

THE ROCKINGHAM RECORDER

Vol. II

OCTOBER, 1959

NO. 8

The Official Publication of the
ROCKINGHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Harrisonburg, Virginia

THE ROCKINGHAM RECORDER

Contents of this Issue

	PAGE
Trustees and Officers of the Society	119
Members Added Since January 1954	120
First Court Minute Book, 7th Instalment	124
Dr. John Peter Akl, Medical Pioneer	138
War Diary of W. H. Arehart, 6th Instalment	145
Birthplace of John Sevier	160
Shenandoah Valley Chronology, 6th Instalment	163
The Jail Repaired in 1824	181
The Public Square Enclosed	182
Mrs. Carr's Early Harrisonburg, Stover's Edition	184
Dingledine's History of Madison College	184
Civil War Centennial	185
Battlefield Memorials	186
A Community Museum	186
The Blain Family	187
The Function and Future of the <i>Recorder</i>	187
Brunk's History of the Mennonites	189
History of the Suter Family	191
Home Guards of 1864-65	192
The First Newspaper	194

Correction: The pages of the *Recorder*, Volume II, No. 2, should be numbered 65-116.

TRUSTEES

Harry A. Brunk
B. G. Heatwole
Mrs. E. A. Hering
Mrs. Ethel Irwin Lineweaver
Howard V. May
John C. Myers
Page P. Price
Joseph K. Ruebush
Mrs. James M. Weaver

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Russell L. Stultz, *President*
William Arey, *First Vice President*
Joseph K. Ruebush, *Second Vice President*
Mrs. A. E. Conquist, *Third Vice President*
Miss Agnes Kline, *Secretary*
Mrs. E. A. Hering, *Treasurer*
Harry A. Brunk, *Custodian and Librarian*

The officers constitute the Board of Directors.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

This list follows that on page 3 of the *Recorder*, Volume II, No. 1.

Addenbrooke, Mrs. B. R., 1327 18th St., N. W., Washington 6.

Ballou, Mrs. Charles F., West Brookfield, Mass.

Bell, Supt. M. H., 718 Ott St., Harrisonburg.

Benson, Col. Raymond T., 1215 Hillcrest Drive, Harrisonburg.

Berlin, Dr. Calvin, 164 W. College St., Springfield, Ohio.

Biedler, Miss Velma F., 236 Franklin St., Harrisonburg.

Blair, Dr. Morris Myers, 101 Weaver Ave., Harrisonburg.

Blakemore, Miss Blanche, 133 N. High St., Harrisonburg.

Bowman, Norwood, East Greenville, Penna.

Brown, John R., Charlottesville, Va.

Brown, Stuart R., Berryville, Va.

Carpenter, A. H., Taneytown, Md.

Carpenter, Mrs. Daisy, Bridgewater, Va.

Coffman, Rev. Ernest S., R. F. D. 2, Bridgewater, Va., deceased.

Dawson, Mrs. Kenneth, 527 S. Washington St., Berkeley Springs, W. Va.

Denton, Mr. and Mrs. Warren E., Sr., 278 Newman Ave., Harrisonburg.

Driver, Mrs. F. Wise, R. F. D. 1, Dayton, Va.

Dyer, J. B., Box 3271, Orlando, Florida.

Eakle, Millard F., 443 W. Water St., Harrisonburg.

Fahey, Elizabeth Bowman (Mrs. James P.) 4203 37th St., N.W., Washington.

Fauver, Mrs. Vivian B., 640 Ott St., Harrisonburg.

Gardner, John F., Bridgewater, Va.

Garner, Miss Finettie, Marianna, Florida.

Good, Miss Hazel, 710 Roosevelt Ave., Harrisonburg.

Graham, E. L., Sumpterville, Florida.

Hedrick, W. C., Hinton, Va.

Heims, Mr. and Mrs. Elmore, Roanoke, Va.

Heitz, Thomas W., R. F. D. 1, Broadway, Va.

Hook, Miss Mildred, 60 Hookston Rd., Concord, Calif.

Horst, Dr. Irvin B., Eastern Mennonite College, Harrisonburg.

Hutton, Ralph, Elkton, Va.

Irvine, Mrs. Ester, 908 2nd Ave., Dodge City, Kans.

Keehn, Lloyd S., R. F. D. 1, Broadway, Va.

Kerns, Alvin R., R. F. D. 1, Dayton, Va. (Deceased)

Kerns, Robert R., R. F. D. 1, Dayton, Va.

Kiefer, Mrs. Helen Yancey, 39 Paul St., Harrisonburg.

Knoff, Mrs. Gerald E., 34 Penn Grove Ave., Summit, N. J.

Koontz, Miss Mayme, Stanley, Va.

Larsen, Mrs. Anna, 228 48th St., Newport News, Va. (Deceased)

Larson, Warren F., 251 Paul St., Harrisonburg.

Lineweaver, James Reherd, *Daily News-Record* Office, Harrisonburg.

Longley, H. V., Jr., Elkton, Va.

Madden, Miss Nancy Sevier, 2900 Conn. Ave., N. W., Washington 8.

Martz, Miss Bertie, R. F. D. 2, Harrisonburg.

Martz, David, II, Bridgewater, Va.

Martz, Ralph F., Clarksburg, Md.

Martz, Sebastian, III, R. F. D. 3, Broadway, Va.

Martz, Walter Jackson, R. F. D. 1, Broadway, Va.

May, Hon. Clarence E., Bridgewater, Va.

McKay, Hon. B. S., R. F. D. 1, Linville, Va.

Meyerhoeffer, Miss Mattie E., Port Republic, Va.

Michael, Rev. O. B., D.D., 149 Franklin St., Harrisonburg.

Minnick, Mrs. Leah, R. F. D. 1, Harrisonburg.

Monger, Hiram Edgar, P. O. Box 31, Elkton, Va.

Murray, John K., Box 544, Altamonte Springs, Florida.

Myers, Mrs. Jessie A., 710 Virginia Ave., Harrisonburg.

Myers, Ethel Hanna (Mrs. William G.), 144 N. High St., Harrisonburg.

Nelson, Charles A., 45 Grattan St., Harrisonburg. (Deceased)

Nicholas, John J., Port Republic, Va.

Old Book Store, The, Akron, Ohio.

Patterson, Mrs. Allan, R. F. D. 2, Bridgewater, Va.

Paul, Seymour, Sr., 504 S. Mason St., Harrisonburg.

Perkins, Miss Kate, 1052 S. Main St., Harrisonburg.

Power, W. H., Box 14, Phoebus, Va.

Purcell, Edward S., III, 33 Monument Ave. Harrisonburg.

Quarles, Prof. Garland R., 1435 Graystone Terrace, Winchester, Va.

Renalds, Ray W., 1365 S. Main St., Harrisonburg.

Rhodes, Leon, Bridgewater, Va.

Rixse, Mrs. John H., 717 Grandview Drive, Alexandria, Va.

Rockingham Public Library, Harrisonburg.

Rowan, Mrs. Margaret Boyd, 342 Woodroad, Ridgewood, N. J.

Sevier, Miss Cora Bales, 2900 Conn. Ave., N. W., Washington 8.

Shifflet, Charles Edward, Box 12, Elkton, Va.

Shiflet, Mrs. William, 811 S. Main St., Harrisonburg.

Shirley, Jenny Lind Ruebush (Mrs. Garland), Dayton, Va.

Shoemaker, Benjamin H., Providence Trust Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

Showalter, Carrie Kline (Mrs. Hiram), 1309 Crawford Ave., Harrisonburg.

Showalter, William Miller, 1309 Crawford Ave., Harrisonburg.

Sibert, Elizabeth Bolen (Mrs. Martin), 520 Ott St., Harrisonburg.

Skidmore, Warren, 42 S. Howard St., Akron, Ohio.

Small, Agnes Britton (Mrs. Ray L.), 201 N. Clinton St., Walla Walla, Wash.

Small, Mrs. Robena, 743 Delaware Ave., Norfolk 8, Va. Smiley, H. D., Jr., R.F.D. 1, Dayton, Va.

Smith, Eleanor Watts (Mrs. Glenn C.), 370 Monticello Ave, Harrisonburg.

Spence, Audrey Kemper (Mrs. Philip A.), Wytheville, Va.

Sprenkle, William LeCato, 913 Leckie St., Portsmouth, Va.

Stoltzfus, Rev. Grant M., R.F.D. 2, Harrisonburg, Va.

Stover, Frank, 761 Jefferson St., Harrisonburg.

Texas State Comptroller, Austin, Texas.

Thompson, Ben H., R.F.D. 4, Harrisonburg. (Deceased.)

Turner, Zack, II, R.F.D. 2, Broadway, Va.

Vandeventer, Mrs. Verna Brown, R.F.D. 4, Martinsville, Ind.

Wetsel, Arnold W., 106 Franklin St., Harrisonburg.

(Deceased)

Wetsel, Mrs. Arnold W., 106 Franklin St. Harrisonburg

Whitmore, W. Harmon, R.F.D. 2, Dayton, Va.

Wright, Ann Blackburn (Mrs. Joseph L.), 670 S. Mason St., Harrisonburg.

Yancey, Miss Rebecca Lavett, 37 Paul St., Harrisonburg.

Young, Brian L., 11918 Interurban Ave., South, Seattle, Wash.

Zirkle, John, 308 Franklin St., Harrisonburg.

Zirkle, Walter Moffett, 166 Franklin St., Harrisonburg

Zirkle, Dr. Walter Moffett, 2804 Virginia Ave., Augusta, Ga.

Zoll, Allan Anderson, 2101 S. St., N.W., Washington.

SEVENTH INSTALMENT
FROM THE FIRST MINUTE BOOK
OF
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY COURT

At a Court cont'd & held for Rockingham County,
Tuesday the 29th August 1780.

Present

Daniel Smith	John Davis
Henry Ewing	John Fitzwater
Benj. Harrison	Isaac Hankle
James Dyer	Anto. Reader
George Boswell	

Michl. Coger Gent: ret'd his List of Tiths

Silas Hart Gent: ret'd his List of Tiths

John Davis Gent ret'd his List

John Fitzwater Gent ret'd his List

Anto Reader Gent ret'd his List

Report of the Viewers from briery branch & dry River Gaps to the Court ho being returned the same is order'd to be established, and Joseph Hinton is appointed from the Briery Branch Road in Collo. Smiths Land to where it Crosses the first fork of the Mole hill draught. Alexr Miller junr from sd. fork to the Court ho, & that the Tiths within three miles on each side of the Road work thereon & clear the same.

Keisel vs Smith O: for Deds. to issue to examine Saml Twitchet . . . [illegible] de bene Esse

Leave is granted to Samuel Greatricks to keep Ordinary at his house in this County he having complied with the Law.

White vs Smith C. O.

Halney vs Smith C. O.

Smith vs Williams Imp (Imp?)
Greenley vs Greatricks & al Imp (?)
Kyser vs Mcfarlane C.O. left to the Arbitra of Handle
Vance & Jos Lair their Awd to be Judt of Ct.
Rush vs Craige Imp (?)
Kirtly vs Peters agd
Rodgers vs Smith & Wife PC
Reeves vs Monsey Imp
Cravens Admr vs Ewing N Ass. j'd
Browbaker vs Smith Imp
Robinson vs Mathews agd by Sh: Return
vs West AC
Smith vs Robinson agd Sh: Return
Mathews vs Gwine Imp
Chrisman vs Lincoln A C
Culbertson Assr (?) vs Hunt A C
Gregory vs Wilkinson agd Sh: Return
Berry vs Boone dismd no Appear
Meffort vs Scott agd Sh: Return

References

Breeding & al vs Ober & Fultz further Time for Ans
Alderson vs Murray contd
Monsey vs Vanpelt & als further Time for Answr
Dillings vs Melsop & Uxr contd
Foaland vs Humble & als Atta vs (?) Conrod
Johnston vs Bowyer & als contd for Answr
Crow vs Cravens furthr Time for Answr
Huston vs Stevensons Exers furth Time for Answr
Haga vs Croyder N G jd
Nicolas vs Kirtley cplea jd
Stephenson vs Rodgers contd
Brock vs Huston contd
Dever & Co vs Harris & Wife agd: each party pay half
the Tobo Costs
Croyder & Wife vs Haga plea jd
Skidmore vs Aberman contd
Berger vs Meffort plea jd

Woodley vs Huling plea jd
 Wilson vs Carter N G jd
 Dack vs Bush J W E
 Smith vs White N G jsr
 B Smith vs White J W E
 Keisel vs Smith N A jsr jd
 vs same N: G: jd
 Hyrne (?) vs Conrod agd

Commonwealth vs Ward a Jury towit Joseph Smith
 Brewer Reeves James Dever, David Harnet, Joseph Ruther-
 ford, Thomas Harrison John Ruddle, Ezekiel Harrison Jere-
 miah Reagen Saml Hemphill, John Givens & James Craig.
 we returned their Verdt: We find the Deft guilty & do
 assess his punishment to one hundred pounds fine & twenty
 four hours Imprisonment Jud according to Verdt:

Meffort vs Thomson contd for Deft

James Craig proved 2 Days Attendance as a Wits for
 Meffort vs Thomson & coming & returning 15 Miles

John Givens proved 2 Days Attend: & coming & re-
 turning same Distance

Williams vs Wier a Jury towit Saml Hemphill James
 Dever Joseph Smith James Craig John Givens David Har-
 net Ezekiel Harrison John Huston John Ruddle Robert
 Campbell Robt Menzies Jeremiah Reagen, Suit dismissed
 by plt O: that Bartho Alder (?) & Wife be fined for not at-
 tending as a Wits: for Williams unless they shew Cause at
 next Court.

George Carpenter proved 7 Days Attenda Witness for
 Wier ads Williams

Boyles vs Hewit a Jury towit Saml Hemphill James
 Dever Joseph Smith James Craig John Givens David Har-
 net Ezekiel Harrison Thos Harrison John Ruddle Robt.
 Campbell Robt: Menzies Jeremiah Reagen who ret'd their
 Verdit we find for the Plt £20 Damages Judt according to
 Verdt:

Geo Boswell proved 2 Days Attend: as a Wits: for
 Boyles vs Hewit

Mary Boyles—2 Days Ditto
 Jacob Scott— —2 Days,
 Wm Campbell 2 Days

George Keisel proved 8 Days Attend: for Williams vs
 Wier

Jno Keisling—8 Ditto
 Jas Butcher—8 Ditto
 Robt. Bland— —8 Ditto

Daniel Many [?] is appointed: Constable in the room
 of Joseph Kester O that he be sum'd to swear into his Office
 before John Fitzwater Gent

Brock vs Lear contd: for plt
 Haga vs Croyder contd: for plt
 Miller vs Baker contd: for plt

Appraisalment of Thomas Baggs Estate ret'd: & O to be
 recorded.

White vs Benson a Jury towit James Rodgers Daniel
 Nelson James Davis Robt Smith, Johnston Nelson, Reuben
 Harrison, Danl Gwine, John Reeves Geo Pearcy Jno Pearcy
 Francis Stewart & Heronumus Deck who ret'd Verd we find
 for plt, Jud according to Verdt

Monsey vs Vanpelt O for Deds. to take Depo of Ab:
 Lincoln

Hawkens vs Nelson Complaint heard & dismd: at plts
 costs

Robert Harrison was sworn in Deputy Sheriff which
 was order'd to be certified

Silas Hart, Henry Ewing, John Davis & William Herr-
 ing Gents are appointed Commissioners to let the building
 of a County Jail according to the plan agreed on by the
 Court to the lowest Bidder between this & the Novr Court
 & to give publick Notice thereof

George Boswell, Thomas Hewit, & John Thomas Gents are nominated by the Court for his Excellency the Govr & Council to appoint one of them to the Office of Sheriff of this County for the ensuing year. O to be certified

O that the Sheriff summons 24 freeholders as a grand Jury for the County in Novr: next

grand Jury preferments

Commonwealth vs Jones fined
vs Fairbane fined for Swearing
vs Davis fined
vs Cravens AS:
vs Gilmore: fined
vs Jacob Songer fined 5/

O that the Court be adjourned to the Court in Course
Henry Ewin

At a Court held for Rockingham on Monday the 23rd
Day of October 1780.

Present

Danl: Smith	Thomas Hewit
Henry Ewing	William Herring
John Gratten	Gent: Justices

Root vs Gregg Als Spa in Cha
Robertson vs West PC:
Culbertson vs Hunt P: C:
Chrisman vs Lincoln PC
Commonwealth vs Peninger Als Sc: fa
Phelin vs Fulton & Magill AC: o Magill
Thomson vs Laird A: C:
Dever vs Morrow AC:
Foaland vs Humble P Atta:
Campfield vs More AC:
vs Coutz AC:
vs Hunter AC:
vs Hinton AC:
vs Shipman AC:

On the Application of John Magill setting forth that he has kept Ruth Medonald Daughter of Randall Medonald a Soldier from this County in the Army of the united States 18 Months by Agreement: of the sd: Randall which being expired, & her Father still in the Service the Court are of Opinion that the said Magill be allowed £35 for a barl of Corn & 200 Do for 50 Wt of Pork for the Support of the said Ruth Medonald for 1 year

John Grattan Gent: returned his List of Tiths

Thos Hewit retd his List of Tiths

The Court taking into Consideration the distressed Situation of Anne Gum & two young Babes Widow & Orphans of Claypole Gum a Soldier from this County who died in the Service of the States recommend her to the board of Auditors for such relief as they think proper for her distressed Circumstances

William Herring Gent is recommended as Capt of the Militia, to his Excellency the Govr:

Ordered that the Court be adjourned till tomorrow at 8 OClock

Daniel Smith

At a Court contd & held for Rockingham County the
24th Day of October 1780

Present

Daniel Smith	George Boswell
Henry Ewing	Thomas Hewit
	Gent Justices

Reagan vs Love Agd Defendts: Costs
Commonwealth vs Baker Judt: for fine
vs Harret Judt for Ditto
vs Good Judt for Ditto
vs Ramboe Judt for Ditto

William Herring took the Oath of a Captain of Militia in this County which is O to be certified

Joseph Dictam & Andrew Shanklan first Lieutenants
Robert Harrison Ensign O to be certified

The Court recommend to his Excellency the Govr. Cornelius Cain as Lieut: in the Militia Benja Erwine as Ensign both in Capt Herring Company

Present William Herring

A Comission from his Excellency the Govr. directed to Geo: Boswell Gent to act as Sheriff of this County was produced & read Whereupon the said George Boswell took the Oaths prescribed by Law & the Oath of Sheriff which is order'd to be certified

The Deputy Atto: having filed an Informa against the following persons for not giving in their taxable property on Oath O that they be summoned to next Court to answer the same

David Lauderback	Nicolas Perry [Beery?]
John Lauderback	John Oker [Acker?]
John Kite	Geo: Spears
George Holby	John Slisher
John Fairbairn	John Click
James Grace	Jacob Bowman
Peter Shoemaker	Jacob Ramboe
John Leman [Layman?]	

Ordered that the Court be adjourned till the Court in Course

Daniel Smith

At a Court held for Rockingham County Monday the 27th Day of November 1780

Present

John Gratten	John Thomas
Reuben Harrison	William Herring
John Davis	

Zeruiah Stratton took the Oath of a Captain of the Militia which is ordered to be certified

Absent Jno: Gratten Gent:

George Boswell Gent wi Abram Smith John Gratten Hugh Donahoe & James Laird acknowledged their Bond to Geo: Webb Esqr Treasures for the due Collection of the publick Tax, also their Bond for the due Collection of the Tobacco Tax

George Boswell wi Abram Smith & John Gratten his Securities entd into & acknowldged their Bond for collecting of Officers Fees also their Bond for paym of Fines & Forfeitures

Inventory of John Smiths Effects ret'd & O to be recorded

James Davis & Isaac Hankle took the Oath of Deputy Sheriff which is ordered to be certified

Dever vs Morrow left to the Arbitra of Silas Hart Jno Huston John Davis & Jno Crafurd [?] whose Award to be Judt of Court

O that Thos: Hewit examine the Estate of Fred: Sybert deced & report it to Court

Deed of Bargain & Sale from Robt Henderson & Jno Henderson to Abraham Smith was proved by Mary Smtih & O to be certified

O: that the Church Wardens bind out Philip Hooper a base born child of Eliza Hooper to William Stevenson according to Law

O: that the Church Wardens bind out Margt McCaul Daughter of William McCaul to Thos: Campbell according to Law

O they bind Mary Woolridge Orphan of Geo Woolridge to Michl Shank according to Law

Privy Examination of Charity Wife of David Nelson to the Deed made by said David & Wife to Johnston Nelson & Danl Nelson ret'd & O to be recorded.

Also privy Examina of Barbara Grubb Wife of Jacob Grubb to the Deed made by said Jacob & Wife to Casper Hain ret'd & O to be recorded

A sufficient Number of the grand Jury not appearing O that the be discharged & the following persons being summoned & called & not attending O that they be fined according to Law towit Jas Beard Jos Rutherford Zeb: Harrison Adam Reader Peter Conrod James Dever Francis Stewart Jacob Lincoln & Nico: Cairn

O that John Skidmore Jos [Illegible] do view the Turning of the Road up & down the . . . Branch . . . the Grist Mill of Seruah Stratton & report the Conveniences & Inconveniences attending the same on the moto of said Stratton

Present Jno Gratten & Thos Hewit Gent

Craig ads Rush O for Dedimus to take the Depo of William Craig on Kenhicke [?]

Charles Gordon being bound over by Recognizance to this grand Jury Court & a sufficien Number of the grand Jury not appearing O that the said Gordon be contd on his Recognizance

Fred Price being bound over by Recognizance to appear before this grand Jury Court for the said Reason is contd on his Recognizance

Peter Hog wi: Gabril Jones his Security entd into & acknowledged their Bond to the Govr for the due collecting & paying the Duties & Taxes imposed by the Act of & also sd Peter took the Oath required by the Act

Geo Mallow having delivered up Fred: Price for whom he was bound in the former recog: said Price offered Augustine Price jur Security in the stead of said Mallow, who was acceptd of by the Court

Whereupon said Augustine Price jur asknowledged himself indebted to Thos. Jefferson Eqr Govr &c in the Sum

of five Thousd pounds of his Goods & Chattels Lands & Tenements to be levied & to the said Govr & his Successors rendered yet upon this Condition that if the Said Fred Price makes his personal Appearance at the grand Jury Court to be held for this County in May next & shall not depart without leave of the Court then the above Recog: to be void otherwise to remain in force.

O that the Court be adjourned till tomorrow at 10' oClock

John Grattan

At a Court held and continued for Rockingham County Tuesday the 28th Day of November 1780

Present Henry Ewing, Jno Thomas Jno Fitzwater & John Davis Gent

License is granted to Saml Gay to keep an Ordinary at his house in this County he having complied withe Law

Miller vs Baker left to the Arbitra of Henry Ewing & Jno Fitzwater whose Awd to be the Judt of Court

O. that the Church Wardens bind out Jonathen Wooden Orphan of Wooden to Josiah Harrison to learn the Trade of a Cooper until he comes of Age

The last Will & Testament of George McNeil was further provd by the Oath of Geo: Fitzwater another of the Witnesses & O to be recorded. and Elizabeth McNeil the Executrix therein named having entd into Bond & made Oath according to Law Certificate is granted her &c

O: that John Dunbar Henry Dove William Fitzwater and Michael Baker or any three of them being first sworn do appraise the said Estate.

Present James Dyer & Jno Gratten Gent Thos Hewit & Gaw: Hamilton

James Dyer Gent ret'd his List of Tyths

Isaac Hankle Gent ret'd his List of Tyths

Silas Hart & John Davis Henry Ewing & Wm. Herring Gent Commissioners appointed to let the building of the County Jayl reported that they had let out the building of the same to Cornelius Cain for Eleven Thousand nine hundred & Seventy three pounds, & ret'd a Bond of said Cornelius Cain wth Security for the Due performance of said building which is O: to be recorded.

[Note—The equivalent of nearly \$40,000.00 seems a large sum for a small jail building—it shows how the colonial and continental currency had depreciated during the war.]

O that the Church Wardens bind out Danl Wierbach an orphan according to Law

Ordered that Jacob Aberman be exempt from paying County Levies on account of his Age & Infirmities

Gawen Hamilton Spl Bail for Jas Harris ads Brewster

Abraham Smith Gent: having moved the Court to resign his Office of County Lieutenant, being unable to act from his Disorder & Infirmities the Court proceeded to recommend another person in his Stead & thereupon recommended to his Excely: the Govr Danl: Smith Gent as a proper person to act as County Lieut which is ordered to be certified.

[Note—The county lieutenant was the chief military officer of the county.]

Ordered that the Sheriff pay Robt Campbell fifteen hundred pounds out of the Depositum in his hands.

Present Ab: Smith Gent

Curry vs same—dismd

Donahoe vs Bear Atta dismd no appearance

Herring vs same—dismd: no appearance

White vs Crain dismd no appearance

Wamsley vs Greatricks dismd

Keplenger vs same dismd

Maldon vs Dooley—dismd no appearance

Rodgers vs Smith & Wife Imp

Miller vs Croyder—Imp

Stephens vs Ireland—C O

Chrisman vs Lincoln C O

Robinson vs West agd: Sh: return

Culbertson Asse vs Hunt P C

Phelin vs Fulton & als: Imp

Root vs Gregg Pl Spa

Thomson vs Laird abates Sh: return

Comwealth vs Peninger Judt

Campfield vs More Imp:

vs Coutts C. O:

vs Hunter C. O.

vs Hinton Imp

vs Shipman Imp

— — — Skidmore & Geo. Boswell [?] being present

The Court proceeded to lay the County Levy—

To Danl: Smith for one Wolfs head.....£0—12— 6

—Said Smith for finding 4 Men as a guard
on John Davis a prisoner 19 Days Diet

20/ [20 shillings] a Diet pr day.....78— 0— 0

£—12—6

78 — —

22 — —

174 — —

—Ditto dieting the prisoner 19 Days at

20/ pr Day19— 0— 0

—the pay of 4 men & the Sergt: for the
Guard of sd Davis at 16 Dollars per Day

each 456— 0— 0

—making a pr of hand Cuffs for sd prisoner

14— 0— 0

—John Skidmore for guarding the
prisoner to the publick Jayl travelling

going & coming 340 Miles at 2-to 6-pr Mile at a Dollar pr pound & one Days Attend in Richmond 60 Tobo. is 400 Ds [?]	222— 0— 0
—Samuel Morrel Ditto going and return- ing 330 Miles & one Days Attendance is 690—tobo. at a Dollar pr lb.	216— 0— 0
—Ditto Morrel finding a horse 8 Days for the prisoner at 30 Dollars pr Day is [?] 240 Dolls	72— 0— 0
—Gabl: Jones Salary as Depy Attorney 4000 W of Tobo:	1200— 0— 0
—Henry Brewsters Adnil [?] for sd Henrys going & returning 260 Miles as a Guard at Davis at 2 lb Tobo pr mile 520 lb. tobo at a doll	156— 0— 0
—Geo: Huston for finding the prisoner to the publick Jayl in Diet & Lodging at 60 Dollars pr Day—5 Days	90— 0— 0
—Ditto Huston for taking down the prison- er coming & going 260 Miles is 520: [?] lb. Tobo & one Days Attend 60	174— 0— 0

(NOTE.—John Davis evidently was an expensive prisoner. We may assume that he was not the Magistrate of that name.)

Jno Dunbar junr 1 old Wolf & 3 Young Wolves	2-2-6
Norton Gum—2 old Wolves	1-5-0
—Conrod Kester 5 old Ditto	3-2-6
—Peter Hog Clerk for publick Services 1200 W. tobo	360—
—Abraham Smith Sheriff for ditto	360—
—the Commissioners for building the Jayl	11973—
	<hr/> 15395-2-6

To a Depositum	0904-7-11
—Sheriff's pr Cent for collecting at 6 Cent on £17350 is	1050-9-7
	<hr/> 17350-0-0
	17350-0-0

Ordered that the Sheriff collect twelve pounds of every Tithable person in this County for the ensuing year being 1459 Tithables 17350 0 0

The Court on considering the distressed Circumstance of Frances Clough & two Children the Wife of John Clough a Soldier in the Army of the States are of Opinion that she be allowed 3 barls. of Corn at £40 pr barl: & 150 of pork at 30/pr lb

O: that the Sheriff out of the above Depositum pay Thomas Harrison one hundred pounds for holding 3 Courts in his house

Conrod vs Cunrod dismd by plt
Phelin vs Megill Imp
Bear vs Bear agd
Herring vs Fairbairn C: O:
Reeves vs Croyder Imp for Croyder & al: Cos others
Boyles vs Hewit Imp
Warren vs Donaphon & Uxr C O
Smith vs Michel C O
Brewster vs Harris J W E
Campfield vs Sungar ss do agd
vs Peninger Judt: on Se fer [?]
Com: wealth vs Fairbairn Imp
vs Holby A S
vs Oker A S
vs Spiers A S
vs Shoemaker A S
vs Grace A S
vs Lauderback A S
vs Perry A S

vs Ramboe A S
 vs Kite A S
 vs Bowman A S
 vs Slyher A S
 vs Cleck A S
 vs Leman A S

The Dep Atto: having filed Information agt: William Lamone [?] Robert Stephenson & Lewis Baker for not giving in their taxable property on Oath O that they be summoned

John Huston took the Oath for a Lieut of the Militia which is ordered to be certified

O: that Saml Miller be overseer of the Road from the Mole hill Draught to the Courtho: & that the Tiths within 3 miles on each side work on the same under him

James Magill junr is appointed Constable in the room of Jas [?] Davis O that he appear before Jno Davis Gent to be sworn in

O that the Court be adjourned till the Court in Course
 John Grattan

DR. JOHN PETER AHL (1748-1827)

MEDICAL PIONEER OF KEEZLETOWN, VIRGINIA

by Klaus G. Wust

Written exclusively for the Rockingham County Historical Society for publication in the *Rockingham Recorder*. K. G. W.

The most fascinating aspect of our American immigration history is the complete assimilation of non-English elements. The Shenandoah Valley, especially its predominantly German counties, provides a striking example for

the successful integration of a solid national group into what we call today "the American people". The period of transition, however, resulted in a great, though inevitable loss of a valuable heritage. As most of our Virginian historians were either ignorant of the German language (above all of its Virginia dialect version) or simply found no records easily available, the Valley history became naturally distorted in most of their accounts. The change from German to English entailed the neglect and often also the destruction of old records in the German language. It was more or less assumed that the Valley Germans were simple, rural folks with no or little leadership of educated and professional men.

Much material has come to light during the past few decades which gives ample proof to the contrary. The period from 1790 to 1820 was a blossom time of cultural life in the Valley. Poets, educators, musicians, authors of various subjects, physicians and churchmen of outstanding calibre were among the German element in Rockingham and Shenandoah counties. Five German print shops supplied literature with a distinct local flavor besides considerable imports of books and newspapers both from Pennsylvania and directly from Europe.

The settlement around Keezletown was a center of German life in Rockingham County toward the close of the 18th century. There lived the school-master, Peter Barnhard whose activities were manifold, ranging from instruction of the youngsters, writing precious little verses of poetry in the vernacular to the distribution of books and newspapers. (Cf. my article "Peter Barnhard, Poet and Postillion", *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, July 1, 1951). There was also the oldest apothecary shop in the county of which we have a record. It was established by Dr. John Peter Ahl after the Revolutionary War.

Dr. Ahl was born in Germany in 1748. He received his early training in classical culture and medicine in the Old Country. Twenty-four years old he embarked for

America and landed in Baltimore in 1772. He found access to the circle of leading medical men around Dr. Charles F. Wiesenthal (1726-1789), founder of the first medical school in Maryland. Only a few years of peaceful practice were in store for young John Peter Ahl. When the Revolutionary War broke out, the Maryland troops needed physicians. Dr. Wiesenthal was appointed surgeon-general of the Maryland troops while the younger physicians joined the battalions for the battle. In 1777 we find Dr. Ahl as a surgeon's mate in Colonel Armand's Maryland Legion. He was wounded in the battle of White Plains. After his recovery he returned at once to the service and until 1783 was a surgeon under General Peter Muhlenberg.

During his tour of duty with Muhlenberg's army he learned to know many soldiers from the Shenandoah Valley. When the war was over, he decided to make his home amidst the Valley Germans. Near Keezletown he established his apothecary shop and practised medicine for almost 15 years in Rockingham County and the adjacent area. A doctor's position was far from being easy in this territory where he felt "surrounded by swarms of quacks." Widespread superstitions and ignorance fostered by sectarian beliefs prevailed everywhere in the American hinterland at that time. The most he could do was to fight quackery with sound medical practice. Still, his situation was not at all enviable. The court records relate two unhappy experiences which Dr. Ahl had in connection with instructing young boys in the "Art and mystery of a physician".

As Glenn C. Smith pointed out in his article in the *Rockingham Recorder* (Vol. I, No. 2, 103-106), this procedure was customary in those days. Most doctors practising in areas distant from the larger, more developed towns along the coast received their only training by apprenticing themselves to a physician for some length of time. From the journal of the Rev. Paul Henkel (1754-1825) for 1793 we learn that his oldest son, Solomon, obtained his first training as an apothecary from Dr. David Jackson in Phil-

adelphia. He spent six months with Dr. Jackson, then due to the outbreak of yellow fever in Philadelphia returned to the home of his parents in New Market in November 1793. In the following year Solomon Henkel (1777-1847) undertook another journey to Philadelphia from which he returned around Christmas of 1794. "He brought a quantity of medicines, which he had engaged to sell on commission, but after he had given medicines to a number of people under my directions with good results, he had to practice as a medicus, and soon had a good practice"—his father recorded in his diary.

Here we have the case of a young lad of seventeen who was practicing medicine after only six months of training. This example illustrates the sad state of the medical profession in this part of Virginia. Dr. John Peter Ahl seems to have been the only thoroughly trained physician among the Germans in Rockingham and Shenandoah counties. It is not surprising, therefore, that he was much in demand as a teacher of the medical arts and on the other hand covering such a large area with farms spread far and near he himself needed help rather badly in his medical practice and for his apothecary shop near Keezletown.

We do not know how many young men he trained, but with two of his students he had considerable trouble. In August, 1794 he had accepted Martin Hupp, a boy of 19 years, as an apprentice. Dr. Ahl and the boy's father, John Hupp, entered into a contract for a two years period. By the terms of this contract the physician received 30 pounds Virginia currency and could demand an additional 20 pounds whenever desired. Apart from receiving medical instruction, Hupp was to be tutored in the Latin, English, and German languages. This contract was never fully carried out. According to John Hupp's testimony before the Rockingham County Court this covenant was violated by Dr. Ahl. For lack of further information we are unable to even guess what had actually happened.

Meanwhile Solomon Henkel applied to Ahl for instruc-

tions. In December, 1795 he was given to Dr. Ahl by his father under an apprenticeship contract for six months of training. For some unknown reason Solomon left his master already on March 23, 1796. Paul Henkel's journal reveals that his family was engaged in building and blasting rock and most probably Solomon was needed urgently for this project. Dr. Ahl insisted on the full payment for the instruction and boarding and claimed a balance of \$36.00 due him by Paul Henkel. As we shall see later, he never received this money.

A painful experience was still to begin for Dr. Ahl. John Hupp brought suit in a state court against the physician. On January 24, 1796, as Prof. Smith wrote in the *Rockingham Recorder* in 1946, M'Williams, clerk of the Rockingham County Court, issued a writ commanding Sheriff Ezekiel Harrison, in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia, to take Peter Ahl into custody on a damage claim of 500 pounds. Dr. Ahl must have enjoyed a good reputation as two of his neighbors, Isaac Peters and Benjamin Reighard, appeared before Judge Asher Waterman offering bail amounting to 1000 pounds for their friend, the physician, promising either to deliver the latter to the court when his case came up or pay the 500 pounds demanded by the plaintiff.

Shortly before the case came up Dr. Peter Ahl surrendered himself to the sheriff and was lodged in the Harrisonburg jail. He was finally sentenced to pay "Damage and Judgment" amounting to \$262.50—about one-tenth of the original amount of the contract. After this happening of which we have only fragmentary evidence and being unable to collect the money due him from the Rev. Paul Henkel, Dr. Ahl sold his property and moved with his family to South Carolina. Rockingham County lost a capable and renowned medical doctor. Solomon Henkel seems to have taken over most of his practice after enlarging his own apothecary shop in New Market with drugs and medicines purchased from Godfrey Miller at Winchester in 1798.

In South Carolina Dr. Ahl was soon poverty-stricken. He practiced there for many years and, although not licensed, preached for Lutheran congregations. The Rev. Paul Henkel (who more than once had administered medicines although not having been trained as a physician) severely criticised Ahl for preaching without ordination. Many Lutheran congregations in the South, however, were for years without ordained ministers, and it was natural that educated laymen like Dr. Ahl would fill in whenever their help was needed despite the fact that orthodox clergymen frowned upon such practice. In the fall of 1804 Ahl made a last attempt to collect the debt from Paul Henkel. He appeared at Buffalo Creek, North Carolina, where the pastor visited on one of his missionary tours, but his claims were rejected.

In 1820 Dr. Ahl removed to Westmoreland County in Pennsylvania. On May 1, 1821 he became a pensioner on the Pennsylvania rolls on account of his meritorious services during the Revolutionary War. He moved to Baltimore where he had once begun his American medical career. On July 13, 1827 he died 79 years old, "one of our American medical pioneers" as a necrology called him. Despite the unfavorable record in the Rockingham County Court Register we can justly appraise Dr. John Peter Ahl as one of the men who paved the way for modern medicine in the county where superstition and quackery once had a firm hold. In the history of Rockingham County he is the first full-fledged surgeon, and the fact that his friends were willing to offer a considerable sum of money to alleviate his precarious position in the face of a litigation proves that he was well esteemed by those who knew of his beneficial work among the people of the county. Though of German birth, he was a true American patriot who for many years placed his abilities augmented by an excellent professional training at the disposal of his fellow citizens of German stock in the Valley of Virginia.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Already in 1900, Dr. Eugene Cordell of Baltimore read a biographical sketch of Dr. Ahl before the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland. Unfortunately this paper has not been preserved. The present article has been compiled from court records of Rockingham and Shenandoah counties, and letters and journals of Dr. Solomon Henkel and the Rev. Paul Henkel which are in the possession of Mrs. H. I. Tusing of New Market. The article by Dr. Glenn C. Smith of Madison College in the *Rockingham Recorder* on the Ahl-Hupp episode furnished the original inspiration for compiling material on Dr. Ahl. Much gratitude is due to Mrs. Henry I. Tusing who has most generously put all her valuable records at the writer's disposal. Mr. Joseph K. Ruebush of Harrisonburg was untiringly concerned with this and numerous other research projects of the author. To him go the most cordial thanks. The following publications proved also helpful:

Berkley, Henry J., "Maryland Physicians of the Period of the Revolutionary War," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, xxiv (1929), 3.

Cordell, Eugene F., *The Medical Annals of Maryland, 1799-1899*, 298.

Cunz, Dieter, *The Maryland Germans*, 144.

Smith, Glenn C., "Dr. Peter Ahl Teaches John Hupp, 1794-1796," *The Rockingham Recorder*, I, 2 (1946), 103-106.

ROCKINGHAM BATTLEFIELDS

Within recent months it has been the privilege of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Civil War Round Table to escort groups from similar organizations over the battlefields of Harrisonburg, Cross Keys, and Port Republic: one from Winchester, August 15, one from Cleveland, Ohio, October 10, and one from Richmond, November 7.

THE HARSBERGER FAMILY

Mrs. Ralph M. Deming, 845 California Street, San Francisco 8, issues interesting bulletins about the Harnsbergers in different parts of the country.

DIARY OF W. H. AREHART

(1864)

Sixth Instalment

March, Thursday, 31st.

Left camp near Brownsburg this morning at 8 O'clock. Reached Lexington about 12 O'clock. Continued our march in the direction of the Natural Bridge. I was detailed for rear guard today.

April, Friday, 1st.

In camp at Mr. Grigsby 5 miles from Natural Bridge. Raining today. Commenced at 7 O'clock and continued on all day.

April, Saturday, 2nd.

In camp at Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County, 5 miles from the Natural Bridge. Paid 9 dollars for bacon for the use of the mess. One bottle of ink at 4 dollars.

April, Sunday, 3rd.

In camp on Fancy Hill, 5 miles from the Natural Bridge, in Rockbridge County. Naason is on camp guard today for the first time.

April, Monday, 4th.

Commenced snowing this morning at 7 O'clock and continued on all day and night. This is been a very disagreeable day. Bought $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of potatoes for the mess. Casper been elected Lieut. by the members of Company H.

April, Tuesday, 5th.

Still snowing this morning till 9 O'clock. It is very disagreeable time in camp. Lieut. J. W. Kratzer's case is

up before board of Courtmartial today. W. A. Will is on camp guard today for the first time.

April, Wednesday, 6th.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County. Sam Ryman and Naason Will returned from Mr. Reuben Bare's this evening.

April, Thursday, 7th.

In camp. Bought $1\frac{1}{2}$ dozen of eggs at 2 dollars per dozen. This evening at 5 O'clock a lot of horses of Company H were valued. My bay mare was valued \$1300.00. Naason's horse valued \$1200.00. Casper's \$1100.00. The *committy ware* Capt. Ford, Lieut. Harmon and J. R. Rust.

April, Friday, 8th.

This morning at 8 O'clock myself and William Plecker started to the Natural Bridge. Arrived there at 10 O'clock. Returned to camp about 2 O'clock. Naason and Anderson Will went to Mr. Bare's this evening.

April, Saturday, 9th.

In camp. Raining this morning and continued on all day. Solon Bowman, Henry Roller, N. Will, J. K. P. Ritchie went to the Natural Bridge today. W. A. Will and Naason Arehart returned to camp at 3 O'clock P.M. from Mr. Bares.

April, Sunday, 10th.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County. Casper and Naason went to the Natural Bridge and returned by 4 O'clock P. M.

April, Monday, 11th.

This morning at 8 O'clock myself, William Plecker and J. Bowman went to Lexington, thence to Mr. Yontz and remained there all night.

April, Tuesday, 12th.

This morning I left Mr. Yontz at 9 O'clock, proceeded to Mr. Showalters, remained there several hours. Reached Lexington at 11 O'clock. Remained there till 1 O'clock P. M. We then started for camp. After reaching Mr. Drideings, on the Plank road, 8 miles from Lexington we then had our horses put up and fed and taken on some refreshments ourselves. Reached camp about 5 O'clock.

April, Wednesday, 13th.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County. Casper has been on the hunt of his horse since yesterday morning. Returned to camp with his horse at 1 O'clock. Henry Roller and Dallas Ritchie returned to camp today.

April, Thursday, 14th.

Company drill this morning at 8 O'clock. By order of Lieut. Col. L. B. Massie. Company H caught 7 foxes today.

April, Friday, 15th.

Today at 1 O'clock P. M. there was a review of Gen. Rosser's brigade of Cavalry. Great many citizens and ladies were there. Returned to camp by 4 O'clock P. M.

April, Saturday, 16th.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County. Received a letter from Isaac.

April, Sunday, 17th.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County. Company inspection this morning at 9 O'clock. *Preching* at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ O'clock A. M. in this camp.

April, Monday, 18th.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County. Received

a letter from Miss Sarah C. Minnick. Casper and A. D. Jones started to Mr. Sam Yount's today with O. P. Horn's trunk. I sent one pair of *drawsers* along.

April, Tuesday, 19th.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County. Casper returned to camp today at 12 O'clock from Mr. Yount's. Appraising horses today. The *commity* are Capt. Ford, Lieuts. Harman and Arehart.

April, Wednesday, 20th.

Today at 12 O'clock ex Governor Letcher made a *speach* to the soldiers of Gen. Rosser's brigade. The 12th Regt. went to *here* the speaking. Returning to camp by three O'clock.

April, Thursday, 21st.

This morning at 8 O'clock commenced valuing the horses of Company H. My bay mare appraised at \$1667.00, Caspers at \$1400.00, one bay horse per Naason at 1734.00. After through appraising we had company inspection of arms and equipments. Received a letter from Miss Kate Bowman today.

April, Friday, 22nd.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County.

April, Saturday, 23rd.

In camp near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County. Allen Smith, Wm. Grove, and John Jamison were *detached* from this Regt. Naason and Anderson Will went to Mr. David Shavers today. Maj. Horn returned to camp this evening from Mr. Younts.

April, Sunday 24th.

In camp. We had preaching in this camp. Naason and

Anderson Will returned to camp today at 12 O'clock from Mr. Shavers.

April, Monday, 25th.

Left camp this morning near Fancy Hill, Rockbridge County, at 8 O'clock. Passed through Lexington between 12 and 1 O'clock. Continued our march through Fairfield and reached Midway about sundown and encamped for the night.

April, Tuesday, 26th.

Left camp at Midway. After reaching Greenville, the distance of 6 miles, we then taken a right hand road in the direction of Waynesboro. Encamped 3 miles northwest of Waynesboro.

April, Wednesday, 27th.

In camp 3 miles north of Wayneboro. At 3 O'clock P.M. received marching orders to keep in *readyness* to move off in an hours warning.

April, Thursday, 28th.

In camp 3 miles north from Waynesboro. This evening at 7 O'clock we were ordered to march. The Regt. formed, moved out of camp. The order then was *countermanded*. We then went back to camp again. There was great rejoicing.

April, Friday, 29th.

In camp 3 miles from Waynesboro, Augusta County. O. P. been busy in making off pay rolls. Ordered this evening to be ready to move tomorrow morning. The order was then countermanded at 12 O'clock last night.

April, Saturday, 30th.

In camp 3 miles north from Waynesboro, Augusta

County, Va. Mustered in for pay by Capt. Kennon, inspector general. Also inspection of horses today.

May, Sunday, 1st.

This morning we left camp 3 miles north from Waynesboro, Augusta County. We marched off at 7 O'clock by the way of Waynesboro, and crossed the Blue Ridge, at Rockfish Gap, thence marched in the direction of Standardville, Green County. We encamped for the night 2 miles south of White Hall, Albemarle County, Va. Passed through a small village today, named Burksville.

May, Monday, 2nd.

Left camp this morning 1 mile south of White Hall, in Albemarle County. Moved in the direction of Orange C. H. Passed through White Hall and reached Earlys ville, in Green County about 1 O'clock P.M. Continued our march. Passed through Ruckersville at 4 O'clock P. M. Reached the Standardville pike at 5 O'clock P. M. We then marched several miles, then encamped 7 miles west of Liberty Mill, Green County, 14 miles from Gordonsville. Our march today was about 30 miles.

May, Tuesday, 3rd.

In camp near Orange Mills, in Green County, 7 miles from Liberty Mill, on the Orange and Standardville road.

May, Wednesday, 4th.

Left camp today near Orange Mills, Green County, at 10½ O'clock, in the direction of Fredericksburg. Passed through Orange C. H. Reached Maderesville at 8 O'clock this evening. Continued our march 3 miles below Maderesville, then encamped for the night.

May, Thursday, 5th.

This morning we mounted our horses at 7 O'clock.

Moved in the direction of Todds Tavern, the 12th Regt. being in front. After going 2 miles we *attacked* the Yankees. We then had a very warm skirmish with them. Nathaniel Phillips was killed and Sam Slusser seriously wounded. 4 horses killed in our Co. *Fought* the enemy all day. Encamped for the night at Matoponi river 10 miles below Maderesville. Longstreet's army was camped ½ mile from us. Mr. Nathaniel Phillips killed in the first *charg* this morning and Sam Slusser wounded.

May, Friday, 6th.

Moved off this morning at 7 O'clock in the direction of Todds Tavern. We proceeded 5 miles, where we encountered the enemy again with a large body of cavalry and infantry, with which we had a hard fight. The *lost* in our brigade was very heavy. Capt. Sipe, M. Glover and Robert Painter wounded. David Danner killed. Gen. Longstreet *attacked* the enemy at 5 O'clock on the old plank road, 6 miles from Chancellorsville. Drove the Yankees back with heavy *lost* on both sides. Gen. Longstreet was wounded by a ball passing through one of his shoulders. This morning Naason's horse, my mare, Sam Ryman's and Sam. Craun's horses were wounded. Gen. Rosser brigade *bin* engaged nearly all day. Myself, Naason, and Sam Ryman camped ½ mile in rear of the brigade, 2 miles below White Hall, Spottsylvania Co., 3 miles from the plank road.

May, Saturday, 7th.

Left the brigade this morning near Parker's Store, with 3 disabled horses. Reached White Hall at 11 O'clock. Skirmishing commenced early this morning all along the lines. Longstreet's army is *moving* forward to Chancellorsville. Our brigade had several small engagements this morning. Capt. Sam Myers, Co. C. 7th Regt., was wounded in the fight and had his leg amputated several hours afterwards. Gen. Gordon's brigade *attacked* the enemy today on the Catharpen road and drove them back. Longstreet's

army moved on the right of our brigade this evening. Our brigade was skirmishing with the enemy all day.

May, Sunday, 8th.

With the wagon train at White Hall, in charge of disabled horses. Skirmishing commenced early this morning all along the lines. Gen. Lee's army moved by here in the direction of Spottsylvania C. H. Gen. Rosser moved his train this evening at 11 O'clock, about 3 miles on the Cathapen road. Solon M. Bowman was wounded today by a ball passing through his arm.

May, Monday, 9th.

This morning Gen. Lee's whole army is in motion. Rosser's wagon train and disabled horses moved off— at 9 O'clock in the direction of Beaver Dam Station. After marching 15 miles we encamped for the night 11 miles southwest of Spottsylvania Court House. Heavy firing with artillery and musketry along the lines all day. The Yankee cavalry made a dash on our train, but did not do much damage. Solon Bowman started home this morning with Mr. Roller.

May, Tuesday, 10th.

This morning Rosser's wagon train and disabled horses moved off— at 6 O'clock in the direction of Spottsylvania C. H. Was halted 6 miles from the Court House. Heavy firing of artillery and musketry along all the lines. Beaver Dam Station was burnt away last night. Heavy firing there this morning. The train moved off this evening in the direction of Vadearsville. At 10 O'clock we halted and encamped for the night.

May, Wednesday, 11th.

This morning Naason took charge of my lead horses, then I marched in rear of the brigade. The Regt. moved off

at 9 O'clock. We marched in rear 5 miles. Gen Rosser then ordered us back to the wagon train to *perfect* it while the brigade is on a scout. Supposed to go in the direction of Warrenton. When we returned to the train had moved off— in the direction of Spottsylvania C. H. After *moving* several miles we encamped at a mill place called Blackrock. Raining this evening. Yesterday Gen. Ewell captured 3000 Yankees. This is the 7th day we been fighting the Yankees in Spottsylvania Co.

May, Thursday, 12th

Infantry engagements commenced last night at 12 O'clock. Heavy firing of artillery and musketry all day. The firing ceased about 10 O'clock this evening. Have not *heard* the result of the fight yet, though reported the Stonewall brigade was captured, excepting about 70 men who made their escape. Our brigade was on the right today, but was not engaged. Our Brigade wagons were at Black Rock Mills, 8 miles from Spottsylvania C. H. The train did not move today.

May, Friday, 13th.

Today the dismounted men are ordered to stay with the train and *perfect* it in case of a flank movement from the enemy. We were stationed at Black Rock Mills, Spottsylvania Co., 10 miles from Spottsylvania C. H. Heavy skirmishing along the lines all day. Our Brigade been on grand guard today. Sad news reached us this evening to *here* Gen. Stuart was killed. This being a very rainy day.

May, Saturday, 14th.

Raining this morning. Skirmishing commenced early this morning. This morning our wounded and broken down horses were sent to the rear, to Albemarle County. This morning company was ordered to command. We left the wagon train at 11 O'clock. Lieut. Owens was in command of the squad. Reached about 3 O'clock P.M., 3 miles from

Spottsylvania C. H. At 5 O'clock our Brigade started a scout. We were then ordered back again. We went to the rear several miles where we went into camp, on Mattoponi River, 6 miles from the C. H.

May, Sunday, 15th.

This morning Company G left Mattoponi River. At 7 O'clock moved off in the direction of the Po river. After marching several miles we *hered* the Brigade is gone on a scout below Todds Tavern, where they intercepted the Yankees. John Kelley was seriously wounded. Company returned to the wagon trains. Reached train about 3 O'clock, at Long's Mill, 5 miles from Spottsylvania C. H.

May, Monday, 16th.

Today Gen. Rosser Brigade been in camp near Longs Mill. The wagon train and company been near there also. At 3 O'clock P. M. there was heavy skirmishing of musketry and artillery about 3 miles from our camp at Todds Tavern. Our Brigade was not called out. John Kelley started home this morning.

May, Tuesday, 17th.

Today Company Q been in camp with the wagon train at Mr. Long's mill, 4 *milles* from Spottsylvania C. H. Gen. Rosser's brigade was in camp within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the place. Gen. Lee's headquarters is 2 miles from this place. Very little skirmishing along the lines today.

May, Wednesday, 18th.

Early this morning (at daylight) the enemy *attacted* our forces. There was heavy fighting till about 10 O'clock. The fight resulted by *repulseing* the enemy. Wounded and killed a great many, our *lost* being light. Company Q was ordered to the Regt. this morning. The train still remained at Long's Mills and the Regt. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from that place.

Camped with the Regt. this evening. Captured one Regt. of Yankees today.

May, Thursday, 19th.

In camp with the Regt. $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the wagon train near Long's Mill, 4 miles from Spottsylvania C. H. At 3 O'clock P.M. Gen Rosser's brigade and Gen. Ewell's Corps *attacted* the enemy on the extreme left of *there* army. Captured a portion of *there* wagon train. Gen. Ewell's forces fell back again this evening and resumed *there* old *persition*.

May, Friday, 20th.

Today our brigade and Company Q in camp near the wagon train at Long's Mills, 4 miles from Spottsylvania C.H. But very little skirmishing along the lines today. Ordered this evening drew 3 days rations. The order was countermanded at sundown.

May, Saturday, 21st.

This mornnig Rosser's brigade moved of— in the direction Guiney Station. Company Q dismounted men were organized into a Battalion in charge of Major McDonald. Lieut. Owens in charge of the men of the 12th Regt. We were then ordered to Gen. Lee's Reserve Ordnance. We were then armed with longrange guns and drew 40 rounds of ammunition. There were 70 men out of the 12th Regt. We then went into camp 2 miles from Spottsylvania C.H.

May, Sunday, 22nd.

This morning Company Q *taken* up the march at 6 O'clock in command of Lieut. Owens. We marched in the direction of Hanover Junction. Passed through Mt. Pleasant and New Market. Reached the South Anna River about 10 O'clock this evening—the distance of 21 miles. We were then halted for one hour *untill* A. P. Hill's Corps. had crossed the river. We then cross the river on a very *shack-*

lin (rickdy) bridge and encamped for the night several hundred yards from Gen. Chamblies' brigade. Fought the Yankees today. Mr. J. Wisman Co. H., 10 Va. Cavly. was killed and Harvey Minnick mortally wounded. Our troops have been marching for 2 days and 2 nights. Maj. McDonald (of 11th Regt.) is in command of the dismounted men of Gen. Rosser's brigade.

May, Monday, 23rd.

This morning Maj. McDonald with the dismounted men of Rosser's brigade, left camp at North Anna River, at 6 O'clock. Reached Hanover Junction at 10 O'clock P.M. We *where* then halted and remained there *untill* 3 O.C. P.M. We were then ordered to the South Anna river, and encamped for the night. Rosser's brigade was camped near this place. We are now 23 miles from Richmond.

May, Tuesday, 24th.

This morning Rosser's brigade was ordered to Hanover C.H. Company Q commanded by Maj. McDonald, in camp on the South Anna River, 2 miles from the Junction, to *perfect* the wagon train. Sam. Ryman came to camp today. At 3 O.C. P.M. heavy skirmishing along the lines. Our forces were fortifying today near Hanover Junction.

May, Wednesday, 25th.

This morning the dismounted men of Rosser's brigade were ordered to picket. We left the South Anna River at 7 O.C. We *taken* a N. western direction. 8 miles from our camp, We were stationed on picket. We been skirmishing with the Yankees all day and nearly all night. Sergt. Sine was seriously wounded.

May, Thursday, 26th.

Still remaining on picket and heavy skirmishing along the lines this morning. Dismounted men of the 12th Regt. were on picket all night.

May, Friday, 27th.

Relieved from picket this morning. Maj. McDonald with the dismounted men. Again on the march. Got up with wagons at 11 O'clock, 4 miles west from Hanover Junction. Gen Rosser's whole brigade was there. The enemy moved away from our front last night at 11 O'clock. At 12 O'clock M. we again *taken* up the march in the direction of Richmond. Reached Ashland Station, on the Central railroad at 5 O'clock P.M. We then encamped at this place for the night.

May, Saturday, 28th.

This morning Maj. McDonald with the dismounted men of Gen. Rosser's brigade, left Ashland Station at 4 O'clock. Marched about 5 miles. We then halted and eat breakfast. Gen. Lee's whole army is *moveing* in the direction of Richmond. Reached Atlee Station at 2 O'clock P.M. Marched off again at sundown. Went several miles then encamped for the night. Milton Miller and Samson Orebaugh got up to *there* command today. Today our Cavalry had a very heavy engagement. Jacob Whitesal killed and Litington Cool missing from our company. John Miller killed of the 7th Regt.

May, Sunday, 29th.

Left camp this morning 1½ mile south of Atlee Station, at 10 O'clock. After Company Q moved off ½ mile Lieut. Randolph send me a horse, so I mounted and joined my Regt. All our Cavalry forces moved in direction of Hanover C.H., finding the enemy *woulden* advance. We then returned and encamped near Atlee Station. I left Company Q this morning after an inspection of arms. Mounted on Litington Cool's horse. Saw Jacob Gassman this morning. Also saw Mich. Neff and Jacob Garber. Today turned my End field rifle over to Wm. Carpenter, and *taken* his Burnside.

May, Monday, 30th.

This morning at 10 O'clock our brigade formed a line of battle on the right of Gen. W. F. Lee's forces. Remained on line of battle till 3 O'clock P.M. The enemy did not advance. We then returned to camp near Atlee Station, on the Chickahominy Swamps, 12 miles from Richmond. Our dismounted men were busy in throwing up *breast* works today. Very little skirmishing along the lines today.

May, Tuesday, 31st.

On grand guard, on the Chickhominy River, in Henrico County, 10 miles from Richmond. Heavy *firing* today on the right wing of our army. Have not learned the particulars of the fight.

June, Wednesday, 1st.

Left camp at Hue's Cross Roads at 12 O'clock. Moved in the direction of Ashland Station. We *attacked* the enemy in the direction of Ashland. We charged them about 2½, then formed a Junction with Lee's Cavalry. Our squadron was then ordered to support the sharpshooters, when Casper was struck by a ball in the left side near the heart and immediately died. His body was then carried to Hue's Cross Roads, Henrico County, 11 miles north from Richmond. His body was buried in a garden by the side of the Brock road, at the Cross Road between the hours of 11 and 12 O'clock in the evening. The fight resulted in routing the enemy and capturing a good many of them. Camped this evening in our old camp near Hue's Cross Roads, near the Chickahominy River.

June, Thursday, 2nd.

Left the Cross Road this morning at 8 O'clock. Crossed the Chickhominy and met the Regt. near there *grazing*. At 1 O'clock a meeting was held in Company H., for the purpose of electing a Lieut. O. P. Horne was elected

to the office. W. E. Plecker was nominated as a *candidate*. The vote thus—20 for Horne, 12 for Plecker. This evening at 4 O'clock the Yankees charged A. P. Hill's breastworks 3 times and were repulsed the 3rd time. Firing ceased at 11 O.C. this evening. Our *lost* was light. The enemy *lost* not learned yet, but supposed very heavy. Camped this evening 9 miles from Richmond.

June, Friday, 3rd.

Left camp this morning at 7 O'clock. Pressed the enemy flank while Gen. Hill drove the enemy from *there* position. After *persewing* them 10 or 12 miles we found the enemy well fortified, and the cavalry supported by infantry. We skirmished with them for several hours. Captured 10, or 12 prisoners. We were then ordered back to Atlee Station, 8 miles from Richmond, where we encamped for the night.

June, Saturday, 4th.

Left camp this morning at 10 O'clock at Atlee Station. Moved in the direction of Paul's shop, the distance of 9 or 10 miles, where our brigade *attacked* the enemy. Skirmished with them for about one hour. One man killed of White's Battalion. Returned to our old camp at 4 O'clock, at Atlee Station, Henrico County, 7 miles from Richmond. Our infantry were engaged today on our right. Not *lernt* the *particulars* of the fight.

June, Sunday, 5th.

In camp near Atlee Station, Henrico County, 7 miles from Richmond. Heavy *firing* last night and this morning. The enemy were repulsed.

June, Monday, 6th.

In camp near Atlee Station, 7½ miles from Richmond, Henrico County. Some *firing* on our right today. Drew

clothing for the company today. Reported the Yankees are at Port Republic in Rockingham County.

June, Tuesday, 7th.

Left camp this morning near Atlee Station at 6 O'clock. Moved in the direction of Pamunkey river. The enemy did not advance. We were then ordered back to camp at Atlee Station. At 4 O'clock P.M. our squadron was ordered on picket at Shelton School House 15 miles N.E. of Richmond.

June, Wednesday, 8th.

At 4 O'clock P.M. relieved from picket. All quiet along the lines today. Rumoured through camp Gen. Sheridan crossed the Pamunkey this morning with a large body of cavalry. *Havened learnt* what route he will take. Returned to camp this evening at 7 O'clock, 2 miles from Atlee Station. Franklin Bowman arrived in our camp this morning.

BIRTHPLACE OF JOHN SEVIER

In December 1958 Miss Cora Bales Sevier of Washington, D. C., came to Toll House Farm. She is a descendant of Col. John Sevier and is doing intensive research on the Sevier family. She has recently been in Spain and Portugal visiting the Navarre Castle where the Seviars originated.

When I told her that her ancestor was born in Tenth Legion, and that the likelihood was in the house still standing she began to look for proof.

In trying to verify it she found in the Draper Collection, a letter to Dr. Draper from Col. Geo. Washington Sevier which was dated 1840.

Dr. Draper had asked where John Sevier was born, and John's son replied as follows:

My father was born six miles west of New Market on the main Stage route through the Valley of Virginia (via Staunton, Lexington, etc.) and a man by the name of March now owns the place—(Draper MMS 11 DD 168). It intrigues me why he wrote west.

The tavern was located on the West side of the Stage route but it was built after the residence, for Valentine complained that he was infested with strangers riding in from the forest begging a night's lodging and he had built the tavern on the trail to take care of them.

John Sevier was born before the tavern was opened.

It is true when Geo. W. Sevier wrote Dr. Draper the Marches or Martzs as the family was then known owned about 1000 acres of the land Valentine had patented, and the house which still stands was the house on the place when it was purchased by Sabastian March in March 1777.

In the deed it is referred to as the "place Valentine Sevier formerly lived."

There is a bit of history to this house that has been over looked.

After Braddock's defeat Valentine Sevier moved his family to Fredericksburg for a period of 2 years. He was in Culpepper as the inspector of beef and pork for the army.

When he returned to his plantation the Indians or some one else had set fire to it, and only the ruins remained. Sevier mortgaged the place to Buchanan to rebuild it. Later Buchanan sold it to Michael Bowyer, and Bowyer to March in 1777.

John Sevier's wife was Sarah Hawkins, daughter of Joseph Hawkins. She was a sister of Benjamin Hawkins the father of Michael Martz's wife, Sarah Hawkins Martz, who lived and reared 12 children in the same house that Houston Harrison was born in, and grew up.

It is most unlikely that my grandfather, Jackson Martz, her son, would have given my parents the wrong information about John Sevier. My mother was born in 1854 on the place that her father was born in, and certainly as near a relative as her father's uncle and as prominent a man as John Sevier grew to be, would have been rather closely followed by the family.

Just how the confusion came about that John Sevier was born in the Marsh on the Holsinger place I do not know. His father patented this tract after John's birth and lived upon it after he moved from the Tenth Legion community.

There is evidence that Valentine was on the Toll House Farm property in 1740. Two men one named Moore, the other Bason, assaulted him on this place. He had them up in Court in Orange Co., and they were fined 10 lbs. according to the records.

There is no record anyone else ever tried it.

I find in John Sevier's diary he spent the night with Ruben Harrison whose place was South of Lacey Springs on the Battlefield, when he was on his way to be sworn in as a Congressman.

This place is now owned by Paul Allebaugh.

Much of this information will be in my book which I hope to get into print by 1960.

Myrtle Conquist

THE KEMPERS

Troy Kemper, 4620 Trumbull Avenue, S. E., Albuquerque, New Mexico, has just published a Kemper Genealogy, No. 4, 58 pages, covering the years 1635-1957.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY CHRONOLOGY

Sixth Instalment

- 1864, Oct. 17—General Gordon, C. S. A., makes observations from Hupp's Hill of Sheridan's camps on Cedar Creek.
- 1864, Oct. 18—Gordon, Evans, and Hotchkiss observe the Federals from Signal Mountain, opposite Strasburg.
- 1864, Oct. 19—Battle of Cedar Creek—parts of Sheridan's camp routed in the morning by Early; Sheridan later turns the tide.
- 1864, Oct. 20—Early retreats up the Pike towards New Market; Rosser up the Back Road and the Middle Road to Forestville.
- 1864, Oct. 21 to Nov. 10—Sheridan occupies and fortifies Hupp's Hill.
- 1864, Oct. 26—Fighting in Page County.
- 1864, Oct. 28—Federals in Woodstock.
- 1864, October—The Presbyterian Church in Woodstock burned.
- 1864, Nov. 1—Birth at Staunton of Harry Baylor Hanger. See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 13 (1924-25), page 1445.
- 1864, Nov. 10—Early advances northeast from New Market and Mt. Jackson.
- 1864, Nov. 11—Early continues his advance northeast to Strasburg and Cedar Creek.
- 1864, Nov. 12—Early falls back to Fisher's Hill.
- 1864, Nov. 13—Early continues his retreat up the Valley Pike.

- 1864, Nov. 14—Early, falling back up the Pike, reaches New Market.
- 1864, Nov. 22—Federal cavalry, advancing southwest as far as Meem's Bottom, above Mt. Jackson, are driven back by Munford to Edinburg.
- 1864, Friday, Dec. 2—The *Rockingham Register* of Harrisonburg reports: "In the fight with the enemy in Meem's bottoms, last week, Wm. H. Cline and Joseph Stinespring of this county, members of Capt. E. S. Peal's company, were killed. They were both shot in the head."
- 1864, Monday, Dec. 12—Shenandoah County Court held at Mt. Jackson, instead of Woodstock, the county-seat, "as a measure of prudence and precaution."
- 1864, Dec. 16—Early moves up from New Market towards Harrisonburg and Staunton.
- 1864, Dec. 19—Custer moves up the Pike towards Lacey Springs.
- 1864, Dec. 21—Rosser and Payne, before dawn, drive Custer from his camp just northwest of Lacey Springs.
- 1865—Dr. A. Russell Meem dies in Harrisonburg.
- 1865, Jan. 1—Birth at Melrose, Rockingham County, of Luther E. Baker, later major and otherwise prominent in Iowa.
- 1865, Jan. 5—Death in Woodstock of Dr. John E. Schmitt, age 72.
- 1865, Jan. 11—General Rosser and his men capture Beverley in Randolph County, now West Virginia.
- 1865, Jan. 13—Birth in Berkeley County of David C. Westenhaver, later judge.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 13 (1924-25), page 3373.
- 1865, Jan. 15—Major Samuel B. Myers, age 34, dies at Union Forge, Shenandoah County.

- 1865, Jan. 22—Major Young captures Confederate pickets at Edinburg; Capt. George Grandstaff raises a party, rescues the prisoners, and takes some of the Federals.
- 1865, Jan. 29—The Federals come up to Edinburg again.
- 1865, January—The body of Capt. John Hanson McNeill removed from Harrisonburg to the family burying ground near Moorefield.
- 1865, Feb. 12—Birth near Edinburg of Charles Gilmore Maphis, later prominent educator.
- 1865, Thursday night, Feb. 14—Mossy Creek Academy, large brick building, burned.
- 1865, Feb. 16—Federals at Edinburg—Columbia Furnace burned again.
- 1865, Feb. 18—Birth at Dale Enterprise, Rockingham County, of Timothy O. Heatwole, later prominent in Baltimore.
- 1865, Feb. 21—Capt. Jesse McNeill and men capture Federal generals Crook and Kelly, at Cumberland, Md.
- 1865, Feb. 24—Obituary of Col. J. H. S. Funk, mortally wounded near Winchester, in the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1865, Feb. 28—Sheridan's army passes up the Pike by Hawkinstown again.
- 1865, Wednesday, March 1—Fight at the river above Mt. Crawford—Rosser outflanked and driven up the Pike.
- 1865, March 1 or 2—Sheridan at the river above (southwest) Mt. Crawford.
- 1865, March 2 or 3—Sheridan defeats the remnant of Early's army at Waynesboro.
- 1865, April 3—Col. Chas. T. O'Ferrall and his men attack a Federal camp at Pugh's Run, 1½ miles northeast of Woodstock.

- 1865, April 5—Federalists at Hawkinstown.
- 1865, April 28—Federalists go up the Pike through Mt. Jackson.
- 1865, May 3—Capt. William McKinley raised a Master Mason in Hiram Lodge, No. 21, A.F. & A.M., Winchester.
- 1865, June 19—Birth at Front Royal of Theodore Hough.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 13 (1924-25), page 1635.
- 1865, June 27—Capt. George W. Summers and Sergt. Newton Koontz of Page County shot at Rude's Hill by order of Lt.-Col. Huzzy of Ohio. A monument now marks the spot.
- 1865, August—The Bank of Rockingham reorganized as the First National Bank of Harrisonburg.
- 1865, Aug. 18—Birth in Staunton of Charles Catlett, later chemist.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 506.
- 1865, Aug. 21—Birth in Winchester of Henry Tucker Graham, later clergyman.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 996.
- 1865, Wednesday, Oct. 11—First issue of *The Old Commonwealth* at Harrisonburg; John C. Woodson, editor; publishers, G. Shirey & T. B. Grim.
- 1865, Sunday, Nov. 19—Boys throw down the old Methodist Church "on the hill" in Harrisonburg—site of the present Church of the Brethren.
- 1865, Nov. 24—Birth in Frederick County of Katherine Glass, later Mrs. Greene, educator and author.—See "Who's Who in America," (1944-45), page 826.
- 1866—John W. Taylor begins teaching at Lacey Springs.
- 1866—School for Negro children organized in Harrison-

- burg by Martha Smith and Phoeby Libby of Augusta, Maine.
- 1866—John Pennywitt, age 83, dies near Woodlawn, Shenandoah County.
- 1866—John W. Woods of Shenandoah County builds a bridge over the river at Bridgewater to replace the one burned in 1862.
- 1866, February—The U. S. Treasury Department allows the Lutheran Church in Harrisonburg \$175 for damages in the war.
- 1866, February—Reported in *The Old Commonwealth* of February 21, 1866, that the Presbyterians had just secured a new bell for their church—the first heard in Harrisonburg for 4 years. The old bells had been taken to make cannon.
- 1866, Feb. 9—An account of the Catholics in the Valley in the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1866, Feb. 18—*The American Union*, editor Dr. G. K. Gilmer, first issued in Harrisonburg.
- 1866, Feb. 19—Birth in Warren County of Thomas Stewart Wheelwright, later railway president.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 13 (1924-25), page 3383.
- 1866, March, and 1881, April—Dr. George W. Bagby lectured in Harrisonburg.
- 1866, March 27—Birth at Berryville of Albert M. D. McCormick, later rear-admiral.
- 1866, March 28—Birth in Augusta County of Glossbrenner Wallace William Hanger.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 1064.
- 1866, March 28—Mt. Crawford Council, No. 19, Friends of Temperance, organized.
- 1866, Saturday, May 12—Fire company organized in Harrisonburg with James Kenney captain.

- 1866, May 12—A hook and ladder company organized in Harrisonburg with F. A. Daingerfield captain.
- 1866, June—Survey for a railroad from Winchester, via Strasburg, to Salem, in Roanoke County, begins. Stone work &c. of this incompleted enterprise may still be seen between Natural Bridge and Roanoke.
- 1866, June—Rev. J. A. Snyder, Lutheran, accepts a pastorate in New Market.
- 1866, June 28—A sketch of Bridgewater in the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1866, July 20—Rev. J. P. Cline, Lutheran, died in New Market.
- 1866, Tuesday, Aug. 21—Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, on business for the National Express Company, visits Harrisonburg and stops at Hill's Hotel.
- 1866, September—The new bridge over North River at Port Republic, length 404 feet, built by "Mr. Harris," open for use.
- 1866, Sept. 3—Hugh Ike Shott, later member of Congress from West Virginia, born in Staunton.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18.
- 1866, Sept. 23—William Robinson Leigh, later artist, born in Berkeley County.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 1438.
- 1866, Sept. 26—New bridge over North River at Bridgewater, built by John W. Woods, finished.
- 1866, October—B. J. Lossing in Rockingham County inspecting battlefields of Cross Keys and Port Republic, getting items for his illustrated history of the Civil War.
- 1866, Monday, Oct. 1—The First National Bank of Harrisonburg moves into its new building.

- 1866, Oct. 11, 18—"East Rockingham" has items in the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1866, Thursday, Oct. 25—The Stonewall Cemetery in Winchester dedicated and the bodies of Gen. Turner Ashby (from U. Va. Cemetery) and Capt. Dick Ashby (from Romney) re-interred.
- 1866, November—P. M. Custer president of the School Teachers Association of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.
- 1866, Sunday, Nov. 25—New church for colored people in Harrisonburg, between Main Street and German Street, dedicated.
- 1866, Dec. 11—Rev. Lemuel S. Reed of Charlottesville (father of Dr. Walter Reed) and Mrs. Mary C. Kyle of Harrisonburg married; Rev. C. V. Bingley, minister.
- 1867—John K. Beery builds the stone mill at Edom.
- 1867—"The Christian Harp," song book with notes, published at Singers' Glen by the Funks.
- 1867—Capt. G. Julian Pratt purchases Walnut Grove, historic homestead, southwest of Waynesboro.
- 1867—The Lutheran Church in Strasburg repaired and rededicated.
- 1867—Frances Courtney Baylor, author, makes her home near Winchester.
- 1867—The Va. legislature charts the Rockingham Library Association. In November of this year James Kenney was president; Wm. D. Trout, librarian.
- 1867—The Presbyterian Church in Woodstock rebuilt—had burned in 1864.
- 1867, January—Rebecca Wright of Winchester receives a gold watch from General Sheridan. She had given him

- important information in 1864. See "Hopewell Friends History," page 136.
- 1867, Feb. 10—Birth at New Hope, Augusta County, of William Miller Stover, later physician and surgeon of San Luis Obispo, Calif.
- 1867, Feb. 13—"The Battle of Port Republic," by John Esten Cooke, in the *Old Commonwealth*, Harrisonburg, from the *Old Guard*.
- 1867, April 11—Story of Beaver Creek people and their activities in the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1867, Aug. 4—Bethel Lutheran Church, near Hamburg, Shenandoah County, dedicated.
- 1867, Aug. 15—John Robinson's show in New Market.
- 1867, Aug. 26—Barnum, Van Amburg, and D. Castillo show in Mt. Jackson.
- 1867, Summer—The turnpike bridge over Mill Creek at Mt. Jackson washed away.
- 1867, Sept. 18—Major John Esten Cooke and Mary Frances Page, daughter of Dr. Robert Powel Page of "Saratoga," married in Christ Church, Millwood.
- 1867, Sept. 22—N. Beverley Tucker, son of Thomas S. Beverley Tucker, born in Winchester.
- 1867, Oct. 8—Birth at Calvary, Shenandoah County, of James Luther Kibler, teacher and historian.
- 1867, Dec. 2—Birth in Powell's Fort, Shenandoah County, of Rev. Robert E. Golladay, author of 20 volumes of sermons and sermon outlines. He died in Columbus, Ohio, in 1946. His father was James Golladay, M.D.
- 1868—Borden & Bauserman open a store at Tom's Brook.
- 1868—Beginning of Fairfax Hall, a seminary for young ladies, in Winchester. In 1879 Miss Mary E. Billings was principal.

- 1868—St. Paul's German Reformed Church built in Woodstock.
- 1868—Founding of Southern Seminary and Junior College at Buena Vista.
- 1868—The Thurman movement in Rockingham culminates. Thurman had predicted the coming of Christ.
- 1868, Jan. 17—Henkel & Calvert acquire the *Spirit of Democracy* in New Market and rename it the *Shenandoah Valley*.
- 1868, February—The Lutheran Church in Harrisonburg rededicated.
- 1868, March 12—Two spans of the R. R. bridge being erected at Tom's Brook fall; one man killed.
- 1868, March 20—Birth at Martinsburg of Wm. T. Henshaw, M. D., State Health Commissioner of West Virginia in 1929.
- 1868, April—Phillip Williams, prominent citizen, died in Woodstock.
- 1868, April—Col. G. W. Murphy appointed railway and express agent at Mt. Jackson.
- 1868, May—Gen. D. H. Hill lectures in Harrisonburg on "Southern Literature and the Southern People."
- 1868, May 7—A severe hail storm at New Market.
- 1868, May 15—The Virginia Classis of the German Reformed Church meets in Edinburg.
- 1868, May 19—Gen. D. H. Hill delivers his lecture, "The Land We Love," in Woodstock.
- 1868, June 1—Destructive flood at Edinburg and Narrow Passage.
- 1868, June 24—Cornerstone laid of the Episcopal Church in Harrisonburg, east corner of S. Main and Bruce Street.

- 1868, June 27—William Wirt Bird delivers an address at "Our Soldiers' Cemetery," near Mt. Jackson.
- 1868, July 11—Lancelot Minor Harris, later educator, born in Lexington.
- 1868, July 13—Old Waterman house near Harrisonburg burns.—It stood on or near the present Hartman flying field.
- 1868, July 19—Samuel Tidler, age 71, dies at New Market.
- 1868, August—Trains running regularly again between Mt. Jackson and Alexandria.
- 1868, Aug. 5—William Milton Hargest, later judge, born at Winchester. See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 1074.
- 1868, Oct. 6—Death near Zion Church, Shenandoah County, of Mrs. Fred Bauserman, age 76.
- 1868, Oct. 10—Julian Lane Latimer, later rear-admiral, born at Shepherdstown.
- 1868, Oct. 17—William Hammond Milton, later clergyman, born in Clarke County. See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 1680.
- 1868, Oct. 20—Birth at Dale Enterprise, near Harrisonburg, of Cornelius J. Heatwole, later teacher, author, and editor.
- 1868, November—John Gatewood retires from the *Shenandoah Herald*, Woodstock.
- 1868, December—The river bridge on the road west from New Market to the R. R. depot finished.
- 1868, Dec. 15—Henry S. Wunder and Duna B. Allen married in Shenandoah County—probably at or near Mt. Jackson.
- 1868, Dec. 15—Shenandoah Royal Arch Chapter, No. 17, at Edinburg, chartered.

- 1868, Dec. 20—The railroad opened from Mt. Jackson to Harrisonburg.
- 1868, Dec. 23—"Completion of the Manassa's Gap Railroad," in the *Old Commonwealth*, Harrisonburg.
- 1869—Disciples of Christ Church built in Edinburg; Rev. R. C. Cave pastor.
- 1869—New stage line from Harrisonburg to Shenandoah Iron Works put into operation.
- 1869—Rockingham Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company organized.
- 1869, Jan. 2—Charles Raymond Duvall, later scientist, born in Clarke County.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 767.
- 1869, Jan. 17—The white Baptist Church of Harrisonburg organized.
- 1869, February—The R. R. depot at New Market Station finished; J. D. Zirkle agent.
- 1869, Feb. 1—The new turnpike bridge over Mill Creek at Mt. Jackson finished by John W. Woods, builder.
- 1869, Feb. 1—Shenandoah Musical Convention at Woodstock.
- 1869, Feb. 1—Jacob Steegel, age 85, dies in Augusta County.
- 1869, Feb. 11—United Brethren Conference at Otterbein Chapel, near Rinkerton and Mt. Jackson.
- 1869, Feb. 19—First issue of the *Clarke Courier* at Berryville; editor William N. Nelson.
- 1869, March 7—Absalom Rinker dies near Mt. Clifton—hurt in felling a tree.
- 1869, April 1—John H. Latane, later educator and author, born in Staunton.

- 1869, April 9,—The *Warren Sentinel*, weekly newspaper, established at Front Royal by James S. Trout and others.
- 1869, May 1—Samuel Newman, age 90, dies near New Market.
- 1869, June 13—Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren church building, northwest of Bridgewater, burned.
- 1869, June 20—Turnpike opened from New Market to the R.R. depot 2 miles west from the town.
- 1869, July 10—Joseph Salyards at New Market makes an address on "The Valley and Its Intellectual Prospects."
- 1869, August—First sessions of the Virginia Valley Christian Conference in Shenandoah and Rockingham.
- 1869, Aug. 8—Louis McCoy Nulton, later admiral, born in Winchester.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 1791.
- 1869, Aug. 9—Died Gen. Samuel H. Lewis at Lewiston, below Port Republic, age 75-3-9.
- 1869, Aug. 20—Ebenezer O. S. Baptist Association meets at Mill Creek, Page County.
- 1869, Aug. 21—Rev. Jacob Stirewalt, Lutheran, age 64, dies at New Market.
- 1869, September—St. Peter's Church, Lutheran, at Tom's Brook dedicated.
- 1869, 1st Monday in September—Joseph Salyards opens Woodstock Academy.
- 1869, Sept. 9—Cornerstone of the Methodist Church in Edinburg laid.
- 1869, October—A postoffice established at Hamburg, Shenandoah County.
- 1869, Oct. 15—The Lutheran Tennessee Synod opens at New Market.

- 1869, Oct. 17—Valentine Ripley, age 35, died at Red Banks, Shenandoah County.
- 1869, Oct. 31—Mt. Olive Methodist Church, Shenandoah County, dedicated.
- 1869, Nov. 8—Birth at Front Royal of E. Hilton Jackson, later lawyer.—See "Who's Who in America, Vol. 23 (1944-45), page 1061.
- 1869, Nov. 18—"The Tunkers" in the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1869, Nov. 21—John Shomo, age 83, died at New Market.
- 1869, Dec. 15—W. D. Peachy and Lelia Meem married at Dunmore Mt. Airy, near Mt. Jackson.
- 1869, Dec. 23—Mrs. Rebecca Crabill, wife of David, died at Tom's Brook, aged 70.
- 1870,—Ambrose Henkel, pioneer printer, age 84, dies at New Market.
- 1870,—Negro church built in Woodstock.
- 1870—B. & O. Railroad, Valley Branch, extended from Winchester to Strasburg.
- 1870—Charles H. Lewis of Rockingham appointed U. S. Minister to Portugal.
- 1870, Jan. 6—Hedrick, Flory, and others on the Thurman delusion in the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1870, Jan. 12—"East Rockingham," in the *Old Commonwealth*, Harrisonburg.
- 1870, Jan. 27—Mrs. Matilda Triplett, age 59, wife of Dr. Leonidas Triplett, died at Mt. Jackson.
- 1870, January—The *Musical Million*, monthly magazine, first issued at Singers Glen.
- 1870, January—Navigation opened on the Shenandoah River in Brock's Gap.
- 1870, Feb. 22—Birth at Staunton of Roland Kidder Smith,

- later commissioner on the U.S. Shipping Board.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 2204.
- 1870, April 1—The *Tenth Legion Banner*, newspaper started at Edinburg by H. H. Riddleberger and B. F. Murray.
- 1870, May 10—Major John S. Calvert of New Market dies in Richmond.
- 1870, May 17—C. Wellington Koiner, later engineer, born in Augusta.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 1381.
- 1870, June 28—David Printz, age 88, dies near Stony Man in Page County.
- 1870, July 27—Birth at Mt. Crawford of Homer Henkel Sherman, later preacher and educator.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 2151.
- 1870, Sept. 5—New Market Polytechnic Institute first opened; Benton and Salyards principals.
- 1870, Sept. 23—Capt. John H. Grabill of Woodstock appointed superintendent of public schools for Shenandoah County.
- 1870, Sept. 29—The northern half of the Bridgewater bridge over North River, washed down.
- 1870, September—Timbers raised for a bridge over the river at Manor's Mill, near New Market.
- 1870, Oct. 5, 12—"The Great Flood" in the *Old Commonwealth*, Harrisonburg.
- 1870, Oct. 6, 13, 20—Accounts of the great flood in the *Rockingham Register*.
- 1870, Oct. 6—The *Shenandoah Valley*, New Market, reports "Terrible Flood"—60 persons drowned, &c.
- 1870, Oct. 26—Milton Pence ("Big Reb"), of near Forest-

- ville, and Nannie E. Neff, of near Rinkerton and Woodlawn, married.
- 1870, December—The 4th bridge at Bridgewater completed by Col. William F. Pifer; damaged by flood in September.
- 1870, Dec. 25—Destructive fire in Harrisonburg, southwest side of the public square.
- 1870, Dec. 28—"Big Christmas Fire" (in Harrisonburg) in the *Old Commonwealth*, Harrisonburg.
- 1871—Harrisonburg graded school organized under the new public school system; J. S. Loose principal.
- 1871—Rev. Peter Miller becomes pastor at Tom's Brook.
- 1871, Feb. 17—Birth of Gray Silver at White Hall, Frederick County.—See "Who's Who in America."
- 1871, March 29—The first Federal court in Harrisonburg opened.
- 1871, March 31—Harrisonburg receives a new fire engine from Richmond—cost, \$500 and transportation.
- 1871, April—Telegraph poles erected through Harrisonburg.
- 1871, May 20—Birth in Jefferson County of William Winslow Hoxton, later banker.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 1216.
- 1871, June 12—Charles Moore, age 62, dies near Mt. Jackson.
- 1871, June 16—Birth in Page County of William Alfred Reid, later university lecturer.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 23, 1944-45, page 1755.
- 1871, Aug. 24—Birth at Winchester of Edward Cooke Armstrong, later educator.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18, 1934-35, page 195.
- 1871, Sept. 3—Rev. J. Paul Stirewalt, Lutheran, preaches

- his first sermon at Pine Church (St. Mary's), 3 miles west of Mt. Jackson.
- 1871, Sept. 29—Judge James Kenny and Bob Switzer shoot a pheasant in Kennys yard, adjoining the public square in Harrisonburg, and each is fined \$1.00 for "firing in the streets."
- 1871, Oct. 15—Soliloquy Church, near Pine Forge, Shenandoah County, dedicated.
- 1871, Oct. 22—Lebanon Church, Shenandoah County, dedicated.
- 1871, November—Lowenback putting up a large building of stone and brick in Harrisonburg for a steam tannery.
- 1871, Dec. 3—Newton Diehl Baker, later statesman, born in Martinsburg.
- 1871, Dec. 21—Birth in Berkeley County of Charles Porterfield Light, later hotel manager.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 23 (1944-45), page 1260.
- 1872—Gen. Gilbert S. Meem builds at Strathmoor, between Rude's Hill and Mt. Jackson.
- 1872—John G. Meem Jr., James H. Williams, both of Shenandoah County, and John E. Roller, of Rockingham, made brigadier-generals of Virginia militia.
- 1872—"Colvinstown" U. B. Church, Edinburg Circuit, built.—Probably "Colvinstown" was Hawkinstown.
- 1872—John Cover builds a tannery at Conrad's Store (now Elkton).
- 1872, Jan. 9—Samuel R. Hoover and Malinda Neff (daughter of Daniel) married near New Market.
- 1872, Jan. 19—John Burke, age 96, dies at Edinburg.—John P. Burke (1861-1940), of New Market and Harrisonburg, was a grandson.

- 1872, January—The river bridge above Mt. Jackson completed by Robert S. Jones, builder. Probably washed down in 1870.
- 1872, Feb. 16—United Brethren Conference in Edinburg.
- 1872, Feb. 19—Samuel Brashear Avis, member of Congress, 1913-15, from the 3d district of West Virginia, born in Harrisonburg.
- 1872, April 20—Jacob Helsley, age 83, dies near Jacob's Church, Shenandoah County.
- 1872, April—Redivision of Rockingham County into 5 townships, Ashby, Central, Linville Creek, The Plains, and Stonewall.
- 1872, May 2—"Re-Division of the County into Townships," in the *Old Commonwealth*, Harrisonburg.
- 1872, August—No. 2 of Vol. 1, *The Lily of the Valleg*, 64-page magazine, published by G. Sheiry & Co., Harrisonburg.
- 1872, Aug. 2—Mrs. Catharine Kagey, age 95, dies near New Market.
- 1872, Aug. 4—Joseph Tisinger buried in Shenandoah County.
- 1872, Saturday, Aug. 17—A political rally for Greeley at Taylor Springs (now Massanetta), near Harrisonburg.
- 1872, Sept. 2—Shepherd College first opened in Shepherds-town; taken over by the state for a normal school in 1873.
- 1872, Nov. 3—Mark Foltz and Fannie Stoner married near Hamburg, Shenandoah County.
- 1872, November—Shenandoah County gives Greeley 1687 votes; Grant, 350.
- 1872, November—A Pennsylvanian writes of the Shenandoah Valley in the *Rural New-Yorker*.

- 1872, Nov. 24—Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, near New Market depot, dedicated.
- 1872, Dec. 5—T. J. Meem captures a buck deer feeding with cattle in Meem's Bottom.
- 1872, Dec. 8—John Walter Wayland born at Woodlawn, 3 miles north of Mt. Jackson.
- 1872, Dec. 8—Samuel Moffett, age 82, son of Elder Anderson Moffett, dies near New Market.
- 1872, Tuesday, Dec. 17—"J. L. Avis will finish the brick work on his new building to day."—Judge James Kenny in his diary.—The Avis building is on the west side of S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, a short distance southwest of the public square.
- 1872, Dec. 21—Mrs. Mary Moffett Newman, age 91, dies near New Market.
- 1872, Dec. 24, 25—Episcopal ladies hold a church fair in Mt. Jackson.
- 1873—Bishop Markwood dies at Luray.
- 1873—Bridgewater Baptist Church constituted.
- 1873—The first school house built at Cabin Hill (now Conicville), Shenandoah County.
- 1873—A new Lutheran church built at Pine Church (St. Mary's Pine), 3 miles west of Mt. Jackson.
- 1873—The colored Methodist Church building in New Market begun.
- 1873, Jan. 3—The Henkels at New Market begin publishing *Our Church Paper*—Lutheran.
- 1873, Jan. 9—Mrs. Christiana Strawderman, age 75, dies near Liberty Furnace, Shenandoah County.
- 1873, Jan. 10—Reported in the *Rockingham Register*, 2000 pounds of walnut kernels shipped by rail from Broadway depot during the preceding year.

1873, Feb. 2—Birth at Montevideo, Rockingham County, of Joseph Layton Mauzy, later clergyman.—See "Who's Who in America," Vol. 18 (1934-35), page 1576.

1873, Wednesday, March 26—Judge James Kenny, Harrisonburg, hears that Col. Charles Triplett O'Ferrall is elected judge in his place.

THE JAIL REPAIRED IN 1824

It was customary in early times for the sheriff, as soon as he was elected, to protest regarding the insufficiency of the jail, and evidently the jail was insufficient at times, as the following old document shows.

"Dr. Rockingham Court for repairing the Jail
May 1824 To cash paid for 12 large Wood-

screws	\$0.50
" Ditto for lime to mend the wall	0.25
" Ditto to Yost for Window Shut-	
ter	1.25
" Ditto for painting the same	0.37½
" Ditto for iron & Smith work	11.00
" Ditto for 16 lbs. Barrel nails at	
9d	2.00
" Ditto to Wheeler for work done	4.00
	<hr/>
	\$19.37½

"In obedience to an order of our county court at May term 1824 We the undersigned commissioners proceeded to examine the deficiencies which led to the breach made in your Jail, and after consulting some Mecanics and other gentlemen, on the cheapest and best plan of preventing a repetition of such occurrence, We purchased 16 lbs. of small nails and had them driven into the wall so thick as we hope will hereafter prevent prisoners from Boreing, in Such

parts as would most likely be attempted again, the former breach being well filled with Stone & lime mortar, & two broad thin Bars of Iron secured perpendicularly across the breach with long Woodscrews & two other Bars Horizontally reaching from the corner to the window, Crossing the others well Spiked to the timbers of the Wall; The Window Shutter is also filled with nails to prevent boaring & a Strong Iron bar placed over it, Secured with Strong Staples, for a padlock on the outside all which expences are paid by your commissioners amounting only to \$19.37½."

"J. Cravens
Geo. W. Piper"

It is probable that the prisoner who damaged the jail in 1824 was Ben Hopkins of whom Mrs. Maria Carr in her reminiscences of early Harrisonburg gives interesting particulars.

THE PUBLIC SQUARE ENCLOSED

Following is a copy of an old expense account against Rockingham County for labor and materials required in enclosing the Public Square, with estimates for leveling the ground, planting trees, etc.

"Rockingham County Dr. to sundry persons for work &c. done upon the Public Square—to wit."—

"To Henry Bolton, being the balance due him for 135 pannels of Post and railing fence, at \$4.00 per pannel,	\$220.00
To Lawrence Wartman for advertising notice to contractors,	2.00
To Dennis Berry for 7 days work at 3/9 per day,	4.37½
Ditto Ditto for 6 2/3 days,	4.17
Ditto Ditto for 5½ days, at 4/6 per day,	4.12½
Thomas Logan for 2 days, at 3/9 per day, ..	1.25
Nelson Rodgers for 1 2/3 days, at 3/ - per day,84

Isaac Hardesty for furnishing sledge handle,12½
Ditto Ditto for furnishing 1 shovel,	1.00
Jacob Long for 3 days hauling, at 9/9 per day,	4.87½
Daniel Leedy for 2 days ditto, with an extra hand,	4.50
Reuben Rodgers for 6 2/3 days ditto, at 9/9,	10.83
Ditto Ditto 3 days ditto, at 12/9 per day,	6.37½
Ditto Ditto 2 ditto ditto, at 15/ - per day,	5.00
James Gray for 1 day hauling with horse & cart,75
Ditto Ditto 1 ditto ditto, with extra hand,	1.25
A. Shoultz for 1 day's labor,75
Christ for 2 ditto ditto,	1.50
Peachy Raider for work done,87½
David Kelly for ditto ditto,25
Homan (?) for making patterns for small post caps,	1.00
Ditto Ditto for ditto for large post caps,	2.00
Ditto Ditto for ditto for caps of gate posts and arches over the gates,	12.00
Geo. M. Pennybacker & Co. for 16 cast iron caps for small posts weighing about 7 lbs. each, at 4½ cents per lb.,	5.04
Ditto for 8 cast iron caps for gate posts supposed to weigh about 25 lbs. each, at 4½ cents per lb.,	9.00
Ditto for 16 pieces of cast iron for arches of gates, supposed to weigh 75 lbs. each, at 4½ cents per lb.,	54.00
Ditto for 128 cast iron caps for posts weighing about 18½ lbs. each, at 4½ cents per lb.	106.56
"It is supposed that the additional sum of \$20.— will be sufficient to complete the leveling & filling up of the remaining inequalities of the enclosure - - -	20.00
"It is conjectured to be wise that the trees might be procured & planted, & the yard set in	

grass for" 30.00

The total of expenditures and additions proposed amounted to \$514.44.

No date appears on this paper, but evidently it belongs to an early period in the history of the Public Square.

HARRISONBURG IN THE 1820's

Mrs. Wattson Carr, born Maria Koontz in Harrisonburg in 1812, late in life but still in full possession of her mental faculties, wrote in detail of Harrisonburg as it was in her childhood. Her story is a factual narrative that has no parallel in the period it covers. Practically every house is located and described, the occupants are named and their activities set forth. Lawyers, doctors, preachers, teachers, merchants, tavern-keepers, cake-bakers, artisans, saints and sinners, are introduced impartially. Court days, muster days, church quarrels, murders and hangings, incendiary fires, animal shows and acrobatic performances, a stampede of a drove of cattle, house parties and dances, silver-smithing and hand-printing, coffin-making and grave-digging, are realistically portrayed.

Mrs. Carr's narrative was first printed by Mr. Frank L. Sublett in or about 1926. Just recently Mr. Frank Stover, artist and local historian, has brought out a second edition, annotated and illustrated, in a well-printed volume of 51 pages.

MADISON COLLEGE

The First Fifty Years

In an illustrated volume of 315 pages is presented an authentic history of Madison College, a state institution that was established at Harrisonburg in 1908, opened to students in 1909, as the State Normal and Industrial School

for Women. In 1924 the institution was renamed the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg, and in 1938 it was officially designated as Madison College, in recognition of the fourth President's interest in education. Among the buildings on the campus are those named for Gessner Harrison, Matthew Fontaine Maury, Edward A. Sheldon, Dr. Walter Reed, Woodrow Wilson, and others.

To the summer quarters, which in the early years of the school were largely attended, men were admitted. Following the Second World War men became regular members of the student body the year round.

Dr. Raymond C. Dingleline, a professor of history on the staff of the college, is the author of the book. Dr. John W. Wayland, a member of the original faculty, served as consultant. The work is based mainly on official records, supplemented by contributions and reminiscences from former teachers and students. It is of much interest and value in the educational history of Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, and the State of Virginia.

CENTENNIAL IN PROSPECT

Harrisonburg and Rockingham County are getting ready to participate in the centenary years of the Civil War. For some months past the Shenandoah Valley Civil War Round Table, centering in Harrisonburg, with David S. Clark its efficient president, has been staging interesting and informing programs. Frank C. Switzer, Harrisonburg mayor, has appointed a Civil War Commission for the city, headed by Dan C. Stickley. A section of one of the public buildings has been designated as a tourist center, where relics of the Civil War period, with books and other printed matter suitable for distribution, will be assembled, and where hosts and hostesses will be on hand to welcome visitors and direct them to the battlefields and other historical sites.

John C. Horsley has recently succeeded David S. Clark as president of the Civil War Round Table.

BATTLEFIELD MEMORIALS

Jay W. Johns, president of the Stonewall Jackson Memorial, Inc., with headquarters at Lexington, for years has been working to mark Jackson's battlefields in the Valley and provide on them facilities for giving information to visitors and students. Early in July 1959 he received a deed to the corporation for a well-selected tract on the battlefield of Port Republic, the area including the old coal hearth on which the main Federal battery was planted. This battery, on an elevation at the edge of the Blue Ridge, commanded the plain westward to the river over which the Confederates had to advance in their attack, and it was captured only after repeated and costly assaults.

Mr. Johns has options on strategic portions of the Cross Keys battlefield. Here, as well as on the battlefield of Port Republic, he will lay out driveways and parks and will erect appropriate memorials.

A COMMUNITY MUSEUM

At its regular quarterly meeting on April 11, 1959, the Rockingham County Historical Society unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Be it resolved by the Rockingham Historical Society, . . . that this body go on record as favoring the establishment of a community historical museum as its continuing objective, and it asks and calls upon our city and county governing bodies and all patriotic and civic organizations and groups to join in due and proper steps and measures for furthering and realizing this most worthy undertaking and objective."

The Society has in hand a collection of objects suitable for a museum and would welcome a depository in which

they can be safely preserved and made accessible to school children and other persons interested. A well stocked museum will have great educational value and will also provide entertainment and information to visitors from other parts of the country.

The building to house the museum should be placed in a location that is easily approachable, and of course it should be thoroughly fireproof. Many persons have articles suitable for a museum that they are willing to exhibit for the benefit of the public when a safe depository is provided.

THE BLAIN FAMILY

Mr. William Arey of Harrisonburg, 1st vice-president of the Rockingham Historical Society, some years ago compiled an extended genealogy of the Blains and related families of Rockingham County, Virginia. Among other well-known families included in this compilation are the the Andersons, Magills, Dinkles, Dunlaps, Bears, Pattersons, Hopkinses, Rolstons, Whitmores, Wines, Bells, and Burkholders. Publication of this manuscript would make it available to interested persons in many parts of the country.

THE FUNCTION AND FUTURE OF THE RECORDER

In the constitution of the Rockingham County Historical Society the Purposes and Objectives of the Society are stated as follows:

1. To enlist the interest and cooperation of all persons in Rockingham County, Va., or elsewhere who are willing to aid in any way the work of this organization.
2. To collect and preserve diaries, letters, old account books, family records, tombstone inscriptions, pictures, old newspapers, and other periodicals of historical, biographi-

cal, or genealogical interest; also relics of all kinds that have historical value.

3. To publish from time to time such materials as are sought after by libraries, schools and colleges, historical societies, and individuals doing research work in history, biography, or genealogy; and to erect monuments, markers, and other memorials.

It is under the third head above that the *Rockingham Recorder* is properly recognized. The function of the *Recorder*, the official magazine of the Society, is to seek out historical materials that exist in Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, and surrounding communities, preserve and distribute them in print, and thereby make them accessible and permanently serviceable to all institutions, organizations, and individuals interested of the present and future.

Since the Rockingham County Historical Society was organized in April 1944 seven numbers of the *Recorder*, including the present one, have been issued. They, in the estimation of competent judges and by general agreement, have come up to a fair measure of usefulness. It is to be regretted that more frequent issues have not been possible. The Society has been handicapped by the limited financial resources available for this phase of its work.

Some years ago an endowment fund was launched, the income from which is to be used in publishing the *Recorder*. This fund has been the recipient of gifts by testamentary bequest and otherwise, but as yet the income from it is only nominal. The publication committee has been obliged to rely mainly upon the money received by sales of the *Recorder*, which have not always been adequate. Members of the Society purchase the magazine at the special reduced price of \$1.00 for each issue.

The future of the *Recorder* will depend upon the growth of its endowment fund and the sales of the successive issues of the magazine as they appear. The Society has a large membership in Harrisonburg, Rockingham

County, and neighboring localities, with a considerable clientele distributed over twenty or more states and the District of Columbia. Accordingly, with the growing interest in history and genealogy, and a keener appreciation of the desirability of preserving records, the outlook is promising.

A HISTORY OF MENNONITES IN VIRGINIA

History of Mennonites in Virginia, 1727-1900, Vol. I, by Harry Anthony Brunk; McClure Printing Co., Staunton, Va.; 1959; 554 pages, cloth, illustrated (22 pictures and 6 maps). \$7.00.

A history of Mennonites in Virginia has long been a desideratum. While the writings of John W. Wayland contain many references to them, and the late bishop of the Mennonites in Virginia, Lewis J. Heatwole, wrote many excellent articles for the Harrisonburg newspapers and various almanacs and church papers, no comprehensive treatment of their history had been made. Mennonites have always been a sizeable segment of the German element in the Shenandoah Valley. They are the followers of Menno Simons (1496-1561), who was the most outstanding leader of the Anabaptist party of the Reformation in Europe. Harry A. Brunk, professor of history at Eastern Mennonite College, has now filled this gap with a full and thorough historical treatment from the beginning in Virginia (1727) down until the end of the 19th century. A second volume evidently will consider the history of this group in the 20th century.

Mennonites first came to Virginia in the late 1720s and settled in the lower Shenandoah Valley which later became the northwestern part of the State. They came from eastern Pennsylvania, from the mother colonies which only two decades before migrated from Switzerland and the Pfalz in South Germany. They were a rural folk, experts

in diversified farming, deeply conscious of the nonresistant way of life, quiet, industrious, and devout Protestants. After the American Revolution they moved farther up (south) the Valley into permanent settlements in what is now Rockingham and Augusta Counties.

This history follows a chronological order according to districts—Northern, Middle, and Southern—into which the Mennonite Church in Virginia is divided. Within this order, subjects of special significance are treated in separate chapters, such as Joseph Funk and church music, Virginia Mennonites during the Civil War, the coming of the Sunday school, the evangelistic outreach into the mountains, colonization, and the Old Order schism which occurred in the last years of the 19th century. In all there are 19 chapters with 30 pages of bibliography and footnotes, followed by an index.

The treatment is valuable as a historical piece of work. It uses many original sources and is on the whole objective and fair on many controversial subjects. The author has a flair for incidents of local color and humor, which make the book readable and enjoyable. The scholarly apparatus is appended so as not to impede the interest of the lay reader. The first chapter, however, is uncertain about the origins and early experiences of Mennonites in Virginia. This is due certainly to the lack of documents for this early period. Nonetheless, this carefully written and attractively printed book is a valuable contribution both to Mennonite history and to the local history of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It will fill an important place on our shelves as a work of reference and as an interesting chronicle of how a Protestant religious group seeking religious liberty settled in the Shenandoah Valley and unobtrusively made a contribution to the life and culture of this region.

Irvin B. Horst

MEMORIES OF YESTERYEAR

A history of the Suter Family, by Miss Mary Eugenia Suter, has just been published. The Suters have been numerous and prominent in Rockingham County, Va., and other parts of the country, but this is the first book relating to them. It is a handsomely bound volume of 221 pages, illustrated by reproductions from photographs and drawings. The latter are from the skilled hand of Sallie Wenger Weaver. Thus another addition is made to the long list of historical and genealogical publications by Rockingham historians and artists.

JACKSON'S VALLEY CAMPAIGN

An excellent account of this famous campaign, by Edward T. Downer, Cleveland, Ohio, has been published in a pamphlet of 25 pages, with 7 maps, by the Stonewall Jackson Memorial, Lexington, Va.

THE GLICK FAMILY

This family, in a volume of 231 pages, profusely illustrated, with numerous biographical sketches, has just been presented to the public by J. Paul Glick, 360 Maple Avenue, Waynesboro, Va.

THE LAND OF CANAAN

The Chesapeake Book Company, Berryville, Va., has recently issued a brochure of 42 pages entitled "Annals of Blackwater and the Land of Canaan," compiled and edited by Stuart E. Brown, Jr. The collection is made up from the writings of "Porte Crayon" (David H. Strother) and others, and relates to the Canaan Valley and the Blackwater Falls in Tucker County, West Virginia.

HOME GUARDS OF 1864-65

by W. O. Mowbray

During the latter part of the Civil Conflict a Home Guard was organized in the Shenandoah Valley with Capt. McNeil as commanding officer. Also a Provost Marshal's office was maintained in Harrisonburg with Capt. Abe Byrd as commandant. The chief duty of this office was to corral the boys who had gone home on furlough for various reasons and had failed to report for duty when the time of their furlough had expired. Many of them were becoming sick (or homesick) and most of them were plumb disgusted with warfare. Many took to the tall timber whilst not a few ran the gauntlet and succeeded in crossing Mason and Dixon's Line where they could shelter under the wing of "Father Abraham."

My father, Benjamin W. Mowbray, was one of a dozen or more scouts connected with the Provost Marshal's office. I recall by memory the names of some of his comrades all of whom are now deceased. Among the list were: T. J. Atchison, I. N. Beery, Marion Long, Philip Weller, Mr. Michael Moyerhoeffer and others I do not now recall. Their many wild night rides through forest, mountain, and dale would serve as good material for Miss Johnston or some other writer of fiction.

The Marshal's office was located on the south side of the Square in either the building now occupied by George G. Grattan III or the one adjacent to it.

For a year or more the boys whiled their time away during the day, as most of their forays were made under cover of darkness. All of the scouts were expert horsemen and lovers of fine horses. Each man furnished his own mount and received the princely salary of \$13.00 per month paid in Confederate script. This had depreciated to such an extent that my Father was offered \$20,000 for his horse the day before the surrender of Lee at Appomattox.

The boys were required to care for their own mount and worked many schemes to get an extra allowance from The Forage Master who was pretty hard boiled.

One day five Yanks, who had deserted their command, strolled into town expecting exemption from service which was accorded our renegades who went North. To their surprise and disgust they were promptly put in the Guard House for the night. The next morning my Father was detailed to march them to Staunton to be turned over to the Provost Marshal there. They were plenty sore and gave expression to their feelings in vigorous Dutch and Irish profanity. They swore at everything in sight and blew up entirely when they stopped at a lunch counter along the Pike and found only gingerbread and cider. They promptly moved on with the remark: "Damn your chinchbread."

They were well supplied with coin (specie) which was very unusual in Rockingham as well as all other sections of the Southland at that time. Confederate scrip which was almost worthless at that date, was the only medium of exchange. Capt. Byrd possessed 75¢ of U. S. coin at the time of the surrender of Lee which he exchanged with my Father for Confederate scrip saying: "Ben, while I am blowing up I want to do a good job of it."

McNeil's Rangers were opposed by an independent Federal Division in Pendleton, Grant and Hardy Counties known as Swamp Dragons. These two military divisions carried on a guerrilla warfare through the mountains separating the Shenandoah Valley and the South Branch Valley. The code of ethical, civilized warfare was not always observed in forays into the enemy territory, and capture generally meant a halo or an asbestos coat for the prisoner. Reprisal or rather an eye for an eye and a noose for a noose was their motto.

On one of McNeil's raids into the South Branch Val-

ley a young fellow named Amby Harman was captured, and brought back to Harrisonburg where he was kept in the Guard House for the night. The following morning he was given a perfunctory form of Court Marshal and sentenced to be shot, the only charge being that he was caught with the Swamp Dragons. He was hustled out to Waterman's just north of the present school building, tied to a stake and shot. In less than ten minutes and before the firing squad had left the field, one of the scouts came galloping across the field waving a reprieve. Capt Byrd's only comment was: "Too late now." It had been proven that Harman was not a member of the Swamps, but happened to be at their camp when McNeil swooped down upon them. Young Harman's Father came to claim his son's body and started back across the mountain with it. Dry River was at flood stage and at a point near Riven Rock above Rawley was a ford where lived an old free negro named Peach Gordon. In assisting Mr. Harman to get the body across the river, the old Negro was drowned.

Mr. C. Frank Echard, of Keezletown, states that when he was a High School student in Harrisonburg, one of the teachers took his class to Waterman Field to view the spot with the stake still standing to which young Harman was tied.

When Sheridan's Army neared the town in September 1864, the Home Guard Headquarters were closed and each scout was told by the Capt. to scoot for home. This they did in high gear. My Pater spent the night removing wheat from the barn to the attic of his residence. When Sheridan left town they returned and stayed until the Home Guard office became History in April 1865.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPER

The first newspaper in Harrisonburg was printed 137 years ago. The first issue was brought out on Saturday,

July 27, 1822. It was a four-page weekly paper, called the *Rockingham Register*; and it was published for more than 80 years. There are persons still living who were subscribers to this paper.

The *Register* at first was a small size, compared with later newspapers. For some time the pages were only 10½ inches wide and 17 inches from top to bottom, three columns on a page.

The publisher of the *Register* was a German printer named Lawrence Wartman. Mr. Wartman had first worked in the Henkel printing shop at New Market. He opened his shop in Harrisonburg about the year 1813, and he had printed several books and many other things before he started his newspaper.

Mr. Wartman died in 1840, in the 66th year of his age. After his death the publication of the *Register* was continued by his sons for many years, and after them by various others. The last editor of the *Register* was Mr. Adolph H. Snyder, and the last numbers of the paper appeared about the year 1906.

In 1844 the next newspaper appeared in Harrisonburg—it was the *Harrisonburg Republican*. It was continued for ten years or more. Since then we have had other weekly newspapers in Harrisonburg, and for the past 60 years or more we have had dailies, but as yet none of them has been published as long as the *Rockingham Register*.