

THE ROCKINGHAM RECORDER

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THE ROCKINGHAM RECORDER

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SIXTH INSTALMENT
FROM THE FIRST MINUTE BOOK
OF
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY COURT

At a Court cont: & held for Rockingham County Tues-
day the 23d Day of May 1780

Present

Daniel Smith	Henry Ewing
Thos Hewit	Reuben Harrison

Breeding & al vs Fultz & al: Bill & Time
John Alderson vs Murray contd for Spa to be published
Sellers vs Dulen—abates Deft: deced
Samuel Monsey vs Vanpelt & al: Atta for Ans:
Dillings vs Melsap & Ux: contd for Spa to be published
Miller vs Baker—pleajd
Monsey vs Lincoln agd
Lincoln vs Monsey agd
Foaland vs Humble & al: Atta for Answr
Huston vs Henderson—pleajd
Johnston vs Bowyer—Bill & Time
Branders vs Burns—agd
Crow vs Cravens—Bill & Time
Huston &c vs Stevensons Exers—Time
Smith vs Meggart agd
Meffort vs Thomson—pleajd
Arckenbright vs Perkey pleadj
Brock vs Chrisman agd
Trytitle &c vs Smith agd
Brewster vs Hansberger pleajd
Bear vs Knox—pleajd
Brock vs Lear pleajd
Scothorn & uxr vs Crow pleajd: agd each party paying
equal costs
Hager vs Croyder, pleajd

Geo Haga vs same—N: G & contd
 Keisel vs Rutherford—pleajd
 Nicolas vs Kirtley—N — & contd
 Stephenson vs Rodgers—N. Assr & contd
 Brock vs Huston N G & contd
 Dever & Co: vs Hevviss & Uxr N Assr & contd
 Croyder & Uxr vs Haga N: G: & contd
 Skidmore vs Averman N G & contd
 Berger vs Meffort—N Assr & contd
 Cook vs Sellers—dismist
 Woodley vs Huling—N G contd

—— & privy Examina of Mary & Agnes Poage as to
 Land sold by their Husbands to Val: Seftall retd: & O to be
 recorded

Deed of B & Sale from Chas Man to Jno Kesterson was
 further proved by Willam Fitzwater & Hensip Dove two
 of the Wits: & O to be recorded

Joseph Briggs is exempted from paying County Levies
 O to —— present Reuben Harrison Benja Harrison & Is:
 Hanckle

Commonwealth vs Brock dismist
 Williams vs Wier contd Deft:
 Peartree vs Knox dismissed
 White vs Benson contd for plt
 Brock vs Williams dismissd
 White vs B: Smith contd
 Conrod vs Keisel contd
 Powers vs Harper contd
 vs same—contd
 Boyles vs Hewit—contd
 Miller &c vs Croyder contd
 Same Admr vs same contd
 Beale vs Brock contd
 Knox vs Bear contd
 Bowyer vs Denniston & Shankland dismist by plt
 Owens vs Rutherford dismd

Farris vs Williams contd
 Douglass vs Smith contd
 Reagan vs Love contd

Present Wm. Herring & Robt Davis

Appearances.

Wilson vs Carter Imp
 Solomon vs Coursey dismd by plt return
 Cook vs same dismd
 Moffet vs McVey dismissd as to the others by Sh return
 Maiden vs Dooley dismd by Sh return
 Miller vs Croyder—P C.
 Deck vs Bush C O
 Smith vs White Imp
 B Smith vs Hainey dismd no Appearance
 White vs Smith A C
 Hainey vs Smith A C
 Smith vs Williams A C
 Keisel vs Smith Imp
 vs same Imp
 Greenlee vs Greatricks & al P C
 Kyser vs Mcfarlane P C
 Hawkens vs Thomson I W E
 Byrne vs Conrod C O
 Common: vs Bush contd on recog
 McVey vs Ireland dismd by plt

Present Jno Davis

Vance vs Dever contd Deft
 Hawkens vs Nelson: Atta
 Hite vs Bumgardner Judt to deduct plts recpt for £6 - -

Scothern & Wife vs Hinton a Jury towit Robt Smith
 Junr Joseph Ruddeford Joseph Dictam Robt Curry An-
 drew Shanklen Brewer Reeves Thos Harrison David
 Ralstone Reuben Harrison Robt: Harrison & Nehemiah

Harrison being sworn ret their Verd: We clear the Deft
plt being called & not appearing Nonsuit

O that Jos: Scothern pay Susannah Taylor 10 Day At-
tend: as a Wits vs Hinton

Reuben Harrison 3 Days Attend:
Sinah Needham 3 Days Ditto
Danl: Helfrey 8 Days Ditto
Jno Harrison 3 Days
Elizabeth Hinton 3 Days

Orderd that Mary Hinton pay Robt: Rutherford 5 Days
Attend ads Scothern Mary Rutherford 1 Day Reuben Moore
4 Days Margt Harrison 4 Days

William Pickerin & Barbary his Wife she being first
privately examined acknowledged Deed of B & Sale to Jno
Ferris which is O to be recorded

Commonwealth vs Mcbride a Jury towit Robt: Smith
Jas: Dever Joseph Rutherford Joseph Dictam Robt Curry
Andrew Shanklen Brewer Reeves Thos Harrison Josiah
Harrison Reuben Harrison Robt Harrison & Nehemiah
Harrison, who being sworn ret their Verdt: we find the
Deft guilty & assess his punishment to £250 fine & 4 Days
Imprisonment

Commonwealth vs Good C. O:
vs Harret C O
vs Baker Contd

O that Wm. Hook be appointed. Overseer of the Road
in the Room of Andrew Shanklen & that the usual Tiths
work under him.

Ordered that the Court be adjourned to the Court in Course

Daniel Smith

At a Court called & held at the Courtho on the Ninth
Day of June 1780 for the Examination of John Davis on
Suspicion of being guilty of Treason against the State &
other Misdemeanors

Present

Daniel Smith	Thomas Hewit
Henry Ewing	Benj. Harrison
Reuben Harrison	

The said John Davis being brought to the Barr and
having heard the Charge laid in the Warrant of Committ-
against him & being asked if he was Guilty or not, pleaded
not Guilty

Whereupon the Court proceeded to hear & examine several
Witnesses on Behalf of the Commonwealth touching the
Crime wherewith the prisoner stands Charged, & also what
the prisoner had to say in his Defence on Consideration of
which the Court are of Opinion that the said John Davis is
guilty of Treason agt: the State, & that he should be sent to
the genl Court to be tried for the same which is order'd
accordingly, & it is further Order'd that Seruah Stratton
& Jas Rodgers & Wm Gregg shall enter into Recognizance
to appear as Wits agt him Whereupon Seruah Stratton
William Gregg & James Rodgers severally acknowledged
themselves indebted to Tho: Jefferson Esqr Governor of
the Commonwealth in the Sum of Ten Thousand pounds
each of their respective Lands & Tenements Goods & Chat-
tels to be levied & to the said Governor and his Successors
rendered Yet upon this Condition that if the said Seruah
Stratton William Gregg and James Rodgers shall each of
them personally appear on the Sixth Day of Oct [?] & there
to give Evidence on behalf of the Commonwealth agt John
Davis for Treason [?] the genl Court to be held at Rich-
mond in October next & then the above Recognizance to be
void otherwise to remain in full Force & Effect.

Seruiah Stratton proved 2 Days Attend: as a Wits: for the Commonwealth agt Jno Davis

William Gregg 2 Days Ditto

Jas Rodgers 2 Days D

Peter Vanemon 2 Days

Jacob Conrod 2 Days

Saml Greatricks 2 Days

Jacob Harper 2 Days

Philip Harper 2 Days

Robt Davis 2 Days

Isaac Hankle 2 Days

Ruth Skidmore 2 Days

Cha: Powers 2 Days

Sat: Sennet 2 Days

On which the Court arose

Daniel Smith

At a Court held for Rockingham County at the Courtho Monday the 26th Day of June 1780

Present

Daniel Smith	Reuben Harrison	} Gent Justices
Thomas Hewit	William Herring	
Henry Ewing	Benja Harrison	

Michl Cogger Gent is appointed to take the List of Tiths in his own Company, & Capt: Capt: Beeslies Company, George Boswell in Capt. Rush's Company, John Gratten in Capt Hustons Company, William Herring in Capt. Josiah Harrisons Company, Silas Hart in Capt. Hamiltons Company, John Davis in Capt Baxters Company, Reuben Harrison in the Company late Capt Lincolns, John Fitzwater to take the List in his own Compy, Anto Reader in Capt Rudeles Compy, William Medowel in Capt Birds Comp, Thomas Hewit in Capt Reagens Company, James Dyer in Capt Davidsons Compy, & Isaac Hankle in Capt. Johnstons Company

Frederick Price being bound over on Recognizance taken before Danl Smith Gent for drinking the King of gt Britains health & Huzzas for the sd King appeared & several Witnesses being sworn & examined as well on behalf of the Commonwealth as of the said Frederick the Court on Consideration of the Matter are of Opinion that the said Frederick Price be bound over to the grand Jury Court to be indicted for the above Offence himself in the Sum of Ten Thousd pounds & two Securities in the Sum of five Thousand pounds each

Whereupon the said Fred Price, wit Augustine Price & George Mallow his Securities severally acknowledged themselves indebted to Thos: Jefferson Esqr: Governor for the Time being to wit the said Frederick Price in the Sum of Ten thousand pounds and the said Augustine Price & George Mallow in the Sum of five Thousand pounds each of their respective Goods & Chattels Lands & Tenements to be levied & to the said Governor or his Successors render'd Yet upon this Condition that if the said Frederick Price shall personally appear at the grand Jury Court to be held for this County in Novemr next then the above Recognizance to be void otherwise to remain in full force

Also John Nicolas, Abraham Hammond, & Jacob Archenbright junr severally acknowledged themselves indebted to Thos Jefferson Esqr Governor &c. in the Sum of one Thousand Pounds each of their respective Goods & Chattels Lands & Tenements to be levied & to the said Governor & his Success rendered Yet upon this Condition if the said John Nicolas, Abraham Hammond & Jacob Archenbright shall each & severally appear at the grand Jury Court to be held for this County in Novr next to give Evidence in behalf of the Commonwealth agt Fred Price then the above Recognizance to be void otherwise to remain in full force & Effect.

John Gratten vs Samuel Bear on Attachmt Hugh Donahoe Spl [?] Bl

Deed of Bargain & Sale from Abraham Lincoln &

Bersheba his Wife to Michael Shanks was proved by the Oaths of Charles Mair & George Chrisman & by the solemn Affirmation of Solomon Mathews the Witnesses thereto & O to be recorded & O for Deds for privy Examina of the Wife

Michael Shanks & Elizabeth his Wife (she being first privately examined) acknowledged Deed of Bargain & Sale to John Vance & Handle Vance O to be recorded

O that the Church Wardens bind out Elizabeth Gregg Orphan of Thos Gregg to William Gregg according to Law

O that they bind out Elizabeth Woolridge Orphan of Geo Woolridge to Michl Shank according to Law

Boon vs Berry AC

Rush vs Craige AC

Rogers vs Smith & UX AC

Kirtly vs Peters AC

Stephens vs Ireland AC

Kiser vs Mcfarlaine PC

White vs Smith PC

Hainey vs Smith PC

Miller vs Croyder PC

Monsey vs Lincoln & als Als. Atta

Foaland vs Humble & als Als. Atta

Order'd that Benja Harrison & Wm. Herring Gent be empowered to agree with the Undertaker of the Courtho to omit the partion (partition) of the East End of the House for the Jury Rooms & to sink the Joyst over the front Door so as to make a Jury Room above wt a pair of Stairs in the Corner, or two jury Rooms if the space will admit of it

Ordered that John Shanklen be appointed Constable in the Room of Wm. Magil & that he (be) summond to swear into the Office before Willm Herring Gent

Order'd that the Court be adjourned till the Court in Course

Daniel Smith

At a Court held for Rockingham County on Monday the 28th Day of Augt 1780 present

Danl Smith, Henry Ewing Benja Harrison, Wm. Herring Jno Davis, Reuben Harrison Isaac Hankle

Deeds of Lease & Release from Jacob Myer, Valentine Trost [Trout?] & Mary his Wife she being first privily examined were acknowledged to Nicolas Carn & O to be recorded.

Deed of B: & Sale from John Drake to Saml Drake was proved by the Witnesses & ordered to be recorded

Deed of B: & Sale from James Dyer to John Wirtmiller was acknowledged by said Jas & O to be recorded

David Byers & Rosannah his Wife she being first privately examd acknowld L & Release to Frederick Myer O to be recorded

Deed of B & Sale from Christo Brunk & Mary his Wife to Woolick Keester was proved by the Oaths of Geo: Kerstner Jno Leman & Chas Mair three of the Wits & O to be recorded

Deed of B & Sale from Jno: Brunk to John Miller was proved by the same Wits & O to be recorded

Deed of B & Sale from sd Jno Brunk to Corn Ruddle proved by the same Wits & O to be recorded

John Crafurd acknowldg's Deed of B: & Sale to Thos King O to be recorded.

Inventory of Saml Skidmore was ret'd & O to be recorded

O: that the Church Wardens bind out Moses Webb a base born Child to Peter Vanemon according to Law

Willm McDowell Gent ret'd his List of Tiths

Gratten vs: Bear Atta agd:

James Magill vs Gerald Phelan on Complaint for abuse of Eleanor Harriss the Court on hearing the Witness as examined touching the abuse & also heard what the said Phelan had to offer in his Defence are of the Opinion, the

Complaint is malicious & groundless & order it to be dismissed wt Costs

Miller vs: Croyder P: C:

Stevens vs. Ireland P C

Beale vs: Brock Judgmt confessed for £500 Damages with costs

Samuel Mills proved one Days Attendance & coming & returning 44 miles from Shanandoah County as a Witness for Tav. Beal vs Brock

The last Will & Testament of Thomas Baggs deceased was further proved by the Oaths of Samuel Smith & George Long two of the Witnesses & admitted to Record

Samuel Smith proved one Days Attend: & coming & returning 35 Miles as a Witness to prove the above Will

George Long the same

George Boswell Gent retd his List of Tiths

John Stunkard acknowledged his Deed of Barg. & Sale to Valentine Huffman O to be recorded

Deed of B: & Sale from Casper Fought to Michael Tanner was proved by George Boswell & Thos. More two of the Witnesses & O to be recorded together with the — privy Examina of his Wife formerly — & O to be recorded

George Fisher having been bound over on the Complaint of Patrick Gwine for a misdemeanor committed by his Sons Chas & Jacob Fisher several Witnesses being examined the Court are of the Opinion that the said George Fisher be bound in Recognizance for the good Behavior for a Year & a Day himself in the Penalty of one Thousand Pounds & two Securities in the Sum of five Hundred Pounds each

Whereupon the said George Fisher with Martin Archenbright & Jacob Conrod his Securities severally acknowledged themselves indebted to Thomas Jefferson Esqr: the said George Fisher in the Sum of one Thousand pounds & the said Martin Archenbright & Jacob Conrad in the Sum of five Hundred pounds each of their respective Lands & Tenements Goods & Chattels to be levied & to the said Govr

& his Successors render'd Yet upon this Condition that if the said George Fisher shall be of good Behavior for a Year & a Day then the above Recognizance to be void otherwise to remain in full force & Judt for Costs

Commonwealth vs Henry Peninger Deft being called & not appearing to answer the Suit it is order'd that his Recognizance be put in Suit

Thos Hicks proved 2 Attendance March 79 Commonwealth Peninger.

2 Ditto Augt

2 Ditto Novr

2 Ditto May 80

2 Ditto this Court

Jas Davis proved 2 Days Attend: Augt 79

2 Days Ditto Novr

2 Days Ditto May 1780

2 Days Ditto this Court

John McCoy 1 Day Ditto

William Shannon & Catherine his Wife, she being first privately examined, acknowledged Deed of B & Sale to John Blain O to be recorded

George Keisel acknowledged Deed of Surrender to George Piper Melchor Piper & Jacob Shereley [?] O to be recorded

Thomas Campbell acknowledged Deed of B & Sale to the Presbyterian Congregation of Cookes Creek with Recpt indorsed & ordered to be recorded on the Moto of Henry Ewing Gent

The last Will & Testament of Alexr McCoy was produced in Court & proved by the Oath of Jno Fitzwater & Michl Baker two of the Witness & Susannah the Executrix therein named having ent into Bond & made Oath according to Law Certificate is granted her

Leave is granted to Barnabas Zimmerman to keep an Ordinary at his House in this County he having complied with the Law

Ordered that Michl. Baker Paul Kester, Adam Rinehart & Jno Runnion or any three being first sworn do appraise the Estate of Alex: McCoy deceased

Wm. Boone vs Berry agd: Defts Costs

The last Will & Testament of George Mcneil was produced in Court & proved by the Oath of John Fitzwater one of the Wits: O to be certified [and Elizabeth the Widow the Executrix therein named entered into Bond with John Gratten her Security] [marked out in the record.]

Deed of Gift from David Nelson & Charity his Wife to Johnston Nelson & Daniel Nelson was proved by the Wits & O to be recorded & O: for Deds to examine the Wife

Administra of the Estate of Sebastian Hover junr is granted to Susanna his Widow & Sebastian his Father who entered into Bond & made Oath according to Law

Ordered that Henry Stone Jacob Hover Christian Roleman & Henry Swadley or any three being first sworn appraise the sd Estate

O that the Church Wardens bind out Jane Lewis Orphan of Anto Lewis to Josiah McClure according to Law

Commonwealth vs. Ward a N:G. jd. a Jury to wit James Magill John Pence John Rush Jas Frasier Adam Archenbright J- Alterson [?] Jas Laird John Denniston David Harnet John Herdman Jas Diver & Rodger Dyer a Jurors withdrawn by Consent & Suit contd.

Woodley vs Huling O for Deds: to examine Ab: Bowyer for plt in Maryland

Deed of B: & Sale from Jno Kesterson & Rebecca his Wife to William Fitzwater was proved by Jno Fitzwater & Michl Baker two of the Wits & O to be certified

Reuben Harrison Gent retd: his List of Tiths

William Herring Gent retd: his List of Tiths

Mathews vs: Gwine, Joseph Ditam Spl Bail

Ordered that Pat Gwine pay Jacob Smith 1 Days Attend: as Wits vs Fisher

Ordered that the Court be adjourned till tomorrow
at 10 oClock

Henry Ewin

LOYAL TO THE KING

On a branch of Smith Creek, about three miles east from the Caverns of Melrose, are the ruined walls of William Hinton's old stone mill. For many years this mill was a busy center of the neighborhood, and a William Hinton himself aspired at one time to be much more than a dusty miller. He seriously proposed to save this country for the British King. In other words, he was an active and pugnacious Tory in the early years of the Revolution.

In what year this mill was built is unknown at this time, neither do we know whether a William Hinton was the builder; but it was known as Hinton's Mill in 1778, and probably for some time preceding. On November 24, 1778, a petition was laid before the new Rockingham County Court praying for a road from Reuben Harrison's to Hinton's Mill, and Michael Warren, Reuben Harrison, and John Hinton were ordered to view and make report of the "Conveniences & inconveniences attending the same."

Already, fifteen months before this, while Rockingham County was still a part of Augusta, William Hinton had stepped into the limelight. On Saturday, August 16, 1777, David Harnet and John Owens appeared before magistrate Daniel Smith and took oath that on the preceding Wednesday William Hinton came to the house of the said David Harnet with an armed force and declared himself in favor of the Crown of Great Britain, and that General Howe might as well go home with his men, for he (Hinton) could raise men enough to subject the country, and that he would do it.

Official action in the case was taken promptly. On Tuesday, August 19, Col. Abraham Smith, county lieutenant (chief military officer of Augusta), issued an order to Capt. Patrick Buckhanon, in words following:

"Sir: — I have received information by the deposition of David Harned, etc., that a certain William Hinton has openly appeared in defense of George the Third, King of

Great Britain, and in open violation against the United States of America, and has enlisted men in behalf of the King of Great Britain. These are therefore to request you, in the name of the Commonwealth, to raise any number of volunteers or as many as you will think necessary without the loss of time. You are to march your men to Smith's to apprehend the said William Hinton and all his abettors and all those concerned in behalf of the said King and in violation against this Commonwealth. You are to bring them to Staunton and have them secured under a proper guard until proper proceedings can be had on them, and I expect they will receive their proper reward of their deserts. You are to be reinforced by Capt. David Bell, Thomas Hewit, Capt. William Anderson, Capt. Hopkins and Capt. Daniel Smith. Herein fail not. Given under my hand this 19th August, 1777. (Signed) Abraham Smith."

On this order was endorsed: "By virtue of the within order, I have taken Martin Groeder and Henry Groeder, and John Groeder, William Hinton, Peter Hinton, and Elisha Nox, and brought them before Sampson Mathews, William Bowyer and Alexander St. Clair. (Signed) Patrick Buchanan. August 21, 1777."

From the records at Staunton it appears that on Saturday, August 23, the persons apprehended were given a preliminary hearing, probably before a grand jury. Witnesses heard were David Harnet, John Owens, Thomas Alderson, Joseph Smith, John Conner, Joseph Burgess, Jacob Falkner, George Keller, Peter Grass, and John Bright. The said William Hinton Jr., Martin Groeder, and John Groeder were adjudged guilty of a breach of the Act aforesaid; they were ordered to be held in jail for trial on the third Tuesday in September. Thus, we may assume, they were formally indicted.

Evidently in the meantime some one was active in behalf of the prisoners: witnesses for the defense were subpoenaed: Robert Harrison (son of Thomas), Jonathan Haynes, James See (?), Catharine Keisell, Daniel Smith Sr., William

Vance, Elizabeth Scothran, Isaiah Harrison, Thomas Lookcy, Abraham Bowyer, William Russell, and Thomas Moore.

Subsequent records regarding this case are brief and fragmentary, but it appears that at the trial in September the three men indicted in August were found guilty: John Groeder (Crider?) was fined 2 pounds and two years' imprisonment; Martin Groeder was fined 50 pounds and three years' imprisonment; and William Hinton was fined 400 pounds and four years' imprisonment.

On the back of the papers relating to the case are sundry notes—items jotted down apparently by the clerk of the court during the trial, recording some of the statements made:

"Joseph Smith—reputed Tory and drinking the King's health. Capt. Hite intended to take him and desired Smith to go with him. Went to Hinton's mill. Found and seized him. Resisted. Got away. Stoned them. Called to them and told them, You will all be hanged yet. Followed them. With stones. Two recruits. Offered them ye money (?) and would not go with d... scoundrel. Willing to go before.

"Several suspected Tories. Johnson, whom Hinton called out to assist him and damned him for not complying with his sworn word. A barbecue that night when open war was to be declared. Arnet (Harnet), Owens, and Alderson. Hinton followed Hite and Smith. Where the d... Tory catchers? If here I would tie to apple tree and would whip till I made them enlist in my service. I am Tory. The King has a right to the country and shall have it. Have no occasion to come here, for I can raise men enough to take the country and will do it, for I am Captain of better men than they. Whipped two of their officers to-day and served them in ye same manner as Howe did Washington. See Howe drive them as stray sheep.

"Mrs. Scothern — Had sworn two into his service. Who are they? Phillips and Williams, who had before entered into our service. (Proved by Alderson.) Bright. —Damned

him for giving information to take up Tories and turned his pistol towards him. Burgess.—Last fall heard him declare himself a King's man, and that the King had a right to the country. Heard some good news. What it was—Howe driving General Washington through the Jersey. Do you call that good news? Yes.

“Commonwealth vs. John Archer.—Similar to above.”

REV. ALEXANDER MILLER

Four months before William Hinton was apprehended, Alexander Miller, M. A., formerly a Presbyterian minister, prepared an extended statement in which he set forth various arguments, supported by Scripture references, advocating the royal authority and deploring the revolutionary acts of the colonies. This statement was presented to the justices of Augusta County and to Col. Abraham Smith, county lieutenant. Nine months before this Mr. Miller had been arraigned and sentenced to be confined to the bounds of the plantation on which he resided till the end of the war.

It is not known that there was any communication between Mr. Miller and William Hinton, but it is reasonable to suppose that the latter was aware of Mr. Miller's views and was influenced by them.

John Tate, in his declaration of Revolutionary service made before the Augusta County Court on September 7, 1832, stated, among other items, that in 1777 he had volunteered under Capt. Patrick Buckhannon and Capt. Thomas Smith on an expedition against the Tories assembled near Peaked Mountain; that the leaders had been captured and lodged in jail. Inasmuch as Hinton's Mill was (and is) near Peaked Mountain, we may assume that this expedition was the same ordered by Col. Abraham Smith in August 1777.

This story may be concluded with a few more items from the records of Rockingham County. On March 23,

1779, for the trial of McPike vs. Hook, the jury empaneled consisted of Michael Warren, Jacob Woodley, Alexr. Herring, Josiah Harrison, Saml. Skidmore, Conrad Humble, Jeremiah Reagen, John Ewing, William Hinton, John Chesnut, Joseph Dictum, and Ezekiel Harrison. Question: Had William Hinton, who had been sentenced to prison for four years in 1777, been liberated and restored to good standing as a citizen? Probably not. The answer seems to be in one word following his name in the indictment of August 23, 1777—the word “Junior.” It was William Hinton Junior who was the rabid Tory, and we may assume that it was his father who was the Rockingham County juryman of March 23, 1779. This assumption is strengthened by certain orders of the court entered on Monday, March 27, 1780, to wit:

“The last Will & Testament of William Hinton was proved by Engle Boyer & George Hinton two of the Wits: and Mary the Widow & Michael Waren the Exers therein named entd into Bond with Security & having made Oath according to Law Certifacate is granted them

“O: that Reuben Harrison Robt Dickey Jno Harrison & Jno Armentrout or any 3 being sworn appraise the Estate of Wm Hinton.”

We may conclude that William Hinton Sr. was not a Tory; that he was the Rockingham County juryman of 1779, and that it was his will that was entered for record in 1780. Unfortunately his will as recorded must have been burned entire in June 1864—no part of it appears in the “Burnt Records” now to be seen in the County Clerk's Office in Harrisonburg.

JOHN W. WAYLAND.

August 21, 1957.

A POSTSCRIPT

About 1950 Mr. R. L. Armentrout, who was then the owner of the Hinton Mill site and the remains of the mill,

told Joseph K. Ruebush that he (Armentrout) had sold the buhrstones of the old mill to the McCormicks to be used in restoring the old McCormick mill at Walnut Grove, near Steele's Tavern, on the line between Augusta County and Rockbridge. The McCormick mill stands within a few yards of the old shop in which Cyrus H. McCormick and his father made the first reaping machine in 1831.

WHO BUILT THE FIRST MILL IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY?

Mills were built very soon after the first settlements were made, because the people needed them to grind corn into meal and wheat into flour. Settlements were made here soon after 1730, and we have evidence that there were mills in operation at different places by 1740 or before that date.

Jacob Stover built a mill on Mill Creek, in what is now the eastern part of Rockingham County, in 1741 or earlier. We know this because a land patent of 1741 speaks of "Jacob Stover's Mill Creek." The mill probably was built before 1740. He had taken up land in that region soon after 1730.

In 1740 Daniel Harrison had surveys made of several tracts of land, one of which is described as lying on the head of "Linvell's Mill Creek." This shows that Mr. Linvell, or Linville, must have had a mill on Linville Creek in that year, 1740. It was probably built several years earlier. This old mill was on the creek about half a mile below Edom.

It may be then, from what we have seen, that the first mill in what is now Rockingham County was built by Jacob Stover, on Mill Creek, or by William Linville, on Linville Creek. It seems plain that both had built mills by the year 1740 or earlier.

Another old mill was at the site of Dayton. Augusta County records show that Daniel Harrison had a mill there

in July, 1748. This mill may have been built as early as 1745, for Mr. Harrison took up land in that neighborhood in 1740. By 1740 the country was pretty well settled by white people, and, as we have already noted, mills were much needed.

We cannot be certain who built the first mill, but we can be certain that Jacob Stover and William Linville had mills in 1740, and probably before that date.

WAS TOBACCO EVER GROWN IN ROCKINGHAM?

It *was* grown here in early days, also in the counties of Shenandoah and Frederick, and probably also in Augusta.

It does not appear that the growing of tobacco was carried on as extensively in Rockingham and other parts of the Shenandoah Valley as it was in eastern Virginia, but there is evidence in our early records that it was grown here and that it was used to a considerable extent in business transactions.

On November 26, 1781, the Rockingham County Court allowed 4000 pounds of tobacco to Gabriel Jones for his services as commonwealth's attorney. On the same date Peter Hog, the county clerk, was paid 1400 pounds of tobacco for extra services; and the sheriff was allowed 1200 pounds, also for extra services.

In Shenandoah County, also, court officers were paid in tobacco, at least sometimes, and bounties for killing wolves were also paid in tobacco.

On file in Richmond is an old petition that throws a good deal of light on this question. This petition was addressed to the Honourable Speaker and the Gentlemen of the House of Delegates. It was presented on November 20, 1784. This petition was signed by 98 men of Rockingham County, and they requested that James Diviers, in the town of Harrisonburg, be given leave to build a warehouse in the

said town for the inspection of tobacco. This was to avoid the expense of hauling tobacco a long distance, perhaps across the Blue Ridge, for inspection. It had to be inspected and approved before it could be offered for sale.

It was stated in the petition that James Diviers proposed to build the warehouse on his own land in the said town, at his own expense, and to provide all things necessary thereto.

Among the 98 signers of this petition were Richard Ragan, Josiah Davisson, Robert Harrison, Isaiah Shipman, Hugh Divier, Henry Ewin, Roger Dyer, George Keezel, James Bruster, William Cravens, Ezekiel Harrison, George Chrisman, Stephen Conrad, John Grattan, and John Hopkins, Jr.

Notwithstanding this lengthy and earnest petition, no evidence has been found that a warehouse for the inspection of tobacco was ever established in Harrisonburg.

HOW MANY TIMES DID STONEWALL JACKSON'S ARMY PASS THROUGH HARRISONBURG?

Three times, all in the year 1862: first in April; the second time in May; and the third time in June.

In April 1862, Jackson's army was encamped on Rude's Hill, below New Market, for a week or ten days. On the 17th of April, as the Federal army under Banks came up to Mt. Jackson, Jackson's army began to withdraw from Rude's Hill, moving up the Pike. On the 18th and 19th it passed through Harrisonburg and turned eastward, passing through McGaheysville and Conrad's Store, towards Swift Run Gap.

About the first of May Jackson left Swift Run Gap, starting on his roundabout way to McDowell, in Highland County, going through Brown's Gap to Mechum's River, in Albemarle County; coming back thence to Staunton over the railroad. Just west of Staunton he joined General Edward

Johnson, and on May 8 they defeated Milroy and Schenck in the battle of McDowell.

They followed Milroy and Schenck almost down to Franklin. Then Jackson returned and came back into the Valley, coming down by Buckhorn Tavern, Stribling Springs, Mt. Solon, Mossy Creek, Bridgewater, and Dayton. On the 20th of May the army passed through Harrisonburg, going down the Pike.

At Tenth Legion Jackson was joined by General Dick Taylor with a part of General Ewell's force from Swift Run Gap. Between New Market and Luray they were joined by Ewell with the remainder of his force from Swift Run Gap. During the next ten days they were in the lower Valley, chasing the army of Banks out of Front Royal, Strasburg, and Winchester.

Early in June Jackson came back up the Valley, being followed on the Pike by Fremont. General Shields came up the Page Valley.

On June 5 Jackson's army passed through Harrisonburg, took the old Port Republic Road, and proceeded to Cross Keys and Port Republic. On the evening of June 6 General Turner Ashby was killed in Chestnut Ridge in a hard fight with the Pennsylvania Bucktails. On Sunday, June 8, was fought the battle of Cross Keys, between Fremont and Ewell; and on the next day Jackson and Ewell defeated the army of General Shields in the battle of Port Republic.

This was the wind-up of the famous Valley Campaign.

"Stonewall Jackson's men were few
In the spring of Sixty-Two,
But he kept the Blue-Coats busy,
'Fact, he almost made 'em dizzy,
Stealin' marches, quickly cuttin'
Round about the Massanutten."

GERMAN BOOKS AND GERMAN PRINTERS IN VA.

KLAUS G. WUST

The Books of the Immigrants of the 18th Century

People crossing the Atlantic after long, tedious trips from the upper Rhine Valley to the coast could not carry much with them in the 18th century. Their baggage was limited to the absolute necessities. And yet, the German immigrants had brought with them from Germany and Switzerland to Pennsylvania and from Pennsylvania to Virginia what they considered absolute necessities: their great heavy Bibles, their hymn books, and their prayer books. They paid the heavy import duty laid upon books by the English government at the solicitation of the King's printers and placed proudly these cherished books in their new log homes on the mountain slopes in the Shenandoah Valley.

The family Bibles brought over from Europe have survived generations. Many of them are still today in the possession of the descendants. Others have found their way into the rare book collections of our libraries. The genealogical data contained in them is one of the most valuable sources of local and family history. Imprints of many European cities can be found among these Bibles. Most of them are the translation of the Scriptures by Martin Luther, but among the Dunkers the "Berleburg" Bible was quite frequent, while the "Zurich" Bible could be found in Mennonite homes.

One of the earliest settlers of the Valley, Abraham Strickler, a Swiss who located around 1726 on the Massanutten tract, carried with him to Virginia the oldest of all Bibles found among the German settlers, printed by Christoffel Froschauer in Zurich, Switzerland in 1536. This Bible is still owned by his descendants.

A survey of those books brought directly from Europe shows that they are exclusively religious works as the only

books read and owned by common people in Europe in those days were predominantly of religious nature. There was not much time left for any other literature in the hard pioneer life of the Virginia frontier to even read these books, except for the Bible which meant certainly much consolation to people that had settled in the wilderness.

Those families who had sojourned in Pennsylvania for some time before they came to Virginia had acquired books from the famous German presses there. Christopher Saur of Germantown and the Ephrata Brethren had printed most of the literature demanded by the German farmers. Thus, the earliest German books to be found in Virginia homes came either from the old country or from Pennsylvania.

Among the European imprints apart from the numerous Bibles are the Lutheran Hymnals printed at Marburg, *Evangelia und Episteln auf alle Sonntage* (J. H. Stocks, Marburg, 1745), Gottfried Arnold's *Wahre Abbildung der Ersten Christen* (C. H. Fuchs, Leipzig, 1740), and *Das Verborgene Leben mit Christo in Gott* (J. Schmitz, Solingen, 1747). In 1773 Peter Brillhardt, a German farmer, owned a 738 page book, the translation of St. Macarius' Monument of Old Christdom by Gottfried Arnold (*Denkmal Von dem Alten Christenthum*, T. Fritschen, Frankfurt, 1702). Brillhardt sold this copious book to Henrich Spizer for six shillings.¹ Of interest are two wills filed at a time when the book production in Pennsylvania had just begun and most of the volumes owned by the Germans in Virginia had been brought from across the sea.

In the inventory of Abraham Strickler's estate, filed on June 18, 1746, we find "Eight small Dutch books, a large Dutch Bible and some old books."² Martin Kaufman's inventory of May 17, 1749 lists the following books:

A prayer book, an old book,
English and Latin dictionary,

1) All of these books are in the collections of the Bridgewater College Library and the Rockingham County Hist. Soc., Harrisonburg, Va.

2) Augusta County Will Book, No. 1, 12; 3) *ibid.*, 125.

- 3 great Bibles,
- 14 books with sermons,
- a great martyrsbook,
- 2 testaments and 5 hymn books,
- small Bible, 3 psalm books,
- 10 small books, "Gueldene Apfel in Silbern Schalen",
- sundry other small books.⁴

Martin Kaufman, who died in 1749, was a Mennonite preacher at the Massanutten settlement. In this will we find the first books printed in Pennsylvania. *Gueldene Aepfel in Silbern Schalen*,⁴ a 519 pages book that contained numerous testimonials, epistles, prayers, and hymns by Mennonite Martyrs was printed in 1745, and the "great martyrsbook", T. J. Van Braght's *Der Blutige Schau-Platz oder Martyrer-Spiegel* had just come off the Ephrata press in 1748.⁵ This was the largest book printed in the American Colonies before the Revolution. The binding of this 1484 pages volume consists of heavy boards covered with home tanned leather. Several copies were owned by families in the Shenandoah Valley.⁶

After this time a constant flow of books came down from Pennsylvania. Most popular among the products of the German presses in Pennsylvania was the Saur Bible. The first edition came out in 1743. The demand was so great that several editions followed. Many homes in the Valley possessed Saur Bibles.⁷ Almost as important was the Saur Almanac. Hymn books were urgently needed for the many new congregations that had sprung up everywhere in the Valley. Few congregations in those days were supplied with hymn books as church property. It was the custom for members who were sufficiently interested, and felt they could afford them, to buy their own. The *Marburger Gesangbuch*, the standard Lutheran hymnal was printed in Pennsylvania since 1759. Also the Pietist hymn book, preferred by the Dunkers, *Das Kleine Davidische Psalterspiel*

4) Bender, *op.cit.*, 2; 5) *ibid.*, 3; 6) ViBr has one exemplar.

der Kinder Zions, was published by Saur in several editions after 1744.⁸

Among the other books which were widely circulated in the Valley during the early period are the following ones:

Die Wandlende Seel, a Mennonite publication with many editions in Pennsylvania, by Johann Philip Schabalie;

Gerhard Roosen, *Christliches Gemuths-Gesprach*, (Ephrata 1769, 1770);

Von der Historia Des Apostolischen Kampffs (Ephrata, 1764;

J. Bunian's *Pilgrims- oder Christenreise*, (Germantown, 1755);

Tersteegen, *Geistliches Blumen-Gartlein Inniger Seelen* (Germantown, 1769);

Joh. Habermann von Eger, *Christliches Gebat-Buch* (Germantown, 1762-9)⁹

Apart from religious books as the ones listed only the annual almanac and occasionally newspapers were read. Some of the religious groups, principally the Dunkers and Mennonites, were opposed to worldly newspapers, although it was the Dunker Christopher Saur who had started the most successful German sheet of that time. His *Der Hoch-Deutsch Pennsylvanische Geschicht-Schreiber* published since 1739 was read everywhere where Germans had settled. In 1751 it had 4000 subscribers and circulated not only in Pennsylvania, but also in Virginia, Georgia and Carolina.¹⁰ Later on *Der Staatsbote*, June 28, 1762, published at Philadelphia, had many readers in Virginia. Heinrich Ringer, at Winchester, and Jacob Nicholas, at Peaked Mountain, were agents for the paper in the seventies of the 18th century.¹¹

7) ViBr has several Saur Bibles; 8) Fisher, *op.cit.* 6.

9) All these books are in ViBr or ViHarHl.

10) Sidenstricker, *op.cit.* 143; 11) Seidenstricker, *op.cit.*, 419.

Only during the later period we find agents for Pennsylvania newspapers and books. Usually the itinerant preachers or occasional visitors brought the new products from the Pennsylvania presses. There was much travelling back and forth between Pennsylvania and the Shenandoah Valley. Many families still had relatives and friends in the North and were in constant communication with the older settlements. Their churches were parts of northern organizations. Often members of a congregation entrusted their orders for books to one of their fellow members who would travel to Pennsylvania. Thus, we have some lists of books that were ordered by members of the Dunker Church in what is now Rockingham County.

Martin Gerber at one time ordered for his neighbors and fellow members of the Dunker church the following books:

13 German New Testaments,

12 Davidische Psalterspiel

1 Losekastli (a little leather box with cards on which Bible quotations were printed, also called "The Pious Lottery", printed by Christopher Saur)

9 English Hymnals,

3 *Wandlende Seel* by J. P. Schabalie.¹²

Great must have been the plight for books during the earliest days of settlement. The Germans at Germanna in 1720 had appealed to the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel" in London for spiritual aid. A committee of the Society reported that they could not send a missionary to the Germans "but are of the opinion that twenty-five copies of the Common Prayer in the German language be given to them by the society. This was agreed to by the society."¹³ Sixty-three years later the Lutheran Pastor Adolph Nussmann expressed another need which characterizes the progress of the German settlers in the South, particularly in Virginia. By 1783 they had developed their

¹²) The Garber Papers, Bridgewater College Library.

¹³) Hinke, *op.cit.*, 105;

interest in literature, mainly of religious nature of course, that the need for a print shop began to arise. In a letter he deplored the fact that there was no German press between Maryland and Georgia."

1789 Matthias Bartgis announced the opening of his German print shop in Winchester. The Henkel press of New Market began German printing 1806. 1807 Jacob D. Dietrich, born in Philadelphia of German immigrant parents followed in Staunton, Lawrence Wartmann 1815 in Harrisonburg. The Virginia Germans began their own literary activities.

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¹⁴) Wust, *op.cit.*, 17.

DIARY OF W. H. AREHART

(1864)

Fifth Instalment

Jan. Friday, 1st.

We were camped on Lost River. Traveled in the direction of Moorefield. We crossed the mountain. It is awful getting along. The road is as slippery as glass. We got in camp at the foot of the mountain on the South Fork.

Jan. Saturday, 2nd.

We remained in camp all day. It is almost impossible to get over the icy roads. Myself and Walker Frankum went to Moorefield to shoe horses.

Jan. Sunday, 3rd.

We leave camp early this morning. Marched in the direction of Pattersons Creek. We reach the Pattersonsburg road. Captured 41 wagons and 60 prisoners. We then moved of—then in the direction of Burlington. After marching 5.6 miles we camped for the night. Our squadron was on picket.

Jan. Monday, 4th.

We leave camp near Williamsport. Marched into town. The Yankees have just left, but before leaving they set several buildings and a mill on fire. They had this place fortified. We marched on to Burlington. Captured the place and several prisoners. We then moved of—in the direction New Creek. Marched till 10 O.C. in the night. We then camped for the night at Ridgeville and snowing all day.

Jan. Tuesday, 5th.

We leave camp 8 mi. above Burlington, at Ridgeville on the New Creek road at 3 O. C. in the morning. Marched in the direction of Romney Gap through Romney. Encamped 12 miles beyond Romney on the North River road. McNeil and Gilmore captured a train at Springfield. The roads were very icy. It was *awfull* getting along.

Jan. Wednesday, 6th.

We all again on the march. Encamped on Lost River. The weather is *awfull* cold. Marched about 32 miles.

Jan. Thursday, 7th.

We leave camp again. Cross the mountain. Encamped on Mill Creek. Myself and Sam Ryman went to Mr. Johnathan Pence's and stayed all night.

Jan. Friday, 8th.

Left Mr. Pences at 9 O. C. and proceeded to Forestville. After stopping awhile I then struck for home and reached it about 12 O. C. At 3 P. M. I started for camp from home. Got there at sundown.

Jan. Saturday, 9th.

Capt. Sipe got to camp early this morning. I left camp this morning at 9 O. C. Went home to have my boots *mended*. Ordered to report to camp next morning by roll call, which I did not fail doing so.

Jan. Sunday, 10th.

Left home this morning at 2 O. C. Reached camp at 4 O.C. on Mr. Hoover's farm 2 miles below Timberville. Remained in camp all day. Casper and Silas Holsinger traded horses today.

Jan. Monday, 11th.

In camp near Mr. Hoovers 2 miles from Timberville. Detailed for camp guard. Col. Massie started home this morning on furlough. I went to Mr. Drivers for a turn of hay and supper.

Jan. Tuesday, 12th.

Detailed to go with Capt. Earl to buy forage. Left camp at 8 O. C. Went home for the first place and left my gray mare at home. We then proceeded down as far to Mr. T. Meyrs. Did not succeed in getting much. I then returned back home and went to camp after night.

Jan. Wednesday, 13th.

Detailed to take 10 men from Co. H. and proceeded to my fathers on the Bunfrey farm to husk corn. After we *ware* done husking we all returned to our homes and returned to camp after night. Capt. Earl got 82 bushels of corn.

Jan. Thursday, 14th.

In camp near Mr. Hoovers. At dusk myself, Sam Ryman and Solon Bowman went to Mr. John Minnicks and returned by 12 O. C.

Jan. Friday, 15th.

Detailed to go on Linville Creek to find a situation for Maj. Knott's wife. Left at 9 O. C. Went to Mr. J. J. Bowmans and other places but did not succeed to get her in. I then went home, remained there several hours and then went to Franks and stayed all night.

Jan. Saturday, 16th.

Left Franks this morning at munup (moon up). Reached camp about 9 O. C. A. M. Not able to *ware* my boot on my left foot. I then applied for permission from Dr. Williams to go home, and it was granted. I left camp at 11 O. C. A. M. and reached home $\frac{1}{2}$ after 12 O. C.

Jan. Sunday, 17th.

At home doctoring my foot. Dr. Williams and Capt. Marshall called over to see me from camp.

Jan. Monday, 18th.

At home *sitting* by the fire. Was accompanied Mr. Armentrout, Uncle Jacob and several soldiers. Casper come home at 11 O.C. but did not detain himself long. Returned to camp. Recd. \$150.00 being the wages for September & October—clothing money included.

Jan. Tuesday, 19th.

At home. Casper left home this morning at 4 O. C. Solomon Bowman come to see me today and took Captain's mare along to camp.

Jan. Wednesday, 20th.

At home. *Accompanied* by David Reedy and others. Casper and Capt. Sipe made *there* appearance this evening. Received of Casper \$50.00, being my wages for November and December.

Jan. Thursday, 21st.

At home. Casper and Capt. left at 8 O. C. this morning. Emanuel brought my *veliece* and clothes home today.

Jan. Friday, 22nd.

At home and it being a *beautifull* morning. Sold Lewis Macay 10 or 15 bushels of corn today. \$4.00 per bushel.

Jan. Saturday, 23rd.

At home Mr. Lucun Chamberlain of B 12 Va. Cav. moved his colt away from my fathers. Also Mr. John Brock *bin* here.

Jan. Sunday, 24th.

At home. Early this morning a quartermaster of 7th Va. Cavalry (Mr. Blakemore) sent a detail of 6 men without orders of giving satisfaction which I call a rascally act.

Jan. Monday, 25th.

At home. George went to Harrisonburg today. Casper come home this evening at dusk and returned next morning early to camp.

Jan. Tuesday, 26th.

At home. Myself, Mr. Sheets, Jacob and Mr. Heironomous played rounce nearly all day. The boys killed a beef today weighing 367 lbs.

Jan. Wednesday, 27th.

At home. Isaac was busy today in getting up a petition to the *Secrytary* of War for an exemption. Esqr. J. J. Bowman been here today.

Jan. Thursday, 28th.

At home. Isaac and Mr. Heironamous went to Harrisonburg today. Got permission to remain at home *untill* he get his return from *Secrytary* of War.

Jan. Friday, 29th.

At home. Mr. Sheets and Jacob Gassman started to go to Hampshire Co. this morning. *Ant* Betsey killed her large hog today, weighing 483lb.

Jan. Saturday, 30th.

At home. George and Naason went to Harrisonburg and handed in a petition. Isaac was ploughing.

Jan. Sunday, 31st.

At home and *accompanied* by good many of my friends. Sergt. Maj. Spindler and Johnson were here all night.

Feb. Monday, 1st.

At home. George, Isaac and Naason went to Harrisonburg today. Sergt. Maj. Spindle left early this morning.

Feb. Tuesday, 2nd.

At home. Reported Gen. Rosser captured another wagon train on Patterson's Creek, near Petersburg.

Feb. Wednesday, 3rd.

At home, it being a very cold and blustery today. I wrote a letter today for *Ant* Betsey. Went to *Ant* Betseys in the evening.

Feb. Thursday, 4th.

At home. Mr. Clifton and Fletcher *ware* here today. Michael Neff and Jacob Garber came here in the evening. Took in 5 or 6 head of cattle for Col. Dulaney today.

Feb. Friday, 5th.

At home till 1 O'clock P. M. I went to Mr. Orebaughs and *stoped* at Georges on the road today. Gen. Rosser's brigade returned from the *mountaines*. Casper come home this evening at dark. Mr. Sheets and Jacob Gassman returned this evening.

Feb. Saturday, 6th.

This morning at 9 O'clock started to Mr. Orebaugh's. Again in returning I *stoped* W. L. Neff's. Reached home at 2 O'clock. At 5 O'clock this evening Casper came home from camp, the company having been disbanded for 10 days.

Feb. Wednesday, 17th.

At home. Casper and Sam Ryman started to camp this morning near Mount Meredian. This is a very cold day.

Feb. Thursday, 18th.

Left home at 8 O'clock A. M. Went to Mr. John Bowmans. Remained there till 5 O'clock P. M. Started to Mr. Branners near Forestville. Remained there for the night.

March, Tuesday, 8th.

Reached home early this morning. Isaac started to Harrisonburg this morning. At 2 O'clock P. M. myself and W. A. Will proceed to Timberville, thence to Mr. Phillip Strickler's. We then went on a scout. Did not return *untill* a late hour in the night.

March, Tuesday, 15th.

Left home this morning at 8 O'clock. Went to Capt. Sipes by the way of Timberville, thence to Mr. B. F. Strickers and to Mr. Holsingers. Reached home late in the evening.

March, Wednesday, 16th.

At 1 O'clock P. M. I went to the blacksmith shop at Mr. Brocks, thence to Mr. John Bowmans. Reached home at sundown. Fred Messick was arrested today by our scouts.

March, Thursday, 17th.

At 7 O'clock this morning myself, Naason, Anderson Will, Casper Bowman, J. K. Ritchie and Joseph F. May started to camp. We reached Harrisonburg at 12 O'clock. We *were* then informed our company was disbanded for 8 days. We then returned home by the way of Capt. Sipes. Reached home about 7 O'clock in the evening. Found Casper at home.

March, Friday, 18th.

Remaining at home. Hard at work making *garding*. W. A. Will *cam* here this evening.

March, Saturday, 19th.

At home till 1 O'clock P. M. Went to Timberville and before reaching the place I discovered Mr. See's barn was on fire. It is supposed the fire *origonated* by sparks blown from the bakeoven. Reached home at sundown.

March, Sunday, 20th.

Went to preaching at Raders Church. Mr. Stirewalt delivered a very practical *sirmon*. Returned home after preaching. *Accompanied* at a good many of Company H.

March, Monday, 21st.

At 1 O'clock P. M. started to Forestville, thence to Mr. Rust, thence to Mr. Josiah Branners. Returned home late in the evening.

March, Tuesday, 22nd.

At home. Went to Mr. Michael Brocks. Had my mare shod in front. Snowing all day.

March, Wednesday, 23rd.

Started to camp this morning. Left home at 7 ½ O'clock A. M. Reached Harrisonburg at 2 O'clock P. M., thence went to Mr. Isaac Bakers. Remained there all night.

March, Thursday, 24th.

Left Mr. Bakers this morning at 8 O'clock. Ordered to report Mt. Crawford. The company left Mt. Crawford at 9 ½ O'clock. Reached Staunton at 2 O'clock P. M. Continued our march. Camped for the night at Middlebrook, 10 miles S. W. of Staunton, Augusta County, Va.

March, Friday, 25th.

Left camp this morning near Middlebrook at 7 O'clock. Reached camp near Brownsburg at 10 ½ O'clock. The distance from Middlebrook to Brownsburg is 12 miles.

March, Saturday, 26th.

In camp near Brownsburg. All quiet. A letter from Isaac today. In camp near Brownsburg.

March, Sunday, 27th.

In camp at Brownsburg. Had company inspection this morning at 9 O'clock. Jacob Gassman was in our camp today.

March, Monday, 28th.

This morning at 9 O'clock myself and Sam. Ryman went out forageing. Returned to camp by 4 O. C. P. M.

March, Tuesday, 29th.

In camp. *Comenced* raining at an early hour this morning. At 1 O'clock P. M. it commenced snowing. This was a very disagreeable evening.

March, Wednesday, 30th.

In camp near Brownsburg, Rockbridge County. Prepared 3 days rations today for a move.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY CHRONOLOGY

Fifth Instalment

- 1862, May 1-8—Jackson's army moves from Swift Run Gap, via Port Republic, Brown's Gap, Mechum's River, and Rockfish Gap, to Staunton, West View, and McDowell. Joins Gen. Edward Johnson at West View.
- 1862, May 8—Col. S. B. Gibbons of Harrisonburg killed in the battle of McDowell.
- 1862, May 17—Gen. Ewell, who had come over Swift Run Gap from the east and joined Jackson near Conrad's Store, before Jackson left there on or about May 1, riding over from Swift Run Gap to Mt. Solon, has a conference with Jackson.
- 1862, May 20—Jackson's army passes northeast through Harrisonburg, having returned from the west via McDowell, Buckhorn Tavern, Mt. Solon, Bridgewater, and Dayton.
- 1862, evening, May 20—Part of Ewell's force from Swift Run Gap, under Gen. Dick Taylor, joins Jackson's advance at Tenth Legion.
- 1862, May 21—Jackson and Taylor go through New Market and across Massanutten Gap; Ewell, with his other forces from Swift Run Gap, joins them just east of the Massanutten Mountain.
- 1862, May 23—Jackson, having gone down the Page Valley, drives Colonel Kenly and his 1000 out of Front Royal.
- 1862, May 23—Captain Sheetz of Ashby's Cavalry killed at Waterlick, between Front Royal and Strasburg.
- 1862, May 24—Banks, hurrying northeast from Strasburg, is struck from Middletown to Winchester by Jackson from the southeast.

- 1862, May 25—Banks's army driven out of Winchester northward by Jackson.
- 1862, May 26-30—Jackson's army in the lower Valley.
- 1862, Friday, May 30—The *Rockingham Register*, Harrisonburg, announces that it has been suspended the past five weeks—war.
- 1862, May 31—Jackson's army hurries up the Valley to Strasburg; Federals coming in from the east and from the west.
- 1862, June 1—Jackson at Woodstock, moving up the Valley Pike.
- 1862, June 1—Capt. Lawrence Meem of Shenandoah County killed at Seven Pines, near Richmond.
- 1862, June 2—Jackson at Hawkinstown and Mt. Jackson, followed up the Pike by Fremont; Shields moving up the Page Valley.
- 1862, June 3—Jackson's army, retreating up the Valley before Fremont, burns the bridge over the river above Mt. Jackson.
- 1862, June 3—Cavalry battle in Meem's Bottom, southwest of Mt. Jackson. The river bridge burned by the Confederates.
- 1862, June 4—Jackson reaches Harrisonburg. Moves south on the Port Republic Road.
- 1862, June 6—Gen. Turner Ashby killed in the battle of Harrisonburg, 1 1/2 miles southeast of the town, in Chestnut Ridge.
- 1862, Sunday, June 8—Ewell, with a part of Jackson's army, drives back Fremont at Cross Keys.
- 1862, June 9—Jackson crosses the rivers at Port Republic, goes 2 1/2 miles down to Lewiston on the other side, and defeats Shields (battle of Port Republic).

- 1862, June 9—Bridge over North River at Port Republic burned by Jackson's order, to prevent Fremont from crossing to aid Shields.
- 1862, June 10—Shields retreats down the Page Valley; Fremont down the Valley Pike.
- 1862, June 12—Fremont at Mt. Jackson.
- 1862, June 12-17—Jackson's army rests at Mt. Meridian, then moves across the Blue Ridge towards Richmond.
- 1862, June 26—Fred Hisey, blacksmith and preacher, age about 71, dies at Edinburg.
- 1862, July—"The Bank of Rockingham has again commenced operations at its old place of business in Harrisonburg."—From the *Rockingham Register* of Friday, July 18, 1862.
- 1862, July 24—Birth at Millwood of William Henry Whiting Jr.; See "Who's Who in American," Vol. 13 (1924-25), page 3403.
- 1862, Aug. 8—Jacob Stickley, age 63, dies at Strasburg.
- 1862, Aug. 17—Capt. Israel P. Rinker of Shenandoah County shot from ambush in Frederick County.
- 1862, Aug. 28—Col. John Francis Neff of Rude's Hill, commander of the 33d Va. Inf., Stonewall Brigade, killed in the Second Manassas battle.
- 1862, Thursday night, Aug. 28—The large stone mill on Smith Creek, known as "Henton's Mill," belonging to Richard L. Yancey, burned by an incendiary.
- 1862, Nov. 4—Confederate general hospital opened in Harrisonburg.
- 1862, Nov. 21—Jackson's corps of Lee's army, following the first invasion of Maryland, marches from Strasburg towards Woodstock.

- 1862, Nov. 22—Jackson's corps continues up the Valley Pike.
- 1862, Nov. 23—Jackson's corps at Mt. Jackson and New Market.
- 1862, Nov. 24-27—Jackson's corps crosses from New Market to Stanley and Fisher's Gap in the Blue Ridge, fording the Shenandoah River at the site of Columbia Bridge.
- 1862, Dec. 24—Joseph Funk dies at Singers' Glen.
- 1863, Jan. 2—In the *Rockingham Register*, Harrisonburg, obituary of Joseph Funk.
- 1863, Jan. 7—The Federals at Woodstock.
- 1863, Jan. 15—No. 4, Vol. 1, of *The Stonewall*, Harrisonburg Weekly Newspaper, page size 12½ by 18½ inches; Samuel J. Price, publisher.
- 1863, March 19-24—Baltimore Methodist Conference in session at Churchville, 79th annual session.
- 1863, April—Belle Boyd and Major Harry Gilmor at Woodstock.
- 1863, April 22—The Federals at Narrow Passage.
- 1863, May 3—Col. S. T. Walker and Major Joshua Stover of Shenandoah County killed in the battle of Chancellorsville.
- 1863, May 7, 8—Federals (Col. Elliott and others) at Mt. Jackson.
- 1863, May 9, 11—In the *Rockingham Register*, killed and wounded of the 10th Va. Inf. in the battle of Chancellorsville.
- 1863, May 11—Shenandoah County Court gives an order for issuing paper money, receivable for taxes.
- 1863, June 3-5—Belle Boyd, Confederate spy, at the American Hotel in Harrisonburg.

- 1863, June 15—General Milroy and army driven out of Winchester by Lee's army, moving northward.
- 1863, June—Locust year at Woodlawn, Shenandoah County.
- 1863, July 25—Hampton's brigade passes up (southwest) along the Middle Road by Woodlawn.
- 1863, July 26—Jenkins's men pass up the Middle Road by Woodlawn.
- (Woodlawn is on the Middle Road, three miles north from Mt. Jackson and two miles northwest from Hawkinstown. Mt. Jackson and Hawkinstown are both on the Valley Pike, now U. S. Route 11.)
- 1863, Aug. 1—Joseph W. Latimer, the "Boy Major," dies at Mrs. Warren's in Harrisonburg.
- 1863, Oct. 10—Imboden's command goes down the Valley.
- 1863, Nov. 4—White's (Confederate) battalion passes down the Middle Road (northeast) by Woodlawn.
- 1863, Nov. 16—Federals come up the Pike to Mt. Jackson—fight with White.
- 1863, Dec. 9—Columbia Furnace, Shenandoah County, burnt by the Federals.
- 1863, Dec. 10—Gilmor attacks Boyd's pickets at the river bridge above Mt. Jackson.
- 1863, Dec. 31—Fitz Lee and Rosser cross North Mountain at Orkney, going northwest.
- 1864, January—A general Confederate hospital at Harrisonburg in charge of Dr. A. Russell Meem and Dr. N. W. Calhoun.
- 1864, January—Capt. John C. Blackford killed at Newtown (Stephens City).
- 1864, Jan. 7—Died John Strayer of New Market in his 84th year.

- 1864, Jan. 12—Rosser returns to Mt. Jackson from the New Creek raid.
- 1864, Jan. 15—In the *Rockingham Register* Shank & Witts, hatters, Bridgewater, offer \$1.00 each for coon skins, \$1.00 a dozen for good well-stretched rabbit skins.
- 1864, Jan. 29—Jacob Kagey, age 58, dies at Woodlawn, Shenandoah Co.
- 1864, Feb. 6—Many wagons, drawn by fine young mules, captured from the Federals by Rosser in Hardy County, pass through Harrisonburg.
- 1864, March 7—Birth at Shepherdstown of Charles Armand Miller, later Lutheran minister.
- 1864, March 10-14—Baltimore Methodist Conference in Bridgewater, 80th annual session.
- 1864, March 17—Thirteen Federals, captured at Snickersville in Loudoun County, Saturday, March 12, brought to Harrisonburg and committed to the guard house.
- 1864, March—"Rose Thornton, the Poor Minister's Daughter," printed in Harrisonburg by the "boys" in the job office of the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1864, Friday, April 1—The *Rockingham Register* reports: "Capt. Chas. H. Woodson's company of First Missouri cavalry, stationed near this place, have passed resolutions pledging themselves 'in for 40 years,' or the war."
- 1864, Friday, April 29—The *Rockingham Register* reports that Charles Jones, not yet 18, rode bareback from Clarke County to Harrisonburg to enlist as a Confederate soldier.
- 1864, May 4—Imboden comes down (northeast) through Shenandoah County.
- 1864, May 6—Major Harry Gilmor wounded (shot) near Hawkinstown; goes to Dunmore Mt. Airy, above Mt. Jackson.

- 1864, May 9—Capt. John E. Myers of Union Forge, Shenandoah Co., age 28, dies near Richmond.
- 1864, May 9—Lieut. John F. Henkel, age 25, 7th Va. Cav., killed at Spotsylvania C. H.
- 1864, May 12—The Federals burn Columbia Furnace again; skirmish up to Mt. Jackson.
- 1864, May 15—Battle of New Market—Sigel driven back down the Valley by Breckenridge.
- 1864, May 16—Major Harry Gilmore and his men swim the river and Stony Creek, pursuing Sigel.
- 1864, May 17—Sigel encamped between Hupp's Hill and Cedar Creek.
- 1864, May 29—Hunter passes up the Valley by Woodlawn, Shenandoah Co.
- 1864, June 2—Some of McNeill's men at Woodlawn.
- 1864, about June 3—Many Rockingham County records from the clerk's office in Harrisonburg, on a wagon southwest of Port Republic, partly burned by the Federals.
- 1864, June 5—Battle of Piedmont, near New Hope, Augusta Co.; Confederate Gen. Wm. E. Jones killed.
- 1864, June 7—A large Federal wagon train moves up the Valley Pike.
- 1864, June 15—Elder John Kline assassinated (shot) near Broadway.
- 1864, July 1—Early moves down the Valley (northeast); cavalry brigades of McCausland and Johnson pass down the Middle Road by Woodlawn.
- 1864, July 22—Early's army posted between Strasburg and Cedar Creek.
- 1864, July 24—Battle at Kernstown—Early drives Crook towards the Potomac.

- 1864, July 30—David F. Kagey of New Market writes from camp on Opequon near Martinsburg.
- 1864, Aug. 7—Johnson and McCausland routed by Averill at Moorefield.
- 1864, Aug. 12—Early moves up to Hupp's Hill, just below Strasburg; then to Fisher's Hill.
- 1864, Aug. 13—Sheridan moves up to Hupp's Hill.
- 1864, Aug. 18—Early moves down towards Winchester.
- 1864, Aug. 29—Capt. David B. Hoffman of near Woodlawn and Hamburg, Shenandoah Co., mortally wounded (shot) near Winchester.
- 1864, Sept. 19—The battle of Opequon (third Winchester)—Early driven up the Valley by Sheridan.
- 1864, Sept. 20—Early returns to Fisher's Hill.
- 1864, Sept. 22—Battle of Fisher's Hill—Early driven up the Valley by Sheridan.
- 1864, Sept. 23—Early retreats to Mt. Jackson; then to Rude's Hill, New Market, and Tenth Legion.
- 1864, Sept. 24—Sheridan's army moves up the Valley (southwest); Averill's command by Woodlawn.
- 1864, Oct. 3—Capt. John Hanson McNeill mortally wounded in a night attack upon a Federal guard at the river bridge above Mt. Jackson.
- 1864, Oct. 3—Lieut. John Rodgers Meigs of Sheridan's staff killed near Dayton in a fight (he and two others) with 3 Confederate scouts.
- 1864, Oct. 4-6—Sheridan's army moves down the Valley from Dayton and Harrisonburg burning barns, mills, &c, and carrying off live stock.
- 1864, Oct. 7—General Devon's command of Sheridan's army passes down the Middle Road by Woodlawn, burning; Capt. Ramsay Koontz of Mt. Jackson mortally wounded near Mt. Clifton.

- 1864, Oct. 7—Sheridan sends his famous report of the burning from Woodstock.
- 1864, Oct. 9—Battle of Tom's Brook—the Confederates following Sheridan are driven back up the Valley.
- 1864, Oct. 13—Early moves down to Fisher's Hill and Hupp's Hill.
- 1864, Oct. 16—Rosser captures Federal pickets on the Back Road.

SPOTSWOOD AND ROCKINGHAM

It is well known that Governor Alexander Spotswood and his "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe" came into what is now Rockingham County on their trip over the Blue Ridge in 1716. It is also true that numerous representatives of Spotswood's Germanna colonies are living in Rockingham today—Fishbacks, Hoffmans, Kempers, Rectors, and others. Dating from 1714, the Germanna colonists were the first white settlers in what is now Orange County, and it was at Germanna that the expedition across the Blue Ridge was outfitted, and there it was disbanded on the return. Aldine S. Kieffer, a Rockingham poet, celebrated the expedition in a dramatic poem, "Sir Fontaine's Ride."

The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies has recently acquired 270 acres of the horseshoe bend on the Rapidan River, site of the original settlement, and is making it accessible to students of history and genealogy, and to casual visitors. The Foundation has within the past few months published two books, "Germanna, Outpost of Adventure" and "The Story of Germanna Descendants in Reunion at Siegen Forest." Because the colonists of 1714 were from the city of Siegen and environs, in Westphalia, the 270-acre tract now owned by the Foundation has been christened "Siegen Forest."

The Foundation has its main office in Harrisonburg, address, P. O. Box 786. Members of the board of trustees live in Harrisonburg, Culpeper, Richmond, and New York City.

NEWS ITEMS FROM 1850

Not long ago G. D. Branston of Spring Lake, Michigan, sent to Joseph K. Ruebush of Harrisonburg excerpts from a letter written by Mrs. C. Spears of Linville Creek, Rockingham County, Va., on February 1, 1850, to her cousin, Mrs. Margaret Chrisman Custer at Troy, Missouri. These items, which follow below, take us back more than 100 years and give us glimpses of conditions that afford an interesting contrast with the present.

"It generally happens that I write when I'm left alone, as I am now. All are away, and Charles had gotten on his horse to go too, when I ran out and called to him if he would come back and make me a pen I would write to Peggy Chrisman for company. He came very cheerfully, as he always regrets to leave me alone without something to enable me to pass the time. John and Charlie are at school, so you see unless some one calls in I am left alone. . . .

"Since writing the above I stopped to take a smoke, when in came a little Frenchman with his musical organ. They are common here, and when alone I am glad to see them, for anything for me rather than loneliness. My nature always was to love company and I believe it will last as long as I do. I called in the negroes to hear all his tunes. You see I am a smoker—Charles too—you can look back to my little room and see two pipes above the stove generally. We have come to the conclusion that old people are right to indulge in whatever is agreeable to them provided it don't injure them. . . .

"The neighborhood has rather gone back in the way of society. The Dutch will take over the county; the land is very high and they will pay more for it than anyone else. Old Mr. Showalter's farm was sold a short time ago, bought by George Shaver at 46 dollars an acre; Capt. Ralston's farm sold for fifty, and that you know is only second-rate land. Land is changing hands very much. If you could drop in upon us you would find many changes, and no place

more than your old home, the spot where you and I enjoyed ourselves so much.

"Your mother's house is taken down and put up again very near the creek, just opposite where it used to stand. There is a good deal added to it and it is painted white; it makes a right comfortable looking house on the outside—I never go in. She says her reason for putting it so near the creek was that she never had had water enough and she was determined to have it now. She has no family but her daughter; keeps a hired girl; so you can look back home and see her right on the edge of the creek.

"This is our mail morning—it comes to Edom every Saturday, so you see we don't have to go so far as we used to do.

"My love to Cousin Jo (Jos. Custer); does he never intend to visit Virginia again?

"Write soon dear Cousin—farewell. M. E. Spears."

Mrs. Branston and her sister, Mrs. Carroll, are granddaughters of Joseph and Margaret Chrisman Custer, originally of Rockingham County, Va. They moved from there to Troy, Mo., in 1829.

There is evidence that the Spears family lived in the neighborhood of Wenger's Mill. Mail once a week and pens made from goose quills speak of other days—a time when old ladies often smoked pipes and young women and girls smoked not at all. Time brings changes.

Itinerant French musicians appear to be an unfamiliar feature in Rockingham County history. Who has information about them?

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY WHEN FIRST LAID OFF

When it was first laid off in 1777 and 1778 Rockingham County took in most of what is now Pendleton County, W. Va., and about one-fifth of what is now Page County, Va. The present area of Rockingham is 876 square miles. Its area, as first laid off, comprised about 1352 square

miles, that is to say, about 476 square miles more than at present.

The part of Pendleton County that was at first in Rockingham, extended from the North, or Shenandoah Mountain, in a northwest course to the top of the Alleghany Mountain. The southeast corner of this section was on top of the North Mountain west of Fulks Run. From there the line ran in a straight course past Seneca Rocks and the mouth of Seneca Creek to the top of Alleghany. The northwest corner was on the top of Alleghany Mountain, and from there the line ran in a southwest course past Sugar Grove to Briery Branch Gap.

This part of Pendleton County, at first a part of Rockingham, took in Fort Seybert, Oak Flat, Brandywine, Upper Tract, Riverton, and Circleville. And it also took in Spruce Knob, which is the highest point in West Virginia.

The part of Page County which was at first a part of Rockingham, took in the site of Shenandoah City. It extended from the Massanutten Mountain on the northwest to the top of the Blue Ridge on the southeast, and from the village of Newport up to Naked Creek, at Verbena. The total length of Rockingham County at that time, from the top of the Blue Ridge to the top of the Alleghany Mountain, was about 62 miles, a distance that would reach from Harrisonburg to Kernstown, in Frederick County, or a mile past Lexington, in Rockbridge County.

The greater part of the northeast boundary of Rockingham County at first ran along the famous Fairfax Line for about 38 miles. This line crosses the Valley one mile above New Market, and part of it now forms the dividing line between the counties of Rockingham and Shenandoah. The whole southwest line between Rockingham and Augusta, as it was at first, was about 56 miles long, and extended from the top of Alleghany Mountain to the top of the Blue Ridge, at Black Rock. It crossed the Valley just southwest of Grottoes, and was straight for the whole dis-

tance of 56 miles except for a short distance between Burkettown and Middle River.

Although Rockingham is not as large by any means as it was at first, it is still one of the largest counties in Virginia. Only two other counties, Pittsylvania and Augusta, are larger.

TWO COUNTIES NAMED ROCKINGHAM

In North Carolina, along the southern border of Virginia, is a Rockingham County, and like Rockingham County, Virginia, it too was named in honor of the British statesman, Charles Watson Wentworth, Marquis of Rockingham, because of his sympathy with the American colonies during the period of the Revolution. The people of the "Old North State" did better than did the Virginians in their expression of appreciation, in so much that they not only named their county Rockingham, they also named the county-seat Wentworth.

MORE VALLEY HISTORY

The Shenandoah Publishing House, Inc., Strasburg, Va., has recently made available to the public "Twenty-Five Chapters on the Shenandoah Valley, To Which is Appended A Concise History of the Civil War in the Valley," a handsomely bound and illustrated volume of 450 pages, by John W. Wayland. The numerous chapters of this book, with the appended story of the Civil War in the Valley, constitute a topical history of this part of the state. Various phases of interest are featured that have hitherto not been given prominence. The formation of counties, the comprehensive variety of races and religions composing our population, the prolific output of historical literature and newspapers, the remarkable devotion to singing and the extensive production of singing books in this area are given more particular attention than they have hitherto received. The

same may be said of the Revolutionary War and the intimate association of Washington with the Valley. Unfamiliar items relating to Muhlenberg at Woodstock are incorporated in the chapter relating to him.

MENNONITE HISTORY

In the *Mennonite Quarterly Review* of October 1957, published by the Mennonite Historical Society, Goshen College, Goshen, Ind., is a very interesting article on "Joseph Funk, Early Mennonite Printer and Publisher," with a bibliography, by Irvin B. Horst, a faculty member of Eastern Mennonite College, Harrisonburg. Funk's life is reviewed and the notable work that he and his sons carried on in printing, publishing, bookbinding, and the teaching of music and singing is clearly set forth, together with Funk's considerable work as an author and translator.

The bibliography of Funk's literary work and items that were produced in the Funk printery during Joseph Funk's lifetime (he died in 1862) is remarkable, not only for its extent (covering nine and a half pages), but also for the specific and pertinent information given in connection with each item. In this bibliography, especially, Mr. Horst has done a fine piece of work.

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