Sutton's Mill. The mill irons had been washed away, but the crank was imbedded in sand. When the Tompkins mill was done away with, Mr. Tompkins gave the old crank to the Historical Society, where it may now be seen.

There was a daugerrotype artist in Pittston in 1850, who was also named William Tompkins; and some of his pictures are now cherished as the only likenesses of dear ones who have passed away. Another artist with the foreign name of Van der Leppe advertises as a sign painter. As enterprises were rapidly multiplying in the growing town doubtless he found much work in his special line.

There was a forwarding and commission house situated on the bank of the canal in the rear of the Eagle Hotel. The firm in 1850 was Wyckoff and Co. It afterward became J. H. Brown & Co., and was one of the permanent and reliable business houses of Pittston until the death of Mr. Brown in the 70's. This store was called the "Canal Store".

The Livery business of Stark and Fuller, in the rear of the Plank Store, had succedded to the business of Larned and Fuller. Mr. Stark's residence, a two-story, white, frame house stood below the Plank Store near Col. Bird's Hotel and was for many years later the Dentler home, business place. This Livery establishment advertised all sorts of vehicles for hire for business or for pleasure and was in the rear of Mr. Stark's residence.

Thus we see that the principal stores below the Ravine were as follows: On the West side of Main Street, Dr. Curtiss Drug Store and J. H. Bailey's Clothing Hall near the Foundry: Thos. Ford and Co. and B. Coolbaugh in the Marble Store, afterward rebuilt as the Phoenix Block. Gore Larned had a grocery and provision store next to Isaac and L. M. Everitt in the Pittston Store, and Wisner and Wood were in the Long Store. On the East side of the street, opposite the Foundry, was the California Store, at the Corner of Charles and Main Streets, kept by Rowland and Davis. The Plank Store of which Thos. E. Curtiss was owner and proprietor--a meat market and provision store. In the basement of this building was William Ferguson, selling meats. Far down at Railroad Street were Bowkley and Price, (Later Bowkley and Beyea) and the Price stores. Far up town were the Benedict and Reap stores and midway between was the Butler store. Judge Reddin, too, had a small stock of goods in his building, where now is a drug store, next above the Eagle Hotel. The Post Office was there also. In all, there were about twelve stores, mostly general merchandise.

Business was now booming. In the ten years from 1840 to 1850, the

the population had more than quadrupled. "Pittston against the world for the best coal in abundance!" cried the jubilant Gazette reflecting the sanguine spirit of the times, though the Editor added at the foot of the column:

"Man is a vapor, full of woes;
"Cuts a caper, and down he goes"

But this latter expression we cannot believe was more than a temporary depression on the part of one individual, for the town was all excitement with the developement of the coal and with news of new discoveries of the mineral. The gold fever in California may have been more intense, but Pittston had much of this same spirit.

But all was not speculative or impulsive. Pittston's far-sighted business men gave notice at this time of application to the next legislature for a charter for the Luzerne County Bank. The signatures of these applicants follow:

M. L. Everitt	T. E. Curtiss	Isaac Everitt
Cornelius Stark	B. Bowkley	S. Vanderburg
W. Howarth	J. Bowkley	R. J. Wisner
J. H. Brown	J. S. Wood	A. Price
A. Emigh	T. Ford	B. D. Beyea
	John Love	

Another enterprise was the projection of a bridge across the Susquehanna to take the place of the Ferry. The contract for building it was taken by Messrs. Trescott and Hurlbut. The abutments were already finished (August 9th., 1851) and the piers were being built.

"When this is completed, the name of this town will be no longer Pittston Ferry". But delays caused a later call for bids from contractors to complete the stone work of the bridge.

In the issue of October 15, 1851, we read:

"Pittston Bridge is progressing. Two abutments are finished and the false work of the third is in place".

The bridge was opened to traffic in 1852 and immediately brought into the market lots for residence on the West side of the River.

During 1850, surveys were made for a Plank Road from Pittston to Wilkes Barre. This road cost 43,000.00 and was soon in need of repairs. It never was profitable and was abandoned.

On January 17, 1851, it was announced that the telegraph line was completed, so that Pittston and Philadelphia were conencted and a daily bulletin would be issued by the Gazette of the latest foreign and domestic

news. This was indeed an advance! It must have had the effect of broadening the vision and of arousing a towering ambition in the hearts of the citizens, for on January 31st., a mass meeting was held at the Eagle Hotel and a series of resolutions adopted which called for a petition to the Legislature that Pittston be made the County Seat! All sentiment of past history and service, all glamour of ancient prestige were to be set aside, because, it was asserted, Wilkes Barre was not progressive! Its public buildings were in a dilapidated condition; it was a burden for Pittston taxpayers to be obliged to go there to transact the legal business etc. etc. "Wherefore we would petition you that the now active, prosperous town of Pittston be the seat of the Luzerne County Courts etc."

Another inspiring event was the completion of the D. L. & W. R. R. to Scranton. Some of the Pittston citizens went up to see the incoming of the first train. Cannon were fired, rockets sent up and general rejoicing prevailed. The crowd saw 60 or 70 gentlemen alight from the train with a businesslike, confident air and submit to handshakings and congratulations. The special interest of Pittston in this event was that this road would eventually be continued to the rich coal fields of the Wyoming Valley.

An election for the Township officers February 1, 1851, resulted as follows:

Justice of the Peace, (In Place of Col. Harris Jenkins, Deceased)
Thos. W. Curtiss.

Constable, Isaac Thompson

Assessor, David P. Richards.

Judge of Elections, John Sax.

Inspector, Thomas Benedict.

Supervisors and also Poor Supervisors:
John D. Stark of Lackawanna
J. Clark of Plains.

Auditor and Town Clerk, J. Sax.

School Directors: Theo. strong, John Howarth and Peter Winters.

In December 1851, a meeting of business men was called at the Eagle Hotel to take steps for the establishment of a bank, with a capital of $300,000.00. Also, early in 1850, the young men of the town met to form a Literary and Debating Society. However, they decided to postpone debates until after election. A town hall was being fitted up over Rowland and Davis's store, very suitable for such meetings.

Politics were not neglected in the rush of business. Henry M. Fuller and Gideon W. Palmer were Whig nominees for Congress; and for Sheriff respectively. Hendrick B. Wright was the Democratic candidate opposing Mr. Fuller. After the election, which placed Mr. Fuller in the seat, Mr. Wright contested the election and for a long time the partisanship was pronounced.

On October 25th., an elaborate dinner was given at Sax's Union Hotel called "Whig Hall" in honor of Messrs. Fuller and Palmer. Wm. S. Reddin presided with impressive dignity; and Davis Allen, son-in-law of Mr. Samuel Benedict, made an eloquent speech on the issues before the people. He was followed by Mr. Fuller and others. "The festivity lasted until far into the night with great expressions of thanks to the host." In July of the year following, 1851, Mr. Alten, was nominated for the Legislature and was elected the same year.

An eventful day in political circles in Pittston was October 10, 1851, when the newly-elected Governor Johnston came to town. An immense concourse of people turned out to welcome him and doubtless the Pittston Band, under its leader, William Howarth, enlivened the occasion with music. A Platform had been erected on the old parade ground, nearly opposite the Sax hotel. Davis Alten called the meeting to order and Theodore Strong was chosen President. The vice presidents named [illegible] comprised nearly all the business men; and it is fair to assume that all business was practically suspended on this occasion, in order that the prominent and influential men of the town might share in the glory of this memorable occasion. (Names omitted)

In one of the August issues of the Gazette, is noted the death of General Zachary Taylor, who in 1846 and 1847 had successfully led the War in Mexico. In his ranks, some of Pittston's men had borne a part. Taylor was called "Old Rough and Ready" in the Presidential Campaign; and though a Southern man owning a large number of slaves, he yet had proved himself broad-minded and had sided with the North, as against the South, on the question of admitting California as a free and not as a slave state. He was popular and beloved everywhere in the North; and Pittston paid a tribute of respect to his memory by assembling to listen to a eulogy by Lawyer Charles F. Bowman and by the adoption of a Preamble and a long series of Resolutions on his death, to be presented to his widow, closing with the expressed hope that sectional feeling and bitterness would be allayed.

Gen. Taylor had died as a result of exposure to the heat of the sun

at the laying of the cornerstone of the Washington Monument and by drinking, immediately on his return to the White House, iced milk and eating iced fruits. To build the monument, an appeal for aid was sent out to the country and in response, Pittston citizens voted to furnish one large block of marble to be built into it, the name of the town to be inscribed thereon. The monument as originally planned was not completed. For many years, it grew very slowly before it finally became the beautiful shaft now known all over the world.

The year 1849 is famous in history as the year of the great gold discoveries in California.

News of the wealth of the new territory but recently acquired from Mexico spread across the continent and across the oceans and man flocked to it from all parts of the world. Ships left their usual course to touch at California ports. Long trains of wagons crossed the plains and crept through the mountain passes, carrying men and outfits bound for the gold mines. Men braved hardship and death to get the gold that was reported so plentiful. Many perished of hardship and exposure; many were killed by the savages and but few ever realized even a portion of the dream that had lured them on.

Among these "Forty-niners" were some men from the Wyoming Valley, who wrote letters to the Gazette. Among these adventurers were Morris Hughes, Benjamin Bevan and Jeremiah Shiffer. James Taylor of Moosic Lake and P. W. Orchard and two sons of Carbondale, were also among them. In 1850, the Gazette announces that $1,000,000.00 in gold had been gathered from the California gold fields. The excitement of the country over this new El Dorado is hard to realize.

The year 1850 was for this nation the darkest in the history between its launching under the constitution and the civil war. The South was arrayed against the North over the question of the extension of slavery. California was knocking at the door for admission as a free state; the South was demanding that it should be divided and half come in as a slave state. People at the North were divided in opinion. Many were inclined to yield to the South for the sake of Peace; the greater number frantically declaiming that slavery should no longer be allowed to extend to free soil. Southern statesmen declared in 1850 the right of a state to secede from the Union. The whole country was filled with unrest.

The people looked to Congress for a solution of the difficulties. The Senate was the ablest that ever sat in Washington. Webster, Clay and Calhoun were there--the great triumvirate that had shaped the policy of

the Government in every momentous issue during the past forty years. Benton was there, serving his 31st. year in the Senate. Hale, of New Hampshire; Stephen a. Douglas and Jefferson Davis; Seward of New York; Chase and Corwin of Ohio were present in their seats.

Henry Clay took the lead and introduced the Compromise Bill of 1850,--or the "Omnibus Bill". Clay was the hardest minded man among all the leaders; and although now upward of 72 years old, his influence and aloquence swayed the sentiments of Congress and the nation. When Jefferson Davis demanded that the Missouri Compromise line be extended, to the Pacific Coast, Clay retorted that it must not be, but that all the South-west Territory must be free soil.

The echoes of three great speeches made in the senate Chamber during March 1850, reached every town and hamlet in the United States; and local politicians descussed the issues heatedly in their meeting places and on the streets.

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After Note: In 1844 the entire population of Pittston from Wm. Tompkins farm to Zenas Barnum's was about 200. No church--no resident minister--Elder Mott, Theo. Strong--Mr. Parker. No money even for postage. Mr. P's salary 1st year $39. in trade at Butler Co's store.

Hitherto mining had been confined to tunnelling in where the coal outcropped. Many farmers could get on their own land without much digging all they needed for domestic use. A few like Marcy and Stockbridge and Atherton of Lackawanna had sought a market by boat load or by sled load.

Attempts had been made by blasting the overlying rock or digging it away with pick and shovel. But Col. Johnson put down the perpendicular shaft 50 ft. deep and found the 14 foot of "Pittston" vein, the purst and richest in burning qualities of all the five veins since mined. The Butler Company, the Benedict mine in North Pittston, the Brookley and Price mines and the Benedict and Alton mines near Yatesville had all been made in tunnels. Here was an innovation. But the result justified Col. Johnson's theory, and old No. 1 shaft was an object lesson of interest to the valley.

Directly in front of the shaft was a small white wooden building facing r. Road street and entered by walking a plank over a ditch. It was not large enough for a cobbler's shop but was sufficient for that day of small things. This was the office of the Penna Coal Company. On the opposite corner was the general merchandise store of Harlow

Daman. It is unchanged in appearance but its name is changed to the West End Drug Store. He soon associated his brother La Grange with him and to this as mining increased they added the sale of powder. Dynamite was not yet known. Blasting was done with powder. He made and sold "soda powder" (Was this Wm. Silsbe's?)

Harlow Daman residence, a pleasant white house of two stories was next the store. Here Mrs.Damon dispensed hospitality with a free hand and was an acknowledged leader and authority in matters social. She was sometimes called "Queen Elizabeth" and her older son, because of his imperious temper was called by his play fellows "Lord Damon" The younger son, Murray was of quiet amiable disposition.

Opposite the Damon residence was the store of Mr. Benjamin Beyea. Here Truman Day and Henry Beyea were clerks. Both found their wives in Pittston. The former married Mary Fell, the latter Elder Purcell. A short distance below Mr. Damon's residence was the pleasant white house of Abram Price who had come to Pittston in 1842? He had sons, Benjamin and Abram, and daughters Mary who married John Oliver, Catherine who married Edward Schooley, Betsy who married Benj. Cutter. Across the main street from the shaft were three buildings. Two blacksmith shops and Price and Bokeley's store. Robert and Joseph, sons of Zephaniah Knapp, were very useful men in the town, being blacksmiths. There being only one foundry and no machine shop nearer than Old Forge, the men who could make and repair tools were invaluable to the community. Robert Knapp died about 1849 or 50. Joseph lived to build a home on the West side and to bring to it his bride, Myra, daughter of Newman Brown. It is now owned by his daughter, Mrs. Josephine Knapp. Near the foot of Pine street was a manufacturer of tin and iron ware,-- Mr. Jesse Williams. He was a Connecticut man and unlike many of the New England men of action and stern principle. He was of mild temperament and disposed to look upon the world as a comfortable place to live in. He had married Eliza, daughter of Stephen Johnson of Dundaff, a woman who consistantly reminded him that life was not a bubble, not a dream and her stern aspect set a rigid example of thrift to her neighbors while she let not her left hand know that the right was supplementing their shifty efforts to "get along". Paraphrasing the familiar hymn, Behind a frowning face, she hid a smiling providence.

Where now stands the large Keystone Hall, stood in 1850 a tall narrow structure nicknamed from its awkward look "Shanghi Hall". Just at the time of its erection those large, long-legged awkward

fowls were imported into this country from China. Called the "Shanghi birds". From these this awkward building took its name. One of Pittston's prominent merchants was Louis Crawford. He used this store room for his stock of stoves and iron and tinware.

As he did not manufacture it he must have received it viz. D.&H. canal to Honesdale, or from Philadelphia viz. Wilkes Barre. He had married Jeanette, oldest daughter of Samuel Benedict, the coal operator in North Pittston. Their home was always a social center and very attractive*

Even at this early date in its growth Pittston had attracted a considerable number of men and women whose superiors were rarely found.

* Below R. Road street and Harlow Damon's were few dwellings. The first was Abram Price's, high above the left hand side of the road. Near it a Grover family. The opposite side of the road was a steep bank, sloping down the creek from Tompkins mill pond. Below the Price house were two small 1 ½ story dwellings high above the road which are standing yet with new basement stores under them. They were occupied, one by a Carey family, the other by Miss Jane Swallow who kept a private school. The Swallow farm stood where Alexander Law's fine building now is, at the foot of Swallow street.

Next came the farm of Mr. William Tompkins. He was a tall large man, and he filled a large place in the industry and politics of this new town. His home stood in a large green plot a little back from the road, its rear facing the swift creek from his mill pond just below the forks of the road. The space between the roads was covered by the pond which was fed by the Yatesville creek, and the mill was at the left of the main road.

* In this mill was the old iron crank from Sutton's Mill in Exeter, which was burned by Tories and Indians in 1778. The tories carried off all the mill machinery except the crank. Years later when Mr. Tompkins wanted a crank for his saw mill he was given permission to take this. He dug it out from the mud and gravel of the creek and used it for many years. When his mill was taken away he gave this historic relic to the Wyoming Hist. and Geological Society. It may be seen at their rooms in Wilkes Barre.

On the mill pond the Scotchman used to play games of "Curley". The whole side hill opposite Mr. Tompkins , now covered by the streets Swallow, Nafus and-------with their fine residences, was Mr. Tompkin's

apple orchard. The stone walls and the rail fences around the fields was well overgrown with berry vines, and in summer the apples lay thick under the trees. It was no crime nor deed to be noticed, if the children trespassed with berry pails and apple buckets.

Mr. Tompkins' generosity was as big as his body. No trouble was too great in behalf of a neighbor or the stranger who claimed his hospitality. it might justly be said of him as of the jsut man in Holy Writ. "He sweareth to his own hurt and changeth not".

1850 is a prominent date in our town's history. The first shaft was sunk. The Methodist church was built. The Pennsylvania Coal Company's gravity road was completed. The Ferry bridge was begun in 1850 (finished 1852). Catholic church, tel. line to Wilkes Barre, a flood (see Gazette)

The first issue of the Gazette published a "Directory" in rhyme contributed by a gifted rhymester. It may be of interest to those whose forefathers and mothers lived in Pittston then.

Col. Johnson's House. It was built of logs and boarded over. In its front yard where now stand the brick buildings, containing Burk's and Antrim's and the Globe and other stores, were apple trees growing in 1850. Down on the side hill from the present Broad Street down to the Troxell Plot was a spring of water. Col. Johnson had a "ram" to pump the water up to his house.

I believe this belongs to Pittston Ferry in 1880.

PITTSTON **** WHY NAMED.

When and why Pittston Ferry? When bridge was built?

Pittston was named about 1770, for the English William Pitt, the elder, who nobly and fearlessly championed the cause for liberty for the American colonies, in the English Parliament during the Revolutionary struggles.

The Connecticut men who molded the sentiment of Wyoming Valley appreciated such championship and Wilkes Barre in 1770 adopted the names of two friends of the colonies and our town emulated their example.

It was called Pittston Ferry because a Ferry located near the site of our upper bridge, was the only way of communication between the east and west sides of the river. There was a Ferry also at Wilkes Barre, opposite the present Southampton Street.(?)

The first house erected in Pittston by Zebulon Marcey in 1770 (Hollister and Pence)

During the next five or six years settlement was made by Browns, Benedicts, St. Johns, Baldwins, Bennets, Hopkins, Careys, Blanchards.

In 1776 Mr. Brown built a stockade to which two others were added in 1878.(probable typographical error, meant 1778). It was called Fort Brown, later Pittston Fort. 1st sawmill 1780 on Lackawanna by Sol. Finn and E. L. Stegens.

In 1796 Pittston included Jenkins Plains, Lackawanna, Bear Creek and Spring brook. It had sixty five taxible inhabitants, 37 horses, 137 horned cattle, and 1 slave. (From Pence p 213.)

Solomon Strong was a member of Com. Ass. from Westmoreland in 1776 also John Jenkins, 1774, 1776, 1777. Anderson Dana 1778 Christopher Avery 1774.

List of taxibles in Pittston Township in 1796 (See Pearce App. 2)

(For rafts and lumber see p 469)

Lackawanna - Early Settlers.

(or six mile township-Hollister)

These thirty five original settlers recieved additions only by vote of a majority of the committee of five, said committee having been appointed by the Company. They were ordered to permit only such as good wholesome inhabitants to settle.

In accordance with the plan, December 17, 1771, the following were

each given a settling right in ye township. Timothy Reine, Joseph Sprague, Stephen Harden, David Langford, Caleb Bates, Barnabas Carey, Eleazer Carey Jr., Arter French, John Frazier.

At the Wilkes Barre meeting Dec. 1771, it was voted that Frank Phillips be admitted to purchase provided he would put an "able bodyd Man" on the Purchase to do his duty like the rest of the settlers. Whether Philip lacked industry or physical strength is not explained. (lame or lazy)

Phillips called the Pittston Tract "Phillipsville and the Ransom Tract, "Johnsylvania".

EARLY PITTSTON and FAMILIES

About 1790, the year when Pittston Township was surveyed, Jacob Hart and Godfrey Perry erected a house on Main St. The lot is now covered by the Pittston Fort High School Building. This is the most historic spot in Pittston. The stone placed at the corner of this lot commemmorates the site of the Fort which sheltered the inhabitants of the country for miles, in the fearful Summer of 1778. Shortly after the Hart house was built, Wm. Slocum built a large frame house below the old Sax tavern. An old frame building stood about 14 rods southwest of the house of Mr. Sax in which a store was kept (1799) by Messrs. Wright and Duane. Adjoining this was another building, one of the first in Pittston township. It was also ordered (1773) that the Inhabitants of various towns assemble at an appointed place and date in their respective towns, to choose Officers to form them into military companies, see that each man was equipped with gun and ammunition, and they were ordered to have a"Training Day" for drill in military tactics once in 14 davs.

Every settler was required by law (1774) to provide himself with musket and ammunition and do scouting duty for his family and the community. (Hollister p. 82.)

Purchased and removed by Mr. William Tompkins in 1825, Elam Stockbridge opened the first coal mine in Pittston in Franklin Hill(?) illeg.) Shipped it down the River in flat-boats. The Stockbridge House was erected in 1830 by Calvin(?) Stockbridge, and the Pittston Ferry started in its rear and the road to the Ferry ran down beside the Hotel. This was afterward called Port Mallery Hotel. Elam Stockbridge owned land where Curtis built his stone house. Elam's brother built the Hotel and had a Ferry -- rival of Jenkins Ferry.

Later it was The White Swan Hotel and its swinging sign high up in the air, displayed that bird of snowy plumage in the attitude of gracefully floating on a lake.

In 1860 it was conducted by Owen Ehret, after his death by one Schrank. It was torn down in the 80's and its site is now covered by the Wholesale Provision Warehouses and office of Barber, Lewis & Lewis. (The Cracker Bakery next door north, burned down) owned by Hillers & Co.

The Lyshon Bros. from Wales came later - Thomas and William.

Their homes were on the hill top of Frothingham St. Their sons were Thomas, John, William ----?

Thos. Thatcher lived on Welsh Hill near Penna. Company's track. He was from England - had a large family of sons and daughters.

The Tedrick Road, so named from the family of Adam Tedrick, who lived in every luxury the time and place offorded in a large farm house near the corner of the road leading back to Yatesville (?) - Miss Sarah Ann Tedrick, whose home in last years was built by herself on Susquehanna Ave. just below the home of John Everhart, was a first daughter of this house. At this house too our late townsman Ralph D. LaCoe married his wife, Miss Clary, adopted daughter of Mr. Tedrick. Near by lived an old Scotch lady, Mrs. Train, whose beautiful granddaughter, Mary became the wife of our late honored townsman Alexander Craig. Another neighbor family was named Archer, one of whose daughters, Ann, married the returned soldier John Barnes, who bought the Blakely Hall property on Main st. - also- Yates and Day family, farther back in the neighborhood, named for the family Yates. Farther back in the woods lived Newman Brown whose attractive daughters Myra and Mary became the wives respectively of Joseph Knapp and LaGrange Daman. Throughout this neighborhood (now Browntown) and Yatesville were farms and woodland. When the Brawkly-Price mines were opened, houses sprung up singly or in groups--homes of the employees. These were English, Welsh, Scotch mostly. On the west side of R. Road St. extending down from Tedrick Road were many scattered houses. One was occupied by a Welsh Preacher named Benj. Bowen, who like St. Paul worked at his trade six days of the week. He was a shoemaker. Another large family was the Owens and the David Davis. The grandsons of all these are with us yet.

At the lower end of Rail Road were the homes built by Truman Day and his sister, Mrs. Nancy Tiffany Robertson. R. D. LaCoe was the builder of these as of the Harlon Daman and Abram Price houses nearby on Main St. For the most part, Welsh hill was a pasture ground, where our cows roamed free, and where children made play houses in outline with the field stones so plentiful around, or played "hi-spy" and laid the foundation for the robust health and energy which have entered so heartily into the growing interests of a growing city. Back of welsh Hill from LaGrange (or Vine) st. extended a beautiful little piece of woods, as far back as a bog or swamp around the border of which grew tall huckleberry bushes. This bog was drawn upon for

spreading over some of our truck farms a few years ago--now is purchased by the City for a Public Park.

Pittston Cemetery was in early years called the Odd Fellows Burying Ground. It was a brier grown neglected spot for many years. The care of the resting place of the dead was neglected in getting daily bread and rest for the living. It can hardly be recognized in the beautiful, large Pittston Cemetery of late years, but go the the old part with narrow graves, narrow walks, with little plan of laying out, and read on the plain stones the records of death by disease and disaster. The "Eagle Shaft explosion" might be quite forgotten but for these records.

Beyond and reaching down across Main St. was the farm of William Tompkins. The Swallow farm (Rev. Miner S., not the owner, was a Methodist minister) was adjoining and north of the Tompkins. these farm fields are now covered with streets and homes from Swallow St. to Nafus (?) Mr. Wm. Tompkins was a man of pronounced ability and force, not only as a farmer and mill owner, but as a lawyer by intentive perception. He had great respect for law as a profession and lamented his own early lack of educational facilities. He often took occasion to enter the school rooms and impress upon the minds of the children their obligation in view of their privileges to be of great service to the world. His son, Alva, had the same high regard for education and later built a schoolhouse and hired a teacher for his own and his neighbor's children. The descendants of this sturdy pioneer are still identified with the growth and welfare of Pittston.

Zephaniah Knapp, the father of Dr. Knapp who had drug stores in East and West Pittston was another of the early residents. He was brother of Joseph and Robert Knapp, whose business was near the foot of R. Road St. He married for 2nd wife, Mrs. Ellen Stockbridge, widow of the first coal operator(?) in Pittston, Elmer S. Her husband died in Texas. She returned to Pittston to the house of her sister, Mrs. Abram Bird, with her two children, Jay and (?)Lizzie.

Mr. Knapp had a numerous family of daughters, and lived in Jenkins Township on the Plank road not far from the Pittston line, and later still in Pleasant Valley.

Abram Bird married a widow of ------Fell, the Fell family lived on the back road in the Cork Lane suburb of Pittston. She had children Mary and Jacob. After her second marriage, she had children James, Ellen, Mary, Charles. James Bird was named for a brave soldier and relative, who perished under tragic and cruel circumstances in the

War of 1812. The tale in prose and in ballad is given in Pearce's Annals.

COLONIAL WAYS IN PITSTON.

In early Pittston in the 30's, itinerant shoemakers and tailors used to travel from family to family and make garments to last the coming year. The women carded and spun and dyed and wove the cloth and sent it down to Pumpkin Hollow to be fulled and pressed. The men's cloth was usually brown (butternut?) and its wearers claimed that it was just as fine and nice as that made in the mills. Two suits apiece, one for week days and one for Sundays were provided; and Dame Fashion had no influence to introduce any new styles for that year. It was the same with shoes.

Mr. David L. Archer came to Pittston Ferry in the early 30's; and he made himself a business and a welcome by going among the townspeople with leather and shoemaker's tools. Two pairs of shoes, one for Winter and one for Summer for each person, was the general order, calfskin being worn in Winter and morocco in Summer. Some kitchens had a shoemaker's bench and tools; so that father could mend the worn shoes of the family. A skin of leather was scarce and correspondingly valuable. When Cornelius Atherton's family set out on their flight over the mountains, after the battle of Wyoming, the house dog was made to carry a hide of leather strapped to his back. Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard, after his return from the flight, acknowledged among other gifts from his son salt and leather. The Mr. Archer above mentioned was the father of Mrs. Ann Barnes, whose husband, John Barnes, bought and occupied the Blakely Hall property on South Main Street, above Pine Street. He was also the father of Luthenia, William and John Barnes Jr., all highly-respected residents of Pittston.

AMUSEMENTS

In 1852, the people of Pittston began to make provision for relaxation and amusement. Many entertainments were held on the fourth floor of the Butler House, where was a large hall for concerts and for dancing. In Winter, they also had sleigh rides to Carpenter's Hotel at the head of the Valley. In 1848 or 1850, the Odd Fellows permitted them to use their hall over the Long Store for a concert by the Peake Family. This was a very notable and select entertainment. The "family" consisted of father, mother and a little girl of about ten years, who came forward in her full, puffed-out skirts and sang a song apropos of the times, as the Irish immigrants were coming then to America, driven here by the potato famine in Ireland. The song ran:

"The potatoes they grow scarce, over there, over there;
"And they eats 'em tops and all over there, over there."

The Gazette, in its next issue, deprecates the acts of some hoodlums who tried to interrupt the program.

The ladies, ever ready to seize an opportunity, held fairs and dinners for the benefit of the Presbyterian and Methodist Parsonages. Dr Parke used to tell how he drove around among the farmers and collected milk and cream and then turned the crank to freeze the cream.

Ice cream at that time could scarcely be bought. Mr. B. F. Coolbaugh first sold it in Pittston, at twenty-five cents per plate.

The Fourth of July of the year----was observed in a thoroughly safe and sane manner. The Declaration of Independence was read, followed by an oration by Wm. S. Reddin, Esq. Some Pittston people went up to Scranton in the Gravity cars, under the guidance of C. I. A. Chapman and Wm. Hobbs. A large number of Odd Fellows came from Wilkes Barre also and had music and speeches. A ride over the Gravity in the "Pioneer" was very like a ride in our present trolley cars, only it lacked the now-familiar noise of the motor; and it sped along through the forests and up and down planes as smoothly and quietly that its running was pronounced by a delighted stranger to be nothing less than magic or witchcraft.

In Winter, when the long evenings gave leisure, a Lyceum, or Debating Society enlisted the interest of the young men. Among the members were Dr. C. R. Gorman, C. F. Bowman, Theodore Strong and C. I. A. Chapman.

On October 29th., 1850, the first meeting of the Lyceum was held in the basement of the Welsh Congregational Church on Pine street. The question for debate was: "Resolved: that the light of Nature teaches

the immortality of the Soul." The debate was decided in the negative. At another meeting, Dr. Parke gave a lecture on "The Age of Science". This lecture was published in full in the columns of the Gazette.

"Memory brings back those weekly debates; and the joy of verbal strife for precedence, together with the voices of so many that are hushed in the past sleep. It was glorious to see Charles R. Gorman really aroused. With brightened eye, head and form erect, he would hurl out his arguments, showing abilities that might have made him prominent as an orator." (Jubilee Gazette)

Dr. Parke, also, in one of his reminiscences, speaks of Dr. Gorman's ability as an orator and debater. Dr. Gorman was also one of the early teachers in the "Old Red School House", when, according to the Reminiscences of Mrs. Jemima Griffith, it was unpainted. She called it the "black school house."

This Pittston Lyceum did the greatest good in maintaining and upbuilding the intellectual and moral standard of this young and busy town. Its members were representative of the best elements in the community. From year to year, the elections changed the personnel of its officers, but never the complexion of the Society.

For the year 1851, Samuel Benedict was President; E. F. Ferris was Secretary; Gideon Underwood was Treasurer. Frank Lee Benedict, the son of Samuel Benedict, the president, was possibly inspired by this Lyceum to enter the field of literature. He began while a mere youth to write for Godey's and other magazines; and continued his chosen work until his death in 1910. He also wrote a few novels, which were of considerable interest. The list comprised Miss VanCortland -------

The Secretary, E. f. Ferris, who was also a member of the faculty, filled various positions of trust in Pittston for many years. He was the father of Judge George S. Ferris, whom Pittston still claims as an honored resident.

Dr. Underwood was long "the beloved Physician" and friend of this early community; and he is now ably represented in our community by his son, Dr. Sanford Underwood.

MAILS

LETTERS AND POSTAGE.

Dr. Parke says that in 1844, there was very little money in circulation so that if a letter came from the old country it might lie in the office several days before twenty-five cents could be raised to take it out. Postage was very high and as compared with the present day, few letters were sent. The rate depended on how many hundreds of miles it was carried ranging down from 25, 10, 5, later still 3 cents per letter. Envelopes were not in use previous to 1848. A letter was written on three pages of foolcap paper which was folded with blank side out, the ends interlocked and held with sealing wax. About 1848 envelopes were introduced, but there was no mucilage on them. They must be sealed with wax or a small red, blue or white wafer. Postage was never prepaid.

These hard rules and regulations made frequent correspondence impossible and some people took advantage of the fact that newspapers were carried cheaply and wrote their messanges on the brown wrapper in strong saleratus water or milk. This pressed with a flat iron turned brown as ink and was a very satisfactory way to receive a message.

Rowland Hill's attention was called to the subterfuges people practiced upon the English government by the following incident.

A poor woman could not take her letter from the office for she said she had no money. He paid the shilling and gave her the letter. She said "You need not have paid for it" There is nothing in it. He was to send a letter to let me know he got there safe." These deceptions led the government to see that cheaper postage would bring more revenue and conserve honesty.

Benjamin Franklin advocated cheaper postage and he became the first Postmaster General of the United States.

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In 1797 a mail was run between Wilkes Barre and Gr. Bend once in two weeks.

In 1798, once a week from Wilkes Barre to Owego.

1803, the mails were carried by Charles Mowry and -------Peck, once in two weeks on foot. frp, Wo;les Barre to Tioga Point. These postmen left the various packages of mail at a private house or at a tavern for distribution, as the Post Master at Wilkes Barre might direct, but in 1810, a two horse stage brought mail and passengers to Pittston, from New York State by way of Binghamton, Montrose, Tunkhannock, and from Carbondale and Honesdale, once a week. This was progress.

of Lackawanna flowed so near the East bank of the Susquehanna that its water was contaminated and no longer safe for domestic use.

At Mr. Parke's, Dec. 29, 1911, Mrs. Moine, Mrs. McArt, Mrs. Danl. Owens-Moore, Mrs. Porteons, all testified to the experiences of carrying water in pails long distances after the Pa. Co.'s mines had drained the springs and wells. Mrs. P. said they used a "sap" or "water" yoke to put the weight on the spinal column and relieve the arms. They had to wait long till the tiny stream filled the pails. One such spring was in Land Tunnel, another at Seneca works. Those below R.R. St. carried from No. 4 breaker spring. Mr. Thos. Moine laid a wooden pipe from Yatesville pond to his house in Sebastopol in ----. In 1870, water was distributed in iron pipes from Reservoir on Butler Hill to Sebastopol.

The main reliance of the householders was rain water caught in hogs heads sunk in the ground at the corners of the house where the eaves pipe came down. These deep cisterns of water sometimes without covers were the cause of great anxiety to the mothers, and it has happened that some inginuitive little child has lost his balance and fallen in. This water, filtered, served for cooking at the Pres. Parsonage, an iron pipe conducted the water from the nearby Seneca Spring into the kitchen.

The Pres. Parsonage had one of the few ice-houses in town. Mr. Everhart, or some parishioner who had teams, would fill it for the minister.

How hard the women toiled to carry and to save water is illustrated by the story of Mrs. P. When washing day came, her neighbor would ask for the suds after she had washed her clothes, to use for hers.

The first tin bath tub in town was probably one put in the wash house of Ravine Shaft for its engineers use. Some favored children of the vicinity who now have grand homes well supplied with all luxuries, boast of the special priviliges granted them in those early days. They were favorites of the engineers and might take baths in that only bath tub whenever they pleased!

THE HISTORY OF PITTSTON.

The first dwellings erected in Pittston, (then Lackawanna), were three log cabins or block houses, in 1762, built by 16 New England men the advance guard of 100 soon to follow. The site of these cabins was the big plain near the mouth of the Lackawanna. They were occupied only three weeks, when the resident Indians compelled the occupants to vacate. This story is fully told in the 2d chapter of this History.

We next read that smoke curled up from the rude stone chimney of Zebulem Marcy's cabin ~~as early~~ as 1770. This cabin was situated in that suburb of Pittston known as Duryea.

Barnabas Carey made a pitch (or clearing) in Pittston near the falls of the Lackawanna, in 1771. His frail cabin was formed from the trunk of a fallen tree, and gathered bark.

Note:- Next year (1772) he sold this to Jeremiah Blanchard for 13 pounds and four shillings.

Another cabin of bark was constructed in that summer of 1771, on Lackawanna Island (Later called Scoville's Island). A Quaker family named Manning had retreated from WilkesBarre Fort to that lovely place to escape from the constant strife of the Pennamites and Yankees. A fallen tree trunk resting some distance above the ground served as a ridge pole for the cabin, which was built on both sides of the tree. Peeled bark formed a roof and sides. Thomas Bennet's family joined the Mannings (by invitation), and the boys of both families raised vegetables on the island and hunted the wild game.

Note:- Thos. Bennet and John Jenkins were the earliest pioneers to Wyo. valley. They came in 1750 and made a map of the valley.

(Story of Mrs. Myers. -- See Peck.)

Throughout Pennsylvania the pioneers in emergencies used bark shingles over a thatch of grass on poles. Sometimes they covered the sides of their log houses with bark, and later, when saw-mills were plenty, with clapboards.

Note:- Such was the "Cottage" of Col. Jas. Johnson in Pittston in 1840-50. The remains of this house are in the rear of Reuben Cutler's house on N. Main St.

Lackawanna Pioneer's Experience:- One of the pioneers of Lackawanna

County thus described his experience in entering upon his forest covered farm.

"We came, my wife and I, with covered cart containing our household goods. Our cow was tethered to the cart. We must first cut and burn the timbers that stood upon the site selected for our cabin. We must then cut logs for the house. My wife begged me to "roll up" the house around a large flat stump which would serve as a kitchen table. The logs were halved to-gether at the corners and the chinks between filled in with moss or clay. The roof was of poles covered with thatch and bark. A floor to be proud of was of split logs smoothed off on the face with the axe. this was a puncheon floor.

The door and window at first were closed by a piece of carpet hung up. Afterward we had a shutter and a bark door. We moved in from the wagon glad to have more roomy quarters. At one end was the large stone fireplace. At the other was a platform of flat logs, supported at the front by two foot posts. This was for the bed, which might be a tick filled with the soft ends of hemlock or a downy feather bed from the N. England home.

The popular saying was "A hard day's work makes a soft bed", and so we found it.

Note:- After boards could be obtained, the bed was made in the principle of the modern folding bed. The platform was hinged at the head to the wall and had two short posts at the foot. This bed was hooked up against the wall during the day.

Doors:- The permanent door was of bark on with hinges. Later when more luxury could be indulged we had leather straps for hinges.

Night visitors were not expected. Sometimes wolves on their quest for food would put a nose in the door or a paw through a chink. One pioneer sleeping in his new cabin felt the scratch of a wolf's tooth on his cheek.

We worked long hours those Spring days to get space cleared around the house to plant potatoes and corn and fodder for the cattle. The broad axe and the oxen did valiant service.

But with all we could do, we raised a scanty supply for winter and had it not been for a kind neighbor on the next "pitch" we would have suffered hunger.

We cannot know the anxieties and sufferings of the pioneer settlers.

Note:- Mrs. Blanchard and the wolves.

The wife of Capt. Blanchard when the family first came to Pittston, had a fright one night. Her husband had gone to Lunbury for grist leaving her and the children in the cabin with no strong door to close at night. During the night wolves came, and she was obliged to climb into the loft with the children to escape from the hungry beasts.

The settlers had frequent alarms from bears, wolves, and panthers.

Mrs. Yates and the Wolf.

Mrs. Yates of Pittston returning from WilkesBarre where she had been to buy supplies from Hollenback's store, had to walk much of the way through the woods. As she neared her home she became conscious that a wolf was following her, she quickened her pace to almost a run. At length she stopped just long enough to lay a piece of bacon from her basket, in the crotch of a small tree, where the hungry animal would be sure to scent it. She quickened her steps to a run and reached her home in safety.

The wolf stories that might be told would rival in thrilling interest the Indian tales of the valley.

Double log houses:- These one room cabins were in time replaced by double log houses which had a room on each side of the chimney. The fireplace was enlarged. It had room for settle or for chairs on each side, within the chimney space. Sometimes the blue dye pot which must not freeze fitted with a cover, served as a bench or stool in the chimney corner.

Note:- This was Little Joseph Marcy's seat when he listened with mouth agape and eyes bulging to his mother's oft repeated, ever thrilling tales of the Indians and 1778.

These homes were sometimes made attractive with paint and whitewash. Mrs. Bedford described to Dr. Peck the house her father James Lattin built, after their return in WilkesBarre from the Flight of 1778. She said:

Improved log and frame houses:- We had no materials with which to build a house to live in. The ingenuity of my father was, however, equal to the emergency. He erected a frame and filled it in between the posts with split wood, and plastered it with clay mortar on each side. He then made a wash of white clay and washed it over with a brush and gave it a very nice finish. My mother prepared some coloring matter and ornamented the walls quite prettily. The house, when com-

pleted was considered as really a fine thing.*

We may imagine there were criticisms. Before the Revolution houses were not painted. The spirit of the time was shown by the criticism concerning a man who had the woodwork of a room painted. "See what an example of expense Archer has set us! He has had his room laid in oil!"

An economical white wash was made by burning and pounding clam shells which were aboundant along the rivers.

*Note:- It stood near the Fort, where now stands the home of

Query:- Shall I here name the early houses in Pittston?

The tinder box:- An absolute necessity for such a "Hanging of the Crane" as this forest cabin was a "tinder box". This was a metal covered box containing a piece of flint and steel, and tinder which might be a punk (dried rotted wood) or old linen to catch the spark generated by striking flint and steel and carry it to a pile of shavings. After the fire was lighted in the great fireplace, it must be kept over from week to week. At night the bed of coals was covered in the ashes to be fanned into flame with the bellows in the morning. If by some mischance the fire should be out, the small boy of the family must go to bring home some live coals to start a new fire on.

These great fire places did not warm the cabin except very near them. The bed-rooms were winter cold. A warming pan with live coals attached to a long handle was thrust between the sheets and moved around to warm the bed.

But English settlers longed for such houses as they had left; and as rapidly as possible these round log houses gave place to hewed logs, then to clap-boards outside of the logs, and as the saw mill came into the neighborhood frame houses were built.

First frame house in WilkesBarre.

Col. John Jenkins had built the first two story frame house in upper end of the valley, on the site of Fort Wintermute. Its tall chimney stack built in the centre of the house stood for long after the house burned down, (Till 1910) showing fireplaces on 2d floor as well as on first floor and in basement or cellar.

Nails:- Nails were hand wrought by the blacksmiths and were so scarce and costly, that when a man was about to move away, he set his house on fire in order to recover the nails from the ashes.

Note:- This prevailed so generally that the Governor of Virginia forbade the practice and offered to give the owner as many nails as the house was supposed to have in it.

Instead of nails wooden pegs were often used.

Windows were covered with oiled paper until the small panes of glass were obtainable. These were often set around the front door which was much ornamented with carvings.

Note:- In at least one house in WilkesBarre sixty-five years ago a pair of leather fire buckets hung in the entrance hall. Mr. Joseph Williams, Mayor of WilkesBarre at one time, brother of Jesse Williams of Pittston was the owner.

Door hinges in primitive homes were of leather or iron. The door latch was lifted by a string which hung outside. When the family locked their house, they simply pulled in the latch string.

Fire-buckets:- Because of the log fires, poorly built chimneys and thatched roofs, fires were frequent. It became necessary for every family to have its own fire buckets and fire ladders. Ladders and buckets were kept also, in the church at Boston and probably in other towns. These fire buckets were often of strong leather and marked with the owners name, and were a valued possession. The whole town constituted the fire company. When an alarm was sounded by bell or by shouts the community all turned out, each man carrying his fire bucket. If a man could not go he was expected to throw out into the road his bucket for some one to pick up and use. Arriving at the fire two lines of men and women were formed facing each other and extending from the fire to a pond or stream or a well. One line passed up the filled buckets from hand to hand, while the other line passed the empty ones back to be refilled. If any one tried to get through the lines or in any way obstruct the work he promptly got a bucketful thrown over him. After the fire was over the fire warden took charge of the buckets and some of the family claimed them. They were a cherished possession in a family.

A common form of roof still seen in old houses is one sloping at the back almost to the ground, covering the kitchen part. We call this back part a lean to. Ancient country folk called it a linter. It added much to the picturesqueness of the house.

Fences:- After the pioneer had built his cabin and made a clearing, fences must be made.

When we read of Armstrong sending his soldiers to shut off the roads

and tear down the fences of the Yankee settlers, we do not realize what that meant. The settler had no saw mill. His fences were of split rails erected at the expense of much time and wearisome toil. It was a boundary, and served to keep in his cattle and to keep out other cattle. To have this removed was to turn his live stock out to roam the pathless forest and be lost to him. If he had made such progress in the cultivation of his farm as to have gathered off the stones he had stone walls around his fields. Board fences came with the advent of the saw mill.

Candlewood lights:- The cabin built, the clearing made, conveniences furnished the house, lights for living must be made. During nine months of the year the long darkness called for lights. Candlewood, or pitch pine was the simplest form of illumination. This was burned in a corner of the fireplace. Every prudent householder laid in his wood-shed a large supply of this candle-wood. Candles were made as soon as cattle became abundant and their tallow could be had. But it must be seen that this was retarded in Wyoming and other valleys by the frequent incursions of the (Indians) and the (Pennamites,) who drove off the cattle.

Candle-making:- Every ounce of tallow or other grease was carefully saved for candles and for soft soap; deer suet, moose fat, bear's grease, wax of honey comb, all were saved. The candle dipping was a regular and important Autumn task of our grandmothers. Two large kettles hung on hooks from the crane. They were filled half full of melted tallow and builing water. The candle rods were brought from the attic and on each were looped 6 to 8 candle wicks. These rods were laid like the rounds of a ladder, across two long poles whose ends rested on two chairs or stools. These wicks were made of loosely spun flax or cotton. If not, the children gathered the down of milkweed and their mothers spun that into wicks. The wicks being ready on all the rods; one kettle of tallow was carried to a cool room and the rods lifted one by one and the wicks dipped in the hot tallow and replaced on the ladder. By the time the last were dipped, the first had cooled and the process was repeated until the candle had grown to the required size. A good worker dipped 200 candles in a day.

Candle moulds:- Candle moulds were metal cylinders attached to a bar of tin. The moulds were open at the top, pointed at the tip. The wick was looped over a nail and inserted at the top. Then the melted tallow carefully poured in. These were "Company candles", more symmetrical in shape and larger than the tallow dips. They were wrapped and

put away to prevent discoloration as also were the tallow dips.

More beautiful and costly were the spermaceti candles made and sold extensively, made from sperm oil obtained from the head of one species of whale.

Candles made from the wax of honey were popular. Farmers kept bees not so much for the honey as for the wax which held it.

The next advance in lighting was the whale oil lamp. So long as the New England fishermen had plentiful catches of whales the oil was reasonable in price and each family could have at least one oil lamp.

A substitute was camphene or a highly explosive burning fluid. Its lamp wick must be kept covered by a tin cap to prevent vaporization. (Camphene was a mixture of Alcohol and turpentine). Lard oil, too was used. Not until 1859 did Petroleum come into use.

Professional candle makers went from house to house, bringing their moulds with them, if desired, the same as did shoemakers and tailors and dressmakers. But these professionals came a little later after a settlement grew larger.

The cooking of food:- The cooking of food in one of these immense fireplaces would puzzle the modern stove trained cook and how to build the fire would be a puzzle. The huge back log and front logs were laid and kindlings and shorter logs laid between these.

Note:- The front and back logs were sometimes so large they were drawn in by a horse attached to a chain, or on a hand-sled.

The stone hearth became very hot. A bed of coals was raked forward into it and kettles with legs were set on these. If this proved too hot the crane or lugpole held hooks of various lengths from which the kettles were hung. Metal kettles were highly prized because they were imported from Europe. Brass and Copper were valuable assets of wills, and were worth 3 pounds each. The Indians made clay pots, and deemed them of such value that they were buried with their owners.

Outside brick oven:- The better houses of the settlers had a brick oven built beside the chimney. Once a week this was filled with "Oven wood" and heated to last some hours. The coals were drawn out and thrown into the fireplace and the bread and pies and cake and beans, placed on the floor of the oven with a long handled spade like tool which was kept hanging by the oven for that purpose.

Note:- In the absence of bread pans, the dough was laid on a cabbage or large oak leaf to bake. A task for children in the Fall was

to "Go a leafing" to gather these oak leaves and string them for winter use.

Until tin or sheet iron pans came into the country the cake of bread was laid on a cabbage leaf or a large oak leaf and then deposited in the oven. All being in the door was closed and at the end of some hours the contents were removed, done with an even and gradually diminished heat that insured against burning or boiling over.

A modern cook accustomed to a Pittston Range with a dial on its door to register the degree of heat in the oven, would be at a loss to know when the baking was done, but my Grand-mother Wing knew to a nicety when the bread and other things were baked.

She brought with her to Pittston a tin tea caddy, lacquered and gayly painted with flowers. Tin was imported from England, and very scarce in the 18th century. When it became more plentiful the housewives had tin ovens which stood up on legs open to the fire in front closed at back and side. In this they baked sour milk or cream biscuit, Johnny cake, pudding or a pie.

Note:- Grandmother Wing baked in the middle of the week with one of these ovens in front of one of the Jesse Fell style of grate resting on brick jambs. These jambs served to keep food and plates warm while a swinging crane with pot hooks served to cook the dinner in kettles over the fire.

For fine description of the old time Fireplace, see Whittier's Snowbound.

Dining table and cloth:- The "stump" table gave place to boards laid across trestles. This was the early form for a dining table, even for pretentious feasts. To make these before the coming of the saw mill all boards of packing boxes that came to the settlement were hoarded.

We have spoken of the table, literally "A Board". Our grandmothers knew how to spin and weave flax and to bleach their linen snowy white. They had "board cloths" of linen and plenty of napkins. The latter were a necessity because forks were not plenty and it was necessary to use the fingers in handling the foods. The earliest forks were small two tined ones.

In 1633 Gov. Winthrop of Mass. had such a fork with knife in a case, imported from England. So far as recorded he alone ate with fork.

Note:- In 1848 Grandmother Wing brought to Pittston two tined forks and knives with white bone handles. She brought also silver spoons of the style of the Revolutionary period, an oval bowl, with narrow handles.

"Above the Salt" and "Below the Salt" referred to the seating of the family or of guests according to their dignity and importance. The salt bowl occupied the middle of the table. The man and wife sat at the head, the older children next, the younger were placed below the salt, often standing and silence was enjoined on them. If one wanted a second helping, he could bring his plate to the head of the table and get it refilled.

Children in those days were taught subordination to their elders, and oft they heard the aphorism, "Children should be seen and not heard".

The table of the wealthier class was set with delft ware from Holland and with pewter shining like silver. One duty of the children was to find and bring in a store of scouring rushes for the pewter.

China dishes:- The trade which sprung up between the ships of New England and China brought abundance of China dishes. All the brides of Grandfather Day's family had in their outfits a tea set of China and silver teaspoons.

Note:- Some of this china was buried by John Gardner's wife in her garden when she left her home to take refuge in Fort Jenkins. Pewter, also was buried. The place was lost when she returned from the Flight. A hundred years later John Strot plowed into it.

Previous to the pewter and the china period, all ate out of wooden Trenchers, these were bowls hollowed out of block or board of poplar wood. At first one trencher served for two persons. It was considered almost a sin to provide each man, woman and child with a separate trencher. Those grim old Conneticut pioneers were almost cruel in their economies.

Gourd cups:- Wooden spoons were much used, both by settlers and Indians. The Indians made them of "Spoon-wood" (laurel) to sell to the settlers. The settlers had also horn and pewter spoons. Wooden cups were common. They grew gourds and made cups of them. Cocoanut shells also were made smooth and a wooden handle inserted, for drinking cups. (Some were bound with silver and had a silver standard like a goblet).

Foods:- Indian corn:- Our ancestors of the Wyoming valley came of the thrifty New England and Pennsylvania stock. Both knew by inherited tendency and by stern practice how to adapt means to ends and to provide in summer a store of supplies for the coming winter. From the Indian corn they made a large part of their food supply. As the Indians did, so they ground it between stones or pounded it in a mortar. The coarsely

ground(?) they cooked as samp or hominy. The finer they made into Johnny cakes, or mush called by the Indian name "Suppawn". For pulverizing the corn, a family or a settlement had a hominy Block which was kept going most of the time. A stump hollowed out like a bowl, in which the corn was placed. A heavy block was attached to a plient young sapling bending above it and by pulling on this a heavier impact was made and the upward spring of the sapling saved the up stroke of the arm. The hominy block did not cease its operations for visitors. They were expected to help it while they stayed.

Corn and beans, or succatash, another Indian dish, was a favorite dish.

Sometimes a large dish of suppawn and milk, or a Pumpkin baked in its shell made the large dish for the center of the table. Venison was obtainable for nine months of the year. Deer were killed, not only for the meat and tallow, but for their skins of which buckskin breeches and jackets were made.

Wheat flour could be obtained only at Hollenback's store, or at Stroudsburg or Sunbury, about 65 miles from the valley, until ---

Delano? (See Pierce).

Mrs. Young's story as given in Miner's history.

They raised wheat and rye. But they were compelled to carry them to a grist mill 60 miles away.

Our forefathers for sweets, had honey and maple sugar.

The wild bees made their stores in hollow tree trunks and some of the early settlers were very successful in tracing the flight of the honey laden bee to its storehouse, and compelling him to part with a large part of his hoard.

Maple sugar camps:- Maple sugar was made in great abundance. It passed as barter at -- per pound. (Insert here Joseph Knapp and Enos Brown.)

If a maple sugar camp were near a settlement, the last afternoon was a merry sylvan scene (?). The young folks came in sleds or wagons from every house to make "Jack wax" in the snow, to have a merry-making time, which was prolonged if the evening were moonlight.

Wild turkeys, and all kinds of game abounded and there was no "season" limit to its taking. Partridges, pheasants, quail, squirrel, were abundant. By one of the laws of Westmoreland, every settler must own a musket and be provided with ammunition. This was not only for

protection against enemies but to provide game for his family.

Fish:- The Susquehanna and the Lackawanna were filled with a variety of excellent fish. Between the hills ran trout streams and every Spring countless thousands of shad came up the Susquehanna as far as Wyalusing. The settlers had seines out, and caught and salted them down in firkins for winter use. Mrs. Young tells of the garrisoned Mill Creek in the long winter of 1771 (?). Facing starvation until the Spring run of shad brought relief.

A fishing station was early formed at Fish's Island, below WilkesBarre. Another was at Monackanock Is., another at Lackawanna, or Scoville's Island.

There was sometimes scarcity of salt in the valley. Tradition told of salt miners known to the Indians but the white men have yet to locate them.

In 1784-86 after Capt. Blanchard had returned to his farm at Pittston, he testified to his son Jeremiah Jr. who had bound himself out to service at Poughkeepsie, sending him in salt.

Note:- "Sending in" meant from New England into Wyoming valley.

In 18-- after Jeremiah Jr. had returned and built the old homestead at Port Blanchard, he had to take a boat load of fish down to Sunbury to salt them.

Note:- Jeremiah Blanchard:- There was aspired demand for salt at that particular time. Mr. Blanchard had enlisted his neighbors in a fishing benefit for a poor widow of their acquaintance. They stretched seines from the shores to Monackanock Island and caught an immense number of shad which were to be bought by the settlers for their winter use. Of course much salt was in demand, and the supply gave out.

Tea:- In England, when tea was introduced people did not know how to steep it. Some boiled the leaves, threw away the water and ate the leaves with salt and butter! Coffee was little known until the War of Revolution. At first, some boiled the berries whole, ate them and drank the water.

During the Revolution the Americans became coffee drinkers.

Tea:- Did they drink tea and coffee? Tea was banished during the Revolution. Our Grandmothers found substitutes in sage and wintergreen leaves. Mr. Miner in his history says that the soldiers accompanied the maidens for protection when they went out to gather "five finger leaves" for tea. Coffee would be unobtainable, or prohibitive

in price. (See above).

Note:- (In our civil war of 1861-65, economy compelled many well-to-do families to drink parched wheat coffee) (See above)

Coffee:- Col. Pickering while held a captive in the Meshoppen forest had "coffee" made by heating the kettle very hot, sprinkling corn meal in to brown it, then steeping in water. It made a very palatable substitute he averred.

The captors, doubtless, followed the custom of their homes in making coffee.

Fruits:- There were wild plums and grapes, and berries. No apple seed man had passed through the valley, scattering seeds as he went for the benefit of generations to come, as he did in Ohio; but the Indians had planted and grown an orchard at Capouse. It is probable the Shawanesse and the Delawares had done likewise in the lower end of the valley.

Note:- James Stark of Plains (Pittston) was an enthusiast in growing fruit trees. He did much to benefit the whole valley by exciting an intelligent interest in fruit growing.

Our grandmothers were very industrious. Having no near market, even if they had the money to buy, they stored away in their cellars barrels of pork and corned meats and salted fish, bins of potatoes and apples. From the rafters in the kitchen hung strings of apples and slices of pumpkin to dry. In the attic were stored the smoked hams and bacon, the sausage links, and the chest of mince pies, which kept well frozen.

Herbs:- From the walls of the attic, too, hung the bunches of sage, and boneset, penny-royal, peppermint and all the pharmacopoeia of the family drug store. Every housewife was a doctor and nurse to her family. Here, too, hung the rushes gathered by the children for scouring the pewter plates and porringers and strings of oak leaves to bake the bread on. (See Page--

November:- November was a specially busy time. Then the cattle and hogs were killed and the meat prepared in pickle in firkins, the sausage and head cheese made, the souse prepared, the lard and tallow rendered. A store of mince pies must be put away for the approaching Thanksgiving and holiday.

Great stores of preserves and jellies and marmalades were made during the summer, wild strawberries, huckleberries, blackberries and raspberries grew wild in abundance.

Apple Bees:- In November the apples and quinces must be prepared. An apple bee combined frolic with industry. All the young folks of a neighborhood gathered in the kitchen where were placed barrels of appels, sharp knives and pans and tubs. The paring and coreing went on until all the barrels were empty, and strings of apple quarters festooned from the kitchen rafters. Then the cider and cakes and games made the memory of the evening a source of pleasure for weeks to come.

(See Whittier)

Apple Butter:- Next day saw the housewife and her daughters stirring apple sauce and apple butter in large kettles hung from the crane hooks.

(Our) My grandmother did not know how to make preserved quinces soft and luscious. They cooked them in sugar from the beginning and they were tough and leathery.

Stills:- The Dutch settlers drank beer, the English, ale. The colonies drank cider made from their own orchards. Metheglen and Mead are often mentioned. They were made from honey, yeast and water.

Many stills were set up by farmers when their fields produced good crops of Rye and Barley. Markets were far distant and roads were rough. The farmer could get larger price for his grain in the more portable form of whiskey, and therefore, stills multiplied. It was not considered a breach of etiquette or good morals, if a man or a woman, in high standing in the church should take the social glass. Liquors were kept on the sideboard and hospitality required that a glass should be offered to every guest.

Cheese making:- Although milk was much used in the homes, cheese making was that many early and thrifty housewives prided themselves upon. Butter was made by many. The cylinder churn with a dasher moved up and down, was the earliest type.

Churning:- A Pittston girl of 13 had a chance to learn the tedium of moving this dasher up and down till "The butter come". The temperature of the cream seemed never just right to expedite it and so this inquiring minded young person decided to get some knowledge from a book in one hand while the other plied the dasher. The theory was good but in practice it retarded the movement of the churn.

Box on the Ear:- The brisk New England grandmother the presiding genius and inspector general of the housework, passed by, seeing the dilatory movement of the dasher, she promised a "Box on the ear" if the book were not closed.

"A box on the ear? What is that?" exclaimed the amused child, upon

which she received a practical and stinging illustration on the ear from the hand of the incensed old lady.

Clothes:- We have seen that the colonial farmer could provide for his family shelter, food, drink, medicine, fuel, lights. We are now to speak of his independence in the matter of clothing. Every farmer raised sheep and grew flax and his wife and daughters spun and wove them into cloth for apparel and for bedding. They sewed and knit the garments and knit the stockings of the household.

Flax:- The process of raising the flax and converting it into linen cloth was multiplex. It was sown broadcast in May as was Hemp also. When about 4 in. high it was weeded by children in bare or stockinged feet to avoid breaking the tender stalks. When matured the crop must be pulled up by the root and put through more than 20 manipulations before it yielded the linen thread. This thread must be further treated to bleach it before it was woven into the cloth of which our grandmothers wove the linen sheets and garments of the household. We wonder at the patient industry which was represented by even two skeins of thread. To weave these was a full days work for an expert. The pay for it was "eight cents and her keep." In 1771 Miss Eleanor Fry of Rhode Island spun 7 skeins, 1 knot of linen thread in a day. This was enough to weave 12 linen handkerchiefs. 5 or 6 skeins = 1 pound of flax, the pay for which was sixpence a skein. 7 skeins = 42 cents.

Revival in 1786:- In 1786 luxury had begun to creep into the country and the women of social prominence led a movement to restore the industry of the wheel and loom.

Note:- Benjamin Franklin wrote in his Poor Richard's Almanac; "Many estates are spent in the getting Linen. Women for tea forsook spinning and knitting.

(This in 1786 when luxury had crept in?)

After the wool was dyed it was carded and made into rolls for spinning, I well remember Grandmother Wing laying out a pile of the white fleecy rolls and walking back and forth at the spinning wheel turning the big wheel with a slight stroke from a nine inch stick.

She was born in 1786, July 4th. In 1790 was the great revival of the spinning industry of the country and she grew up under the stimulus of looms in every kitchen, and the legal requirement that every family must have a competent spinner.

Men who learned the trade of weaving took home her thread and wove the blue and white coverlets we yet have with the date of weaving in one

corner; thus, "Sophia Wing, wove in 1840--".

She was 8 yrs. old when the Wilkinson women of Pawtucket, R.I. spun cotton thread in their wheels.

Our grandmothers had spun only linen thread. 1792 was a memorable year for cotton industry, because of Eli Whitney's invention of the Cotton Gin. This removed the seed from the fibre 300 times as fast as hand picking it, and revolutionized cloth making in Europe and America.

In 1790, after the war, 1500 sets of irons for spinning wheels were sold from one shop and looms were being built everywhere.

The woven and bleached linen sold at barter for 42¢ per yd. It was the product of 16 months toil since the seed was put in the ground.

Note:- The women wove and knit for the continental soldiers. In the beginning of the struggle they were called upon to make warm coats for 1300 soldiers which they did. These were called "Bounty Coats."

Query:- Was there a "Daughters of Liberty" organization in Wyoming valley?

Lord Combury wrote home from Long Island as early as 1705, "They make very good linen for common use, and have brought woolens to very great perfection; they make serge that any man might wear." England was very jealous of her colonies manufacturing wool. She destroyed the industry in Ireland and tried to do it in America.

A full day's work at spinning wool was six skeins. In doing this she stepped backwards and forwards, over 20 miles. 7 knots of 40 threads each, made a skein. See page 202,203.

Homespun:- During the Revolutionary War and for some years after, "Homespun" was the pride of the nation. When Great Britain's oppressive measures were forced upon the colonies, they refused to buy her products and forthwith every well-to-do family provided itself with spinning wheels for wool and flax and a loom for weaving cloth. Very expert these farmer's wives and daughters became. Mrs. Jeremiah Griffeth testified of her mother, Mrs. John of Pittston. (See above also)

Note:- An itinerant wheel-wright sold a spinning wheel for a dollar, a clock reel for $2.00, a wool wheel for $2.00.

A wheel-wright was a man who made spinning wheels and pedaled them about the country on horseback.

Visiting with spinning:- This may seem incredible, but we hear in Pennsylvania that a woman would set out early in the morning on horseback,

with a baby on one arm, and her flax wheel tied on behing to spend a cheerful day spinning and visiting with a friend.

Spinning Matches:- Spinning matches were popular in some towns. The dames of high and low degree appeared at the appointed field of contest early and at sunrise their wheels began their race.

Note:- Patriotism and religion went hand in hand. while they spun their minister preached to them. A favorite text was Ex: 35:25. "And all the women that were wise-hearted did spin with their hands."

Wyoming valley Spinners:- The term spinster dates as far back as the 9th century and was a name of great honor. The New England settlers came from shires in England where wool was spun and cloth was made. They brought with them the habits and knowledge of the art and as soon as Flax could be grown and sheep raised they compelled every unmarried woman, boys, and girls to learn to spin. There were no laws against child labor and the children did their part.

Wyoming valley was peopled with these New Englanders and their descendants and therefore the loom and the spinning wheel formed an important element in the home life of the settlement.

Colors:- For dyeing the wool or the yarn, Indigo blue was the universal favorite and the blue dye tub was an indispensable article in the kitchen. Other dyes were Madder (?), cochineal and logwood dyed red.

Note:- Grandmother Wing used cochineal for a beautiful red color. My mother explained its interesting history. It was an insect which gathered in the leaves of a tree in Mexico. The natives shook it off into sheets spread on the ground. It was collected and sent to market.

Red oak or hickory bark, brown and yellow; juice of Golden rod flowers, mixed with indigo and alum, made a beautiful green. Juice of Fleur-de-lis, (Iris) and alum, violet. Poke berry juice and alum, crimson. Common field sorrel, logwood and copperas, made, black, as did also the leaves and berries of gull berry.

As demand increased with population it required 10 spinners to keep one weaver in yarn. This called for the invention of the "Spinning Jenny," where many spindles produced many skeins of yarn at the same instant. This in turn led to the substitution of power instead of hand looms.

This was the transmission of "Mother and daughter power to water and steam power." It revolutionized the home life. The daughters left the home to spin and weave in the large factories.

But homespun did not die out quickly in America; Whittier went from the Quaker farmhouse to Boston clad in home-made garments and many another as distinguished as he has entered upon his career clad in the same homely garb, even to buttons of horror(?) discs of leather.

The hand looms of New England are no more, except for the weaving of rag carpets, they are extinct and it would be difficult to find a woman who could use either a loom or a spinning wheel.

We must not omit to mention the woven coverlets.

Grandmother Wing had many woven by a man who lived on Grandfather's land upon the mountainside. She spun the yarn and dyed it. He had many patterns, such as, (Page 243 of Old Times etc.) Orange Peel; Church window and Chariot Wheels; Bachelor's Fancy, etc. The young girls used to discuss the merits of these and spin the yarn for then and choose which for their outfit.

Grandmother Wing made soft soap, every Spring or Fall. All grease and tallow were saved for months. When she was about to begin, into a barrel of wood ashes was poured pailfuls of water which leached through into a tub a strong lye. The lye and grease were boiled together in a large iron pot out of doors, with frequent stirring with a stick. To make a barrel of this clear jelly like soap required six bu. of ashes to 24 lbs. of grease. It was an all day business, though Grandmother in Pittston made only half this quantity.

Bleaching:- Another thing she used to that harked back to times when milliners were not to be had was the bleach over old straw bonnets and hats with sulphur fumes in a tightly closed barrel and press the crowns over the round bottomed mortar with layers of pasteboard to help its shape was the pressing block.

Knitting:- Before they were old enough to spin, girls were taught to knit. Seated on a low stool beside my mother, at seven years I was Knitting stocking of red yarn for Mrs. Andre--- a neighbor's baby. The stocking got beyond the heel but I fear there were too many experiments dropping stitches, that the family did not insist on its completion. Some lessons I knit into it, however, I was required to knit 3 or 5 times around the stocking before I could go and play, and, if I did not stop my knitting in the middle of the needle, I must knit on to the middle of the next needle.

Another association is my mother teaching me the Hymn; "The Star of Bethleham". One line is "My vitals froze" I always thought that meant victuals froze which seemed perfectly consistent with the description of

"The night was dark etc."

Knit bags:- In the early days of this century bead bags and purses were very fashionable. I have one that was knit of gray silk with steel beeds, by my mother.

Double mittens, too, were more useful than pretty and a pair a day was steady occupation.

Netting, fringes and tatting, were useful employments.

Waxwork, sewing:- "Waxwork in fruit and flowers was taught by intinerating teachers. They were taught to sew, to hem, and overhand.

I was set to work on blocks for a quilt. At 12 I sewed together my calico dresses.

Samplar:- I made a Samplar which contained, Mrs. Phoebe Daman Loomis' Samplar in the possession of ---

Quilts:- They pieced wonderful quilts, with such patterns as Log Cabin, Rising Sun, Job's -----, Fly Wheel, Rose of Sharon, Sunflower. Grandmother Wing brought to Pittston home-made woolen blankets and a Comfortable stuffed with wool. Cotton was not to be had.

Quilting bee:- Then followed the quilting bee and the supper and the visit all the time.

At a somewhat later date we made pictures by painting on glass and ornamented vases with -------

DRESS.

The American Colonists were accustomed to see excellent and even handsome clothing in Europe. Many of them brought with them garments of silk and broadcloth. As the fashions did not change from year to year these were bequeathed in wills like other personal property. Trade in ships brought foreign fabrics to America and those who had money could buy fine clothing.

Some of this found its way to wyoming. We read in Mrs. Myers' story, and in the Phillip's story, of scarlet broadcloth and silk, best gowns for the women, and Thos. Bennet's (?) handsome best Quaker suit. (Col. Dennison.)

When the Revolutionary War came, the people with one voice declaimed against buying any goods of British manufatures. All over the land the men sowed flax and hetcheled it, raised sheep and sheared the wool, and the women brought out their spinning wheels and plied the shuttle. Every kitchen became a manufaturing plant. The family wore homespun with self respecting pride.

To illustrate the wonderful ability of these manufacturing plants, in 1775 a call was sent out by Congress for 13,000 ---------

(notes missing.)

warm homemade coats for soldiers who would enlist for 6 months. They were ready by the appointed time.

These kitchen looms produced handsome cloth, brown and butternut color for the men, all colors for women and girls with checked for childrens' wear. It was sent to a fulling mill to be dressed and pressed if one could be reached. After 1800 there was one at White Oak Hollow (Parsons) to which Mrs. John Saxe sent her cloth. Mrs. Griffeth states that it was as handsome as any imported cloth.

There were itinerant tailors, and dressmakers. These came once a year to the home and made up two suits for each member of the family, one suit for week days, one for Sunday. The shoemakers came with his tools and his leather and staid until he had outfitted with two pairs of shoes apiece, one heavy calfskin, the other of morocco.

Note:- In Pittston, Mr. Joseph Archer was sewing the scattered families as early as 1835. His home in 1848 was on Tedrick Road near the Tedrick House. His sons William and Joseph and daughters Ann, married John Barnes, a civil war veteran and Lutheria who died unmarried, were all well known, industrious citizens of early Pittston.

Children dressed much as their elders. (Here pictures of Benedict children).

Note the pantaletts. The bottoms were buttoned or tied onto the body drawers.

Women in colonial days wore stays with a stiff board in front which was transferred from the old to the new successive times and was sometimes carved elaborately.

Note:- Benjamin Summer was a prisoner on a British ship. To relieve the weariness of the long voyage he carved a corset board which he brought home to Edinburg, N. Y. on his release. It was kept for many years a valued memento in the Summer family.

The stays of our grandmothers were made after French fashion and gave little room for expansion of the lungs. Grandmother Wing was made to sleep in hers part of the time to make her figure "Straight and good". In spite of this she lived to be 84 yrs. old and carried a trim, erect figure to the end.

Bonnets worn in Revolutionary times were as large as a modern

sunbonnet. How Queen Esther and her retinue could wear two and three calash bonnets on top of each other when they left the valley is hard to imagine.

Jewelry:- Little jewelry was worn. Gold beads were popular, but costly. In the valley in Revolutionary times, 1778, only two gold watches were assessed, one belonged Col. Franklin, the other to the wife of Col. Durkee. Each was assessed £1 10s.

Such was the colonial style of dress in our valley. People of wealth and distinction had brought with them clothing such as they had been accustomed to in New England. This wore out, or was stolen by Indians.

Note:- Bethiah Jenkins and Betsey Wintermute:- Bethia Harris married Lieut. John Jenkins in Jenkins Fort two weeks before the Battle of July 3d. When the Fort was captured July 2d, the Indians robbed the inmates. The day after the battle this bride of a week (?) visited the battle ground and walked among the slain, looking for her husband. Coming away, she met Betsey Wintermute, with whom she had acquaintance, wearing some of her clothes. She said, "I see, Betsey, you have some of my clothes, I wish you would give them back to me; all I have left is these I have on," "I won't do it", said Betsey, "I need them, myself."

With war, small pox, fevers, flights the colonists became very poor. At the time of the final settlement for lands with Pennsylvania, we find that one who owned 300 and 600 acres of land, had not money to buy shoes. Eleazer Atherton walked barefoot through the forest for 20 miles to get a horse offered him for his farm work. He had no shoes and other men were as destitute as he.

Jeremiah Blanchard was dependent on his son, Jeremiah Jr. who worked in Poughkeepsie for "leather, money and salt."

(Other settlers in Pittston) in 1784.

Crimes; Punishments:- 1780-82:- Although Court was held without lawyers in these days, yet not a single heinous crime is entered in its records. The men were self-governing, self-respecting Freeman. We exclaim at the severity of the sentence.

Here are a few incidents.

SOCIAL LIFE.

At Court:- All lawyers slain in the battle (Dan---------

The court appointed Lieut. John Jenkins, States Attorney, and

authorized either party to plead his own cause, or secure some one of his choice. Fortunately for the Court Records, the people were self-governing, Freemen and not a single heinous crime is entered.

A divorce was granted to Abigail Hadden. A defendent was ordered to pay the claim 6s, damages in addition to £5 18s costs.

Dec. 28, 1782, Mary Pritchard is found guilty of going from her place of abode on the Lord's Day on the 10th of November last; ordered that she pay a fine, shillings and costs, to the Treasury of the Town of Westmoreland.

Another; Samuel Ayers charged John Wolcott with stealing a buckskin worth 19 shillings. Wolcott was adjudged guilty and sentenced to pay the value, 19 shillings, treble damages and costs, amounting to £10.

These fines must be paid in hard money or in articles at stipulated prices. J. W. unable to pay was sentenced to serve 2 yrs.

Punishments: See Pritchard of Lackaway:- 1780. A man was fined by Justice Franklin 10s, and costs of prosecution for playing cards. Fine to be paid to treasury of the town of Westmoreland.

A military court before dame Justice decreed to Sergeant Leader for various misdemeanors 100 lashes and banishment with prisoners to Head Quarters as "incorrigible".

From franklin's Journal.

Run Gauntlet:- July 12th, 1780, at Court Martial, Martin Breakdale, was convicted of attempted desertion to the Indians and attempt to liberate Tory prisoners, and threatening to scalp Adam Sybert. He was sentenced to run the gauntlet four times through the troops of the garrison of 120 men. That meant (?)

Singing meetings:- That same evening, 13th, would be a singing meeting and "chorus".

Lackaway Settlement: Silas Parks played cards.

The people puritanical in religious beliefs.

Silas Parks brought from Conn. his commission as Justice of the Peace. He was found playing cards, for which he was removed from his high office. Urijah Chapman was placed in his stead.

Mostly Presbyterians in form of worship. Every Sabbath day the whole settlement assembled to listen to a sermon read. Miner P. 469. Further information chap. (ibid).

After their return made mortars to pound corn etc.

See Miner P. 476.

EARLY PITTSTON
(From Pierce's Annals)

Pittston Borough was incorporated in 1853.

Prior to 1838, it contained only eight or ten dwellings. The oldest house in Pittston in 1866 was the Hart House on Main Street, erected by Jacob Hart and Godfrey Perry about 1790.

Shortly after 1790, William Slocum built a large, frame house below the old Sax Tavern. In 1799, a store was kept by Messrs. Wright and Duane in an old frame building about 14 rods south-west of Mr. John Sax's residence. Adjoining this store stood another building, one of the first built in Pittston Township. This was purchased and removed by Mr. William Tompkins in 1825. (Was this that Shop?)

The Stockbridge House was erected in 1830 by Calvin Stockbridge. It stood------

In a frame building opposite the Butler House, on Main Street, John Almont kept a store in 1830; and in this same building, he acted as Postmaster at a later date.

Previous to 1838, there were only eight or ten dwellings (as before stated) but in that year, Butler and Mallory began their coal operations and the town rapidly grew. Up to that time, the dwellings were:

William Slocum's, built 1794(?)
The Faulkner House
Duane and Wright's Store
The Hart House
Dr. Gidding's
William Searle's
William Tompkins--far down
The Stockbridge House
John Benedict's
Isaac Hewitt's
David Barnum's

Up the Lackawanna were:

Zenas Barnum
John and Thomas Brown
Capt. Reuben Taylor
Capt. Jere Blanchard

At Lackawanna, or Wright's Forge were the Athertons, Marcys Drakes, Millers and Smiths.

In 1866, Pittston had 22 dry goods stores: 8 clothing stores; 5 grocery stores; 3 drug stores; 1 hardware store; 2 steam grist mills,

7 hotels; and 8 churches. There was also a water supply system, water being pumped from the Susquehanna River to a reservoir by a pump which stood at the east end of the Ferry Bridge.(?)

In 1865, Pittston had 13 schools with 1110 pupils and a school tax of $2865.52. West Pittston had 3 schools, with 204 pupils and a tax of $771.15 per annum. The free school system was first established in Pittston in 1833. (Is the date of 1865 correct?)

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES:

There was a ferry in Wilkes Barre in 1806 opposite Northampton Street.

In 1817, the wilkes Barre Bridge was begun; and it was completed in 1825. The old ferry was then sold and the proceeds added to the "Old Ship Zion" fund. (Pearce)

(Part of an Historical address delivered before the Wake Robin Club, at the home of Hon. Theodore Strong on Monday Evening, Feb. 16, 1896.)

EARLY PITTSTON

The name of this city fifty years ago was "Pittston Ferry". An attempt was made to change it to Port Mallory at one time, but it failed. There were no bridges connecting the East and West sides of the river. There was a Pittston Ferry by which the traveler could "get over" if he could call loud enough to make the ferryman hear, and this ferry was one of the oldest, if not the oldest ferry in this part of the state. With this name, Pittston Ferry, Pittston is not second to Wilkes Barre in point of age. From the time the Susquehanna Land Company came here from Connecticut, and laid out the valley into seven townships, of which Pittston was one, people from Connecticut and the East, going to Exeter and Kingston and Plymouth, came down the valley through Providence and crossed the Susquehanna at Pittston Ferry, and returning, they crossed the same ferry. The route from the Delaware River to the valley was through Pittston, rather than Wilkesbarre.

On my arrival here I found two public houses, one kept by John Saxe at the foot of Parsonage Street and the one at which I stopped kept by George Lazarus and at which the stage connecting Carbondale and Wilkesbarre stopped. This was a two horse stage. It carried the mail and passengers when there were any to carry. It was the only public conveyance in the valley and its arrival at Pittston was the sensational event of every day. There were no saloons in the town. It was as free from them as West Pittston is today, and a drunken man on the street, except on public occasions, was rarely seen. There were not to exceed half a dozen foreigners and these were from England, Scotland, Ireland and France. The Father of Thomas Ford, of West Pittston, was from England, James McFarland was from Scotland, Squire Redding was from Ireland and the Father of R.D. Lacoe, who made for himself a national reputation at the Smithsonian Institution, was from France. The people were for the most part "to the manor born". There was, so far as I can remember, no poor house in the county and no call for one. Very rich men and paupers are usually found in the same locality. Neither of these classes was represented here. There were two stores. One was kept by the postmaster a thrifty, intelligent Irishman, Mr. Redding, who opened his snuff box to all his customers. His store stood near where the Windsor Hotel now stands. The other store, which stood near the foot of the plane was superintended by Theodore Strong,

for the Butler Coal Company. These stores received and paid out very little money. They were largely stores of exchange. For butter and eggs and chickens the farmers could buy sugar and tea and tobacco. The merchants did not pay cash for anything, for the best of reasons--they did not have it. An old country letter, which cost twenty five cents, to be paid for on delivery was sometimes left in the postoffice for some days, for want of money to take it out. The preacher's salary, which amounted to fifty dollars a year, was paid in trade. In fact, everything was paid in trade, except marriage fees and they were sometimes paid in promises. There was but one bank in the county, the Wyoming bank in Wilkesbarre and that discounted sparingly. Nothing but "gilt edged" paper would Cashier Lynch look at. The bank had the monopoly of the banking business in this part of Pennsylvania.

There was one shoemaker in the north end of town, James Helm; One tailor, Mr. McConeghy; one undertaker, Eliasha Blackman and one blacksmith, Thomas Benedict. These were the Pittston Manufacturers fifty years ago. Harris Jenkins, a justice of the peace was a representative man in Pittston and his daughters, Annetta and Mary, were among the prominent and attractive young ladies of the town. There were two doctors, whose homes were in Pittston and who practiced in the surrounding country, Dr. Nathaniel Giddings, who came to Pittston from Connecticut toward the close of the last century, and Dr. Curtis. Dr. Underwood had not up to this time, commenced work here. These doctors were usually kept very busy in the autumn dealing out quinine to "fever and ague" patients, who, it was said, "expended enough energy in shaking to run a saw mill".

The chief occupation of the people in and around Pittston was farming, and they literally lived off their farms. There was no market for their produce short of Easton, seventy miles away. Peter Petty and Peter Wagner cultivated the "big farm" at the foot of Campbell's Ledge. They were both intelligent men and industrious farmers. They raised wheat, converted it into flour and carted it to Carbondale, where the D. & H. Company were commencing operations, for which they received some money. Wilkesbarre was very much more of a town than Carbondale, but it was abundantly supplied from the Kingston and Plymouth farms with everything in the line of grain. Mr. Zenus Barnum, who owned the land on which the Barnum shaft was sunk, did some farming. He was a bright, enterprising man. There were few more pleasant homes in the valley than his, and few more attractive girls than his daughters. Richard Brown and Peter Nagle, who lived further up the valley: Nathaniel Giddings, who had a large farm in Upper

Pittston; Jacob Lance, Adam Teanch, Newman Brown, John D. Stark, John Blanchard, Squire Winters and William Apple were representative farmers in the community. There were others. These I became acquainted with soon after coming here. James w. Johnson and Abel Bennett were enterprising men who had taken up their abode in Pittston. they had purchased the land where the Miners Savings Bank now stands, and as far south as Railroad Street. They were really the projectors of East Pittston. They built and occupied the cottage that stands back from the street, now owned by Mr. Cutler and among the very few houses that remain of those that were here in 1844. This cottage was tastily painted. They sunk the first coal shaft put down in Pittston and shortly after sinking this, sold out to the Pennsylvania Coal Company. The venerable Capt. J.B. Smith was the only stone mason and brick layer in Pittston in 1844. There were no butchers nor bakers nor plumbers, nor wagon-makers, nor engineers, nor house painters, nor barbers, nor brewers, nor millers, nor bankers, nor brokers, nor lawyers, nor gas men, nor book agents, nor druggists, nor insurance agents, nor dentists, nor printers. The result was there were few bills to pay and that under the circumstances, was a fortunate thing.

There was one, and but one, coal mine in Pittston. It was operated by men residing in Wilkesbarre, John and Lord Butler. It was back from the town some distance, at what is now known as the "burning mine". The coal was brought by rail to the top of Butler Hill, near were Mr. Anderson and Mr. Craig reside, and let down to the canal by a plane. This colliery never paid its owners any dividends, but swamped them financially.

There was no house of worship in the township of Pittston. Neither was there a resident minister of the gospel here. Elder Miller of Abington and Dr. Dorrance, of Wilkesbarre, buried the dead and married the young people. There was preaching once in two weeks by Elder Mott, who resided in Hyde Park, in a small school house near the Junction. There were not to exceed a dozen professing Christians in the town. These represented different denominations, but they all worshipped together happily. There had been church organizations at an earlier day, but they had all disappeared. There were none at this time. There was a Sabbath school in the schoolhouse where Elder Mott preached, conducted by Mr. Strong, with which some of the grey-haired men and women of today were connected.

There were not to exceed two hundred people living in Pittston at this time, between Sebastopol and the Junction. They resided for the most part along Main Street. The houses were few and far between--"magnificent

distances" but no magnificent houses, and as orderly arranged as stumps in a clearing. There certainly was not much that was tempting for one who was looking for a place to make a nice, cozy home for himself. On Main Street, which was crooked as a rams horn, the houses were so scattering that some one who was travelling to Pittston from Wilkesbarre did not know he was in town until he was through it. At the head of the canal he enquired for Pittston. There were no sidewalk here and in muddy weather the pedestrians waded. Cows and swine and geese had perfect freedom to wander where they pleased, with none to make them afraid. On one occasion, one of our prominent citizens had a free ride on the back of a huge porker that attempted to run between his legs, possibly to escape a mud hole.

There was really nothing here to make the town grow, nothing to stimulate the spirit of improvement. The time had not come for shedding its old coat. The sleeping coal measures in the Valley of Wyoming, that have made it one of the richest valleys in the state of Pennsylvania, if not in the world, had not been aroused. A canal had been constructed, connecting Pittston with the Chesapeake bay at Havre deGrace, but the cost of transportation was so great, and the price of coal so low, that there was absolutely no money in the coal business. There certainly was no money here. I had reason to know this, as I had something to do in a financial way with building the first church erected in this township. The people generally felt kindly toward the enterprise. They were pleased with the idea of having a sanctuary, but the funds necessary for erecting a church came very largely from abroad.

Two years after I came here, in 1846, about the time the first church building was dedicated, business began to brighten and it had grown brighter ever since. Enterprising businessmen came here with their families, and they have transformed Pittston Ferry into a city, and built up a town in West Pittston of six or seven thousand inhabitants, that is as inviting a place of residence as any town in Pennsylvania, where in 1844 were only farms. While East and West Pittston are separate municipalities, they are united by bridges that gracefully span our beautiful river. To all intents and purposes, they are one, as Pittsburg and Allegheny, and New York and Brooklyn, are one. Here now we have elegant churches and growing and intelligent congregations and Sabbath schools and Christian Endeavor Societies and Y.M.C.A. Association, representing all denominations and palatial homes, and first class public schools and manufactories, and banks and Music Halls, a water supply system, gas, electric lights, paved

streets, as many provisions for-------(portion torn off)------comfort and improvement and progress as belong to any city. This transformation that has been effected here in the past half century, to those who were familiar with it at that time, appears like the work of a magician's wand.

CHRISTMAS in PITTSTON FERRY in 1850

by Mrs. Ella Robertson Johnson

Copied from her Mss. in December 1913,
Xmas to Cousin Susie

There was not the joyous and general observance of Christmas in the new town of Pittston Ferry that there has been in Pittston of to-day.

The pioneers were not yet far enough removed from the Puritan fathers and the cry of "No Popery". With the Mass and the Ritual, their ancestors had discarded also the symbols of joy and cheerfulness. The Pittston of to-day in common with all Christendom, has taken back to its celebration of Christmas and Easter the decoration of the Church with palms and flowers, and the singing of glad hymns of praise.

In 1850, Thanksgiving Day was more recommended as a day of praise and tokens of joy. This was peculiarly a New England festival and was entirely and utterly removed from any association with that abhorred Church of Rome and its persecuting imitator the Church of England, from which the Puritans had fled to the wilds of America. In 1850, New England ideas dominated the character of the people. Christmas was mildly observed in the homes. The children hung up their stockings and found some sticks of candy, peppermint and lemon and hoarhound, pink and white striped "kisses", and a very hard round clear sugar ball, with narrow red stripes, which was a "sour ball", being flavored with tartaric acid.

These sour balls had an advantage over the cream chocolates of to-day, which melt in your mouth at once, leaving the appetite wholly unsatisfied. These would last a long time, lying first in the right cheek then shifted to the left. They were too hard to chew and during the dissolving process, the amount of saliva was great to overflowing, and conversation, or even polite answers to questions, was extremely difficult.

This form of confection served often as a medium of barter. The big ten penny nail or the coveted fish line, the broken-bladed jack knife or the winning "alley", might often be transferred from a chum's trousers pocket, in consideration of a five minutes-"suck" of the owner's sour ball.

Oranges were seldom seen. No line of steamships was formed to

exchange our grains and fruits for those of the Tropics and the Orient. Sailing vessels carried the commerce of the world, and stage coaches and the canal brought a small proportion of luxuries to Pittston Ferry. Therefore when a maiden of nine years in the rehearsal of a "Colloquy" on the platform of the Methodist Church, saw a tall boy opposite roll an orange across to her, she was doubly pleased. It was an expression of his admiration and preference for her, above all those other 14 girls. That was a triumph, but she delighted in the orange itself. Its fragrance, its delicious juice, were pleasant in anticipation, and a sense of admiration and kindly regard for this master of an orange supply awoke in her heart.

This was probably one of the festive occasions of Christmas time. It was in the newly completed Methodist Episcopal Church on the site of the Y.M.C.A. building. It was built in 1850. This Sunday School festival was to be an evening affair and there were thirty in "The Colloquy"; -- fifteen boys and fifteen girls. There were two or three benches on opposite sides of the pulpit platform. The girls sat on the right hand benches, the boys on the left. The exercise was a "Colloquy" in which each one of the thirty had to speak once, taking his cue from the one who preceded. The Colloquy was a discussion of all the virtues in the form of question and answer back, and forth. Each one knew his own lines and no others. So when the little maiden had paid strict attention until her lad asked her question and she had answered in her lines, she had no further responsibility and could look, listen and be complacent.

The "Exercise" did not call out any latent vivacity, or ambition, or love of applause, as modern exercises are wont to do. The times were not so stirring and those Colloquists lived the longer for the simple, quiet life.

There were two other Churches in Pittston in 1850. The Welsh Congregational on Pine St., opposite the tall pine tree, which gave name to the street,--and the brick Presbyterian far up town.

The former had served all denominations by turns, and had been to Pittston what "The Old Ship Zion" had been to Wilkes-Barré seventy years earlier. The Presbyterian Church dedicated in 1846, far up town, had absorbed the congregation and Sunday School gathered by Mr. Theodore Strong in the Red School House before the coming of Dr. Parke. In these congregations and Sunday Schools the lessons concerning the birth of the Savior and the song of the angels, "Peace, good

will to men", were carefully taught--and the text memorized by the children. There was lacking the Christmas Tree loaded with gifts and glittering with tinsel and the visible Santa Claus. But the spiritual and invisible Giver of Gifts was held up to the mind, and that conception was to abide and to influence character. Pittston can never sufficiently honor the memory of those zealous Christian men who laid the foundations of the city in righteousness, who would have the walls of the coming city "Salvation, and its gates Praise."

Major Smith had brought with him to Pittston Ferry his German tastes and habits. We all know Kris Kringle was the original name for Santa Claus, and Germany was the home of the Christmas Tree.-- Every year, as Christmas Eve came round, the Christmas tree was lighted in Major Smith's parlor, and not only his own family, but the friends and neighbors far and near, were invited to come and see its splendors. It stood within a miniature fence railing, on a sward of green moss. A mirror imbedded in this moss looked like a lake, and toy figures of men and animals stood around under the tree. This was the first Christmas tree in Pittston and it bloomed every successive December.

The Scotch people here brought the customs of the New Year celebration in gifts and social visits. The delicious Scotch shortcakes they served were as choice as Huyler's candies, and the oatmeal cakes were a novelty to us Yankees. following the custom of their native land, the cup that cheers and inebriates also was hospitably passed. The custom was adopted by some of the American families who received New Year's Calls, and sometimes after a round of these open house hospitalities, young men walked home unsteadily.

Dr. Parke's Report on the State of Religion in the Presbytery in 1851 stated that all Departments were prosperous "except the Cause of Temperance and that was on the decline." How far the New Year calls were responsible for this cannot be ascertained.

Perhaps some extracts from the Pittston weekly Gazette may not be uninteresting, and may throw some light upon the remote Holiday times of 1850-53.

(Dr. Parke's published lecture, delivered on Dec. 20, 1850, before Pittston Lyceum on "The Age of Science", would not be popular reading for the holiday season now. We omit this.)

The announcement of a Fair is worth transcribing:

"Ladies Fair: We are requested to state that the Fair which is to come off in this place, on Christmas Eve, will be held in the

new brick building of Messrs. Curtis & Jenkins, next door to the Long Store, where everything imaginable will be served up in the nicest style to please the eye and tickle the palate. The room is an excellent one for the purpose and while we would congratulate the ladies upon their Fair prospects, we would also return their thanks to the owners of the building--with the hope that our friend Steve, who is yet without a better half, may win 'the fairest of the Fair.'"

We learn from another column that:

"The weather during the past week has been cold and bracing, giving our streets and sidewalks an opportunity of becoming smooth and fine. The canal has been closed for several days and large quantities of ice float down the Susquehanna. Messrs. Stark & Fuller assure us they are prepared to accommodate with fleet horses and good sleighs all who are anxiously awaiting the luxury of a sleigh ride."

Here was news that gave joy to the town:

"On Tuesday of last week, a new coal vein was fully developed in this place by Mr. John Hozie, Supt. of the mines of the Penna. Coal Co. It opens in the gully along the creek which empties into the Basin. The vein belongs to the first class, being fourteen feet in thickness and the coal is pronounced by judges to be the best which has yet been discovered in Pittston or any other coal region in the State. Pittston against the world for good coal in abundance!"

In another column was an announcement of "Blake's Congo Methodists".

From Gazette of Dec. 30, 1850, we read of a large sleighload of Pittston ladies and gentlemen going on the evening of Dec. 30th in large omnibus sleigh to Hyde Park, where they had a bountiful supper worthy of the holiday week. There was no mention of any anticipated Christmas festivities in the issue of the paper the week before, nor any report of any in this week's columns.

But we find that the next year, Dec. 19, 1851, brought an announcement that the "Ladies of Pittston" would serve a dinner on Xmas day and hold a Fair in the evening in the Port Mallory Hotel, vacated by J. D. Forsman, who had just moved into his new four story brick on Main St. near the foot of Butler St. (now called The Butler House). The object of this Fair was to raise money for the Presbyterian Parsonage.

We are informed that the weather was cold beyond precedent and that the unfavorable weather would compel the postponement of a donation

party to the Methodist minister, Rev. C. W. Giddings. It would be held at the Parsonage on New Year's Day. "The Parsonage" was a rented frame house on Railroad St. next above Mrs. Robertson's. An old resident who was then young relates that some of the young folks in whose veins tingled the holiday spirit, exclaimed as the evening wore on, "if these old folks would go home now, we could have some fun!" "What!", exclaimed one of the ruling sisters, "have fun in a minister's house?"

But in another part of town that evening, the "fun" was fast and furious,--for there was advertised a "Christmas Ball" at John Love's North Branch Hotel.

Foster & Hall advertise new books suitable for New Year's gifts. Among them are "Rosemary", "Stories from the Bible", "Noble Deeds of Women", "Pilgrim's Progress", "Tupper's Complete Works", the complete sets of Mrs. Hemans, Sir Walter Scott, Burns and a few others. This list reads very dull to the pampered youth of this age of multiplied books; but no work of fiction of 1900 could be more entrancing to the girl of to-day than was "Pilgrim's Progress" to a girl of 1850. She saved all the pennies she could earn until the necessary 75 were counted in exchange for the book. There were fewer books, but they were more prized.

The holiday season of 1852 is absolutely unnoticed by the Gazette, except for one announcement. The Rev. Mr. Long, of Wilkes-Barre Episcopal Church, would come up to Pittston and hold a Sunday School service in the afternoon and a preaching service in the evening, in the room over the "Marble Store". "The Marble Store" stood where Hartzell's store now is in the "Phoenix" building. The Marble store had a pillared front entrance of wood painted to imitate white and gray marble. It burned down and the three story brick took its place and was named for that fabled Egyptian bird which yearly being consumed rose in full strength from its ashes. We may imagine the ardent Episcopaliens of that day, the Judge Redding, Harlow Damans, R. J. Wisners, L. W. Crawfords, Lawyer Bowmans, Blakeley Halls, and others, gathering together to trim this upper room with evergreen. If they did, it was the entering wedge to break down the prejudice or the indifference of the early inhabitants of this prospective city. There certainly never was the hostile spirit to such innovation as was exhibited in Wilkes-Barre in earlier times, when the one church, "Old Ship Zion", which stood on Public Square, was used by all denominations in turn; the Episcopalians prepared to decorate the sanctuary for their Christmas

services; they were peremptorily turned out, with their trimmings.

The Gazette reporter evidently had gleaned no items of Christmas decoration for the paper. He says, the weather is intensely cold; that a fire in Washington had destroyed the books on the main floor of the Congressional Library, and another in Philadelphia had destroyed P. T. Barnum's Museum--Barnum who knew perfectly how to amuse and humbug the people so cleverly that they regarded him with gratitude and admiration. It was not far from this time that he brought to Pittston, Genl. Tom Thumb, the wonderful and attractive little man less than three feet high. The manager placed him on a table at the exit from the hall with pictures of himself to sell. He had difficulty in making change and would say "Will you take a kiss, Miss?' Of course the "Miss" was too surprised and flattered to decline.

From these meager data, we do not learn much of the celebration of Christmas and New Year's Days. Doubtless there were the turkey and the plum pudding in many homes and the exchange of gifts and greetings. But the very general observance and lavish expenditure which characterizes recent years was not possible, nor could be imagined. There was little money in circulation, but great hopes in the air. The coal was in the ground and the Penna. Coal Company had brought money and men to dig it out and the canal was already here to carry it to market, and the railroad was building. We know from our own memories that great changes came about 1850 and the population more than doubled in that year.

A glance at the files of ten years later shows the gradual approach toward the generous display of the present age. If we could bring down to the present some of the spirit of restful simplicity of 1850, it might tend to long life--but this generation would call it stagnation and paralysis!, and I dare not say "the old times were better than the new."

The Welsh people kept Christmas with songs and choruses and meetings in their church on Pine St. They never tired of meetings nor of the weird wild choruses of their native mountains. The Welsh and English boys used to dress in masks and fantastic disguise and walk into people's kitchens on Christmas Eve to sing and dance and to receive the cakes supposed to be ready for them.

The Irish, of whom many came over in these early years, driven by the potato famine and consequent starvation to America's shores, formed a settlement at the head of Pine and Market Sts. and a similar

colony at Port Griffith. The Catholic Church, St. Mary's, was built in 1850, on ground donated by Mr. Michael Reap, and it looked after these its members and celebrated the Christmas seasons with its customary religious services, with the church and altar profusely decorated. The Gazette describes a cradle holding an image of the infant Savior standing in front of the altar. Beside the religious celebration, the mercurial temperament of the Irishman generally demanded some of the ardent spirits, easy to be obtained both abundant and cheap. This race were always ready for a cheerful good time, whether it came on Christmas, New Year's, St. Patrick's, or any other Saint's day.

MISC. SCRAPS on EARLY PITTSTON

CABINS.

When in 1793 the first settlers came to this valley, they found grand forests, but no saw mills; plenty of clay but not appliances for making brick; plenty of rocks and boulders, but no means of cutting them to building blocks, nor means of drawing them from their place to where they were needed.

The pioneer is homeless. In some parts of Penna. caves were dug for 1st shelter. A man told me his father's experience in the forest wilds of Pennsylvania. He and his wife came to their wilderness farm with an ox team, a cart, some few tools and a few articles for housekeeping. He must first fell trees enough to make a clearing for a log house. How built? Doors, hinges, floors, window.

Logs cut from the future grain fields must be rolled into piles and burned to get rid of them. Fome of the choicest timber thus went up in smoke.

Read Madam Jumel, Abraham Lincoln.

FIREPLACES.

Vast in size. Back log hauled in. An oven at the end. To hold the kettles, hooks at end of chains, hanging from bar up 8 or 9 ft. in chimney. Cranes came later.

Turn up bedstead in the kitchen.

GRANDMA WING'S.

Tea cannister, highly lacquered.

Clean winged hearth (Whittier P. 74) She saved all Turkey wings for such use as now are brushes.

We baked apples and roasted chestnuts on the hearth before the grate, and baked bread and sour cream biscuit and Johnny cake in the tin oven in the back yard beside the little summer kitchen. Once a week Grandmother used to fire up that oven for a baking of bread and pie.

In the Fall she bought tallow and I helped her dip candles out in the summer kitchen where was no fire. The large pot of tallow was melted on the grate in the front room.

She kept one cow and a pig in a shed and pen on the back of the town lot. The pasture extended back over Welch Hill, then a bare common, to Mr. Wm. Tompkins' apple orchard, which was enclosed with

a stone wall. The cow had a bell and George and I had to hunt her if she did not come home to be milked. Once a mischievous theiving boy stole the bell but we recovered it. We knew the jingle of that particular bell among all the other cow bells.

There were dangers to cows running at large even then. The Penna. Coal Co.'s Road was not fenced in and sometimes a cow got killed. Our's did and since there was no law limiting the privilege of the cow to roam, the Company acknowledged themselves intruders by paying us $30. We bought another cow.

Grandmother Churned, too. Poor old lady, she felt sadly

Lamps succeeded but did not displace candles. From the whale fisheries came a large supply of oil and the family would have one or two oil lamps. They had a single wick and gave no more light than a tallow candle. The oil was offensive to smell and expensive to buy and lamps were not used extensively for many years. In 1850 these whale oil lamps were largely superseded by an explosive volatile burning fluid called Camphene. The lamps were similar in shape and wick to the oil ones. Then came the wickless petroleum lamp; but the oil was not refined, was dark and odorous, and did not find enough favor to keep Mr. H. M. Daman, who introduced it, interested to sell it.

The women had table linen made in the old home town, with napkins in plenty. The latter were a necessity because of the lack of forks to eat with.

Forks. First brought in 1633 to Gov. Winthrop. A few two tined. Seated "Below the Salt". Wooden tankanrds, plates, bowls. (Pewter dishes, scouring rush) Porringers.

Rev. J. Johnson reproved the people for their dislike of pumpkins. He called them "A fruit which the Lord fed his people with, till corn and cattle increased."

"We have pumpkins at morning and pumpkins at noon,
If it were not for pumpkins we should be undone."

Squashes native. Potatoes taken to England.

Bread, Rye and Injun. Milk, hashes, soups, ragouts, pickles, spiced fruit, preserves (quinces), marmalades, wines and cordial, hotchpot, variety of cakes, pies, puddings, a powdering tub, loaf sugar, spices and mortars. Grandmother W. had a bellows too.

Amusements:- Apple paring bees; corn husking bees.

In 1775 the Provincial Congress demanded 13,000 warm coats to be ready by cold weather. Every 8 mos. volunteers received a Bounty coat with name of town and maker sewed in.

"Coat Roll". "Homespun."

PRICES.

A wild turkey of 30 lbs. 6 pence.
Haunch of venison. a pipe and tobacco.
Butter 3 pence to 6 pence per pound.
In 1700's every house wife churned.
Churns.

A girl could be hired for 25 cents per week.

The settlement of claims and the pacifications of the inhabitants progressed steadily. They began to trust in the justice and benevolence of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

A brief Review of their struggle to hold their farms will excite interest and sympathy.

They held their land under title from the Susquehanna Company of the State of Connecticut from 1769 to 1782 the date of the Trenton Decree. (Explain the Trenton Decree.) Who composed the Conn?

This declared that Conn. had no jurisdiction over the Wyoming territory. It belonged to Pennsylvania.

The settlers had no deep sentiment of affection for Conn. They were as willingly (?) live under Pennsylvania law. Conn. had never been a tender mother to them and they accepted the decree that henceforth they must live under Penna. as a condition to be accepted, even if not approved. enjoyed. No question of their right to the soil arose until the land grabbing. Pennamites soon began to get legislation to expel them from the country.

These were the conditions of compromise offered by the State Commisioners.

1st. Pledges of obedience made so publicly as not to be denied nor evaded.

2d. A written disclaimer publicly given of all their lands and claims held under the Conn. title.

3d. Then the settler might take a lease of $\frac{1}{2}$ his farm for eleven months.

Trenton Decree passed Dec. 1782.

The Court consisted of, Hon. Wm. Whipple N.H.
Welcome Arnold. R.I.
David Brearley &
Wm. Churchill Houston. N.J.
Cyrus Griffin Va.

4 attended as agents and council from Penna.

From Conn. Elephalet Dyer

Wm. S. Johnson.

Jesse Root.

After 40 days consideration and disension the court rendered the following decision. Miner p. 446.

This decision did not affect the right of soil.

Then arose disputes bet. present holders and Penn. claimants. Land grabbers also.

Confining Law. M. 430.

This act suspended 1 year later. Apr. 4, 1799. M.P. 454.

9th Century. "Spinster Survives."

Many New England settlers came from shires where wool was grown and cloth was made. It was compulsory on all women to learn to spin. (P. 189) child labor.

Penn settlers early 1723. 1850 patents for knitting machines.

Penna. and Franklin fostered.

In 1790, 1500 irons for spinning wheels from one shop and looms were making every home. See P. 41.

Carding. (combing) rolls. Spinning.

Cotton the latest fibre for spinning. Pawtucket woman named Wilkinson made 1st cotton thread on their spinning wheel in 1792. Previously linen thread was used. This year Eli Whitney's Gin. Morris Hughes and John and Hugh R. were all itinerant Welsh tailors in Wales.

Weavers itinerated bringing looms and news from outside.

Men learned the trade of sewing coverlets and other****

For Dress in Pittston see the Screens at Squire Ehret's.

INHABITANTS OF WESTMORELAND.

List of Pittston Taxibles '77 - '78 - '79

List of Pittston Taxibles 1776
Harvey II--952.

	Added in 77	Added in 78
Adams, Noah		
" Isaac		
Allen, Danl.		
" Isaac "77	David Allen	
Brown, James	Thos. Angel	Carey, Elija
" " Jr.	Benedict, Silas (killed)	
" David	" Wm.	" Joseph
Blanchard, Jeremy	(Miner 227-Harvey pp.997,998)	
Bagley, James	Thos. Baldwin & Giles Slocum saw the------ lost all papers in flight	
Baldwin, Isaac	Was sent to Board of War July 2 to tell them Yale Lawyer--bot land on Susq. of John Jenkins A Thos. Baldwin was witness to the-------Peck	
" Rufus	Giles Slocum & Thos. Baldwin witnessed it.	
Bennet, Ishmeal	(Miner 227)	
Bates, Caleb Esq.	(Miner p.333) Capt. Bates met by accident justice Patterson who said, "Why have you been sent to see mee Sir"	
Billings, Saml	Increase Billings	
Cooper, Thomas		George Cooper
Cash, Daniel		Christy, Thos.
Crandall, Eber		
Carr, John	Saml Carey - Miner 226 & app p.22	
Carey, John (see Peck p. 110)	Elihu Carey (Harvey pp 1024, 24)	
Carey, Barnabas	Joseph Carey	
Shay, Wm.	Taylor, Joseph	Thomas, Joseph
Smith, David	Taylor, John	
	Taylor, Preserved	
Scott, John	Nathaniel, Williams	
West, Eleazer	Whittaker, Esq.	White, John ,omer 227
Williams, William	Occupied the house sold in Fort lot	
Worden, Justus	Wilcox, Amy	
Worden, John	Tripp, Isaac-One of the first Forty	
	Tripp, Job	

In Pittston the leading families during the Revolutionary war were, the Blanchards, Bennetts, Browns, Careys, Benedicts, Marcys, Silbeys, St.Johns, Sawyers, (Phillips) not omitting the gallant Cooper (Miner App XLV) Where are the Starks?

Miner says Jenks Carey was one of the original Proprietors of Pittston.

57 names Added over 50 in '77 and '78

In above list were 4 Lieutenants, Timothy Pierce, Timothy Howe, Timothy Keyes and William Shay.

Two captains were Jere Blanchard and Solomon Strong.

Howe, Timothy-In Hewett's Co. John Carey

Thos. Christy

Harding Thos. Isaac Finch Was he killed on a scout July 3d as Shoemaker Mills?

Hampstead, Benj. Miner(app38) mentions John, Daniel, By---- all killed--one at Shoemakers Mills

Saml Finch-was freed at Cap----?

Saml Carey (H II p. 1024 and other Careys.

Finch, Peter--a fugitive 1778-see Harvey II p.1055

Finch, Saml--surrendered prisoner for Wintermute

Finch Isaac--slain at Shoemaker's Mills July 2 (?)

Mrs. Myers says a Mr. Finch was shot and scalped at Shoemakers Mills (July 2d) July 2nd a large party went out from the fort and brought in Finch's body without molestation, though a large body of Indians were there. Miner p. 14.

PITTSTON TAXIBLES.

		'78 '79
Halstead Richard	Hicks, Levi (killed	Christopher Hurlbut
Halstead, Isaac		
Hegaboon, Jeremiah		
Jones, Eton		
Jones, Richd	Keyes, Timothy	
Leonard, Joseph	Lewis, James	
Munson, Obediah	Lee, Solomon	
Moore, Jas		
" " Jr.		
Marcy, Ebenezer	Zebulin Marcy is assessed in Dsit above Exeter -- Tunkhannock	

Millard, Saml
Millard, Andrew (killed in battle)
Pierce, Timothy Lieut.
Parker, Jonathan
Ryan, John
Rood, Michael
Sanford, David
Sanford, Ephriam
Stark, Aaron
Silsby, Elijah
Slater, Saml.
Slater, Saml. Jr.
Stafford, John
St.John, Danl
Mackey, Alex
Phillips, Francis
Justus Pickett
Thos. "
Stafford, John
Squire Zacheriah
Scott, John
Sprague, Jos Eleazer Sprague killed in battle
Stark, Wm
Stark, Jonathan (harvey p. 1017)

Jenks Corey was one of the orig. Prop. of Pittston. He was killed July 3d, '78.

Anson Corey and Rufus Corey also were killed at same time. "The old father died at Kingston and was buried on or near the spot where the tavern now stands (1845) in New Troy"

Miner App XLII

Thomas Brown and John Brown are on the list of slain. Daniel was then a lad in Forty Fort. This family built "Fort Brown" on their own land in Pittston.

A samuel Brown lived (1778) in Exeter

Elisha Brown lived (1778) farther up the River.

LIST OF PROVIDENCE PROPRIETORS.

May 1773 — From Harvey II - p.770

Christopher Avery
Solomon Avery
Timothy Keyes
John Murfee (killed) son-in-law of Gore
Capt. Silas Park
Ebenezer Heberd in battle Capt. H
Isaac Tripp, Esq.
Henry Tripp
Ezra Dean
Asa Upson
Philip Wintermute
Stephen Jenkins
Robt Comstock
Jabez Sill on Wm. Leonard's Right
Wm. Hawkins
Saml Pelton
Paul Pelton
and others

Keyes made Road collector in place of Solomon Johnson

Solomon Johnson
John Staples
Jacon Anguish
Allen Whitman
John McDowell
Zebulin Butler
Moses Roberts
Timothy Gaylord
Ambrose Gaylord
Phineas Nash
Ichabod Hopkins
James Hopkins

Spencer and Gaylord died in the army
The 2 brothers Sawyer died in army.
Note: "Providence" was added to Lackawanna as compensation to the Hanover Proprietors who relinquished their settling rights in Hanover to the Paxton boys who had aided in the Pennamite war.

LIST OF PITTSTON TAXIBLES, 1776,1777 and 1778.

Noah Adams	Elihu Carey	Elon Jones
Samuel Carey	Isaac Adams	Richard Jones
Daniel Allen	Joseph Carey	Timothy Keyes
Isaac Allen	John Carey	James Lewis
David Allen	Daniel Cash	Solomon Lee
Thomas Angel	John Carr	Samuel Miller
Jeremoah Blanchard	Eber Crandall	Obidiah Munson
James Bagley	Thomas Cooper	Zebulon Marcy
Isaac Baldwin	George Cooper	Alex. Mackey
Rufus Baldwin	Thos. Cristy	Ebenezer Marcy
Ishmael Bennett	Isaac Finch	James Moore, Jr.
Silas Benedict	Abraham Harding	Samuel Millard
William Benedict	Thomas Harding	Timothy Pierce
Increase Billings	Benjamin Hempsted	Johnathan Parker
Caleb Bates	Timothy Howe	Francis Phillips
Samuel Billings	Richard Halstead	Justus Picket
James Brown	Isiah Halstead	Thomas Picket
James Brown, Jr.	Jere. Hegeboom	John Ryan
David Brown	Levi Hicks	Michael Rood
Barnabas Carey	Christopher Hurlbut	David Sanford
Ephriam Sanford	Joseph Sprague	Preserved Taylor
Solomon Strong	Ebenezer Sprague	Joseph Thomas
Aaron Stark	William Stark	Job Tripp
Elijah Silsby	David Smith	Eleazer West
Samuel Slater	Johnathan Stark	William Williams
Samuel Slater, Jr.	William Shay	Nathaniel Williams
John Stafford	David Smith	Amy Wilcox
Daniel St.John	John Scott	'Squire Whittaker
'Squire Zachariah	Isaac Tripp	Justus Worden
John Scott	Joseph Taylor	John White
John Taylor	John Worden	

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Note: The above List of Pittston Taxibles is copied from Harvey, Volume II, Page 877.

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TAXIBLES IN NORTH DISTRICT "UP RIVER" OR ABOVE EXETER----1776.

Anker, Frederick, Tory
Bender, Philip
Bryant, Prince
Bowman, Adam
Bowman, Jacob
Brown, Elijah--Miner speaks of Daniel living near Wyalusing 1844(App.XXXVX)
Buck, Philip--Who was Lieut Buck(?) Miner p.263 William? Ahahib?
Bixby (on monument)
Bigsby, David
Brunner, Jacob
Beebe, Joshua
Cole
Depew (De Pui) Nicholas
" " John
Dewey, Jacob
DeWitt, John
Farrington, Stephen
Frank, Frederick
Fitch, Lemuel (taken prisoner with Amos York and Fitzgerald and John Jenkins.
Fitch, Jonathan (1st sheriff of new Co. of Westmoreland.)
Fox, Rudolph
Hicks, Edward
Hicks, Levi (killed)
Hopper, Casper
Herrington, Reuben
Hickman, Andrew (murdered by Indians July 30th.)
Kentner, George
Kingsley, Nathan
Larabee, John
Larraway, Isaac
Mallory, Reed
Marcy, zebulin
Milalrd, Thos
" Andrew-killed battle
" Thos Jr.
Pawling, Benj (tories)
" Wm.
Phillips, nicholas
ephriam Tyler
Van Alstyne, Isaac Tory
" "Old"
" James
Van Valkenburg, Isaac
Vanderlip, Frederick
Winter, Hendrick
Wilcox, Elisha
Windecker, Henry (tory)
Workman, abram
Williamson, John (killed)
Wigton, Thomas

Palmer, Abel (killed)

York, Amos--taken prisoner with Lieut. Jenkins

Phelps, Ichabod

" Elijah - Tory fired on his brother Joe and brother in law Robbins June 17, '78

Stephens, John

" Rufus - killed-brother Jedediah escaped, Thos., John

Smith, Frederick

Shont, Huldrick

Simmons, Henry

Stope, Sebastian

Searls, Conrad

Leonard, John (tories)

" Peter

Scovill, Jas.

Sage, Jacob

TAXIBLES IN EXETER AND PROVIDENCE 1776 - 1779

Some of these, presumably those of Providence which was a part of Pittston or Lackaworna Township are repeated in the Pittston list of taxibles.

Albeen, Nathan

Brown, Samuel

Baker, Joseph

Benedict, Silas - also Pittston list - family - was son in law killed with Weeks.

Campbell, Daniel

Bradley, Nathan '78

Cady, Manassah

Gardner, Stephen

Harris, John
Peter
Peter, Jr.

Harding, Stephen
Stephen Jr.
Lemuel

Hadsall, James
James Jr.

Ingersoll, Daniel

Jones, Benjamin
Nathan
Justus

Joslin, Thos

Linn, James

Morgan, Samuel

Newton, James

Johnson, Nathanail

Jenkins, John Sr.

Keyes, Timothy Lieut. Providence. Killed by Indians

Williams, Martin

Pickard, William

Picket, Thomas

Slocum, Joseph

Lyne, Jacob Peter (?)

Shoemaker, John David

Scoville, Elisha, Capt. com. Wintermute Fort

Searle, Ebenezer

Townsend, Levi

Tripp, Isaac

Tozer, Samuel

" Richard

Sutton, James

Slocum, Giles

Strong, Joel

Tripp, Job Jr.

Taylor Preserved

Wintermute, Philip, Philip Jr. and John and Christopher

West, Richard.

In 1852, West Pittston was only fields of grain and orchards, a few farm houses and barns. From Exeter Street back to Clyde, down to the River was the farm of A. York Smith, for whom our York Avenue is named. From Warren Street to the River bank was his apple orchard, to which Mrs. Griffiths refers in her Reminiscences. His farm house was that familiarly known to old residents as the "Ferry House", which now forms the rear of C. C. King's house, first above the Ferry bridge. In 1863, during the enforcement of the Draft for soldiers for the Union Army, three companies of soldiers were encamped above Warren Street.

There yet stands on the Smith farm, the old Thomas Jenkins house at the East side of Exeter Street and the Railroad. It is small, unpainted and clapboarded, a story and a half high. Its large garden and acre of yard are now covered by the residences of W. C. Bronton; and the building itself is an Italian tenement.

Above the York Smith farm was that of the Chapin family. It was a narrow strip, extending from the River across the Tunkhannock Road. At its Western end was the Farm House, now known as the Tunkhannock House. At the corner of Luzerne Avenue and Tunkhannock Road was a triangular piece of ground known as the Harlow Daman Place. He always maintained that there was coal under West Pittston; and by his influence, A. Mcl. DeWitt entered into an agreement with the Delaware Lackawanna and Western Railroad. A company was formed, bore holes were made and the Clear Spring Coal Co. mined under nearly all of West Pittston, until 1911, when the mines were flooded compelling their abandonment.

The name Chapin before mentioned put down a bore hole on the land now covered by the yards of the Wyoming Valley Lumber Company. The result was the sinking of the "Knight Shaft", the second opening of the Exeter Shaft. Even as late as 1857, so-called geological experts declared that there could not be any minable coal under West Pittston, alleging that the currents of the river must in ages past, have washed it away.

Mr. Barnard Sharkey owned a farm of 200 acres along the line of the D.L.&W. R.R. Extending from this to the River and lying between Exeter St. and Luzerne Avenue was the farm of Peter Polen. His farm house, at the corner of Luzerne and Wyoming Avenues, is partly concealed by the brick block of J. H. Farrar. It was occupied by Mr. Johnathan Wood of the firm of Wisnervand Wood when Mr. Polen left it for his fine new residence, where now stands the residence of Mr. Jos. Cake. The one-fine house of Mr. Polen was moved to the rear of the lot and is still in good preservation. After Mr. Wood left Pittston, the house was occupied for many years by

Mr. Carr and family. It is now occupied by the latter's grandson and his family, Wm. Tench, and has been modernized so that the original outlines are entirely changed. Opposite this old farm house, originally but 1½ stories high, stood the large red barn, which Mrs. Jemima Griffith as a child used to think the handsomest thing in all the landscape.

The farm next below Peter Polen's was William Sharp's. It extended from Luzerne Avenue 200 feet beyond Montgomery Street and its farm house was --------

Next below William Sharps came the Washington Barber Farm, extending from the River to the Tunkhannock Road. Its farm-house was------

William Shaw owned the strip of land next below, extending back as far as the Wyoming Road; and north from the road lived Samuel Price. Here was the Polen School house, which still stands in its triangle, brown and weather-beaten.

Beyond this lived Albert and William Polen; and nearby was their blacksmith shop.

The farms of Peter Polen and William Sharps were bought in 1852 by the West Pittston Land Association, composed of Theodore Strong, Augustus Frothingham, John Love, R. J. Wisner, Deacon Wood, Mr. Lowenstein and others.

R. J. Wisner, Deacon Wood and others purchased the land of York Smith and Mr. Chapin, lying above the D.L.&W. railroad tracks. The Cemetery association and the Clear Spring Coal Company bought their sites from this association.

Previous to 1835, the Jenkins Ferry Terminals were farther up the river than they were after the canal was built in that year. The East landing was a short distance above the electric light plant and a road led up this bank to where the John Raeder--Shallenberger hotel stands. The Western landing was opposite the Fenn residence; and the Ferry house was--------(?)

John Jenkins was born in a log house on the River Bank opposite Spring Street, near the Griffith Homestead.

Ten houses were in the Ferry settlement in 1835. Six were frame houses; the rest, log huts. Sharps Carpenter kept the tavern at the head of the Valley.

Application for Charter for West Pittston borough was made in 1857. Of the 50 men who signed it, only seven survived at the Jubilee.

The West Pittston Land Association paid $14,000 for the Polem farm.

R. D. Lacoe bought the York Smith farm.

In plotting the town, streets were made 60 feet wide: and the average lot was 60 x 230 feet.

Nominees for burgess: J. Amhurst Wisner and Wm. Ferguson. Teams plied the streets to bring out votes. Wisner elected. Great cheers.

In Civil War from West Pittston went Capts. Schooley, Hileman, Ginley, Sturmer, Flagg, Major Bradford and others--a host of men.

Wake Robin Club organized in 1891. Kept up uninterrupted existence until 1910. Its charter members were: Rev. and Mrs. Benjamin; H. B. Schooley; Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Harris; Misses Drake, Dorr, Lance; Dr. Hileman; Prof. and Mrs. Putnam; Mr. Rhone and others. Meetings were held at the homes of members every Monday evening, from October till June. A Program Committe printed programs for the year's work, assigning topics to members for papers. J. I. Harris was President for 12 years. He was succeeded in office by S. M. Parke.

From Pittston Gazette-Jan. 1873:

PITTSTON SEMINARY

Meeting of Directors at Town Hall, with Alva Tompkins and Theodore Strong present. Building cost $23,000 and debt is $12,000.00. George Johnson thought that East and West Pittston should unite in building a High school. Mr. a. J. Griffith thought that 13 mills tax would buy it in 20 years.

Decided: to make a proposition to the West Pittston school Board, Simon Ritter, President.

PITTSTON CEMETERY AND EAGLE SHAFT DISASTER.

Sacred to the Memory of
D A V I D M. O W E N S
One of the Victims of the Eagle Shaft Disaster
Who died August 14, 1871, Aged 44 years
A Native of Lleh----, North Wales
Also his Son, Richard D., who died in his Arms
Aged 13 years and 3 months.

The Above is the inscription on the new monument in the old part of Pittston Cemetery, formerly called the "Odd Fellows Burying Ground", established in the 60's at the back of Wm. Tompkins orchard. It was laid out in narrow paths. No wagon could drive through, but the body must be carried on a bier. The headstones were simple and quaint; some being of wood, painted white with black lettering. The graves were often outlined by a coffin-shaped box, inside which flowers were planted. There were several of the stones that bore the inscription: "Died in Eagle Shaft Disaster" as the one noted above. It was saddening even to the most thoughtless to read these records and to reflect on the anguish that must have filled the many homes that day.

But nowhere is seen more manifestly the prosperity that has come to Pittston in the last 50 years, and the commendable regard for the memory of these early martyrs to industry, than can be found in this old burying ground. Its walks are kept in perfect condition. The old stones have been replaced by new, modern ones of large size and the appearance of the whole betokens filial respect and care.

See page 226 ---(Whiskey)

THE FELL CEMETERY REMOVAL

Note: Where was this cemetery? N.C.J. (Top of Butlers Hill)

Mr. George Johnson, Land agent for the Penna. Coal Co., wrote letters to all the descendants of those who were buried in this cemetery, for permission to remove the remains.

A plot purchased by the company in West Pittston Cemetery as the alternative was the old burying ground would become a common pasture field: (already the head stones were in some cases serving irreverant immigrant foreigners as door steps and floors for bake ovens.

The Slocum family, resident in Wilkes Barre requested that the bones be brought to a certain cemetery in Wilkes Barre and re-interred. Mr. Bradley Downing who attended to this part of the work, saw that this was done and the old head stones placed beside the grave. In the cemetery in West Pittston where the remainder of the removed bodies are now interred, Mr. Daniel Fell has placed a fine large slab, bearing the inscriptions copied from the stones in the old Fell cemetery.

(Here give list.--)

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FROM FELL CEMETERY

Removed from Fell Burying Place.

In Memory of
SAMUEL FELL
Died July 1846
Aged 94 years

LAWER (?)
Wife of Samuel Fell
Died March 8, 1828
Age 76 years

JOSEPH
Son of Samuel Fell
Died July 21, 1855
Age 75 years

ELEANOR
Wife of Joseph Fell
Died May 11, 1834
Age 55 years

LAWLER
Daughter of
Eleanor & Joseph Fell
Died Jan. 15, 1823
Age 1 yr. & 6 mos.

SOCIETIES IN PITTSTON

The coal business was very engrossing in Pittston's early days; and the men who came here to invest capital in trade and manufactures were very busy. There were no high schools and with the exception of the Kingston Seminary, which opened September 24th., 1844, there were no academies in these regions. The young men who found themselves here felt the need of mental culture. some of them (like George D. Johnson and Alexander Craig) studied by themselves at night, or met at their engine houses and conferred together over difficult problems of mathematics or engineering. The old private libraries of some of these men show that they did not stop in their studies short of the most difficult and advances schedules of the colleges. They were truly self-educated; and daily saw the theories of their books given practical demonstration.

They for further mental improvement, they organized Debating Clubs, thus stimulating and encouraging each other. They hired lecturers from abroad, or listened to orators from home, of whom Pittston could boast many of marked ability, even at its earliest day.

One of these societies was The Excelsior Debating Society, organized in 1854, which had its rooms in----------
This society collected a Library, which passed into the hands of Cyrus Campbell after the dissolution of the organization and later was purchased by C. C. Bowman, Esq.. Many of these volumes were bought with the voluntary money gifts of the young men, so that all might benefit.

The following were among its members: Hugh Crawford; George Johnson; Cyrus Campbell;----------

Hugh Crawford writes remiscently of these meetings of the Society: "When a boy, I never missed going every Friday evening to the old Schoolhouse on the Green to listen to the members of the Pittston Lyseum debate the live questions of the day. I gained much information from such speakers as Theodore Strong; Davis Alten; Charles Chapman, John Loveland, Alva Tompkins, Dr. C. R. Gorman, Dr. Nugent, Mr. Wisner, Mr. Howells, Geroge Richart, Major Smith and others. I enjoyed every night and would not miss a meeting for anything."

This organization of the older men seems to have fired the seal of the young men for self improvement, for Mr. Crawford writes that in 1857, he and Albert Barber, Peter Barber, John J. Lazarus, J. Amon Price, Frank Eggleson met one evening in the office of the Pittston Gazette

and effected the organization of the Excelsior Debating Society. He says: "We rented a small room over the Long Store and for nearly two years, held debates there every Wednesday evening."

The first original paper read before the Society was one on Robert Burns by Hugh Crawford. The membership grew; and among additional names were Cyrus Campbell, Benj. Emigh, Albert Ink, Wm. Richardson, Water and Rienzi Hopkins, whose mother was a writer for periodicals, Andrew Apple, Thomas Sax and Mr. Cook, the schoolmaster. A committee was appointed to secure home-talent lecturers with a view in raising funds for a library. They secured Theo. Strong, Dr. Gorman, Rev. N. G. Parke, Lewis Pugh of Carbondale, E. L. Dana of Wilkes Barre, Davis Alten and the Rev. T. P. Hunt.

Dr. Nugent presented to the library its first volume--a Life of Benjamin Franklin; and by the end of 1857, the members had contributed 17 volumes and afterwards grew to a considerable size. This library was eventually purchased by C. C. Bowman. (See First paragraph of this article.)

Many of these young men answered Abraham Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers in 1861. With enthusiastic voices, they joined in the reponse swelling from all over the land: "We are coming, Father Abraham! One hundred thousand strong." as they marched away from Pittston. Long processions of men and women old and young, followed the soldier boys all the way up town to the D.L.&W. Station, to see them off. Sweethearts or not, kisses as well as hand-clasps were given. In that time of exalted emotion, they were the sons of all the mothers, the pride of all the fathers, the beloved of all the maidens and the heroes of the town. Such scenes were many times repeated. At first, there was the feeling that they would soon return; later, solemn mass meetings were held in the church before the procession formed for the train.

Among these Excelsier boys who went to the war were Albert Barber; Ali Ink; Benjamin Emigh; J. A. Price; Cyrus Campbell; Mr. Cook, the teacher; and Hugh Crawford. Of these, Albert Barber came home at the close of the war with the rank of Captain; Emigh, Price and Campbell were Lieutenants. Crawford was a sergeant. Emigh lost a leg and lay in hospital a long time. On his return to Pittston he was made Postmaster retaining the office until his health compelled him to give it up.

Colonel J. A. Price was a brilliant lecturer and Scholar. He acquired a fine library in the course of his business career in Scranton. Much of his success may have been due to the early influence of the little debating Society. He wrote to Crawford in April 17, 1860: "My whole soul

is with the Excelsior Society! Let us labor and wait and the Future may bring to us, as a band, whose only object is improvement, honor and reward." Colonel Price also gave (or founded) the library at Taylor.

THE PITTSTON LYCEUM

In compliance with a call issued in the Gazette of Oct. 28, 1850, for the organization of a Literary Society for mutual improvement, on November 7th. a meeting of citizens was held at the office of C. F. Bowman. It was called to order by Theodore Strong. C. F. Bowman was elected Chairman and R. A. Oakford, Secretary.

They adjourned to meet at the public house of George Lazarus one week later, November 14th. At that meeting a Constitution was adopted and officers were elected as follows:

President:----Wm. S. Reddin

Vice.Pres.----Mr. Fuller

Treas. ---------C.F.Bowman

If the room were finished, they were to hold the next meeting in the Town Hall, over the California Store: otherwise in the basement of the Welsh Church.

Mr. Parke delivered the introductory lecture to the Lyceum on November 21st., taking for his subject "The Age of Science". This lecture was later published in full in the Gazette.

The subject chosen for the first debate was: Resolved: that the Light of Reason teaches the Immortality of the Soul. On the affirmative were Theodore Strong, E. F. Ferris and J. H. Tompkins; and on the negative were: C. F. Bowman, Mr. Fuller and C. R. Gorman.

The next lecturer was C. F. Bowman Esq., and "Ladies and Gents" were invited to attend. Among the other lecturers at various times were Dr. Cummins, Dr. Gorman, Rev. C. W. Giddings, E. F. Ferris. The subject of the lecture by the last named was "Do the Signs of the Times Indicate the Perpetuity of the Union?"

Among the debaters of the Lyceum we find such names as: E. F. Ferris; David Schooley; J. L. Wood: G. M. Richart; C. Hyde; Augustus Frothingham; Davis Alten; D. M. M. Lewis; R. J. Wisner; L. W. Crawford; P. McArdle; Dr. Underwood; W. J. Dennis; J. R. Perry; J. M. Barrett; Alva Tompkins and R. B. Duncan.

The results of the elections of the Lyceum showed that they believed in rotation in office. The new officers were: President, Jesse Williams; Vise Rest., J. S. Wood and Secretary and Treasurer, W. J. Dennis. At

another time, the men chosen for office were: President, Samuel Benedict; Vice Prest., E. F. Ferris; and Secretary and Treasurer, G. Underwood.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES AND LODGES

Among the good influences in Pittston of Churches and Sunday Schools, there was also the Luzerne County Bible Society, organized in 1819 by the united efforts of all the Protestant denominations. Through its instrumentality, every poor family in the county was given a copy of the Bible. In 1851, it was reorganized; and the venerable Father Moister was its agent.

As early as 1825, the Luzerne Sunday School Union was organized; and in 1838, the Luzerne County Temperance society. These all influenced public sentiment for good; and were followed by the Sons of Temperance (1855) and the Good Templars. All these organizations wrought to save America from becoming a race of drunkards.

The Masonic Order came next in Pittston, St. John's Lodge being organized in 1851. Their lode(sic) room was over the Long Store, back of the Gazette Office.

The Odd Fellows Gahonto Lodge #314 and Thistle Lodge #512 came to Pittston at about this time also.

In 1852, the Hibernia Beneficial Society was organized in Pittston with Michael Reap as President.

As early as 1832 an Anti-Tobacco Society was formed at Wilkes Barre.

Hollister quotes from the early Westmoreland Records to show the efforts the early settlers made to keep spirituous liquors from the Indians, whom it made extremely turbulent and dangerous. "The Proprietors and Settlers belonging to ye Susquehanna Purchase Legally warned and Held in Wilkes Barre Dec. 7, 1772 Voted That Asa Stevens, Daniel Gore and Abel Raine are appointed to inspect in to all ye houses that sell or Retail Strong Drink that no person or Persons shall at any time Thereafter sell or Lett any Indian or Indians Have any Strong Drink on forfeiture of His or Her Settling Right or Rights and also forfeit ye whole of ye Remainder of their Liqour to ye Company and that ye Committee above are appointed to take care of ye Liquoe Immediately"

Evan this seems to have been insufficient to prevent the Indians securing the "Fire water" for soon after, it was further voted that "any person or Persons, Settlers or forriners Coming into this place shall at any time hereafter Sell or Give to any Indians" any Liquors to any Indian or Indians should forfeit" all their Lickours and ye whole of their Goods and Chattels, Rights and Effects that they have in this Purchase; and

also, to be voted out of ye Company unless upon some extraordinary Reason as sickness itc., without Liberty first had from ye Committee that is appointed to Inspect such affairs."

In June 1772, it was further voted that in view of the many disorders liable to arise from selling liquor to Indians and others there should be but one Public House to retail spirituous liquors in small quantities "in each of ye First Towns; and that each Person shall be appointed by ye Committee to which they belong." In case they violated the restrictions of the Committe "on Complaint made to ye Company (he shall) receive penalty not exceeding his or her Settling Right, regard being had to ye nature and Agrevation of ye offense."

The grain raised in early days was too scanty to permit its being used for making whiskey. For a short time, it was forbidden by the Town Meeting to sell corn rye or wheat to any person "to carry down ye River out of ye limits of this purchase." This embargo was to last from December 18th, 1772 to the first of May following.

So scanty was the amount of grain raised in Luzerne County that not until 1772 was a half-bushel measure required. Then it was voted to "send to ye nearest county town in ye Colonies and procure a Sealed Half Bushel and a peck measure and one Gallon Pot. Quart Pot Pint and Half Pint and Gill measures for a Standard and Rule: and also "Suitable Weights as ye Law Provides" (Note: I believe you are not warranted in making the first statement of this paragraph. These were for a Standard as stated, to refer all other measures to them, just as is done today, but you should not argue that they never had need of a half-bushel before this time. N.C.J.)

We can hardly understand how these people could keep house without these Standards. It never enters our minds now to wonder what civilization would be without them.

After grain began to be abundant, there was difficulty in finding a market for it and also in getting it to market, with so few wagon roads and no railroads or canals. Wheat hauled 80 miles to Easton, brought only from 70 to 80 cents per bushel. A bushel of Rye would make a gallon of Whiskey worth 20 cents, but the gallon of whiskey was more portable than the bushel of grain. (Read: "The Whiskey Insurrection)

Four years after the settlement of Wyoming, in Feb. 16, 1773, a committe was appointed "to draw a Plan to suppress Vice and Immorality which abounds so much amongst us".

Smith's Schoolhouse, built at Lackawanna by Deodat(?) Smith, was often used by Father Hunt for Temperance and anti-tobacco lectures. (See Gordon's Letters)

Mr. Wm. C. Gildersleeve was also an ardent foe to intemperance and tobacco.

Campaign song of 1844:

"In '40 we sung them out of tune;

"And whipped them with the same olf coon."

DR. PARKE'S "THE PITSTONS IN '44."

Dr. Parke preached for Dr. Dorrance the first Sabbath in June of 1844 and came to George Lazarus's hotel in Pittston on the following morning to begin his labors in the Lackawanna Valley and the surrounding country.

At that time Pittston had no breakers, no culm piles and none of the modern industries that characterize it today. It was then called "Pittston Ferry" and though an attempt was made to call the town "Port Mallory" and the largest hotel was given the name of the "Port Mallory Hotel", the attempt failed and the older name remained. The name Ferry was added to the present name because the connection between the East and West sides of the river was by means of a ferry, there being no bridge. If the ferryman were at his post, or if one could call loud enough to make him hear, the difficulty of crossing was small, but sometimes a long wait was entailed. This ferry was one of the oldest, if not the oldest in north-eastern Pennsylvania, being probably older than the one at Wilkes Barre, as when the Connecticut people came from the Delaware to settle in the townships laid out by the Susquehanna Company, they came by way of Providence, and crossed the river at Pittston to go to Kingston and Plymouth. Also, when returning, their route was through Pittston and not through Wilkes Barre.

In 1844, Pittston had two hotels--George Lazarus's "Port Mallory Hotel", at which the Wilkes Barre and Carbondale Stage stopped; and John Sax's hotel at the foot of Parsonage Street.

The Stage was drown by two horses and carried mail and passengers. Its arrival was the sensation of the day, it being the only public conveyance in the Valley. a few years later, it broke through a plank bridge built across the ravine from Broad Street to Charles Street. A Mrs. Welles and her daughter Lucretia were slightly hurt and Mr. Harlow Daman's house on South Main Street was made a temporary hospital. Before this bridge was built, the road curved around from William Street, back of the Johnson cottage and the Presbyterian Church lot, down through the bed of the ravine, which was not so deep at this point as it was at the bridge.

There were then no saloons and a drunkard was rarely seen. There were not more than six foreighners and they were from Scotland, Ireland, England and France. William Ford was from England; James MacFarland from Scotland; Judge Reddin from Ireland; and the father of R. D. Lacoe was from France.

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EXTRACTS FROM

THE YOUNG MEN OF PITTSTON FERRY IN 1844

BY DR. PARKE

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The only school house was the "red school house" in Upper Pittston. It stood where the Lehigh Valley Turntable now is. In this building were held religious services on Sunday; and here the young men and maidens met "at church" or "at meetings". Among the early teachers in this temple was Charles Gorman, afterward the beloved and trusted physician in Pittston, who was then studying medicine in the office of Dr. Thorpe (?) of Providence.

He was followed by George Smith of Lackawanna, a very bright and highly educated young man. He was quite superior to the place and did not long remain here. He was followed by John B. Hoyt, who was for many years elder in the Presbyterian Church; and who died in West Pittston a few years since, leaving and honored memory and sons and daughters who are a credit to his name.

Stephen Jenkins, son of Harris Jenkins of North Pittsotn was one of the promising young men of Pittston Ferry in 1844. He was employed in the store of the Butler Company under Mr. Theodore Strong, who was its superintendent. Mr. Jenkins was ambitious to make for himself an honored name; and had his life been spared, he would doubtless have been one of the prominent, successful men of the Valley. He went into the mercantile business for himself on Main Street, next above Wisner and Wood's Long Store. While in Philadelphia on Business, he was stricken with illness and died very soon. His body was interred in the Jenkins Cemetery in West Pittston and a neat white monument marks his resting place. He had built a large square house at the north-east corner of Luzerne and Susquehanna Avenue in West Pittston, where his mother and Annette, his sister, resided for several years, after which it passed successively to Mr. Daniel Searle, Mrs. H. Coward and Thomas Edwards. Stephen Jenkins never married.

George Giddings was at this time still in school in Pittston, but he had his eye turned towards Yale college. In time he was graduated from that Institution and then took a theological course at Princeton. He was the first native Pittston boy to receive the academic degree of A.M. He was a student and a fine scholar, but he lacked the assurance and forgetfulness of self indispensable to a public speaker and he was never licensed to preach. With his sisters, he lived in the white house in North Pittston surrounded by trees which was removed to make place

for the brewery plant of J. H. Glennon. The family removed up the Hudson in the early 70's. George lost his life by an accident at Coxton, where he was employed by the Lehigh Valley Rail Road Co.

Zenas Barnum, Jr., began life in Pittston. After leaving school, he went to Baltimore, where he was employed in the Barnum Hotel, owned and kept by his uncle. Eventually Zenas Barnum Sr. sold his property in Pittston and moved to Wilkes Barre. As a result the young man spent little of his time in Pittston.

James Slocum, who spent his last years with his brother, Wm. in Exeter, just beyond the West Pittston Borough Limits, spent his young manhood with his Uncle, Zenas Barnum Sr. in Pittston. He took the place on the farm of the son, Zenas Jr., who had gone to Baltimore. He was greatly interested in the business and the politics of Pittston and was well known and influential in political circles in both Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties. He died a bachlor by an accident on the Coxton Branch of the Lehigh Valley Rail Road being struck by a train in a rocky cut near his home. He has left a beautiful memorial to his generosity in the Slocum Chapel at Exeter. It is the only house of worship in that part of the Valley. Mr. Slocum was ofQuakerfaith and built this chapel to serve all evangelical denominations without discrimination. He left its supervision and support to the First Presbyterian Church of West Pittston. In this chapel, Sunday School is regularly maintained year after year by Mr. Charles Cool.

Richard Brown of Duryea had two sons here in 1844, Albert and Charles. But both went West as soon as they were ready to embark in business and they belonged to Pittston henceforth only as they paid it visits.

J. B. Shiffer was a young man employed in the coal office of Samuel Benedict in North Pittston, near the Junction. He seemed dissatisfied with the prospects of coal mining as he then saw it, for instead of staying at home, he joined the throng of California Gold seekers. But all was not glitter; and Mr. Shiffer was irresistably drawn back to the coal fields of the Wyoming Valley. From them, he reaped a fortune with more assurance of success than the shifting sands of California could promise, however much they might glitter. Railroad men who were seeking a right-of-way for the Erie and Wyoming Valley Rail Road welcomed him and found in him a persuasive engineer of that part of road building. Mr. Shiffer married a sister of Thomas Lance, who was for many years associated with him in the Fire Insurance business. Mr. Lance died leaving two daughters, Mrs. James Macabe and Miss Matilda Lance. Mr. Shiffer left two

sons, Frank and William, to carry on his business.

Thomas Lance was a young man in Pittston in 1844, as was also William Sax, son of John Sax, who kept the hotel in upper Pittston opposite the foot of Parsonage Street. Mr. Sax became the posessor of real estate in both Pittstons. For some years he conducted a provision store on his property at the south corner of Main and Water Streets in East Pittston.

Both these men added to the social circle of the town by bringing wives from other communities. Mr. Sax found Miss Chumard in Wayne County; and Mr. Lance brought his wife from New York State. They with their wives were faithful and godly supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Sax was a fluent and enthusiastic speaker before the pupils of our schools. One characteristic illustration of his remained fixed in the mind of some of the boys. Said he: "Boys, you've seen a load of potatoes come into town after being jolted over miles of stony road. You will notice that the big ones are all on top; and the little ones are shaken down to the bottom. Its for you to say whether you will be a little potato and go to the bottom, or be a big potato and come to the top."

Abel Bennet was at this time one of the prominent business men of Pittston. He was associated with Col. James W. Johnson in the coal business; and subsequently married his daughter, Adelaide. The ceremony was performed by Elder Moot, in 1849, probably in the Johnson Cottage. This was the most attractive residence in the place. It stood in a large grass plot at the north-east corner of Main and Broad Streets. Johnson and Bennett bought coal land extending over all of South Pittston, from Butler Street to Railroad Street. They sank the first vertical shaft to mine coal at old No. 1, at the foot of Railroad Street, and soon after, sold out to the Penna. Coal Co.. When sinking the shaft, they bought a second-hand steam engine for hoisting the coal to the surface. It was brought on wagons, all the way from Pottsville. When it arrived, it could not be unloaded for lack of money to pay for it; and for several days it looked as if it would have to be carted back to Pottsville, but it was finally put in position. This coal property, shaft and engine were sold to the Penna. Coal Co., at a great advance over the coast of them. This was the beginning of Mr. Bennett's success and his start on the road to fortune. He was a young man of only ordinary education. He came here from Susquehanna County without capital, but he had the character which makes for success. Without the training usually had by a surveyor, he plotted the southern part of the city and laid it out into lots. Mr. Bennett entered into business later in Binghamton, N.Y., where are many monuments to his enterprise.

The first coal company to ship coal from Pittston to tidewater was composed of Judge Wm. Strong, of the U.S. Supreme Court, John Butler of Wilkes Barre and Judge Mallory of Philadelphia. Their property was back of Pittston in the direction of Smithville.

Theodore Strong, a young man from Burlington, N.J., was the Superintendent of the Butler Co. store. At that time, every coal company had a store for the accommodation of its employes. Mr. Strong was of a New England family, but had been engaged in teaching in Burlington. He had been educated for professional life, probably for the ministry, but weak eyes and throat compelled him to turn from books and public speaking to active business. Says Dr. Parke: "He was the only man I found in Pittston in 1844 who had made a profession of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and he was a Presbyterian. He was not disposed to hide his light under a bushel, either: and he had established a Sunday School in the old Red School House which has been in successful operation ever since. It was moved to the church of North Pittston when that was erected in 1846 and to the Broad Street Church in 1856 when that was built. Mr. Strong had not come to Pittston with the expectation of making it his permanent home. After a few years with the Butler Company, he left, but eventually returned and entered into business for himself and here he spent the remainder of his long and useful life. During his business career, he probably bought and sold as many cares of coal land as any man in the Valley. During these years he made for himself an honored place in the social, religious, buisness and political life of the community. That Pittston would have been without his wise, conservative and persevering efforts for the good of the youth of this community for more than fifty years we do not know. But we do know that not a few men and women now growing gray acknowledge their indebtedness to him for that type of help that ennobled their lives and the work that he did along church lines and religious work, he did for some years after coming here, entirely alone.

The young men in the employ of the Butler Company as engineers were Edward and Charles Mallory and Seymour Butler. They were nephews of the Messrs. Butler. Their homes were in Wilkes Barre, but they boarded in Pittston during the week and they contributed to the social life of the town. Edward Mallory was a highly-educated speaker and writer. While not a total abstainer, he gave temperance lectures that in eloquence and sincerity rivalled those of John B. Gough. The inscription on the Wyoming Monument, so terse, so clear, so classic and appropriate as to call for

the admiration of all who read them, were written by Edward Mallory.

Thomas Ford in 1841 was a bashful young Englishman of 20 or 21 years. He lived with his parents and was looking for an opening for business. The prospects were not encouraging in Pittston then, but he had that within him which would not let him remain idle. He made business for himself and was successful. We find his advertisment in the Gazette of ten years later as----------

Later on he sold powder for the DuPonts to this large Minign region and added other lines of business at the same time, until he became one of the men of wealth of Northeastern Pennsylvania At the time of his death, he was 1st Vice Prest. of the First National Bank of Pittston. he married Ellen, daughter of John D. Stark of Pittston Township. One daughter, Mrs. Edw. S. Smith survives and lives at the fine stone mansion Mr. Ford built on River Street in West Pittston. His daughter has shown her interest in the town her father helped to build by contributing $10,000.00 to the addition to the fine Y.W.C.A. building in Pittston.

R. D. Lacoe was one of the rising young men of Pittston in 1844. The blood of the French Hugenots flowed in his veins; and the names of others of the same blood--the DuGuy's and the Dupins--are associated with his family. His father's farm was where Inkerman now is. He was a contractor and builder here in 1846. He took advantage of business opportunities as they offered and few men were more successful in career or fortune. He was self educated; but in the special line of paleontology, which he took up when past middle age, few were his peers. He gave large collections of fossils to the Historical and Geological Society at Wilkes Barre and one of National importance to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, where it is known as the Lacoe Collection. His long life was spent here wholly. One son, DuGuy, of Oceanside, Cal., and one daughter, Mrs. White of Ills., survive. The rectory of Trinity Episcopal Church in west Pittston was built by Mrs. White as a memorial to her father and to the devotion he felt for this church.

Other young men in Pittston in 1844 were Alva Tompkins, who became one of the early coal operators. His father, Wm. Tompkins, owned a large farm in South Pittston, extending from Swallow Street to Sebastopol and from the river back to (?) and coal underlay all of it. Alva Tompkins, like his father, was earnest in the promotion of education. He built a school house on south Main Street and hired a teacher before public schools had been provided for. He is the father of several sons and daughters. Wm. Tompkins, prominent as a lawyer and public spirited man is one of the best known.

David Blanchard, son of John Blanchard, was a merchant in early Pittston. He married in 1851, Eliza Frick of Danville and brought his bride to a farm house in West Pittsotn on Exeter Street, near the present crossing of the D.L.&W. R.R. His second wife was a Scotch woman, Miss Nettie Baird. He is survived by a large family of chidlren. He was always known as a man of pure unassuming piety and for many years was an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Pittston.

Charles Chapman, son of the author of the earliest history of Wyoming, was in Pittston soon after 1844, if not at that date. He was a surveyor and had much to do with laying out the surface of the town. He was highly educated--a sib-er(?) and a fluent speaker. Many an oration fell from his lips; and from his pen flowed many a verse and poem. He married Marth, one of John Blanchard's daughters and for many years resided on the hillside at Port Blanchard. After the death of his wife, he made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Wm. Dean of Wilkes Barre.

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EXTRACTS FROM

THE GIRLS OF PITTSTON FERRY IN 1844

written by Rev. N. G. Parke, in 1896.

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Dr. Parke knew especially those connected with the historic Sabbath School conducted in the old Red School House in North Pittston by Mr. Tho. Strong. It was the only SS in the township and was flourishing when Dr. Parke arrived.

He writes: Those daughters of Pittston Ferry in 1844, none of whom dwelt in palatial homes, would compare favorably with the daughters of Pittston City in 1896.

Miss Sara Tompkins, daughter of Wm. Tompkins, lived in South Pittston. The farm house was near the site of the present state armory, but back from the road, near the creek which flowed from the Tompkins mill pond at the forks of the road below. Miss Tompkins was a teacher when Mr. Horace Messenger persuaded her to leave the teacher's desk and to preside over his home. This home became the "Dandelion Cottage" so called because it was painted yellow; and it stood on the banks of the Susquehanna until it was moved to make room for the stone mansion of Thomas Ford. It now stands on lower Montgomery street, next above the house built by Mr. Joseph Cool, now occupied and owned by the widow of James Bryden. Mrs. Messengers younger daughter and her son passed away in the bloom and the strength of their youth. Her older daughter became the wife of Mr. Friend Merriman, civil engineer for the Penna. Coal Co. at Pittston and Dunmore.

Not far from the head of Railroad street, in the direction of Yatesville, were the daughters of Mr. Newman Brown. For this family the suburb of Pittston called Browntown was named. These young ladies did not think two miles too far to walk to church or to Mr. Strong's Sunday School. They were posessed of much personal beauty and it was no surprise to their friends when a double wedding was performed by Elder Mott in June, 18 ---. Miss Mary became Mrs. LaGrange Daman; and Miss Mira became Mrs. Joseph Knapp.

Sarah Tedrick lived with her parents at the corner or Tedrick and Browntown roads and tenderly cared for them in their declining years. In this hospitable home, Dr. Parke resided for a time, as also did our distinguished townsman, R. D. Lacoe, then starting out on his business career. In this home he met and married his wife who for many years cheered his home. Miss Tedrick was one of the first to unite with the Presbyterian Church after Dr. Parke came to Pittston.

Near the Tedricks lived the beautiful young Scotch Lassie Mary Hall, who became the wife of Alexander Craig and mother of Dr. Thomas Craig, professor of Mathematics at John Hopkins University and also Editor of the Leading Mathematical Journal in the United States.

Miss Lottie Austen resided with her mother near the old stone mill at the east end of the Ferry bridge. She married William Lazarus in the early 40's. Their daughter became the wife of Robert Bryden, son of Prof. Charles bryden a teacher of metallurgy, who was educated at Lafayette, New York University and abroad. Mrs. Austen (Bryden?) belonged to one of the old families of the valley and was a charter member of the Pittston Presbyterian Church.

For a short time in 1844, a family named Myers resided in Pittston Ferry. Mr. Myers was connected with the North Branch canal. He had daughters, one of whom married Seymour Butler, an engineer with the Butler Coal Co.

At the foot of Parsonage street, then called the Delaware Road, was the hotel kept by John Sax on Main Street. He had four daughters and three sons. The eldest, Abbie, married Mr. Merrill and died while still young. The younger sisters grew up and became respectively Mrs. A. J. Griffith, Mrs. Joseph Hileman and Kate, who remained unmarried.

A short distance from Main Street, up Parsonage Street was the modest home of Dr. Nathaniel Giddings and of his daughter, Mira, who was for a time the chief reliance of the Presbyterian Church in Pittston and was active in every kind of benevolent work. After she came into posession of the property, she donated to the church the large lot on which they built their parsonage. This was the first building of the kind in Luzerne County. Later, the Methodist Episcopal parsonage was built on the lot adjoining. These two buildings changed the name of the street from the Delaware Road to Parsonage Street. Miss Giddings was a much-beloved and esteemed woman a type of whom any community might justly be proud.

Farther up Parsonage street, within the limits of the Borough of Hughestown, Jacob Lance resided. Of his daughters, one became the wife of J. B. Shiffer, one of Pittston's prominent and successful business men: and another became the wife of Samuel Williams, a business man of Pittston City.

Prominent among the young women was Miss Mary Fell, a step-daughter of Abram Bird. She married first, Truman Day of Edinburgh, N.Y.; and second, Mr. Wilbur, of Wilkes Barre. Mr. Bird had a daughter Ellen, who

married very young and died within a few years.

Nathaniel Giddings, Jr. lived in a house since torn down to make room for the large brewing plant of Jos. Gelnnon. He had a lovely, amiable daughter, Cornelia, another daughter also and a son George, who studied at the Princeton Theological seminary, but who never entered the ministry, going into buisness instead.

In North Pittston lived a Mrs. Wilder. She came to Pittston from Wilkes Barre with her mother; and was then a Miss Chamberlain.

She was a school teacher; and was well fitted by both education and training to preside over a Young Ladies Seminary, and that was supposed to be her ambition. She relinquished this aspiration, however, to preside over the home of Mr. Wilder. He died, leaving her two daughters, who still reside at the old home.

One of the Representative men of Pittston Ferry in 1844 was Col. Harris Jenkins. He had two daughters, Annette, who became the second wife of Dr. Charles R. Gorman; and Mary, who became the wife of Mr. George Richart, one of the founders of the Pittston Gazette. These daughters grew up here with an ambition to improve their environment; and entered heartily into whatever promised to be educating socially, intellectually and religiously. This disposition led them into the historic Sunday School at the old Red School House and to aid in the movement to build a house of worship, the first in Pittston Township. They proved efficient helpmeets in that day of small beginnings. Mrs. Richart wielded the pen of a ready writer and the columns of the Pittston Gazette were often enriched by her facile pen. Dr. Gorman served his Democratic constituents in the legislature and his wife was well fitted to share his honors.

Zenas Barnum, whose farm house is still standing on the farm he sold to the Penna. Coal Co., on which they built the Barnum Breaker and over which they piled mountains of culm and rock, was one of the solid men of Pittston Ferry. He had three daughters who made his home attractive and who were foremost in every good work. Two of these, Mercy and Elizabeth, died in the morning of life. The surviving one, Ruth, was an unusually beautiful girl. Zenas Barnum moved his family to Wilkes Barre after he sold his farm; and few families could have been so sadly missed.

A short distance from the Barnums was Richard Brown's hospital home, where lived his two daughters, Frances, who married the Pittston merchant Isaac Everitt and Belle, who married William Hoyt of Kingston. These daughters were trained by an excellent mother and were among the foremost in helping the infant church at Pittston Ferry and every other

good work their hands found to do.

Books were not so plentiful then as now; but there was a small public library of well-selected books sustained by Dr. Giddings, Richard Brown and a few others that proved greatly helpful to these ambitious young people. The few books they had were of the best literature and they memorized long passages and stored their minds with the noble thoughts of men who live still in the noble utterances they left on record.

The misses Lucy and Theresa Firestine were young ladies born and bred on the banks of the Rhine. Their father had brought his family to New York and thence to the Wyoming Valley. Their home here was in the family of their older sister, Mrs. John B. Smith. They ably assisted her in her household and in her business of providing suitable and fashionable coverings for the heads of the ladies. The home life of this cultured German family was idyllic--harmonious, peaceful and gentle in its daily routine.

On the Plains were daughters in the homes of John Appel and John Blanchard. Nancy Blanchard married Capt. Allabaugh who ran the packet boat between Stockbridge Wharf at Pittston Ferry and Hillard's Wharf, at Wilkes Barre, making two trips a day for passengers. After the civil war, he held a responsible position at the city of Washington, having charge of the White House grounds.

Mr. Blanchard's daughter, Martha, married our brilliant young civil engineer, Charles I. A. Chapman, son of the earliest historian of the Wyoming Valley, Isaac A. Chapman. Ellen Blanchard married Augustus Frick and went to Ohio. Fanny married Mr. Sayler. Mary married a Hodgdon. All these families were of Revolutionary descent.

On the "big farm" across the Lackawanna lived Peter Petty and Peter Wagner. Their produce was brought to the "town" on wagons, fording the Lackawanna, for there was no bridge over it until about 1850. These families were associated with the infant church in Pittston and were very helpful. One of Mr. Petty's daughters published a book for sunday School Libraries. It was a tale setting out the sorrows of a family because of an intemperate father.

Among the daughters of Pittston Ferry was Miss Mary Ford, known for many years past as Mrs. Charles Foster, wife of a Pittston business man, to whom is largely due the present condition and standing of the West Pittston Public Schools. Mrs. Foster's brother, Thomas Ford, married Ellen, daughter of John D. Stark. Mr. Stark had other daughters, who married away from Pittston; and one son, Conrad, the highly-respected attorney of our town.

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CHURCHES.

We have spoken of the early settlers from Connecticut and their Puritan characteristics. The next immigrants were the capitalists who exploited the coal mining followed by business men of all trades and professions. Simultaneously came the expert miners as Bowkleys, Prices, Lloyds, Brydens, Laws and others, all of whome became leading factors in the development of the city as well as the mining. Then came the Welch, Scotch, and English miners from the old coal pits of their native towns, bringing intelligent and reliable labor and strong religious preference and prejudice. The English demanded the Episcopal and the Methodist church, according as they were Church of England or dissenting followers of Wesley and Whitfield. The Scotch could not worship except in the Presbyterian form for whose principals their ancestors had contended even unto death, the Welch must have the different sects which flourished in their beloved mountains and which they were even yet argued for -- Said one of these ardent disciples "I say, Moses was a Welchman; now prove he wasn't".

The Germans mostly Lutheran church, some Catholic -- excellent -- industrious.

Then in 18-- time of the potato famine in Ireland came in great numbers immigrants from Ireland. These found employment as laborers in the mines, on the railroads, the canals, the streets, everywhere was plenty of work.

Comfortable wages, plenty of unoccupied pasture and road for the family cow, pig and chickens and as is told elsewhere, whiskey was plenty for small price and it was no desgrace to drink it. These settlers occupied both sides of the road, then ungraded, at Port Griffith, with primitive cabins of 1 or 1½ stories with two rooms and a loft, such a cottage as poets describe and (make beautiful) surround with a halo of romance. But the "peace and plenty" of the poet was marred by the sympathy of the housekeepers for the domestic animals which were permitted to invade the house when favorable opportunity offered. Those old ladies wore large white muslin caps which served for bonnets to wear to church as well as for dress up at home.

These exiles lamented for "ould Ireland's green meadows and the familiar home scenes". They had lived for generations on the same holding, and it was hard to tear up and transplant old trees, however good the soil and fair the skies. Another large settlement of these children of Erin and sons of Emmet, was on Shanty Hill, now the head of Broad, Pine and Market Streets. In all these settlements the cabins have given place to neat,

comfortable, even beautiful homes. The descendents of these early settlers are among the leading and governing men and women of Pittston. Of course they were faithful adherents to the R. C. church and as always a church edifice soon followed the children of the church with priest and services. St. Mary's old church until 1911 stood on top of the hill in North Pittston with its crowded graveyard surrounding. Therefore a church farther down town, given by Michael Reap, followed on the site ofSt. Johns.

In ---- year the fine cathedral like structure of St. Johns was finished under the leadership of the devoted Rev. Father Firman, whose rmains rest in a crypt underneath this, his noble and only monument. The growing town demanded a new church in North Pittston and in ---- a new St. Mary's was dedicated on Main St. From the parent church in Pittston have grown catholic churches in all the towns. Wherever her children camp down the mother church follows with a church, priest, and school and teaching sisters.

In late years great numbers of immigrants from southern Europe have come in lake a flood, faster than they can be assimilated to our civilization. Many have proved most desirable but many others have been a menace to the law and order of our city, the Molly McGuire's etc. Their idea of liberty is lawlessness, and they have given to our city a reputation for crime that is surpassed in statistics by only one other in the state. The causes for this lie primarily in the habits they formed and the passions which governed them in their own land. Our political methods which give the immigrant the ballot too soon, our saloons where he learns his politics, and where drink debauches, his ignorance of our laws and lack of respect for a "new country" all tend to make him for a time a most undesirable citizen.

These foreigners are for the most part, nominally catholic and have separate churches for the Italian, Lith------, German, Slavok.

Some of these have parish schools as St. Johns, with teaching sisters. The Lithmish with its priest for teacher. All have S. schools connected with the church.

St. Johns has also a convent where sisters give acedemic instruction to young ladies and also a business course with ------- for both. The parochial residence, corner of Broad Street and Church, together with st. Johns and the convent make a fine substantial block of buildings.

The Slavak church has bought the Dr. Gorman valuable property on lower William St. for a parochial residence. It is occupied by--------

as a private Hospital.

The Pittston Gazette in 1850 found reason to deplore the desecration of the Sabbath in Pittston. The writer asserted that young men and boys stood about the streets, played marbles and sometimes distrubed worshippers in the church.

It would seem that our neighboring city had more rigid sense of the Sabbath keeping. In 1857 at Scrantonia a mass meeting of more than 200 men employers and employees of the Lackawanna Iron Works passed resolutions against working on the Sabbath as they had been accustomed, also against amusements.

From Gazette of 1850 we find that "Religious Books, Bibles and Testaments may be bought of Rev. C. w. Giddings at his home on R.R. St. next door above Mr. Robertson's"

CHURCHES IN PITTSTON

Dr. P.

1st Presbyterian Church Lackawanna dedicated 1846 afterwards changed to Pittston.

2nd Welch Congregationalist in Pine --- 1848

3rd Methodist Episcopal Broad St. 1850.

4th Taylorville Pres. 1848

Newton in Scranton 1848.

In 1869 Pres. Ch. of Pittston had 260 members, only 4 of original members living. Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve, a man of stubborn determination to pursue his convictions of right, died mourned by widow and friendless and the negro -- had six colored pallbearers. The colored citizens met and passed an act of Resolutions.

W.B. Church became Presbyterian before Rev. Mr. Murray came in 1833--new log courthouse--jail done at Old Forge, built 1791.

Rev. Johnson died 1795--No settled minister--until----. Westmoreland and Missionary ground, only occasional services.

Rev. J. took steps to build a church. Contract for "Old Ship Zion" let in 1800--completed 1812. Rev. Ard Hoyt from 1817-1821--missionary ground. 1821 Rev. Cyrus G. preached in Pittston and elsewhere. 1829 Rev. Nicholas Murray.

Methodists	Presbyterians
Joseph Slocum	Oristus Collings
Abraham Thomas	Matt Hollenback
Daniel Collings	Rev. Mr. Tracy
Rev. Benj. Bidlack	

Pres. sold to Meth. and built wooden church where now is Library. Old Ship Zion taken down in 1857.

1833 Rev. J. Dorrance came -- a brick church (now Osterhout Library)

Rev. J. P. Hunt at Mon. Dinner at Kingston 1841. When did he come?

Lutheran and German Ref. Churches in Pittston

The Reformed Church is the German Calvanistic church.

The Lutheran and German Reformed differ very slightly in their belief. St. Stephens W.B. organized 1817; St. James Episcopal Ch. in Pittston organized 1852. St. Lukes Scranton 1853. In 1859 the Pittston Epis. Ch. had 35 communicants, 150 S.S. scholars. J. A.

Jerome rector, money $ 1817

Catholic churches at large had 1854, 1245 churches nearly 1½ million members, Itinerant clergy visited and in 1847 churches began to be built.

1st church at Pittston 1849, Rev. J. Firman

2nd church 1855, Rev. J. O. Shaughnessy.

Welch Presbyterians have 1 church in Pittston in 1866.

The Protestant Methodists have one church in Pittston built prior to 1858.

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ST. MARY'S _ CATHOLIC CHURCH

The congregation of St. Mary's Church met Nov. 4, 1853 in the basement of the church to consider the question of removal of the church to another more convenient site. Mr. Michael Reap called to the chair; Mr. Michael McCormick, Sect. After a committee retired to draft a resolution, the members discussed the question. The Resolution adopted was(advisal to the record). They would continue to worship here, but would help to build another, (which they did-St. John's). The committee were Martin Heneghan, Martin Murphy, John Keefer, Thos. Ryan, Martin Kelley, Patrick Mulcahay, Patrick Custedo(?).

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From Dr. Drake's Hist. Discourse delivered June 12, 1876, we copy the names given of the original members of the 1st Presbyterian Church of Pittston.

The following persons were received by letter from the church at Wilkes Barre:

Nancy Race
John Atherton
Rebecca Atherton
Catherine Atherton
Elizer Atherton
Maria Coon
Jacob Whitbeck
Ruth Dilts
Myra Giddings
Mrs. Nancy McCalpin
Sarah Austin
Parthemia Gordon
Sarah Blackman
Amos Decker
Richard Hollenbeck
John Moore
Catherine Moore
Hannah Phillips
Nancy Dennedy
Sarah Shafer
Phoebe Vanderberg
Herman Dailey
Maria Fellows

These 25 were received by letter from the Wilkes Barre Church. Mary Jeffreys and James Sands brought letters from elsewhere. These were received on profession of faith, viz.: Elijah Couch and wife and James Holmes.

30 in all.

Elders elected, John M. Atherton, Elijah Couch.

Deacon, Thos. Dailey

These were ordained by Rev. J. Dorrance in schoolhouse in the Atherton neighborhood.

Soon after Elijah Atherton, Solomon Warner, Sarah Warner, Jane Whitbeck

were received also Andrew Jeffrey by letter.

Church incorporated in 1818. The incorporators were:

George Dedrick
Wm. J. Barnum
Peter Wagner
James Helm
Theo Strong
John Sax 2nd
Zenas Barnum
John Atherton
Elisha Atherton

The trustees were, Elisha Atherton, James Helm, John Sax, George McCalpin, theodore Strong.

A large proportion of these members resided in the Atherton Neighborhood about half way beyween Providence and Pittston.

Five resided in Pittston viz.; Miss Giddings, her sister Fanny McCalpin, James Helm, Sarah Blackman, Sarah Austin.

Maria Fellows lived in Hyde Park. James Sands, who soon became an elder resided in Harrison.

The Jeffreys lived in Providence. Mrs. William Slocum soon joined.

At next communion, Dec.--,44, the following united: By letter Sarah Ann Dederick, Elizabeth Barnum, Theodore Strong, Mercy Barnum, Mrs. Mary Jenkins, Annette Jenkins, Wm. Pemberton, Moore Furman.

Theo Strong and Moore Furman became later, ruling elders. Sarah Blanchard was received May 1st. Margaret Lazarus and Mrs. Nancy Robertson, who has had so much to do with teaching, by letter from Day, N. Y.

Dr. Park had $100 a year from the Home Miss. Board and the people subscribed $110. Mr. E. Atherton took him to his house without charge.

1st built Pittston church 1844-46. 2nd built Taylorville church 1848, Parsonage 1880 (1st manse); church of Scranton 1848, new church on Broad Street 1856-7, membership of 165.

Langcliff Ch. organized 1876, West Pittston 1877. Duryea, Inkerman, when they moved down town they left Melam"s chapel.

The Pine Street Church.

Dr. Parke was our beloved pastor for fifty years. He and Mrs. Parke walked before us in holiness of living; and taught the community by example and by precept the blessedness of right living. They came to our homes in times of joy and times of sorrow; and no enterprise of church or community was undertaken without their encouragement and co-operation.

In 1848, Dr. Parke preached in the new brick church in North Pittston. It was a long walk from Railroad Street, but mother and I used to walk it in summer. I have painful memories of swollen and smarting feet as I sat in the pew with new shoes on. Mother was in the choir, in the gallery opposite the pulpit. Mr. John Frothingham played the "melodeon". Mrs. Frothingham, the misses Annette and Mary Jenkins, Mrs. Barnum, Miss Myra Giddings, Mr. Theodore Strong, Mr. J. B. Hoyt and others whose names I have forgotten were also in that choir. I remember only one sermon I heard there. It described the sufferings of the crucifixion so powerfully that I never have lost the impression.

There was only one other church building in Pittston at this time.-- the Welsh Congregational, on Pine street. The hospitality of that congregation was unlimited. They permitted the Methodists and the Episcopalians to use it by turns; and occasionally Dr. Parke preached there. Its walls must have echoed praise unceasingly on Sabbaths and week day evenings.

My Grandmother was an ardent Methodist. Because Mother's church was so far away, I often went with Grandmother to her church services. They were often held in "The Thompson School House". This was below Sebastopol, where now is a substantial brick building. In 1848 to 1850, it was the usual primitive school house, its unpained(sic) clapboards stained dark brown by the weather. Elder Mulkey was one of the periodic preachers there. He terrified me once by coming to me in a "love feast" meeting, after Grandmother had given her "experience" and saying: "Little girl, can't you give some experience?" I might have risen, as did another who was a little older, and said "I'm young of my age", but I lost self-posession in tears of fright. One other incident of these meetings I recall. Grandmother had gone to meeting one April day with a new Spring bonnett. It was Quaker-shaped, and black; but it had a plain band of purple ribbon over the top that was tied under the chin in a bow. The good elder took occasion to emphasize his discourse by remarks on Fashion's vanities, which in some way hit her on the head through that bonnet. It touched her heart and fired it, too, in a way the good preacher did not

intend. The consequence of his sermon was another, preached at home to her family after her return from meeting: but her text was: "Of all fools, a fool preacher is the greatest!" She took no text from the Bible, but it was a forceful discourse.

A very pleasing memory connected with these school-house meetings was the frequent visit, or "after-call" to the home of Mr. Isaac Thompson, nearly opposite. Grandmother and Mrs. Thompson were real sisters in Methodism: and I was an interested little "Long-eared pitcher" at the discussion of people and things in general; and besides, there was a large family of young people to admire. Grandmother always carried her large hymn book (which I still have) and sang in a shrill, high-keyed voice the old hymns: "A Charge to Keep I Have"; "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken" etc, etc, to the old tunes, which will never be supplanted until we join the saints above in the glad New Song of the Redeemed.

In 1850, the Methodist Church on Broad Street was dedicated; and the Rev. C. F. Giddings was the first pastor. He lived next door above us on Railroad Street and had a large family of Children. The only recollection I have of them was of their unrestrained liberty to do as they pleased, because their father and mother were obliged to be out, looking after the parish interests and families. The girls had the privilege of treating me to their Mother's jams and preserves, which was a very pleasant and sweet surprise to me, who never had such liberty.

After this, we attended the new church with Grandmother. It was very full and very popular. A large choir filled the gallery over the entrance, opposite the pulpit; and we used to pay our respects to the singers, every time we stood to sing a hymn. We then turned our backs to the pulpit and faced the gallery. The men folded their arms: the women clasped their hands, unless they happened to have carried a hymn book. In that case, they looked within and learned what the choir was singing about.

Mr. Wayman Ferris led the choir here and also played the melodeon. His wife led the female voices. On her right was a long line of maidens who sang as the birds sing, even as untutored Nature enabled them. But Mr. Ferris taught a singing school weekday evenings and he had an ability to train some voices that is unequalled in the annals of Pittston. A woman who confessed to never having been able to carry a tune, was, by his faithful tutoring, enabled to lead the soprano in a large choir. He could not supply the sweet tone usually considered an essential of good music, but the mechanical gradations from "Do" "Re" "Mi" etc, he successfully taught.

After the hymn was ended, we turned our backs to the gallery and faced the pulpit and the preacher, until the next hymn was lined out. No Irrereverence for nor indifference to the pastor was implied by this custom. It was the unconventional testimony of our appreciation of the choir and its helpful, gratuitous service.

In 1857, our new Presbyterian Church on Broad Street was dedicated. With the developement of the coal mining, the uptown congregation had come to live mostly in the southern part of the town and the church had followed them. The next year was one of great in-gathering; and Georgia and I were among the large number of young people who then united with the church.

I had a class in Sunday School, of Scotch mine boys--fine material to mould to high ideals; and they have all turned out excellent, substantial men, despite the ineffecient training they got from me. I did the best I knew how. There were teachers Institutes, or other helpful associations: and all the training I had received was crude and unsystematic. Neither were there any "Lesson Helps" furnished when I was a scholar. Our sole lesson was to memorize Bible verses: and prizes were given to those who learned the greatest number. No explanation of the meaning was given. There was no time for that. It was a arce for the teacher to "get around the class" within the hour. But the blessing of "knowing by heart" whole chapters of the Bible has been with me all the years since; and I sometimes question whether the "new way" has every advantage over the old.

Our Sunday School Libraries were bought in ten-dollar sets of books, ready put up for the purpose; and only an abnormal conscience could compel the normal, healthy child to read one of them. Here are the titles of a few, copied from an old list of a neighbouring church:

The Communicant's Companion.
Memoirs of McCheyne.
Life and Death of Dr. Judson.
Tales of the Covenanters. (for Grown-ups)

And for Juveniles:

Evening Recreations.
Useful Lads.
Life of Jeremiah.
Don't and Do.
Learning to Think.
Learning to Feel.