

CONOCOHEAGUE HEADWATERS OF AMBERSON VALLEY

1968

By
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— Books —

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Forts Armstrong and McConnell
The Skinner Inns
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The Mealman Saga
Plantation Names in General - Three in Particular

OTHER WORKS

In the Beginning — Edenville Church Hamilton
Township School History
Aided in Many Church History Booklets and Family
Genealogies

Table of Contents

Title Page	
Acknowledgments	
Table of Contents	
Preface	
Description and Source of Name	
Amberson Facts	
Earliest Settlers	
Land Warrents	
Drum and Bugle Corps	
Churches	
Burial Grounds	
War Service	
Post Offices - Schools	
Grist Mills - Other Mills	
Tanneries	
Weston Tory Plot	
Tunnel Roads	
Stone Cutters Masons	
Amberson - Metal Names	
Amberson - Fort McCord Names	
Sulphur Springs	
Several Tax Lists	
Mountains - Creeks	
Chaff	

Preface

This volume is intended as a general history of Amberson Valley and is not to be construed as a Genealogical treatise.

The author has endeavored in this volume to portray a factual and somewhat chronological coverage of the early people and events of the valley. Any mention of present residents is incidental and not essential to the purpose of this volume.

The author is acutely aware that the most of the contents of this book is virgin material which can be corroborated in many cases by a minimum of research, while in other instances much time, expense, and travel will be required.

CONOCOCHAGUE HEADWATERS OF AMBERSON VALLEY

While engaged in several ancestral quests for descendants of Amberson Valley during the past several years the writer was so impressed with the beauty and rich heritage of the valley that a decision was reached to search, as well as time and means permitted, the entire evolution of the first one hundred years of the valley. Please note that this unremunerative task has been undertaken from an historical survey rather than from a genealogical approach.

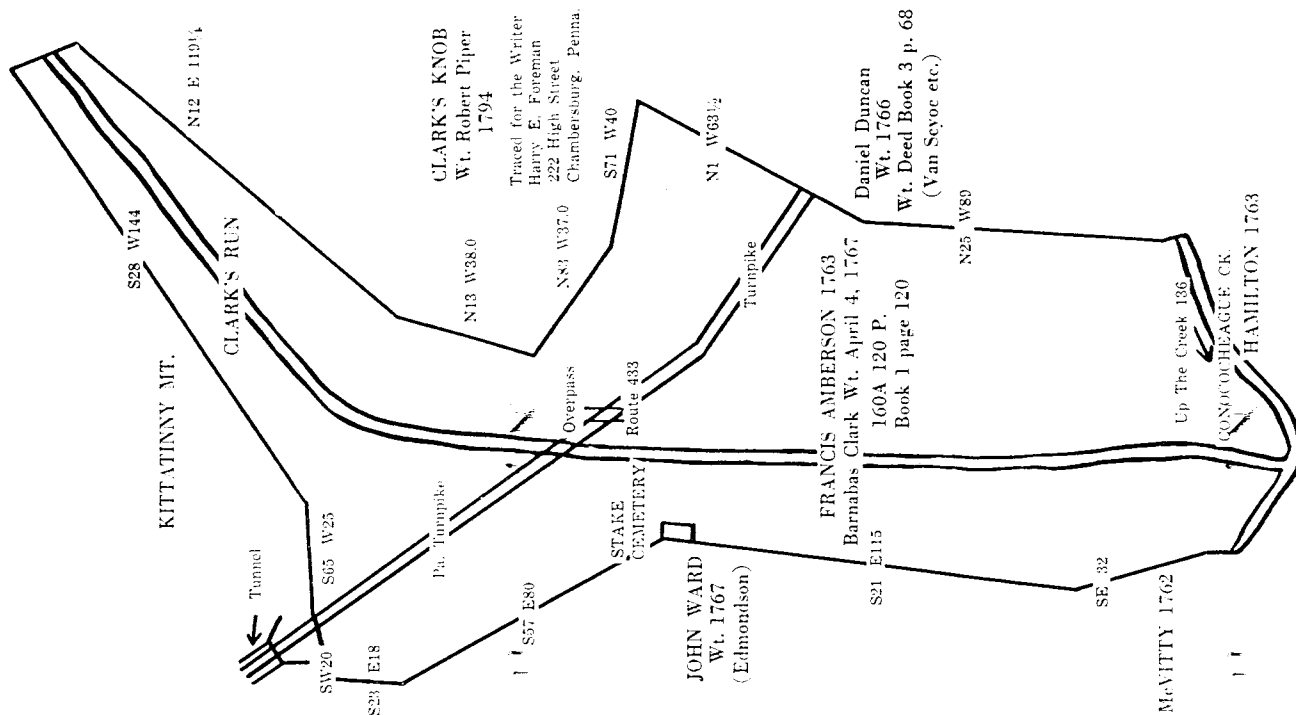
Amberson Valley contains the extreme headwaters of the West Branch of the Conococheague Creek, which forks in the narrows to the east and west of Price's Knob. Each branch has its exponents as being the true stem of the Conococheague. The headwaters branch of the Jersey Narrows or to the east of Price's Knob is probably regarded by some people of late years as being the better source, however, the branch which rises high between Price and Eckenrode knobs certainly has several factors in its favor including wording on an old deed and some of the early maps. Old timers and hunters state the average flow of water is about equal although the west fork drains more former farm land including at least four old home sites. The Shields family brought the water of the Jersey Narrows stream into the other stream or mill dam for upwards of one hundred years.

The distance from the highest source between the Knobs to the end of the Knob Mountain at the junction of the Amberson and Timmons Roads is approximately eleven miles. Two of the larger or better known tributaries in this stretch is the Mill Run which arises high to the west of Eckenrode Knob behind a small elevation known locally as Pike's Peak; and the larger Trout Run, formerly Clarke's Run, which emerges between the Kittatinny Mountain and the Timmons Prong of the Kittatinny and flows under the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Kittatinny Tunnel on the Amberson-Clarke-Lester Stake land.

Heckwelder, the Moravian Missionary, states that the Indian meaning of Conococheague is "long indeed, very long indeed." The writer has explored the Conococheague, for the greater part, from Fort McDowell at Markes to its source in upper Amberson; and, therefore, realizes that the Indian interpretation is highly appropriate.

Amberson Valley unquestionably received its name from Francis Amberson who made improvements in Amberson Valley in 1763. The writer does not question the source of the name. However, he does question the belief that Francis Amberson was the first settler in Amberson. Careful study of all land dates of the valley reveals the fact that other settlers were in the valley as early.

The Amberson location evidently aided in bestowing the name on the valley. The original Amberson, later Clarke, land embraced the land on both sides of the present Trout Run, earlier Clarke-Amberson Run, and extended from some distance above or south of the Kittatinny Tunnel



to the Conococheague Creek. The Amberson land cornered near the tunnel entrance but did not include the entrance.

The Amberson land included three home sites, the place long known as the Lester Stake place near where the road crosses the Turnpike, the present Mrs. Mabel Shoemaker and Harold S. Shoemaker home, and the lately known David Brown, or Alton Piper place.

The early burial ground long known as the Stake Grave Yard came off the Amberson-Clarke land.

Above, the Stake home overlooking the Turnpike and upper Amberson is one of the prettiest views in our country.

Early traffic entering the valley from McAlister's Gap at Roxbury necessarily passed the Amberson location and the Amberson-Clarke home had to serve as an inn on many occasions.

The Amberson site has been a boon of contention of later years among valley residents. Some believe that the Shields site at the head of the valley was the Amberson site while others named several other locations.

A very peculiar and confusing fact is that Barnabas Clark took out warrants on both places. He appeared to be residing in the valley when he purchased the Amberson land.

Barnabas Clark secured a warrant on the Shields place June 23, 1767 and some of the family seemingly lived here until 1782 when the place became Shields land.

The Amberson to Clark agreements bear the dates December 28, 1767, April 20, 1768, and May 20, 1773.

The Clark-Amberson and the Clark-Shields draughts are on file in the Survey Docket Books, however, no Amberson papers were ever recorded. The writer has photostatic copies of the two Amberson papers in Mr. Lester Stake's possession and has studied the third which belongs to the Shoemaker farm.

Following is the wording of the John and Margaret Amberson Williams release to Barnabas Clark which is quoted verbatim:

"Know all men by these presents, that I, John Williams of Monaghan Township, York County state of Pennsylvania with consent of my wife Margaret for and in consideration of ten pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania, the receipt of which sum of ten pounds I do hereby acknowledge, I do for me, my heirs. Executors administrators, and assign, make over, and grant unto Barnabas Clarke of Amberson Vally, Cumberland County, province aforesaid, all my right title and interest to my share of a certain tract of land or plantation lying on the north side of Kitteritny Hill Amberson's Vally Fannett Township. county and state aforesaid joining lines with John Ward, John Hamil-

ton and Daniel Duncan the said tract or plantation of land, the property claim on improvement of Francis Amberson my wife Margaret's father, now deceased and further I do empower the said Barnabas Clarke his heirs Exec. Administrators and assigns to occupy, sell or dispose of said tract of land or plantation in what manner the said Barnabas Clarke pleases and further I do empower for ever my heirs Exec.'s Adm's and assigns: Quit claim to the aforesaid premises in witness whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal this 20th day of April in this year of our Lord 1768.

Witness present

his

John (X) Ward

mark

John Williams

Margaret Williams"

Following is a copy of the Nancy Amberson release which is also quoted verbatim:

"Know all men by these presents, that I Nancy Amberson of Cumberland County province of Pennsylvania, Daughter of Francis Amberson deceased have bargained sold and made over to Barnabas Clark county of Cumberland province aforesaid, my proper right and claim to my deceased father's estate for and in consideration of ten pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania to me in hand paid, I Nancy Amberson doth obligate myself to use my utmost endeavor that the aforesaid Barnabas Clark, his heirs Exec's Administrators or assign shall receive a child's part of my deceased father's lands movables debts dues and demands in Cumberland County in the law of this province direct, and for the true performance thereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twentieth eighth day of December and in the year of our Lord one thousand and seven hundred sixty and seven.

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of us

Wm.

Thomas Ree (.?.)

Thomas Hall

Nancy Amberson"

On the back of the above is found: "November 30th, 1768 Then received from Barnabas Clarke for and in consid-

eration of my right and title to my deceased father Francis Amberson estate, both real and personal the just and full amount of ten pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania as in the within agreement.

Received of me
in witness pres

his

John (X) Ward

mark ..

Nancy

her (X) mark

Amberson

Following are the facts in the Henry and Sarah Amberson Collins release to Barnabas Clark, dated May 20, 1773. The papers belong to Mrs. Mabel Shoemaker and are mainly pertinent to the Shoemaker part of the Amberson land.

"Henry Collins released to Barnabas Clark all rights, titles etc. to a tract of land lying on north side of Kirtoghtinny Hill in Amberson Valley, Fannett Township, joining lines with John Ward (Edmondson), James Hamilton and George Charms, and Duncan (Van Seyoc), said tract the proper claim of improvements of Francis Amberson my wife Sarah's father, now deceased — said Barnabas Clark to dispose of as he see's fit etc. . . . Witnesses of this release were: George DeLong and John Ward.

Barnabas Clark secured a warrant on the Amberson land April 4, 1787. At this date the original 160 acres are mentioned, but in 1797 Clark had sold five acres including a home site. This five acre home site was located as lying on the north east corner.

Barnabas Clark received a new warrant February 19, 1800 when he sold 40 acres to Samuel Hamaker. Hamaker sold to John Van Seyoc who in turn sold to Christian Kling and Kling sold same to Robert Culbertson March 13, 1812. Culbertson conveyed 155 acres to John Stake October 16, 1813 which included the 40 acre Hamaker (Shoemaker) tract.

John and Eve Stake sold the Hamaker part to Gasper Reed (Recorded 1835), the witnesses being John Harvey and Peter Barnhart. The Stake heirs were signing releases to Ezra Shoemaker in 1875, some as late as 1877.

The writer believes that the five acre plot was located in the hollow north of the Turnpike and that the land is still in three parts plus the new house which was built by Mr. Lester Stake.

Amberson records state "that William Amberson entered the Revolutionary Army from Franklin County and served as an Ensign on General George Washington's staff at one time. At the expiration of his service William Amberson settled in western Pennsylvania where he was long associated with the Pittsburgh and Mercer Areas."

A perusal of Revolutionary War Records reveal that William Amberson served in the Eighth Pennsylvania Regiment, Continental Line. Part of the time he served as Deputy Muster Master General as several of his references show that he signed his name as DMMG. His name is found on the 1790 census of Allegheny County in 1809 and 1835.

Johnson Amberson also served in the Eighth Pennsylvania Regiment Continental Line with William Amberson.

Presley Amberson also served (Pa. Arch. Vol. X pp. 31-176). This name is found in later Amberson lines.

James Amberson who served alternately as Lieutenant, Captain, and Major in the Washington and Allegheny County Militia must have belonged to the same family line since this name is extremely rare on Revolutionary Rolls and all served from the same area.

One Amberson line returned to Franklin County where descendants became noted residents of Waynesboro.

Elderly descendants of this line are: Kathryn G., Jean Downey, William S., and Gurney Good Amberson. J. Burns Amberson M. D. resides in New Jersey.

EARLIEST SETTLERS

The writer has been repeatedly asked, "Who was the earliest settler in Amberson?" This may lead to an irrefragable discussion. The writer can definitely identify the earliest land applications of the valley but this fact does not necessarily prove who were the first settlers.

The earliest land dates uncovered was a Joseph Kilgore plot and the Captain Alexander Culbertson warrant.

The Kilgore plot called for 54 A 113 p. and bears the early date of 1743. A slightly later Joseph Kilgore warrant of 1757 states that the land joined others, and earlier, Kilgore land. This land became McVitty land in 1852 (near and slightly above New Bridge). Survey Docket Book 2, Page 170 contains a copy of this old draught and shows that a later Joseph Kilgore secured a new warrant on this plot June 15, 1836 and it was surveyed April 20, 1837 and approved August 6, 1838 by Samuel Armstrong, D. S.

This land was bounded on the west by the Knob Mountain, on the north by Surton and Drake, on the east by John Harmanni, John Harmanni, and Blackharts improvement.

How early Joseph Kilgore lived in Amberson is debatable since the settlers were "evicted" in 1750 by the Magistrates of Cumberland County in accordance with the Indian Treaty. Houses were burned in Path Valley but no reference is made to Amberson Valley. The new Treaty of 1758 allowed settlers to settle legally west of the mountains.

The Captain Alexander Culbertson warrant of 1755 is on file and definite. Alexander Culbertson never lived in Amberson since he was killed in the Indian Battle of Siding Hill (Bloody Run) April 2, 1756 while in pursuit of the Indians who took Fort McCord.

The Culbertson warrant included the present Adam Piper (now Stake), Ira Stewart, Raymond Stewart, the Witter land, and other land east of the creek.

The writer is very hesitant in using tradition, however, McVirt's tradition gleaned by the writer agrees with the facts in these two cases.

Different settlers were in Amberson in 1758, a few before this date. Many came in the seventeenth century. Francis Amberson made his improvements in 1763 but was not the earliest settler. (Read under Amberson)

LAND WARRANTS

All land draughts and warrants discussed by the writer are on file in county records and may be certified by any interested person who wishes to take the time and expense to do so.

In certain cases the writer uncovered land conflicts, law suits, and overlapping claims which in several cases had to be settled by a board of claims in 1826 and other dates.

Evidence contributed by descendants verify the fact that certain lands were forfeited by some persons who were implicated in the Weston Tory Plot. In some cases these persons never returned to their homes while the term "confiscated" is used by several western correspondants.

Several warrants in the headwaters of the valley were taken out as being in Toboyne Township (Perry County). Some names on these warrants are: Keppel, Ren and Fegan. This may have been the reason why certain Shields genealogists believed that Thomas Shields may have been in Perry County for some years.

CHURCHES

Many of the early settlers of Amberson were Scotch Irish and Presbyterians. Many of these were members of the Rocky Spring and Middle Spring Churches.

A number of the settlers near the head of the valley were Catholics and were quite numerous at an early date.

Methodists under Reverend Devor and others gained an early foothold in Amberson Valley.

The United Brethren element was in the valley from an early date. Quite a few German Reformed and Lutherans were in the Valley fairly early but never grew strong enough to build their own churches.

UNION CHURCH

The impact of the Union Church on early Amberson cannot be minimized since the first church (and burial ground) served as a focal point of the valley from its inception until the building of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in 1875 and 1876. The United Brethren Church also became a separate congregation in 1875 but did not build until 1896.

The Union spirit is still preserved in the Cemetery Association and the cemetery is in good condition.

When the Union Church was razed a piece of log was salvaged by Mrs. Cecilia McVirt Flaurt who had collection plates and a communion bowl made which are still used in the present Presbyterian Church.

METHODIST CHURCH

Possibly the earliest Methodist in Franklin County was James Widney, an early settler near Concord, Pennsylvania. A Methodist Class was organized in 1790 with eleven members.

An early Methodist preacher of Path and Amberson Valleys was James Devor whose wife was a Roles and whose daughter was married to Barnabas Fegan.

The Methodist Church of Amberson held its one hundredth anniversary in 1930, thus a class must have been organized in Amberson in 1830.

The Union Church took care of Methodist needs until 1875 when the Union Church was disbanded and a Methodist Church erected.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian ties were early and strong in Amberson Valley due mainly to the fact that many of the early families were Scotch Irish and Presbyterians.

A few of the early settlers retained church ties with their mother church such as the Rocky Spring and possibly the Middle Spring. The majority evidently united with the Spring Run Presbyterian Church.

As noted elsewhere many of the Presbyterian, Methodist and other elements attended the Union Church until the dissolution when the Presbyterians and Methodists erected their own churches.

From Presbyterian sources, Quote: "February 5, 1876, Elder James Culbertson of the Amberson District asked the privilege of building a church in that portion of the congregation." This request was granted and the church was erected in 1876.

From the same source, Quote: "On January 7, 1904, Elder James B. Culbertson died after serving faithfully thirty two years as an Elder."

The writer regrets that space permits such a limited coverage of the Amberson Church. Early Presbyterian records are interwoven with the Spring Run Church.

UNITED BRETHREN

The wave of United Brethren Revivals engulfed Horse Valley, Amberson Valley and other points westward as early as the eighteen twenties and thirties.

NOTE: There was United Brethren preaching in Amberson as early as 1819 and it is claimed that the fourth class in Franklin County was organized in Amberson. (Read under Bishop Newcomer by Seilhamer)



Top Left: Presbyterian Church; Top Right: Methodist Church; Middle Left: Laurel Grove U. B. Church; Middle Right: Post Office - Store; Lower Left: Van Schoye Mill (Clover); Lower Right: Copely Mill - Mary Maguire Place.



Top Left: Catholic Path - State Forest Sign; Top Right: Old Road - Path - Along Eckenvode Knob; Middle Left: Perfect Corner - Eckenvode - Mere, Culbertson Site; Middle Right: Path - Pike's Peak - Felty Stewart Site; Lower Left: On Catholic Path with Harmon Piper; Lower Right: Rufus - Barnabas Fegan-Felty Stewart Site.

From Holdcraft: "Reports state that a United Brethren Class was organized as early as 1875 and made use of a school building as a place of worship until 1896."

From Holdcraft: "The Laurel Grove United Brethren Church was erected in Amberson Valley in 1896. The dedication ceremony was held November 24, 1896. The building committee was appointed April 7, 1794 and consisted of Rev. A. B. Moyer, B. F. Sayre, T. H. Lytle, C. H. Burk, and W. A. Emery. The land was donated by Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson."

Reliable reports indicate that the United Brethren elements attended services in the Union Church for a number of years.

CATHOLIC FAITH — CATHOLIC PATH

Some of the early upper Amberson families were members of the Catholic Faith. Inter-marriage with other faiths and the absence of a church in Amberson, also the predominance of Protestants in the Valley, led to a wide re-alignment of Religious Faiths. Most of these families now hold membership in many different faiths.

The Shields, Fegans, Prices, Eckenrodes and some of the other early inter-married families belonged to the Catholic Faith. Services were held in the home of Thomas Shields on many occasions.

There were more Catholics in the head of Amberson Valley in the beginning than at Doyleburg. After the building of St. Mary's Church at Doyleburg by the DoYLES and others the Amberson families attended services there when practical or when the weather was not too inclement.

The Catholic Path is fairly easy to follow today due to the fact that the first half, or northern half followed old roads from the John Shields place along the base of Eckenrode Knob and up Pike's Peak to the Barnabas Fegan, now Felty Stewart, place. Practically all of the early families such as the Shields, Fegans, Eckenrodes, and Prices lived on and near the old road along Eckenrode Knob and simply joined the road at the nearest point such as by the Shields place while several families on the east side of the creek reached the Path by going up the road by the Mary McGee place.

The only place the Path can be lost today is from the Felty Stewart place across two ridges although any woodsman can easily follow this part of the Path if he gets on it at the Stewart place.

A road (or the road) from the present William Stewart place to the Felty Stewart place is mistaken by many people as being part of the Path but this is erroneous and the correct Path over and around the two ridges can easily be verified by a little searching.

From where the late logging road above the log yard turns south to the Doyleburg Road, the Path can be followed easily since the loggers have recently opened the entire stretch with bulldozers.

From where the Path joins the Doyleburg Road to St. Mary's

Church also took much perseverance. About a mile from the Felty Stewart or earlier Barnabas Fegan place, a steep path passed through the rough Lytle Gap to Burns Valley.

Many stories abound concerning this old path. One old lady recounted to the writer how they carried their shoes until near the church.

The Shields, Fegans, Prices, Eckenrodes, Hagies, Turners, Reas, and others have all disappeared from the head of Amberson. A visit by descendants recalls nostalgic reminiscences of their sturdy ancestors.

BURIAL GROUNDS

VINCENT LOWE

It has long been claimed that the first white man buried in Amberson was Vincent Lowe from Maryland. John Harmanni was a brother-in-law of Vincent Lowe. Mr. Herbert Piper, a former local historian of Amberson, stated that Vincent Lowe was visiting and staying with his sister Elizabeth Lowe Harmanni while John Harmanni was serving in the Revolutionary War. Mr. Piper also stated that Vincent Lowe contracted a virus from which he died and that he was buried on the Harmanni farm which is the present Ellis Shoemaker place.

The writer does not want to contradict local tradition. If Vincent Lowe did not die until the early years of the war (1776-1777), we may have to search out of the valley for the grave of Francis Amberson. Records show that Amberson was deceased by 1768 and some descendants claim that he was buried in the grave yard now known as Stake's. Therefore, if these descendants are correct, Vincent Lowe would not have been the first burial.

The fact that Vincent Lowe was buried on the Harmanni place would indicate that the Stake Burial Ground was not established at this date since John Harmanni is buried in Stake's Grave Yard.

KEASY'S GRAVE YARD

Keasy's (Keasey's) Grave Yard is not in Amberson but on the road to Willow Hill in Metal Township. A number of the early lower Amberson families are buried in Keasy's.

This cemetery was named for the Keasy family. John Keasy was well known and served as administrator of some of the lower Amberson families.

Members of well known families such as: Varner, Ferguson, Shetler, Shearer, Hammon and others were buried there.

Jacob Shearer (1774-1842) and his wife Maria (1778-1884) are buried at Keasy's. Jacob Hammon whose dates on the stone appear to be 1741-1808 is buried here, as well as James Stewart (1802-1867) and his wife Elizabeth Shetler Stewart.

THE UNION CEMETERY

This cemetery may have been started as a burial ground for certain families but it evidently became a union burial ground rather early. The

gists may profit by this fact.

WHISKEY REBELLION

Tradition claims that a fairly large group served from Path and Amberson Valleys. Mr. Bruce Shearer in History of the James McCartney Post stated that 16 men served from Amberson and Path Valleys.

Franklin County's quota was 281 men who served under the command of Brig. Gen. James Chambers. John Price of Path Valley was pressed into service during the Whiskey Rebellion several years after coming to America.

The writer is not certain of the names of the Amberson men who served in the Whiskey Rebellion but wishes to list some Amberson names found on the militia roll of Col. Wm. Elliott in 1794. Nehemiah Kilgore, John Copely, Robert Lauthers, James Kilgore, Joseph Ward, Benj. Clarke, John Stake, John Stewart, John Lauther and Edward Ward.

The valleys took great pride in belonging to the various militia companies of this era and much later. Such names as Abraham Varner, Barnett Shelter, John Harvey, James Kilgore, and others are found on the Capt. Noah Abraham Militia Roll of 1786 - 87.

OTHER WARS

Many of the men listed in the Cumberland County Militia during the Revolutionary War period also served in the Indian Wars. Many Indian Affairs occurred in Path Valley and numerous persons lost their lives. The writer uncovered very few Indian events connected with Amberson.

WAR OF 1812

Following are the names of Amberson residents whose names are found on the roles of Captains Michael Harper, Samuel Dunn, and Jacob Stake: Barnabas Fegan, Peter Timmons, William Shutler, Peter Piper, Arthur Shields, John Stewart, John Stake, and William Buchanan.

Robert S. Rea served in the War of 1812. He was residing at the head of Amberson at this date.

Joseph Devor who served with his cousin Barnabas Fegan and Fegan's cousin, Peter Timmons, was from Path Valley. William Buchanan may have been from Path Valley.

Certain Stewart sources claim that Jacob Stewart served in the War of 1812 while another source claims that he served in the Mexican War. A flag is flying at the stone of a Jacob Stewart in the Amberson Cemetery for the War of 1812 but this Jacob Stewart was not born until 1816. There was another Jacob Stewart who purchased land as early as 1794 and one genealogical report of the Stewart line "believes" that John Stuart (Steward) Sr., had a son, Jacob, who removed from the valley.

As stated above John Stewart served in the War of 1812. This was probably the John Stewart who lived across from the Van Seyoc Mill location at the present Pennebaker site. He was a son (or grandson) of John Stuart, Sr., although Stewart genealogy to date is still lacking.

MEXICAN WAR

One hundred twenty two men volunteered from Franklin County, three are claimed for Path Valley and several from Amberson Valley.

Hezekiah Dayton served in the Mexican War but he probably entered the war from Perry County and moved into Amberson later and served in the Civil War from Amberson.

Abraham Hagie, Jr., and William Piper served in the Mexican War but had removed from the valley prior to the war.

Read under War of 1812 for Jacob Stewart.

CIVIL WAR

Amberson Valley is justly boastful of her Civil War record as is evident from the following Pic Nic Annuals. Quote: "Out of thirty two families living in Amberson during the Civil War, seventy two men were in the Army and that over a seven months period there would not have been enough able bodied men to serve as pall bearers had a death occurred."

Another Pic Nic Annual did not place the number as high although informants made the statements even stronger.

We are indebted to the former Mr. Piper for his list of Civil War Veterans from Amberson. There are sixty three names found on this list. The writer doubts that this list is absolutely infallible. Mr. Piper's list may be accurate as to the number that were actually residing in Amberson on the eve of the conflict although the writer wishes to add several names which were residents of Amberson shortly before or after the war.

The following list of persons who served in the Civil War was compiled by Mr. A. J. Piper.

Charles Boltz	Cyrus Hazlett
Charles Burk	*Joseph McVitty
John W. Campbell	Stephen McVitty
*James Craig	*David Piper
Samuel Crouse	Jonathan Piper
James Culbertson	Lewis Piper
John Culbertson	Mark (Martin) Piper
Hezekiah Dayton	Ezra Piper
Conrad Eckenrode	Wilson Piper
Sylvester Eckenrode	William Piper
James Fegan	*Michael Piper
George Fogal	*Jacob Piper
Simon French	*George Piper
Solomon French	*Ambrose Price
William Funston	Sylvester Price
Alexander Gaston	George W. Reed
James Gaston	John Rowles
*William Gaston	Benjamin Van Seyoc
Joseph C. Harvey	*James Van Seyoc

John Van Scyoc
 Samuel Van Scyoc
 *Smith Van Scyoc
 *Harden Shearer
 Jonah Shearer
 *Markle Shearer
 John Shetler
 Charles Shields
 Daniel Shields
 *James Shields, Lt.
 Pius Shields
 William Shields
 David Shields

*Killed or died in service

Added by the writer:

Isaac Worthington
 James Rea
 *Joseph Rea
 Benjamin Culbertson
 Daniel R. Piper
 Nehemiah Kilgore Harvey

Levi Shields
 John Wolfe
 *David Wolfe
 William C. Shields
 John Eckenrode
 John Bankis

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

Denton Hazlette served in the Spanish American War from Amberson.

WORLD WAR I VETERANS

(From History of James McCartney Post by Bruce Shearer)
 Harry Best, David Dunkle, Jacob Goshorn, Bruce Greenawalt, Emanuel Hammond, Harmon Piper, James Van Scyoc, Irvin Varner.

WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Elmer Beaston, Samuel Clayton, Harold Crouse, Albert Culbertson, Gerald Culbertson, John Dewalt, George Dunkle, Earl Eckenrode, Clair Edmonson, Edgar Greenawalt, Ira Herrick, Franklin Irvin, Burdette Funston, James Johnson, Norman Johnson, Velma McVitty, Clark Piper, Hanley Piper, Irvin Rowles, Gerald Rowles, Ray Rowles, Leslie Ryder, George Shetler, Earl Shoemaker, Edgar Shoemaker, David Shoemaker, Guy Stake, Robert Thomas, Eugene Van Scyoc, George Varner, Owen Ward, Edwin Whipple, Jr., Warren Wolff, Gambel Wilson.

LATER SERVICE

Many of Amberson's sons have served since World War II and a number are in the service at the present time.

BUSINESS PLACES

There were many mills of various kinds in the valley including grist mills, saw mills, stove (Cooper) mill, Sumac mill, weaving and fulling mills, syrup and sugar making, tailor shops, broom factory, powder mill,

cigar making, whip factory and all other necessary products.

There were at least ten tanneries in Amberson over a period of one hundred fifty years.

Shoemaking was a must as well as the "Village Blacksmith" shops which were not always in the village. Some Smiths were early and noted. Among early Smiths were such names as: Lauthers, Hagie, Piper, Eckenrode, Kilgore, but to mention a few only emphasizes the fact that many more are unmentioned and forgotten.

There were numerous fulling and woolen mills in Amberson including such names as Hervey, Kilgore, Yost, Kerr, McQuaid, Craemer, Joseph Stake, and many others.

TAYLOR WOOLEN MILL

The Taylor Woollen Mill of the lower valley was the best known woolen factory to later residents. The remains of this mill, race, and factory are on the present Jacob Goshorn farm.

Jacob Shearer became owner of these lands in 1823-24 and the mountain tract in 1825. The mountain part was one of the Wilson Hunt tracts while the farm part had been warrented by Cornelius Higgins in 1793.

The writer believes that the mill was built by the Shearers but the writer found no tangible evidence to prove this statement. Shearers built the barn.

Jacob Shearer died in 1842 and Jacob and Elias Shearer, executors, sold to John and Lydia Craemer who sold the mill to George Taylor in 1852.

Subsequent research shows that John Craemer was taxed as a "fuller" for a number of years. He later ran the store and Post Office.

NOTE. Jacob Shearer was taxed on a grist mill in 1807 but this early mill was evidently the early (est) grist mill which Shearer had purchased from the Alexander Potts heirs. This may have been the earliest grist mill in Path Valley.

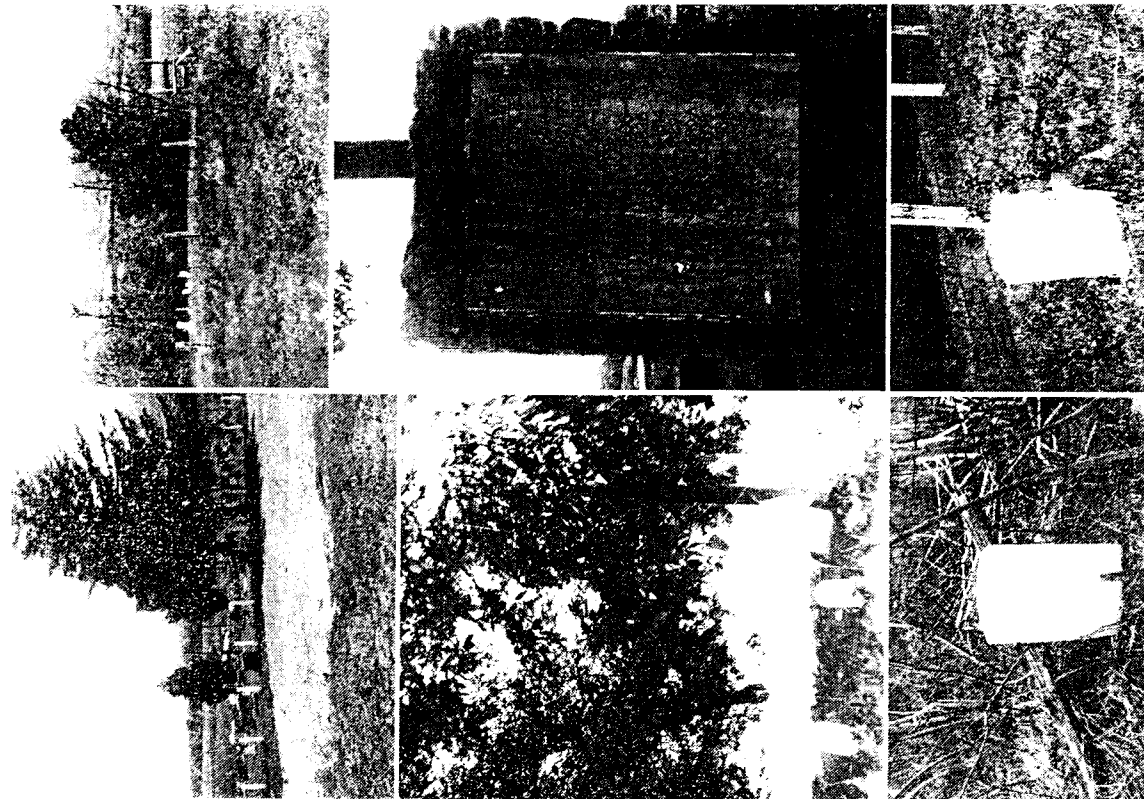
George Taylor operated the woolen factory from 1852 until 1883, when he removed from the valley. George and Hannah Taylor Rine lived here later. Records show that George M. Taylor deeded the property to Hannah T. Rine and Martin S. Taylor in 1895. In 1921 George H. Rine Et. Al deeded the property to J. P. Goshorn.

MILL RUN

The Mill Run definitely received its name from the early grist and later saw mill (Read under Copely Mill). This stream rises against the Rising Mountain behind the Eckenrode Knob and Pike's Peak well up the valley. The Mill Run School was located near where the Mill Run crossed the road.

RUTH'S RUN

A stream that flows into the Conococheague near or above New



Top Left: Union Cemetery; Top Right: Part of Stake Cemetery; Middle Left: Rea Graves - Rea Burial Plot; Middle Right: Piper Stone - Old Piper Site; Lower Left: Henry Varner Grave - Ruth Ward Farm; Lower Right: John Harman's Grave - Stake's.

location, which is sometimes referred to as Center, probably aided in the formation of the Union Church and accelerated burials in this central burial ground.

The land was donated by Cromwell McVitty and McVitty records state that McVitty entered Amberson Valley in 1765. This land seems to have been part of the John Long warrant of 1762. John McVitty early owned this McVitty land.

Much early history of Amberson can be corroborated by evidence found on these early markers. The cemetery is the only burial ground in which interments are made at the present time.

The cemetery is governed by an organized body and is currently in a well kept condition.

PIPER BURIAL GROUND

The Piper plot is located near the house and creek on the farm now owned by Mr. Frank Stake. Adam Piper, Sr., settled on part of the early Alexander Culbertson warrant of 1755 at an early date.

The Adam Piper will bears the date March 26, 1788. Wording on other documents indicate that he died about this date. Adam Piper was not buried in the Daniel Piper Plot but a short distance southeast of the cemetery. The main plot was selected some time after the Adam Piper burial.

The Daniel Piper line generally are buried here since Daniel Piper lived on the home place. Many Piper descendants of other lines are buried in the Union Cemetery. Adam Piper, Jr. and Jane Ely Piper are buried in the Piper Burial Ground.

REA (RHEA) BURIAL GROUND

This old burial ground which has been known for one hundred thirty odd years as the Rea Burial Ground is located on the east side of the road where the headwaters branch of the Conococheague Creek, which rises between Price and Eckenrode Knobs, crosses the road.

The writer is positive that the burial plot was not known as the Rea Burial Ground first. This plot was on the Barnabas Clark-Thomas Shields land of 1767. Some of the Clark family lived here possibly by 1760, certainly by 1767, the warrant date.

Thomas Shields became owner of this land in 1782 and in 1806 gave or sold 61 acres of the 190 acre tract to sons Arthur and Thomas, Jr. Thomas, Jr. sold to Robert S. Rea, stonemason, in 1857. This Rea place was later known as the Garland, "Willie" Culbertson place, now Robert Stewart.

Mr. Culbertson sold land east of the road which included the burial ground to members of the Smith Wyrick family for a summer home.

Since Clark owned this land for fifteen years it is possible that some member of the family could have been buried here. The Stake Grave Yard was started on Amberson-Clark land also. Clarks are evidently buried at Stake's although they did live at the Shields place first.

Certain Shields descendants believe that Thomas Shields was interred here while other descendants claim that he died out of the valley while on a visit. The writer feels certain that some Shields were buried on the home farm while some a little later were buried at St. Mary's, Pleasant Hall, and other places.

James Fegan and Honora Timmons Fegan were definitely buried in the Rea Grave Yard but the James Fegan Stone was removed to the Amberson Cemetery by some descendant. Please note that Robert S. Rea did not move to this place until 1837. He lived on the east side of the creek earlier.

One Fegan source states that members of a Harvey family are buried here. This Harvey was married to a Fegan and lived on the east side of the stream.

Where was Abraham Hagie, Sr., buried? Where were some of the early Timmons family buried? Tangible evidence is lacking except with the Fegan and Rea families. Note, Abraham Hagie, Jr. moved to the west and the Abraham Hagie who is buried at St. Mary's did not belong to the Amberson Hagies, possibly to the St. Mary's beyond Shade Gap.

Matthew S. Rea and his son Robert Scott Rea were both buried in 1844 in the Rea Burial Ground, Elizabeth, wife of Matthew, and Eleanor Fegan Rea, wife of Robert S. Rea were also buried here. Possibly some other members of the Rea family were buried here. Matthew Rea did not settle in Amberson until 1797.

STAKE GRAVE YARD

This burial ground is located on the late Mr. Lester Stake farm and has been in the Stake name for three or more generations and thus has been known by this name for many years.

This old (est) burial plot of Amberson mainly came off the Amberson-Clark-Harmanni-Stake land and is located on the hill along the John Ward land, present Edmondson land.

Francis Amberson died in 1767 or earlier. Records show that he was "deceased" by 1767. The writer lacks proof of his grave since no stone has been found to identify his grave. The early graves are marked with mountain stones and only a few were lettered. Certain descendants claim that Francis Amberson was buried here but this claim would contradict the Vincent Lowe date therefore the writer will portray the facts until subsequent research or evidence satisfactorily establishes new evidence.

Certainly members of one of the early owners are buried here. The Clark family owned this land for thirty years so we must assume that some member or members of the Amberson, Clark, and Ward family are buried here.

John Harmanni purchased this land from the Clarks in 1798. Descendants have placed a Revolutionary War marker on his grave.

John Pasco, a Revolutionary soldier and Clark relative, is buried in the Stake Grave Yard. The writer recently identified his stone.

The last burial in the Stake Burial Ground was that of Sarah Fleck McLaughlin (1829-1908).

Casper Reed with a large number of his family (8) is buried here. Many Stakes and some of their relatives were buried in this plot.

Some of the Flecks and their relatives such as Joseph Eckenrode and the McLaughlins are buried in Stake's.

John McVitty and some of the Taylors are buried in Stake's as well as some of the Wards and Easly family.

HENRY VARNER GRAVE

Henry Varner was buried on his own land which is now the Gorman Ward home. Later Varners were generally buried at Keasys although several other first generation Varners were buried in the home plot.

DAYTON. There was a grave on the Dayton land, possibly the grave of a child.

BILLY BONES. A person, colored, was buried where he lived in lower Amberson (Bones Hollow). Some tradition claims that this was a son of Billy Bones.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR PERIOD

The study of the writer concentrated mainly on the Cumberland County Militia. The majority of the early settlers served in the Indian Wars and the Revolutionary War. Some of these early settlers served prior to their entry into Amberson. Once their names appeared on the muster rolls of Captains Noah Abraham of Metal Township, and Thomas Askey of Fannett Township it almost inevitably stamped them as residents of Amberson and Path Valleys at that time. Many later removed from the valleys.

One of the Amberson Picnic Annuals mentioned four settlers who had served in the Revolutionary War. This statement was very conservative. It is my pleasure to mention approximately forty (40) persons who served in the Cumberland County Militia. I do not wish to intrude into Path Valley; therefore, where doubt exists I will not definitely classify as to valley. Please note that some of these persons lived in both valleys at different periods.

NOTE. The following list is not to be considered infallible and might easily be incomplete. Also remember that a half dozen of these persons resided briefly in the Valley before continuing the westward trek.

AMBERSON. William Amberson, son of Francis Amberson, served in the Eighth Pa. Regt. Continental Line.

AMBERSON. Johnson Amberson served in the Eighth Pa. Regt. Continental Line.

James Amberson served as Lieut. Capt. and Major in the Allegheny (and Westmoreland) County Militia. Presley Amberson also served. Were they of the same family? These four names were the only Amberson names uncovered in Archives (by the writer) and they all served from the same locality.

Amberson descendants contacted by the writer believe that William Amberson enlisted from Franklin County but did not know anything definite on the others named.

The writer believes that they were living in the Pittsburgh area prior to the Revolutionary War.

BELL. John Bell served under Captains Askey and Abraham and was earlier an Ensign under Capt. McConnell of Letterkenny Township.

Andrew Bell served under Capt. Noah Abraham. John Bell lived near the mouth of Amberson and the land was later sold to Rev. Samuel Dougal. Andrew Bell may have lived in Metal Township.

BLACKHART. Andrew Blackhart served under Captains Peebles, Abraham, and Askey. His improvements were on the west side of the Creek against the Knob Mountain and bordered Joseph Kilgore and John Harmanni.

BRADY. A Hugh Brady lived early in Amberson for an uncertain length of time. He served under Capt. Noah Abraham in 1782.

BUCHANAN. John Buchanan who lived near Joseph Kilgore and John Harmanni (west side of creek) was a Sergeant under Capt. Thomas Askey in 1777.

BUCHANAN. William Buchanan served under Capt. Noah Abraham 1777-1780. The writer is not certain of his residence. He may have lived in Metal Township.

CLARK. Members of the Barnabas Clark line served. There were also Clarks living in Metal Township. Thomas Clark was an officer under Capt. Noah Abraham in 1777. William Clark served under Capt. Thomas Askey. John Clark also served. James Clark served under Capt. Abraham and Francis Clark was a Ranger of the Frontier. At least four of the Clarks lived in Fannett and Metal Townships when they served under Askey and Abraham.

COPELY. John Copely served as Captain under Colonel William Elliott. He may have resided in Amberson for some time. (Read under Copely.)

CHANE. (Chain) John Chain served in 1778 under Capt. John Hamilton. The writer is not certain of his residence.

CULBERTSON. John and Alexander Culbertson both served under Captain Noah Abraham. NOTE: These Culbertsons may have come in from Perry County and may not have belonged to the Amberson Culbertsons.

CUNNINGHAM. John Cunningham served under Captain Noah Abraham in 1780-81 from either Path or Amberson Valley. The early James Cunningham warrant in Amberson was secured August 30, 1766. This family disappeared from Amberson rather early.

DUNCAN. Daniel Duncan served in the Third Battalion, Cumberland County Militia.

DUNKLE. Jacob Dunkle served under Capt. Walter McKinney. He lived near the mouth of Amberson Valley. The earliest Dunkle first saw Path Valley as a soldier in the Forbes Campaign of 1758. He admired the valley and later returned and settled here.

FECHAN. James Fegan served in 1776 under Captain McKee and under Captain Thomas Askey in 1777-78-79-81-82.

FERGUSON. John and Joseph Ferguson who served under Captains Askey and Abraham were early Path Valley natives. The Fergusons of Amberson seemingly did not enter Amberson until after 1800.

FLECK. James and Robert Fleck served under Captain Thomas Askey. They may have lived in Path Valley although the later Flecks mainly lived in Amberson.

FOGAL. (Bogal, Bogle) Read under Bogle.

FRENCH. Samuel French served in 1780-81-82 under Capt. Thomas Askey and earlier in the Continental Line. Arthur and Alexander French served as Rangers of the Frontier under Capt. Askey.

HAGIE. Abraham Hagie who lived at the head of the valley served in the Cumberland County Militia.

HAMILTON. John, James, Hugh, and William Hamilton served. James, Hugh, and William served under Capt. Askey while John Hamilton was a Captain. John Hamilton lived very early, probably for a short period in Amberson. The Hamiltons are generally classed as living in Path Valley.

HERVEY. (Harvey) William, Henderson, James, and Charles Hervey all served in the Cumberland County Militia. The noted Herveys belong to Path Valley although James Hervey lived in lower Amberson for some time. The Harvey family of Amberson were descendants of the old Hervey line.

HARMANNI. John Harmanni (Harmony) served as a Sergeant under Captain Thomas Askey.

HUNTER. John Hunter who served in 1777 under Capt. Thomas Askey lived in Amberson 1766. He may have been in both valleys as he disappeared early from Amberson.

JOHNSON. Hugh Johnson owned a large warrant in Amberson in 1767. He served as a Ranger of the Frontier and under Capt. Fleming in 1781. His name is found on the pension list. His name also disappeared from Amberson.

KERR. Robert Kerr who served in 1778 under Capt. James Patton died in Fannett Township. His will was probated in 1817. Other Kerrs served but they may have served before entering the valley.

KILGORE. Joseph, Nehemiah, and William Kilgore served under Captain Noah Abraham. James Kilgore was a Lieutenant in 1784. Patrick Kilgore served under Captain Samuel McCune in 1776 but he probably never lived in Amberson.

Col. David Kilgore (1745-1814) who is buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Westmoreland County, was related to the above Kilgores.

LAUTHERS. William Lauthers, Jr., James and Robert Lauthers all served under Captain Thomas Askey also under Captain Isaac Miller and McClay. Wm. Lauthers seemingly entered Amberson in 1766. The Lauthers also owned land early in Path Valley and some of the families may have resided there but the Lauthers mainly belong to Amberson after moving from the Cumberland Valley.

MAGEE. Patrick MaGee was a Ranger of the Frontier and served under Capt. Thomas Askey in 1781-82.

George MaGee served under Captain Noah Abraham. John MaGee was a Ranger of the Frontier. The writer believes they were from Metal Township.

Henry MaGee, who served under Capt. Noah Abraham, lived in Metal Township.

McMICHAEL. (McMickle) Several McMichaels served. The Alexander, Nickel, who served under Captain Thomas Askey probably lived in Amberson at one time.

MYERS. (Moyer) Herman Myers rightfully belongs to Letterkenny Township although he did reside for some time in Amberson.

McVITTY. Cromwell McVitty served in the Lancaster County Militia and he is buried in Bucks County. McVitty's name was associated with Amberson Valley from 1766 until his death. Descendants state that he did not live in Amberson; nevertheless, he was in Amberson for long periods of time.

NEIL. (O'Neil, Nill) Charles Neil lived in Amberson in 1804. The writer is not certain how long he lived in Amberson. Charles and David Neil both served under Captain Noah Abraham and they are generally classed as living in Metal Township.

PASCO. John Pasco or Pacho served under Captain Thomas Askey in 1777-1781. He lived near the Harmony and Clark families.

REED, CASPER. Casper Reed served in the 1st. Co. 3rd Batt. Northumberland Militia (then Berks Co.). He died in Amberson in 1801 although he was long a resident of Letterkenny Township.

RHEA. The Rheas who served under Captain Noah Abraham seemingly lived in Metal Township near Captain Abraham. Isaac Rea (Ree, Lay) who served in 1778, apparently lived in upper Amberson. John, James, and Thomas Rea served under Capt. Abraham of Metal Township. Thomas Rea may have lived in Amberson for some time, (Read under) Rea.)

ROLLER. This old name is generally attributed to Path Valley although the early Rollers are associated with Amberson History also. Michael, John, Balser, and Jacob all served, however, they were early in the Bedford Co. Militia and are generally classed as belonging to Bedford,

Huntington, and Perry Counties. The Roller name was found in Amberson until recently.

SCOTT, ADAM. Adam Scott served as a Lieutenant under Capt. Robert McClay and served many "tours of duty" as a Ranger of the Frontier. Adam Scott probably served all or part of his time prior to moving into Amberson where he died. Thomas and William Scott both served in 1777. Thomas resided in Amberson for some time since he was taxed on a distillery in Fannett Township in 1804. This may have been the Adam Scott distillery since Thomas settled up his brother's estate. (Read under Scott.)

SHETLER. (Shutler) Barner Shetler served under Captain Crag in the Lancaster Co. Militia also under Captain Noah Abraham in 1782.

TIMMONS. John and Thomas Timmons both served under Captain Noah Abraham. Certain Fegan sources state that Peter Timmons, Sr., lost his life in the Revolutionary War.

SHIELDS. John Shields served many "tours of duty" and was a Corporal under Capt. Thomas Askey in 1781. Some of the Shields records state that Thomas Shields served.

STUART. (Steward) A John Stuart, John Stewart and John Steward served under five or six Cumberland Co. Militia Captains also under Captain Taggart of the Bedford Co. Militia. NOTE. The writer feels certain that the John Steward whose stone is in the Amberson Cemetery was the John Stuart who served under his neighbors, Captain John McConnell (and James McConnell) with Frederick Stake and others in Letterkenny Township. (Read under Stuart.)

VARNER. (Werner ETC.) Henry Varner served under Captain Noah Abraham in 1777-1781-1782.

WARD. William Ward served under Captain Askey in 1777-1781. Joseph and Edward Ward also served under Captain Thomas Askey.

WEAVER. John Weaver who lived part of his life in Amberson and is buried in Amberson Cemetery served as a Ranger of the Frontier. John Weaver, of Hamilton Township, served under Capt. Samuel Patton.

VAN SCYOC. Timothy Skyhock served under Captain Robert Samuel in the Cumberland County Militia. (Read under Van Scyoc.)

TAYLOR. There was a noted Taylor family in Amberson, however, the writer believes that the William Taylor who served under Capt. Askey and Edward Taylor who served under Capt. Abraham, were natives of Path Valley.

The ancestors of the McLean, Stitt, McClure, McCurdy, and other Amberson residents served from Path Valley.

PIPER. Numerous Pipers served in the militia but the writer was unable to find the name of Adam Piper. Several John Pipers served, one a rather noted Captain.

One record refers to John and Catharine Zollinger Piper. The name John A. (Adam) Piper is carried through the line, therefore, genealo-

Bridge. This run is mentioned on deeds and probably was named after the Ruth family who lived here shortly after the 1800 period. NOTE. There is a possibility that this small run received its name from Ruth Charms (Chane) who inherited her father's farm.

TROUT RUN (CLARKS RUN)

This stream rises between the Timmons and Kirtatinnny Mountains and passes under the Turnpike roadbed near the mouth of the Kirtatinnny Tunnel and was noted as a good troutstream. One report referred to this stream early as Amberson Run. Early draughts generally refer to it as Clark Run.

HAGIE BLACK SMITH SHOP

Evidently the highest place of business in Amberson Valley was the Abraham Hagie Black Smith Shop. The Hagie land was above the Price land and was earlier owned by James Fegan and is now owned by George Stewart.

JOHN MCVITTY MILL

John McVitty ran a saw mill and tannery on the Conococheague near the present Amberson Village at an early date. Definite wording establishes these facts in 1807 and 1829. John McVitty also operated the George Johnson saw mill at one time. A tannery was operated as late as 1858 and 1868 at the John McVitty site.

The John Long warrant of January 4, 1762 which became Cromwell McVitty's land in 1763 and embraced the present village reached slightly across the creek directly east of the present Gambel Wilson and Merle Johnston homes and the tannery and saw mills were in this small meadow. An old waterway (race) called the channel had a log foot bridge over it within the memory of a few older residents.

REED MILL

George Reed ran one of the saw mills and tanneries near the Amberson Store for some years.

BARNABAS FEGAN

Barnabas Fegan (1782-1842), son of James Fegan, had a small tannery and shoe making shop. He was also a shinglemaker. The Barnabas Fegan site at Pike's Peak is better known of late years as the Valentine "Felty" Stewart place. The Catholic Path crossed over this place a few feet from the house and spring of water. Fegan fell dead into the small stream while after a bucket of water.

SHIELDS MILL

The highest water powered saw mill in Amberson seems to have been the Shields Mill. This mill was operated by three or four generations of this early family. The last "Billy" Shields of the valley was operating this mill as late as 1878. Tax lists and the maps of 1858 and 1868 lists this mill and evidence indicates that it was rather early.

The old mill site and race are visible from the road and lay between the Shields lane and the road into the Fegan-Beistle, Mrs. Varner's place. The water was diverted into the Shields race by a small dam since the contour of the land was utilized.

A fact not generally known by later valley residents is: "That the waters of the Jersey Narrows stream was diverted along the edge of Price's Knob into the Shields Dam". This statement may be corroborated by a study of certain records which are on file. Some of this channel is still visible at the side of the road.

LIME KILNS

The ruins of an old lime kiln is near the Shields mill site. There were not many kilns in Amberson. Much of the lime was burned above the ground in stacks. Another old kiln is visible at the Lauthers-Funston-Thomas Piper place.

NEW BRIDGE MILL (HAMMOND-PIPER MILL)

The New Bridge Mill was longest known as the Piper Mill, earliest as the Hammon(d) Mill.

Philip Hammon(d) erected a mill in Amberson on land purchased from John Harmanni in 1813 and a deed was granted in 1816 when Hammond secured additional land (2 A 69 perches) from James Kilgore for a mill race.

Quote: "John Harmonni and Elizabeth do sell Philip Hammon a certain piece of land in *Amberson Valley*, adjacent land of James Kilgore, and the land that said Hammon bought of said Kilgore for a mill race, about two acres sixty nine perches and allowances, it being the same land that said Harmonni granted into said Hammon, the second day of February, 1813 for purpose of building a mill dam and whereon the dam is now built with consent and liberty of said Harmonni." This deed was executed in 1816 and is recorded in Deed Book 10, pages 575-576. Writesses were: James Kilgore and John Ruth. Philip Hammon's wife was named as Mary.

NOTE. Do not confuse with the Hammond Mill on Spring Run. Philip Hammond purchased land from a McCurdy for a mill.

Philip Hammon sold this "merchant mill" to Martin Hammon(d) in 1816. The Hammonds evidently operated or leased the mill until 1839 when it was acquired by Paul Martin of Shippensburg.

The Martin heirs disposed of the mills to George Himes in 1848 who in turn sold to Peter Piper the same year or 1848. Although the Peter Piper transfer to Harmon P. Piper was not shown by deed until 1867. Harmon Piper probably operated the mill from 1848 or soon after until his death.

Harmon P. Piper was a long time Post Master of the New Bridge office which was opened in 1868.

The Piper heirs sold to William Hoover in 1898 and the mill was operated a short time under Hoover ownership. Mr. Elmer Piper was the

last Piper to run the mill although a Mr. Shearer ran the mill for a short time either for himself or for William Hoover.

NEW BRIDGE

Why was this name selected? Was it simply the site of a new bridge or did it replace an older bridge upstream near the old Kilgore Mill or Factory site?

OLD MILL SITE

There definitely was an old mill site on the Conococheague Creek a short distance above the later New Bridge site. This race began in a slight dam a short distance above the New Bridge Dam. The end of the early race emptied into the creek a short distance below the New Bridge Dam.

Neither dam, the older nor the New Bridge Mill Dam backed the water very far up stream since the land is very flat here and the dams merely intended to divert the water into the races.

The old mill was last a fulling mill or possibly always a fulling mill and evidently preceded the later Taylor Woolen Factory on the present Jacob Goshorn farm.

Reliable information contributed mainly by Mr. David McVitty states that the peculiarly shaped mill stone in the yard of Mr. Russell Harry came from this old mill and not from the New Bridge Grist Mill. An examination of this stone seems to verify the belief that it was not a grist mill stone.

This mill was built by one of the Kilgores, probably James Kilgore, and seems to have been sold to David Kilgore as early as 1839. David Kilgore sold to Edward M. McVitty in 1852.

There was a means of entrance to this woolen factory from the Dry Run Road according to reports and there was a log bridge at one time. This mill was on the east side of the stream while the New Bridge Grist Mill was on the west side of the stream.

NOTE: The Kilgores did operate a factory as is proved by certain records. Examination indicates that it was a log mill.

Where was the first Post Office of Amberson located in 1831 with David Kilgore as Post Master? It was located at a place of business (factory) and may have been at this old mill site or at the McVitty farm site. The writer is not absolutely certain since the Kilgores owned other mill sites during the same period. (Read under Van Scyoc and the McVitty-Franklin Tannery sites.)

KILGORE MILLS

The various Kilgores, at different periods of time, owned three thousand acres of land mainly in lower Amberson. They were the earliest tanners of the valley and may have been the earliest millers, grist mills and saw mills.

John Witherow, last surviving assignee of James Kilgore, sold the

Franklin Tannery site in 1842, the Van Scyoc site in 1850, and the old mill site above New Bridge in 1852.

JOHNSTON MILL

George Johnston purchased mills from Col. John Culbertson and seems to have run mills at several sites. (Read under Franklin Tannery.)

TIMMONS MILL

Thomas Timmons became the owner of the William Linn warrants in the 1760's. This land was later owned by the Flecks, George Johnston, McLean, and others.

Thomas Timmons sold a ten acre tract to Peter Timmons in 1797 for a saw mill. Peter Timmons sold this site to Henry Rode of Upper Strasburg.

COPELY GRIST MILL

Mill Run, after leaving the higher reaches, was mainly on the early John Mease warrant of 1766 which called for 310 acres. This warrant later had numerous owners: Perry, Isaac Rhee, James Bogle, Semple, Copely, Riddle, Davis Stewart, now Gene Van Scyoc and Mary McGee.

One fact which caused controversies and law suits was the fact that the mouth of Mill Run bends to the south east and was not on the Copely land but on the Hugh Johnson warrant of 1767. Please note that 99 acres were sold off the Copely, Davis Stewart, Van Scyoc farm. This part lay mainly west of the road and included the early mill site, now Mary McGee land.

NOTE: The Hugh Johnson warrant was also split up. John Harvey at one time owned 101 acres of the Johnson land plus the 99 acres which had been originally part of the present Gene Van Scyoc farm. John Stake, Kane, Weaver and others later owned parts of the Hugh Johnson land. Much of this land is now owned by Ira Stewart, David McVitty and other small sites across the creek.

The writer is not absolutely certain who built this early (earliest) mill in Amberson but it was owned by John Copely in the seventeen eighties but Copely may have only leased it since he seems to have been a merchant and speculator with the noted Hugh Rippey of Shippensburg.

The Copely Mill is listed in 1786 and earlier. Copely still owned the 318 acre Mease warrant in 1795. The 1796 tax list and deed transfers also mention the grist mill. The grist mill evidently ceased about 1800 since tax lists a little later list only the saw mill.

This was a wonderful mill location at the present Mary McGee farm and saw mills were operated here for many years after 1800 by such owners as: Kerr, Barnhart, McVitty, Magees possibly Harvey and others.

MILL-MILL RUN-BELOW ROAD

A peculiar, almost unknown fact is that the waters of Mill Run turned the wheels of a (?) mill on the Johnson warrant, now Ira Stewart land, quite a long distance south of Mill Run. This long artificial

race was partly created by man and partly by nature and crossed the road. The mill was in the field below the road.

The water was diverted from Mill Run high up in the woods mainly by a "reverse race or ditch" from the Copely Dam at the present Mary MaGee place. This diversion of water was a source of controversy as is proven by court records.

Certainly this odd lengthy diversion of water could be peaceful only when the several tracts of land were owned by the same person. Any one can verify this odd race by a little searching. The writer contacted but two persons who had knowledge of this race and mill.

SAW MILL, STAVE MILL, AND COOPER SHOP

This saw mill and cooper shop was in operation in 1868 as is shown by the map of 1868. The large mill race presents mute evidence although the dam was not large, only large enough to divert the water. The contour of the land was used like many of the Amberson dams.

This old mill is slightly east of an old road from the old Adam Piper place, now owned by Frank Stake, which led to the place known of later years as the Lewis Specht place (now Myers) but was located east of where a road led off towards Pike's Peak or the old crossroads slightly north of Mr. Ira Stewart's home. Both roads are now closed to the public.

David French and Mark Piper were listed a coopers shortly before 1868.

MILL - MYLES VARNER FARM

There definitely was a mill of some kind at the present Varner site which utilized water power. This John Rippey warrant of 289 acres bears the date 1794 and stretched all the way south to the Timmons Road at one time. The buildings and fields are located on a bench against the Timmons Mountain and early owners used to boast of having water in every field. There are a number of good springs of water available.

Members of the Kerr (Carr) family owned this land for some time but has been owned by the Varners for many years. Was this mill site a Varner up and down saw mill or was the Kerr Woolen mill located here? Some of the Kerrs did run a woolen mill. John McQuaid also ran a woolen mill, however, the writer believes that McQuaid lived below the Varner land on the George Stewart land. The Stewart, McQuaid, McCurdy places had been part of the Rippey warrant.

STEWART GRIST MILL

Samuel and George Stewart, sons of John Stuart, Sr., were listed as millers shortly after 1800 (Refer to tax lists). George Stewart became the sole owner or lessee by 1807. It is possible that John Stuart, Sr., may have been a miller early. Adam Specht evidently purchased the John Stuart land in 1819 and sold to Peter Shearer in 1829. The writer is not certain how long Specht milled.

The Stewart - Specht Mill seems to have been the Wallace Johnson site. (Read under Specht, Fleck, and Shearer.) The George Stewart place was the Ray Eckenrode home. Other owners were: VanScyoc and Jacob Stewart.

BARNHART MILL

John Barnhart was operating a saw mill on Mill Run in 1804. Peter Barnhart also ran this saw mill. S. McVitty ran this mill later and the site has been known as the Mary Magee place to present people. This was the early Copely Grist Mill Site.

KUNKLE MILL

Michael Kunkle seemingly owned and operated a grist mill and saw mill in 1804 (tax list). This early mill was evidently a Kilgore Mill. Kunkle later ran a saw mill above the Franklin Tannery site at the Timmons - Fleck place.

A later John Kunkle lived on older Culbertson - Piper - Wittier farm.

DANIEL AND SAMUEL PIPER GRIST MILL

The Pipers owned the grist mill at the later Franklin Tannery site. (Read under Franklin Tannery.)

THOMAS FEGAN MILL

Thomas Fegan was connected with two mill sites in Amberson Valley. Surveys of 1870 for William McLean and Thomas Fegan and others show that Fegan and McLean owned parts of the Robert Little warrant of 1766. This land was above the bridge or the Franklin Tannery location.

Surveys of 1873 shows that Thomas Fegan had surveys of the Van Scyoc Mill lands run at this date. Fegan may only have been interested from a financial involvement. This slightly precedes the Van Scyoc ownership.

RHODE (RODE) MILL

Henry Rhode of Upper Strasburg purchased the Peter Timmons saw mill site and by 1807 was operating a "powder mill" in addition to the saw mill. Rhode probably manufactured powder at Upper Strasburg since tax records show that he was in business in Letterkenny Township.

CULBERTSON MILLS

Colonel John Culbertson of Culbertson Row owned mills in Amberson Valley including the William McVitty site and the Fleck site. Culbertson was probably the owner or landlord of these mills and did not live in Amberson.

WITHEROW MILLS

The names of William Witherow and John Witherow are both interwoven with the milling industry of Amberson. William Witherow

evidently operated a mill at one time while John Witherow was mainly connected as an assignee of the numerous Kilgore holdings.

PETER SHEARER GRIST MILL

Peter Shearer ran a grist mill in Amberson for many years. Peter Shearer lived from 1803 until 1869 and is referred to as a miller many times such as in 1842 and 1867.

Peter Shearer bought from Catharine and Adam Specht as early as 1829 (ninety odd acres) and from David Fleck 50 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres in 1833.

The late Ryder farm was a Joseph Shearer farm and he evidently lived here part of his life. The writer is hesitant in locating the Shearer - Fleck, Stewart grist mills. Saw mills were in operation at the Fleck and Stewart sites in 1868 but no mention of grist mills are mentioned at either site although Shearer was operating a grist mill in 1867. There were definitely mill sites at four places from and including the Franklin Tannery site and Mill Run, probably not all in operation at the same time.

JACOB SHEARER MILLS

Jacob Shearer purchased the present Jacob Goshorn lands from Cornelius Higgins and others in 1823 and 1826 and the Shearer heirs, Jacob and Elias Shearer executors, disposed of the Woolen Mill site in 1842. This was the long time Taylor Woolen Mill. The writer feels certain that the Shearers operated a mill or factory here.

Jacob Shearer was taxed on a saw mill as early as 1807. This was probably the site of the earliest mill in Path Valley, the Alexander Potts Mill which was built prior to 1764. The Potts heirs sold this mill to Jacob Shearer, a George Shearer is mentioned a little later. The Potts - Shearer Mill site is on the bend of the Conococheague about one mile from the Knob and was down stream from the Hammond Mill near the Potts Burial Ground.

VAN SCYOC MILLS

The saw mill at the Van Scyoc location was in use over one hundred sixty years possibly much earlier. The grist mill was in operation over one hundred years.

The Van Scyoc site was an original Duncan land of 1766 warrant. Nicholas Clopper became owner of the Daniel Duncan land in 1807 and resold to William McVirtty and Thomas Morgan of Amberson Valley. Morgan sold his share to William McVirtty in 1808. William McVirtty sold to James Evans and James Kilgore purchased the Evans estate at Sheriff's sale in 1810.

James Kilgore sold most of his land to a Joseph Kilgore whose lands were disposed of by John Witherow. James Kilgore sold land to David Kilgore as early as 1839 but this was south of the Duncan land.

John Witherow sold the present Van Scyoc site to George Goddard in 1850 and the mill site is mentioned. Goddard resold the same year to William McLean and McLean sold to John Fleck in 1855. Frederick Fleck was operating the "grist mill" in 1858.

Mr. Van Scyoc informed the writer that he was pretty certain that the "grist mill" was first erected by John Fleck and that the burned earlier saw mill was rebuilt. Mr. Van Scyoc states that John Fleck still owned his upper saw mill at this date since he sawed the lumber for the new buildings on his upper mill.

The Fleck heirs sold to Joseph Eckenrode, son-in-law of John Fleck in 1860. Eckenrode sold to John F. Junkins in 1868, the surveys of 1873 shows that Thomas Fegan owned or had money in the mill which subsequently passed to Samuel Van Scyoc and has been in the name ever since. The date of recording from the Fegan heirs to Samuel Van Scyoc is April 10, 1890, but Van Scyoc may have been running the mill somewhat earlier. Samuel and Elizabeth Van Scyoc sold to S. Gilmore Van Scyoc in 1923, recorded in 1929.

Mr. Gene Van Scyoc still resides at the mill property but owns and farms the lately known Davis Stewart farm up the valley. The mill property is for sale.

A McClay from McClay's mill operated the mill for several years before Samuel Van Scyoc. He was related.

In 1860, when the Fleck Heirs sold to Joseph Eckenrode the property consisted of ten acres more or less, a two story frame house, frame stable, grist mill, and saw mill. By 1868, when Eckenrode sold to John F. Junkins, two small plots had been added one, a strip of four acres more or less which Eckenrode had purchased from Peter Strake in 1858 and which Strake had purchased from George Williams in 1829 and was also part of the Duncan land. This strip of land was for the use of the mill race. The second addition called for five and three fourth acres more or less and was purchased from the Fannett School Board in 1865. (Read under Laurel Grove School).

The Van Scyoc Mill is one of the last water powered mills in a vast area and must certainly be one of the last two mills in Franklin County.

The mill could still be used by water power but has been unused since the death of S. Gilmore Van Scyoc.

JAMES FEGAN SHOP

James Fegan, Sr., was listed as a weaver prior to 1785 and operated a still in 1786. James Fegan's weaving establishment was housed in an early log building which had been an earlier dwelling. Was this the Adam Turner site which had been erected by Turner as early as 1767?

A James Fegan was listed as having a grist mill in 1804. This must have been James Fegan, Jr., since James Fegan, Sr., died in 1791. The writer is not certain where James Fegan worked as a miller.

MILLS - MILL RUN TO AMBERSON

Deeds, records, releases and related material on mills in this short distance are plentiful enough to fill a volume alone.

Following is a list, probably not complete of persons who owned, leased, or operated mills in this short stretch of the Conococheague.

Copely, Stewarts, Timmons, Rhode, Specht, Fleck, Shearer, Kunkle, Culbertson, Johnson, Pipers, Witherow, McVirt, Reed, Shearer, Deford, McLean, Fegan, Hazlett, Snyder, and Wiest.

These mills included grist, saw, and powder mills, a sumac mill, broom factory, cigar making, Cooper shops, creamery, and possibly several other works.

WILLIAM MCVIRTY MILL - FRANKLIN TANNERY SITE

The Arthur McMichael warrant for 200 acres dated December 16, 1767 stretched from the John Ward land (Edmundson) to the early Culbertson warrant of 1755 on the north. This land lay on the east side of the creek against the Kittatinny Mountain and included the last and largest tannery site of the valley.

Some of the early owners were: Benjamin Van Scyoc, John Timmons, John Taylor, John Harvey, and John McVirt. Some of the present owners are: Bryan Rowles, Norman Martin, Blair Rowles, Roscoe Burdge, former Stroy Funston, and J. Frank Stewart land.

John Ward claimed part of the McMichael land and became owner of part of it. George DeLong, a Ward relative, sold part of this land to John Timmons in 1796, and John Timmons sold to John Taylor who secured a new warrant on his part in 1801.

"In 1803, John and Nancy Taylor sold approximately five acres of land to William McVirt on which he erected a grist mill."

In 1805, William McVirt purchased upwards of five acres more John Taylor, formerly John Timmons land, for a "mill race to the already existing mill." Subsequent wording lists the mill plot as 9 acres, 19 perch.

William McVirt sold this grist mill to Jacob Snyder in 1808 and Snyder sold to George Johnston in 1816. John Culbertson sold land to George Johnston in 1820, and in 1835 repurchased the mill property from John and William Johnston, sons of George Johnston. Culbertson resold the mill property to Daniel and Samuel Piper in 1835 and Samuel Piper sold his share to Daniel Piper in 1839 who sold to Joseph Kilgore in 1842. Joseph Kilgore, and, or, John Witherow last living assignee of Joseph Kilgore, definitely established a "factory" at this grist mill site in 1842, or should we simply call it a tannery.

John and Maria Witherow sold to Benjamin Deford in 1842 which listed: several dwelling houses, A mill, a large tannery, barn, and other improvements being composed of several joining tracts or portions of land and conveyed to said Witherow by three different conveyances.

By 1847, Albert G. and Catherine A. Webb sold 488½ acres of land to William McLean which included the Witherow - Deford transaction also those nine several tracts of land lying in Amberson's valley mountains in Fannett Township. This mountain land was mainly some of the Hunt warrants.

Transactions covering the mill and tannery conveyances would fill a volume alone. Many of the early releases and articles were made necessary by the "New Channel" which changed the course of the stream and involved land formerly on the opposite side of the Creek under different owners also the mill and original race were on two separate parts of the early McMichael warrant.

Other wording on the Witherow conveyance mentions: small plot, new channel, factory, tannery, machinery, engines, and fixtures.

For tannery information read under McLean, Hazlett, Stake and Franklin Tannery.

THE TANNING INDUSTRY

No section of Franklin County was more noted in this early industry than Amberson Valley. Some of the Pic Nic Annals and several other sources spoke of the tanning industry but all of these accounts, which were seen by the writer, practically limited their discussion to one tannery — the Franklin Tannery (McLean - Hazlett).

The McLean or Franklin Tannery undoubtable was the largest tannery as well as the last tannery of the valley but it certainly was not the earliest tannery.

The Kilgores, and James Kilgore in particular, were evidently the earliest tanners of the valley. Long before 1800, James Kilgore was operating a sizeable tannery in lower Amberson. A perusal of records on file reveals the fact that this tannery was operating in 1787 - 1798 and other years. The writer is not certain when James Kilgore started this business in Amberson but it appears to have been much earlier than 1787.

The writer hesitates to locate the Kilgore Tannery (or tanneries) since the Kilgores were extensive land owners. They at one time owned 3,000 acres of land which included a 242 acre plot between the Duncan plot at Clark's Knob and John Harmony at New Bridge also the land at one time which stretched from the Dougal (Thompson) land to the Harmon Piper place.

John McVirt operated a tannery in 1807 near the present Amberson Village. This tannery was established a little earlier than 1807 and was operated in the 1820's and possibly much later by other owners. NOTE: A tannery was in operation at the John McVirt site during the Civil War.

The Culbertsons (John) owned and operated (or leased) an early tannery above the later McLean site. This may have been the same site where some of the Pipers tried the tanning industry for some time. Some of the Stewarts evidently operated a tannery near the Conococheague at one time. George Johnson purchased one of these tannery sites but the writer is not certain whether he operated the tannery. He was a miller.

The earliest tanner high in the valley was Barnabas Fegan (1782 - 1842), who lived near the base of the later Eckenrode Knob. Fegan probably used all of his output since he was a shoemaker during the winter months. (Felly Stewart place.)

Tradition states that there was a tannery high in the valley on the Hagie - Fegan land but no recorded evidence was found to substantiate this tradition.

The tanning industry reached its height as a result of the Civil War which created an unlimited market for leather for a number of years. At the close of the Civil War there were "four" tanneries grouped near Amberson Village. This is fact, not tradition. A study of the 1868 map will corroborate this statement. These four tanneries were: The McLean or the later Franklin Tannery; the G. Reed tannery, which is slightly south of the McLean site; a third was in the lowland adjacent and slightly south of the village; while D. Stake had a tannery at the corner of the valley and Doylesburg Roads. The third mentioned appears to have been the early McVitty tannery site although the writer is not certain who was running the tannery at this date.

It would be natural for Amberson residents to have knowledge of the Franklin Tannery since the parents of many older residents worked for the tannery. Many stories have been related concerning the later tannery teams which hauled leather from the valley. The 1931 Pic Nic Annual mentioned Samuel Stake as the owner of one of these noted "bell teams". Mr. Stake farmed a McLean farm near Roxbury at this time.

The "Factory Road" is still very much in evidence between the D. Frank Stewart and Ray Eckenrode places. This road was built to haul many tons of bark to the tannery from the adjacent mountain tracts and Gunter Valley. Some persons believed that leather was hauled from the tannery by this road but this belief is evidently incorrect.

The writer is not positive that this short resume has covered all of the tanneries.

SCHOOLS

There were two schools erected or opened in Amberson Valley during the school building program of 1837 and 1838. Schools were built in all districts of the county in 1837 and 1838.

There may have been privately financed schools earlier in Amberson but no proof of any was uncovered.

The writer uncovered the exact location of the Upper School, which is discussed in the following paragraphs, but the exact location of the Lower School is still lacking.

Among the papers of Mr. O. H. Little of Concord was found the following pertinent agreement. Mr. O. H. Little was one of Fannett Township's leading teachers and businessmen of yesteryear.

This article of Agreement was entered into the 28th day of September 1838, between the School Directors of Fannett Township of the one part and Thomas I. Doyle of the other part, Witnesseth that the said Doyle engages to teach a school for one or more months making twenty-six days per month at the Upper School House in Amberson Valley in aforesaid Township to teach eight hours each day — with liberty to throw up at the end of one month, or be dismissed if the Directors or

citizens are not satisfied or at any time on ten days notice given, to teach all the scholars that may come to the school or the number the Directors may permit. To teach Reading, writing, arithmetic and to keep a regular school both as to time and morals etc. Commence said school on Monday, 24th of September 1838. For which services the Directors engage to pay said teacher Fifteen Dollars per month. In witness whereof we have set our hands and seals the date above written.

THOMAS I. DOYLE (S.S.)
JOSEPH PUMROY (S.S.)

The earliest upper school was located on the main road and came off the early Hugh Johnson warrant and was sold by Edward Riddle, agent for H. R. Riddle and Edward Riddle, to John Johnson, Adam Piper, Joseph Pumroy, Daniel Piper, John Alexander, and John Templeton, School Directors of Fannett Township. This deed was executed in 1837 and the school plot of one acre was bounded on the north and west by lands of Riddle, on east by public road and on the south by Daniel Piper. Mr. Ira Stewart now owns this site. This school was abandoned in 1856 when schools were built at Mill Run and Amberson.

Mrs. Loman Seitz of Philadelphia relates a story of the Thomas Shields (of John, of Thomas) boys who carried the smaller John Piper (of Daniel, of Adam) children to school on their backs. This was to the earliest school already mentioned and Mrs. Seitz also knew the correct location. Thomas Shields lived at the Shields place while John Piper lived at the Turner - Hagie place.

Drinking water was secured for this upper school from a spring of water several hundred feet west of the school. This school was located where the road from along the Eckenrode Knob joined the main valley road. This road led also to the Mill Run Road, the Barnabas Fegan place (Felty Stewart) and the Lauthers farm (Greenawalt).

MILL RUN SCHOOL

Davis and Juliana Fegan Stewart sold a plot of 80 perch to school directors John Stake and David Skinner for the purpose of erecting a school in Amberson Valley — Sulphur Springs District at a post where the road crosses Mill Run.

This deed bears the date December 10, 1856 and states that the land was part of a larger tract which was sold to Stewart by Riddle in 1841. (Part of John Mease warrant of 1766).

CENTER (AMBERSON)

In 1857, Joseph Culbertson of Sulphur Springs District sold a plot to the directors for a school on the road from Roxbury to Concord which bordered the Church grounds. This land had been sold by John and Anna McVitty to Joseph Culbertson in 1834.

This building was evidently replaced since an older site used to be pointed out. The writer is not certain of an earlier school at this site.

The last building at Center is owned by the Cemetery Association and doubles as a Community Center for holding festivals and an occasional reunion.

LAUREL GROVE

The Laurel Grove School was organized probably about the same date as Mill Run and Center. Was it known as Laurel Grove first? The Laurel Grove building had been a dwelling which had been built by carpenter Peter Hite of Amberson for the Charles Neuriter family.

The Neuriters lived here for some years and when a child burned to death Mrs. Neuriter refused to live here any longer. The house and ground was sold to the Fannett Township School Board and after some improvements was used for many years as a school.

Mr. Robert McVitty installed new windows and the well known Squire Edward McGinley McVitty was an early teacher. Mr. John L. Finafrock included a picture of Laurel Grove in the November 1926 School Annial and stated the Alice McVitty (Magee) was the teacher. The writer was a classmate at the Shippensburg State Normal School with the Misses Alice and Ola McVitty.

The Laurel Grove School was near Drake's Ferry where the old road crossed the creek. Five and one fourth acres of the Laurel Grove ground was sold to the Van Scyoc Mill property in 1865.

WOLF(F) SCHOOL

As stated previously there was an early school in lower Amberson in 1837, although the writer lacks tangible evidence of its exact location.

There was a school in lower Amberson slightly north of the Wolf School and nearer the creek. Mrs. Ward states that Mary Mills taught here and that the school burned a short time before the end of the term and that she finished the term in her home. Part of the Mills home is still standing at the Gorman Ward place, however, the older log part has been torn away.

A second building was an old sand stone building which stood practically on the later Wolf School site. The writer contacted two persons who went to school in the old stone building.

The last Wolf School is still standing and is being used as a dwelling.

WESTON TORY PLOT

In the spring of 1778 the noted Weston Tory Plot unfolded on our county borders and embroiled some of the Path and Amberson Valley residents. The main instigators of this plot were John Weston and possibly Jacob Hare. Neither lived in Franklin County. Hare lived near Mount Union in Hare's Valley while Weston lived near Water Street in Canoe Valley.

A third leader lived in or near Amberson Valley. This person had contact with the British prisoners, (officers) at Carlisle. John Weston

and the Amberson Valley resident were the actual field leaders or captains of the tories.

Needless to say the Tories ran into some unforeseen difficulties near Kittanning also in Bedford County and their forces were soon broken up. To return to their home communities meant disgrace and cruel treatment from their neighbors and possible death. Some of the Tories and Tory sympathizers never returned to their homes. Some of the Amberson persons involved never returned.

The purpose of the writer is simply to portray the true facts of the early history of Amberson Valley and not to recall unpleasant happenings, therefore, will refrain from mentioning any or all names of persons listed as Tories or Tory sympathizers.

The following material (quotes) were taken from the 1928-29 Franklin County School Annual also a lesser account from the 1938-39 Annual. The writer, Mr. John L. Finafrock, based his information on the accounts of J. Simpon Africa and local tradition. These accounts are not always in agreement with the facts in Pennsylvania Archives.

Quote: "Jacob Hare returned and was staying for the night at the home of Nathaniel Paul in Path Valley. It was learned that he was at Paul's and a crowd soon gathered and demanded that he be punished in some form. It was agreed that his ears be 'cropped'. This deed was performed by William Darlington of Path Valley. Darlington took a case knife and made a saw like edge of the blade and hacked Hare's ears off rather closely to his head.

Some of Darlington's associates were named as follows: Richard and Thomas Morrow, William and Edward Kelley, William McMullen, James Lauthers, Matthew Curmsby (Ormsby), Thomas Askey, Shoemaker and others."

Captain Thomas Blair, with forty five of his Rangers was called upon to aid in punishing the Tories. Blair lived at Blair's Mill in 1778 and about half of his men were from Path Valley and several from Amberson Valley. The names of some of Blairs Rangers were listed as: Brother: on, Jones, Moore, Smith, Hicks, Nelson, Coleman, Wallace, Gans, Fee, Ricketts, Caldwell, Holliday, and Roller. Two of the Hicks brothers served as scouts.

Some of the Tories were arrested and tried for treason. Several sources in Archives mentions the names of those "Attainted for Treason" and in most cases received very light censure. One person from Path Valley was found "Attainted for Treason" but was allowed to go free, however, his name on his discharge was not spelled correctly or mutilated purposely.

One list states that five were attainted from Amberson and two from Path Valley. The writer knows at least fifteen persons who were involved. Some or probably the most repented and some later served in the Cumberland and Bedford County Militia. One man operated a business in Amberson while another was a blue dyer in Path Valley.

The writer has uncovered evidence which convinced him that while the names of some sympathizers were mentioned by former writers equally guilty and noted persons were not mentioned.

The writer advises any interested persons to ignore all references to the Tory Plot which have been quoted from tradition and refer to recorded references which are found in Colonial Records and Pennsylvania Archives. Accounts are recorded under the year 1778, also in the Second and Fifth Series of Pennsylvania Archives also in several random entries in connection with other events.

POST OFFICES

The earliest Post Office of the valley bore the name "Amberson" and was commissioned January 10, 1831 with David Kilgore as Post Master.

B. J. Culbertson was commissioned Post Master of "Amberson Valley" December 18, 1850. Post Offices were sometimes abolished due to political patronage and a new one established shortly after often with a slight change of name. Thus Amberson became Amberson Valley and Keefers became Keefers Store or Vice Versa.

Later postmasters often changed when the village store changed hands since early country post offices were generally housed in a store although it was located in the hotel and in a grist mill or merchant mill at other periods.

McCauley and Bates Histories stated that B. J. Culbertson was the first post master in 1850 and later writers quoted this error which has led to some confusion. David Kilgore was commissioned as first post master nearly twenty years earlier. Only thirteen post offices in Franklin County were older.

The location of the earliest David Kilgore Post Office apparently was slightly on the west side of the Conococheague in lower Amberson.

Following is a list of Post Masters of Amberson and Amberson Valley. David Kilgore 1831, B. J. Culbertson 1850, Samuel Sherman 1852, John Creamer 1853, Jeremiah B. Jones 1865, John M. Shearer 1866, John A. Shoemaker 1874, Francis L. Shoemaker 1885.

Later Post Masters were: Sylvester Eckenrode, Harry Jones, Samuel Pisle, Ellis Culbertson, Owen Wolff, Stoev Funston, Alton Piper, Gambel Wilson and the present Post Master Mr. William Kohutanycz.

This list may not be entirely in chronological order but the main fact that the writer wishes to stress is that David Kilgore was commissioned Post Master in 1831. Post Office Dept. Records.

NEW BRIDGE POST OFFICE

Harmon P. Piper was commissioned Post Master of New Bridge September 8, 1868. Elmer N. Piper was commissioned February 9, 1889 and Alexander Hoover March 24, 1892.

George B. Flaurt was commissioned Post Master May 8, 1893 and served until the office was abolished March 5, 1915. The Flaurt record

of twenty two years was classed as a lengthy record for that period although his tenure was only slightly longer than that of Harmon P. Piper.

NOTE: The U. L. Gordy article on post offices of Franklin County (Kitrochtinny Records) is excellent.

MORE TUNNEL TALES

The writer had intended to label the following brief remarks "Tunnel Tales" but a search of accumulated data reveals the fact that Miss Lucy Withrow, of Washington, D. C. and Park Valley, had used this captivating title for some writings concerning the tunnel era while she was attending Wilson College. The writer will therefore use the title "More Tunnel Tales".

Records show that the Legislature authorized surveys for a railroad route through southern Pennsylvania as early as 1837. In 1841 the Pennsylvania Railroad selected its route by the Juniata River. A short time later interest for a more direct route from Harrisburg to Pittsburgh was again revived.

About 1850 the Sherman's Valley and Broadtop Railroad built a line up Sherman's Valley to the Conococheague Mountain. A tunnel was planned and preliminary work was actually started. The estimated cost of the undertaking evidently ended the project. Some writers contend that this operation was for the purpose of establishing a shorter route to Pittsburgh. The writer has no definite proof of the last statement. Was the purpose of this road merely to tap Path Valley?

NOTE: It is a fact that two companies did run surveys in the 1880's to Dry Run in Path Valley. One of these surveys was by the Narrows at Concord which followed the Back Road to Dry Run. The second survey came into the valley by Burn's Valley from New Germantown. I am not certain that any actual work was started on the first project but some grading was done on the second named project. A cut near Ryder's School was pointed out to the writer many years ago. Mr. Thomas Gamble a Chambersburg Banker also pointed out this route. Older upper valley residents used to talk of working on this project.

In the 1880's during the rivalry between the Pennsylvania and the New York Central Railroads, Mr. William H. Vanderbilt head of the New York Central formed the South Penn Company to construct a shorter route to Pittsburgh. Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the steel magnate of Western Pennsylvania, contributed five million dollars to this new Vanderbilt project. Mr. Carnegie was interested in the expected lower freight rates this rival and shorter road would bring.

Five thousand miles of surveys were run and older persons used to recount of having seen these surveying parties in practically all localities adjacent to our mountain walls. The writer heard numerous stories concerning these surveys and will recount one of them.

Several years after 1880 a group of surveyors stopped several days at one of the old hotels in Horse Valley and surveyed the grade through Barney's Narrows (Barnabas Smith) into Dothan Valley.

In 1883 the adopted route was approved and contracts were let for tunnels and bridges. Approximately three thousand laborers were employed along this mountain route. Gangs of foreign workmen and southern negroes were contracted and "shanty towns" grew up near every tunnel entrance. In many railroad projects Irish workers generally predominated; however, the majority of the foreign workmen on the South Penn or Vanderbilt project were Italians and Hungarians.

Weekends, especially after pay day, sometimes, changed the tranquil life of Shanty Town into a noisy and turbulent scene. Brawls were frequent, and dangerous also, since the participants often relied on the knife and pistol. It is said that vendettas were brought over from the old country in several cases. Bad whiskey turned trifling insults into killing proportions on many occasions.

One headline story occurred when Tony Maishi, an Italian, crossed the Kittatinny Mountain from Gunter's Valley to Amberson and stabbed a Hungarian, named Abos, for an alleged insult which had occurred at Roxbury. Abos did not die but the authorities encountered considerable difficulty in arresting Maishi, when his countrymen tried to aid him. He attempted to flee and had to be wounded in the leg in order to be arrested. The grave of an unknown workman was pointed out to the writer near the present Blue Mountain Tunnel.

In the fall of 1885 when the order to "stop work" was passed out much consternation prevailed and many workmen were left stranded. In some cases some of the labor contractors and others lost their wealth while some of the names of these workmen are to be found in our community at the present day.

Piles of large dressed rocks were to be seen at many tunnel entrances until the turnpike was built. A large number of these stones lay near the Kittatinny Tunnel in Amberson. Some of the smaller stones were used in constructing a new bridge over Conococheague Creek near Amberson.

PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE

In 1939 many residents of Amberson secured employment on the new project when the tunnels were enlarged and finished and the road bed graded and widened. In lower Amberson the survey was somewhat altered and lower than the railroad grade. The writer worked on the grading and laying the concrete across Amberson and Path Valley and was informed by several older men along the route that they had worked on the original project forty five years earlier. One of these men was a Mr. Witter who lived above the present J. Floyd Lytle place.

The writer worked for some weeks near the Kittatinny Tunnel and the Negro shanty town in Amberson, and on several Sunday forenoons witnessed the merriment which continued from Saturday night until nearly noon on Sunday. On one occasion the writer aided in pushing a "hearse" out of the mud. This hearse had been called to remove a charred body which had been burned when one of the shanties burned down.

Numerous fights and shootings occurred at the Shanty towns but not as many fatal fights occurred as compared with the earlier railroad project which was much slower.

This wonderful highway is a boon to countless travelers and truckers but it also inflicted irreparable handicaps to many home owners of lower Amberson. With the exception of the money the actual construction brought and the land damages paid, the highway has not materially helped Amberson. In view of present land values of today (1968) it is doubtful if the compensation received would balance the damage inflicted.

One of the prettiest scenes to be found anywhere, is to view the expanse of Amberson Valley from Clarke's Knob with the entrance to the Kittatinny Tunnel and the overhead bridge directly underneath.

The Kittatinny Tunnel has recently been widened and will be opened for dual traffic in the near future.

STONE MASONS — STONE CUTTERS

Amberson Valley has its share of large stones also a number of skilled stone cutters. One of the earliest was Robert Scott Rea who traveled to Michigan in his later life to work in the new Quarries being opened there.

No area surpassed Amberson in the use of large stones used in foundations and for door steps. Oxen dragged a large rock to the late Albert Wilson place and these immense dressed stones can still be seen many places.

Some of these stones as long as eight and eight and one half feet by twelve inches by fifteen inches are in the walls of the Ray Eckenrode barn. Another can be seen in the Mary McGee barn.

The Masons specialized in round stone smoke houses also in many old spring houses.

AMBERSON — LOWER METAL TOWNSHIP NAMES

A peculiar fact which lends confusion is that a large group of settlers, having the same names as many of the early Amberson settlers, were grouped in lower Metal Township on the east side of the Conococheague Creek against the Kittatinny Mountain.

These families were located near the earliest road to the West (Forbes Road), and the Anthony Thompson - Allen Brown Inn. The land on the East side of the stream was not well suited for homes, not a single permanent home remains on the East side of the Creek in this area today. Only a few reminders such as: Rae Ridge, McGowan Ridge, Hardy Bottoms, Hastings place, and other barely discernable sites are left to ruminate over.

It is possible that some of these families and settlers were waiting until the Indian Treaty of 1758 allowed them to legally take up land in this valley or in some cases to return to their former land from which they were ejected by the Magistrates in 1750.



Top Left: Smokehouse - Pat McGee Site; Top Right: Chimney - Old House - Shop - Pat McGee Place; Middle Left: Chimney - Gallagher - Pannoy - Hager Site; Middle Right: Large Out Sheds - Ray Eckhardt Farm; Lower Left: Chimney - Myles Vanner Home; Lower Right: Rev. Samuel Douglas Spring - Roy North Home.

Among the names found both places very early were: Long, Thomas, Moore, Little, Ward, Watson, Rhea, Brady, Turner, Taylor, Clarke, Witter, Johnson, McGee, and others.

AMBERSON — FORT MCCORD, KEEFER'S STORE NAMES

A number of Amberson names were also found in the Fort McCord - Keefer's Store area. Among the names were: Weaver, Wyrich, Barnhart, Stake, Fleck, Gruver, and others.

PICNICS

The Amberson Pic Nics which were held in the Piper Grove in lower Amberson for a number of years was one of the highlights of the valley.

SULPHUR SPRINGS

Numerous sulphur springs emerge from the Knob Mountain. They were so noted at one time that they lent their name to one of Fannett Townships voting districts — The Sulphur Springs District. The springs on the Patrick McGee and William Lauthers places were most noted.

One of the Amberson Pic Nic Annuals stated that the William D. Funston family commercialized the spring at the Lauthers place. This is true but this spring was well known even in the Lauthers era and reached its height during the Taylor ownership. Present Thomas Piper place)

Casper Taylor (1774 - 1848), son of John Taylor, lived here and family history records that two one time well known businessmen of Amberson, George and Samuel Taylor were born at Sulphur Springs. George Taylor ran an earlier established woolen or fulling mill in lower Amberson for 32 years before he removed from the valley.

Samuel Taylor, born in 1819 at the Sulphur Spring, worked for some years in his brother's fulling mill and later operated a "boarding house" at the Sulphur Spring for ten years, 1846 until 1856, when he removed from the valley.

NOTE: There were a number of cabins erected at the Sulphur Spring during the Taylor era. (Present Thomas Piper place)

Seven, or possibly nine sulphur springs, were pointed out to the writer by older valley residents. Many of these springs are uncared for and unused at present.

PACK TRAIL — HARVEY PATH

The path sometimes referred to as the Harvey Path and which was used extensively in early Amberson history was a segment of an early trail which came through McAlister's Gap and continued across the valley and Rising Mountain on its way to the Tuscarora Path and Fort Shirley.

John Harvey lived for some time at or near the Bryan Rowles site and the trail from this point became known as the Harvey Path. This path was on the mountain above the present tunnel entrance. This trail was used by some of the early mail carriers.

LYTLE GAP

Why was this slight depression over the Dividing (Rising) Mountain so named? The writer is certain it received its name from an early Lytle family. There was a Little warrant on the Path Valley side of the mountain also a Robert Little, possibly a James Little lived on Mill Run in Amberson at an early date. They may have been related to the Moore family who owned some of the Hugh Johnson land later John Harvey land on Mill Run. It is claimed that these related families used this rugged short cut which led off the later Catholic Path.

MOUNTAINS

The KITTATINNY MOUNTAIN forms the eastern wall of Path and Amberson Valleys with the exception of the Timmons Mountain which is formed by a division of the mountain summit whereby Dothan Valley is formed. The Timmons spur of the Kittatinny is only about four miles in length.

TIMMONS MOUNTAIN. The Timmons Mountain at its beginning is practically unnoticed from Path Valley but could be seen from an aerial picture. The Timmons mountain ends in Clarks Knob overlooking the Kittatinny Tunnel and Turnpike.

DIVIDING MOUNTAIN. This term is still used to some extent although smaller or local parts are given other names. The dividing mountain was originally the zigzagging summits of the range separating Franklin from Perry County. From Northwest to Southeast these folds dips into Perry County then back into Franklin County and names of local mountains are: Conococheague Mountain, Round Top, Little Round Top, Rising Mountain, Amberson Ridge, Bower Mountain, and Middle or Sherman Mountain. Maps used to mark the Dividing Mountain as between Path and Amberson Valleys. Late map makers now mark this mountain as the Knob and Rising Mountains.

KNOB MOUNTAIN. Late maps refer to that part of the Dividing Mountain as the Knob Mountain as far north as the vacated Doyleburg Road.

RISING MOUNTAIN. The term Rising Mountain extends from the vacated Doyleburg Road into Perry County. This name is of Perry County origin as the Buck Hills keep rising until they become the Rising Mountain.

AMBERSON RIDGE. Amberson Ridge is formed when the Rising Mountain is divided by Brown or Fowler Run and Fowler Hollow and the Little Illinois Valley is formed. Amberson Ridge overlooks upper Amberson and the southern end has been known as Eckenrode Knob since the eighteen thirties. The headwaters of Shaeffer's Run and the Conococheague Creek are not far apart on the divide between Perry and Franklin Counties.

ECKENRODE KNOB. This knob is really the southern end of Amberson Ridge and has been known by this name since the Eckenrode family entered the valley about 1834.

PRICE KNOB. Old maps often used the apostrophe in place names but the new map makers have practically eliminated the possessive form.

The Price Knob only dates back to 1858 when Robert Price moved into Amberson. It was sometimes referred to as Gobbler Knob. Like all of the rugged Summits Price Knob is divided by Shaeffer's Run into Perry County.

Pikes Peak is a low offshoot of Amberson Ridge and is set apart by the Mill Run which carved its way from behind Amberson Ridge and its source like all of these streams is near the Divide and County lines.

From H. H. Hain in history of Perry County, Quote: "A woodsman can enter Perry County from Franklin County on the rocks at the top of the West Tuscarora Mountain, and walk along the rocky crest of this range, alternately towards the northeast and towards the southwest, for a total distance of thirty five miles, re-entering Franklin County from the crest of Bower Mountain, only three miles across from the place where he left it."

This quote should clarify the writer's discourse on the Dividing Mountain.

FELTY NARROWS. This name like hundreds of place names derives its name from the last resident, Valentine Stewart. Barnabas Fegan built this home site which was carved out of the forest some sixty years before Stewart moved here.

JERSEY NARROWS. The pass through which the headwaters branch to the east of Price Knob, rises. Did a few settlers from Jersey enter Amberson this way as claimed by some persons?

DOTHAN VALLEY. This valley is not in Amberson although some of its waters to the north rise in Fannett Township. Pine Run drains the northern end of Dothan and flows through the rugged beautiful Horseshoe near the Timmons Road. The larger part of Dothan Valley drains to the south and east by Dothan Run. Both streams flow into the Conodoguinet Creek. (Read under Dothan Valley in Conodoguinet Secrets).

GUNTER RUN. Gunter Run, over the low Kittatinny at this point, is the only run which rises in Perry County and flows southward to the Conodoguinet Creek. Gunter Valley and Run are not in Amberson Valley.

Tax lists of 1855, include: George Barnhart, Thomas Fegan, Peter Shields, Henry Rowles and William Stake as stone masons. John Craemer merchant, Benjamin Culbertson Inn Keeper, Adam Piper blacksmith, Harmon Piper miller, Ed. McVitty and Jeremiah Sarver tanners, Augustine Shields and Jacob Dunkle carpenters, David French cooper, Hezekiah Dayton shoemaker, and William Culbertson wagon maker, William Culbertson and Jacob Dunkle may not have been in Amberson.

The 1862 Tax List includes: George Barnhart, Peter Shields, Henry Rowles, and Samuel Scyoc as masons. Daniel Stake, Simon Piper, David Sarver, Jacob Dunkle, and Henry Cain were listed as carpenters. John

Steward and John Weaver were shoemakers, Harmon Piper and Joseph Eckenrode millers.

Other listed were: George Taylor fuller, Joseph Stake weaver, Adam Piper blacksmith, David French cooper, John Craemer merchant, B. Culbertson Inn Keeper and William Culbertson wagon maker. Several of these probably belonged to Path Valley.

The Tax List of 1850 includes the following: George Barnhart, John Fegan, Joseph Fegan as masons. Lewis Piper, Daniel Stake, Jonathan Shields, John Stake of Peter, Matthew Fegan and Jacob Dunkle as carpenters. David French and Mark Piper as coopers, William McLean and George Reed tanners, Adam Piper blacksmith, John Weaver and Jacob Roler shoemakers, Benjamin Johnson Miller, John Craemer fuller, John Stitt weaver, William Culbertson wagonmaker and John Kerr Several of these persons should be classed as belonging to Path Valley.

AMBERSON VALLEY DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

The writer purchased an old bass drum (Feb. 13, 1960) at the W. O. Shoemaker sale. This old drum bears the following lettering: Amberson Valley Drum and Bugle Corps 1880. Many present residents of the valley were unaware that an organization of this type ever existed.

The writer did not learn the name of the organizer or director of the Drum and Bugle Corps but was informed by Shoemaker relatives that Daniel Shoemaker, son of John A. Shoemaker and brother of W. O. Shoemaker, was the leader or conductor of a "band". This band must have been later than the Drum and Bugle Corps since Daniel Shoemaker would not have been old enough to have conducted the Drum and Bugle Corps.

Many Drum and Bugle Corps were organized following the Civil War. Amberson was filled with young veterans of the Civil War.

BASEBALL TEAMS

Amberson has fielded many baseball clubs and has played on many diamonds including cow pastures. One of the old time fields was known as the "Sand Patch". Present Amberson athletes may wonder where the Sand Patch was located. It was located near Drake's Ferry.

ROADS

At one period of time a traveler or peddler could reach the head of the valley by three roads. The visitor of today will probably follow the improved road up the valley to the base of Price's Knob and retrace to Clarke's Knob. There were more home sites (generally smaller) on the east side of the stream along the Kirtatiny Mountain at one time than on the present improved road up the valley at present.

Winding roads also led along the Knob or Rising Mountain from the Dry Run Road across the Doylesburg Road and by the base of the present Eckenrode Knob to the Fegan Shields places at the head of the valley. This old road passed the old Pat MaGee and William Laughters places and many old places along the base of Eckenrode Knob.

Many families, early and late, lived in the vicinity of Mill Run. Some of these early names: Mease, Copeley, Semple, Little, Barnhart, Rhee, Moore, Kerr, Harvey, Culbertson, Riddle, Stuart, and others. Several of these named never lived on Mill Run but were land owners.

SUGAR CAMP. The best known sugar camp in Amberson was on Mill Run well up in Felty Narrows.

Mill Run has the distinction of powering an early "grist mill" long before 1800 and may have been the earliest grist mill in Amberson. The writer regrets that he does not know the exact date this mill was built but land transactions of the 1780's lend substance to this tradition and thus makes the claim a fact.

The earliest road from Roxbury by McAlister Gap into Amberson was referred to many times on early land transactions as the Great Road and was on the east side of Clarke's Run (Trout Run) until well down the valley.

The earliest road through the Jersey Narrows or to the east of Price's Knob passed the highest farm in the valley (Fegan, Rea etc.) and passed higher along the mountain than the present Forestry Road.

The old road by the Price place passed two other old home sites on its way to the Perry County Line. This road has been named the Sherman Trail. An old road from the Fegan place along the stream joined the Sherman Trail near the head of the valley.

Another old road led from the Fegan-John Shields place over Amberson Ridge to Fowler Hollow. An old road from the old Eckenrode place led into Fowler also.

There was a home site north of the Barnabas Fegan (Felty Stewart) place on the west side of Felty Narrows. The road led from the Felty Stewart place.

CAPT. NOAH ABRAHAM

Noah Abraham was a native of Path Valley, or Metal Township. His name is included since the majority of lower Amberson residents served under him in the Cumberland County Militia. For additional information on Capt. Noah Abraham refer to *Forbes Road, Parnell's Knob to Burnt Cabins*, by the same writer.

CAPT. THOMAS ASKEY

Capt. Thomas Askey resided in Path Valley near Dry Run. Capt. Askey of Fannett Township was married to Elizabeth Baker, daughter of Col. Robert Baker. Capt. Askey removed from the valley and is buried in a Presbyterian Cemetery near Jacksonville, Center County.

Practically all of the Amberson and Path Valley settlers served under Capt. Askey of Fannett Township or Capt. Abraham of Metal Township.

A study of the Askey and Abraham muster rolls discloses that these men were residents of the valleys at this date although many including Capt. Askey removed from the valleys later. Several moved on to Bedford County and other areas the same year or the following year.

Capt. Thomas Askey's plot was numbered 3427 and the application bears the date April 14, 1767. A resurvey was run by John Bear April 23, 1802.

BAKER. John G. Baker who was married to Evelyn Wolff and later the David Baker family lived in lower Amberson at the site now owned by Mr. Norman Johnson.

BAKER. Mr. Floyd Baker, whose wife was the former Peggy Rotz lives in a new house near the J. Floyd Lytle home overlooking the Turnpike where it crosses the Amberson Road. Mr. Baker is currently a teacher and Justice of the Peace. They are the parents of four children: Joni, Teresa, Beth, and James Floyd.

BARNHART

The Barnhart (Bernhart) family was in Amberson by 1800 or slightly earlier. Peter and Rachael Barnhart owned 150 acres of land in Amberson in 1804. This seems to have been the Peter Barnhart who lived in Letterkenny Township in 1786. Peter Barnhart's name is on the 1790 census list of Fannett Township.

The 1804 tax list includes the name of John Barnhart while the 1807 list shows that he was operating a saw mill on Mill Run. This was an "overshot" mill wheel and was operated by later persons such as S. McVirt, MaGee and others. This saw mill site was at the present Mary MaGee place.

Daniel Barnhart was a land owner in 1816 and lived at or near the home place on Mill Run near the later Eckenrode Knob. Daniel and Nancy Barnhart sold or released the Turner-Hagie place to Daniel Piper in 1829 for his son John A. Piper.

Susanne Barnhart married Thomas Shields (of John, of Thomas). One source believes that she may have been a daughter of the George Barnhart who came to America as early as 1767 on the "Sally."

Barnhart Weirich (Wyrick) who lived near Ft. McCord was a relative. By 1858, there was but one Barnhart family in Amberson, that of George Barnhart who lived at the home place on Mill Run. George Barnhart was married to a neighbor, Sarah Harvey, in 1848. George Barnhart was listed as a stone mason for many years.

Anne Barnhart was married to John Lewis in 1832.

BEAM. The Clyde Beam family own a place west of the stream in lower Amberson. Access is gained to this land from the New Bridge entrance.

BEASTON. Mr. Elmer Beaton and Virginia Piper Beaton live at the former New Bridge Mill and Post Office site. Mr. Beaton, in addition to his regular employment, is engaged in building and renovating rental properties. Mrs. Beaton's extra activities at present consist of being a social worker and school director of her district.

Elmer Beaton, son, is currently employed in Chambersburg, Christine is in business school, and Pamela and Stacy Jo attend Fannett Metal High School.

BEISTLE. Mr. Arthur Beistle member of the well known Shippensburg manufacturing family purchased the former Shields, Hagie, Fegan, Price places and lived in Amberson until his death. These lands are now owned by the Amberson Valley Estates, the Varners, and other owners.

BELL

John Bell served as an Ensign in the Rangers of the Frontier under Captain James McConnell of Letterkenny Township and later served under Captains Askey and Abraham.

Andrew Bell served under Capt. Noah Abraham in 1777. John and Andrew Bell seem to definitely have been in lower Amberson for some time although they may have lived in Metal Township, possibly in Letterkenny Township also at different dates.

The Bell name is frequently found along the noted Three Mountain Road. There were several Bell Inns on this road including one at Upper Strasburg also at least three Betsy Bell Springs of water.

The John Bell land of 158 acres was acquired by Rev. Samuel Dougal in 1786. The Bell land was practically all on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain south of the Ferguson-Crane farm and across from the Wilson-Dougal places.

BEST

The Nicholas Best warrant of twelve acres nine perch is located near the mouth of Amberson and was a part of the 190 acre Robert Wilson warrant of 1763. Reverend Samuel Dougal became owner of the Wilson land and sold or gave it to Nicholas Best who lived with the Dougals as a youth.

The original Best house was slightly higher than the present house (now Canter) and was nearer to the spring of water.

The Best warrant crossed the creek slightly, although the Bests owned additional land west of the creek later.

Mr. Walker Best, son of John Best, and grandson of Nicholes Best lived on the home place in late years. John Best descendants live in Path Valley.

The Harry Best family is well known in the Doyleburg area. Mrs. Best was the former Judith Doyle and is often consulted on information concerning the St. Mary's Church. Elizabeth Best, a daughter, is Post Master of the Doyleburg Post Office.

BLACKHART

Andrew Blackhart had improvements in Amberson at an early date. His land bordered John Harmanni and Joseph Kilgore and was located near New Bridge and part or all of it became Gaston land on the west side of the creek.

Andrew Blackhart had a long service record from 1777 until 1782. He served in the Cumberland County Militia under Captains Peebles, Askey, and Abraham.

Andrew Blackhart removed to Bedford County after the Revolutionary War. The name is spelled Blechart on some Bedford records.

BOLTZ. The Boltz name appeared in Amberson prior to the Civil War. Benjamin Boltz was remembered by a few older persons. He was married into an Amberson family. One record spelled the name as Beltz.

Charles Boltz lived in Amberson on the eve of the Civil War. He enlisted and died in February 1864 while serving in the army.

BRADY

Hugh and John Brady owned land in Amberson in 1766 and evidently resided in Amberson for a number of years. Hugh Brady was evidently in Amberson as late as 1782 when he served in the Cumberland County Militia under Capt. Noah Abraham. The name of Hugh Brady, Sr., appears on the Indiana County pension list of 1807.

Neighboring land owners in 1767 were William Lauthers and Samuel Culbertson. This land was located above (west) of the early Culbertson - Witter - Piper land (present Ira and Raymond Stewart and other lands.) The Lauthers land was the Sulphur Spring Farm (Thomas Piper).

There were several very noted Brady families on our frontier (including officers), one at Middle Spring near Shippensburg. The writer is not acquainted with the Brady lines, therefore, knows nothing concerning the relationship, if any.

BROWN

The Brown name is one of the most noted early families of Metal Township. The Browns were actively engaged in the "iron age" of Metal Township. Allen Brown ran the early inn (built by Anthony Thompson) on the earliest road to the West near Cowan's Gap. (Read in *Forbes Road, Parnell's Knob to Burnt Cabins*, by the same author) Brown and Chambers owned the early Buchanan land in Amberson at an early date. (Dave McVitty, Robert McVitty, John McVitty, and William Stake places).

William Brown was married to Peggy McVitty as early as 1802. They lived in Amberson for some time.

Henry Brown lived on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain. Roy and Harry Brown, sons of Orrie Brown, and grandsons of Henry Brown, are currently living in Amberson at the old Brown location not far from the Van Scyoc Mill. Mr. Floyd Brown lived in Amberson but removed from the valley when his place was damaged by the Turnpike. Orrie and Pearl Funston Brown are buried in Amberson.

The third Brown line in Amberson stems from the James Brown who was married to Rebecca Ferguson daughter of John and Ellen Varner Ferguson. James Brown lived in the old place on the John Varner farm (present Crane place) before moving up the valley to a Stake farm in 1878. This old James Brown, later David Brown, place

was part of the Francis Amberson land which had been obtained by a John Stake in 1813 and this part was sold by Stake heirs in 1878 to James Brown.

Mr. David Brown was married to Minnie Burkholder and two children reside in Amberson.

Mrs. Nancy Brown Piper and her husband Alton live at the old Brown place already mentioned. Mrs. Piper has in her possession a "brick" showing the western portal of the Kirtatiny Tunnel which includes the name of Mr. Alfred Nevin, Chief Engineer, and the date. These bricks were burned in the Brown meadow when the railroad was working on the tunnels in 1883. Mr. Nevin boarded with the Browns.

Mr. Stewart and Mrs. Mildred Varner Brown have built a new home on the early Robert and Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson farm which was warranted in 1767 by William Watson and Thomas Rhea. The Browns have three children: Lois, who is married to Harold Frye and lives near by in a new home, James and Shirley Crider Brown of Fayetteville, and Nancy Kirgan of Downingtown.

Other David Brown children were: Grace Brown Shearer and Alvin deceased, Mrs. Mary Brown Hazlett, William of Florida and Frank who lives in Chambersburg.

BUCHANAN

The large Buchanan tract of land lay on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain and was later owned by Brown and Chambers, Kilgore and others. This land was bounded on the north by the early Duncan warrant of 1766 on the east by Kilgore (John Emery-Roler etc.), and in the south by Pasco and Harmanni. A number of the farms across from the Laurel Grove Area were parts of the Buchanan land. The Buchanan land was sometimes given as 342 acres, 333 acres, and over 300 acres on different papers.

George Buchanan owned land in Amberson as late as 1786 and 1788. John Buchanan is listed as a freeman at this date.

John Buchanan served as a Serjeant under Captain Thomas Askey in 1777. William Buchanan served in 1778-80 under Capt. Noah Abraham. William Buchanan served in 1814 under Capt. Dunn.

Some of the Buchanans worked at the Mount Pleasant Furnace and may have lived for some time in Metal Township.

A Joseph Kilgore married Sally Buchanan in 1820. This apparently is the Joseph Kilgore who owned the Buchanan and many other acres of land in Amberson and who ran a grist mill at one time.

BURDGE. Roscoe Burdge, whose wife was the former Thelma Funston, daughter of J. Stoeck and Mary Shoemaker Funston lives on the east side of the creek near the bridge. They are the parents of the following children: Edsel Burdge who is married to Vonnie Piper daughter of Alton Piper, Raymond whose wife was Marlene Appleby, Karen wife of Ronnie Parson, Stanley whose wife was the former Jane Kling, and Merritt who lives at home.

CHARMS — CHANE

This early name is spelled variously in records such as: Chane, Chain, Chainey, Charms.

George Chane lived in Amberson at an early date and was a neighbor of the well known John Harmanni and Joseph Kilgore. His land lay west of the Conococheague and was south of Duncan and as far south as Drake's Ferry. George Charms was listed as a neighboring land owner as early as 1773 in the Amberson (Collins) transfer to Barnabas Clark.

John Chane served under Captain John Hamilton in 1777. In 1778, John Chain served under Captain Jeremiah Talbot. The writer is not certain if he ever resided in Amberson Valley.

The George Charms will of August 27, 1772 includes some interesting reading. Barnabas Clark and George Buchanan served as executors. The will stated that his daughter Ruth was to have plantation. Will Book ABC, page 165, Carlisle, Pa.

CISNEY. Mr. Clement and Pearl Mackey Cisney live on part of the Cunningham warrant of 1766. They are the parents of four children: Ronald who is married to Elaine Eckenrode, Donna, Ray, and Melvin.

CLARK (e)

Barnabas Clark certainly left his imprints in Franklin County in a way which no other man will probably ever match. He lent his name to Clark's Knob, which overlooks Letterkenny Depot near Upper Strasburg; and to Clark's Knob, the end of the Timmon's Prong of the Kittatinny Mountain which overlooks the upper valley and the Kittatinny Tunnel.

Clark applied for Clark's Fancy at Upper Strasburg in 1737. The writer is not absolutely certain when he removed to Amberson but it was prior to 1767. He was already living in Amberson and the Amberson papers refer to him as living in Amberson when he purchased the Amberson land in 1767. Another record indicates that he lived in upper Amberson in 1760 while another source claims that he was in the valley in 1757.

A peculiar and confusing fact is that he secured warrants on the later Shields place at the head of the valley and the Amberson land approximately the same time 1767 and 1768.

The Shields place of the upper valley was warranted in the name of Barnabas Clark June 23, 1767 and did not not become Shields land (in records) until 1782.

Please note that there was a Barnabas Clarke, Sr., also Barnabas Clarke, Jr., in Amberson and this fact may lead to confusion in the Clark facts.

Numerous Clarks had war service. John Clark served. Thomas Clark was an officer under Capt. Noah Abraham while William Clark served under Capt. Thomas Askey. James Clark served under Captain

BURK

Charles Burk, born 1847, served in the One Hundred Second Pa. Vol. Inf. when he was 16 years old. He was wounded October 19, 1864 at Cedar Creek, Va. taken prisoner and recaptured by Gen. Sheridan's forces. A brother of Charles Burk also served, was wounded, taken prisoner, and his people never heard of him again.

Charles Burk was married in 1871 to Mary Roler, whose mother was Isabella Shields, daughter of Arthur Shields and grand daughter of Thomas Shields. Burk became a stone mason and purchased the old Shields place in upper Amberson. Late people know the old Shields homestead as the Burk place. C. H. Burk served on the Laurel Grove Church building committee in 1894.

From the J. Floyd Lytle article in the 1936 Amberson Pic Nic Annual is taken the following. Quote: "Charles A. Burk, of Amberson, enlisted in August 1864. He was less than required height to pass the examination but he blocked up his heels to meet the required height. He saw Gen. Sheridan's return on his twenty mile ride from Winchester when his men were being beaten back by the Confederates. Burk often related that during this fierce battle he was standing behind a large white oak tree and the Rebel bullets were cutting the bark off of each side of the tree when Gen. Sheridan came riding along and called to him "Hello, little one, what are you doing there? Come on out and give it to them". Gen. Sheridan told Charlie at that time that the lead that will kill me is still in the mines. Shortly after this a minnie ball went through the lower part of his (Charlie's) abdomen and he lay in the hot sun all day badly wounded. In the evening he was taken to a hospital where he soon recovered, went into service again and was captured by the Rebels at Cedar Creek but was recaptured by Gen. Sheridan."

John and Jennie Burk sold the Shields place to Bruce Shrader in 1932 and Glenn E. Shrader sold to Arthur Beistle in 1940.

BUTLER. There was a Butler place in Amberson slightly south of the Laurel Grove School. One of the Butler places called for fifteen acres and had been warranted by Joseph Kilgore and was on the east side of the stream.

A Catharine Butler improvements are listed in 1821 and other years. The Butler-Nolan accident is known by a few older persons. One Catharine Butler, widow, was married to a G. Reed. There may have been several generations of the Butler family in Amberson.

BYERS. The Byers name is found in connection with several mountain warrants.

CAMPBELL

The Campbell name belongs mainly to Path Valley although members of this family lived in upper Amberson at an early date.

John Wilson Campbell served in the Civil War from Amberson. The John W. Campbell place was one of the Lauthers, later Culbertson, new Greenawalt farm.

Noah Abraham while Francis Clarke was a Ranger of the Frontier. One Barnabas Clark served in the Second War with Great Britain in 1814.

There were Clarks residing on the Conococheague near present Richmond Furnace in Metal Township near Captain Noah Abraham at an early date. Some of the Clarks mentioned above who had war service were of the Barnabas Clark line but once again the writer will defer to the Clark genealogists. Certainly the Barnabas Clark who served in 1814 was from Amberson.

Patrick Hughes is named as Clark's attorney in 1786. John Clark sold the Amberson - Clark place to John Harmanni in 1796. Bryan Clark owned land in Amberson at an early date.

Where were the earliest Clarks buried? The Stake graveyard was owned by the Clark family for thirty years of its early existence. It would appear that Clarks would have been buried here since the graveyard was taken off the Clark land or it may have been used by the Amberson family before it became Clark land in 1767.

Another confusing fact is that the old Rea Graveyard of the upper valley was on the Clark - Shields land but may have been used first by the Shields family.

Members of the Clark family definitely lived in the upper valley possibly until 1782, they also lived at the Amberson location at Clark's Knob from 1768 until around 1820. Bryan Clark and John Clark are also mentioned as early as 1767.

The Barnabas Clark family was related to many of the earliest families of the valley. Some of the Clarks belonged to the Catholic Faith.

A Barnabas Clark will bearing the date November 6, 1820 is on file in Will Book C, page 532. The following bequest may greatly aid some future genealogist. Quote: "To the Roman Catholic Church in Chambersburg. To the Roman Catholic Church in Path Valley, to Samuel Hamaker, to Catharine Pasco widow, to Anne Taylor wife of John Taylor of Amberson Valley, to Rachael Barnhart wife of Peter Barnhart, to Margaret Genevan, to Nancy McKinzey wife of Collins McKinzey, to Honora Fegan widow, to John Nave of Path Valley." Henry Harmani and John McElhany were named as witnesses.

CLAYTON. Samuel and Mabel Varner Clayton live in a new home near the junction of the Amberson and Timmons Roads. Kathy Clayton is in school, Larry and Nancy Miller Clayton, Arthur and Judy Smith Clayton, and Gerald and Patsy Book Clayton live in or near the valley.

COPELY

The name of John Copely is closely interwoven with early Amberson. John Copely was in partnership with the well known Hugh Rippey in some land transactions. The writer doubts that John Copely ever resided in Amberson, however, this assumption may be incorrect.

Sample and Copely owned the later Eckenrode tract of nearly four hundred acres which lay along the Eckenrode Knob above the Shields.

Fegan, Stewart (now Gene Van Scyoc) places.

The well known Mease warrant of 1766 later Davis Stewart, now Gene Van Scyoc land, was owned by Copeley at one time and the Riddle and Copeley heirs had several lawsuits concerning this land.

Copeley land transactions prove conclusively that there was definitely a "grist mill" on Mill Run. This was on the 318 acre Mease - Davis Stewart - Gene Van Scyoc farm although the Mill Run site was later sold off the larger plot. The 1796 tax list also lists the Copeley Mill on Mill Run.

NOTE. John Copely served as a Captain in the Cumberland County Militia under Col. William Elliott. This seemingly agrees with the belief that he did reside in Amberson (or Path) Valley for some time.

Copely evidently resided in Shippensburg for part of his life. The John Copely heirs were living in England when his estate was settled.

NOTE. John and Samuel Copely were heirs of William Copely. (Recorders Book 16)

CRAIG

Mr. Clark Craig is one of Amberson's most successful farmers. His home farm is part of the John Long warrant of 1762 which was owned possibly as early as 1763 by Cromwell McVitty. John and Anne McVitty sold the Craig site to Joseph Culbertson in 1838.

Rev. McGinley's marriage list includes a James Craig and Elizabeth Spear 1828. The first James Craig probably to live in Amberson was married to Catharine Stewart Craig 1831 - 1884. This James Craig lost his life in the Civil War and is buried at Stone River, Tenn. James Craig was a cigar maker and lived several places. His home when he lost his life while in the army was part of the Daniel Duncan warrant of 1766, later Peter Stake place now the home of Robert Morris. Mr. Morris recently has built a new house. Catharine Stewart Craig was a daughter of John Stewart, Jr., who lived at the present Pennabaker place which was also early Duncan land.

The next James Craig who was the father of Mr. Clark Craig was born in 1850 and died in 1925. He was married to Harriett E. Piper 1858 - 1927.

Mr. Clark Craig is married to Carrie McVitty a daughter of William and Margaret Culbertson McVitty and a granddaughter of Samuel (1832 - 1907) and Mary Anne Clippinger McVitty.

Mrs. Craig is a Captain Alexander Culbertson descendant through the James, Stephen, James, David line.

Mr. Harold U. Crouse well known teacher, banker, and a ranking officer in the Navy Reserve resides in Shippensburg. He lived with the Craigs (relatives) as a youth.

Mrs. Craig prizes two old blankets which were woven by the two last members of another of Amberson's earliest families, Diane and Nancy Lauthers.

Other James and Harriett Piper Craig children were: Frank and Nellie Funston Craig, Blanche Craig Crouse, Anna Craig Coleman, Elizabeth Craig Richter, Emma Craig Snoke, Carrie Craig Hazlett, and Edith.

The Frank and Nellie Funston Craig children were: Kathleen (Stewart), Hazel (Murray), Helen (Goodyear), Treva (Gabler), Wayne (Loretta Mae Hershey), and Camp (Lucille Yohn).

CRAMER. John and Lydia Craemer purchased the woolen mill from the Jacob Shearer heirs about 1842 and sold the mill to George Taylor in 1852. He was listed as a "fuller" during these years.

In 1853, he was appointed Post Master of Amberson and also ran the store. He evidently served as Post Master until 1865 but may have run the store later.

A later John Cramer (1875 - 1958) is buried in Amberson, his wife Lulu Shoemaker Cramer is living in Shippensburg.

CULBERTSON

One of the two earliest indisputable land dates of Amberson uncovered by the writer, or any writer, is the application of Alexander Culbertson which bears the date March 22, 1755. A Samuel Culbertson warrant is dated 1768. Culbertsons have definitely owned land in Amberson from 1755 until the present time although no male Culbertsons remain. "Willie" and Albert Culbertson, the last two in the valley, are both dead.

Captain Alexander Culbertson of Culbertson Row, who applied for the 1755 warrant in Amberson, was killed April 2, 1756 at Bloody Run or Siding Hill while in pursuit of the Indians following the Fort McCord Massacre of April 1, 1756. Needless to say Capt. Alexander Culbertson never lived in Amberson.

Authentic and recorded evidence proves that the widow of Alexander Culbertson was married to John Stuart in 1757. (Read under Stuart) Book 5 Records Office pages 121 and 139 and Culbertson Records corroborate this fact.

The Alexander Culbertson land is mentioned in 1762, one paper on file indicates that some of the family were unaware or possessed vague knowledge concerning the Culbertson lands in Amberson. Alexander Culbertson also owned land in Bedford County. The fact that he owned land in Greene and Letterkenny Townships, Amberson Valley, and Bedford County has helped to confuse when we consider what a numerous clan the Culbertsons were.

Following the untimely death of Capt. Alexander Culbertson, Samuel Culbertson, eldest son, came into control of much of the Culbertson land, particularly near Culbertson Row and in Amberson, and acted as a "father" to his brothers and sisters.

From a recording, Quote: "John Stuart and Margaret, his wife, being the relict of Alexander Culbertson, deceased, late of Letterkenny Township, Cumberland Co. whom John Stuart intermarried, in con-

sideration of 60\$ paid by Alexander's eldest son Samuel do hereby release all claim on the estate of Alexander Culbertson." This agreement was made in 1765 but was not recorded until 1795. Other papers refer to John and Margaret Stuart as "Tenants in Dower".

Although Culbertsons owned land all the while in Amberson there was a period of time early when no Culbertsons lived in Amberson. John Stuart and others were living on their lands.

NOTE. The John and Alexander Culbertson who served under Captain Noah Abraham in the Cumberland County Militia seem to have come into Path Valley from Perry County.

The location of the Culbertson land of 1755 includes the main part of the Ira Stewart farm, the Piper place (Frank Stake), Raymond Stewart, Morrow Rowles and other land including land across the creek.

Some of the Culbertsons state that there were two clans of Culbertsons in Amberson. This is a fact until you follow the lines back far enough. Both lines are descended from the noted Culbertsons of Culbertson Row.

The two Culbertson lines of Amberson stem from James Culbertson (Captain), a son of Captain Alexander Culbertson of Culbertson Row who was killed by the Indians in 1756; and Robert (and Nancy Breckenridge) Culbertson, who was a son of Robert Culbertson of Culbertson Row.

James Culbertson (Captain), son of Alexander Culbertson, lived for some time in Bedford County on land which had been warranted to his father and later removed to Path Valley and died in or near Fanterburg. A William and Joseph Culbertson lived near Fanterburg in 1803.

JAMES CULBERTSON

The majority of the Culbertsons and related lines of Amberson stem from the James Culbertson line. Many of these descendants were noted men of their day.

Stephen Culbertson was a well known resident of Amberson for many years who lived near the Knob on one of the early Lauthers places. He aided in building the new church in Amberson.

James B. Culbertson was one of the spiritual residents of the valley. In Presbyterian Records is found the following. Quote: "Feb. 5, 1876, Elder James Culbertson of the Amberson district asked the privilege of building a church in that portion of the Congregation". This request was granted and the church was erected in 1876. This report also states that Elder Culbertson died Jan. 7, 1904 after serving faithfully for thirty two years as an elder.

The writer has not attempted to separate the two lines in their entirety since there were well known Samuel, John, Joseph, and possibly James Culbertsons in both lines. Culbertson Records may shed light on some of these solid residents of Amberson, however, later lines were not covered very carefully.

B. J. (Benjamin) Culbertson was a noted business man of Amberson for many years.

ROBERT CULBERTSON

The second Culbertson line in Amberson is descended from Robert and Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson who moved into Amberson from Culbertson Row. The Robert and Nancy Culbertson site was early identified as being against the Knob. Investigation and search of records reveals that this farm was warranted by Thomas Rea and William Watson in 1767 and is now the home of Stewart and Mildred Varner Brown. The old buildings were higher against the Knob than the new buildings.

Robert Culbertson's parents were Col. Robert and Anne Duncan Culbertson, and the grandparents were Joseph and Mary Breckenridge Culbertson who settled at the Row Spring or Boiling Spring, source of Row Run.

Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson's mother was Sarah Culbertson daughter of Andrew Culbertson.

Annetta Jane Culbertson was married to Cyrus Hazlett, Nancy Culbertson to John Stake, Mary Culbertson to Daniel Stake, and Sarah was married to John Harvey in 1822.

John and Sarah Harvey traded lands with the Kert heirs and the 1837 surveys show that Harvey owned 101 acres of the Hugh Johnson land plus 99 acres which had come off the Davis Stuart tract. This land was near the Culbertson homestead and Harvey sold part of this land to Samuel McVitty in 1868.

One John Culbertson was married to Hannah McVitty, a daughter of Edward McVitty in 1830.

The Colonel John Culbertson who disposed of and owned mill sites and lands in Amberson did not live in Amberson but near Culbertson Row and Rocky Spring.

Benjamin, John, and James Culbertson served in the Civil War.

By 1858, Joseph Culbertson lived at the present Clark Craig place. S. Culbertson lived on early Culbertson land west of the road, and R. Culbertson lived against the Knob Mountain south of the Doylesburg Road. Joseph Culbertson ran a cooper shop.

During the 1850's and 1860's B. J. Culbertson ran a hotel, Post Office, boarding house, and store near the tannery site on the east side of the creek. (Read under Post Offices)

Mrs. Mary Culbertson McVitty (deceased) was one of the last Culbertsons in Amberson.

Children of Mervin Culbertson who are remembered by present Amberson residents were: "Willie" Culbertson who lived on the part of the old Clark - Shields - Rae, Garland - Culbertson, or present Robert Stewart place; Albert Culbertson who lived with his sister Mrs. Beulah Culbertson Shoemaker; and Mrs. Bessie Culbertson Stake, wife of Lester Stake.

Mr. Ellis Culbertson who had served as Post Master possessed much information concerning the late James and McGinley Culbertson surveys near the head of the valley.

The Rev. McGinley marriage list included the following: S. Culbertson - Hannah Truesdale 1805, Joseph Culbertson - Maty Walker 1805, Anne Culbertson - John McVitty 1826, John Culbertson - H. McVitty 1830, William Culbertson - Margaret Scott 1835, Mary Culbertson - Noah McVitty 1836, Frances Culbertson - John McVitty 1836, William Culbertson - Polly Dunkle 1837, Stephen Culbertson - Margaret McCune 1838, Cyrus Hazlett - Annetta Culbertson 1852, Benjamin Culbertson - Martha MaGee 1845, Joseph Culbertson - Mary MaGee 1843, Margaret Culbertson - S. Skinner 1840, Nancy Culbertson - John Stake 1840.

Many Culbertsons who left the valley early became very noted in many western states.

CUNNINGHAM

The James Cunningham warrant of Aug. 30, 1766 for 200 acres lay below (east) of Patrick MaGee, south of William Lauthers (Tom Piper), and west of the Culbertson (Piper-Witter) and Linn Timmons (Fleck) land. This land was later owned by William Ward and was divided into three parts at an early date. Part of this land may have included the John Brady land. The Earl Eckenrode place and land to the south were probable parts of the Cunningham warrant.

Meager evidence indicate that the Cunningham and Amberson families may have been related. Both disappeared from Amberson at an early date.

John Cunningham served under Capt. Noah Abraham in 1780 - 81. He resided in Amberson (or Metal Township) at this date.

Davis. These were several Davis locations in Amberson. Samuel Davis lived in lower Amberson. A William S. Davis warrant for fourteen acres was bounded by John Harmani at New Bridge. One Davis site was between the Jacob Goshorn place and the Fred Harry farm and is a part of the Harry farm at present. A later Clinton Davis lived at the Pat MaGee place in late years.

DAYTON

The Dayton family lived in Amberson east of and near the Franklin Tannery site at the present Rowles place.

Hezekiah Dayton (1823 - 1875) who is buried in the Amberson Cemetery served in the Civil War from Amberson. He also served in the Mexican War from Perry County evidently prior to moving into Amberson Valley.

DELONG

George DeLong was married to Elizabeth Ward daughter of John and Mary Ward. His name was included in the Hopewell Tax Lists of 1779 - 1781 - 1782 but was living in Amberson shortly after. He sold land to John Timmons in 1786 and witnessed the Adam Piper will in 1788.

He removed to Bald Eagle Township, Mifflin now Center County where he lived when he and his wife signed releases to the Ward land. He removed to Ohio and died in Richland Township, Guernsey County.

David DeLong served under Capt. Askey with the Wards. David and Edward Ward possibly others may have migrated along with George DeLong.

James DeLong lived in Amberson Valley. He is named in the Weston Tory Plot and his lands may have been confiscated (Beford County Archives.)

DeLong records state that seven sons of George DeLong served in the War of 1812 from Ohio. Some of these sons were born in Amberson Valley.

Among DeLong and Ward genealogists contacted were: Raymond F. Stevens, Warren - Sharon Road, R. D. 1, Brookfield, Ohio, and Elizabeth DeLong, 630 Austin Avenue, Sonoma, California 95476.

DEWALT. One of the earliest places in Amberson, the highest farm on the east side of the Jersey Narrows branch of the Conococheague Creek, was known of late years as the Dewalt place. This place was the home site of Fegans, Reas, possibly the first Shield's site and was warranted in 1767.

This place was one of the two last Fegan homes and was known as the James Edward Fegan place. Since a nephew, James Fegan, lived at the second highest site James Edward Fegan was referred to as "Uncle Neddie" in order to distinguish from the James Fegan place below.

The Harry Dewalt family lived here for a number of years and there were a number of children. Charles (deceased) was married to Edith Gifford who currently lives near Orrstown and furnished information on the Dewalt and Shanabrough families.

The Dewalt family was related to Mr. Arthur Beistle and Ray Dewalt spent a good deal of time in Amberson. Mr. Ray Dewalt won fame as the inventor of the Dewalt saw. This family was from the Cumberland Valley and operated a factory at Oakville at one time.

This old site was long noted for its excellent spring water and is part of the Amberson Valley Estates and this particular site is owned by Mr. J. Frank Gayman one of Chambersburg's leading business men.

Harry J. Dewalt (1879 - 1945), Mary M. Dewalt (1886 - 1964), and Charles Dewalt (1916 - 1939) are buried in Amberson.

DEVER — DEVOR

The earliest Devers evidently settled near Spring Run and probably belong to Path Valley. The writer wishes to quote from certain Fegan Records. Quote: "The remains of James Devor's father, mother, and grandfather all lie buried in the Union Cemetery in Amberson Valley."

Barnabas Fegan was married to Hannah Dever who was born in Adams County. Hannah Dever was born in 1788 and was married in 1809. Fegan records also state that the Dever family earlier lived on

the Delaware River in New Jersey. Hannah Dever's mother's maiden name was Roles and her father was James Dever an early Methodist preacher.

The names of James and Joseph Devor are found on the Fannett tax list. One James Devor was listed as a cooper. John Devor served in 1781 under Capt. Askey.

Joseph Devor, Barnabas Fegan, and Peter Timmons, Jr., all served under Capt. Michael Harper in 1813.

Finley Rowles, whose descendants now live in Amberson Valley, was married to Jennie Devor.

Early reports state that Joseph Devor was married to Sarah Ellen Roles Ragan in 1794, while James Devor was married to Lydia Roles (second wife). Jane Devor was married to David French in 1840. Jacob Dever was married to Hannah Files in 1799. Esther Dever was married to David Neil in 1797.

DOUGAL

Reverend Samuel Dougal probably had received more publicity than any person who resided in Amberson. Some writers stated "That he lived in Path Valley." He served Path Valley, Amberson Valley and other sections such as Horse Valley. Of course he belongs to both valleys but the old Rev. Samuel Dougal place was the Robert Wilson warrant present North place.

Rev. Dougal became owner of 614 acres of land which included the Robert Wilson warrant, 101 acres, dated 1763; the William Wilson warrant, 190 acres, dated 1766; a John Potts warrant, 69 acres, dated 1766; the John Bell warrant, 158 acres, dated 1786; and a warrant in his own name, 95 acres, dated 1788. This land included land along the present Timmon's Road near the mouth of Amberson and many acres in the valley none of which lay up the valley very far.

Existing records name the Rev. Dougal children as follows: James, John, David, Samuel, Mary, Sarah, Anne, Rachael, and mentions wife Sarah (Wilson).

John Dougal lived in Williamsburg, Huntington County when he released his share to his brother James. David Dougal lived in Butler, Pa. at the same time. Sarah was married to Charles Wilson. Sara Porter retained a dower in the Dougal land. The Robert Wilson land was the Mary Porter land at the time. The Dougal, Wilson, Porter families evidently were related.

Rev. Samuel Dougal was born 1744, became the first regular pastor in Path Valley in 1775, died October 4, 1790 and is buried in the neighboring Spring Run Cemetery. Old sources state that Rev. Dougal's first salary was \$266.66 per year payable in wheat some of which he traded for land warrants with which to procure a home. Rev. Dougal at one time owned the only slave in Amberson and had one servant at the same time.

Thirty five acres of the William Wilson land of 1763 appears in a much later warrant in the name of Innis Dougal. Since Innis Dougal was not a son of Samuel Dougal he probably was a grandson. The following peculiar epitaph is found under the name of Innis Dougal on the Dougal monument.

Innis Dougal "Waiting the Judgment Day,
That day will disclose what he was."

Rev. Samuel Dougal was the first Presbyterian Pastor at Spring Run, Rev. David Denny the second, and Rev. Amos McGinley the third.

DRAKE

This was an early name in the Laurel Grove area. The name of Aghar Drake appears on the tax lists of 1804 and 1807. Drake's neighbors were the well known Joseph Kilgore and John Harmoni.

James Sutton and Abraham Drake owned 214 acres of land as late as 1829. Sutton and Drake evidently ran a business of some kind for some years.

The earliest road up the valley crossed the creek at Laurel Grove. This crossing (or fording) was referred to in many references as "Drake's Ferry". Why was the name "ferry" used? The later Laurel Grove School was near Drake's Ferry in a building which had been erected as a dwelling by Peter Hite for a Charles Neuritter.

Abram Drake married a Miss McClellan in 1811, and Elijah Drake married Ruhanna Herron in 1823.

The Drake cabin was used as a home for one of the nearby French families after Drake died or disappeared from Amberson. All or most of the Sutton and Drake land became Kilgore land. The last Drake cabin was on the creek bank at the Ferry, however, the old place long known as the Robert McVitty home directly across from the ferry and possibly another old site may have belonged to the Drakes.

DUNCAN

Stephen Duncan became owner of 272 acres of land in Amberson Valley December 13, 1766. This land seems to have been in his name until 1771 when Daniel Duncan became the owner.

The Duncan land lay immediately south of the Amberson (Clark Lester Stake) land and stretched from Clark's Knob across the creek to the Knob Mountain. The writer is not certain where Daniel Duncan made his first improvements since there are six or eight places on this plot today.

There have been many owners of the various Duncan plots since 1800. The Van Scyoc Mill site and the Van Scyoc farm are parts of the old Duncan land, the Robert Morris and Moore places are also parts of this tract. The John Stewart, Jr., place was former Duncan land but may have been part of other land purchased by Daniel Duncan.

Two large Kilgore tracts bounded Duncan on the south, although both tracts had numerous owners prior to the Kilgores. The Buchanan

tract on the west side of the stream (Wm. Stake, etc.) was owned by Daniel Duncan prior to his death.

Daniel Duncan was dead by 1806 since court records refer to Daniel Duncan, deceased, in this year. The Orphans Court granted the Rights of the Daniel Duncan children to Nicholas Clopper in 1806 and names the following children (9): Joseph, Ann, Arnold, Samuel, John, Jesse, Sarah, Eleanor, and Mary.

Daniel Duncan served in the 3rd Batt. Cumberland County Militia in the Revolutionary War. He was a brother (twin) of Stephen Duncan and a son of the noted Thomas Duncan of the Shippensburg Area.

A John Duncan married Elizabeth Elder in 1824. A David Duncan lived near Mill Run in 1858, while Marthew Duncan owned a large mountain tract near the Daniel Duncan land.

In 1806, Nicholas Clopper gained control of more Duncan land from the Orphans Court and in 1807 sold same to William McVitty and Thomas Morgan of Amberson, Morgan sold his share to McVitty in 1808. William McVitty sold this land to James Evans and James Kilgore purchased the Evans estate at Sheriff's Sale in 1810. Part of the Buchanan - Duncan land passed to David Kilgore in 1839 and this plot was sold to Edward McVitty in 1852 and is the present home of Mr. David McVitty. Another part of this old Buchanan - Duncan - Kilgore land was sold to John McVitty, 1847, the Robert McVitty place also was a part.

The original Duncan plot which included a mill site was sold to George Goddard in 1850 (Read under Van Scyoc Mill).

Three of the old Duncan tracts on the west side of the stream were long known as: the John Stuart, Jr., place, the Daniel Struble place, and the Peter Stake - James Craig place.

Robert Culbertson who was married to Ann Duncan purchased part of the Riddle tract near Eckenrode Knob.

DUNKLE

Tradition claims that the earliest Dunkle in Path Valley had been a soldier in the Forbes Expedition of 1758, took a liking to the valley and later returned there to live. Book 1, page 301 Recorder's Office reveals that a Jacob Dunkle sold land to Capt. Patrick Jack in Peters Township in 1786. One Michael Dunkle owned land in Gallagher's Gap. This probably was in Metal Township. In 1814, George Dunkle was listed as a wagon maker in Metal Township. Daniel Dunkle was also mentioned on the tax list.

The Dunkle name has long been associated with the mouth of Amberson and Spring Run. The map of 1858 shows two Dunkle places, one was against the mountain slightly south of the Timmons Road. Old Hervey records names Michael Dunkle at this site. The other place was near the creek and the Knob and Sol. Dunkle was living here at that date.

Jacob Dunkle served in the Cumberland County Militia under Capt. Walter McKinney. Records name the Jacob and Susanne Dunkle children as: Jacob, Michael, Henry, John, Peter, George, Daniel and Elizabeth.

Numerous Dunkles served in the various wars such as a Jacob Dunkle who served in the Civil War and is buried in Horse Valley.

The McGinley marriage list includes: Daniel Dunkle - P. Dine in 1810, George Dunkle - Polly Varner 1829, Polly Dunkle - Wm. Culbertson 1837, Wm. Grosh - Margaret Dunkle 1857, Jacob Coves - Margaret Dunkle 1842, Jacob Neusbaum - Marie Dunkle 1850.

A Michael Dunkle was married to Susanne Snyder in 1798. Mr. Blaine and Ross Dunkle are remembered by all older Path Valley people.

David Dunkle, World War 1 veteran, lives near the foot of the Timmons Mountain on the Timmons Road. His wife was the former Katurah Seibert. Two sons, George who is married to Dorothy Lehman, and Fred and Audrey Simpson Dunkle live nearby.

Mr. Dunkle's father was George Washington Dunkle who was married to a Shaeffer and his grand father was also named George Washington Dunkle and was married to a daughter of Henry Varner.

ECKENRODE

The Eckenrode name has been associated with Amberson since 1834 (recorded 1835) when Conrad Eckenrode of Hamilton Township purchased 389 acres of land from David and Mary Washabaugh of Chambersburg. Washabaugh had purchased this land from John and Samuel Copely, heirs of William Copely, in 1824. Copely purchased the land from Robert Semple who had taken out a warrant in 1790. Improvements were on this land in the seventeen eighties.

The Eckenrodes or at least some of them were born in Adams County, near Gettysburg, although the above mentioned Conrad Eckenrode was living in Franklin County in the 1830's as is shown by tax and school entries in Hamilton Township. William and Joseph were attending school at the old Loudon School in the early 1830's.

The writer is not certain whether the first or above mentioned Conrad moved into Amberson, if he did not a son named Conrad did. The Conrad Eckenrode heirs are mentioned at the home place in 1858 and Book 40 page 103 (1865) reveals that the estate was being settled with children named as: Sylvester, Amanda (Wolff), James E., and Manilla (Reed). Catharine, widow, retained a dower in the estate.

This site appears to have been the present Rohrertstown Athletic Association or known to older people as the "Merv" Culbertson farm on the old road along Eckenrode Knob.

The name Conrad is pronounced by older Amberson residents with the Coonrod sound. One Conrad Eckenrode was born in 1812. Were there three Conrad Eckenrodes in Amberson? The last Conrad Eckenrode was married to Mary Jane Reed a daughter of George Reed and a granddaughter of Casper Reed. This Conrad Eckenrode served in

the Civil War and in 1868 purchased a small place from Daniel Shields and in 1875 purchased a larger place from Samuel McVitty which had been parts of the Harvey land at Mill Run now Mr. David McVitty land.

JACOB ECKENRODE. Jacob Eckenrode was born near Gettysburg in 1813. He was married to Mary Shields of Thomas of John of Thomas. The Jacob Eckenrode place formed the northern anchor of the Semple, Copely, Washabaugh tract of 389 acres which Semple sold to Washabaugh in 1824 and Washabaugh sold to Conrad Eckenrode in 1834.

Conrad Eckenrode deeded this place to Jacob Eckenrode in 1834, Jacob Eckenrode or heirs to Lewis Eckenrode in 1878. C. J. Eckenrode administrator of Lewis Eckenrode sold to John Wyrick in March 1893 and Wyrick to Jackson Vaun April 1893.

Older people remember the Vaun place but late people refer to this old place as the Shanabrough place after one of the last owners. The acreage was slightly under 100 acres.

A later Jacob Eckenrode (1859 - 1945) purchased some of the Sarver - Weist land in 1879.

GEORGE ECKENRODE. George Eckenrode who was born in 1825 was well known. He lived at the first place north of the Pole Bridge over Mill Run above the Mary McGee fields and is now known as the Twin Springs Recreational Association. This place was at the Knob and some persons believe this to have been the first Eckenrode site although the writer does not share this opinion.

Rosanne, widow of George Eckenrode and children Daniel and Margaret Eckenrode Gipe sold to John A. and Josephine Stake Eckenrode and John A. Eckenrode sold to David and Rebecca Stake Eckenrode in 1873.

In 1873 the George, John A., David Eckenrode site was given as 133 acres while the Joseph Eckenrode, or former Conrad Eckenrode site was given as containing 90 acres.

The David Eckenrode place passed to Nancy Funston wife of O. H. Funston, David Eckenrode is remembered as being a gunsmith.

JOSEPH ECKENRODE. Joseph Eckenrode who was born in 1827 was married to a daughter of John Fleck and purchased the Fleck Grist Mill (Van Seyoc Site) in 1860 and operated it until 1868. Joseph Eckenrode is buried with the Flecks and McLaughlins in the Stake Cemetery. Other Eckenrodes are buried at St. Mary's, Doylesburg, and in the Union Cemetery.

Joseph Eckenrode evidently lived at the earliest Eckenrode site, the Merv Culbertson or the middle place of the three Eckenrode homes. Joseph Eckenrode evidently purchased it from the Conrad Eckenrode heirs.

By 1858 the present Amberson Ridge was referred to as Eckenrode Knob and there were four Eckenrode places along the old well used road along the base of the Knob; (1) Jacob Eckenrode lived at the John Shields place, (2) The Conrad Eckenrode Estate which is

the present Rohrertstown Athletic Association. (3) The George John A. David Eckenrode place (Twin Springs Camps), (4) and the small place north of the Conrad Eckenrode site often referred to as a Piper place.

The original 389 acre tract which was purchased in 1834 by Conrad Eckenrode lay along the Knob west of Hagie, Fegan, Shields, Gene Van Seyoc, and Mary McGee places and bordered Laughters (Greenawalt) on the south and extended to the Pat McGee farm. The Gipe place may have been a part but Felty Stewart was part of a Hunt tract.

NOTE. John Lauther took out a warrant on fifty two acres which bordered McGee in 1837 which may have been the southern end of the Eckenrode tract.

Mr. Glen and Josephine Gury Eckenrode reside on one of the early Laughters places slightly north of the Doyleburg Road and east of the Patrick McGee farm. An oil well is being drilled on this farm at the present time.

The Eckenrodes are the parents of three children: Joseph Jay Eckenrode who is a graduate of State College and whose wife is Judy Etter of Amberson. Anne May Eckenrode who resides at home, and Donald Linn who attends the Fannett Metal High School.

Mr. Earl and Betty Eckenrode live on part of the early Cunningham land of 1766 and they are the parents of eight children. Elaine who is married to Ronald Cisney lives nearby. Gary in the armed forces, Robert, Marlin, Daryl, Sharon, Sandra and Rhonda at home.

Mr. Ray Eckenrode lives on the east side of the creek on early Culbertson - Stewart land and his wife Ruth Timmons Eckenrode (deceased) was a descendant of one of Amberson's earliest families. Their children John, Ada, and Vesta have removed from the valley.

EDMONDSON. Mr. Frank Edmondson and his wife Mary Piper Edmondson have lived at Mrs. Edmondson's home place for many years. This is one of the Amberson land marks or the John Ward land of 1766 warrant and has recently been sold to the Rosenberry brothers, large county lumbermen.

The Edmondsons have a son Claire who served in the armed forces and lives at Roxbury and three daughters, Vivian (Baker), Reba (Files) and Eleanor (Hoover).

ELMES. Mrs. Elmes, widow, and family live near the mouth of Amberson.

ELY

George Ely (Ealy, Ealey) lived in Amberson for many years. The 1778, 1786, 1788 tax lists show that he owned as much as 200 acres of land. The 1780 list reveals that he had a place of business, or trade, also a still.

Adam Piper, Jr., was married to Jane Ely (B. 1770) and they later owned and lived at the Ely place which lay west of the creek against the Knob Mountain slightly south of the Doyleburg Road. This be-

came a Stake place later and is now the Roy Stake place. Adam Piper, Jr., became owner of part of the neighboring Scott land. (Read under Essily)

ESSILY (EASLY, ESLEY, ESSILY, SLEY)

The tax records of 1780 lists Blossins Esley. The 1778 list has the name spelled Blows Esley. Records show that some of the Alexander Culbertson land of 1755 warrant was sold to Plausius Essily in 1782. Essily sold land to Michael Kunkle in 1782 and Kunkle sold to Adam Piper in 1785.

From Mrs. Paskman (Shields History), Quote: "Blosius Easly came to America in 1749, returned to Germany and married Mary Rooker, came back to America and settled in Amberson Valley, two sons, Casper and Edward went westward with Caspar Shields."

NOTE. The name on the warrant is spelled Endsely. Do the Ely and Essily spellings refer to the same family? The writer concurs in this assumption since the Ely, Endsley, Essily land is the same.

EMERY

John Emery (1771 - 1825) lived in Amberson on earlier James Kilgore land by 1799. This name was still on the Lurgan Township tax lists of the late 1780's.

The Emery land was located near the Laurel Grove area. James Emery, born 1808, was living near Laurel Grove in 1858. William Logan purchased some of the Emery land, recorded in 1850.

The Emery land was earlier Griffith Jones, Kilgore land and was some of the M. H. Shoemaker, Lytle and other land southward towards Laurel Grove.

William Emery was married to Miss Stewart in 1820. Was she of the John Stuart, Sr., family?

W. A. Emery served on the Laurel - Grove building committee in 1894 when the United Brethren Church was erected.

ETTER. Mr. John Etter and his wife Lydie Muttersbaugh Etter live near the post office and store on land which was part of the early Mc-Virly land of 1763. The Etters are the parents of three children: Judy who is married to Joseph Eckenrode, Denise, and John Jr., who are in school.

EVANS. The name of Richard Evans appears among the numerous owners of the land on the west side of the creek. The name becomes essential when searching on certain tracts of land.

FEGAN

James Fegan, progenitor of the numerous Fegans who reside in many sections of the United States (none in Amberson), settled in Amberson Valley in the early years of the Revolutionary War.

James Fegan was in Amberson seemingly by 1777. He served in 1776 under Captain McKee, Lancaster County, but in 1777 his name is found on the muster roll of Captain Thomas Askey. He also served under Captain Askey in 1779-81-82.

His earliest land date on record in Franklin County is April 7, 1778 when he purchased the earlier Adam Turner land of June 10, 1767. This land was sold by Turner in 1769 to Samuel Perry and resold by Perry March 31, 1778 to Patrick Henery who in turn sold to James Fegan April 7, 1778.

The second land purchase of James Fegan called for 100 (plus) acres and bears the date December 15, 1785. This was paid for by a cash bonus for war services by the state of Pennsylvania. This seems to have been the later Hagie place and is now owned by George Stewart.

The earliest Fegan land of 226 acres which was warranted by Adam Turner in 1767 and obtained by James Fegan in 1778 already had "improvements" on the land when Fegan became owner. Improvements mentioned were: buildings, barn, stable, gardens, and orchards. Thus the earliest Fegan lands came off earlier Turner and Markwright warrants of 1767.

Prior to 1785 James Fegan was listed as a weaver. The tax list of 1786 shows that James Fegan operated a still. Other reports speak of the "fulling mill" which was housed in an earlier small building a short distance up stream from the main Fegan residence. Evidence sustains the claims that Fegan had a fulling mill, a still, and possibly a small tannery for some time.

James Fegan (1748-1791) was married to Honora Timmons (1750-1812). The writer is not certain whether Fegan was in Amberson before the Timmons family or vice versa. They probably came about the same date, the earliest Fegan land date is 1778 while the Thomas Timmons date is 1779.

The writer has studied several different records of Fegan lines and has found them to be very contradictory and confusing, therefore, will use only material which is substantiated by county records and archives. When other material is used the reference will be given.

Some Fegan material differ on the date of James Fegan's death. The correct date (1791) is given on the James Fegan marker in Amberson Cemetery. This stone was removed from the Shields-Fegan-Rea graveyard by descendants.

NOTE: Letters of Administration were granted to Honora Fegan, widow and relict, of James Fegan November 23, 1791. Tax records of 1796, 1804 etc. list Onera Fegan widow and the widow Fegan.

Another confusing or rather unknown fact concerned the James Fegan children. There are ten children named in a county records Viz: John, Peter, Catharine (Harkin), Thomas, Elizabeth, Mary (Victor Graham), Barnabus, Eleanor (Robt. Scott Rea), Nancy and James.

The Tax List of 1796 shows that Peter and John were in the valley at that date. Peter and Bridget had left the valley before 1816 when they signed releases to the James Fegan estate. John Fegan lived at Mill Creek, Erie County in 1822 when he signed his release of his share in his father's estate—two tracts to Robert S. Rea. Thomas and Susan Fegan were living in Mifflin County when they signed their release

JAMES FEGAN

The family line of James Fegan, the second of the name in Amberson, and the third James in America is pretty well known since he remained in the valley and his descendants were the last of the name in Amberson.

Fegan records, again, differ, the accepted date of birth is 1775 although another source gives 1780. Three dates of death have been advanced. Since the writer is not engaged in family genealogy, but local history, he will again defer to the family genealogists.

James Fegan was married to Elizabeth Glass (Gloss) and was the father of eleven children named as follows: Matthew, Juliana, James Edward, Matilda, Joseph, Lazarus, and four others who died in infancy and one at the age of eighteen.

Joseph moved to Iowa as did Lazarus whose name is found in county records when he released the home place to Matthew.

Matthew Fegan 1809-1888, was married to Mary Doyle, and resided his entire life on the old home place.

Juliana Fegan married the well known Davis Stewart and lived her entire life in Amberson (Present Gen. Van Scoyoc farm).

James Edward Fegan 1816-1899, who was married to Elizabeth Stake, spent practically his entire life in Amberson.

Matilda Fegan was married to William "Billy-Captain" Shields and resided her entire life at the old Shields place.

Descendents of the James Edward Fegan family are still living near Amberson Valley and return annually to the old home site. Since this was the last Fegan place in the valley, the writer will trace some of its history. This old farm was the highest in the valley on the east side of the creek against the Kittatinny Mountain. Naturally, the ever present spring of water was near.

This land had a confused beginning, the earliest warrant appears in the name of Stephen Markwright 1767, and totaled 300 or more acres and overlapped with neighboring claims. Some of the Shields descendants claim that this place was the earliest home of Thomas Shields. A part of the claim was surveyed off for James Mitchell and by 1785 it was owned by James Fegan, Sr.

Robert Scott Rea (wife Eleanor Fegan Rea) owned and lived here for many years. Rea evidently purchased the land from James Fegan or the James Fegan estate. Rea lived here in the 1790's or possibly some years earlier. The Fegan heirs signed their releases to Robert S. Rea in 1820, 1822 etc. Robert S. Rea purchased the present "Willie" Culbertson place from Arthur Shields, Jr., (Recorded 1837.).

The Rea heirs, Robert L. Rea, sold this place to James Edward Fegan (recorded 1853). James Edward Fegan moved to this place probably between the two dates 1837-1853. He may have moved here around 1837 when Rea probably moved to the place long known as the

Rea place. NOTE. James Edward Fegan lived at the highest place on the east side of the creek while James Fegan (nephew) who was married to Elmira Price lived at the second highest place, this necessitated referring to James Edward Fegan as "Uncle Neddie".

BARNABAS FEGAN

Barnabas Fegan (1782 - 1848), who remained in Amberson, was married to Hannah Devor (1788 - 1848) in 1809. Their home nestled high against Pike's Peak and is now owned by the state and is known to later people as the "Felty" Stewart place. George Shields lived here in 1858 and Stewart by 1868.

Remember if this home site seems inaccessible today so were many other sites of early Amberson which have disappeared.

Barnabas Fegan served with his cousin Peter Timmons, Jr., and Joseph Devor his brother-in-law in the War of 1812 under Captain Harper.

Barnabas Fegan was a tanner, shoemaker, and shingle maker and his home was near a well known sugar camp. Following are the names of the Barnabas Fegan children: Thomas J. (1810 - 1887), Hannah (1814 - 1868), Ellen (1816 - 1872), James (1818 - 1884), John (1821 - 1895), Nancy Jane (1824 - 1854), Mary E. (1827 - 1903), Joseph Dever (1831 - 1913), and Marie (1833 - 1854).

Some of the Barnabas Fegan material was taken from the works of Major General Joseph Fegan who was killed in 1949 in an automobile wreck in California when 62 years old. Major General Fegan was a grandson of Joseph Dever and great grandson of Barnabas Fegan.

Thomas Fegan lived at Doylesburg, James and Joseph moved to Iowa. One of the girls was married to a Harvey and remained in Amberson. Nancy Jane was married to Patrick McGee, Jr., Mary E. was married to John Kunkle.

In 1858 there were three Fegan homes marked, the old Fegan place (Mrs. Varner), the later Price place, and the James Edward Fegan location. An early Thomas Fegan owned land in Amberson while a later Thomas Fegan owned mill sites in Amberson.

A James Fegan served in the Civil War from Amberson. Other Fegans served but many had left the valley. Among these was a William Fegan from Path Valley who died in a prison camp.

The James Fegan, later Matthew Fegan place, now the home of Mrs. Varner is regarded as the Fegan homestead although James Fegan may have lived above this site first. The 100 acre plus land for war services lay north of the main Fegan place. The two last Fegan places were on the east side of the stream and were the two highest farms on the east side of the stream. Barnabas Fegan lived near Pike's Peak at the later "Felty" Stewart place. Fegans owned the Hagie and Price places at one time also several other homestead places.

Denny and Dora Fegan recently died in Shippensburg. There are Fegans residing in the Chambersburg area.

A Denny Fegan from Path Valley was killed in World 1 and a Legion Post is named for him.

Fegan genealogy claims that the first James Fegan lived in Kent County, Maryland and the James who migrated to Amberson Valley was born there (Md.) in 1754. He definitely died in Amberson in 1791.

FERGUSON

The Ferguson name has been prominent in Amberson Valley for one hundred and twenty five years. The Fergusons became extensive land owners in Lower Amberson. Much of the Ferguson land had been earlier Varner land.

John Ferguson (1805 - 1877) was the earliest of the name in Amberson. He married Ellen Varner (1817 - 1893), a daughter of John Varner and they lived at the John Varner place on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain (present Crane farm). John and Ellen Varner Ferguson are buried in Keasy's Graveyard.

Becky Ferguson, daughter of John and Ellen Varner Ferguson was married to James Brown. They lived at an old site on the present Crane place before moving to the place long known as the David Brown place.

Elizabeth E. Ferguson was married to Alvin G. Irvin (Read under Irvin).

David Ferguson, son of John Ferguson, married Martha Price whose father Robert Price, long time teacher, lived at the head of the valley. David and Martha Price Ferguson had a large family. Two daughters are still living and reside in the valley.

Mary Ferguson, another daughter recently died (1960) and her numerous tracts of land were recently sold. One of these tracts included the Wolf School House.

Hugh and Jane Ferguson Crane, both retired Washington, D. C. workers have returned to the old John Varner - John Ferguson place on the west side of the creek and have restored the old homestead into a comfortable country home (Mr. Crane is deceased).

Gorman and Ruth Ferguson Ward own and live on the original Henry Varner place. This place was re-warranted by James Mills and later became part of the Ferguson lands. The grave of Henry Varner Revolutionary War Veteran is on this place. (Mr. Ward is deceased)

Jesse and Rebecca Ferguson Johnston lived in lower Amberson on land which had been, among other owners, former Varner land. Some of the Johnson children live in the valley (Read under Johnson).

The map of 1868 marks D. Ferguson and W. Ferguson places in upper Amberson. They may not have resided in the upper valley very long.

From the former Mr. Bruce Irvin whose mother was Elizabeth E. Ferguson. Quote: "The ancestor of the Amberson Fergusons is buried at Newville and was a Revolutionary War blacksmith who made the

gun carriage for the famous Dunning Cannon which was made at Newville for the army during the Revolutionary War."

The John and Joseph Ferguson who served under Captains Askey and Abraham were from Path Valley. Some of the Path Valley Fergusons are buried in the old (Presbyterian) cemetery near Concord, Pennsylvania. They were not related to the Amberson Fergusons.

FLAUTT. George Dallas Flautt settled in Amberson after his marriage to Cecelia McVirtu daughter of Squire Edward McGinley McVirtu. He served as Post Master of the New Bridge for twenty two years. Mrs. Myrtle Flautt Piper, wife of Newton Piper, and Mrs. Nora Flautt Bair, mother of Mrs. Jewel Piper live in Amberson. Both Piper families reside near New Bridge.

FLECK

John Fleck 1786 - 1858 who is buried in the Amberson Cemetery was the earliest of the name in Amberson. He purchased the early Linn (1763) — Thomas Timmons land from John Culbertson in the eighteen twenties, by 1829 John and David Fleck both lived in Amberson.

David Fleck sold a mill site to **Peter** Shearer as early as 1833. The later McLean - Hazlett saw mill (Wallace Johnson place) was owned by Flecks as late as 1868.

John Fleck purchased the Van Scyoc Mill site in 1855. This place included a mill (saw) site. Mr. Van Scyoc believes that John Fleck built the grist mill and also re-built the burned saw mill.

Fleck still owned the upper saw mill site at that date since he sawed the lumber for the grist mill on the upper saw mill.

David and Frederick Fleck were operating the grist and saw mill at the Van Scyoc location in 1858. The map of 1868 shows that F. Fleck was living at the mill at that date while J. Fleck lived at the Van Scyoc farm site. John Fleck died in 1858. Joseph Eckenrode, son-in-law bought the grist mill in 1860 and operated it until 1868.

A James and Robert Fleck served in the Cumberland County Militia under Capt. Thomas Askey. They were living in Fannett Township at this date either in Path or Amberson Valley.

The Jacob Fleck who served under Capt. Royer lived in Guilford Township. A John Fleck lived in Guilford Township in 1786.

FOGAL — BOGLE

Were the Fogal, Fogle, Fogel, and Bogle spellings synonymous? Isaac Ree sold or signed a land release to James Bogle in 1777. James Bogle sold to Andrew Bogle in 1780 and Andrew Bogle sold to Semple and Copely in 1784. James Bogle owned land in Amberson in 1788 while a James Bogle owned land near St. Mary's Catholic Church in Southern Huntingdon County as early as 1769.

James and Joseph Bogle both served in the Cumberland County Militia. James Bogle served under various Captains such as: John

Hamilton and Robert Shannon, Joseph Bogle served under Capt. John Hamilton and other captains.

Joseph Bogle lived in Guilford Township in 1786, he is also listed in the Mercersburg area. James Bogle is listed in the Mercersburg area, Peters Township, Southern Huntingdon County, and Amberson Valley.

The early Bogle - Ree land was the later Davis Stewart place near Mill Run while the later Fogal place was on the east side of the creek near the Weaver and Kane places.

FOGAL

Anne Weaver Fogal (1808 - 1885) is buried in the Amberson Cemetery. George Fogal served in the Civil War from Amberson.

The writer is not certain of the relationship of the early Bogle and the later Fogal families of Amberson although tradition claims that they stem from a common lineage.

FRENCH

The French name was another old and worthy name in Amberson. The French land at an early date lay on the west side of the stream to the northwest of the VanScyoc Mill and neighboring land owners were: "Pac" McGee, McVirtu and Adam Piper. The later French sites were smaller places near Laurel Grove. The Samuel French lands consisted of two tracts, a 120 acre farm and 100 acres of mountain land.

Samuel French served under Capt. Thomas Askey in 1780-81-82 and Alexander and Arthur French served as Rangers of the Frontier.

When Samuel French died in 1816, eleven children were mentioned: Andrew, John, Polly (John Taylor), William, Sarah, Jane, Elise, Robert, David, Peggy, and Elizabeth.

The tax list of 1786 lists a Henry and James French. John French married Miss Yon in 1817 and a David French was married to Jane Devor in 1840.

By 1858, Solomon and William French lived near Laurel Grove. One of these older places near the stream was an earlier Drake cabin where William French was born.

Simon and Solomon French served in the Civil War.

Mrs. Blanch French Hetrick was the last of the name in Amberson. A son, Ira Hetrick, recently removed from the valley. Mrs. Hetrick was a daughter of a William French and grand daughter of Solomon French.

FULTON. Alexander Fulton evidently lived in Amberson prior to 1800. His name appears on the tax list of 1786 but sold his land, which lay against the Knob Mountain, shortly after this date.

FUNSTON

William D. Funston (1814 - 1899) was the first of the name in Amberson. He lived with the Lauthers family as a youth and by 1860 was the owner of much of the Lauthers land.

Mr. William Funston was married to Harriett McVitty in 1840. He served in the Civil War.

The Lauthers - Taylor - Funston lands was the scene of the Sulphur Springs development which was commercialized by Samuel Taylor at the present Piper farm possibly also at the Greenawalt place.

Noah Funston was well known in Amberson. He and a brother dug a shaft for coal.

The last Funston in Amberson was Mr. Stoev Funston who lived at the West place on the east side of the creek.

Mr. Roscoe and Thelma Funston Burdge live on the former Surver place. Burdette, a son, has removed from the valley. Mrs. Berneda Schuchman of Chambersburg is also a daughter.

GALLAGHER (Gallager). Emanuel Gallagher applied for a warrant near the head of the valley on the east side of the creek in the year 1767. The date of survey was February 1, 1769 and the land was sold to Thomas Pumroy of Lurgan Township January 20, 1772. (Read under Pumroy)

This was originally the third highest place on the east side of the creek and lay east of the present Gene VanScyoc farm. Various families lived here such as Fegans, Piper, and Nehemiah Kilgore Harvey.

GAMBLE. Mr. Reuben Gamble lives on the Timmons Road.

GARLAND

The Garland place of later Amberson came off the Clark - Shields land of 1767. Thomas Shields, Sr., sold this part to Thomas Shields, Jr., and Arthur Shields in 1806. Thomas Shields, Jr., sold to Robert Rae, stone mason, in 1837. The large stone house which formerly stood here was similar to the Shields house still standing. Tradition states that Robert Rea helped to build these houses although they may both have been built by the Shields.

John Garland, born 1823 and Louise, born 1834 lived here for many years. Louise (one relative called her Lucy) Garland was born Louise Struble daughter of Daniel and Mary Rooker Struble. A neighbor (Former Hagie place) was her sister Margaret Struble Piper, wife of John A. Piper of Daniel, of Adam.

This old Shields - Robert Rea place was known lately as the "Willie" Culbertson place and the old Shields - Fegan - Rae burial ground was on this part.

Mr. Robert Stewart now owns this pleasant easily accessible location.

GASTON

The Gaston family lived in Amberson pretty early although no Gaston names are on the 1786 tax list of Fannett Township. The Gastons evidently moved into Amberson from Lurgan Township since the names of William and James Gaston (Freeman) are on the 1786 tax list of Lurgan Township.

The largest Gaston place lay on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain and part of it is now the Fred Harry farm. Earlier

owners were the Kilgores and Henderson. Another Gaston place became C. Piper land.

James Gaston evidently lived in Amberson since the stone of Margaret (1802 - 1885) wife of James Gaston stands in the Amberson Cemetery. William Gaston (1788 - 1854) lived in Amberson. Gastons remembered by older residents were Bryan and Alexander Gaston (1827 - 1884).

Alexander, James, and William Gaston served in the Civil War. William lost his life in the army.

Stephen McVitty was married to Mary Agnes Gaston. The McGinley marriage list includes D. Witherow and B. Gaston 1822. William Gaston and Mary McCurdy 1830.

GIBE. Margaret Eckenrode Gipe was one of the heirs of George Eckenrode. There was a Gipe place above the Thomas Piper land and since the original Semple - Eckenrode land reached to the Patrick McGee land it seems safe to assume that this land was the southern end of the 389 acre Eckenrode tract. There may have been another Gipe site.

GOSHORN

This old name belonged to Path Valley and Amberson Valley and has been associated for many years with the area adjacent to the mouth of Amberson.

Jacob Goshorn and Nicholas Gooshorn both served in the Revolutionary War.

Mr. Jacob Goshorn lives in lower Amberson against the Knob Mountain. This was the site of the Taylor Woolen Factory. Mr. Goshorn is a World War One veteran. Jacob and Ethel Doyle Goshorn have children named Paul, Franklin, Helen (Martin), Elenor (Martin), and Yvone (Gregg). Paul and Joan McAllen Goshorn have built a new home in Amberson.

Mr. Carson C. Goshorn and his wife the former Eva Clugston live on the Timmons Road near the foot of the Timmons Mountain. They are the parents of a number of children. One son, Larry, is at home and Harold lives in Spring Run.

Mr. Victor Goshorn a brother of Jacob and Thomas Goshorn lives on an old road which leads from the Timmons Road to the Amberson Road.

GREENAWALT

Samuel Greenawalt moved into Amberson from Mongul in 1909.

Mr. Edgar Greenawalt, his wife Alice Finney Greenawalt and children Linda and Edgar, Jr., have built a new home on the main road up the valley but still take care of the old farm.

The old place against the mountain at Pike's Peak is one of the early places of Amberson. It was one of the Lauthers places which was warranted in 1767 and was owned later by Culbertsons, Funston, and was known for many years as the J. W. Campbell farm.

Mr. Greenawalt made extensive improvements to the old house some years ago and while thus engaged discovered under the weather boarding slotted openings in the original log structure which evidently could have been put there for one reason, protection from the Indians.

Some of the early Laughters had fought Indians, however, the writer found very meager evidence of Indians happenings in Amberson.

Mrs. Greenawalt operates a beauty parlor while Mr. Greenawalt works at Letterkenny in addition to caring for the farm. Members of the Greenawalt family spend the summer vacations on the farm.

GRIBBEL, Levi Gribbel had an improvement on the west side of the creek on the present Jacob Goshorn or possible the Crane place at an early date. The approximate location was across from the present Hurmon Piper home.

GUTSHALL. Bryan J. Gutshall and his wife Mary Woodrow Gutshall, both retired, live in the second house at "Outpost" at the junction of the Timmons and Amberson Roads.

There was an early Gutshall (Cutshall) warrant in the extreme head of Amberson, however, the larger part of this land is in Perry County. A Joseph Gutshall was married to Hannah M. Hagie, daughter of Abraham Hagie, Sr., who lived near the head of the valley.

HAGAN

The Hagan place was located on the east side of the creek and came off the Hugh Johnson warrant. Henry Hagen's name is on the tax list as early as 1786 and was credited with one cabin and one cow. The name of Tully Hagan is found on the 1807 list.

In 1822 the claim of Catharine Hagan was bounded by lands of Daniel Piper, Samuel Riddle, Benjamin VanSycoc, and the Katiney Mountain. The acreage was given as 28A 86p and mention is made of improvements which were made about 1810.

HAGIE

This name is spelled many ways on various documents such as: Hagie, Heagy, Hagee, Hengley. The modern spelling in our area is Hege.

Abraham Hagie settled near the head of Amberson Valley about 1800. His name is on the 1800 census and tax lists shortly thereafter. Joseph Marshall evidently lived here in 1797.

The Hagie place was part of the Adam Turner warrant of 1767 and was owned by early owners as follows: Turner 1767, James Fegan 1785, John Marshall 1787, Hagie, Daniel Barnhart, Daniel Piper 1829 for son John A. Piper. James Fegan purchased this plot, 100 acres, in 1785 with his cash bonus for Revolutionary war service. Fegan secured a warrant on this part in 1785. Later surveys generally called for approximately 116 acres. This land is now owned by Mr. George Stewart and lies above the Price place. One old record states that it lay against the Tuscarora Mountain (Amberson Ridge) and was above the John Shie'd's place and slightly above the new Ray G. Varner cabin. (Re-

corders Office Book H. Item 929 also Survey Docket Books under James Fegan)

Abraham Hagie, Sr., died "about the first day of September 1825". His wife's name was Mary Elizabeth and five children were mentioned in 1829 when they signed releases to the home place. They were residing in Harrison County, Ohio in 1829 and the names are listed as follows: John (wife Rachael), Abraham, Mary M. to Joseph Shearer, Hannah M. to Joseph Gutshall, and Eve M. to Henry Lowmiller.

These releases were to Daniel and Nancy Barnhart who in turn with James and Elizabeth Fegan sold to Daniel Piper in 1829.

Abraham Hagie, Jr., had been married to Mary Carlon in 1822 but she died in Ohio in 1828. There was a Carlin family in Fannett Township. Abraham Hagie, Jr., was born in 1803 and died in 1892. Hagie records state that he was married the second time to Susan Harner in Ohio in 1828.

SOME HAGIE FACTS

Abraham Hagie served in the Militia during the Revolutionary War Period. Abraham Hagie, Jr., (1803 - 1892) served in the Mexican War. He was not living in Amberson at this date.

Abraham Hagie is believed to have been buried in the Rea Burial Ground in 1823. Abraham Hagie, Jr., of Amberson (1803 - 1892) is not buried in Pennsylvania. The Abraham Hagie (1790 - 1855) who is buried at St. Mary's Doylestown evidently was a member of the Jacob Hagie line of St. Mary's near Shade Gap. He bought lots in Concord from John Lauther in 1821 and James Widney in 1830 and was probably a cousin and nephew of the Abraham Hagies of Amberson.

Jacob Hagie, brother of Abraham Hage, settled in Shade Valley near Shade Gap. His wife was Margaret Michaels and they belonged to the St. Mary's Church at Shade Gap. Jacob Hagie also served in the army and is said to have witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis.

Mrs. F. C. Pugsley, Route 1 Warner, Oklahoma is a Hagie genealogist.

HAMAKER. Samuel Hamaker and his wife Anna owned and lived on a part of the Amberson - Clark land which had been sold to Hamaker. Samuel Hamaker was evidently related to the Clark family.

HAMILTON

John Hamilton was an early land owner of Amberson. His land lay on the west side of the creek against the lower slope of the Knob Mountain and in 1786 was bounded by Duncan on the south, on the east by Clark (Amberson) and Ward. This land lay directly across the creek from the present Shoemaker and Alton Piper places.

John and James Hamilton both served in the Cumberland County Militia. A John Hamilton was a Captain while John Hamilton was classified as a school teacher in Fannett Township in 1782.

The Hamiltons are generally classified as living in Path Valley, however, a John Hamilton definitely lived in Amberson for a number of years.

HAMMOND

The Hammond family belongs to Path Valley near Spring Run. Philip Hammond erected the first mill at New Bridge in 1815 and sold this merchant mill and saw mill in 1816 to Martin Hammond who sold the mill in 1839 (Read under Hammond-Piper Mill).

HAMMOND. Mr. Emanuel Hammond, son of Samuel Hammond, lived in lower Amberson where members of the family still reside.

Mr. Emanuel Hammond was a World War I Veteran.

HARMONY

This old and noted Amberson name is spelled mainly three ways: Harmanni, Harmoni, and Harmony. John Ludwig Harmanni was born in Germany March 7, 1743, came to America in 1765, died in 1831, and is buried in the old graveyard now known as Sake's.

John Ludwig Harmanni was married to Elizabeth Lowe (1752-1831) of Talbot County, Md. in 1772. Tradition claims that Vincent Lowe brother-in-law of John Harmanni was the earliest white man to be buried in Amberson. It is said that Vincent Lowe was staying with his sister while John Harmanni served in the army and that he contracted a virus and died. Vincent Lowe was buried on the Harmanni place which is the present Ellis Shoemaker place. (Read under "burial grounds" for the writer's comments on Vincent Lowe).

John Ludwig Harmony served under Captain Thomas Askey in the Cumberland County Militia. Harmony history states that this was the First Marching Company, First Call July 31, 1777. In 1781, Harmony served as a Sergeant under Captain Askey.

John Ludwig Harmony was married in 1772 and settled in Amberson shortly after this date. The earliest Harmony land was in lower Amberson and stretched from the Timmons Mountain across the creek and against the Knob Mountain. The first Harmony warrant was rather narrow and included the Ellis Shoemaker place, the New Bridge Mill Site etc. The oldest Harmony building site was almost identical with the present building site.

John Harmanni and his son Henry bought numerous neighboring tracts. He purchased some of the Henderson warrants which were settled before Henderson became owner. In 1793, Matthew Henderson sold a small plot to John Harmony which touched a McCurdy place and lay on the south east bank of a small branch of the Conococheague by lands of John Harmony and Sebastian Kerr.

George Kerr sold 100 acres to John Harmony in 1794 which lay east of John McQuaid and Thomas McCurdy (now George Stewart). Harmony also owned many acres at one time which stretched as far north as the Duncan land near the VanSeyoc Mill site.

In 1813, John Harmony sold land to Philip Hammon upon which Hammon erected a grist mill. In 1818, he sold an additional 2 acres 69 perch to Hammon for a mill race. This land touched the Kilgore land and was the later Harmon Piper Mill at New Bridge.

In 1796 Harmanni purchased the Barnabas Clarke place which included the burial ground in which he is buried (Stake's). Harmony may have removed to the Clark location. John Ludwig Harmony was a Justice of the Peace in 1797.

Why did this noted name disappear from Amberson? Records state that John Harmanni had two children Henry and Elizabeth while Henry had three daughters: Margaret, Anna, and Elizabeth.

Henry Hrmony (1776-1856) was married to Anna McVitty in 1801 who was a daughter of Cromwell McVitty.

Margaret Harmony, born 1803, was married to William Stitt (1800-1872) son of Revolutionary Veteran James Stitt. William and Margaret Harmony Stitt were married by Rev. McGinley in 1823. William Stitt removed to Woodhull, Illinois. Sarah Anne Stitt was married to Harmon P. Piper and remained in Amberson.

The Stitt lands were two tracts of former Henry Harmony land which were sold to Stitt in 1834.

Ann Harmony was married to Benjamin Steck in 1836 and Elizabeth was married to John McGee.

The John Harmanni children were mentioned as Henry and Elizabeth although the McGinley entry is his marriage list included J. Blair and Sally Harmony in 1809.

HARRY. The Harry name has entered Amberson in late years. Mr. Russell Harry and his wife Cleo Faylor Harry live in lower Amberson.

Mr. Harry's first wife was Mabel Back and they were the parents of five children: Fred, Vivian, Clifford, Raymond, and Glenn.

Mr. Fred Harry, his wife Dorothy Young Harry and a daughter, Susan, live in lower Amberson and they have purchased the Gaston farm on the west side of the creek. Mr. Harry is one of Amberson's energetic young men who has remained in the valley and is engaged in various types of work.

Two sisters of Russell Harry live in Amberson Valley. Mrs. Dora Rowles, and Mrs. Grace Rowles.

Dr. Roy Harry and his wife Lena Peterson Harry have a summer home at the head of the valley. Steve Harry, a son, was recently married to Linda Secrest.

HARVEY — HERVEY

This noted early family with its ancient lineage would require a volume of its own. The purpose of the writer is simply to portray the role played by members of this family which belong to Amberson.

Some of the Hervey lands were in Amberson although probably more belonged to Path Valley. William Hervey owned land in Fannett

Township as early as 1755 although one writer states that they did not come to this area until later.

William, Henderson, James, and Charles Hervey all served in the Cumberland County Militia. A James Hervey who served under Capt. Rippey in 1776 died the same year. The Herveys suffered severely in the Revolutionary War in casualties both by death and being wounded and handicapped the rest of their lives.

One James Hervey will bears the date 1789 while a James Hervey, Jr., was deceased by 1806.

The Herveys and Kilgores were related. One James Hervey warrant bears the date 1767. The James Hervey lands in lower Amberson lay against the Timmons Mountain above (east) of the Wilson - Dougal Yost - Kilgore lands. In 1806, Hannah, administratrix of James Hervey deceased, sold land which was located as being in Amberson Valley and Metal Township.

One James Hervey of lower Amberson was listed as a weaver.

The John Harvey family which we are interested in was married to Sarah Culbertson (1805 - 1864) a daughter of Robert and Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson who lived at the base of the Knob (Stewart Brown Place). John Harvey traded lands down the valley for the James Kerr land near Mill Run.

The John Harvey surveys of 1837 shows that he owned 101 acres of the Hugh Johnson Warrant of 1767 and 99 acres of the John Mease warrant of 1766. This land lay between the present Ira Stewart and Gene VanScyoc farms and is currently owned by Mr. Stewart and Mr. McVitty. This land included the Mill Run land and a part lay east of the creek.

John Harvey sold the Riddle land to Samuel McVitty in 1868.

Joseph C. Harvey served in the Civil War. Nehemiah Kilgore Harvey who lived on the east side of the creek in 1858 also served although his name was not on the Piper list.

One of the Herveys was married to a Fegan and some of this family were buried in the Rea Grave Yard.

This Harvey family traces back through the Culbertson - Kilgore - McVitty - Cromwell line.

John Harvey lived at the Bryan Rowles place for some time and the old pack trail became known at the Harvey Path.

Sarah Harvey was married to George Barnhart in 1848 and Hannah Harvey to C. B. Duncan. These families lived near Mill Run in the 1850's and later. Catharine Harvey was married to Mark Piper.

The Rev. A. A. McGinley list includes: James Kilgore - Kitty Harvey 1806, W. Harvey - Miss Palmer 1810, Nehemiah Harvey - Harriett McVitty 1820, John Harvey - Miss Culbertson 1822, F. Harvey - Margaret Geddes 1833, James Harvey - Nancy Dunn 1835, Catharine Harvey - David Fraker 1835, N. K. Harvey - Betsy Rose 1838, Hannah Harvey - C. B. Duncan 1846, Sarah Harvey - George Barnhart 1848, Catharine Harvey - Mark Piper 1851.

The Robert Harvey children as found in an old deed (Book 12) are named as: James, John, Henderson, Thomas, William, Elizabeth Brice, Sarah Neeley, Nancy (1) Robert McGuire (2) James Reynolds.

HASSEL. John Hassel ran a blacksmith shop on the high road against the Knob Mountain. This place is now owned by Mr. Guy Stake. Charles Kilgore may have operated a blacksmith shop at this site before Hassell.

HAZLEHURST. Robert Hazlehurst owned land in Amberson and was represented by James Riddle, attorney, as agent. James Fegan bought some of the Hazlehurst land and it was recorded in 1799 although Fegans were already living on this land as early as 1785. This part of the Hazlehurst land lay on the east side of the creek and was later Fegan, Rea land. Hazlehurst purchased these lands at Sheriff's sale and some of it was claimed by several parties.

HAZLETT. Cyrus Hazlett (1827 - 1907), who was married to Annetta Jean Culbertson (1831 - 1916), was the first of the name in Amberson. Annetta Jean (Jeanette) Culbertson was the daughter of Robert and Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson of Culbertson Row who had moved into Amberson and lived near the base of "The Knob". (Stewart Brown Farm)

Cyrus Hazlett served in the Civil War. Denton Hazlett served in the Spanish American War.

Cyrus Hazlett worked for William McLean at the Franklin Tannery, left the valley, returned after a number of years and was the last person to operate the tannery. The McLeans and Hazlett also ran saw mills while McLean ran grist mills or at least owned two grist mills at one time.

William McClain Hazlett (1854 - 1932) and Araminta Fleck Hazlett (1859 - 1918) are also buried in Amberson.

HEISEY. Mr. Vincent M. and Mary Stine Heisey have built a beautiful home on the Amberson Valley Estates near the Price place.

HENDERSON. Matthew Henderson and Margaret Henderson of Shippensburg acquired many acres in Amberson (1785). A 213 acres warrant on west side of stream (Goshorn). A 156 acre warrant in 1785 which was older Jonathan Kearsley land of June 2, 1762.

As stated Hendersons acquired this land around 1785 and many improvements were already on them. Some of the Henderson land soon passed to Harmony, McQuaid, McCurdy, Kilgore, Taylor, and Shearer and now include homes of Jacob Goshorn, Ira Hettrick, Russell Harry, George Stewart, and others.

HENERY. (Henry) Patrick Henerly owned the earlier Turner Perry land which he sold to James Fegan in 1778.

A Henry family lived near Drake's Ferry at one time.

HETRICK. Walter Hetrick was married to Blanch French. A son, Ira Hetrick, recently removed from Amberson. He sold his farm to Mr. Fred Harry.

HERR

Mr. Ernest Herr and his wife Kathryn Long Herr have created a home named "Outpost" near the point where the Timmons Road leaves the Amberson Road. This is not in Amberson but is in Fannett Township and came off an early Leiphart (Leeper) warrant and was part of the Furnace or Forge lands which was located in McAlister's Gap (Roxbury).

Outpost is one of the show places of Franklin County and must be seen in order to be appreciated. This place was created by Mr. Herr after many years of thought, planning and arduous work.

The Herrs are the parents of a son John C. Herr and a daughter Jane Herr Beitsch.

Mr. Herr and Earl J. Shearer purchased the old Patrick MaGee place against the Rising (Dividing or Knob) Mountain in Amberson Valley and this venture has culminated in the formation of a new enterprise, the Amerite Oil Corporation.

This Company with Mr. Herr as president and Mr. Shearer as vice president is currently drilling for oil on the Glenn Eckenrode farm and have reached a depth of many feet but are capable of going several thousand feet deeper if necessary. Appreciable amounts of gas have been encountered to date.

Mr. Herr has other interests. He was in insurance and has long been a builder, contractor, and developer of the Shippensburg area.

HIGGINS

Corelius Higgins owned a large number of acres of land in the mouth of Amberson north of the Timmons Road area. Around 1800 neighboring land owners were: Varners, Dougal, Wolf, Mills, and William Stitt.

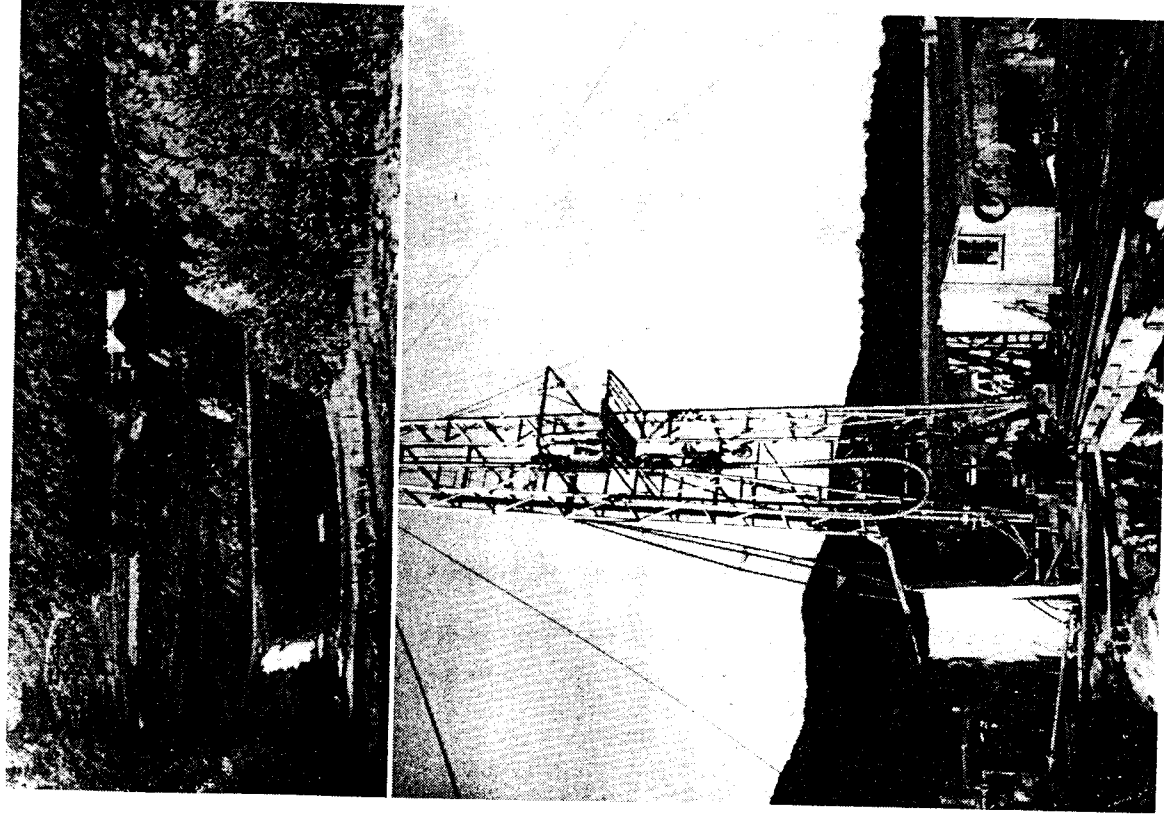
The James Mills (Ward), William Shetler (Piper), John Varner, (Ferguson - Crane), and part of the Jacob Goshorn places were owned about 1793 by Higgins.

HITE. Peter Hite lived in Amberson in 1858. He lived high against the Knob Mountain on the road which branched off northward from the Dry Run Road. Hite worked as a carpenter and probably was a member of the old Hite family of Metal Township. A son Henry lived later at the Peter Hite place. George and Nora Varner Hite are buried in Amberson.

HOLMAN. John Holman owned a large tract on the west side of the creek. His name appears in land deals with Henry Harmoni and James Kilgore.

Peter Stake was married to Caroline Holmen in 1832. Other entries in the Rev. A. A. McGinley list includes: William Fitzsimmons to Eliza Holman in 1825. A. Holman to B. Hamet in 1830, and Dan Kekerise to Mary Holman in 1835.

HOVER. Mr. Ed. Hoyer of the Shippensburg area has a beautiful summer home and hunting camp at the old site east of the creek on



OUT POST. Home of Mr. Ernest and Kathryn Long Herr near the junction of the Timmons and Amberson Roads. (Read under Herr)

GLEN WELL. This well is being drilled by Mr. Ernest Herr, Eldon E. Fink, driller, Earl J. Shearer and other share holders. This well is located on the Glenn Eckenrode farm although drilling was first begun on the Pat MaGee place. Mr. Galen Martin, local farmer, was operating the rig when this picture was taken.

which a warrant was taken out in 1767 by Emanuel Gallagher. Thomas Pumroy purchased this plot from Gallagher in 1772 and the Pumroy heirs sold in 1812 to Samuel Riddle. The Riddle heirs sold to George and Joseph Piper in 1841. N. K. Harvey, Fegan, Culbertson and several other persons later lived here.

HUDSON. William Hudson owned land in Amberson for about twenty years and may have resided in Amberson. He purchased land from John VanScyoc in 1790 and sold to Herman Myers in 1809. This land lay on the west side of the creek and was later owned by Peter Pper and Peter Stake sons-in-law of Herman Myers. This land was part of the Adam Scott land which had been divided by John VanScyoc and Adam Piper, Jr.

HUGHES. Patrick Hughes served as an attorney for Barnabas Clarke and owned land in Amberson as is shown by tax lists. Neighboring land owners in 1804 - 1809 were: John VanScyoc, Samuel French, and Michael Dunkle. The Hughes family probably never lived in Amberson since they were interested in the iron and furnace industry.

HUNT

Pearson Hunt took out warrants on approximately thirty large tracts of mountain land in Path and Amberson Valley. The tracts in Amberson were all named and lay on the Knob or Dividing Mountain. The Barnabas Fegan (Felty Stewart) site seems part of a Hunt tract.

Pearson, Hunt died in Philadelphia, and Wilson Hunt, son, and merchant, of Philadelphia and Trenton disposed of the Hunt lands in Fannett Township.

HUNTER. John Hunter was a neighbor of Duncan and Clark in 1766. This land was located on the west side of the creek north west of the VanScyoc Mill location.

John Hunter served under Capt. Thomas Askey in 1777, William Hunter served under Capt. Noah Abraham. James Hunter was in Path Valley early. The Hunter name disappeared from Fannett and Metal Township rather early.

IRWIN. Alvin G. Irwin was a teacher of Path and Amberson Valleys and while teaching at Laurel Grove married a former pupil, Elizabeth E. Ferguson. He later taught in Maryland and Virginia.

Bruce Irwin grew up in the Harrisburg area where he was a semi-pro baseball player. Bruce Irwin married Mary Stake daughter of Breckenridge and Jennie Stake and removed to Amberson where he died November 4, 1960.

John Irwin and his mother live near their former home in Amberson.

JOHNSON - HUGH

The Johnson name has been connected with Amberson history from 1767 until the present date, however, the Johnsons were not all related. There were probably three Johnson families in Amberson at varying date.

Hugh Johnson secured a warrant of 279 acres, August 13, 1767. This land lay between the Alexander Culbertson land (Ira Stewart) 1755, and the John Mease land of 1766 present Gene Van Scyoc. A large part of this land lay on the east side of the creek and the Kane, Weaver, Hagen places were parts of it. The John Harvey land was part of it. This land is now owned by Mr. Ira Stewart and Mr. David McVitty.

Hugh Johnson was a Ranger of the Frontier and served under Capt. Fleming in 1781. His name is found on the pension list and his probably date of death was 1818. In 1797, Sarah Glenn was married to a Hugh Johnson.

JOHNSON. George Johnson of Southampton Township owned two mill sites in Amberson Valley. He purchased a mill site from Jacob Snyder as early as 1816. He purchased a grist mill from Col. John Culbertson in 1820 which Culbertson repurchased from Johnson sons in 1835. One of the mills was the earlier William McVitty, or later Franklin Tannery site while the other was a short distance up stream.

JOHNSON. John Johnson (1831 - 1901) lived near Laurel Grove prior to the Civil War and John Johnson and wife donated land on which the church was built. This Johnson family was from southern Huntington County.

Mrs. Hamilton Mackey who was a daughter of John Johnson used to recount the story of when she was a girl of seeing a cousin from Huntington County stop at their home on his way home from Gettysburg. He lost a leg (foot) at Gettysburg also carried a bullet in his shoulder. She remembers his bloody bandaged leg. This soldier was William Johnson brother of her father.

Isabella Johnson married Hamilton Mackey and after his death married John Bankis. Amos Mackey one of the children, is still living.

Jesse Johnson, who was married to Rebecca Ferguson, lived in lower Amberson on land which had been owned among other owners, by Fergusons and Varners. Mr. Johnson was a son of the William Johnson who lost his foot at Gettysburg.

A number of the Jesse Johnson family live in Amberson.

Wallace Johnson, whose wife was Helen McCurdy and his mother-in-law Mrs. McCurdy live at one of the oldest mill sites in Amberson. (Read under mills)

Wayne Johnson whose wife was the former Louise Johns (son of Metal Township lives near the store and Post Office. They are the parents of five children: Louetta who is married to Raymond Varner, Jr. The Varners have children named Shelby, Gary, and Timothy; Fred Kenneth whose wife was Fern Dory and their daughter Tina; Peggy Fleagle wife of Ronald Fleagle and daughter Donna Angela; Ray (deceased), and Rita in school.

Norman Johnston owns the long known Baker place in lower Amberson and has purchased other land.

Erma Johnson wife of Melton Canter lives near the former Johnson home at the Best site. The Canthers have a daughter Wanda who recently graduated from Penn State College.

Amber Johnson who is married to Don Myers lives out of the valley. A son Elwood and Doris Kump Myers recently purchased the old Albert Wilson site for a summer home and hunting cabin.

Two sons James and David Johnson are dead.

JONES. Griffith Jones took up land in Amberson at an early date. This was some of the James Kilgore land and some of it was later owned by John Emery. This land was in the Laurel Grove vicinity and slightly north.

A Jeremiah B. Jones was Post Master of Amberson in 1865.

Mr. Harry Jones who was married to Jennie Hazlett lived on the east side of the creek and ran the Post Office and a store. Mrs. Arthur Clugh, a descendant lives in Mercersburg, Pa. (Read under Robert Culbertson)

JUNKINS. John F. Junkins bought the "grist mill" at the VanScyoc location in 1868 but owned it for a short time. He probably also owned some of the early Duncan land west of the creek. This name belongs to Path Valley.

KANE

John and Henry Kane (Kean) both owned homes on the east side of the creek in 1858. The places were parts of the Hugh Johnson warrant of 1767. These sites are near the Ira Stewart lands and may be parts of his land. John Cain is mentioned in 1840. Henry Kean (Kane) bought 69 acres of the Hugh Johnson land from John Stuart Riddle in 1844.

The writer believes that the Kanes moved into Amberson a short time before or after 1840, and they were related to several of the families who lived on the east side of the creek.

KEARSLEY

Jonathan Kearsley owned a warrant of 156 acres in lower Amberson which was secured June 2, 1762. Margaret Henderson took out a new warrant on this land "in right of" Jonathan Kearsley in 1785. How long Kearsley lived in Amberson, is not known by the writer but persons were living on this land long before 1785.

This land was divided into three tracts. A 55 acre warrant in the name of Matthew Henderson, 64 acres warranted by Hugh McCurdy, and 37 acres warranted by Henderson. Several of these tracts are now George Stewart land and part, probably, is the Russel Harry farm.

NOTE: Kearsley did live in Amberson, tax lists show that he owned 3 horses and 4 cows.

KELLER. Jacob Keller lived in Amberson around 1870.

KERR (CARR)

The Kerrs owned land in lower Amberson also John Kerr lived in

the upper valley. Sebastian and George Kerr owned land in the seventeenth eighties, Paseley Kerr owned land in 1787, and Alexander Kerr is also mentioned. Robert Kerr who served in the Revolutionary War died in Fannett Township.

The Kerrs owned the old John Rippey land, later Varner, now Myles Varner and other land and were listed as having a woolen mill. There was a small mill at the Myles Varner place at one time, the evidence is still visible.

John Kerr owned part of the Hugh Johnson land on Mill Run at an early date. The late John Kerr is mentioned in 1812. James Kerr who ran a blacksmith shop traded the Mill Run property to John Harvey, 101 acres of the Hugh Johnson land plus 99 acres of the Mary McGee land. In view of the many mill owners on Mill Run it is entirely possible that the Kerr Mill may have used the waters of Mill Run at one of the two mills powered by the waters of Mill Run. The mill at the Myles Varner place may have been the John McQuaid woolen mill. The northern fields of Ira Stewart was evidently part of the Johnson - Kerr - Harvey land.

KILGORE

This is one of the earliest as well as one of the most prominent names of early Fannett and Metal Townships. Kilgores were extensive land owners and at different periods owned much of lower Amberson as well as many hundreds of acres in Path, Dothan, and Horse Valleys.

Joseph Kilgore took out the earliest warrant in Amberson on the basis of research by the writer, or, any writer to date. This earliest plot of land in Amberson called for 54 acres 111 perch and was secured by Joseph Kilgore in 1743. Another record gives the acreage as 54 acres 113 perch. Kilgore secured other land in 1757 which mentions earlier Kilgore land. Other records show that he owned lands in the seventeen fifties (Read under earliest settlers).

The writer does not know when he actually settled in Amberson, his name does not appear on the List of Evictees in 1750 when the magistrates burned the cabins west of the mountains.

NOTE: A later Joseph Kilgore secured a warrant on this old plot in 1836 (Book 2 page 170) and a copy of the original is included. Upon examination the writer found that some earlier persons had inserted the original date 1743 on the draught.

James Kilgore secured a warrant in 1752 for 512 acres which was located as being in Hopewell Township on the Conodoguinet Creek. Could the warrant be the following?

James Kilgore secured land in 1752 which was resurveyed in 1793 which was all or partly in Horse Valley and stretched across the valley and Conodoguinet and probably included land in Dothan Valley. A later or possibly the last Joseph Kilgore built a saw mill on the Conodoguinet Creek at this point in the year 1857. This site was later known as the David Beltz - Jim Geyer place and is now owned by the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

This last Joseph Kilgore was known as a skilled hunter and woodsman and was renowned as a wolf hunter, his trained dogs were known over a vast area. He had a son named Myer Kilgore. This Joseph Kilgore may have been the last of the name in Amberson (and Horse Valley).

Joseph Kilgore secured a warrant in 1757 which was later bounded by Rev. Samuel Dougal, Jonathan Mackey and other Kilgore land.

Joseph Kilgore secured another warrant on a large tract of land in 1767 near the Timmons Road adjoining lands of John Sands, Robert Wilson, Moore, and the Conococheague creek opposite a large deer lick.

Charles Kilgore secured a warrant as far south in Path Valley as the "pack Trail from John Skinner's Inn in Horse Valley to Elliotts in Path Valley (Springtown).

Neemiah Kilgore owned over 300 acres of land which lay against the Kittatinny Mountain and into Dothan Valley along the McAlister Mill Path.

James Kilgore owned a 121 acre plot mainly on the east side of the creek between Robert Wilson and Rev. Samuel Dougal on the south and Yost (Ferguson) on the north. This was sold to Martin Hammond in 1802. James Kilgore also purchased the Yost 107 acre plot in 1798.

James Kilgore owned the 242 acre Duncan tract which stretched from the VanScyoc Mill area to the Harmony land at New Bridge. This had been obtained by a Joseph Kilgore and was owned by James Kilgore through the early 1800's until around 1840. Joseph Kilgore also gained control of the large Griffith Jones tract on the east side of the creek and at one time owned Clark's Knob.

Joseph Kilgore owned several mill sites up the valley including the Franklin Tannery site.

James Kilgore became owner of the Duncan land in 1810 and later sold to a Joseph Kilgore. This included the VanScyoc location also the old mill site between Drake's Ferry and New Bridge. This Joseph Kilgore sold land including the old mill site to David Kilgore in 1839 but died before the deed was executed. David Kilgore sold to Edward M. McVirt in 1852. Two other places between New Bridge and Drake's Ferry were sold to John McVirt in 1848 and to Robert McVirt in 1852.

Joseph and Eleanor Kilgore sold the lands above New Bridge but it was a Joseph and Anne Kilgore who gave up nearly 3,000 acres in 1846.

In 1842 John Witherow last living "assignee" of Joseph Kilgore sold the Factory at the later Franklin Tannery site to Benjamin DeFord and in 1850 John Witherow, or William Witherow, sold the present VanScyoc mill site to George Goddard while the third Kilgore Mill site was sold by David Kilgore in 1852.

In 1846 Joseph and Anne Kilgore relinquished upwards of 3,000 acres of land, nearly 2,000 acres in Amberson, 600 acres in Letterkenny (Horse Valley and Dothan), 155 acres in Metal Township and land near McAlister Gap. Part of the Amberson land was the 439 acre tract which included Clark's Knob.

Land sales mention sellers as: Joseph and Eleanor Kilgore, Joseph and Anne Kilgore, Joseph and Isabella Kilgore while the McGinley marriage list includes a Joseph Kilgore - Sally Buchanan 1820. Joseph Kilgore - Margaret Kirkpatrick 1823, and a Joseph Kilgore - Susanna Shearer 1826. In view of the many Joseph Kilgore the writer defers to the Kilgore genealogists for family line.

KILGORE FACTS

David Kilgore was the earliest Post Master of Amberson. He was commissioned Post Master in 1831 and the office was located at a place of business "mill or factory" in lower Amberson. Some evidence indicates that it was at or near an old fulling mill slightly above the New Bridge location at the present David McVirt place. The Kilgores owned the VanScyoc location at this date also which included a mill site, therefore the first Post Office "may" have been located here.

James Kilgore was possibly the earliest tanner of this noted "tannery valley." Many stories abound concerning the last tannery of Amberson (The Franklin Tannery) while nothing has ever been published concerning the extensive Kilgore Tannery simply because the James Kilgore Tanneries had disappeared a half century before the coining of the name Franklin Tannery. Please note that a James Kilgore had owned the "Factory" at the Franklin Tannery site in 1842. This would have been a second or third generation James Kilgore.

The Kilgore owned at least three or four mill sites and may have been as early as the Copely Mill.

In 1786, Joseph Kilgore was collector of taxes. John Kilgore ran a distillery, and James Kilgore ran an Inn. This Inn was probably at the Harmon Piper place and had been established by Joseph Kilgore.

Charles Kilgore, blacksmith, purchased two lots in Loudon in 1804. He had a blacksmith shop on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain. A smith named Hassel may have lived here later.

Joseph, Neemiah, and William Kilgore all served under Captain Noah Abraham in the Cumberland County Militia. James Kilgore was a Lieutenant in 1804. Patrick Kilgore served under Captain Samuel McCune in 1776.

Colonel David Kilgore (1745-1814) who is buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Westmoreland County is related. A son Jesse Kilgore (1782-1850) served in the War of 1812. Sarah, wife of Col. David Kilgore died in 1830 aged 86 years and Jane wife of Jesse Kilgore died in 1862 aged 72 years.

Mrs. Jane Kilgore Zimmers Fleming of Chambersburg is a descendant of Col. David Kilgore line.

Other Kilgore names in the Rev. McGinley list includes: James Kilgore - Catharine McWade 1795, Nehemiah Kilgore - Margaret Paul 1796, James Kilgore - Kitty Harvey 1806, Nancy Kilgore - John Stitt 1822, D. Kilgore - Miss Parks 1833, Betsy Kilgore - Daniel McCullin 1834, Mr. Kilgore - Eleanor Moore 1835.

Nehemiah Kilgore Harvey lived in upper Amberson. Where were the Kilgores buried?

KIRKPATRICK

The name of Francis Kirkpatrick is found on the 1789 tax list. He was married to a Hudson. The Kirkpatrick land were near and north of the Timmons Road. There were several Kirkpatrick places marked as late as 1858.

David Wolff who settled in the same area about 1800 was married to Martha Kirkpatrick. One of the Joseph Kilgores was married to Margaret Kirkpatrick in 1823.

Numerous Kirkpatricks are buried at Spring Run.

KOHUTANYCZ. William Kohutanycz and his wife the former Leona Young operate the Amberson Post Office and valley store. The Kohutanyczs have two children Anne and William. Mr. Kohutanycz is a college graduate and served in the armed forces.

KUHNERT. Mr. John Kuhnert and his wife Betty Lemaster Kuhnert have recently purchased one of the old landmark farms of Amberson. Part of this land was warranted as early as 1762 by a James Thomas. Other owners probably were John Timmons, John VanScyoc, Samuel French and John Taylor. Some of the Adam Scott land was added on the west when Adam Piper, Jr., and John VanScyoc divided the Scott land. This was long known as the Peter Piper place a well known blacksmith of yesteryear.

Mr. and Mrs. Kuhnert are both laboratory technicians although Mr. Kuhnert is currently teaching. The Kuhnerts have a daughter named Sue Ellen.

KUNKLE

This name has its various spellings and was early found near Brake's Saw Mill in Hamilton Township. The early Kunkle place was located near the old Criders Burial Ground on the north side of the creek. The name is found nearly as early in Amberson. In the Hamilton Township area we find such names as: Baltzer, John, Michael, and Martin. In Amberson, the names Michael, Martin, John, and Israel are found.

Michael Kunkle bought some of the early Culbertson land as early as 1782 and was definitely operating a saw mill in 1804 as is shown by the tax list.

The Kunkle land which is remembered by present Amberson residents is part of the Culbertson land of 1755 which was obtained by Abraham and Catharine Piper Witter in 1822 when Daniel Piper and Abraham Witter divided the Piper land. Witter became owner of 126 acres which was sold to Samuel Piper in 1839. In 1869 Samuel and Barbara Piper sold two tracts to John Kunkle. The 125 acre tract on the west side of the creek and a 50 acre tract probably on the east side of the stream which had been sold to Samuel Piper in 1842 by Abraham Witter.

Neighbors on the west side of the stream in 1867 were: Wm. Funston, Leah Rowland, Peter Shearer, John Fleck, and Jacob Stewart. Neighbors on the east side of the creek were: John Weaver heirs, Wilson Piper, Samuel Piper and James Culbertson.

John Kunkle was married to Mary E. Fegan daughter of Barnabas Fegan. The names of George and Israel Gunkle are found in late land transfers of the John Kunkle land which had been earlier Witter - Piper land.

KYLE. Mr. Joseph Kyle now owns the Weist - Story Funston place east of the creek between the Burdge and J. Frank Stewart place.

LAUTHERS

The Laughters (Lowther) name was one of the main families of Amberson from 1766 until nearly 1890 but is practically unknown to the present residents of the valley. The William Laughters application for land in Amberson bears the date October 26, 1766. This warrant for 263 acres was surveyed June 23, 1767. James Laughters came into the valley at the same time, possibly Robert also.

The original Laughters land embraced the Thomas Piper, William Stewart, and Edgar Greenawalt places although the Laughters added some other lands east of the first holdings which included land which bordered the present road. The Laughters land was mainly owned later by the Gasper Taylor family and W. D. Funston.

NOTE: The writer is aware that William Laughters secured a fifty three acre warrant in Path Valley in 1767. He acquired additional land in Path Valley and it is possible that some member of the family may have lived there. Current members of the Laughters family at Doyleburg are not aware of any relationship.

The Laughters draughts are on file in the County Court house and early neighbors were: John Brady 1766, Patrick McGee, Samuel Culbertson, Cunningham, Wm. Ward, Semple (Eckenrode), and Copely.

Tax records and war records indicate that the Laughters family moved into Amberson from the Carlisle area.

William Laughters, Jr., James, and Robert Laughters all served in the Cumberland County Militia under Capt. Thomas Askey in 1777. James Lauther was a Lieutenant under Capt. Askey in 1780. All three served under Capt. Isaac Miller in 1778. James Lauther served under Capt. McClay and probably under Capt. Blair of Blair's Mill when Blair was called out to aid in subduing the Tories during the Weston Tory Plot of 1778-1779.

Robert Laughters was granted Letters of Administration in the William Laughters estate March 5, 1806. William Laughters was named as one of the Thomas Timmons executors but died before the estate was closed in 1812 due to the fact that the estate could not be settled until the youngest Timmons child was fifteen years of age.

William Laughters was collector of taxes in 1807 of Fannett Township. The early Laughters are mainly buried in the Amberson Cemetery.

Mr. William D. Funston was brought up by the Lauthers and he subsequently became owner of much of the Lauthers land.

John Lauthers 1776 - 1849 resided all of his life in Amberson and lived at the place below (east) of the Thomas Piper place. Many of the older people still point out the Lauthers Run and the Diana Bridge. Diana Lauthers 1812 - 1886 was the last of the name in Amberson. Several older persons also speak of a Nancy Lauthers. One Nancy Lauthers lived from 1764 until 1837 but this certainly was an earlier Nancy.

The Lauthers were farmers and other craftsmen, James Lauthers was listed as an early blacksmith. Other members of the family were weavers. Nancy and Diana were long noted as weavers. They had sheep and washed, carded and spun the wool on a large home made loom. Mrs. Clark Craig still has several blankets which were woven by Nancy and Diana Lauthers. These blankets are pretty old since Diana Lauthers died in 1886.

The later commercialized sulphur spring was recognized in the Lauthers era but was later publicized when Samuel Taylor ran a boarding house and health resort 1846 until 1856.

James Lauthers was married to Jane McMath in 1794. From the McGinley list: R. Lauthers - Sally Lauthers 1808, Mr. Lauthers - Miss McConnell 1809, John Lother - Nancy Johnson 1817. R. Lauthers - Miss McNiel 1821.

LEE. The Lees owned land in 1795 which was principally mountain land. George Lee may have been in Amberson in 1794. Several of the Lees, Lewis and Gasper, served in the Cumberland County Militia. It is doubtful if they ever lived in Amberson although they seem to have been actively associated with Amberson Valley for some years.

LEEPER (LIEPHART)

The Leepers were interested in the Roxbury Ironworks at one time and Charles and William purchased various tracts of mountain land, probably as a source of charcoal.

Some of this land lay along the Great Road and Clark's Run (Trout Run), and were warranted in the 1790's.

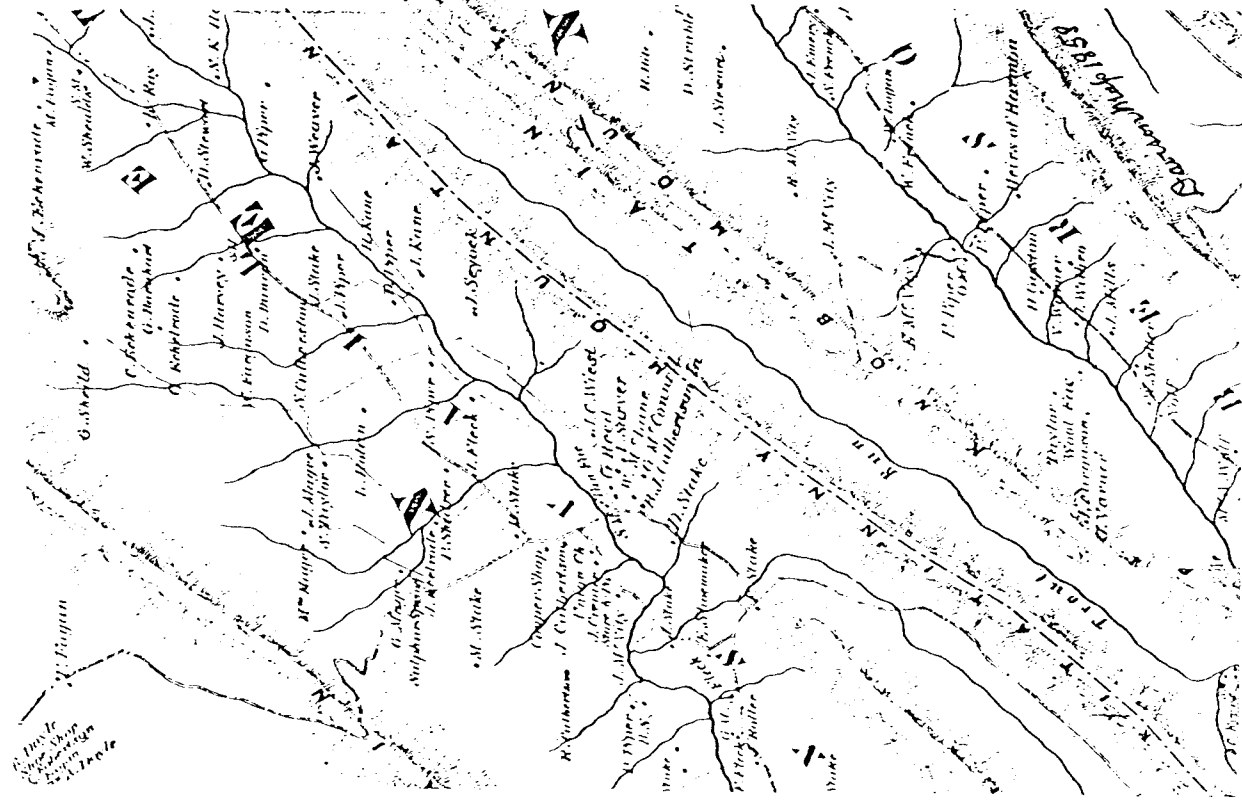
One of these Leeper tracts evidently included the beautiful "Out Post" of Mr. Ernest Herr near the junction of the Timomins and Amberson Roads. This Herr land is really not in Amberson since the waters drain to Trout Run of Dothan and Horse Valleys. Mr. Herr has other land in Amberson. (Read under Herr)

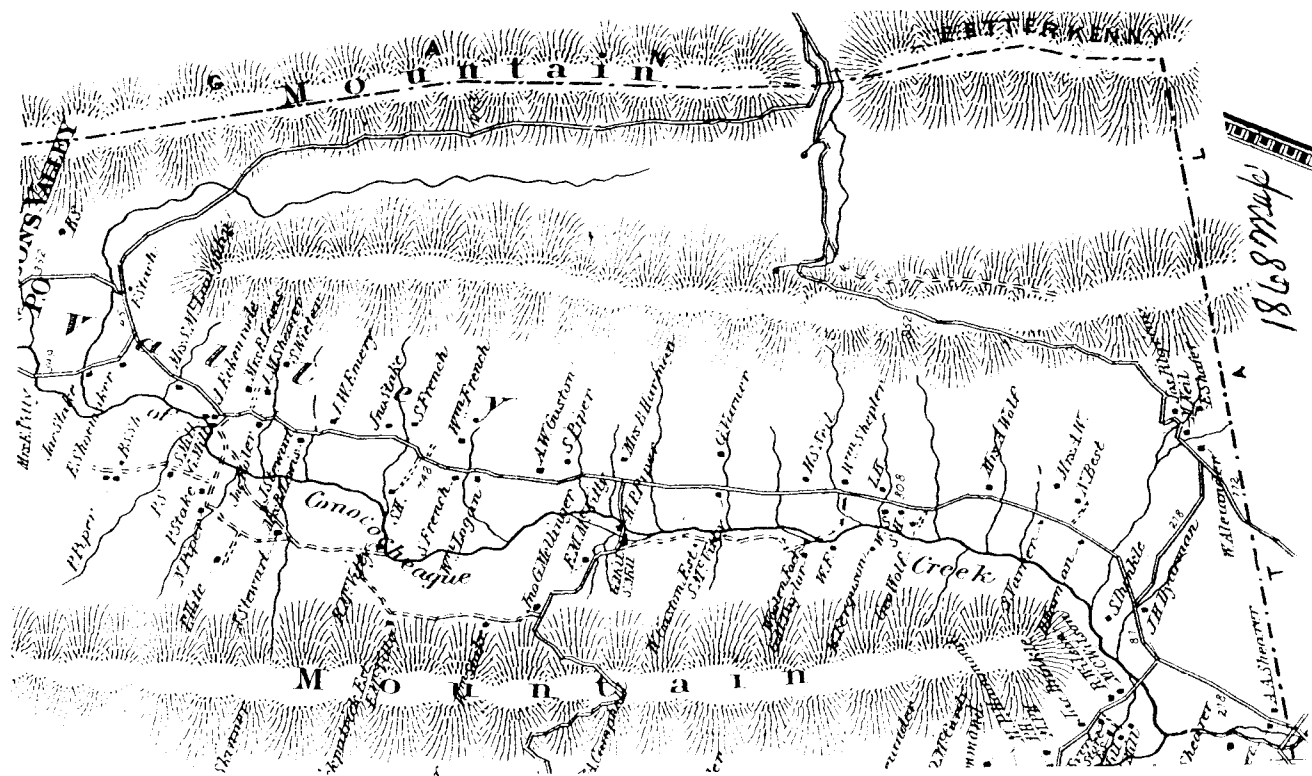
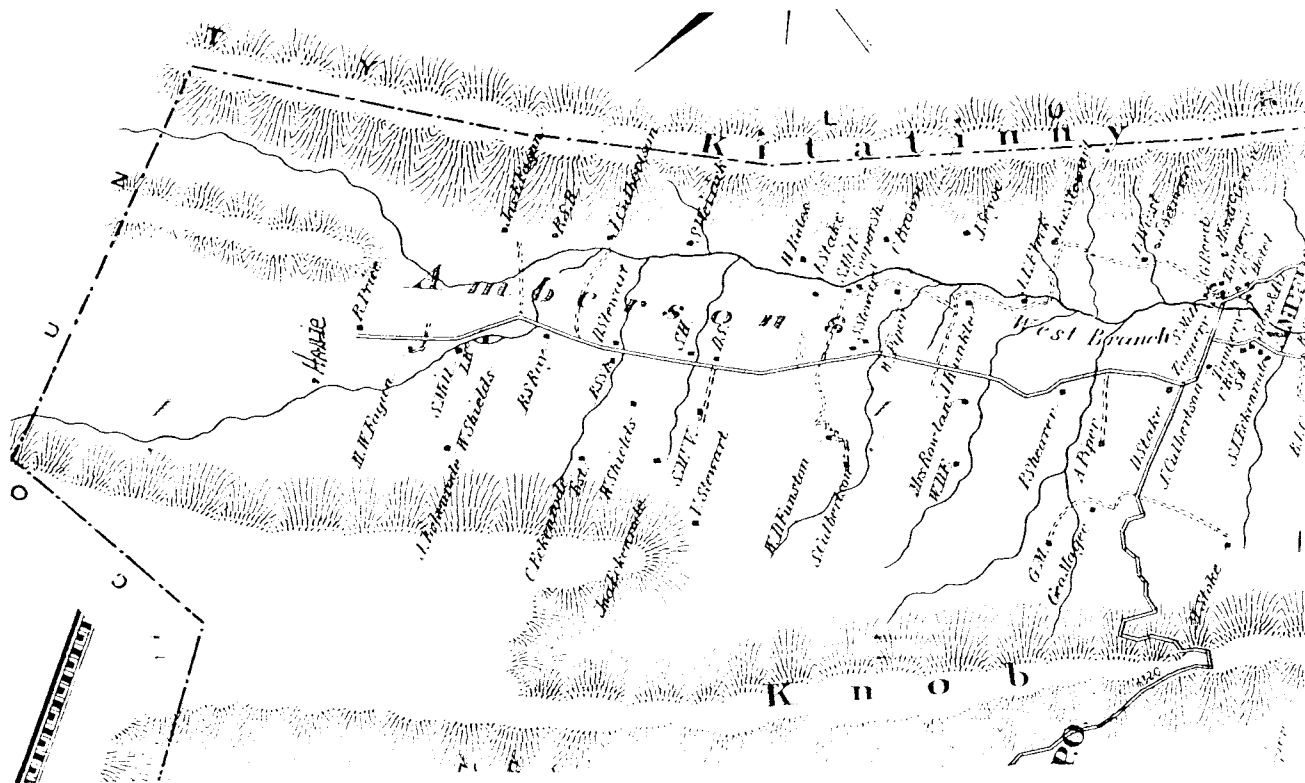
LEWIS

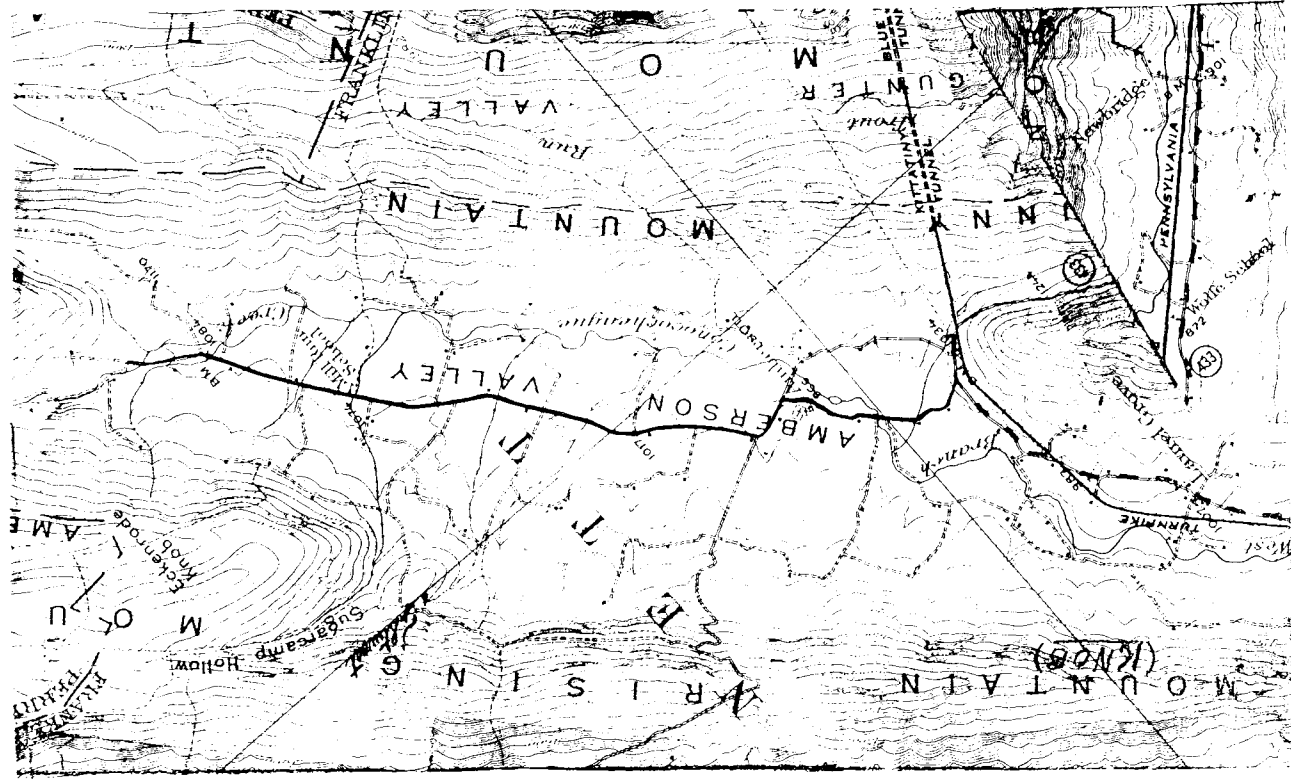
Robert Lewis was listed as a weaver in Fannett Township as early as 1807. The writer is not certain when the name appeared in Amberson. John Lewis was married to Ann Barnhart in 1832. The 1858 map does not show any Lewis places but the map of 1868 marks two Lewis places.

One of these Lewis places lay above the present Lytle place while the other was on the west side of the creek in the same location.

The earliest Lewis place was near Mill Run and the Barnhart place.







LINN

One of the earliest warrants in Amberson is that of William Linn, 180 acres, which is dated March 27, 1763. This land touched the creek, the John Long land of 1762 (McVitty), and James Thomas 1762.

William Linn secured a neighboring warrant on 46 acres in 1766. These two warrants became the Thomas Timmons land later Fleck etc. (Read under Timmons)

The Linns had warrants in Amberson, Path, Bear, and both Horse Valleys. William Linn secured a warrant August 27, 1766 in upper Path Valley while another Linn warrant was located in lower Metal Township. The William Linn warrant in Path Valley was located as northwest of "Warrier's Ridge". Hugh Linn settled in upper Horse Valley near Concord.

The Linns were found early near Roxbury and it is doubtful if any Linn ever resided in Amberson.

LITTLE

This early name is found in Path and Amberson Valleys. Also in Metal and Fannett Townships.

Robert Little secured 219 acres of land in Amberson December 2, 1766. Some of this land was later owned by Thomas Fegan and William McLean. Other Little land was on Mill Run and a Robert Little owned land on the Path Valley side of the Rising Mountain across from Lytle Gap.

There seemingly were James and Robert Littles in both valleys. James, Robert, and William Little served in the Cumberland County Militia. James Little served under Captain James Dunlap. The Robert Little who served under Capt. Thomas Askey evidently was living in Fannett Township. Some of the Littles served under Capt. Noah Abraham of Metal Township.

LONG. The John Long warrant of June 4, 1762 for 252 acres is one of the older warrants of the valley. This early Long land became McVitty land shortly after and was later known as the John McVitty land. This early McVitty land was adjacent Amberson Village.

The Longs lived in Lower Metal Township and Lodowick, David, and Alexander Long all served under their immediate neighbor, Captain Noah Abraham. The names of James and Daniel Long were also often used in records of lower Metal Township.

LOGAN

The Logan name appeared in Amberson rather early although records are not in evidence until shortly after 1800. The William Logan place is shown on the maps of 1858 and 1868. William Logan purchased land from the John Emery estate which was recorded July 2, 1830.

The Logans aided in the formation of the United Brethren Class in Amberson and the erection of the Laurel Grove Church.

Sally Logan was married to S. Barton in 1818. Susanne Logan (1826 - 1880) is buried in Amberson as is J. F. Logan (1848 - 1896).

William Logan is mentioned as a relative of the noted Henry Logan who served in the Revolution and whose descendants served in the War of 1812, the Mexican War and the Civil War.

One Logan home was the John Irwin place when the Turnpike was built.

LOWE

Elizabeth Lowe 1752 - 1831 of Talbot County, Maryland was married to John Harmanni in 1772. They removed to Amberson shortly after and it is said the Vincent Lowe, a brother, was visiting and staying with Mrs. Harmanni while John Harmanni was serving in the army under Captain Thomas Askey, and that he (Lowe) contracted a virus and died.

Vincent Lowe was buried on the Harmanni place which is the present Ellis Shoemaker land. Tradition claims that Vincent Lowe was the first white man to be buried in Amberson Valley. If this tradition is true Francis Amberson's body would have been taken from the valley for interment, or he may have lost his life away from Amberson Valley. (Read under Amberson, Clark, Stake Graveyard.)

The name of Henry Lowe is included in the tax list of 1782.

LYTLE

The Lytle name is not so early in Amberson although the Little name is one of the earliest in Path Valley and Amberson Valley.

Mr. T. H. Lytle who was married to Amanda Roler, daughter of John and Isabella Shields Roler lived in the Laurel Grove Area and was a member of the building committee when the Laurel Grove United Brethren Church was built.

Mr. J. Floyd Lytle has long been a successful business man of Amberson a former Assistant Highway Superintendent of the County and is active in the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Lytle lives in a new house which overlooks the road where it is crossed by the Turnpike and owns a large number of acres of adjoining lands.

Mrs. Lytle was the former Clara Baker of Amberson Valley and they are the parents of a daughter, Alma, who is a teacher in the Fannett Metal District.

MaGEE

Patrick "Pat" MaGee, (often spelled McGee and sometimes McKee) 1741 - 1811 was born in Ireland, settled in Amberson Valley shortly after coming to America and his descendants have been associated with the valley until the present date.

MaGee tradition states that Patrick MaGee first made an improvement in Perry County but traded improvements with a settler in Amberson since both were dissatisfied with their locations.

Certain writings indicated that Patrick MaGee settled in Amberson in 1757 but this is incorrect as subsequent research proves. Patrick MaGee would have been but sixteen years old at this date and would hardly have been the head of a family at this age.

The Patrick MaGee site was evidently settled by 1757. Patrick MaGee bought "improvements" in Amberson Valley from Robert Slaven (or Sloven) in 1772. The Slaven - MaGee agreement bears the date 1772. Whether MaGee was in the valley prior to this date is possible, although not probable. The name of Patrick MaGee is found on the 1762 tax list of Hopewell Township Cumberland County.

The MaGee surveys and transactions brings to light the peculiar fact that the warrant of 1794 was taken out by Patrick MaGee "in right of" Frederick Stone. The Stone application called for 400 acres but the MaGee surveys of 1794 place the acreage as 349 acres, this acreage is used in later MaGee transactions.

Thus in view of the Frederick Stone application, the "improvements" of 1757 may have been made by Stone prior to the Robert Slaven ownership.

The Adam MaGee transaction of 1818 to Alexander MaGee brings to light the fact that Patrick MaGee's last will was dated February 26, 1801 and that Adam MaGee was named sole executor. The same land (349 acres) was sold back to Adam MaGee by Alexander and Jane MaGee in 1819.

The Patrick MaGee land lay north of the Doyleysburg Road against the Rising (Knob) Mountain and the following neighbors were mentioned in 1800. William Elliott, Esquire, on west (mountain); William Lauthers on the north; William Ward (Cunningham - Brady), and Cromwell McVitty on the east; and Adam Scott on the south. Older persons are well acquainted with the old "Pat" MaGee land or at least parts of it.

Patrick MaGee (1741 - 1811) was married to Jane Hall December 24, 1764. The Patrick MaGee children are listed as follows: John, George, James, Adam, William, Alexander, Patrick, Nancy, Mary, and Nicolia.

Patrick MaGee was a Ranger of the Frontier and his name is found on Captain Thomas Askey's rolls in 1781 - 82. Henry MaGee, who served, seemed to have resided in Metal Township. George MaGee served under Captain Noah Abraham. John MaGee served as a Ranger of the Frontier.

There appears to have been two Patrick MaGees. The name of one Patrick MaGee, a Pennsylvania pensioner, is found on the New York pension list as living in New York. Several MaGee genealogists contacted by the writer were not certain of the two Patrick MaGee lines.

Adam MaGee (1779 - 1854) remained in the valley as did several of the other children. He was married to Martha Appleby, lived on the old home place and was the father of George MaGee, and grandfather of Frank MaGee.

John MaGee was married to Elizabeth Harmony.

The Rev. McGinley list include the following marriages: A. McGee - Mary Appleby 1807, William McGee - Miss McMath 1814, Alexander McGee - Jane Morrow 1814, James McGee - Nancy Lessig 1826, N. K. Campbell - E. McGee 1828, Robert McGee - Cath. Campbell 1833,

bered by a few older people as Marshall Hollow. The Marshall Mill was in this hollow. Marshall Hollow, home, and mill were the first sites in the Depot at the base of the mountain near Fort McCord.

Four of the Marshalls served in the Revolutionary War. Their service would have been prior to moving into Amberson Valley. The early Keefer Store Marshalls are buried at Rocky Spring Church which is within three miles from the Marshall lands.

MARTIN. Mr. Norman and Mrs. Mabel Varner Martin live in Amberson. Their daughter Pauline is married to Blair Rowles.

The Paul Martin who was connected with the New Bridge Mill site and some of the Taylor land was probably the Paul Martin who was married to Hannal Taylor in 1815.

Mr. Galen and Gail (Martin) Martin from the Pinola area have recently purchased the Ryder farm and moved to Amberson.

The Martins are the parents of two children: Derwood and Devanna.

MEASE

John Mease secured a warrant on 318 acres of land in Amberson August 1, 1766. Part of this land which lay along Mill Run covers some of the most controversial and confusing land in Amberson. This part with some of the Hugh Johnson warrant of 1767 was owned by John Harvey and others.

The main part of the Mease warrant was the well known Stuart-Riddle land or the Davis Stewart place now owned by Mr. Gene VanScyoc.

Names of persons interested as owners, residents, attorneys, and others on some of the Mease Johnson land near Mill Run were: Mease, Johnson, Isaac Ree, James and Andrew Bogle, James Moore, Little, Stuart, Copeley, Riddle, Rippey, Semple, and Perry.

The writer does not believe that John Mease ever lived in Amberson although the name of John Mease, Jr. appears in records.

MELLINGER. John Mellinger purchased the old farm immediately north of the Dry Run Road in 1867 from Edward and Eliza McVitty. McVitty purchased this farm from David Kilgore in 1852. This early site is now owned by Lois and Herbert Plasterer.

MCCLAY. One of the noted McClays from McClay's Mill near Shippensburg ran the grist mill at the VanScyoc site at one time.

MCCLURE. A McClure family lived near the Laurel Grove section of Amberson for many years. The older John and Hugh McClure who served in the Cumberland County Militia under Captain Thomas Askey belong to Path Valley.

MCCONNELL. G. McConnell lived against the Kirtatiny mountain near the Franklin Tannery site before 1850. Mrs. McConnell lived here in 1858 and 1868.

MCCURDY. This well known early family belongs to Path Valley. The McCurdy lands were mainly in the vicinity of Spring Run some of

Martha McGee - Jacob Walk 1835. Jane McGee - Wm. Johnston 1838, John McGee - Cath. Shetler 1840, Ruth McGee - Lessig 1842, Mary McGee - Jos. Culbertson 1843, Martha McGee - Benj. Culbertson 1845, George McGee - Mary J. Taylor 1847.

Mary McGee owns a beautiful old farm on Mill Run which stretches from the road to the base of Eckenrode Knob. This plot was originally part of the Mease warrant of 1763 or present Gene VanScyoc farm and includes the early Copely Grist Mill site. Saw mills were later operated here by the Barnharts, McVitty, MaGees and possibly others.

Mary McGee was born a Culbertson but her parents died early and she was brought up by the MaGees.

Mr. Nelson McGee and his son Carl are the last of the name in Amberson. Mr. McGee does not live on original MaGee land but on Linn, Timmons, Fleck land which had been warranted as early as 1762.

Mrs. Nelson McGee was the former Alice McVitty a former teacher, whose father, Mr. David McVitty, is the last of that old name in Amberson.

The MaGees also are the parents of one daughter, Patsy, who is married to Richard Campbell and lives in Path Valley.

Other McGees live near by, the well known C. M. McGee lives at Spring Run. The Merle McGee family lives in Path Valley.

Robert A. Stevenson, Box 136, Wamsutter, Wyoming, 82536, has recently published the MaGee genealogy. Please consult him for family lines.

MARKWRIGHT

Stephen Markwright took out a warrant for 300 acres December 16, 1767. Markwright never lived on this disputed land in upper Amberson. Records show that James Riddle was agent for Stephen Markwright, Jr., of Philadelphia. In 1785, 91 acres of this land was surveyed off for James Mitchell, this land was owned later by Robert S. Rea and later was the James Edward Fegan place. John Byers secured a warrant on 56 acres of this land in 1794. Some of the Markwright claim bordered the Perry County line.

NOTE: Was this 300 acre warrant of December 16, 1767 the earliest Shields land? Some of the Shields descendants claim that this is true and that the earliest Thomas Shields place was on the east side of the creek.

MARSHALL

Joseph, Peter, and Samuel Marshall were living in Fannett Township in the seventeen eighties. Joseph Marshall bought land at the head of the valley in 1787 which was to be known later as the Hagie place. Mary Jane Marshall was married to Peter Shields. The Joseph Marshall, Abraham Hagie place was slightly north of the early John Shields farm (Shanabrough).

Peter Marshall lived for some time near the VanScyoc Mill location. The Marshalls were from the Keefer's Store section now in Letterkenny Depot. A mountain hollow near Fort McCord is still named

which lay as far south as the end of the Knob Mountain.

Some of the early Kearsley land of 1752, a 64 acre plot was warranted later by the Hendersons of Shippensburg and seemingly was owned prior to 1789 by Hugh McCurdy. A McCurdy lived early in Amberson and by the Civil War era there were two McCurdy places near Laurel Grove. One of the McCurdy places is now George Stewart land while another place nearer to Laurel Grove was Pasco land.

Mrs. Harry McCurdy lives with her son-in-law Mr. Wallace and Mary McCurdy Johnston at the old Fleck Mill site. This was one of the most important locations in Amberson for many years.

McMICKEL (McMICHAEL)

Arthur McMickel secured a warrant for 200 acres in Amberson December 16, 1767. The McMichael land was bordered on the south by John Ward (Edmondson), on the north by Culbertson, and lay along the Kittatinny Mountain on the east side of the creek. This land was early divided into four parts and the Franklin Tannery site was on part of this land.

Owners of the four parts in 1829 were: A - John Taylor and George Johnson; B - John Harvey; C - John Snake; D - John McVitty. The Benjamin Van Scyoc warrant of March 26, 1794 for 109 acres was part of the early McMichael land of 1767. John Taylor took out a warrant October 31, 1801 on his 37 acre part.

Some of the McMichael land was in dispute with John Ward. Ward became owner of this disputed part.

Numerous McMickels served in the Cumberland County Militia. James McMichael who served in the 4th Batt. in 1781 lived near Brake's Saw Mill and the Loudon Road in Hamilton Township. Robert McMichael who served under Captain Isaac Miller in 1778 probably lived in the Cumberland Valley. Alexander Nickel was evidently living in Amberson (or Path Valley) in 1778 when he served under Captain Thomas Askey.

An Arthur McMickle was working at the Mount Pleasant Furnace in 1812. John McMichaels also lived in Path Valley. An Arthur McMickle was married to Miss Brown in 1805.

MCLAUGHLIN. John and Sarah McLaughlin were John Fleck heirs. Joseph Eckenrode's wife also was an heir. Joseph Eckenrode and wife became owners of the Fleck Mill in 1860. The McLaughlins owned part of the old Duncan warrant above the mill some of which was later John Roller land. Grave stones in the Stake graveyard include the stones of John McLaughlin (1830 - 1863) and Sarah A. Fleck McLaughlin (1829 - 1908). She was the last person to be buried in the Stake Graveyard.

McLEAN

William McLean owned parts of the early McMichael land of 1767 and the Little land of 1766 in the eighteen seventies and eighties and ran the most noted tannery of Amberson. This tannery was operated by Cyrus Hazlett for McLean and by Hazlett himself. This most noted

tannery of Amberson was known as the Franklin Tannery. William McLean and his son James lived in Shippensburg.

The early McLean name of Path Valley is spelled many ways on old records such as: McLean, McLane, and McClain. John McLane of Path Valley served under Captains Askey and Abraham in the Cumberland County Militia. John McLean was a Corporal under Captain Noah Abraham in 1777.

McMULLIN

The McMullin name is generally associated with the Concord area of Path Valley. Enos McMullin, however, is associated with several early land transactions in Amberson. He owned the Jacob Yost warrant of 107 acres in lower Amberson from 1773 until 1790. This land lay between the Dougal land and the present Harmon Piper place and all or part of it became Ferguson land. Enos McMullin also figured in the early Thomas Timmons deal near Amberson Post Office.

McVITTY

This early name, like a score or more Amberson names, would fill a volume alone if time, space, and funds were available.

Cromwell McVitty first came to Amberson in 1763, according to McVitty records. The following land warrant which may be seen in the survey docket books in the Clerk of the Courts office substantiates this claim. Cromwell McVitty applied for a 100 acre warrant August 28, 1766 which joined "other" McVitty land. This 100 acre plot lay above the earlier plot which included the cemetery. By 1786 he was listed as owning 350 acres. The 1804 tax list shows Cromwell McVitty of Bucks County to own 300 acres.

The 100 acre 25 perch warrant of 1766 was practically square and was bounded on the Dividing Mountain by Patrick McGee and George Ely (Adam Piper, Jr.); on the south by George Ely and the William Watson - Thomas Rae survey of 1767 for 112 acres; on the north by the Cunningham (Wm. Ward) land of August 30, 1766; on the east by the William Linn - Thomas Timmons land of 1763 - 180 acres, and the John Long (Ed. McVitty) warrant of June 4, 1762 for 252 acres.

The larger McVitty plot was evidently occupied very early by McVitty, later by John McVitty or (and) Edward McVitty. This land evidently was first applied for by a John Long June 4, 1762 and called for 252 acres. The cemetery etc. came off this McVitty land. McVitty records state that Cromwell McVitty gave the land and timber for the first church (Union). The land was bordered on the east by the early John Ward and Barnabas Clarke lands. A small part lay on the east side of the creek.

Book 3, page 447, Records Office, Chambersburg, Pa. lists the names of Cromwell and Margaret McVitty's children and also proves that he was buried in Bucks County.

Cromwell McVitty retained his lands in Lancaster County and evidently died there but he evidently spent considerable time in Amberson as is proven by records. Cromwell McVitty served in the Lancaster County Militia under Captain Jenkins.

Cromwell McVitty was married three times: to Margaret Hudson, Margaret Anderson, and Margaret McCurdy. Evidently the McCurdy marriage influenced his acquiring lands in Amberson although he was related to the noted Hervey family also.

Cromwell McVitty had two children, William and Elizabeth, to his first wife. William McVitty resided in Amberson for a considerable number of years but returned to the home lands in Lancaster County after his father's death. He operated a grist mill in Amberson 1803-1808.

Cromwell McVitty had no children to his second wife, Margaret Anderson.

Following are the children of Cromwell and Margaret McCurdy McVitty: Edward 1771-1833, John 1773-1857, Anne 1775-1843, Sarah, Thomas 1781-1823, Margaret, and Samuel. Edward McVitty married Margaret Taylor, daughter of John Taylor, and lived in Amberson Valley. John McVitty married Mary Taylor, daughter of John Taylor, and lived in Amberson Valley. Anne married Henry Harmony and remained in the valley. Thomas McVitty married Mary Cook of the Concord Narrows and removed to Shirleysburg.

County records show that the 352 acres of land which consisted of the two original tracts already mentioned and which called for 252 acres and 100 acres were turned over to Edward McVitty with proper releases from the other heirs.

John McVitty ran a tannery and saw mill on the earliest McVitty land. Tax records show that he operated the mill and tannery throughout the years 1807-1829 inclusive. The writer is not certain when he built the mill, certainly not much earlier, but he may have operated both many years after 1829 since he did not die until 1857. There was a tannery in operation here as late as 1868. This tannery was in the meadow directly east of the village south of the Franklin Tannery.

William McVitty built a grist mill in 1803 which he sold to Jacob Snyder in 1808. (Read under Wm. McVitty mill.) William McVitty purchased many acres of the Duncan land in 1807 and 1808 but sold soon after. He seems to have returned to Lancaster. He was a son to Cromwell and Margaret Hudson McVitty (first marriage) and a half brother of John and Edward McVitty.

Edward and Margaret Taylor McVitty had children named: Margaret, Harriett, John, Julia, Elizabeth, Hannah, Martha, and Edward McGinley. Squire Edward McGinley McVitty was a long time Amberson school teacher.

The line of John McVitty (1804-1867) son of Edward, of Cromwell, has been followed through since some of these descendants still live in the valley. The John and Anne Culbertson McVitty children are listed as follows: Robert (1827-1902) who was married to Catharine McLaughlin; Edward, who was married to Mary Burk; Mary, (1831-1914) who was married to Valentine Stewart; Samuel (1832-1907) who was married to Mary Anne Clippinger; Stephen (1835-1886), who was married to Mary Agnes Gaston; Emily (1837-1919), who was

married to William Stake; John; and Joseph M. (1842-1864) who was killed at Chattanooga, Tenn. September 16, 1864. In addition to Joseph, Stephen McVitty also served in the Civil War.

The earliest McVitty land was sold by John and Anne Culbertson McVitty to Joseph Culbertson in 1838. This is the present Mr. Clark Craig farm. Edward McVitty was a Justice of the Peace for many years while a later Samuel McVitty ran a saw mill on Mill Run before and after 1868.

The Rev. A. A. McGinley marriage list includes the following: Peggy McVitty - William Brown 1802, William Brice - Peggy McVitty 1811, Margaret McVitty - Adam Glasgow 1821, Juliana McVitty - A. Johnson 1822, Miss McVitty - Andrew Johnson 1823, Marie McVitty - Robert Blyth 1824, John McVitty - Anne Culbertson 1826, Noah McVitty - Mary Culbertson 1836, John McVitty - Frances Culbertson 1836, Martha McVitty - F. A. Shearer 1837, Margaret McVitty - William Funt-ton 1840, Mary McVitty - Stake 1843, Edward McVitty - Mary Burk 1851, Mary E. McVitty - Valentine Stewart 1852.

The only male McVitty remaining in Amberson Valley is Mr. David McVitty. Mrs. Mary Culbertson McVitty died in January 1961. Mr. McVitty has three daughters, Ola (Stewart), Alice (MaGee), and Velma (O'Neil) living in the valley. Mrs. Anna Baker and Mrs. Kathleen Miller live out of the valley. All five were teachers, however, Anna is the only one teaching at the present time. Velma served in the navy.

Larry and Rosalie Miller, grandchildren of Mr. McVitty live in Amberson. Larry is farming and Rosalie is a nurse.

MCQUAID

Matthew Henderson sold 37½ acres to John McQuaid, weaver, June 16, 1789. At this date the land was bounded on the north by Hugh McCurdy; part of Sebastian and George Kerr, Harmony land; and on the south by Henry Varner (Gorman Ward). The McQuaid land is now part of the George Stewart land.

John McQuaid ran a weaving shop here for some time.

MILLER. Henry and Christopher Miller owned land in 1794 on the Kirtatanny side of the Conococheague Creek. Neighboring land owners were: Thomas Timmons, Benjamin Van Seyoc, and John Taylor. These tracts were mainly mountain land although Millers seem to have lived in Amberson at one time.

MILLER. Mr. Harold Miller operates a nursery on the Timmons Road in Path Valley.

MILLS. A Mills family lived in Amberson in 1858 and 1868. In fact a James Mills seemingly owned land as early as 1821.

NOTE: James Mills took out a warrant for 76 acres on part of the earlier Henry Varner land (Later Ferguson - Gorman Ward land.)

MOORE

The Moore name is one of the earliest of Path and Amberson Valleys. The name of Andrew Moore is found on the 1751 tax list while Amos

Moore was evicted from Path Valley by the Magistrates of Cumberland County in 1750. A James Moore lived in Path Valley and a James Moore in Amberson Valley. Tax records show that there was a James Moore, Sr., and James Moore, Jr. Of course these noted Moores served in the Indian Wars and the Revolution. James Moore served under Capt. Noah Abraham.

James Moore owned the 118 acre Hugh Johnson warrant for a number of years and resided in Amberson. In fact Moore was living in Amberson when his neighbors were Isaac Ree (now Gene Van Scyoc) and Punroy. The Johnson - Moore land was later owned by John Harvey, Riddle, Kean, etc. and is now owned by Mr. Ira Stewart and Edward McVitty.

The majority of the Moores belong to Metal Township although Moores lived in upper Path Valley and near the mouth of Amberson Valley.

MOORE. Mr. Gerald and Ruth Moore and their son Gerald live west of the Creek and the Van Scyoc Mill site on the old Struble - Noah Piper place which seems to have been part of the Duncan land of 1766.

MORRIS. Mr. Robert Morris, Jr., his wife Maxine Foore Morris and their sons Max and James and niece Jeannette Cisney have built a new home west of the Conococheague at the old Craig, Peter Stake place part of which was warranted by Daniel Duncan in 1766.

Max and James are students at the Shippensburg State College, Jeannette is a student at the Fannett Metal High School.

Mr. Robert Morris, Sr., and Priscilla Hockenberry Morris live near the Robert Morris, Jr. home.

MYERS — MOYER

Heman Myers bought land in Amberson Valley from William Hudson. This was earlier John Van Scyoc land on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain also part of the Adam Scott land which had been divided by John Van Scyoc and Adam Piper, Jr. The Myer heirs sold to Peter Piper in 1826.

Herman Myers served under Captain Henry Bricker in the 4th Pa. Regt. Continental Line. His will of 1810 states that he died in Letterkenny Township. Some genealogists list him as belonging to Amberson but he rightfully belongs to Letterkenny Township.

Herman Myers did reside for some time in Amberson but this was in his later life. One of his daughters, Elizabeth, was married to Peter Piper and another daughter, Anna, was married to Peter Stake.

Herman Myers owned land in Horse Valley which he had bought from George Rosenberger. A Stake family also lived in Horse Valley. These places were on the Three Mountain Road west of the Skinner Hotels against the Kittatinny Mountain.

Mr. Elwood and Doris Kump Myers have recently purchased the Albert Wilson site as a hunting lodge and summer home. His mother was Ambert Johnson Myers a daughter of Jesse Johnson.

MYERS. Mr. Curt Myers owns a well kept summer home near the present Ira Stewart farm and the Creek. This was part of a Hugh Johnson warrant of 1767.

NEIL (O'NEILL, NEAL, NILL)

The Charles O'Neil who served under captain Noah Abraham certainly lived in Amberson for some time. Charles Nill (Neal) lived in Amberson in 1804 on the west side of the creek high against the Knob Mountain. His neighbors were: John Harmanni, Thomas Fegan, and Robert Lowther. The Neil place was one of the later Hite places in Amberson. David Neal served under Capt. Noah Abraham in 1780. The Neal (Neil) and Hite families generally belong to Metal Township although there may have been unrelated Neal, Neil (O'Neil) families.

NOLAN. A Nolan (Nolland) family lived between the Laurel Grove School site and a Logan (Floyd Brown place) on the old road up the valley. This site was partly obliterated by the Turnpike. This name is remembered by a few older people due to the fact that the name figured in an accident.

John Nolan and Susanne Nolan (1826 - 1880) are buried in Amberson.

NORTH. This is an old family of Metal Township. The Roy North family currently lives at the Reverend Samuel Dougal site in the mouth of Amberson. This land was part of the William Wilson warrant of 1763.

Mr. Roy North is married to the former Alice Garner and they are the parents of sons: Richard, Ralph, Jerry, Jay, Dennis, Dean, and Kenneth.

PASCO

John Pasco spelled variously, served in the Cumberland County Militia under Captain Thomas Askey in 1777 - 81. Tax lists of 1780 - 1782 list John Pascow (Pascau) shoemaker. John Pasco lived in lower Amberson and his land was later owned by Henry Harmoni.

John Pasco died in 1802 and was buried in Stake's Graveyard near his neighbor John Harmanni another Revolutionary veteran. His native grave stone was recently identified, this date agrees with the fact that Catharine Pasco, widow, was appointed administrator in 1802.

In 1805, when the John Pasco, Jr. land was sold to Henry Harmoni, it was located as being on the southeast side of a branch of the Conococheague against (and between) John Harmoni and Henry Varner against the Timmons Mountain. This land or part of it may have been part of the Henderson - McQuaid land. The most of it became Harmony land and a smaller place became a McCurdy place.

In these transactions the names of Michael Pasco, shoemaker, John Pasco, and Elizabeth Nave are mentioned.

Michael Pasco, son of John Pasco, took out a warrant on 51 acres "in right of" Abraham Varner. Michael Passes was married to R. Hudson in 1807 by Rev. McGinley.

John Pasco (Pacho) was probably related to the Clarks.

PECHART. Mr. Herbert and Helen Barnhart Pechart live near the Van Scyoc Mill location. They are the parents of four children: Bonnie, who is married to Norman Ryder, Steven W. who is in the army, Lurea, who just finished High School, and Kirk Robert, who is a Junior in High School.

PENNEBAKER. Mr. Guy and Isabel Palm Pennebaker have recently moved into Amberson west of the creek and the Van Scyoc Mill site on some of the early Duncan land which was long known as the John Stewart Place.

PERRY. Samuel Perry purchased the John Mease land of 1766 (Gene Van Scyoc), the Turner land of 1767 (Fegan - Hagie) and other lands in Path, Amberson, and Horse Valleys. He evidently lived in Shippensburg and was a merchant and speculator.

PIPER

When did Adam Piper, Sr. settle in Amberson? This point has not so far been established satisfactorily. While the Adam Piper land is one of the earliest indisputable recorded land dates in the valley, that of Capt. Alexander Culbertson of March 22, 1755 exact proof of his entry into the valley is still lacking.

One informant states that Adam Piper settled in Amberson as early as 1758. This may be a fact but is very doubtful due to the fact that the earliest definite dates discovered by the writer are generally later.

One old deed shows that the early Culbertson land of 1755 (or part of it) was sold by John Culbertson May 13, 1782 to Plausins Essily and Essily sold to Michael Kunkle May 10, 1782 and Michael Kunkle sold to Adam Piper April 7, 1785 "one of sons and divisees of said Adam Piper deceased." Adam (Sr.) willed same to ten children subject to widow's dower.

The Adam Piper will bears the date March 26, 1788 and mentions widow Catharine Zollinger and son Adam and equal share to remainder of children. Catharine Piper and John Keasy were the executors.

Adam and Catharine Zollinger Piper were the parents of ten children. Several of the releases to Daniel Piper list the names of the ten children but the names of two girls differ, evidently nicknames were used sometimes.

The names as given in the Adam and Elizabeth Piper Snyder release are: Adam, Peter, John, Daniel, Katharine, Coonrad, Elizabeth, Jacob, Fanny and Mary. (Book 9 page 315)

In the Samuel and Catharine Piper Long release the names are given as: Adam, Peter, John, Daniel, Catharine, Coonrad, Elizabeth, Jacob, Nancy and Polly. (Book 6 page 136)

George Geeseman (Keesman) and Mary Piper Geeseman signed their release to a one tenth share.

Philip Friker (Fraker) and Frances Piper Fraker signed their release to their tenth share.

Catharine must have been married twice, to Samuel Long and Abraham Witter.

Conrad Piper was residing in Somerset County in 1801 when he signed his release to his tenth part of his father's Plantation in Amberson Valley. Neighboring boundaries at this date were: the Kitterinny Mountain, William Lauthers, James Riddle, Peter Barnhart and Benjamin Van Scyoc.

John Piper was living in Westmoreland County when he signed his release.

The Jacob Piper release to Daniel Piper reveals some of the earlier history of this land back to the Alexander Culbertson Warrant of 1755. (Book 8 page 389)

There was an Adam Piper in the South Mountain area also numerous Pipers in the Shippensburg area. William Piper and John Piper were frontier Captains in the Indian era from the Shippensburg area. The Zollingers were from the Strasburg area.

The Adam Piper name is given on some papers as John and John Adam Piper. The John A. (Adam) Piper name is found in the following generations (Read under Rev. War).

Adam Piper, Sr., was not buried in the Piper burial plot but in a grave a short distance south of the family plot. The family plot was not selected until some years after the interment of Adam Piper, Sr.

The Piper lines which have been seen by the writer mainly stem from the Adam Piper, Jr., line. Adam Piper, Jr., who was born as early as February 8, 1769 and died in 1831, did not remain on the home place but became owner of his wife's home or the George Ely (Ealy) place which lay against the Dividing or Knob Mountain south of Patrick Ma-Gee and the later Doyleburg Road. Neighbors of the Ely tract were: McVity, French, Van Scyoc, and Scott. Adam Piper, Jr., and John Scyoc divided the neighboring Adam Scott land in 1793. Jane Ely daughter of George Ely and wife of Adam Piper, Jr., was born May 27, 1770. Adam Piper was a noted blacksmith.

The names of Adam and Jane Ely Piper's children were: Alexander, George, John, Peter, Adam, Daniel, Margaret, William, and Catharine.

Peter Piper (1796 - 1879) (of Adam) was married to Elizabeth Myers (1798 - 1882), daughter of Herman Myers. Peter Piper was a long time blacksmith of the valley and served in the war of 1812. Peter Piper and his brother - in - law Peter Stake, who was married to Anna Myers both lived on the short time Herman Myers land (formerly Scott Hudson) which lay against the Knob Mountain slightly north west of the Van Scyoc mill location. The Peter Piper heirs are mentioned in Book 74, page 239, Records Office.

NOTE: There was another Peter Piper 1782 - 1870.

The Peter and Elizabeth Myers Piper children were: Sarah, Margaret, Mary, Harmon, Simon, Elizabeth, Noah, Barbara, Martha, and Solomon. Several members of this family were well-known in Amberson.

Harmon P. Piper 1825 - 1889 was married to Sarah Anne Stitt

1855 - 1884. The Harmon P. Piper children were: Alice, Herbert, William, Elmer, Anna, and Harmon Stitt Piper.

DANIEL PIPER

The writer did not attempt to trace the Adam Piper children with the exception of Adam, Jr., Daniel, and a sister Catherine Witter, wife of Abraham Witter.

Daniel Piper (1777 - 1837) whose wife was Mary Witter (1784 - 1865) remained on the home place. The other heirs were signing releases to Daniel Piper as late as 1811. In 1822, the Piper land was divided, Daniel retained 225 acres and Abraham Witter took 126 acres. Daniel and Samuel Piper were operating a grist mill and saw mill in 1840. Daniel became sole owner in 1842. These mills were sold to Daniel Piper by John Culbertson.

Daniel Piper purchased the early Turner - Hagie land from Daniel and Nancy Barnhart in 1829. This was for his son John A. Piper who lived here for many years.

Quote: "John A. Piper, son of Daniel and Mary Witter Piper, and grandson of Adam Piper, Sr., had six sons in the Union Army: Louis, Wilson, Daniel R. Jonathan, Martin, and David H., (William S. physically unfit). David H. died in the hospital at Gallatin, Tenn."

John A. Piper 1803 - 1880 son of Daniel and Mary Witter Piper and who lived at the former Hagie place was married to Margaret Struble 1808 - 1862. Margaret Struble Piper is buried in the Amberson Cemetery but John A. Piper is buried in Illinois.

From Mrs. Loman Seitz, Quote: "The Thomas Shields family (son of John, grandson of Thomas) lived on the old Shields place when John Piper lived at the earlier Hagie place. The older Shields children used to carry the younger Piper children to school on their backs." Mrs. Seitz's stepfather was Charles S. Shields who later owned the farm adjacent St. Mary's Church at Doyleburg.

NOTE: This was not the Mill Run School which was not built until 1856. (Read under schools)

OTHER PIPER FACTS

Harmon P. Piper operated the old Grist Mill at New Bridge for many years. This was the Harmon Piper who was married to Sarah Ann Stitt and who was deeded the early Alexander Potts burial ground by John Stitt in 1869.

As stated previously, the writer has studied many Pipers in files who were not Adam Piper, Jr., descendants and who evidently were not Daniel Piper descendants, this is understandable when you consider the fact that there were so many children.

A William A. Piper who was born in Amberson in 1825 became one of the earliest Representatives from California. Jacob Piper owned 40 acres of land in 1807. Joseph Piper worked at Mount Pleasant Furman prior to 1812.

Ten Pipers are listed on the A. J. Piper list as serving from Amberson Valley: David, Jonathan, Lewis, Mark (Martin) Ezra, Wilson,

Michael, Jacob, George, and William. David, Michael, Jacob and George Piper lost their lives.

The following names were taken from the Rev. McGinley marriage list: Miss Piper - P. Fricker 1805, Margaret Piper - Michael Stake 1825, S. Piper - Polly Mitchell 1830, Adam Piper - Ruth Piles 1839, William Piper - Harriett Horner 1843.

Herbert Peter Piper (1857 - 1933) and Jennie McVitty Piper's (1871 - 1930) children were named as follows: Gertrude, Mary, Harmon, Lavina, Thomas, Newton, Verda, Martha, Elmer, Hilda, Esther, and Herbert.

Six of the Herbert P. and Jennie McVitty Piper children are currently residing in Amberson.

Mrs. Gertrude Piper Wilson (1), her son Gambel and her daughter Esther Wilson Rowles all live in Amberson.

Mrs. Mary Piper Edmondson (2) and her husband Frank have recently sold their large farm. They are the parents of one son, Claire and three daughters, Vivian (Baker), Reba (Files), and Eleanor (Hoover).

Harmon Piper (3) and his wife Jewel Bair Piper live at the site of the Shetler - Kilgore Inn in lower Amberson Valley. Mrs. Piper is a retired teacher. Mrs. Piper's mother, Mrs. Nora Flautt Bair, who is the oldest resident of Amberson resides with the Pipers.

Mr. Harmon Piper is a veteran of World War I and is an active charter member of the McCartney Post American Legion and has served as Commander. Mr. Piper has contributed much time and valuable aid in the creation of this volume.

Mr. Thomas Piper (5) whose wife was the former, Mary Eckenrode, lives on one of Amberson's landmarks, the Sulphur Springs Farm which was an early Lauther farm and was later a Funston farm.

The Thomas and Mary Eckenrode Piper children are: Thomas Elden Piper who is currently County Agent of Adams County, Donald E., (Louise Hoover), and Robert who lives near Newburg, Pa., and Harmon G. Piper bookkeeper for the Heisy Orchards and who was recently married to Mary Ellen McCulloh of Sylvan, Pa.

Mrs. Hulda Piper Stewart (10) and her husband Mr. Raymond Stewart live in Amberson (Read under Stewart).

Mr. Newton and Myrtle Flautt Piper (6) reside near the old New Bridge or Piper Mill site and have many old deeds concerning this old mill site from the Hammonds to the Harmon Piper heirs.

Virginia Piper Beason and her husband Elmer Beason own and live at the New Bridge site. Lois Piper Plasterer and her husband live in Chambersburg and own the old abandoned farm immediately north of the Dry Run Road. The eldest Piper daughter, Marion, is married to Robert Alexander and lives near Willow Hill.

Other children are: Elmer (9) and Lorena Zeigler Piper, Herbert (12) and Mary Stine Piper, Verda (7) wife of George Baker, and Lavina (4) Pilgrim, Esther (11) (Etter) (deceased) and Martha (8) (Spidel).

Mr. Alton Piper is a descendant of the Peter Piper line but is a second cousin of the Herbert Piper children. Mr. Alton Piper's first wife was May Culbertson. One daughter, Vonnie Piper Burdge lives at nearby Spring Run.

Ellis Alton Piper whose wife was the former Betty Henry has removed from Amberson.

Kenneth Ralph Piper, his wife Naomi Kaylor Piper and their children: Kenneth, Jr. Alton D., and Jeffrey Lynn live in Amberson.

Mr. Alton Piper's present wife was the former Nancy Brown and they reside at the place long known as the David Brown place. This land was part of the Francis Amberson land.

Mr. Clift Piper who runs a garage near the mouth of Amberson is a brother of Alton Piper.

PISLE. Samuel Pisle (1857 - 1937) and Laura Pisle (1862 - 1937) and a number of their children are buried in Amberson. Mr. Pisle ran the village store and served as Post Master for a number of years.

PLASTERER. Mr. Herbert Plasterer and his wife Lois Piper Plasterer own an old abandoned farm against the Knob Mountain and north of the Dry Run Road. This farm was owned by such entry names as: Killgore, McVitty, Millinger and others.

PORTER

The Porter name was early associated with land in the mouth of Amberson. The Mary Porter land was the early Robert Wilson land. Rev. Samuel Dougal became owner of this land. Rev. Samuel Dougal was related to the Porter family.

PRICE

The Price name has become a permanent "fixture" in Amberson due to Price's Knob, and the old Price ruins will be pointed out for many years to come. The fact is, however, that Robert Price did not buy and move into Amberson until 1858. This place was earlier Turner - Fegan land which James Fegan sold or willed to Joseph Fegan and which Robert Price purchased March 16, 1858. The acreage at this date was given as 91 acres 80 perch. George Shields and others lived here after Price and is now one of the focal plots of the Amberson Valley Estates.

John Price, Sr., was born in 1769, came to America in 1791 and died in 1844. He was married to Hannah Rowles 1775 - 1841. Hannah Rowles was the daughter of John and Nancy Rowles. John Price is buried at St. Mary's Doyleburg and Hannah is buried at Spring Run.

John Price was called up shortly after coming to America to aid in quelling the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794.

John Price lived in Path Valley and worked as a journey man tailor up and down Path and Amberson Valleys. Price history lists the John and Hannah Price children as follow: Mary 1800; Anne 1801; John 1803, who settled in McDonough Co., Illinois; Thomas 1805, who settled in Ohio; Richard 1807, who was killed in the Mexican War; William 1809, Dry Run; Robert 1812; and Nancy Jane 1818.

Robert Price attended school in Path Valley and Chambersburg and began teaching at 14 years of age. He taught for 49 years mainly in Path, Burns, and Amberson Valleys.

In 1858 Robert Price bought the farm at the head of Amberson and resided there until his death in 1887. Robert Price was married to Rachael Skinner, daughter of William and Jane Harry Skinner. They had eight children, four of whom died in infancy, Elmira married James Fegan, Mary Anne married George Shields, and Martha married David Ferguson.

The names of Ambrose and Sylvester Price appear on the Civil War list from Amberson. Ambrose Price lost his life. NOTE: Price records state that James Price was killed in the army. He probably was from Path Valley.

PUMROY

Thomas Pumroy of Lurgan Township purchased the Emanuel Gallagher warrant of 1767, Jan. 20, 1772. This land was located on the east side of the creek against the Kittatinny Mountain above the Hugh Johnson warrant of 1767 and east of the John Mease land of 1766. (Davis Stewart - Gene Van Seyoc)

Mary Pumroy of Lurgan Township, widow of Thomas Pumroy, deeded to Charles and Mary Pumroy (under the terms of the Thomas Pumroy will of 1803) a tract of 116 acres 58 perch in Amberson Valley. This land passed to James Riddle, Attorney of Chambersburg in 1812 although the Pumroy name did not disappear until 1822. Some of the Pumroys evidently lived in Amberson for a good many years.

Riddle sold this land to George and Joseph Piper in 1841. It was owned later by N. K. Harvey the Fegans, and Wyrick. This originally was the third highest farm on the east side of the stream. (Present Hoyer place)

REA (RHEA)

Thomas Rhea and William Watson applied jointly for a tract of land June 25, 1767. This warrant called for 112 acres and lay against the Knob Mountain and was bounded on the north by the 100 acre Cromwell McVitty tract and the John Long - John McVitty land of 252 acres which had been secured by Long, June 4, 1762. It was bounded on the west by George Ely, later Adam Piper, Jr., now Frank Stake, and on the south by early owners later Peter Piper. This land became the Robert and Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson site and is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Brown.

Thomas Rea and William Watson did not own this land very long. Thomas Rae appears to have been related to the Reas who lived on the west side of the creek near present Richmond Furnace and the earliest road to the west (Forbes) which was opened in 1755 and 1758 through Cowans Gap.

John and James Rea both served under their neighbor Capt. Noah Abraham. Rea Ridge still retains its name. The Watson family also lived near the Rea site in Metal Township. (Read in Forbes Road Parnels Knob to Burnt Cabins).

ISAAC RAE

Isaac Rae (also spelled Ree, Rae, Ray Lay) early owned the John Mease warrant on Mill Run (Gene Van Syoc) and sold or released the land to James Bogle in 1777.

Isaac Lay (Rae) served in the Militia in 1778. They appear to be the same person although the writer lacks absolute proof.

The Isaac Rae, Bogle Semple, Riddle land is now the Gene Van Syoc and Mary McGee lands and was bordered by Clark (Shields). Pumroy (across the creek), and James Moore on the south in 1766.

MATTHEW S. REA

The writer found evidence of Matthew Rea in Amberson and knew that he was buried in the Rea Burial Ground. Mr. Stanley B. Rea, Rea genealogist states that Matthew Sutherland Ren, his wife Elizabeth, and five children came to Mifflin County prior to the Revolutionary War and that they moved into Amberson Valley in 1797. All five children were born at Newry Ireland. The three sons were named James, Jonathan, and Robert Scott Rea.

ROBERT S. REA

Robert Scott Rea youngest son of Matthew Rea remained in Amberson for the greater part of his life and was a noted stone cutter (mason) as well as helping to manage the farm(s). Robert S. Rea lived the early part of his life on the highest farm on the east side of the creek. This was an old place which dates back to 1767. James Fegan father-in-law of Robert S. Rea, Sr., owned the farm in 1785.

Did the Rea family live first at the head of Amberson above the Hagie, Fegan, Price places?

Robert S. Rea lived on the east side of the creek probably until 1837 when he purchased land from Arthur Shields son of Thomas Shields, Sr., a tract of 61 acres which had been sold or given to sons Arthur and Thomas Shields, Jr., by Thomas Shields, Sr., April 24, 1806. This was part of 190 acre Barnabas Clark warrant of 1767 which had been purchased by Thomas Shields in 1782.

This 61 acre plot has been known for one hundred thirty years as the Rea place, later Garland, Culbertson, now Robert Stewart land. The burial ground long known as the Rea Burial Ground was on this plot.

This burial ground was not first known as the Rea Graveyard since interments were made here before these Reas settled in Amberson. Robert S. Rea's father-in-law James Fegan was buried here in 1791. Why was James Fegan buried on Shields land? The writer is positive that some members of the Shields family were buried here. (Read under Rea Cemetery).

Robert S. Rea served in the War of 1812, married Eleanor Fegan daughter of James and Honora Timmons Fegan in 1814 and by the time of his death in 1844 owned approximately seven hundred acres of land including at least three home sites. The tract on the road which included the burial ground and two homes on the east side of the creek which became the last two Fegan places in the valley as well as the

two highest places in Amberson on the east side of the creek. The early Robert S. Rae home prior to 1837 was the lately known James Edward Fegan place.

In 1845 when the Robert S. Rea estate was settled (Book E Orphans Court) the following children were named: Nancy (Toronto, Canada), Eleanor Felker (Pittsburgh), William (Carlisle), John A., Robert S., Sidney Jane, Thomas, James, and Joseph in Amberson Valley.

Robert S. Rea, Jr., remained in Amberson, he was married to Anna E. Fegan (1816-1868). Anna Fegan is buried in the Union Cemetery in Amberson Valley. The census list of 1850 gave his age as 35 and the age of Anna as 34. He was named as a stone mason and five children are mentioned.

The first Rae land called for forty acres but was enlarged to nearly seven hundred acres which included four home sites at one time. Fegan records prove that Robert S. Rea served in the War of 1812, Joseph Rea was killed at Mufreesboro, Tenn. in the Civil War. A James Rea also served in the Civil War. Eleanor Rae's husband Isaac Crites died in a southern prison camp.

Matthew Rea lived with his grandson Robert S. Rea, Jr., on the home farm in his latter years.

Robert Scott Rea who was a skilled stone cutter migrated to Fond Du Lac, Wisc. in 1840, where new quarries were being opened. He died in 1844 and his wife Eleanor and two sons William and Joseph escorted the body back to Amberson. Eleanor remained in Amberson.

Mr. Stanley B. Rea, 559 Kelly Street, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin is the best Rea genealogist contacted by the writer.

REED

This name is spelled at least ten ways in early documents of various kinds. All spelling included the letter (i) with the exception of the preferred present spelling.

Casper Reed came to America in 1728 on the ship Albany out of Rotterdam, Captain Lazarus Oxman, Master. (Col. Rec. Vol. 3 p. 328) Series 5, Vol. 8 reveals that (Capt.) Casper Reed served in the 1st Co. 3rd Batt. Northumberland (Berks) Militia.

Casper Reed located in Letterkenny Township some time evidently shortly after the Revolutionary War. He was one of the original trustees of the present Salem Lutheran Church at Pleasant Hall. (This church was first Reformed and Lutheran.) Casper Reed was buried here since the wording in the will states that he desired to be buried in Salem Congregational Burial Ground alongside my daughter Margaret who had been married to Andrew Fricker. NOTE: Andrew Friker (Fraker) served in the Bucks Co. Militia in the Revolutionary War and may have located in Letterkenny in 1787 when he figured in land deals with John Nelson and Abraham and Jacob Crozier. When Andrew Friker died in Dublin Township, Bedford, now Fulton Co. he bequeathed 14 dollars to the Lutheran Church, Strasburg, Franklin Co. The Horse Valley and Fulton Co. Frakers stem from this Andrew Fricker. There were numerous Andrew Frakers in the line.

Casper Reed died in Amberson Valley in 1801, but it is doubtful if he resided in Amberson very long since he died with one of the several children who had moved to Amberson.

Children mentioned in the will were: Michael, Frederick, Peter, son-in-law Christian Dise who was married to Catharine, grandchildren of Margaret who had been married to Andrew Fricker, George, Casper, son-in-law John Stake who was married to Eave, grandson George Stake son of daughter Eva. (Casper Reed's wife was named Catherine).

Casper Reed, Jr., with a large number of his family (8) are buried in the graveyard now known as Stake's. He seemingly was married to a Stake although sources seem to differ on the name. The writer again defers to the family genealogists since this is not to be considered as a genealogical treatise.

Children of Casper Reed, Jr. are listed as: Benjamin, George, Joseph, Elizabeth, Mollie and Annie. A son of Benjamin, John, was the father of T. John Reed of Doyleburg who retained much knowledge on this Reed line.

George Reed, son of Casper, Jr., was married to Barbara Stake daughter of Peter and Anna Myers Stake. A daughter of George Reed, Evelyn, was married to Keefer Peebles Rosenberry of Horse Valley and one of my best informants Mrs. Alma Paskman of Philadelphia is a descendant.

Margaret Jane, daughter of George Reed married Conrad Eckenrode.

Elizabeth Reed daughter of Casper Reed, Jr., was married to Ezra Shoemaker. This fact probably explains the Ezra Shoemaker entry into Amberson. Another daughter of Casper Reed, Jr., (Mollie) was married to a Swanger and Annie was married to a McKee.

George W. Reed from Amberson served in the Civil War. G. Reed ran mills and a tannery. Numerous Reeds are found in Franklin County. Some of these Reeds still live in or near Amberson. George Reed who lives near the Knob was a descendant.

One of the last Reeds to live in Amberson was the John and Susan Stake Reed family. They are the parents of Paul Reed, wife Nellie Shope, Leroy Reed, wife Delorus Himes; and Emma Reed who is married to Wendell Campbell. Mr. Paul Reed is a clock repairman and collector.

Herbert Reed has recently purchased a place in lower Amberson. David Reed currently lives in lower Amberson also.

RIDDLE

The Riddle name was very actively associated with Amberson history for approximately forty or more years. Samuel Riddle acquired considerable land in Amberson while acting as an attorney and agent for certain owners who did not live in this section and probably acquired some as an investment.

Some of the lands owned and claimed by Riddle were claimed by other persons and numerous disputes and trials occurred over a num-

ber of years. The truth is that some of these claims overlapped and both parties seemingly had just claims.

From some Riddle records the following was taken. Quote: "Having become owner of land in Amberson through investment and not being able to dispose of the land advantageously it remained in the family for a matter of forty years. It was tenanted during this time."

Samuel Riddle became owner of many acres of land in 1817. He owned all of the present Gene VanScyoc and Mary McGee lands over three hundred acres, the Hugh Johnson land (now McVitty, Ira Stewart and other land east of creek) about two hundred seventy nine acres, also the Gallagher - Pomeroy farm east of the Davis Stewart - Gene VanScyoc land.

Edward and Horatio R. Riddle sold one acre to the Fannett School Board in 1837. (Read under Schools)

Edward and H. R. Riddle sold the Gallagher - Pumroy tract to George and Joseph Piper in 1841. This was originally the third highest place on the east side of the creek. (Present Hoyer land)

John Stuart Riddle (Meadville, Pa.) sold sixty nine acres of the Johnson warrant east of the creek to Henry Kean (Kane) in 1845.

E. and H. R. Riddle sold a nineteen acre and a ninety acre plot to John Stake in 1845.

In 1851, a recording shows that E. and H. R. Riddle sold 252 acres of the Mease warrant of 1766 to Davis Stewart. All or most of the Mary McGee land had been taken from the original by John Copely. Stewart records state that Stewart had moved here in 1841.

RINE. George and Hannah Taylor Rine lived at the George Taylor Woolen Mill site after George Taylor moved from the valley in 1883. The writer is not certain when the mill ceased. This present Jacob Goshorn farm was deeded by George M. Taylor to Hannah Taylor Rine and Martin S. Rine in 1895.

George H. Rine et al. sold the property to J. P. Goshorn in 1921. (Read under Taylor Woolen Mill)

RODE (RHODE)

Probably few people ever heard of this name in Amberson and may be surprised to learn that there was a "powder" mill in Amberson Valley at one time.

Thomas Timmons sold ten acres to Peter Timmons in 1797 which included a saw mill. Peter Timmons sold this mill in 1805 to Henry Rode of Letterkenny Township. Tax records, and the tax list of 1807 in particular aid in proving that Henry Rhode was operating a "powder" mill in addition to the saw mill.

Henry Rhode was engaged in a business at Strasburg prior to buying in Amberson, the writer believes that he manufactured powder at Strasburg.

The Timmons - Rode mill site was part of the Linn - Thomas Timmons land later Fleck land. Flecks and others ran the saw mill here later but the writer found no mention of the powder mill after the Rode

ownership. This saw mill (and powder mill) site was on the stream between the Franklin Tannery site and the Stewart - Piper Mill site.

ROLES — ROWLES

The Roles family which was early related to the Dever, Timmons and other early Path and Amberson Valley families seemingly migrated to Fannett Township shortly after the Revolutionary War. The tax list of 1786 reveals no Roles names but the 1788 list includes a John Roles. Tax lists of 1804 and 1807 lists the names of John Roles, blacksmith and Thomas Roles.

John Roles owned land in Path Valley in 1800 and earlier. The 1799 tax list reveals the names of two John Roles, possibly Sr., and Jr. Liddy Roles sold 21 acres of land to Benjamin Eby in 1799. (Read under Price).

From Fegan Records, quote "Barnabas Fegan was married to Hannah Dever in 1809, she was born in 1788 in Adams County. Hannah's mother's name was Roles." From the same source, quote "Barnabas and Hannah Dever Fegan are buried in Amberson Valley, also Hannah's father, James Roles and his family rest in the Union Cemetery at that place."

Henry Rowles (Roles) was married to Catharine Witter of Amberson, and they resided in Amberson. A son of Henry and Catharine Witter Rowles, Finley Rowles, was married to Jennie Devor and they resided on the east side of the creek against the Kittatiny Mountain.

A son of Finley Rowles, William and Florence Eckenrode Rowles (both recently deceased) lived on the east side of the creek. Following are the names of their children, two still reside in the valley.

William Bryan and Esther Wilson Rowles live on the east side of the creek near Amberson store and Post Office. They are the parents of four children: Mary June Rowles wife of James Campbell; Gary Eugene Rowles whose wife was Shirley Miller, and children Carla Jean and Angela; Doris Jane Rowles who is married to Ralph Campbell; and William Bryan, Jr. who attends the Fannett - Metal High School.

Russell and Dora Harry Rowles live in Amberson north of the village. A son, Joseph, resides at home.

Paul and Raymond Rowles have removed from the valley.

Mr. Kessler and Dorothy Piper Rowles live near Marion, Pennsylvania. One son, Blair Rowles, who is married to the former Pauline Martin of Amberson, has built a new house near Amberson and they are the parents of Debra and David Rowles.

Mr. Morrow and Grace Harry Rowles also reside in Amberson north of the village. They are the parents of Florence Rowles Fox of Harrisburg and Gladys Rowles who resides at home. Morrow Rowles is an uncle of the last named Rowles brothers and is one of the best informed residents of the upper valley on local landmarks.

A John Rowles served in the Civil War while Al. Rowles was steeped in the lore of the valley.

ROLAN (ROWLAND)

Leah Roland owned a farm in Amberson in 1858 and 1868 which lay on the west side of the road and bordered William Funston. Peter Shearer, John Fleck, and Jacob Stewart. Leah Roland (1788 - 1872) was related to the Lauthers family.

ROLLER (ROLER)

The Rollers remembered by later Amberson residents was Jacob Roller of the Lural Grove section. Jacob Roller was married to Isabella Shields daughter of Arthur Shields and granddaughter of Thomas Shields, Sr. A daughter Mary Roler was married to Charles Burk and was the last Shields descendant to live at the Shields place at the head of the valley. T. H. Lytle was married to Amanda Roler.

Some of the noted Roller brothers of frontier history lived in Fannett Township early. They were living in Fannett Township in 1777 and helped round up the Tories during the Weston Tory Plot.

Michael, John, Balser, and Jacob Roller served in the Bedford County Militia in 1778 and other years. They served under various captains. The Roller names are found in Perry, Bedford, and other counties. There was a J. Roller Fort in Blair County.

RYDER

Mrs. Grace McVitty Ryder, wife of Roy J. Ryder, deceased, recently sold one of the better looking farms of Amberson. Mrs. Ryder is the daughter of the former Oliver and Frances (Zena) Funston McVitty and grand-daughter of Noah and Elizabeth Eckenrode Funston.

The Ryder family was one of the early families in the Fort Loudon area and descendants moved into the Path Valley near Doylesburg.

Two grandsons of Mrs. Ryder have recently moved into the valley. Norman and Bonnie Pechart Ryder live on the east side of the creek near the Post Office and Terry and Debra Swartz Ryder live north of the village.

RUTH

There was a Ruth family in lower Amberson for an uncertain number of years. Thomas Ruth, stone mason, lived in Fannett Township and was listed as owning 333 acres of land. The writer is not certain where Thomas Ruth lived. Some evidence lists it as west of the creek against the Knob Mountain.

John Ruth lived near New Bridge in 1816 when he witnessed the Philip Hammon-John Harmanni, James Kilgore mill transactions in 1816.

In 1834, when Henry Harmoni sold two tracts to his son-in-law William Stirt, a four acre plot was located as "at the mouth of Ruth's Run". This was near, above New Bridge. The writer found mention of Ruth's Run several times but no Amberson resident contacted had any knowledge of the run.

SARVER. Jeremiah Sarver purchase land (recorded 1860) from William McLean. This was part of the tannery land and part of the

McMichael warrant of 1767. The Sarver place is now the Roscoe Burdge home and was the location of the one time Amberson Creamery.

Mrs. Sarver was a sister of John C. Weist whose place adjoined on the north.

SCOTT

Adam Scott died in Amberson. He lived in Amberson in 1786 but may not have moved into Amberson until after the Revolutionary War. Adam Scott was a Lieutenant under Captain McClay and served many "tours of duty" as a Ranger of the Frontier. He was ordered to stay home on one occasion in 1780.

William Scott and Thomas Scott both served in 1777. Thomas Scott evidently lived in Amberson for some time since he was taxed on a distillery in Amberson in 1804.

The Scotts were probably from Southampton Township. William Scott, wagon master, of Berkeley County, Virginia settled up his brother Adam's estate in Amberson Valley. This land lay on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain. Adam Piper, Jr., and John Van-Syoc divided the Scott land.

Adam Piper, Jr., who was married to Jane Ely and who lived at the Ely place took some of the Scott land above the Ely site (Frank Stake) while John VanSyoc (Peter Piper in 1829) took a larger part of the Scott land (now Kuhnert). Some of the Scott land to the south of Kuhnert against the Knob may belong to some other owner.

SEMPLE. Robert Semple secured a warrant for 380 acres of land in 1794 which had earlier settlers on it and which he in turn sold to Copely and Rippey. This plot of land lay along the Eckenrode Knob above the Turner - Hagie, Feagn, Shields, Mease (Stewart), Johnson lands. Pat McGee and William Lauthers was on the south. The Copely heirs of England sold this land to David Washabaugh in 1824 and Washabaugh sold to Conrad Eckenrode in 1834.

David Semple served under Captain Noah Abraham in the Cumberland County Militia. The Semples may have belonged to both valleys.

SHAEFFER — SAINTS PATH

Earhart Shaeffer did not live in Amberson, but at the highest spring of water adjacent to the Timmons Road on the path or trail into Dothan Valley above the present Thomas Goshorn place.

Shaeffer had the distinction of serving both for and against Napoleon before coming to America.

This place was on a trail which split off the Tuscarora Path around the Knob into Dothan and Horse Valleys. A new church called the "Saints" had been started in Horse Valley by David Beltze and others, which gained members in Horse Valley also on the Path Valley side plus at least one family in Dothan. The Saints held services in Horse Valley at the Beltz place, in Path Valley at the Shaeffer place and in Dothan Valley. This probably explains the claim that there was a church in Dothan at one time.

From the Beltz place to the Dothan place a path was known as the "Saints" Path, but on the Path Valley side it was generally referred to as the Dothan Path sometimes as the Christian Path. NOTE: The original trail passed into Horse Valley by "Barney's Narrows". Barnabas Smith had a house in the mouth of Barney's Narrows which was sometimes mistaken for one of the many hideouts of Lewis the Robber.

SHEARER

The earliest Shearer interwoven with Amberson events seems to have been a Jacob Shearer (1774 - 1842) and Maria Shearer (1778 - 1864) who are buried in the Keasy Graveyard.

Jacob Shearer was taxed on a mill as early as 1807. This site was evidently the Alexander Potts Mill which the Potts heirs sold to Jacob Shearer. George Shearer was operating this mill later and it was not in Amberson.

Jacob Shearer purchased the Taylor Woolen Mill site in Amberson in the early 1820's and the Shearer heirs sold to John Craemer in 1842. The Shearers ran a mill here and evidently built the site, however, the writer is not certain what type of mills the Shearers operated although wording states that Taylor purchased a woolen mill.

The woolen factory was located on the present Jacob Goshorn farm. George Taylor purchased the mill from John Craemer in 1852 who had purchased it in 1842 from Jacob and Martin Shearer, executors.

One of the earliest Shearers of the upper valley was a Joseph Shearer who was married to Mary Hagie, daughter of Abraham Hagie, Sr., who owned a 116 acre farm near the head of the valley, now George Stewart land. Joseph and Mary Hagie Shearer lived in Harrison County, Ohio in 1829 when they signed releases to the Hagie land in Amberson.

Peter Shearer (1803 - 1869) who is buried in Amberson ran a grist mill on the Conococheague Creek, possibly at the earlier Stewart site for many years. He is mentioned many times as a Miller, in 1842, 1867 and other years.

The Ryder farm was pointed out as a Shearer farm but he may have lived at several sites. The earliest land purchase apparently called for approximately 100 acres and was purchased from Adam and Catharine Speck in 1829. This land was part of the early Culbertson land of 1755 warrant or later John Stuart land. In 1833 David and Magdalene Fleck sold 50½ acres of land to Peter Shearer which was part of the Linn warrant of 1766 which had passed to Enos McMullin, Thomas Timmons, John Culbertson, to David Fleck.

Peter Shearer purchased the 382 acre tract along the Timmons Mountain south of the Van Syoc Mill site. Neighboring land owners at this date were: John Fleck, Fred Stake, David Byers, Fleming and Stepler, Claudy, Joseph Culbertson, John McVirt, James Emery, Elizabeth Struble, and Jacob Roller. This had been Joseph Kilgore land.

Peter Shearer records state that he was married to Christina Markle who was a sister of Gen. Joseph Markle who ran for Governor of Pennsylvania on the Whig ticket in 1844.

Who was the Peter Shearer who was married to Williana McVirtu in 1826?

Harden, Jonah, and Markle Shearer served in the Civil War. Harden and Markle lost their lives.

Markle Shearer was said to have been a gunsmith.

Jonah Shearer was the last living executor of the Peter Shearer lands and sold part of the Shearer lands to Samuel McVirtu in 1875. Jonah and Joseph Shearer witnessed the Casper Taylor will as early as 1848. Jonathan Shearer was a long time resident of Amberson.

The 1868 map shows a J. M. Shearer place above the J. Floyd Lytle site.

SHETLER

Barnet Shetler served under Capt. Crage in the Lancaster County Militia. He removed to Metal Township during the Revolutionary War since he served under Capt. Noah Abraham in 1782. Barnet Shetler was the son of Andreas Shetler who came to America on the Samuel out of Rotterdam, August 11, 1732.

Barnet Shetler was married to Barbara Keasy (1762 - 1837) and both are buried in Keasy Graveyard near Willow Hill slightly south of Amberson. Barnet Shetler purchased land recorded in 1802 from James Alexander and Richard Childerstone which mentions neighbors John Keasy, James McCurdy and the mountain. This was south of the Timmons Road in Metal Township.

A Barnet Shetler will (Metal Township) is found in Will Book D. One report mentions the Barnet Shetler children as follows: Jacob, John, William, Nancy, and Elizabeth.

William Shetler served in the Second War with Great Britain in 1814 under Captain Alexander. John Shetler served in the Civil War.

William Shetler took out a warrant on 64 acres and five perch of earlier land which is now the Harmon Piper home. This land was long owned by his widow and an adjoining strip of land on the south was long known as the widow Shetler lands. Reports state that the Shetlers ran the inn which was operated by some of the Kilgores for a number of years.

By 1858 two Shetler places are found in Amberson, P. Shetler lived near Amberson or Center while W. Shetler lived at the Harmon Piper location.

The following names are included in the Rev. A. A. McGinley marriage list. W. Shetler - Mary Coons 1811, J. Shetler - Polly Frame 1811, Betsy Shetler - Jacob Stewart 1826, Elizabeth Shetler - James Moore 1836, Barbara Shetler - James Campbell 1836, William Shetler - Martha Wolff 1838, Margaret Shetler - George Fortney 1838, Cath. Shetler - John MaGee 1840, Marie Shetler - Joseph Devor 1848, and Married Shetler - Daniel Stewart 1851.

SHIELDS

Upper Amberson would not have been complete without the noted Shields family. This numerous family played an important role in Am-

berson but like so many pioneer families has disappeared entirely from the valley.

The writer has received a large amount of Shields material from several sources, however, some of the facts differ and do not always correspond with county records.

From Shields genealogy, Quote: "Thomas Shields married a Miss O'Neill in the southern part of County Donegal, Ireland; emigrated to America about 1745, which date was arrived at from the fact that son John was born on shipboard on the way over and died of old age in 1825." NOTE: Courthouse records mention John Shields heirs in 1824.

From Shields genealogy, Quote: "The Shields families appear to have settled first in Adams County where most stayed. After the cessation of Indian hostilities, Thomas Shields pushed on with his family and possessions and a horse and cart. While passing through Chambers-town (burg), where he stopped for the night, he was offered a large tract of land on which part of the town now stands for his horse and cart which were in great demand. Shields refused and pushed on to Amberson where he purchased about 300 acres of land which bears the date June 23, 1767."

Research of the writer indicates that the settlement of Thomas Shields in Amberson influenced the Timmons and Fegan families to locate in Amberson.

From Shields records Quote: "Thomas Shields may have lived in Perry County for some time and then returned to Amberson Valley." The writer doubts that Thomas Shields left the valley. Again, quote: "Some descendants believe that Shields returned to Adams County, possibly only for a visit, and got sick and died there." Here again Shields genealogy differs some believe that he was buried in Adams County while others believe that he was buried in Amberson. NOTE: Several of the upper Amberson warrants were secured as being located in Toboynne Township (Perry County). (Survey Docket Book 3).

Some of the Shields genealogists are confused on the earliest Shields place. They generally state that Shields settled on the old "Home Stead place" but Thomas Shields did not live here first and did not acquire this place until 1782. This was the 190 acre 116 perch warrant of Barnabas Clark of June 23, 1767 number 3950.

A neighboring warrant for 300 acres was secured July 1, 1767 (number 4116). This land appears under the name of Stephen Markright and the part of this warrant which is connected with the Shields, Fegan, Rae, Fegan home lies east of the creek and was the highest home (farm) on the east side of the creek. The Markwright claim which included four divisions was settled by a board of claims in 1826.

Thomas Shields first settled on the part mentioned above on the east side of the creek. He evidently removed to the Shields homestead in 1782. James Fegan secured a warrant on the east side location in 1785 and Robert S. Rea subsequently became owner and probably lived here until 1837 when he also moved to the west side of the stream

on part of the Shields land which he purchased from Arthur Shields in 1837.

JOHN SHIELDS. The John Shields place lay against the Amberson Ridge directly west of the Thomas Shields - James Fegan sites. He was married to Mary Easley daughter of Blossius and Mary Rooker Easley who were among the earliest settlers of Amberson. The buildings at the John Shields have just recently fallen into ruins. (Jacob Eckenrode - Vaun - Shanabrough place).

The old Shields place which has been regarded as the homeplace since 1782 was the 190 acre, 116 perch plot of June 23, 1767 in the name of Barnabas Clark.

Barnabas Clark sold this 190 acre tract to James Lauthers July 24, 1782 and Lauthers in turn sold to Thomas Shields the same day and year July 24, 1782. The July 24, 1782 transfer from Clarke - Lauthers to Shields mentions: edifices, buildings, improvements, barns, stables, gardens, orchards, woods, water, water courses, etc.

This land is often referred to as the Thomas and John Shields land. Records indicate that Thomas Shields, Sr., deeded the home place to Thomas Shields, Jr., and Arthur Shields in 1808. January 14, 1830, an Arthur and Catharine Shields sold the home place to Thomas Shields.

In 1856, the home place or Thomas Shields estate, passed to William Shields, son, who served as the executor, and the following children of Thomas signed releases to William Viz: Peter, Mary Eckenrode, Augustine, George, Arthur, Daniel James, Thomas J. and Charles. NOTE: One Peter Shields was married to Mary Jane Marshall.

This William (Billie, Captain) Shields was the last of the name to live on the homestead, although the last Shields descendant to live here was Mrs. Mary Roler Burk whose mother was Isabella Shields Roler, daughter of Arthur Shields and granddaughter of Thomas Shields, Jr.

The 190 acre 116 perch homestead which was sold by Thomas Shields, Sr., to Thomas Shields, Jr., and Arthur Shields in 1806 and which was sold by Arthur and Catharine Shields to Thomas (of John) Shields in 1830, was divided in 1837 when Thomas Shields sold 61 acres off to Robert Scott Rea, stonemason. This 61 acre plot for a long time was known as the Rhea place, later the Garland place and at present the Robert Stewart place. NOTE: Robert S. Rhea lived earlier at the (Shields?) James Fegan, Robert S. Rhea place which was lately known as the James Edward Fegan (Uncle Neddie) place. (Gayman place, Amberson Valley Estates)

The old Shields, Fegan, Rea burial ground was on this 61 acre plot. Later Shields were buried at St. Mary's, Doyleburg but some of the earlier Shields were buried in this plot on the Shields land. James and Honora Timmons Fegan were buried here as were members of the Robert S. Rea family. Members of a Harvey family and possibly some of the earliest Hagies were buried here. There were more markers in this plot at one time than at the present date. NOTE: Mr. Culbertson recently sold a plot, which included the burial ground, for a seasonal home. (Wyrick).

John Shields owned nearly one hundred acres of land against the Amberson Ridge directly west of the Thomas Shields and James Fegan places (John Shanabrough place). The John Shields heirs are mentioned in 1824. Letters of Administration were granted to Thomas Shields, John Lowther, and Robert Culbertson.

John Shields was married to Mary Easley and the Shields place was long the home of Jacob Eckenrode who was married to a granddaughter of John Shields. The buildings at the John Shields place have just recently fallen into ruins. The Kettle Club has a hunting lodge on this old place slightly north of the old buildings. (Read under Jacob Eckenrode).

The Thomas Shields home was used for church services very early. Shields, Fegan, Eckenrode and other families belonged to the Catholic Faith and there were more members of this faith in upper Amberson at an early date than there were at Doyleburg.

WAR SERVICE

John Shields served in the Cumberland County Militia in 1777 and other years. He was a Corporal under Captain Thomas Askey in 1781.

Some of the Shields genealogists claim that Thomas Shields served. Was he the Thomas Shields who served in the Pa. Regulars under Captain Craig?

Arthur Shields served in the War of 1812. Many Shields served in the Civil War. The A. J. Piper list of Civil War Veterans from Amberson lists: Charles, Daniel, James, Pius, and William. James lost his life. Many others served but were probably not residing in Amberson at this date. Levi Shields lost a leg in the army.

The only Shields places marked in Amberson in 1858 were the "Billy" Shields place which was the home place, and the G. (George) Shields place. G. Shields lived at the Barnabas Fegan or later "Fely" Stewart place in 1858 but later removed to the Price place.

Arthur Shields 1775 - 1848 and wife (Catharine (Shuman) 1795 - 1868 are buried at Salem Lutheran Church, Pleasant Hall. This seems to have been the Arthur and Catharine who sold the home place to Thomas Shields in 1830. An Isabella Shields who was born in 1805 is buried in the Amberson Cemetery. A Joseph Shields is mentioned at the home place in 1840.

Shields genealogy to date deals only with some of the John Shields lines and practically little is known concerning the other Thomas Shields children, neither are they certain how many there were.

Records on file indicate that there were children named John, Thomas, and Arthur. Other reports state that one daughter was married to a Timmons in 1771. There definitely was a close relationship between the Thomas Shields family and the Timmons family. This fact seemingly induced the Timmons (and Fegan) families to settle in Amberson Valley.

We know some facts concerning the Arthur Shields line, as mentioned previously the last Shields descendant to live at the home place was Mary Roler Burk who was a granddaughter of Arthur Shields.

Mr. C. Melvin Shields of St. Thomas and Arthur Leroy Shields and Thelma Shields Mower of the Chambersburg area are descendants of Arthur Shields through a William C. Shields (1822 - 1899) and Eliza Diffenderfer Shields (1833 - . . .) who lived on the Apple Way and worked at the Franklin Furnace near present Edenville.

The last mentioned William C. Shields served in Co. F, 102nd Regiment in the Civil War. Mrs. Leon H. Mower, Route 1, Mower Road, Chambersburg, Pa. has information on this line.

From Mrs. Alma Paskman and Mrs. Loman F. Seitz of Philadelphia, I quote some of the John Shields line mainly as pertains to Amberson Valley. Quote: "Emigrant Thomas Shields came to America in 1745, was married to Miss O'Neill of County Donegal, Ireland, — son John born enroute, — estimated age 1745 - 1825. John Shields was married to Mary Rooker Easley in 1771, daughter of Blossius Easley, who came to America in 1749. John Shields had a large family although the lines of two sons seem to have been the extent of genealogical study to date. William Caspar Shields 1772 - 1844 who went to Westmoreland County then to Armstrong County, married Mary Ruffner a descendant of Simon Ruffner who came from the Austrain Tyrol and settled in Berks Co." Information on the William Casper Shields family was taken from the works of Rev. A. A. Lambing, a grandson, whose mother was Anne Shields married to Machael Lambing, descendant of Christopher Lambing who emigrated to Bucks Co. from Alsace.

From the above source, quote: "William Casper, and Thomas, sons of John Shields, decided to go to the western part of Pennsylvania in company with two of the Easley boys, Casper and Edward. After walking to Black Long, Thomas discovered that his shoes were worn very thin and not knowing where to get them soled, after a consultation with his brother he decided to return to Amberson. William Casper Shields continued on to Greensburg where he lived a while with his uncle, a brother of his mother Mary Easley where he learned the wagon trade. He later bought a farm on the west side of the Allegheny, returned and married Mary Ruffner. They moved to the farm and for a while worked on the lumber mill of the Massy Harbison who figured in one of the many exciting Indian encounters of Western Pennsylvania."

NOTE: Massy Harbison was captured near Reed's Fort in 1792.

We are fortunate that the Thomas Shields in the above quote returned to Amberson since he resided practically all of his life in Amberson; left many descendants in this area, and was famed as the noted hunter of upper Amberson for many years. Reports state that Thomas Shields paid for his hunting and sleeping in the mountains since he was badly crippled with rheumatism in his old age.

Thomas, the hunter, (of John, of Thomas) who married Susanne Barnhart of Amberson was the father of eleven children. (1) William 1814 - 1878 married Marilda Fegan and resided on the old homestead until his death. (2) Mary Shields who married Jacob Eckenrode and remained in the valley. (3) Sarah (4) Thomas who settled in Juniata County. (5) Charles S. Shields who served in the Civil War, lived in

Perry Co. and later at Doyleburg, married twice. (6) Peter Shields who lived in Path Valley. (7) Augustine who lived in Huntingdon Co. (8) James Shields who was killed in the Civil War. (9) Arthur Shields, Shade Valley. (10) Daniel Shields who lived near Doyleburg and (11) George Shields who married Anne Price and raised a large family in Amberson. He lived back of Pike's Peak and at the Price place.

William A. Shields, son of number 5 above, served in the Civil War and had two sons; Winfield who was wounded in the Spanish American War and who served in World War I, and George who died from tuberculosis contracted in the Philippines during the Spanish American War.

From Warner Beers History of Franklin County under Simon P. Shields page 924 quote: "Arthur Shields from Ireland came to America (York Co.) in 1730, his son Thomas settled in Amberson Valley where he died."

Arthur, son of Thomas, who was married to Catharine Shuman daughter of Philip Shuman of Letterkenny Township removed to Letterkenny. Arthur Shields 1775 - 1848 and Catharine Shuman Shields 1795 - 1868 are buried at Salem Lutheran Church, Pleasant Hall, Pa.

SHANABROUGH. Mr. John Shanabrough and his mother Elizabeth lived and owned the old John Shields place at the head of the valley. Mr. Shanabrough sold the old Shields place to Mr. Arthur Beistle and later lived at the James Fegan place. His last residence was in Horse Valley. Mrs. Ellen Shanabrough Wilson lives near the mouth of the valley.

SHOEMAKER

There were two Shoemaker lines in Amberson valley, the John Alfred Shoemaker line and the Ezra Shoemaker line.

JOHN ALFRED SHOEMAKER

From Bates History, quote: "John Alfred Shoemaker son of William and Mary Hefflefinger Shoemaker of Letterkenny Township, married Frances Stake, daughter of Daniel Stake in 1868 and purchased the store business from S. J. Eckenrode in 1871 and served as Post Master 1873 until 1885."

The earliest Shoemaker of this line had lived in Path Valley before removing to Lurgan Township. He had aided in rounding up the Tories during the Weston Tory Plot.

Mr. William O. Shoemaker who was born October 13, 1875 and died in December 1959 was a long time mail carrier and Justice of the Peace of Amberson. He also operated a garage and farm implement business in Dry Run.

Mrs. Lulu Cramer lives in Shippenburg. Daniel Shoemaker is deceased.

Mrs. Carrie Wolff who lived at Amberson is also deceased. This was the last of this line in the valley. Owen Wolff, a grandson of John A. Shoemaker, has removed to Hagerstown, Md. Hazel Wolff Johnston lives at Metal in Path Valley.

EZRA SHOEMAKER

Ezra Shoemaker was born in 1821, moved into Amberson in the spring of 1860. He was married to Elizabeth Reed daughter of Casper Reed, Jr., and the Stake - Reed - Shoemaker place is part of the original Amberson land and now the home of Mrs. Mabel Stewart Shoemaker and her son Harold and his wife Cree McMullin Shoemaker and children Carl, Robert, and Kenneth.

Mr. Harold Shoemaker is the son of Roy Shoemaker and grandson of Joseph Shoemaker. Ezra Shoemaker had sons named: John, Joseph, Samuel, Daniel, and William.

There are a number of the Daniel and Florence Varner Shoemaker descendants living in Amberson. William Shoemaker of Ezra was Daniel's father.

Mr. Ellis and Anna Leab Shoemaker live on the original John Harmani land. They are the parents of Kenneth Shoemaker who is married to Molly Myers.

David and Ruh Reed Shoemaker and their children Diane and Brenda live in lower Amberson, Mr. Shoemaker's first wife was Lorena Stribling (deceased) and Linda is a daughter.

Oscar and Lillian Lehman Shoemaker and their children Darlene, Dolores, Donna, and Oscar live near New Bridge.

Frank who lived in Amberson is unmarried. Earl and Lillian Greenwalt Shoemaker live out of the valley.

SMITH. John Smith owned land prior to 1795 in upper Amberson. One Smith family was related to the Shields family. Some of the Smith lands were mountain tracts.

SPECHT

Adam and Catharine Specht purchased approximately one hundred acres of land November 19, 1819 which evidently was earlier John Stuart, Sr., land. Adam and Catharine Specht sold ninety odd acres to Peter Shearer in 1829.

Adam and Catharine Specht were purchasers at the John Stuart sale of March 31, 1825. Was Catharine Specht a daughter of John Stuart, Sr.?

The Spechts seemingly removed from the upper valley after selling to Peter Shearer in 1829. They removed to some of the Buchanan or earlier Duncan land on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain. Neighbors in 1852 when John Stuart, Jr., was settling up the Specht estate were: Peter Hite, Daniel Struble, James Emery, and John Stuart, Jr. John Stuart was probably a brother-in-law. The acreage of the Specht land was given as 150 acre with the usual improvements including a two story log house. (present Guy Stake Home).

Adam Specht (1778 - 1850) and Catharine Specht (1797 - 1876) are buried at Upper Strasburg Lutheran Church.

Henry Specht (1819 - 1905) and Elizabeth (1848 - 1927) are buried in the Amberson Cemetery. The Specht place lay on the east side of the creek and older persons remember the Lewis Specht home which

was located on the Conococheague near the present Ira Stewart farm. Lewis Specht was married to Agnes Struble.

This seems to have been part of the Culbertson — John Stuart land which Adam Specht purchased in 1819.

There was an early grave along the road into the present Wallace Johnson and Ray Eckenrode places. Tradition claims that this was an early Specht grave. This "may" be true since it was early Culbertson-Stuart-Specht land, however, Adam Specht is buried at Upper Strasburg.

George Specht was married to Ellen Geyer daughter of David Geyer. Specht ran the saw mill, cider mill, and molasses mill slightly north of the bridge over the Conodoguinet Creek on the noted Three Mountain Road in Horse Valley. This was near the famous Half Way Hotel or the Skinner-Geyer site.

The Specht Mills in Horse Valley were later known as the Neusbaum Mill.

There was an old Specht place near Roxbury and the Spechts may have been in the Cumberland Valley first.

STAKE

The Stake families of Amberson are descendants of Frederick Stake who lived near Upper Strasburg in Letterkenny Township. Frederick Stake served in the Cumberland County Militia under his neighbor Capt. John McConnell in 1781 - 82. Frederick Stake had children named: Jacob, George, Barbara, John, and Peter. John and Peter moved into Amberson Valley.

Peter Stake (1781 - 1870) was married to Anne Myers (1786 - 1828). Peter Stake settled in Amberson in 1804, the year of his marriage to Anna Meyers (Moyer). When Peter Stake went to house-keeping in Amberson a small log house was mentioned. This was against the Knob Mountain near the Herman Myers place.

Peter Stake next secured 171 acres of the former Duncan land in 1813. This farm also lay on the west side of the creek and is now the home of Mr. Robert and Maxine Foore Morris. Mr. Morris recently destroyed the old house and has built a new house.

The Peter and Anna Myers Stake children are listed as follows: Joseph (1805 - 1830), Peter (1807 - 1870), Frederick (1809 - 1874), John (1812 - 1894), Anna Margaret (1816 - 1867), Daniel 1818 - . . . , Barbara Anne (1822 - 1907), Elizabeth (1826 - 1876), Nancy.

Barbara Anne married a Reed, Elizabeth married James Edward Fegan and Nancy married a Rea.

John Stake born 1812, married Nancy Culbertson in 1840 and purchased part of the Riddle land at Mill Run and a daughter, Josephine married John A. Eckenrode, and another daughter, Rebecca married David Eckenrode.

Daniel Stake married Mary Culbertson. Nancy and Mary were daughters of Robert and Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson.

One Peter Stake secured a warrant on ten acres of land in 1841 which lay against Pike's Peak, north of Lauthers (Greenawalt), east of Barnabas Fegan, and south of Conrad Eckenrode.

Daniel Stake, son of Peter and Anna Myers Stake and whose wife was Mary Culbertson, ran the Franklin Tannery for William McLean for eighteen years.

JOHN STAKE

John Stake, son of Frederick and brother of Peter Stake served under Capt Dunn in 1814. He was married to Eave Reed daughter of Caspar Reed. In the Casper Reed will, daughter Eave (Eva) and grandson George Stake are mentioned as heirs.

John Stake purchased the Amberson-Clarke place from John Culbertson in 1813. John Stake sold 40 acres of this land to Gasper Reed (recorded 1855). This became the Ezra Shoemaker place or the present Mrs. Roy Shoemaker place. Ezra Shoemaker was married to a Reed.

In 1858, F. Stake lived at the Lester Stake place, J. Stake lived at the David Brown place, D. Stake lived at the (Ward) Edmunson place, another D. Stake lived at the Nelson MaGee place. There was a J. Stake place up the valley, another J. Stake place near Laurel Grove, P. Stake still lived at the Robert Morris farm, and M. Stake lived against the Knob Mountain.

Michael Stake was married to Margaret Piper in 1825. Margaret Piper was a daughter of Adam Piper, (Jr.) who was married to Jane Ely. Adam Piper, Jr., owned several other plots, one a near by small home which may have been a Scott place since Adam Piper helped to divide the Scott land. The Ely, Piper place is now the home of Mr. Frank Stake of Roy, of Michael.

The Stake families remaining in Amberson are descendants of Michael Stake.

Mr. Lester Stake, whose wife was the former Bessie Culbertson, owned and resided on the old Amberson land near where the road crosses the Turnpike and like Amberson was known by everyone entering Amberson during the past half century.

Mr. Stake had built a new house slightly west of the older buildings before he was forced by health to enter a convalescent home.

Mrs. Evelyn Paxton and her husband William reside in the new house which was built by Mr. Lester Stake.

Mr. William and Bessie Coons Stake owned a number of the old places west of the creek and they were the parents of the following children: Mrs. Clara Rowles, Mrs. Zelda Stewart, Guy Stake, Mrs. Ruth Jumper, William Stake, Mrs. Lueta Wickard, Mrs. Pauline Farner, Mrs. Amelia Arendt, and Kenneth Stake. Mrs. William Stewart and Guy Stake still live in Amberson.

Mr. Guy Stake has recently purchased the home farms and other lands and now owns nearly six hundred acres of land. Mr. Stake is married to the former Mae Varner of Path Valley and have children named Gerald, Delores, and Archie.

Mr. Frank and Naomi Eckenrode Stake who was a son of Roy and Jeannette Culbertson Stake live on one of the old landmarks of the valley, the Ealy, Adam Piper, Jr., Peter Piper, Michael Stake place. Mr. Frank

Stake has recently purchased the original Piper homestead. The Stakes are the parents of three children: Brenda, Bruce, and Bonnie.

STEWART (STUART—STEWART)

The earliest of this name in Amberson was John Stuart, Sr., who was married to Margaret Duncan Culbertson, widow of Captain Alexander Culbertson of Culbertson Row who was killed April 2, 1756 at Bloody Run, or Siding Hill while in pursuit of the Indians following the Fort McCord Massacre of April 1, 1756.

Book 5 Records Office includes a recording which definitely proves that John Stuart was married to the "widow and relict" of Alexander Culbertson. In 1795 an earlier agreement of 1765 was executed (Recorded 1801) before M. Herron on testimony of David Herron and three others which shows where John Stuart and Margaret, widow and relict of Alexander Culbertson, were releasing rights as "Tenants in Dower" to Samuel Culbertson, eldest son of Alexander Culbertson.

From same source, quote: "I, John Stuart, intermarried to the widow of Alexander Culbertson etc."

From Culbertson Records, quote: "That Margaret Culbertson, widow of Alexander Culbertson, was married to John Stuart in 1757 or 1758." This wording also mentions the agreement of 1765.

From Culbertson Records, page 139, quote: "In regards to Colonel Samuel's mother Margaret Stuart, we do not know just where she resided or if she had children by John Stuart when she died."

Who was John Stuart? Where did he live? Which John Stuart (Steward - Stewart) was the one who married Margaret Duncan Culbertson, the widow of Captain Alexander Culbertson? The writer will attempt to answer these questions but must admit that some deductions and conclusions were reached after examining much evidence, which was corroborated in several instances by Stewart tradition, therefore, all of these conclusions may not prove entirely infallible.

A John Stuart, Charles Stuart, and Daniel Stuart served in the earliest organized body of troops west of Carlisle, that of Captain Joseph Armstrong (near present Edenville 1755) NOTE: Captain Alexander Culbertson's application for a commission was dated five days earlier than that of Joseph Armstrong, but facts indicate that Armstrong's force was organized earlier. Armstrong's men were from Hamilton and Letkenny Township.

When did John Stuart move into Amberson? This is a moot question. The writer, as well as earlier experienced genealogists, has failed to mesh some of the puzzling facts concerning part of John Stuart's movements.

If John and Margaret Duncan Culbertson Stuart lived as "Tenants in Dower" to Samuel Culbertson for a lengthy period of time, this fact alone could solve some of the perplexing problems concerning his residence.

North of Armstrongs along the mountain wall near the McConnells, the writer located a warrant in the name of John Stuart. This warrant

for 202 acres (Letterkenny Township) bears the date January 23, 1767 (number 2547) and was surveyed June 1, 1767. This may have been the same land which Charles Stuart gave to his son John and bears the date February 3, 1766. (Date of Charles Stuart's will.)

John and Margaret Stuart sold land in Letterkenny Township to Conrad Wolf in 1784.

Charles Stuart owned an adjoining warrant to John Stuart. Charles Stuart served under his neighbor Capt. John McConnel in 1780-81 with John Stuart and other neighbors. Charles Stuart removed to Bedford County but returned to Franklin County and died near Mercersburg.

NOTE: From a (Capt.) John McAlister letter, Quote: "The Indians burned the house of John Stuart, Letterkenny Township, in 1764. These Indians were pursued to Path Valley where they also burned the barn and killed two cows and some horses of a Mr. Walker etc." Unquote.

The writer believes this to be the same John Stuart due mainly to the locations given also a shred of Stewart tradition which indicated that Stuart suffered in an Indian Raid. This was the affair of March 1764 when numerous buildings were burned near Cummings's, later West's Mill, several miles from Upper Strasburg now in Letterkenny Depot. A large group were killed near the same spot while harvesting July 19, 1757.

The names of John Stuart, John Stewart, and John Stewart are found on the Militia Rolls of at least five or six Cumberland County Militia Captains, also Captain Cluggage of (Franklin) and Bedford Counties in 1776. There were probably several John Stuarts or Stewarts. A John Stuart, Esquire, took the oath of allegiance in 1778.

The writer believes that the John Stewart, whose stone has been re-lettered and placed in the Amberson Cemetery by Stewart descendants, was the same John Stuart who served under Captain Armstrong in 1755 etc. and who later served under his neighbor Captain John McConnell with Frederick Stake and others. The writer believes that he also served under Captain James McConnell and possibly under other Captains in the Cumberland County Militia.

John and Margaret Stuart sold their land in Letterkenny to Conrad Wolf in 1784. His name is found in Amberson in 1790 and the 1799 tax list includes his name with fifty acres of land and one cow. Other references are found in 1812, 1816, 1819, 1822, and his sale in 1825.

John Stuart definitely owned land on the east side of the creek in 1816 against the Kirtatiny Mountain. Adam Specht gained control or purchased the John Stuart lands in 1819. The acreage generally given agrees with the acreage of the present Ray Eckenrode site. This seems to have been the George Stewart place, later Jacob Stewart.

Stewart knowledge states that John Stuart was 108 years of age (another claim is 104 years) when he died in 1822. They further state that he was a pew holder at Rocky Spring, this agrees with known records.

As stated previously from Culbertson Records that: "They did not know just where Margaret Stuart lived or if she had any children to John Stuart."

John Stuart definitely had children. Tangible evidence, however, is lacking concerning the mother(s), the names of some of the children and the dates of birth. Contrary to certain Stewart tradition, John Stewart died in 1823 and his estate was settled in 1825 with George Stewart as executor.

One record states that Margaret Culbertson Stuart lived from 1725 until 1794. Since John Stuart did not marry Margaret Duncan Culbertson until 1757 or 1758, he would have been over forty years of age when he married Margaret and would have lived twenty-nine years after her death.

NOTE: In Franklin County records under George Stewart administrator, for the year 1825 is found the following. Quote: "John Stewart died in August 1823 leaving a widow, since deceased, and ten children all above the age of twenty-one years of age."

It also states "that he owned one undivided half of a tract of land lying and being in Amberson's Valley joining lands of George Johnson, John Taylor, John Fleck, and others containing one hundred acres and one hundred ten perches." (Clerk of the Courts Office)

Since this land was definitely part of the Capt. Alexander Culbertson warrant of 1755, the writer is forced to the conclusion that the Culbertson lands induced John and Margaret Stuart to move into Amberson. Certain Samuel Culbertson records and a John Culbertson transactions seem to confirm this belief. Samuel Culbertson, son of Alexander and Margaret, and Col. John Culbertson never lived in Amberson.

George Stewart was a son of John Stuart as well as Samuel Stuart possibly John Stewart. There were a number of girls. Daniel Stewart who was born in 1782 must have been a grandson. One Stewart source believes that there may have been a Jacob Stewart who left the valley.

As stated previously John Stuart, Sr., records in Amberson are rare. A notable exception is the appraisement sheet and sale sheet of his personal effects in 1825. Will Book C page 738 reveals that George Stewart was named executor. Neighbors John Fleck and Abraham Witter served as appraisors and the papers were attested by Edward McVirt, Justice of the Peace. This sale was held March 31, 1825 and the proceeds were well under the \$51.45 ³/₄ appraisal.

A possible important fact is that among the buyers were the following named Stewarts: George Stewart, Eli Stewart, John Stewart, Samuel Stewart, and Elizabeth Stewart.

Other purchasers were: William Emery, John Stake, Catharine Speck, Adam Speck, Robert Lewis, John Struble, and one other person.

William Emery was married to a Miss Stewart in 1820. Catharine Specht, wife of Adam Specht certainly was a Stewart.

The 1804 tax list proves that Samuel and George Stewart were operating a grist mill but by 1807 George Stewart was the sole owner or operator. After sifting much evidence the writer has come to the con-

clusion that the George and Samuel Stewart grist mill (possibly earlier John Stuart) was the Wallace Johnson site. The George (Jacob) Stewart place was the Ray Eckenrode site and seemingly part of the Capt. Alexander Culbertson land of 1755.

Adam and Catharine Specht (Stewart relatives) purchased the mill site in 1819. Specht sold part of this land as early as 1829 to Peter Shearer. (Read under Specht, Shearer, and Fleck)

A John Stewart purchased some of the Duncan land west of the creek and VanScyoc Mill location from Benjamin Chambers in 1839 and sold to Daniel Craig in 1881. John Stewart lived at the present Pennabaker site but owned other Duncan land. Adam and Catharine Specht after selling their lands up the valley moved to the present Guy Stake place where his estate was settled up by John Stewart in 1852. Noah Stewart lived at the Stake place after Adam Specht. Older persons remember of several old Stewart ladies who lived at the Pennabaker site.

One of the better known Stewarts was Davis Stewart (1803 - 1871). He was a son of George Stewart and a grandson of John Stuart, Sr. Davis and Juliana Fegan Stewart purchased the present Gene VanScyoc farm from the Riddles, recorded in 1851 but Stewart sources claim that he moved here in 1841. (Read under Riddle)

Samuel Riddle became owner of many acres of land in 1817 and several of the Riddles lived in Amberson. The Riddle heirs were Edward, Horatio R. Riddle and a John "Stuart" Riddle. After much searching it appears that John Stuart Riddle's name came from a Marion Stuart wife of Samuel Riddle although Riddle sources claim that to date no known relationship exists to John Stuart, Sr.

Davis and Juliana Fegan Stewart sold the Mill Run School site to the Fannett School Board in 1856. Juliana Stewart sold the home place to John and Jacob Stewart in 1872. David and Simon Stewart served in the Civil War.

By 1858 the only Stewart places marked on the map were: the Davis Stewart place at Mill Run, the John Stewart place on the west side of the creek across from the present Van Scyoc Mill site on part of the early Duncan land, and a John Stuart place south of the Timmons Road against the Kittatinny Mountain in Metal Township.

Valentine "Fely" Stewart, who lived at the Barnabas Fegan place on Pike's Peak, was married to Mary E. McVitty in 1852 and moved to this site between 1858 and 1868. The name Fely's Narrows and the Fely Stewart place is now visited by hunters, hikers, descendants or historians and the site is a focal point on the Catholic Path.

Following are some of the Valentine and Mary E. McVitty descendants who remain in the valley.

William and Zelda Stake Stewart live on an old farm nearer to the "Fely" Stewart site than any other family. William and Zelda Stake Stewart are the parents of three children: Gladys wife of Glen Rex Stewart; Carl, wife Doris Russell; and Beatrice, wife of Jesse Johnson.

Mr. George and Kathleen Craig Stewart live in lower Amberson. Mr. Stewart is one of the valleys prosperous residents and owns the old Fegan-Hagie site in the headwaters of the Valley.

The Stewarts have one son, Gerald, who is married to the former Lois Judkins of Tennessee and both are teachers currently living at Camp Hill. Mr. Gerald Stewart has material on some of the Stewart lines.

Mr. Samuel Stewart, whose wife was the former Helen Shoemaker, is a well known business man who lives nearby in Path Valley.

Magaret Stewart who is married to Philip Hammond also resides near Amberson at Spring Run.

Mr. Clair Stewart has a summer home near the head of the valley.

Following is a short resume of the A. L. and Nancy Eckenrode Stewart family.

Mrs. Mabel Stewart Shoemaker widow of Roy M. Shoemaker lives on the long time Shoemaker place which is the first place on the road up the valley after leaving the Roxbury - Spring Run Road. This was part of the Amberson land. A son, Harold M. and his wife Cree McMullen Shoemaker and their children reside here.

Mr. Ira Stewart and his wife Ola McVitty Stewart, daughter of Mr. David McVitty, own many acres of land and the part the buildings are on was part of the Capt. Alexander Culbertson warrant of 1755.

The Stewarts are the parents of three children: Robert who is married to the former Phyllis Crouse, was a Lieutenant in the Armed Forces and is now assistant principal of the Chambersburg Area Senior High School. Mr. Robert Stewart has purchased several of the old landmarks up the valley and is restoring them to productivity. The Robert Stewarts are the parents of a daughter Debra Rhea Stewart.

Donald Stewart is married to Catharine Pyne and lives at Newburg; and Waldo aids in farming and takes an interest in local history.

Raymond Stewart and his wife Hulda Piper Stewart live on some of the Capt. Alexander Culbertson land of 1755 and sold the old Piper site to Frank Stake several years ago.

The Stewarts are the parents of three sons: Glen Rex whose wife was Gladys Stewart of Amberson, is a Captain in the Reserve and works at the Mechanicsburg Naval Depot; Fred Stewart whose wife was the former Donna Null and is the Math Coordinator at New Town; and Galen whose wife was Linda Mechling and is an engineer with the Three M Company.

D. Frank Stewart whose wife was the former Mary Hull of Roxbury is a retired teacher of 37 years in Pennsylvania and is now teaching in Delaware. Mr. Stewart owns the home place in Amberson and plans to retire permanently in the near future to his home in Amberson. A son, Jerry Stewart, whose wife was Marian Strange of Stanton, Kentucky, resides in Chambersburg and is currently teaching in the Scotland School.

Wayne Stewart, a young teacher who was married to Gladys Detwiler, died when but twenty six year of age. His son Billy Lee, a teacher, is also dead.

Merle Stewart and his wife Edna Thompson Stewart live in Oregon. Mrs. Stewart is also a teacher.

The following marriages from the Rev. A. A. McGinley list may be a great aid to Stewart genealogists. A. Stewart - B. Mentzler 1812, Jane Stewart - Jos. Noble 1816, Miss Stewart - William Emery 1820, Elizabeth Stewart - Wm. Varner 1821, James Stewart - Betsy Shetter 1826, Lucinda Stewart - R. Gillespie 1840, Mary Stewart - Sarah Neely 1841, J. M. Stewart - Eliza Grover 1842, Wm. Stewart - Sarah Neely 1842, Nancy Stewart - James Brewster 1844, A. C. Stewart - Mary Jane Withrow 1846, Daniel Stewart - Maria Shetter 1851, Malinda Stewart - Jas. Patterson 1855, Valentine Stewart - Mary E. McVitty 1852.

STITT — POTTS

James and Thomas Stitt who served in the Cumberland County Militia were natives of Path Valley. John Stitt lived near the end of the Knob and was married to Elizabeth Potts, daughter of Alexander Potts, miller. Lest we forget the site of the Alexander Potts site and what is claimed to have been the earliest grist mill in Path Valley, I shall quote from an old Franklin County Recording which may aid some future genealogist or local historian.

Quote: "In 1869 John Stitt, whose wife was Elizabeth daughter of Alexander Potts, miller, deeded to Harmon Piper 1 acre and 18 perch known as the Potts Grave Yard on west side of George Shearer's Mill Dam (Alexander Potts heirs to Jacob Shearer)." The purpose of this transaction was to preserve the Alexander Potts Burial Ground, which has practically disappeared but the site is known to some of the present residents. A Mrs. McCurdy, a relative, had the Alexander Potts stone removed to the Presbyterian Cemetery which is nearby. NOTE. Alexander Potts was located in Path Valley by 1744. NOTE. This burial ground was often referred to as the Indian Burial Ground. Indians were probably buried here since accurate records prove that several Indians were killed near this plot in 1764 during a skirmish.

NOTE. The Potts Mill was in operation some time prior to 1764 since the mill is mentioned in this year in the Indian account. The claim has been advanced that the Childerstone also the Elliot Mills a short distance down stream were as early.

William Stitt (1800 - 1872) was married to Margaret Harmony in 1823. William and Margaret Harmony Stitt lived on some of the Harmony lands but removed to Woodhull, Illinois where they are buried. Margaret Harmony was born in 1803 and was one of the three daughters of Henry and Anne McVitty Harmoni. William Stitt was a son of James Stitt who served in the Revolutionary War.

Sarah Anne Stitt (1833 - 1844) daughter of William and Margaret Harmony, Stitt was married to Harmon P. Piper (1825 - 1889). They became the long time operators of the New Bridge Mill. (Read under New Bridge Mill and Post Office)



Top Left: First Eckenrode Site - Rohrerstown Camp; Top Right: Shields House - Varnier; Middle Left: Frank Stake Home - Ely Place; Middle Right: Varnier, Mills, Ruth Ward Site; Lower Left: Summer Home near Eckenrode Knob - Mary McGee; Lower Right: George (Dave) Eckenrode Site - Twin Springs Camp.

The Stitt Meadow was west of the creek near the dam of the old fulling mill above the New Bridge Dam and was sold to William Stitt, in 1834.

STRUBLE

Daniel Struble (1781 - 1860) lived on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain west of the Van Seyoc Mill location. The Struble place was part of the early Duncan land of 1766 warrant.

Daniel Struble was married to Mary Rook. Certainly the Mary Strumel (1783 - 1869) whose stone is in the Amberson Cemetery was Mary Rook Struble since the Strumel spelling was used on some papers.

Margaret Struble daughter of Daniel and Mary Struble who was born in 1808 and died in 1862, was married to John A. Piper (1803 - 1880) of Daniel, of Adam. Margaret Struble Piper is buried in Amberson but John A. Piper is buried in Illinois.

Another daughter, Louise, was married to John Garland and lived at the lately known "Willie" Culbertson site while John A. Piper lived at the Hagie place.

Agnes Struble was married to Lewis Specht. A Catharine Struble was married to James Donnelly in 1824. A John Struble was living in Amberson in 1825. Informants state that Margaret Piper and Louise Garland were sisters but dates of birth show a wide range in age.

The Peter Stake deed to Daniel Struble was executed in 1813. This present Moore place, earlier Duncan land, was deeded to Noah Piper in 1866 by George, Rosan, and Mary Struble. An Anne Struble whose name is mentioned on several land transactions is buried in Amberson.

SUTTON. James Sutton and Abraham Drake owned 214 acres of land west of the creek against the Knob Mountain and west of Drake's Ferry. This land in 1829 was bounded on the north by Peter Stake and Peter Piper formerly Duncan lands, on the east by Chambers or former Buchanan land, on the mountain by the Wilson Hunt assignees, on the south by the old Joseph Kilgore warrant of 54 acres. This land was later sold to the McVirtys by Joseph Kilgore.

SYMMERMAN. This is a later name in Amberson. James Symmerman (1876 - 1952) and Mary Symmerman (1874 - 1956) are buried in Amberson. Joseph Wilson was married to a Symmerman. A Harry family was also related.

TAYLOR

John Taylor (1745 - 1831) moved to Path Valley in 1786 and shortly after (1788) to Amberson. John Taylor was married to Polly French. He settled near Samuel French in Amberson.

John Timmons sold land to John Taylor which was recorded in 1797. In 1816, John Taylor sold 53 acres, also another property to George Johnson with John Stuart and Ed. McVirtys as neighbors.

When the John Taylor heirs sold a property on the east side of the Conococheague Creek to John C. Weist in 1838 the following nine lawful heirs (children) are named: Casper, Margaret, Mary Elizabeth, John, Robert, Hannah, Nancy, and David.

John McVirtys was married to Mary Taylor and Edward McVirtys was married to Margaret Taylor. John and Mary Taylor McVirtys are buried in Stake's Graveyard but Edward and Margaret Taylor McVirtys are buried in the Amberson Union Cemetery.

Caspar Taylor (1774 - 1848), son of John Taylor, was born in Chester County and was married to Isabella Matthews, daughter of the noted George Matthews, moved into Amberson in 1788 and later lived at the Laughters place or the Sulphur Spring Farm, now Thomas Piper.

The Caspar Taylor will of 1849 (Book E. page 218) lists the following children: John, George, Andrew Jackson, William, Isabella, and Nancy. Witnesses were Peter and Jonah Shearer, neighbors.

George Taylor (b. 1811), son of Caspar Taylor ran the Fulling Mill in lower Amberson (present Jacob Geshorn farm) for thirty two years before removing from the valley in 1883. George and Hannah Taylor Rine lived here after George Taylor retired.

Samuel Taylor who was born at the Sulphur Spring Farm in 1819 became very well known. He worked for some time in his brother's woolen mill, then left the valley for some years. Samuel Taylor returned to the valley and operated a "Boarding house" or "health resort" at the Sulphur Spring for ten years, 1846 until 1856. One report states that he removed from Amberson in 1856, although the maps of 1858 and 1868 show that the Sulphur Springs Farm belonged to S. Taylor at these dates.

Frank and Martin Taylor served in the Civil War from Amberson.

The William Taylor who served under Capt. Thomas Askey in 1781 and whose name is found on the tax list of 1799 probably lived in Path Valley. He owned 250 acres of land and operated a saw mill in 1799. Taylors lived in both valleys.

From Amberson grave stones the following dates were gleaned: Caspar Taylor, died 1848 aged 73 years; Isabella, wife of Casper Taylor died 1847 aged 70 years; Margaret Taylor McVirtys, died 1854 aged 77 years; Mary Taylor McVirtys died February 18, 1855 aged 77 years, 2 month 10 days (Last entry from Stake's)

From the Rev. A. A. McGinley list is taken the following entries, many are from Amberson Valley: Robert Robeson - Miss Taylor 1814, Paul Martin - Hannah Taylor 1815, George Taylor - Elizabeth Newel 1816, Wm. Woods - Miss Taylor 1816, David Hudson - Martha Taylor 1821, Alexander Taylor - Jane Orr 1822, Henry Robeson - Peggy Taylor 1823, James Shaw - Nancy Taylor 1823, Elias Guerer - Isabel Taylor 1829, Elias Evans - Eliza Taylor 1822, Neely Carothers - Nancy Taylor 1835, Matthew Taylor - Polly Ann Marshall 1836, Wm. Wolff - Ann Taylor 1839, George Taylor - Martha Hammond 1841, Wm. Taylor - Miss Reed 1843, John Krouse - Nancy Taylor 1844, George McGee - Mary J. Taylor 1847.

An Isabella Taylor was married to Culbertson Breckenridge in 1806 while Martha Taylor was married to Andrew Breckenridge.

THOMAS

One of the earliest warrents of Amberson is that of James Thomas which bears the date 1762. The James Thomas warrent lay south of the John Long warrent of 1762 (Cromwell McVirt land). The Thomas warrent was early owned by John Timmons and lay on the west side of the creek near the VanScyoc Mill location.

Mr. Robert and Bernice Porter Thomas live on the east side of the creek and the village. They are the parents of a son Robert who is in the service and Lisa and Carol at home.

TIMMONS

The Timmons name was one of the leading names of Amberson during the first one hundred odd years of the valley. Strange as it may seem, the Timmons name in central Amberson has been forgotten, or rather unknown, by later residents of the valley. The name has been preserved by later circumstances such as the Timmons Mountain and Timmons Road.

The Timmons Road and Mountain received their names from this family but the truth is that the place at the foot of the Timmons Mountain on the Timmons Road did not become Timmons land until the 1790 era and was not recorded until 1821.

The Timmons, Fegan, Shields, Clark and several other upper Amberson families came into Amberson mainly from Maryland. James Fegan was married to Honora Timmons who was born in 1750 while a daughter of Thomas Shields was married to a Timmons.

The earliest Fegan land date is April 7, 1778 while the earliest Timmons date is August 11, 1779. Settlers were invariably on their land earlier than the warrant dates, however, Fegan and Timmons probably did not enter Amberson until 1776 - or 1777. Thomas Timmons may have been earlier since the Linn warrants which he acquired were warranted in 1763 and 1766.

Clark secured warrants in Amberson in 1767 and 1768 but he was already living in Amberson in 1767 and may have been in Amberson in 1757 certainly by 1760. Shields sources state that Thomas Shields first entered Amberson in 1767.

The Thomas Timmons land included two warrants obtained by William Linn. A 180 acre tract was secured March 26, 1763 and a 46 acre tract was secured August 26, 1776. As stated previously Thomas Timmons obtained this land August 7, 1779. The Timmons acreage was sometimes given as 245 acres.

Thomas Timmons sold ten acres of land including a mill site to Peter Timmons in 1797 and Peter Timmons sold the mill a few years later to Henry Rode of Strasburg. By 1807 Henry Rode had added a "powder mill". Peter Marshall was a neighbor.

The Thomas Timmons "will and last testament" bears the date February 15, 1798. James McElhany and William Laughters were named as executors with instructions to settle the estate when the youngest child became fifteen years of age. William Laughters died five or six years prior to this time and James McElhany settled the estate alone.

The Thomas Timmons will of February 15, 1798 lists Peter Timmons, James Fegan, and John Harmanni as witnesses. Mrs. Timmon's name is given as Christina, and children Mary, Elizabeth, Anna, Catharine and Matthew are named.

The Thomas Timmons land was sold to Col. John Culbertson in 1812. Neighbors at this date were: John Stewart, Edward McVirt, John Timmons, Caspar Taylor, Peter Marshall, and Henry Rode (late Peter Timmons's mill) John Culbertson sold to George Johnson and this land was long known as the Fleck Hazlett land and mills.

William Timmons of Amberson married Anna Marie Reifsnider of Keefer's Store in 1827. William and Anna Marie Timmons sold two tracts to John Gunter in 1839. They were on the Conodoguinet Creek in Letterkenny Township and called for 19 acres and 85 acres. William and Anna Marie Timmons sold a lot in Roxbury in 1865.

William Timmons is buried in Zion Cemetery, Keefer's Store, now in Letterkenny Depot. Where were the early Amberson Timmons buried? Several were definitely buried in the Rea Grave Yard. Eleanor Timmons Fegan wife of James Fegan was buried in the Rea cemetery possibly other members of the family although some may have been buried in the Union Cemetery.

For information on the William Timmons family and later members of the Roxbury and Keefer Store area contact Mrs. Tena Stake Timmons or her daughter Mabel Timmons Douglas of Route one, Orrstown, Pa.

John Timmons seems to have been in Amberson as early as Thomas Timmons.

Two of the earliest warrants of Amberson are the John Long warrant of 1762 which became the earliest Cromwell McVirt land in 1763. The James Thomas claim of 1762 bordered the Long warrant on the south. This land was between the Long (McVirt) land and the Dun-can land on the south (VanScyoc - Morris etc.) John Timmons became owner of some of this land in the late 1760's. The Samuel French farm was probably part of this land. John Taylor became owner at one time.

John Timmons purchased some of the McMichael warrant of 1767, in 1796. This land passed to John Taylor a little later and Taylor took out a warrant on this part in 1801. In 1803, William McVirt purchased land from John Taylor, late John Timmons land for a mill. (Read under Wm. McVirt Mill or Franklin Tannery Site)

John Timmons is listed as a blacksmith as late as 1804. One informant states: "That John Timmons operated a blacksmith shop on the west side of the creek at one time where the later John Hassel plied the trade." The writer is not certain of this fact although the last Timmons up the valley seems to have been a Charles Timmons who lived in this section.

Tax lists of 1804 lists the John Timmons shop while Peter Timmons still owned the (Thomas) Timmons saw mill which he sold to Henry Rhode in 1805. The name of Matthew Timmons is found on the tax list of 1807 while Peter Timmons was working at the Mount Pleasant Furnace in 1812.

The only Timmons place left in Amberson by 1858 was the Timmons place at the foot of the Timmons Mountain on the Timmons Road (present Thomas Goshorn place). This place was sold by James Dougal, son of Rev. Samuel Dougal, to the Timmons family. The date of recording was 1821 but the Timmons family may have lived here earlier. In 1858, this place is referred to as the Mary Timmons place and in other records as the widow Timmons.

The Mary Timmons will of 1835 Book D, page 336 names sister Nancy and children James and Peggy. Executors were: Jacob Shearer, Sr., and sister Nancy. Witnesses were: John Taylor and David Wolf.

Mr. Goshorn states that this place served as an inn at one time. In view of the dates it seems rather ironical that these place names, the Timmons Mountain and Road received their names from this Timmons family rather than the much earlier Timmons families near Center or Amberson.

John Timmons and Thomas Timmons served under Captain Noah Abraham in the Cumberland County Militia. Fegan sources claim that Peter Timmons, a brother of John and Thomas, lost his life in the Revolutionary War. Peter Timmons served under Captain Harper in 1812 in company with his cousin Barnabas Fegan and Fegan's cousin, Joseph Devor. The writer is not certain which brother was the father of this Peter Timmons although one source referred to him as Peter Timmons, Jr.

NOTE: The widow Timmons place which was purchased by Mary Timmons (recorded 1821) from James Dougal dates all the way back to one of the early James Hervey warrants.

TURNER

Adam Turner secured a warrant June 10, 1767 which stretched from the (Clark - Shields) place north into the head of the valley to the left of Price's Knob and embraced the most of the headwaters of that branch of the Conococheague Creek.

In a re-survey in 1787 the acreage was given as 300 acres. The Turner warrant included the Fegan place, the Hagie place, and the Price place. An old rough draught on file shows the approximate location of the Turner improvement (cabin). (Survey Docket Book no. 3 in connection with Markwright).

The Turners definitely resided in Amberson for a short time. Adam Turner sold all or part of this land Sept. 18, 1769 to Samuel Perry, Perry to Patrick Henery March 31, 1778, Henry to James Fegan April 7, 1778. Improvements in 1778 were: buildings, barns, stables, gardens, and orchards.

The Turner plot was divided by Fegan or some other early owner, the Hagie part of the Turner land was 118 acres.

It would appear that Turner was the earliest in the extreme north end of Amberson; His improvement was made in 1766, but tradition claims that there was a cabin even earlier than Turner's.

Again we run into the same quandary as happens with more than a dozen early Amberson settlers. Turners also lived in lower Metal Township. Andrew and William Turner who served under Capt. Noah Abraham in the Cumberland County Militia, apparently were neighbors of Capt. Noah Abraham. James Turner, who was married to Nancy McCurdy in 1799, was probably the James Turner who lived near Cowan's Gap in 1837.

NOTE: Adam Turner of Pitt Township, Allegheny County was an heir of the Turner land in Lurgan Township. He may have been the son of William Turner of Lurgan Township.

VAN SCYOC

This well known Amberson Valley name appeared shortly after 1786. The names of John, Benjamin, and Abel Skyhock are all found on the 1786 tax list of Lurgan Township but all were landowners in Amberson by 1796.

Timothy Skyhock served in 1783 under Captain Robert Samuel in the Cumberland County Militia.

As early as 1790 John and Martha Scyoc sold land to William Hudson. This land lay along the Knob and was later sold to Herman Myers. John Van Scyoc and Adam Piper, Jr., had divided the Adam Scott land also. Some of these lands are now owned by Mr. Kuhnert. Peter Piper and Peter Stake, sons-in-law of Herman Myers became owners of some of these lands.

Benjamin Van Scyoc's name is found on a deed dated March 24, 1794. The writer did not locate the Abel Scyoc land. John Harmann sold about 100 acres of land to William Van Scyoc which lay on the east side of the Creek against the Kittatinny Mountain. The Benjamin Van Scyoc warrant of 1794 was part of the McMichael warrant of 1767 and one plot of 81 acres was sold to a Jacob Stewart in 1794, another place called for 101 acres and seems to have been the George Stewart place. Were these places the present D. Frank Stewart and the Ray Eckenrode places?

There was later a Van Scyoc place above the Ray Eckenrode site which was referred to in later years as the "Sporty" Van Scyoc place. There was a Benjamin Van Scyoc place near Laurel Grove which was owned early by Emery and later by Logan.

One Benjamin Van Scyoc (1789 - 1860) lived his entire life in Amberson and is buried in Amberson. Another Benjamin Van Scyoc (1789 - 1872) is buried in the Concord Presbyterian Cemetery.

The last mentioned Benjamin VanScyoc was evidently married to Margaret Linn in 1816. Margaret Linn VanScyoc lived 1790 until 1870. The Methodist Episcopal Church of upper Horse Valley was dedicated December 27, 1857 on land donated by Benjamin Scyoc and was long known as "Scyoc Chapel". The three others mentioned were: Elias Cook, William Widney, and Jacob Seibert.

Jane Scyoc (1780 - 1854) was married to John Linn (1778 - 1845) in 1802. NOTE: There were at least four Benjamin VanScyocs in Amberson at different dates.

Benjamin, James, John, Samuel, and Smith VanScyoc served in the Civil War. James and Smith Van Scyoc lost their lives.

The Samuel and Elizabeth Junkins VanScyoc family is known by older residents of Amberson. Mr. Samuel VanScyoc took over the mill property about 1870 or a few years later. The Thomas Fegan sale to Samuel VanScyoc was recorded April 10, 1890.

Children of Samuel VanScyoc were: S. Gilmore, Alma, Wendell, Hope, Mayme, James, Beatrice VanScyoc Stake, Annie and Cora VanScyoc Clopper. The Van Scyocs remaining in Amberson at present are: Miss Alma G. VanScyoc a leader in the valley, Wendell and Mayme, and Gene VanScyoc who is a son of S. Gilmore VanScyoc.

James VanScyoc lives out of the valley. Hope Jeszenka lives in Harrisburg.

Mr. S. Gilmore VanScyoc whose wife was the former Emmaline MacArthur, a distant relative of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, operated one of the two last remaining water powered mills in Franklin County. Mr. S. Gilmore VanScyoc had two children: Gilma VanScyoc Baker, and Gene VanScyoc.

Mr. Gene VanScyoc is one of the most energetic residents of Amberson at present. He still resides at the mill property although it is for sale. The mill is intact but Mr. VanScyoc's schedule allows but a limited amount of time for mill work.

Mr. Van Scyoc has of late years purchased the property known to later people as the Davis Stewart farm and has built new buildings and is reclaiming it to its former productivity. This old farm from its warrant date in 1766 by John Mease has had many owners. Davis Stewart purchased 252 acres from the Riddle heirs which was recorded in 1851. (For some early history on this land refer to Records Book 2 pp 169-170)

VARNER

The Varner name has long been associated with lower Amberson. Like so many early settlers the Varner name has its various spellings. The writer is not certain of the exact date when Henry Varner settled in Amberson but it was prior to the Revolutionary War.

Henry Varner served under Capt. Noah Abraham in 1780 - 1781 - 1782 and possibly other years in the Cumberland County Militia.

Tax lists reveal that Henry Varner owned 150 acres of land in 1786 and 1788, but by 1807 he was listed as owning 300 acres. Henry Varner lived part or all of his life at the present Gorman and Ruth Ferguson Ward place and evidently died there since he is buried on this farm. One descendant believes that he may have first lived at a small place along an old road which led to the Timmons Road higher than the present road.

Varner's at one time in addition to the home place or present Ward farm owned much of the George Stewart, Myles Varner, Harmon Piper (Shetler) lands while the John Varner lands included the Yost land on both sides of the stream and some of it became Ferguson land. Early neighbors were: Dougal, Higgins, Varner, Wolff, Mills, Stitt, Harmony and others.

Other earlier or later owners were: Jonathan Kearsley, Henderson, John Pasco, and others.

County records list the names of John, Henry, David, and Abraham Varner as owning and disposing of various Varner tracts. At least three of these were sons of Henry Varner.

John Varner 1777 - 1863 owned many acres on the west side of the creek against the Knob Mountain. He was working at the Mount Pleasant Furnace in 1812. One records states that he was married to Catharine Nave in 1800. The grave stones at Keasy's include those of John Varner who died in 1863 aged 86 and Maria C. Varner who died in 1846 aged 67 years.

John Ferguson (1805 - 1877) was married to Ellen Varner (1817 - 1893) by Rev. McGinley in 1849. Other names in the McGinley list are: William Varner - Elizabeth Stewart 1821, Polly Varner - George Dunkle 1829. Rebecca Varner - Henry Neil 1842.

By 1858, only two Varner places are marked, that of J. Varner against the Knob Mountain or the present Crane place and land to the south, and the V. Warner (Varner) place above the road near Laurel Grove. (now Myles Varner)

Mr. Harry Varner and members of his family have moved into the upper valley of late years from the Shippensburg area. He is a Henry Varner descendant through the John, James McGinley Varner line.

Mrs. Marjorie Varner became owner of the former Arthur Beistle land or older Fegan - Shields - Hagie - Price lands and now resides in the new house at the Matthew Fegan site. Mrs. Varner has sold the old Thomas Shields farm to a son (Donald), another old farm, or the John Shields site, to a hunting club, several plots to other sons plus a large acreage which she sold to the Amberson Valley Estates.

Four sons: Donald, Calvin C., Raymond G., and Harry James Varner, Jr. live in Amberson while three daughters Thelma June, Delores (Holch), and Margie Anna Varner Piper live out of the valley.

Noah, Gideon, and Wilson Varner served in the Civil War. A number of the Noah Varners descendants are still in Amberson. Noah Varner had sons named: Irvin, William, Oliver, Roy, Blaine, John, Frank, and Walter. There were a number of girls. All are dead except Roy.

A number of the former well known Irvin and Ethel Piper Varner children reside in Path Valley and other points but none in Amberson. The Varner children are: Rev. Karl Varner, Janet, William, Nyles, and Gerald.

Following are members of the former Oliver Varner and his wife Margaret Palm Varner.

Mr. Raymond and Ethel Shields Varner live at nearby Spring Run and are the parents of three children. Raymond Varner, Jr., and his wife the former Loueta Johnston reside in Amberson, and Ronnie and Shirley. Mr. Raymond Varner Sr., is a well known leader and teacher in this area.

George and Reba Shoop Varner live in Chambersburg.

Mildred Varner and her husband Mr. Stewart Brown have built a new house on the old Robert and Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson farm and are the parents of three children. Lois is married to Harold Frye and they have built a new home in Amberson. James and Shirley Crider Brown live at Fayetteville and Nancy Kirgan lives in Downingtown.

Marie and her husband Norman Martin live in Amberson. Their daughter Pauline is married to Blair Rowles. The Rowles have built a new house near the Martins.

Doris and George Shetler live out of the valley

Mable Varner Clayton and her husband Samuel Clayton had built a new home near the mouth of Amberson and are the parents of four children: Larry and Nancy Miller Clayton, Arthur and Judy Smith Clayton, Gerald and Nancy Book Clayton live in or near Amberson. Kathy Clayton is still in school.

Paul and Miriam McQuait Varner reside at the home place. They have children named Michael, Randall, and Julia.

The writer contacted Varners in numerous sections but failed to uncover any complete Varner genealogical chart.

Myles Varner lives on part of an original John Rippey warrant of 1794 for 389 acres 94 perches of land. This land was owned by the Kerrs early and some of it is now Stewart land. There was a small mill at the Varner site which was powered by water from several springs of water. The writer is not certain who ran this mill since the Kerrs also John McQuaid ran woolen mills. (Read under Kerrs, McQuaid, and Mills)

Myles Varner is married to the former Nina Doyle and they have one girl, Marcia, wife of Joseph Spatola, and grand children Neina, Gary, and Steven.

Myles Varner is a son of William and Bessie Brown Varner and grandson of Noah and Emma Garland Varner.

VAUN (Vawn Vaughn) Jackson T. Vaun purchased the old John Shields site from John Wyrick in 1893. Wyrick owned it for a very short time and had purchased it from C. J. Eckenrode adm. of Lewis Eckenrode in 1793. Lewis Eckenrode received it from Jacob Eckenrode in 1878, and Jacob Eckenrode received it from Conrad Eckenrode recorded in 1843. Conrad Eckenrode had purchased a large tract from David Washabaugh in 1834 which Washabaugh had purchased from Robert Semple in 1824. There were a number of improvements on the Semple tract including this place.

John Shanabrough later owned this place which he sold to Mr. Arthur Beistle and it is now owned by a Hunting Club (Kettle Club).

Records name some of the Vaughn children as: Elmer, Bessie, Pattison, and Emma Vawn who died in 1893.

WARD

The Ward name is one of the earliest in Amberson although present residents know very little concerning this early family. John



Self explanatory signs of Amberson Valley Estates, newest development of Amberson Valley.

Col. R. B. Graeves and Mr. Norman E. "Bud" Messner are the owners of this beautiful natural area at the head of Amberson. Colonel Graeves is retired from the armed forces and is currently Director of Public Relations with the Chambersburg Hospital. Mr. Messner is the well known announcer, entertainer, and owner of Radio Station W.C.B.G. His wife, Molly Darr Messner, is equally well known.

One of the choice sites is the home of J. Franklin Gayman, Chambersburg businessman, where improvements were made in 1767 at a wonderful spring of water. Tyson, Skellichoch and others are located nearby.

The Amberson Valley Estates was purchased from Mrs. Marjorie Varner and the lands mainly came off the Fegan, Shields and Price places.



Top Left: Old Pack Trail along Kittatinny Mountain above the Tunnel entrance. Top Right: Hooper Place (Gallagher - Pummroy Warrent); Middle Left: Tain Springs Camp (George, John, Dave Eckenrode Site); Middle Right: Old Wilson Place (Scyoc Myers); Lower Left: Spring (John Shields, Jacob Eckenrode place); Lower Right: Reverse Mill Race - Mary McGee Dam.

Ward owned land in Fannett Township as early as 1756. His earliest warrant date is August 28, 1766 which called for 131 acres.

The Ward land lay immediately north of the Amberson - Clarke land along the Kittatinny Mountain only a short distance from the Kittatinny Tunnel. Ward also became owner of part of the McMichael warrant which lay north of the Ward warrant. This land embraces most of the land along the road from the Lester Stake place to the Rowles place and is the recently sold Edmondson land.

The writer is not certain where the earliest Ward buildings were located. There was an old place a short distance north of the tunnel high against the mountain also one at the Edmondson place.

William Ward became owner of the earlier Cunningham land at an early date. This land was bounded on the west by Patrick McGee and on the east by Thomas Timmons. Another neighbor was Adam Piper, Jr., or earlier George Ely land.

William Ward was a Ranger of the Frontier and served under Captain Thomas Askey in 1777 - 1781. Joseph and Edward Ward also served under Captain Askey.

Letters of Administration were granted to Mary Ward and John Harmony June 15, 1793. Charles Leeper, Attorney for John Ward, Jr., in 1796 names two tracts of land of John Ward, Sr., and also mentions widow Mary and five children: William, Joseph, Edward, Elizabeth (George Delong), and John, Jr. (Book 4 page 48)

John Ward operated one of the earliest stills in Fannett Township. This early family disappeared from the valley records rather early. John Ward is buried in the Stake Grave Yard which bordered his farm.

There was a Thomas Ward in lower Metal Township in 1763.

Gorman Ward (deceased) whose wife was Ruth Ferguson resides in lower Amberson on the Varner - Mills - Ferguson land. Mr. Ward was a member of the old Ward family of the Little Cove. The Wards are the parents of two children: Owen Ward of Washington, D. C., and Rosalie Louise who lives in Massachusetts.

The grave of Henry Varner, Revolutionary soldier, is on the Ward land.

WASHABAUGH. The name of David Washabaugh appears in Amberson in 1824 when he purchased 389 acres of land from Robert Semple and sold it to Conrad Eckenrode in 1934. There were a number of places on this tract as early as the seventeen eighties. Washabaugh was a Catholic as were the Eckenrodes, Shields, Fegans. The writer is not certain if Washabaugh ever resided in Amberson.

WATSON. William Watson and Thomas Rea obtained a warrant jointly June 25, 1767. This warrant was located almost entirely on the west side of the stream and was bounded by Cromwell McVitty, John Long (John McVitty), George Ely (Adam Piper, Jr.), French (Scyoc), etc. The modern way of locating this land would be north of the Van-Scyoc mill site and south of the Doylesburg Road. NOTE: This land became the home of Robert and Nancy Breckenridge Culbertson.

Robert, John, and Samuel Watson lived in lower Metal Township near Captain Abraham and several of the Watsons served.

There were no Watson places marked in 1858. The Watson place which was known to later valley residents near the mouth of Mill Run apparently was of a later Watson family. This Watson was a teacher who moved into Amberson.

WEAVER. John Weaver (1761 - 1864) lived part of his life in Amberson and is buried in Amberson. A Mary Weaver (1786 - 1826) is buried in Amberson. The name of Joseph Weaver is found on the 1788 tax list.

The only deed on file reveals that Samuel Piper made out a deed to John Weaver 25 March 1857. This paper refers to three daughters whose stones are also found in the Cemetery. Ann Fogal (1808 - 1885), Sara Wyrich (1812 - 1880), and Elizabeth Hartzell (1814 - 1885).

The Weaver place was on the east side of the creek against the Kitatinny Mountain and came off the Hugh Johnston warrant. John Wyrick later lived here and it is near the Kane and Finley Rowles site.

The Weavers were related to families in the Fort McCord area. A John Weaver served under Capt. Samuel Patton in 1780 - 81 from the Fort McCord area.

WEIST. John C. Weist resided on the east side of the creek at the place known as the Stoeys Funston place. John Weist was married to a daughter of Davis Stuart and records show that he purchased land from the Caspar Taylor heirs in 1838.

Weist operated a saw mill at one time and other records indicate that he was a weaver. Weist and Mrs. Sarver who lived at the Roscoe Burdge place were brother and sister. (Book 66 p 116)

WILLIAMS. George Williams resided on some of the early Dun- can land in the 1820's. This place was in the vicinity of the present VanScyoc Mill.

WILSON

The Wilson name is early in Path Valley and the mouth of Amberson. The writer made no attempt to trace this old family but will give some pertinent facts.

The William Wilson warrant of 1763 and the Robert Wilson warrant of 1766 became Rev. Samuel Dougal land. Thus Wilsons have lived near the Knob and the junction of the Amberson and Timmons Roads for more than two hundred years.

The Wilsons, Douglas, Porters and several other families of this vicinity were related.

Mr. Albert Wilson recently deceased, lived against the Timmons Mountain on a small farm which had been a part of the William Wilson warrant of 1763. This place was recently purchased by Elwood Myers for a summer home and hunting lodge.

Mr. Gambel Wilson is one of Amberson's leading residents at the present time. He recently sold the general store and Post Office to Mr.

William Kohutanycz and resides near Center. Mr. Gambel Wilson is married to the former Rhoda Jane Weaver. Mr. Wilson's mother Gertrude Piper Wilson lives nearby on the recently sold Edmondson farm.

Mrs. Gertrude Wilson has a number of scrap books on marriages, deaths and other related material dating back to the nineteen hundred period.

Mr. Gambel Wilson is a veteran of World War II and takes an active part in the valley affairs.

Joseph Wilson served in the Civil War from Amberson. He had sons named Jonas and McGinley Wilson. The Jonas Wilson family lived near Laurel Grove. Mr. Wilbur Wilson who lives near the mouth of Amberson is a son of McGinley Wilson.

WITTER

The Witter (Wither) name is one of the old names of Metal Township.

Abraham Witter was married to Catharine Piper daughter of Adam Piper, Sr., and Mary Witter (1784 - 1865) was married to Daniel Piper (1777 - 1837), son of Adam Piper and brother of Catharine Piper Witter.

Abraham and Mary were children of John Witter. Daniel Piper and Abraham Witter divided the old Adam Piper, Sr. land, which was part of the Alexander Culbertson warrant of 1755. Daniel Piper retained 223 acres or the old Piper homestead and Abraham Witter became owner of 126 acres.

Abraham Witter sold 126 acres of land to Samuel Piper in 1839, and Samuel and Barbary Piper sold 125 acres to John Kunkle in 1869. They also sold a 50 acre plot on the east side of the creek the same year which was obtained by Samuel Piper from Abraham Witter in 1842.

Abraham Witter and John Fleck served as appraisers of the John Stuart personal property in 1825.

William Witter, wife Lydia Johnston, was a son of Samuel and Mary Emery Witter. The last Witter places in Amberson was on the old Kilgore, Emery lands and are currently owned by Mr. Guy Stake and lay above the Lytle home.

A Samuel Witter served in the Civil War, he also worked on grading the Railroad grade in the 1880's but was too old to work when the Turnpike was built in 1939.

Henry Rowles was married to Catharine Witter.

WOLF (WOLFF)

The Wolf name has been associated with lower Amberson for one hundred sixty odd years. Some of the Wolf lands were earlier Wilson, Dougal, Yost, Kilgore lands. The 1858 map shows but one Wolf place while the 1868 map marks three Wolf places.

David Wolf moved into Amberson about 1800. He was married to Margaret Kirkpatrick who was born in 1791. The Kirkpatricks owned several of the older places in lower Amberson and near the Timmons Road at this time.

David Wolff bought the Jacob Yost land in 1811 but he owned other land earlier. His name is included on the 1807 tax list. Reports state that he died in 1844.

The Wolf School received its name from the nearby Wolf places. John G. Baker who lived in lower Amberson was married to Evelyn Wolff. The J. G. Baker and David Baker place was the present Norman Johnston home.

The McGinley marriage list included the following: May Wolff - James Elder 1837, Martha Wolff - William Shetter 1838, William Wolff - Ann Taylor 1839, Daniel Wolff - Barbara Keasey 1839, David Wolff - Elizabeth Reed 1840.

The A. J. Piper list includes the names of Daniel and George Wolff in the Civil War. David Wolff was killed at Sailors Creek, near Appamattox, during the Civil War (49th Pa. Vol. Inf.) and John Wolff served in the 201st Pa. Vol. Inf. The last two were of the Daniel Wolff line and probably were residing in Path Valley when they enlisted.

Mr. Elmer Wolff whose wife was Myrtle Coons of Path Valley lived on the Wolff farm near the mouth of Amberson for many years. Mrs. Wolff is dead and Mr. Wolff is currently living with his son Elmer Wolff and daughter-in-law Shelby Gettle Wolff on the home farm. Vernon and Mary Wolff Hart live in a new house nearby. Wilma Wolff, Blackburn and her husband Jason Blackburn live out of the valley.

Warren W. Wolff was killed in a navy accident while on duty April 2, 1947.

WORTHINGTON. Isaac Worthington, an itinerant preacher and furnace worker, moved into Amberson from Horse Valley. He formerly lived in the Franklin Furnace area and was related to the old Cridler family. Isaac Worthington served in the Civil War while living in the Franklin Furnace (Edenville) section.

A son, John, became a noted barn builder in Path Valley where some of his descendants still live.

The site of the Isaac Worthington home in Amberson was jokingly referred to by valley residents as the "parsonage".

WYRICK

There were several Wyrick sites in Amberson. The one best known by valley residents lay on the east side of the creek against the Kirtatiny Mountain. The Wyrick, Weaver, Kane places came off the Hugh Johnston warrant of 1767.

The earliest Wyrick in Amberson was married to Sarah Weaver Wyrick (1812 - 1889) who was a daughter of John Weaver.

Henry Wyrick served in the Civil War. Older persons remember the Smith Wyrick name and some of his descendants have recently built a summer home in Amberson on part of the old Clark - Shields - Rea land near the Rea Burial Ground.

John and Mary Wyrick are buried in Amberson.

Some of the Amberson relatives lived in the Fort McCord area such as the Weavers, Weirich and others. Barnhart Weirich received his name from this source.

YOST

Jacob Yost was another lower Amberson one time resident from York Co. who married a quarter of a century in the valley before being lured onto Cambria County.

Yost was a farmer and tailor who evidently plied his trade in lower Amberson before resuming the same occupations in Cambria Co. The writer is assuming that only one person is being discussed since no mention of Sr. or Jr., appears.

The lower Amberson plot of 107½ acres on which Yost took out a warrant was sold by the Sheriff of Cumberland County to David Greer of York Co. in 1772. Greer sold to Enos McMullen in 1773, McMullen sold to Joseph Adams in 1787, and Adams sold to Yost who in turn sold to James Kilgore, tanner, in 1798.

Jacob Yost sold to David Wolf in 1811. This land was bordered by Dougal on the south, Michael Pasco and Henry Varner on the north, and by Gaston on the west. Yost seemingly sold 110 acres and 75 acres which was most of an original 190 acre plot. This must have been the Wm. Wilson warrant of 190 acres which was secured in 1763.

Jacob and Mary Yost lived in Cambria Co. in 1811 although he may have owned land in Amberson as late as 1821.

ZEIS. The Zeis family was the last family or one of the last to live at the Price and Fegan place. Jacob Zeis and Sarah Nesbit Zeis are buried in Amberson.

Other families in lower Amberson are: Harold and Jane Parson. John and Beulah Parson, James and Shirley Swope, Harold and Anna Lang Clever (Van Syoc Mill) and Larry E. and Sally Ann Miller (teachers).

Camps along Eckenrode Knob are: the Twin Springs, Rohrerstown, Kirtle Club, and the Bigler cabin.

Near the head of the valley are: the Twelve Point Lodge, Ponderosa, Kenneth Martin, Roy Goldsmith and Dr. Roy Harry places.

Near the end of the improved road are: The Clair Stewart, John Myers, Andrew Gumphrey, Mrs. Mowery, Robert Cauffman, Clyde Mel-lott, Dale Stitt, Lester Failor, and Wyrick cabins.

Boundary Line. An old map marks the boundary between the two valleys as the small stream which flows between the present Wilbur Wilson and Herbert Reed places near the Elmes place.

INDEX

Abraham	47	Etter	67	Kunkle	90
Amberson	1	Evans	67	Land Warrants	91
Amberson Valley	147	Fagan	34	Land Warrants	6
Estates	147	Ferguson	67	Leeper	92
Amberson - Metal	41	Fleck	71	Lewis	92
Names	41	Flautt	72	Linn	97
Amberson - Ft. McCord	43	Fogal	72	Lime Kiln	25
Names	43	Fogal	72	Little	97
Askey	47	French	73	Logan	97
Barnhart	48	Fulton	73	Loge	98
Baker	48	Funston	73	Low	98
Baseball	46	Gallagher	74	Lytle	98
Beam	48	Gambel	74	MaGee	98
Beaston	48	Garland	74	Maps	93-96
Beistle	49	Gaston	60-147	Markwright	100
Bell	49	Gayman	75	Marshall	101
Best	49	Gipe	75	Martin	101
Blackhart	49	Goshorn	75	Mease	101
Boltz	50	Greenawalt	75	Mexican War	21
Brady	50	Gribble	76	Mellingner	101
Brown	50	Gutshall	76	Methodists	7
Buchanan	51	Hagan	76	McClure	101
Burdge	51	Hagie	76	McConnell	101
Burk	52	Hamaker	77	McCurdy	101
Burial Grounds	11	Hamilton	77	McMichael	102
Burial Places	22	Hammond	78	McLaughlin	102
Butler	52	Harmony	78	McLean	102
Byers	52	Harry	79	McMullin	103
Campbell	52	Hartzel	150	McVitty	103
Canter	86	Harvey	79	McQuaid	105
Catholic Church	10	Hassel	81	Miller	105
Catholic Path	10	Hazlehurst	81	Mills	105
Charms	53	Hazlett	81	Mills	105
Churches	6	Heisey	81	Mills	105
Cisney	53	Henderson	81	Mill Run	23
Civil War	21	Henry	81	Moore	105
Clark	53	Herrick	81	Morris	106
Clayton	54	Herr	82	Mountains	44
Clever	8-153	Higgins	82	Myers	106
Copely	54	Hite	82	Neil	107
Craig	55	Holman	82	Nolan	107
Cramer	56	Hoyer	82	North	107
Culbertson	56	Hudson	84	Oil Well	83
Cunningham	59	Hughes	84	Parson	153
Davis	59	Hunt	84	Pasco	107
Dayton	59	Hunter	84	Pechart	108
DeLong	59	Irwin	84	Pennabaker	108
Dewalt	60	Johnson	84	Perry	108
Devor	60	Jones	86	Piper	108
Dougal	61	Junkins	86	Piper Gove	48
Drake	62	Kane	86	Picnics	43
Drum and Bugle	46	Kearsley	86	Pisle	112
Duncan	62	Keasy's Graveyard	11	Plasterer	112
Dunkle	63	Keller	86	Porter	112
Early Settlers	5	Kerr	86	Post Offices	38
Eckenrode	64	Kilgore	87	Pccts	136
Edmondson	66	Kirkpatrick	90	Presbyterian	7
Emery	67	Kohutanycz	90	Price	112
Essily	67	Kuhnert	90	Pumroy	113

INDEX

Rea - Rhea	113	Specht	128	Van Scyoc	143
Rea Graveyard	13	Stake	129	Varner	144
Reed	115	Stake Cemetery	14	Vaughn	146
Rev. War	15	Stewart	131	Ward	146-149
Riddle	116	Stitt	136	War 1812-20	149
Rine	117	Stone Houses	137	Washabaugh	149
Rode	117	Stone Masons	41	Watson	149
Rowles	118	Struble	138	Weaver	150
Rowland	119	Sulphur Springs	43	Weston Tory Plot	36
Roller	119	Sutton	138	Weist	150
Ryder	119	Swope	138	Whiskey Rebellion	20
Ruth	119	Symmerman	138	Williams	150
Ruth's Run	23	Tannerries	33	Wilson	150
Salver	119	Taylor	138	Woolen Mills	28
Schools	34	Taylor Woolen Mill	23	World War	22
Scott	120	Tax Lists	45	Witter	151
Seiple	120	Thomas	140	Wolf	151
Shaeffer	120	Timmons	140	Worthington	152
Shearer	121	Tunnels	39	Wyrick	152
Shetler	122	Turnpike	40	Yost	153
Shields	122	Turner	142	Zeis	153
Shanabrough	127	Union Cemetery	11	Index	154
Shoemaker	127	Union Church	6	Index	155
Smith	128	United Brethren	7		