettlingen is the only place one can find on the map today. It is not far from

Karlsruhe and in line with the mass immigration that was pushing from further south at that time

It is clear from this certificate that the Endlers did not belong to the poor persecuted Palatinates driven from their homes by fire and sword. It will be remembered that religious bodies, ship owners and even unscrupulous agents were urging immigration to "the land of the free". The Endlers were apparently people of some means and importance in their town, and young Philip Adam Endler left to seek his fortune in the New World and came to Mecklenburg where the name became Entler. On the 10th. of September 1737 among the "Palatines", as these South German immigrants were called, Philip Adam Endler's name appears among the 95 passengers who arrived at Philadelphia in the ship "Snow Molly", John Howell, Master, from Amsterdam; "last from Dover." (See: A collection of Thirty Thousand names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French and other Immigrants in Pa. from 1727 to 1776, by Prof. I. Daniel Rupp, published by Leary Stuart & Co., Phila., 1875.) But this fact and the presence of the parchment in the hands of his descendants would not prove that Philip Adam Endler came to Mecklenburg but in the Lutheran cemetery is a sandstone tombstone. Its inscription was copied by Mrs. A. D. Kennamond years ago. It read—"1799——ist Philip Endler begraben war 82 jahr alt und 12 tag." This tomb we have every reason to believe is that of the youth who was "willing to go to foreign countries." and left Ettlingen in 1737 bringing his precious parchment with him. It is to be hoped that a photostat of this interesting document which is in the possession of Mr. George Beltzhoover, can be obtained for the Jefferson County Historical Society. It is a unique and rare relic of old Germany.

These early German pilgrims seeking economic and spiritual freedom were more than the mere mechanics they have been termed. Specimens of their handicraft proclaim a skill not merely mechanical. The man, for instance, who made the doorway in the old Entler house (now unhappily burned) was an artist in wood and glass—an artisan in the true sense of the word. They made many beautiful things those early

forefathers of the hamlet. The locksmith wrought beautifully in iron, making copper vessels, too, worthy now of shelves in a museum. Furniture, at first consisting of rude benches and tables, fashioned from the forest was soon replaced by notable craftmanship, with skill handed down from their forefathers. Their houses on a narrow street, too close together, had long back gardens of vegetables and flowers, flowers, flowers! Their cattle were properly housed but too near for sensitive noses! We shall not mention table manners. Silver forks were unknown until well on into the nineteenth century. They called them then "split spoons".

In the decade following the carving of Jefferson County from Berkeley, in 1801, the primitive mode of living of the first settlers was fairly over. The German language was dying out; other pioneers of other stock were crowding in. Lord Fairfax having got hold of the land had made grants chiefly to men of English, Welsh and Scotch-Irish patronage. I shall mention later how this came about. But German customs lasted long; German ways of cooking and German superstitutions. I have seen in my childhood a group of small boys playing marbles, and have heard one of them exclaim excitedly while making a circle on the ground, "I'll put the Dutch Hex on you!" Hex is the German word for witch. Then I have seen the tables of the farmers literally groaning with the good things to eat that their German foremothers had taught the women to make—sauer kraut (they even stuffed turkeys with it) scrapple, apple butter and a glorified cruller called "tangle-breeches". My childhood palate adored them.

But, of course, they slept with their windows tight shut, which is not a German custom by any means, but also with suffocating feather beds under and over them, which is. And on Christmas Eve what joy it was when the "Bellsnickles" arrived! The custom of visiting homes on Christmas Eve in costume, or to give a play is a common Anglo-Saxon custom. The Christmas Waits or Mummers are well known in English literature. But in Shepherdstown the custom was tinged with German jollity and the name derived, I feel sure, from the

Peltz Nicholas or the fur Kris-Kingle, who had doubtless worn a fur coat as he does when his name is Santa Claus.

Schooling was difficult to obtain in the backwoods, and the majority of the people did not bother about it much, although a free school was established here earlier than in the other communities of the county under the stimulus of later comers from more literate parts of the state. The Scotch brought the love of learning and teaching with them and they came in numbers that counted after awhile.

But we must remember that this was long a frontier, and that when this county was formed memories were still keen about Indian massacres. To-day the words Catawba and Delaware probably mean to young people the delicious grapes they have in season. Then those words meant to old people horrifying memories of Indian wars.

And we cannot gloss over the roughness of a large part of the population, even among the supposedly better classes. There are stories of deep play at cards in the taverns and fortunes lost even in private homes. A family of brothers would sometimes dash out into the dark and finish their quarrel over cards with knives. Teamsters and travellers on their way laden with goods for Winchester and the far South would stop to drink and play. The opening of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal brought Irish workmen and cholera as well as an occasional riot between the sons of Erin and the so-called "Dutch". The coming of professional people introduced a new element into the social life of this rich, pastoral county. Wealthy city people cast an eye of longing upon the lands of this part of the valley.

A rich Baltimore merchant, Alexander Robinson, father-in-law of the artist, Charles William Peale, bought large tracts of land near Shepherdstown as early as 1817 and bestowed them upon his children, several of whom settled here. This brought a social connection with Baltimore which had an undoubted effect upon education and the social life of the community.

Lawyers were needed, and Edmund Jennings Lee, of the famous family of that name came from Alexandria and mar-

ried here. There was eternal litigation going on, Charles Town and its vicinity had, I believe, more lawyers in it than in any other settlement of its size in Virginia. Politics was the business then of the so-called "better classes" and clever members of the Bedinger and Lucas families were sent to Congress and to diplomatic service. So that very soon in the new county's history (It became Jefferson County in 1801), a small, congenial and cultured society grew up in this end of it which lasted until the civil war.

Two events of importance to the outside world took place in this county, one so widely known that it is unnecessary to more than mention the John Brown Raid when the name of Harpers' Ferry will be linked with it, and the other, the launching of James Rumsey's steamboat here in 1787. Harpers' Ferry, however, has a history of its own unconnected with the terrible events of that October day in 1859—a history which should be written more fully than can be given space in this paper.

And the true story of James Rumsey has been fully told, although myths still persist about him. The one that Washington witnessed the launching of Rumsey's steamboat is done away with by the fact that there is no evidence that Washington was ever in Shepherdstown.

But Washington's family and influence profoundly influenced the social and economic life of the southern end of Jefferson county. This came about in the following way. Charles II gave away to five of his favorites an immense tract of land lying between the headwaters of the Rappahannock and Potomac rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. Four of the five sold out to Lord Culpepper who left his rights to this land to his kinsman Lord Fairfax, who engaged the youthful George Washington, as we well know, to survey it. There were already settlers on this land, many of whom were German, as we have already mentioned. Jost Hite and others had grants from the crown and claimed that the original grant to the five favorites only pertained to the "Northern Neck" and that Fairfax had no rights in the valley at all. The lawsuit that followed lasted forty years ending in Hite's favor. Lord Fairfax,

meantime, went on granting lands in every direction, in fee simple to tenants, subject to an annual rental of two shillings per one hundred acres. In issuing the grant the grantee had also to pay ten shillings on each fifty acres. This must have netted his Lordship quite a sum. This form of taxation lasted until after the Revolution when it was abolished by the General Assembly in 1785. We do not know what Washington thought of the business morals of his kinsman by marriage, but he had an eye for good land, and through his advice several of his brothers took up land in the county, one of them founding Charles Town about 1786, thus giving a prestige to that end of the county which has lasted to this day. All of the trustees of Charles Town when it was incorporated bore English or Scotch names.

Shepherdstown in 1798 had seven trustees, three of them with German names. Thus we see that the German strain was diluted until the county became a group of well-mixed Americans representing nearly all the different elements in our early immigration. As wealth increased, and especially after the tidewater settlers arrived, slaves were brought in thus introducing Negroes into the county where none had been at first.

It is well to note that a few affluent settlers from other parts of the colony would not of themselves have tinged the social and economic life of this county so profoundly, had there not been a larger migration going on in the adjoining county. While it may seem a digression, it should be mentioned because of the social interchange between Clarke county and this part of Jefferson. Indirectly Robert Carter, popularly known in his time as "king Carter" was responsible for the growth of wealth in Clarke county. This bewigged and beruffed "king" was agent for the "Northern Neck," and incidentally got quite a slice for himself—only about thirty-six thousand acres, running down the valley for about twenty miles! He had five daughters and four sons who all married into the richest and most prominent families in Virginia. Many of his descendants acquired by purchase or inheritance large tracts of land in Clarke county adjoining Jefferson. Slave

labor was neither skillful nor profitable in the long run, and the soil of the tidewater section was being worn out by continuous tobacco crops. More grass grew in the roads in the Valley, it was said than in the whole broad counties near the Chesapeake and on the James. So entire families moved up and intermarried until they became almost a clan to which the southern end of Jefferson county belonged. Most of our historical papers proclaim, "The Old Unterrified District" as being one hundred per cent Revolutionary, and the "Bee Line for Boston" has been often told in song and story.

But there was at least one Tory in these parts in Revolutionary times, although up to that time he had only come up here to hunt on some of the broad acres he had acquired here. The story runs that Ralph Wormeley, Esq., when thirteen thousand acres went under the hammer at Williamsburg (for some unthrifty person's debt of honor) bid on it, and the land was knocked down to him for five hundred guineas. It is said that Wormeley, buying it on the spur of the moment, after taking a social glass, was loath to keep it, but Washington being there—and apparently Washington was usually about when these lands were in question—advised him to keep it whch he did and built himself a hunting lodge at what is now known as "The Rocks" owned by Miss Ann P. Lewis on the Shenandoah River. Generations of Wormeleys had been living on the Rappahannock, all Ralphs except one, all educated in England, and rich and powerful and cultivated, one of the name possessing the most select library in Virginia. When troubles with England began this Ralph Wormeley, educated at Eton and Cambridge and immersed in books, was not at all anxious to fight the mother country and said so plainly and in writing too! So here was a pretty state of things for the Virginia Committee to be up against. For this same Ralph was closely related to some of them. What was to be done about it? This was not New Jersey where Tories were mobbed and threatened with tar and feathers. No, they would have to do something drastic but gentlemanly. So they banished their bookish relative to his up country estates, making him give bond for twenty thousand pounds. That seems to

have settled him for we hear nothing more about his being pro-British. He afterwards was a member of the House of Delegates and of the Convention of 1788. Perhaps he was cured of his Anglo-mania by the fact that while he was in retirement up here a British privateer came up the Rappahannock to the beautiful estate "Rosegill", and carried off 26 slaves, silver plate, jewelry, watches and wearing apparel. He afterwards got some of his property back, but the incident must have given a considerable jar to his loyalty.

These pictures given of some of the early settlers in our county show varied and interesting elements. And because they are part and parcel of our goodly heritage in this little corner of our great country, it should be our duty as well as our delight to study and narrate our history so far as it can be proved authentic and verifiable.

FROM THE FARMER'S REPOSITORY

October 21, 1813

Announcement that Mr. and Mrs. Peerce will open tneir school on the 25th in the house lately occupied by Mrs. Brown "where young ladies will be correctly instructed in all the useful branches of polite literature. Their school room is comfortable, and will be supplied with maps, globes, and a variety of mathematical and philosophical instruments. Needlework wll be taught by Mrs. Peerce, to which she will add if necessary painting in water and body colors. A due attention will be paid to the morals of these pupils and every endeavor used to merit the patronage of Charles Town and vicinity."

(Copy furnished by Ella May Turner)

LETTER TO MAJOR HENRY BEDINGER, MERCHANT, SHEPHERDSTOWN

(In Possession of Susan Gregg Gibson)

May 17, 1797.

Dear Sir:—

A Meeting of the Farmers and Merchants in the lower part of this County (that is below Opeckon) is proposed to be held at Charles Town on the 25th inst, early in the forenoon; to deliberate on the proper steps to be taken in order to reduce to a reasonable standard the prices of Labourers and Mechanics—who show very little disposition to fall in their demands—altho the price of our produce (which was the first pretence for rising) has long since fallen so low as to make it almost imposible for many Farmers to carry on their Business —especially when obliged to hire.

I am sure you will see the necessity of doing something in this Business, and hope you will bring such of your neighbours with you as are of a similar way of thinking.

As to my self, as I have never paid extravagant prices for work of any kind, it cannot be self-interest which prompts me to promote this meeting but I really think the Welfare of this part of the County materially concerned in the event of it, as the prices of labour have at all times been higher here than in any part of the Country, that I know of, and if it continues still higher, it appears to me that Farmers & Merchants in general may give up all expectations of profit from their Business.

I am respectfully, Dear Sir

Your hbl. svt.—Ferdno. Fairfax.

P. S.—As the present prices of Labour &c arose against us by Association we cannot expect to reduce them but by the same means: Nor can the Farmers expect relief whilst they remain inactive, and as it were, regardless of their Interests, when others have formed a League against them.

DISCHARGE OF WM. & GEO. TABB

(Copy furnished by Miss Effie M. McIntyre, Kearneysville. The brother referred to was John, second child of Wm. (5") and Susannah Gould Tabb, formerly from Gloucester Co. (now—since 1790—Mathews Co.), Va.)

By order of his excellency George Washington Esq.—General & Commander in Chief of the Army of the United Colonies, Whereas the bearers, Wm. Tabb & George Tabb riflemen in Maj. H. Stevensons Company having served with courage & fidelity all the time of their continuance in the army and with due obedience to their officers—but by the unfortunate death of their elder brother, it is absolutely necessary for the settlement of their private affairs, and for the assistance of the widow and children of their deceased brother, that they should be gratified in having their discharge, with permission to return to their home in Berkeley Co., Va. They are therefore hereby discharged.

Given at the headquarters of the Camp before Boston this third day of October 1775 by his excellencies command.

Horatio Gates—To all whom it may concern

Adjutant General.

POTOMAC GUARDIAN JANUARY 9, 1799

On the first day of January 1799 a superb stand of colors was presented to Shepherd Blues by Miss Peggy Kearsley and Miss Eleanor Kearsley, daughters of John Kearsley, Esq. of Shepherdstown in the County of Berkeley and State ofVirginia. The peculiar device and motto suggested by the young ladies and executed by an ingenious artist on an azure ground set in gold was superlatively magnificent.

The scene was graced with the presence of the young ladies, and their address which accompanied the delivery of the standard, inspired an American ardor, quite sufficient for the most heroic deeds.

(From copy furnished by Ella May Turner)

SWEARINGEN'S SPRING

(From a letter written by Alexander R. Boteler to his wife, who was away on a visit to her parents in Princeton, N. J. Potowmac avenue is now Princess street, Quagmire corner is now occupied by Laska Stanley's lumber yard, and the Presbyterians under the pastorate of the Rev. John Hargrave had just completed their "brand-new brick church.")

Fountain Rock, July 4, 1837.

If anybody pretends to insinuate that the worshipful inhabitants of Shepherdstown have not had a celebration today, why—I for one am free to declare that such an insinuation in the words of Dogberry is "veritable and not to be believed," and in support of this my declaration "let facts only be submitted to a candid world"—to wit, the auspicious morn was ushered in amid the deafening roar of a well-rammed blunder buss, and scarcely had its intonations died away when the "rattling drums and wry-neck'd fife" performed a reveille that roused the citizens from their sleep.

At ten precisely the procession formed in "market space," under the direction of Capt. John W. Reynolds, and escorted by the rifle corps it moved down German street to Potowmac avenue 'round Quagmire corner to the brand-new brick church, all the while "sonorous metal blowing martial sounds." Arrived at the church, there was a preparatory prayer from Hargrave and then the Rev. Mr. Douglass, of the Lutheran persuasion, made us an oration which abounded in liberty and independence. When it was over, Brother Higgins dismissed us with his blessing, and the procession being reformed, we marched in a body to the "big spring," in Mrs. Swearingen's bottom, where an abundant collation of barbecued sheep, pigs and oxen awaited our coming. I paid my dollar and ate my dinner, then after having comforted my inner man with a glass of lemonade, with a few "drops" of cognac in it by way of a flavour, I lit a cigar and leaning my chair back against the stage which had been erected for the occsion,I was ready to listen to the Declaration of Independence, which Berry read from the aforesaid stage much to the edification of

certain Dutchmen who did not understand a word and of sundry mischievous little boys who were so much moved by it that they could not be kept from tumbling heels over head all the time. When Berry finished, Dr. Quigley took his place and announced the regular toasts, each one of which was received with a volley of thirteen guns. But while he was in the midst of his task, all at once I thought that I heard something creak above me. I made a spring and just cleared my distance when the whole platform and all upon it came tumbling to the ground. "Oh, what a fall was there, my countrymen!" The Doctor and Berry and Webb and Hamtramck and several others were completely buried under the plank, benches and boughs. I never saw such an amalgamation of heads and heels. And such a laugh as we had, as the poor fellows one by one crawled out from the ruins!

There were many bruises, but no broken bones, and it is a wonder, for the platform was at least ten feet from the ground. The mishap did not long defer the remaining toasts, for the Doctor soon had another rostrum at his command in the shape of the dinner table, which, however, before he mounted he took care to examine most critically.

When this part of the day's doings was completed there was much drinking among the rowdys, four first-rate fights and a foot-race, together with some deviltry and dancing which I was so singular as not to admire.

But having seen quite enough to judge what the rest was going to be, I left the ground, mounting my horse in town came home, and as you see have filled two pages of a letter to you.

IRVING'S VISIT TO THE VALLEY

By Custis Chappelear

(August 8, 1925)

Seventy-two years ago Washington Irving visited the Shenandoah Valley, and was for some time the guest of Andrew Kennedy at the latter's home, "Cassilis," near Charles Town. He was accompanied to "Cassilis" by John P. Kennedy, his host's brother, who had but recently held the office of secretary of the navy in President Fillmore's cabinet.

Irving appears to have been very favorably impressed by the valley on that visit. Under date of June 22, 1853, he wrote to his niece, Sarah Irving, a letter in which he stated:

"At Harpers Ferry we changed cars, and pushed on to Charles Town, where we found Mr. Andrew Kennedy, waiting for us, with his carriage. A drive of about a mile and a half brought us to his seat, whence this letter is dated. Here I am in the center of the magnificient valley of the Shenandoah the great valley of Virginia. And a glorious valley it is—equal to the promised land for fertility, for superior people—choice though not chosen.

"Tomorrow I expect to go, in company with the two Mr. Kennedys, on a visit to Mr. George Washington Lewis, who has a noble estate about twelve miles off, where we shall remain until the next day.

"I have several places to visit in this vicinity, connected with the life of Washington, after which we shall push on to the mountans."

Irving was at that time engaged in writing his "Life of George Washington." In a letter to his nephew, Pierre Irving, dated June 25, 1853, he wrote in part as follows:

"I have paid my visit to Mr. George Washington Lewis, to inspect the manuscripts in his possession. His seat (Audley) is about twelve or fourteen miles from this. Andrew and John Kennedy accompanied me. We went on Wednesday and returned on Tuesday. The visit was a most agreeable one. We were hospitably entertained by Mr. Lewis, who is a young

man of engaging appearance and manners. His mother, however, is the real custodian of the Washington relics and papers, which she laid before me with great satisfaction.

"Yesterday I drove out with the Kennedys to visit two other establishments of the Washington family in this neigh borhood. These visits are full of interest. Today we are to visit some other places of note in the neighborhood. On Mon day, the day after tomorrow, I set off with Mr. John Kennedy, for the mountains."

After spending about ten days at Berkeley Springs, Irving returned to "Cassilis," and spent "a few more days un der the hospitable roof of Mr. Andrew Kennedy, where I saw something of a harvest home in the noble valley of Shenandoah."

In October, 1853, Washington Irving again visited Andrew Kennedy, and on that occasion wrote his niece the follownng letter:

"Cassilis," October 21, 1853.

"My Dear Sarah:—

"The expedition to Winchester and Greenway Court, in company with Messrs. John and Andrew Kennedy was very pleasant. We went to Winchester by railroad, and then hired a carriage and an old negro coachman to take us to Greenway Court, once the residence of old Lord Fairfax, and a resort of Washington in his younger days. We set off from Winchester in the afternoon. The distance to Greenway Court was said to be about twelve miles, but the roads so bad that it would be impossible to return to Winchester the same evening. What was to be done? Greenway Court was no longer habitable. There was no good country inn near at hand. Mr. Andrew Kennedy determined to seek quarters at the house of a Mr. Nelson, who resided about three miles from the Court, and with whom he was acaquainted. .....
Mr. Nelson claimed some acquaintance with me. He reminded me of having introduced himself to me three years before at the Revere House in Boston: and said he had a prior acquaintance, having been one of a committee of the students at the University of Virginia, who, about twenty years since,

waited on me at the hotel to invite me to accept a public dinner.

"In a word, we were made at once to feel ourselves at home; invited to spend several days there. Mr. Nelson would take us all about the country, make us acquainted with all his neighbors. We had glorious quarters that night. The next day Mr. Nelson took us to Greenway Court. Had a large party of the neighboring gentlemen to meet us at dinner, and it was with great difficulty we got away in time to return to Winchester in the evening."

The mansion referred to in the above letter was at "Long Branch," the home of Major Hugh Mortimer Nelson, who died in 1862.

At the close of the year 1853 Washington Irving again visited "Cassilis," to attend the wedding of Andrew Kennedy's niece, which took place on January 1, 1854.

FROM THE FARMER'S REPOSITORY

January 15, 1813

Departed this life, at his residence in Smithfield, on Monday night last, Mr. John M'Knight, in the 80th year of his age, after a severe illness which he bore with fortitude and resignation. Mr. M'Knight was a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War, and braved the dangers of the memorable battle of Trenton. In the character of Mr. M'Knight were combined the following invaluable traits, genuine piety, honesty, temperance and industry. He has left behind him a numerous train of relatives to deplore his loss.

(Copy furnished by Ella May Turner)

DANIEL BOONE'S MARRIAGE TO REBECCA BRYAN

(Notes by C. S. Musser on Max Chamber's "Daniel Boone Married Winchester-Born Rebecca Bryan in 1756")

The marriage of Daniel Boone to Rebecca Bryan has considerable local interest. Rebecca Bryan is said to have been born near Winchester, Va.; January 9, 1739, which would make her 17 years of age at the date of marriage on August 14, 1756, as this article relates. However, she likely was not Daniel Boone's "boyhood sweetheart" for the reason that Boone being born in Onley township, Berks county, Pa.; in 1734, Morgan Bryan's family had very probably accompanied him to the Opequon, near Winchester, shortly after he and Alexander Ross were granted order in Council in 1730 by the Virginia Council for 70,000 acres of land there as soon as he shall have seeded and planted seventy families. Many of these patents bear the date of Novmber 12, 1735, and among the number was that of Morgan Morgan.

Boone's mother's name—Mary Morgan Boone—however, has some significance, it is believed, and probably was related in some manner to Morgan Bryan, an early West of the Blue Ridge Virginia pioneer, and of Morgan Morgan, who joined the Bryan-Ross expedition from the banks of the Delaware to the Opequon in Lower Virginia shortly after the year 1730.

An article in the genealogical column of "The Mountain Branch Vet," issue of August 15, 1931, about the Boone family states that Daaniel Boone's wife was Rebecca Bryan, daughter of Morgan Bryan; that she was born near Winchester, Va., January 9, 1739, and was married to Daniel Boone August 14, 1756, somewhere near the Forks of the Yadkin River in North Carolina. Dr. Mayfield, of Seattle, Wash., in writing to a friend states that he was in error in stating that Daniel Boone married Morgan Bryan's daughter. He continues by stating that Daniel Boone married Rebecca Bryan, the daughter of Joseph B., and a grand-daughter of Morgan Bryan. If this latter statement is true, then Morgan Bryan when he first came to Virginia in 1730 had reached an age sufficient to have a son of marriage age, as Rebecca Bryan appears to have

been born in 1739, and therefore, she is more likely to have been a daughter than a granddaughter.

About the year 1750, Morgan Bryan migrated to North Carolina, and the diary of the Single Brethren from Bethlehem, Pa., on their way to North Carolina in 1752 to take up land, note in their travels that being lost in the mountains of Vrginia they met Morgan Bryan, who had just come from North Carolina, who showed them the way. Bryan was evidently on his way back to Winchester to visit his old friends at the time of this meeting or preparing to move his family there. Four years later—1756—the Boone-Bryan marriage took place.

POTOMAC GUARDIAN JANUARY 31, 1799

Female Education

Notice is hereby given that the Female Institution in Charles Town under the direction of the subscriber, and Miss Angelica Collins, will commence on Monday the 21st instant.

The following are the terms on which Boarders and Students will be received to wit:

For tuition and board including bedding and washing, one hundred dollars per annum.

For tuition alone, thirteen dollars and one third per annum.

The above prices to be paid at quarterly payments, and in advance, but if it should happen that any payment should fail to be made at the beginnng of any quarter, the failure wil not be made to operate to the exclusion of the party failing, nevertheless the payment will be considered as being due, and be expected to follow the time of its becoming so, without a long delay.

January 7, '99 Christopher Collins.

(From copy furnished by Ella May Turner)

KEYES' FERRY

By H. K. Ambler
(A descendant of Gersham Keyes)

Keyes' Ferry, a mile above the village of Millville on the Shenandoah River, is perhaps the oldest regular ferry in Jefferson County. At slack water a rough ford, a little higher up the river, was and still is available. Gersham Keyes bought the adjacent land in 1746 from Lawrence Washington and seems to have established a ferry at once. The local descendants of Gersham Keyes have a letter to him from Gen. Washington written in 1762 referring to his survey of the tract. A division of Braddock's army on its way to its fatal defeat crossed at this point, in 1755, and was known to have bought certain supplies from the owner. In 1796 Louis Phillipe, afterwards king of France, with his brother, the Duc of Chartres, both exiled from their native land by the Revolution, made a tour of this part of the country, beginning at Mt. Vernon where they were guests, and roughing it in what was then called "the West". Coming from Mt. Vernon, they crossed at Keyes' Ferry and were entertained at Harewood on their way to Winchester. The Ferry was an important link in the highway to Alexandria before the railway came, when that city was one of the most flourishing ports in the land. The merchants of the lower Valley used the road and ferry to get their grain and stock to the seaboard, bringing back in their heavy wagons not only the manufactured goods of the North and the rice and sugar of the South, but also the cloths of England, the wines of France, and whatever else was needed from abroad. The old stone house overlooking the ferry on the west sde of the river was once quite dramatically besieged by a party of Indians with loss of life, it is said, on both sides. The ferry was constantly a crossing point for both blue and gray soldiers in the Civil War, especially for the dashing bands of Mosby in their numerous raids from Loudoun and Fauquier. In war or peace it has played a more or less useful part.

THE WEDDING OF DOLLY PAYNE TODD AND JAMES MADISON

By Eliza Washington Willis

George Steptoe Washington at the age of eighteen married Lucy Payne. It was very soon after this that young Mrs. Washington's sister, Mrs. Dolly Payne Todd, journeyed from Philadelphia to Harewood where she was married to James Madison, who was afterwards twice elected President of the United States.

The following is taken from Mrs. Lee's book "Dolly Payne Quakerism" and tells of the first meeting of Dolly and Madison. Mrs. Lee received a hurried note from Dolly, "Dear Friend, Thou must come to me this evening, Aaron Burr says that the Great Little Madison has asked to be brought to see me".

Dolly was dressed in "Mulberry Stain with silk tulle handkerchief around her neck and on her head an exquisitely dainty cap from which an occasional uncropped curl would escape". In the first interview in her own house, she captured the heart of the recluse bookworm, Madison, twenty years her senior and always thought to be an irreclaimable old bachelor.

A report soon got about of their engagement. Such unwonted attentions from Mr. Madison excited comment, and rumor was as active in those days as now. It reached the presidential mansion where the General and Mrs. Washington were much interested and, impatient to know the truth, sent for Dolly who, all unconscious, obeyed the summons. "Dolly, is it true that you are engaged to James Madison?" The fair widow, taken aback, stammeringly answered "no" she "thought not". "If it be true," Mrs. Wahhington continued, "do not be ashamed to confess it, rather be proud; he will make thee a good husband, and all the better for being so much older. We both approve of it, for the esteem and friendship existing between Mr. Madison and my husband is very great and we would wish thee to be happy." And thus the rumor grew to be an established fact.

Now as stated before, Lucy Payne had become the girlish bride of George Steptoe Washington, the nephew and ward of the president. She was but fifteen and he eighteen, and they were living at Harewood. The fair young mistress begged that her sister should be married there, and so it was decided.

Thomas Jefferson offered his coach for the journey from Philadelphia, and taking her small son, her sister Anna and a maid, Dolly journeyed to the historic home, accompanied by Madison and mutual friends, riding and drving.

A week of the early fall had been whiled away ere they reached their journey's end where great preparations were already being made for the festive occasion; for this was to be a "gay wedding". Guests came from far and near, Frances Madison was there and Harriot Washington, and at the last minute, Lght Horse Harry Lee came dashing up on the "very finest horse in all Virginia".

There in the handsome wainscoted parlor, while the ancient clock on the landing chimed the hour, James Madison and winsome Widow Todd were married, September 15, 1794, by Dr. Balmaine of Winchester, Virginia, a relative of James Madison.

After much feasting and merrymaking, in which the groom lost his ruffle of mechlin lace, that the girls cut in bits as mementoes of the evening, the bride and groom made their escape and drove away for the honeymoon.

The following clippings are from a letter Madison wrote his father describing the wedding journey:

Harewood, Oct. 5, 1794.

Dear and Honored Sir:

I have detained Sam, by whom I send this, so much longer than I intended and you expected, that many apologies are due for the liberty. I hope it will be a sufficient one that I found him indispensable for a variety of little services, which I did not particularly take into view before I left Orange,------ On my arrival here I was able to urge so many conveniences in hasting the event which I solicited, that it took place on the 15ult.

On the Friday following we set out, accompanied by Miss Payne and Miss Harriott Washington, on a visit to my sister Hite, where we arrived the next day, having stopped in Winchester with Mr. Balmaine. We had been there a day or two only at Mr. Hite's before a slight indisposition, which my wife had felt for several days, ended in a regular ague and fever. The fits were so severe that I thought it prudent to call a physician from Winchester. Dr. Baldwin attended and------ administration of the Bark soon expelled the complaint. She has since recovered very fast and I hope, notwithstanding a slight indisposition this morning which may be the effects of fatigue and change in the weather, its return is not in the least apprehended. We left Mr. Hite's the day before yesterday. Our time passed there with great pleasure on our side, and I hope with not less on the other.

In about eight or ten days we expect to set out for Philadelphia, and your daughter-in-law begs you and my mother to accept her best and most respectful affection, which she means to express herself by an early opportunity.

With my sincere prayer that perfect health and every other good may attend you both, I remain,

Your affectionate son,

J. Madison, Jr.,

It is interesting to note that the grave Elders of the Friends in Philadelphia had highly disapproved of Lucy's marriage to George Steptoe Washington, the nephew, namesake and ward of George Washington, but they hesitated ere they drew up a letter of disownment against her. As stated below, Dolly, too, was disowned because of her marriage to one not a member of the society.

The following from the "Minutes":

Friends are appointed to assist women Friends in preparing a testimony against the misconduct of Lucy Washington, late Payne, who has accomplished her marrage by the assistance of a hireling priest contrary to the dispicline established among us.

21th of 8mo. 1783—Testimony against Lucy Washington, late Payne, who had by birth a right of member-

ship among us, having disregarded the wholesome order of our Discipline in the accomplishment of her marriage with a person not in membership among us, before a hireling priest, and without the consent of her mother, after being precautioned against such outgoing. We therefore testify that said Lucy Washington is no longer a member of our religious society. Nevertheless she may be favored with a sense of her deviation and seek to be restored."

"Dorothy Madison was disowned Twelfth Month, 1794."

FROM THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE, GEORGE-TOWN

Friday, March 13, 1795

Lots in Shepherdstown, Berkeley County, Virginia, and Farm near it for Sale.

A LARGE corner-lot in the most beautiful part of the town, rented quarterly for $35 dollars—Two grass lots near it, adjoining each other—and an improved corner 103 feet square, in the main way westward and near four Grist-mills and two Saw-mills. The Mill stream runs through this corner, having fall enough, it is thought, to drive a wheel, which might pump water into a house. The farm is Limestone land, 206 acres, joining Potomac River, about five mles below the town, and is rented until the 1st of December.

(Copy furnished by Ella May Turner)

NOTES BY OBSERVER

(From the Shepherdstown Register of April 13, 1916. Typical of the style and local color of numerous articles on local history written by the late Harry L. Snyder, for several years secretary of the Jefferson County Historical Society.)

There is possibly no town in West Vrginia that has more of interest attaching to its local history than Shepherdstown. Easily the oldest town in the State—it was settled about 1732, maybe as early as 1712, and incorporated in 1762—there have been many interesting and curious happenings in the annals of this ancient burg. Observer has notes to many matters that he hopes to write about from time to time and preserve as local history in the columns of the Register. What a pity with each generation from the beginning there was not some reliable historian who recorded the events of interest and the curious details of town life.

One of the oldest buildings of the town is the big, rambling house on Main street owned and occupied by Mrs. M. L. Herrington and her niece, Mrs. Julia Miller, and her nephew, L. C. Little. This building, so long used as a hotel, is probably 150 years old. Mrs. Herrington says that it was used as a rendezvous for soldiers in the Revolutionary War, was a barracks during the War of 1812, and during the Civil War it was also occupied from time to time by soldiers, Union men and Confederates alternating in its possession. The house was originally built of heavy logs, filled in with clay and bricks, but it has been weatherboarded for these many years. Additions were made to the original structure, hence there are peculiar steps and stairways leading from one part to another.

Joseph Entler, Mrs. Herrington's father, bought this property in 1808 from Charles Harper and Levi Gooding, and besides the building, owned the ground on which now stand the Episcopal Church and the residence of the editor of the Register. On the alley was a large stone stable, in which were stalls for 25 horses. During the Civil War the soldiers took from time to time the seasoned timbers from the stable and used them for firewood. The framework was thus weakened,

and one night the roof fell in from the weight of a heavy snow, and now there's nothing left but the ruined stone walls. These same vandals tore out the mantels and wooden partitions in the house, leaving it a sad wreck at the end of the war. Mr. Entler and his family did not live there during the war, having moved to Wingard Cottage, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Davis. A man by the name of Thompson kept hotel in the building during a part of the war period, and it did not bear a very savory reputation during his occupancy. At least one foul murder plot was hatched there.

A hundred years or more ago this old Entler property was a famous tavern. No railroads then stretched their steel bands across the country, but all transportation was by road or river. Shepherdstown was on the highway from Kentucky and Tennessee and other southern sections to Baltimore and Philadelphia. The Pack Horse Ford was the best crossing place on the Potomac in many miles, and so this road was one of the most popular. The Great Western Hotel, as Mr. Entler called his inn, was a favorite stopping place for the wagoners who drove splendid four-horse and six-horse teams, bringing farm products and other goods from the South and carrying back great loads of merchandise from the cities. Sometimes a dozen big teams would be put up here for the night, and there would be merry times. Trials of skill or strength would test the mettle of the teamsters, while chicken fighting and reckless betting occupied the attention of the sportily inclined, to say nothing of gambling on the sly, sometimes for heavy stakes.

Joseph was not only an enterprising hotel-keeper—he was a busy man in other affairs. He owned a couple of brickyards, one of them being where the old manufacturing shops now stand, and he used a novel method of notifying the men when it was time to quit work. At dinner time and supper time he would run a red flag to the top of a pole fastened above the roof of the house, and the workmen, keeping one eye in that direction, lost no time in heeding the signal. Mr. Entler also conducted cooper shops on the lot where now stand the homes of Mrs. Gittings and Mrs. Billmyer. He was interested in a cigar manufactory and a shoemaker's shop; ran a store;

with Mr. McAnly conducted the Shepherdstown Register for several years; and owned a hay scales that was located on the site of the home of the editor of the Register. On one occasion a traveler stopping at the hotel took a liking to Mr. Entler's dog "Watch," and when he left the host gave him the dog as a present. He took "Watch" to Kentucky with him, but in a few weeks the dog left his new master and found his way back to Shepherdstown, turning up at the hotel footsore and lean and weary, but wagging his tail in joy at being home again. It is known that he swam several good-sized rivers on his homeward journey.

The big lot adjoining the tavern was the usual parking place for the wagons that stopped here over night in order that horses and drivers might rest. It was also a fine place for circuses, and frequently traveling shows would put up their tents and hold their exhibitions here. On one occasion while a circus was showing to a large audience a fierce storm came up and a gale of wind blew the tent over. There was great confusion—women screamed and men shouted and children cried, and a panic prevailed. During the height of the trouble somebody yelled that the lion was loose, and this made confusion worse confounded. Persons on the outside of the tent tried to get to their relatives on the inside, while the unfortunates under the canvas struggled with might and main to get out. Many were bruised and scratched and frightened almost out of their wits, but nobody seems to have been seriously hurt, nor did the lion devour anyone.

On another occasion when a circus came to town and showed on this lot one of the elephants sickened and died, leaving behind her a baby elephant partly grown. The dead beast was buried on the lot, and it is said that the young elephant whined and cried and gave unmistakable evidences of its grief. And a curious after event is reported. Years afterward a circus again came to town, with an elephant soberly marching along the Kearneysville pike with the wagons and other circus impedimenta. At it turned into Main street at the Byers corner the elephant raised its trunk into the air, broke into a lumbering run and dashed down the street to the circus lot, bolt-

ed through the gate, ran on the place where its mother had been buried, and rolled over and over on the grave, giving vent to groans that showed how well it remembered the death of its mother. This incident happened somewhere between seventy-five and a hundred years ago, according to the best information we can gather—Mrs. Herrington says that it occurred before she was born, the story being told by her father —and just last week it was confirmed in part by the discovery of the bones of the long-buried elephant. Observer had been told that the elephant had been buried on the lot on which stands the residence of the editor of the Register, but it proved to be a hundred feet to the east. In the yard of the dwelling owned for many years by the late Henry M. Loyns, recently purchased by George F. Turner from Edward L. Reinhart, and at present occupied by Prof. A. D. Kenamond, workmen started last week to dig a cistern. About three feet from the surface they dug into one end of the pit in which the elephant had been buried, and uncovered some of its bones. The unusual size of the bones puzzled them for a time, but some one recalled the story of the elephant—and the mystery was solved. The entire skeleton is undoubtedly there, though it was not all uncovered, as it was to one side of the excavation for the cistern. The Register museum has two of the large leg bones as unquestioned evidence of a story that has long been told, but which was often regarded with doubt by the present generation. Although buried for almost a hundred years, the bones are still in a good state of preservation. The finding of the bones has brought to light some interesting stories. Harvey H. Pendleton says that the elephant's teeth were taken out before it was buried, and one of them afterward came into posssion of his grandmother, Mrs. Margaret White, who gave it to the late Dr. John Reynolds. It is also said that the elephant was skinned and its hide was tanned in Line's tanyard, some three or four years being required for the process.

Are there any other contributions to this most interesting story? If there are, let Observer know about them and he will give them to the readers of the Register.

THE OLD ACADEMY IN CHARLES TOWN

(From Memoirs of Thomas Brown, in Possession of Miss Letitia Cary Ambler)

Extracts from the Reminiscences of the Hon. Thomas Brown of Westmoreland County, Virginia, afterwards Territorial Governor of Florida.

In 1797, a boy of twelve, he left Westmoreland for Charles Town, going by water to Alexandria, where the story begins.

"We staid but one night in Alexandria, then took a hack for Charles Town. Got that night to Hillsboro at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The next morning the road to Charles Town was full of people in all sorts of vehicles and on horseback, men and women all going to the exhibition at the Academy in Charles Town. We got to Charles Town by 11 o'clock.

My brother William's house was right in front of the Academy; it was full of visitors. Exhibition Day was a great day in Charles Town, the whole country round attending it, some from a hundred miles or more who had no sons at school there. There was an immense crowd, so I thought, in front of the Academy when I arrived. I, without any introduction, posted off right into the crowd, to see what was going on.

The Academy was a large, two storied building, the whole front was in staging, covered with carpeting and the ends enclosed with curtains, and benches in front for spectators. A boy was making a speech when I got there: after many speeches there was a play and a farce. The play was "The Tragedy of Cato", all of which was new and wonderful to me. I concluded that Charles Town was the greatest place in the world. .....At the next session I was installed as a student at the Charles Town Academy, about seventy scholars, more than three fourths were young gentlemen, and some over their majority.

Lincoln Lear, the son of Col. Tobias Lear (Gen. Washington's private Secretary, U. S. Consul to Tripoli) and I were the smallest and youngest at the school.

My sister Margaret went to the Female Academy, directly opposite, across the street (a), under the tuition of Miss Angelica Collins, assisted by her brother the Rev. Christopher Collins, the "Master Collins" who in Westmoreland County, had educated my brothers and sisters.

The institution was gotten up and patronized by the best men in town and neighborhood. It had a board of trustees (b) of twelve members, George Steptoe Washington, nephew of Gen. Washington, was President of the board, other nephews, Samuel and Lawrence A. Washington were members. The board (c) had its tri-weekly meetings, regularly attended for examinations. All the members of the board held positions and characters for learning, talents and high standing, which justly gave them great weight with the students, inspiring a laudable ambition to learn and stand well in the classes. No institution, for number of its students, in the same time turned out so many men distinguished in the learned professions, as well as in war and politics.

..... In the regulations of the Institutions the members of the male academy were not permitted to cross the street on the side of the female academy, the girls on the female side were not permitted to cross to the male academy, but, as "Love laughs at locksmiths", this rule was not long without innovations. (d) The young men would write "billets doux", bind them around a piece of rock or stone, from the upper story windows of the Academy, throw them across the street, where the young ladies could get them and in the same manner answer them. This mode of correspondnce was not long practised before the vigilant eye of Miss Angelica detected it, a rigid investigation followed, but as nothing of a criminal nature was established or rather, as the President and Trustees of the Academy did not view it in that light, but as little matters between the pupils, not as Miss Angelica did, she determined to take her school beyond the reach of a stone's throw from the male Academy; accordingly she moved to

the plantation of her brother, the Rev. Christopher Collins, some four miles out (e) of Charles Town, where she continued till her death.

. . . . . The Rev. John Mines, a Presbyterian clergyman, was the principal of the Academy, and was certainly one of the best of men. He had the happiest talent for the management of boys in acquiring their love and respect and in stimulating in them laudable pride and ambition. I do not believe that the use of the rod was prohibited in the school, but no instance of its use ever occurred whilst I was there; I am sure its infliction would have been regarded as a disgrace by the youngest boy in the school of some seventy men. All had to be present in the recitation room at the proper hour morning and evening to prayers, after which the higher classes dispersed to their respective rooms or to the grove (f), as suited them best, only appeared for recitation or to ask some question of difficulty. The smaller boys, who remained in, had ushers or under-teachers to attend them. But if Mr. Mines saw they were dull or sleepy, he would take them all into the grove or ground round the Academy, and joined with them in some play or athletic game for half hour or so, then take them back to their studies fresh and invigorated.

Mr. Mines preached every Sunday in the Presbyterian Church (g), the students were fond of going to hear him. No Episcopal Church being here, the boys of Episcopal families went once a month to the old stone church (h) a mile or two from town, to hear the Rev. Mr. Heath (i), who had his regular clerk to assist him in the services, a little old man, named Johnny Stevens, and we had a pew near the pulpit to join in the responses.

At the close of every session of five months, there was a public exhibition of plays and orations; the students constituted a Thespian Corps (k) that in tragedy, comedy or farce, would have been creditable to any stage; great public spirit was manifested in the encouragement of these exhibitions. The sword given by the King of Prussia to Gen. Washington was worn by the hero of the play; this sword was left by Gen-

eral Washington to George Steptoe Washington, his nephew, who was one of the trustees of the Academy and took great interest in its success. The sword (1) was the finest Damascus steel, the hilt was of solid gold, the blade was highly polished from the point up two thirds and bright, the rest of the blade was Damascus blue, inlaid with letters of gold, on one side, "George Washington", on the other, "From the oldest King to the greatest General".

Young men in the higher classes were allowed to write their own orations, subject to the correction of the Board of Trustees. Launcelot Lee had written an oration, which the Trustees complimented highly, and in his efforts was successful. He was a young man of fine promise and talents, rather vain of them. When it came his turn for a speech, he neglected to hand his copy to be prompted, and the prompter reminded him of it, but having repeated it so often in private rehearsals, he was confident, stepped out on the stage in the presence of an audience of 500 persons in broad daylight, went on rapidly for some time, so as to elicit great applause, when he came to a full balk, became confused, had to walk off the stage. The mortification was great with all his friends: he was more than twenty-one years old, of the highest family in the State. It was the custom of the citizens of the Town to give the students a ball on Exhibition night; that night Launcelot Lee did not appear at the ball; the next day I met him coming down the street, without a hat, a Bible open on his head, a hickory pole in his hand for a cane as long as he was tall, and he was six feet high, a very fine lookng man. He was mad: never recovered a rational moment. He had a large estate, lived to be an old man, was harmless, but never recovered his reason.

Notes and Queries on Thomas Brown's Reminiscence

(Written by General W. P. Craighill to Charles Town Free Press, September 27, 1887)

(a) History repeats itself. There is again after the lapse of nearly a century, another school for girls "across the street" from the Academy. The old buildng did not stand exactly where the present one does, but was directly opposite the

residence of Mrs. Julia Kennedy which has itself seen many transformations since those early days. Some of us now living and getting to be old men went to school in the old Academy building which was taken down about forty years ago. How many of our comrades are dead? Who can tell the location and give a description of the Female Academy of 1799?

(b) While I write, I have before me the minutes of the first meeting of the Board of Trustees in 1795. The book contains also the names of the subscribers to the fund for building the Academy. The first is that of George S. Washington, 30 pounds.

(c) The present Academy is also in charge of a Board of Trustees, lineal successors of those who founded the institution nearly a century ago.

(d) Boys and girls seem to have been then very much as they are now, at least in some of their ways.

(e) Where was that?

(f) Where is now the grove?

(g) Is that the church that stood not very far from the present Academy and was pulled down some forty years ago when the existing Presbyterian Church was built on Main street? Or, if there was a still older Presbyterian Church, where was it located?

(h) Does he refer to the church of which the ruins still stand on the plantation of /Mr. Henry Davenport, Mr. D., by the way, is now President of the Board of Trustees of the Academy.

Does anyone know when services began in that venerable old house? Does anyone know when they ceased? When was the church built and under what influences?

(i) Episcopalians will remember a daughter of this old clergymen, Miss Maria Heath, who for years lived (supported by the church) and died in a little house that stood near the site of the present Methodist Parsonage.

(k) I recollect when the Thespian Socety gave exhibitions more than forty years ago in the lower story of the old Academy. The orchestra was led by Mr. John S. Gallaher, Jr., son of the late John S. Gallaher. He played very sweet-

ly on the violin as did one of his assistants, Ned. Moore, son of Mr. Cato Moore. There were other musicians as to whose names I am uncertain, though I remember well the excellence of their music. Was Dutch Miller one of the flutists? Was Pat. Gorman one?

If I mistake not Mr. Geo. Sadler was stage manager and general director. I recollect seeing there the play of the "Stranger", and hearing the declamation of

"My name is Norval?
On the Grampion hills my father tends his flocks", etc.

(1) What has been the history of this famous sword since that time?

W. P. C.

FROM THE FARMER'S REPOSITORY

May 14, 1813

Shepherdstown Seminary

A public examination was held, on Monday last, of the pupils (under the tuition of Mr. M'Farland) who acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the board of Trustees then present. And although this institution may still be considered in a state of infancy: yet the established rules, discipline and mode of instruction, together with the progress already made by the pupils generally, seem to promise the most favorable result.

By order of the Standing Committee
Presley Marmaduke—May 5, 1813

(Copy furnished by Ella May Turner)

WASHINGTON'S SWORD

By Henry T. McDonald (1929)

At the last meeting of our County Historical Society, mention was made of the sword of Washington, which was taken from the home of Col. Lewis W. Washington at the time of the John Brown raid and worn by Brown at the time of his capture.

In the course of some casual investigations respecting this sword, I had learned that it was in the possession of the State of New York. On pursuing the matter further it was found that the relic is now in the New York State Library, Albany.

It occurs to me that there may be a number of folks in Jefferson County who would be interested in the following information, which is correct.

This sword was one of five left by Washington in his will to his five nephews, then living. The first named, who was the eldest, William Augustine Washington, had the first choice, and selected this sword on account of its traditional history. He bequeathed it to his son, who in turn bequeathed it to Col. Lewis W. Washington, of Beall Air.

In 1859 this and the fourth sword were in his possession; the second was in the possession of Lt. Henry Davis, U. S. N.; the third was in the hands of Wm. T. Washington, and the fifth in the National Institute at Washington.

There is no positive known record of the fact, but it was generally reported in the family, that this dress sword was brought over from Europe about the year 1780 to Washington, with this verbal message from Frederick XI (the Great) King of Prussia. "From the oldest General in the world to the greatest." In Moores' Diary of the Revolution there is mention of a "picture" of the sword with the above sentiment printed under it, printed in the "New Jersey Journal" of August 9, 1780. While the above may not be conclusive evidence in the case, it is very suggestive of a probable fact.

There is another impression, the exact truth of which I have not yet established, that it was brought over and deliv-

ered to Washington by Col. David Humphreys of Connecticut, who had been on his staff.

This sword was frequently worn by Washington on state occasions, as in 1791, when he received the senate at his private residence in Philadelphia.

It is represented also in some of the portraits of Washington, for example, the portrait painted by Vanderlyn for the U. S. House of Representatives in 1834.

At the time when a sword of Washington and a staff of Franklin were presented in the House of Representatives in 1843, this sword "from Frederick" was referred to as being still in the possession of the Washington family.

It will be remembered when John Brown was captured in the old engine house he was wearing the sword. Lt. Israel Green was in immediate command of the attacking squad of U. S. Marines and attempted to run Brown through with his sword, but the point of his blade struck the buckle of the belt Brown wore and broke the point of his sword. Thus temporarily the life of the leader was saved.

After the raid the sword was returned to Col. Washington. The following description of the sword is taken from the "Annual Report of the Trustees of the New York State Library" for 1873 and found on page 144.

"The sword is a straight pointed blade, with hilt and chain of polished steel, dotted with steel beads. The present case of Green Turkey morocco is not the original; that was of white shagreen or shark skin. It was covered and cleaned in 1854 in Baltimore by S. Jackson, cutler."

In a personal letter from Dr. Jas. I. Wyer, Director of the State Library, speaking of the sword he says: "In 1911 it was bent, burned and disfigured beyond satisfactory restoration, in the Capitol fire which destroyed the New York State Library."

It is not now on exhibition, but is carefully stored away in a vault in the library, where it may be seen by anyone having special interest in it.

"THE ENGLISH CHURCH" NOW CALLED "ST. GEORGE'S"

By Susan Gregg Gibson (1922)

"St. George's," the interesting old ruin on the Smithfield pike, a mile and a half west of Charles Town, was abandoned in the year 1817, when the new church in the village was completed. The pulpit, a most costly one, the pews and candlesticks and the copper roof, were removed and placed in the new church—named "Zion"—but called "The Grove Church," for some time. This new church was burned to the ground—a complete loss—as was the second one in 1849. "Zion Church," built in 1852, is the third one built on that site.

"The English Church" was built in 1770 and 1771. In 1769 an order was taken for the division of the original parish (then consisting of all that is now Shenandoah, Page, Warren, Clarke, Frederick, Berkeley, Hampshire, and Jefferson counties) into three—to be named Beckford, Berkeley and Norborne. The last included what is now Berkeley and Jefferson. The Clergymen of the Parish from 1771 to 1813 were: the Reverends Daniel Sturges, Veasey, Wilson, Bernard Page, Heath, Emanuel Wilmer and John Price. Revs. Alexander Balmaine and Mynne Thruston also held services at times.

From records it appears that although Jefferson was separated from Berkeley in 1801—"St. Andrew's Parish" was not taken from Norborne until 1815—when Rev. Ben Allen began his labor. The journal of the Diocese of Virginia, for the year 1817, reports—"Rev. Ben Allen, rector of St. Andrew's—"The new church nearly finished." So we have good reason to suppose that the "St. George's" congregation moved into its new church in 1817. The silver communion cups made by the Kirk firm of silversmiths for the church are of date 1819. They are still in existence.

The Rev. John S. Gibson wrote an article for the "Parish Messenger" in 1903, after meeting Rev. M. B. Riddle, of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Alleghany, Pa. They

were speaking of this part of the county, and of the old ruin on the pike. I quote from the article:

"Mr. Riddle told me what he had learned from his father, Rev. D. H. Riddle, of Martinsburg, W. Va., which is as follows: James Nourse, the father of my grandmother Riddle, was instrumental in the building of the old church, the land was part of his plantation, "Piedmont"—the plantation afterward sold to the Briscoe family. Mr. Nourse had the woodwork and pulpit brought from England, he had a vista cut through the forest so he could see the church from his bedroom. The vista was still in evidence in 1859 when I visited "Piedmont", then the home of the Briscoes. The date can be fixed in narrow limits. James Nourse came to Virginia in 1769. "Piedmont" was bought in 1770. In 1775, Mr. Nourse on his way to Kentucky, writing to his wife, addressed his letter to Mrs. Nourse, "Berkeley Church", this implies that the church was well known." The "Glebe" was bought in 1772. I suppose that was after the church was finished and a home needed for the Rector. This "Glebe" was sold in 1802 as a law forbade churches owning a farm at that date. (See records in Court House, Charles Town. now W. Va.)

Danske Dandridge, in "Historic Shepherdstown" says that Dr. John Briscoe bought "Piedmont" in 1780, from the Nourse family. Just when the Briscoes bought the church and the graveyard, I have not found out.

Robert Worthington, whose will was probated in Orange, Va., in November, 1735, seems to have been the original owner of the land on which the old ruin stands. He obtained a tract of three thousand acres by patent in 1734. He left a large part to his son, Robert Junior, a part, says the will, lying on a branch of the Shenandoah River, called Evats Run. Robert Worthington, Junior, built "Piedmont" about 1736, on what was then called "Worthington's Marsh." Robert, Jr's. inheritance of a thousand acres is called in his father's will "Quarry Bank, new stile," formerly "The Marsh." Nourse bought from Worthington.

James Nourse, of Washington, D. C., who died some ten years ago, at nearly 99 years of age, was a grandson of the

founder of St. George's Church. He came to see the ruins some years before he died. He told me of the cutting of the vista—of many things of interest. He said he had in his possession many records, bills, receipts as to the building of the church. The only authentic records appear to be in his family, I think, because they really bore the burden of erection. It was a costly church. The woodwork of cedar was very handsome. The pulpit was said to be wonderful. The wood and carving so beautiful, the pride of the congregation. And our ancestors have told of them and of the great silver candlesticks, the doors and tiled floor and the copper roof, which were of note in those days. [Mr. James Nourse said his grandfather gave the pulpit —made in England it was and carved.

From tradition in the Nourse and Davenport families it was a very beautiful and very handsome edifice, surpassing the more widely known Virginia churches in its elegance. It appears to us so strange that the congregation would abandon it —merely take out some of the interior, close the massive doors, and leave the grand building to become a ruin. As far as I know, there is no record of service being held there after the new church was built in Charles Town.

A pretty ruin it has been with its ivy clad walls, but the usual vandal has been busy for 20 years or more. Indeed much damage has been done in the past five years. Constant digging for buried treasure, looking for the corner stone, has caused the walls to fall. Each year more stones tumble to the ground. It is in a pitiful condition. It does seem worth preserving what remains. It was the first Episcopal Church of consequence in this section. Many illustrious men have preached in it. Many famous men and women worshipped in it.

March 17 1858 "The Church and Graveyard" were bought by Braxton Davenport from John, Henry R. and W. D. Briscoe. In 1848 Braxton Davenport had purchased from Doctor John Briscoe, father of the above mentioned, a part of the "Piedmont" estate, surrounding the graveyard. These deeds and conveyances can be found in our county court house. The ruins of old St. George's now belong to the Davenport heirs.

ROBERT HARPER, FOUNDER OF HARPERS FERRY

By Walter E. Dittmeyer

Robert Harper, the founder of Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, was born November 1, 1718, in Oxford, Pennsylvania, (now part of Philadelphia). His grandfather, John Harper, came from Oxfordshire, England, in 1682. The above information is contrary to the claim of Harper's collateral descendants, as they claimed he came from England. The headstone at his grave also states he came from England. The writer has a copy of an outline of the Harper family taken from church (Episcopal) and other records in Philadelphia and the names mentioned therein coincide with the names mentioned in Harper's will. Also a manuscript, found among the effects of a collateral descendant, says that some members of the Society of Friends, who located on Apple Pie Ridge, in then Frederick County, Virginia, came from England, on the same boat with Harper. Among the names mentioned was a Mr. Walker. The writer some years ago made a visit to the home of Mr. Pidgeon at Wadesville, Va. Mrs. Pidgeon, who was a Miss Walker and a descendant of the Mr. Walker mentioned in the manuscript, had a history of the Walker family which showed the original Mr. Walker came from England in the latter part of the seventeenth century (the exact date writer has forgotten), which coincides wth the coming of Harper's grandfather.

In his youth Harper was apprenticed to an architect, house and mill builder, which business he followed while in Philadelphia. He was very successful for several years, after which a reverse of fortune overtook him and he afterwards told his friends, that "everything went wrong at that time."

"The fact was that he had overreached himself in attempting too much, a bad title to his most important land purchase, and his efforts to build on his own account, a church in Frankford, then about six miles from Philadelphia, greatly embarrassed him." After the reverse of fortune overtook him, he finally determined to leave Philadelphia forever. After a settlement with his creditors, he had left about four hundred guineas. He was then looking for a new home. He wavered

between Charleston, South Carolina, and Albany, New York, and finally decided on Charleston, and with that intention was making arrangements to leave by the first boat. At the time he was preparing to leave for Charleston, the Society of Friends was holding a meeting in Philadelphia and the members attending from Apple Pie Ridge were looking for a millwright to come and settle in their section and build mills for them. After examining a mill built by Harper for one of their members in Philadelphia, also learning of his leaving for a new locality, they called upon Harper and finally induced him to come and live among them. They gave him full instructions about the route to take. The agreement to come was made in the month of October but Harper was not to come until the following March. He left for Apple Pie Ridge March 10, 1747 and reached Frederick on the sixth day of travel. About dusk of same day a German peddler named Peter Hoffman arrived in Frederick, riding one horse and leading two others packed with all kinds of goods. The two became acquainted and Hoffman finding out Harper's destination and route, which was to cross the Potomac above Antietam Creek, the writer thinks Pack Horse Ford, Hoffman said "oh, no, you must go with me the nigh-cut and I will show you the grandest place you ever did see at the Forks of de river." He told Harper about the Hole as Harpers Ferry was then called, and the great opportunity of the water power for mills and about Pete Stephens, who was a squatter at the Hole and that it would be easy to buy Stephens out and then to buy the land from the proper owner, Lord Fairfax. Harper finally consented to come with Hoffman to the Hole. They arrived about dark at the Hole and stayed with Stephens. The Stephens cabin was located about where Dittmeyer's Drug Store is now located. The next morning Harper was so astonished at the grand scenery and the unsurpassed water power, that he decided to make it his future home. Finding Stephens willing to sell his quarter's claim, he bought it and then proceeded to "Greenway Court" and got a patent from Lord Fairfax for the land. He then went to Apple Pie Ridge to build the mill for the Friends as agreed. He returned to the Hole, his wife coming from Philadelphia and they lived

in Stephens' cabin until he built a house about one-half mile up the Shenandoah, a little distance from where the Shenandoah Pulp Mill is now located. He also built a grist mill and sawmill on the Shenandoah near his home, and prospered.

The General Assembly of Virginia during the 1763-4 session granted Harper a charter for his ferry.

At the beginning of the War of Independence, Harper, being a Tory, opposed it, but he soon sided with the colonies when the Crown officers in Virginia called on him to aid with his money in the Royal cause.

About 1780, he built the present "Harper House" but it is very doubtful if the family ever occupied it.

Harper married a Miss Rachel Griffith of Philadelphia. There were no children. She died in 1780 from a fall from a ladder. Robert Harper died about October 2, 1782.

He willed the land of the present Harper Cemetery and directed in his will that a church be erectd within the cemetery. The church was erected on the site where the ruins of the old Episcopal church now stand. It burned about 1835. It was known as the Free Church. Harper was a member of the Episcopal Church.

The quotations, and some of the information, were taken from the manuscript found among the effects of a collateral descendant.

FROM THE FARMER'S REPOSITORY

February 26, 1813

The Whig Club will dine at Mr. Miller's (Elk Branch) on Tuesday next, March 2nd. Dinner on the table at precisely 2 o'clock.

(Copy furnished by Ella May Turner)

LETTER FROM HENRY BEDINGER TO CAPT. ABRAM SHEPHERD

(In possession of Miss Susan Gregg Gibson)

Cumberland C. T. House Sept. 9th, 1781.

Dear Friend

I wrote a letter a few Days past to my Mother by a Mr. Jones & Now write by another Mr. Jones both of which I hope will come to hand.

Have the pleasure of Confirming to you the Arrival of Twenty Eight Sail of French line of Battle Ships with Six Frigates, they have landed upwards of three thousand men at James Town, are Making every possible Effort to have everything in Readiness for an attack on the Enemy under Command of Lord Cornwallis at York, who are Intrenching & will bear a Seige, If not prevented by a Timely Attack.

His Excellency General Washington arrived in Camp the Day before yesterday, every person here & throughout this Country are in highest Spirits & Expectations on the Genls acct. Great Numbers are Voluntaryly gone of, from Richmond & its Vicinity to See the Operations, while One half the Militia of all these and adjacent Counties are under Marching orders to assist in So Capital an Enterprise We hope & are almost Certain the army Must fall into our hands.

Lorde Rawden was taken on his passage from Charles Town for England by the French Fleet, is now in our Camp I expect to Remain altogether at this Station being appointed as I before Mentioned to you in my Letter Q Mr. (quartermaster) to the Station. If I can get a Furlough Shall come to see you, So Soon as the Encampment is finished the Soldiers Hutts built & Sufficient Stores lain in for the winter Season, at any Rate I must & will come, between this & Christmas unless Sickness or Something extraordinary Should prevent it. I'm Just now losing what little Hair I had left when you See me last & Expect by the time I Shall arrive with you Shall be as Bald as an Eagle, Occasioned by the Sickness I had as Pennsborough in Amherst.

Flour will be Greatly wanted by the Fleet likewise Beef &Pork. No hard Money will be given for the Victualing them because the State must furnish them with provisions. There is plenty of hard Cash among them & think Buck Skin Breeches would bring Any Quantity of it

Remember me Respectfully to My Mother & her family to your Nelly & ..... all Friends

I am in Haste as the Gentleman has Waited Since I began Writing ..... & your Friend

Henry Bedinger.

Tobacco has taken a sudden Rise Twill Fetch 12— at Richmond & 'tis expected will Rise but this uncertain.

H. B.

Addressed

Capt Abram Shepherd
Berkeley County
Virginia (Forwarded by Mr. Jones)

HISTORY OF A CONFEDERATE FLAG

By M. L. Herrington

(Written shortly before her death, at the age of ninety-two in 1932. Manuscript in possession of Miss Sallie Lee Powell.)

It may be interesting to the Shepherdstown Chapter of the U. D. C. to know the facts about a flag that was made and sent through the lines in 1861 to our Company B. A United States flag was given to four or five girls (young girls at that time) by Mr. Rezin D. Shepherd, who lived in New Orleans. In summer he lived at "Wild Goose Farm." The flag was one from one of his vessels. It was sent to us by Mr. James Henry Shepherd and was to be converted into a Confederate flag, a work that was dangerous at that time. Being in disputed territory we could work only when our men were in the lines and had to be very cautious then. My father, Joseph Entler, owned and lived at "Wingard Cottage" during the War, and there the flag was made. The location off from the town, and the large wide hall, were ideal places for the work, which took many anxious weeks to complete. Very

tedious to rip every seam of the stripes in such a way as not to ravel the bunting, every star was ripped from the blue field, and then to sew all the red together and all the white, etc., form the bars red, white and red. Of course we had a surplus of stars as the Confederacy was young. After many weeks of work, nervousness and anxiety the flag was finished, and the beautiful Confederate flag was ready to be sent through the lines to Co. B. It was hidden away waiting a safe transfer.

One day I heard the tramp of cavalry and clang of sword and sabers, I looked out the window and saw the Cottage was surrounded by Yankee Cavalry. Oh, the flag, what was to be done with it? I heard the officer read his orders to my father to search his premises thoroughly for contraband and stolen goods. My father seemed to be protesting against the search—but that gave me a little time to take the flag from its hiding place in a closet. The house was surrounded. I could not get out to hide it. I pulled a dress from the wall and put the flag in it and threw it carelessly across the back of a chair (skirts were very wide and had deep facing upon them). I took the little flags that were worn on our dress, put them under the carpet, when my door was pushed open by Capt. Horner of Col. Cole's Cavalry and the search commenced. Every bureau drawer and closet was searched, even the grandfather clock, where reposed letters to go through the lines, but they were too deep in the bottom of the old clock to be detected. Everything was handled but the blue striped dress hovering over its precious treasure. It was too insignificant to attract their notice and they gave up the search—but rather in a bad humor.

The flag was safe and sent to Co. B., but all inquiries after the same has failed to locate it. There was an exchange of flags several years ago and that flag would be readly recognized by its seams and its homemade marks. Now what became of that flag is a mystery. It went through the lines and was received by the company. I believe I am the sole one living who helped to make the flag, and saved it from being captured by Capt. Horner, its first Yankee assailant.

THE OLD CHARLES TOWN ACADEMY, (1795)

(Copied from the Spirit of Jefferson, Feb. 21, 1857)

It is therefore proposed to erect a Seminary of Learning in Charles Town (Berkeley County) in which the Greek and Latin Languages are to be taught, and in case of sufficient encouragement the French, likewise the English in all its Branches, Geography, Astronomy, Criticism, Natural and Moral Philosophy, and all the different Branches of Mathematics, &c.

The money to be raised by Subscribtion or Donation. When a sufficiency of money shall be raised, the subscribers, on a day appointed, shall meet and choose Twelve Trustees, who are to hold their office during good behavior, and to elect others in case of Death or removal. These gentlemen are to superintend the Buildings, choose their President (or Principal) attend to the examination of the students, and be in every instance the Patrons and Guardians of the Institution Therefore to carry this desirable and laudable plan into effect We the Subscribers do oblige ourselves, our heirs, Executors, or Administrators, to pay unto the Board of Trustees hereafter to be chosen, the sums annexed to our several names; one half of which is to be paid on or before the first day of October next, ensuing the date hereof, the other half to be paid by the first day of April one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six.

Witness our hands and sums, the twenty-seventh day of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five.

Subscribers' Names

	L	S	D		L	S	D
1 George S. Washington	30	0	0	42 Battaile Muse	6	0	0
2 Gabriel Nourse	9	0	0	43 David Moore	1	10	0
3 Henry Gantt	7	0	0	44 Robert Cockburn	5	0	0
4 Ferdinando Fairfax	30	0	0	45 Edward Christian	2	8	0
5 Beverly Whiting	6	0	0	46 Moses Hunter	6	0	0
6 Robert Throckmorton	6	10	0	47 David Hunter	6	0	0
7 Tobias Lear	6	0	0	48 James Stephenson	6	0	0
8 George Hite	20	0	0	49 Chris'r Parot	2	0	0
9 Thomas Hammond	9	0	0	50 Edward Burns, Jr.	3	0	0
10 Van Rutherford	9	0	0	51 John Morrow	3	0	0
11 Abram Davenport	9	0	0	52 James Wilson	3	0	0

12	John Briscoe	20 00	53	James Stuart	2 80
13	William Tapscott	1 40	54	Francis Whiting	2 80
14	Thomas Worthington	12 00	55	Andrew Waggoner	3 00
15	James Hite	12 00	56	Theodoric Lee	15 00
16	Chris. Collins	9 00	57	John Davenport	2 80
17	Matthew Frame	9 00	58	John Potts	2 80
18	Magnus Tate	9 00	59	Nathaniel Craighill	6 00
19	Edward Gantt	6 00	60	John Tate	6 00
20	John StClair	3 00	61	Joseph Crane	6 00
21	James Hammond	12 00	62	Thomas Peterkin	2 80
22	Joseph Dean	3 00	63	Richard McSherry	2 80
23	Thomas Rutherford Jr.	12 00	64	Michael McKewan	1 50
24	John Bate	3 00	65	Hugh Holmes	2 80
25	Andrew Taws	3 00	66	F. Conrad	2 80
26	William Cherry	1 10 0	67	Thomas Turner	9 00
27	Edward Tiffin	2 80	68	Ezekiel W. Bull	12 00
28	Smith Slaughter	2 80	69	Robert Baylor	12 00
29	Joseph Minghini	3 00	70	John Washington	3 00
30	William Darke	12 00	71	John Baker, Jr.	1 16 0
31	Philip Pendleton	20 00	72	Lancelot Lee	6 00
32	John Packett	3 00	73	John McConnell	3 15 0
33	Giles Cook	1 10 0	74	Wm. H. Powell	15 00
34	Gersham Keyes	2 80	75	Corbin Washington	6 00
35	Benjamin Beeler	5 00	76	James McIlhany	6 00
36	John Cooke	1 10 0	77	Cyrus Sanders	1 16 0
37	Stephens Thomp. Mason	10 00	78	Elisha Boyd	3 00
38	Thomas Griggs	6 00	79	John Dixson	3 00
39	Benjamin Strother	6 00	80	John Mines	4 16 0
40	Thomas Rutherford, Sr.	6 00	81	George North	25 00
41	Robert Rutherford	6 00			

On the 1st. day of the ensuing August, 1795, a meeting of subscribers was held; when a board of Trustees was elected, Two of the gentlemen, not included in the above list, were placed in the Board—both of whom were perhaps in too straightened circumstances to admit of generous donations; but their hearts were in the work. Those two names as numbered below will be recognized by many of our citizens.

Original Board of Trustees

Philip Pendleton
Thomas Griggs
Thos. Rutherford, Sr.
Gab'l Nourse
Chris'r Collins
Geo. S. Washington
82 Alex. White
83 Wm. Hill
Geo. Hite
Ferdinando Fairfax
George North
Edward Tiffin

At the same time the Board was elected. Mr. Collins was chosen as Clerk of the Board.

THE STORY OF FALLING SPRING

By Miss Susan Gregg Gibson

Falling Spring is one of the oldest and most historic spots in Jefferson County. The main house, a fine example of colonial architecture, was built over a hundred years ago by Jacob Morgan. Near it, and by the spring that gave the place its name, is an old stone house which was one of several built by Richard Morgan, who came from Wales to York, Pennsylvania, thence to Mecklenburg, Virginia, now Shepherdstown, West Virginia. There he was granted land by King George I and Lord Fairfax in the county which is now Jefferson.

To this little stone house did Abel Morgan, son of Richard, bring his bride, who was Elizabeth Bedinger, sister of Henry Bedinger, of Hugh Stephenson's Company of Virginia Riflemen. Richard Morgan was a captain in the Indian War 1741-42 and later. Jacob Morgan, who built the mansion house at Falling Spring, was the son of Abel Morgan and Elizabeth Bedinger. Jacob's son, the late Colonel William A. Morgan, inherited the estate. At his death it passed out of the Morgan family, being purchased by Dr. M. H. Crawford. He sold to Dr. G. P. Morrison, who in turn sold to the present owner, Mr. P. P. Steptoe, of Clarksburg, West Virginia. It is interesting to learn that this estate was recorded in the first deed as "Falling Spring."

Mr. Steptoe, in 1932, graciously gave permission to the Pack Horse Ford Chapter, N. S. D. A. R., to erect a marker in memory of the brave men of Hugh Stephenson's Company at the entrance to his estate on the Kearneysville pike, as a memorial to those Virginia Riflemen who started from their rendezvous at Morgan's Spring for Boston on July 17, 1775. Morgan's Spring was the popular name for Falling Spring among the soldiers and their descendants.

All know the story that before starting on the march to Boston the men shook hands and pledged to meet at the spring in fifty years if alive. Alas, when that time came only two old men met there—Major Henryy Bedinger, of Berkeley

County, Virginia, and his brother, Major General Michael Bedinger, of Kentucky, the latter having ridden in on horseback for the occasion. There were three other survivors, according to a letter of Major Henry Bedinger: Judge Robert White, of Winchester, Virginia, and General Samuel Finley and William Hulse, of Ohio, but they were too infirm to attend the reunion in 1825. Peter Lauck, of Winchester, was said to have been present, but he belonged to General Daniel Morgan's Company of Frederick. Lauck was a member of the "Dutch Mess," the four or five survivors of Morgan's men.

(Editor's note—George Tabb, of Stephenson's Company, also must have been alive at time of reunion, his will being probated in 1826. Government pension rolls show Peter Haines, also of Stephenson's Riflemen, still alive in 1840. Probably Tabb and Haines were both living or visiting outside of the county at time of the reunion.)