Helen H., a little girl of ingenious disposition cut off the worn lower part of her dress sleeve and sewed on one of her pantalettes.

Pittston Foot Notes.

Stephen Harding) to Francis Hopkins) Sept. 3d 1775, A River Lot no. 23.

Jeremiah Blanchard) to Isaac Baldwin) Apr. 15, 1775, P. Fort Lot No. 35.

Solomon Strong) to Isaac Baldwin) Sept. 19, 1776.

Solomon Strong) to Isaac Baldwin) Nov. 4, 1776.

THOSE UP THE RIVER BAPTISTS.

Apr. 29, 1778, A petition to Conn. Assembly, signed by Timothy Pearce, Benjamin Jones, Richard Halstead, and 18 others against the app. of someone for Judge II 961.

WAGES OF OFFICERS.

Asso. granted 40 shillings per mo. to each enlisted officer. P. 963 with 30 s as bounty. 40s = $10.00?

THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

(Get Mrs. R.'s papers and Crawford's letter. Hugh Crawford's story. When I was on Morris Island etc.)

Mrs. Robertson was a teacher. She encouraged the children to pick lint after school hours and she told them stories of patriotism and history while they picked away at the scraps of linen and the piles of lint grew large. It was after the bloody, disastrous battle of Manassas; and she taught them about the wounded in hospitals and fired their young hearts with the desire to do what they could to help.

I believe, too, that they helped pick the blackberries that she used to make the cordial that she sent down to Hugh Crawford at Morris Island. Mr. Benjamin Bevan's elder children were in her school; and he furnished the brandy that went into it and I believe, the demijohns also that contained it.

Mr. Bevan was the father of a large and happy family, all sympathetic and generous. He, with his brothers Ebenezer and Thomas(?) were among the early business men of Pittston. Their brother, the Rev. Isaac (?) Bevan, was a well-known Baptist minsiter of Abington and he sometimes paid visits to Pittston.

Hugh and Morris Hughes, also pioneer business men, were, like the Bevan brothers, from Wales. They were the successors of John the Tempest Howarth who built the old brewery at the foot of Dock Street. Their sons and daughters have grown up in Pittston and rank among the substantial business men of the community.

The women, young and old, used to meet to cut out garments for the sick in the hospitals and to knit socks for the soldiers in hospitals and in the field. One meeting was held in the Eagle Hose Room, to pack boxes of finished articles. The young ladies, to add interest to a pair of socks and to give entertainment and interest to a convalescent soldier, would slip inside of them a note of sympathy and encouragement. This usually brought a reply and a request for correspondence. In one instance that comes under my notice, the acquaintance thus began was continued after the cruel war was over and led to a happy union for life. In another instance, this woolen-sock introduction led to an embarassing situation when they met at a picnic after the emotional atmosphere of war time was long since past and the sober, commonplace proprieties of ante-bellum days held sway. The young ex-soldier was teasingly disposed to presume upon the Sanitary Commission generosity of the young lady, but she preferred not to continue the favor, having other plans for that present.

NOTES.

Character of the people who settled in Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys was formed in Connecticut where no persecution ever took place, where every village had its church and school and scholarly minister etc. (Read Connecticut)

These were Congregationalists in worship. One township (Hanover) was settled by immigrants from Hanover, Paxton, Derry, and Lancaster, Damphir Co. Penna. These were descendents from North Ireland Presbyterian stock and were Presbyterians.

Better sources of population could not be. The preparation for the founding (see also Jacob Johnson p----) (See Pres? Luzerne p 25.)

Capt. Stewart of Hanover, Scotch Irish, John Elder, both pastor and colonel.

Early missionaries -- p 27-28

All northern Pennsylvania was called Luzerne.

Association of Congregational churches included Wyalusing, Wysox, Montrose, Wilkes Barre, Kingston, to New York State line.

This Cong. Ass. has changed to Susquehanna Pres. 1817. It consisted of six ministers able, two disabled, 24 feeble churches covered nearly 100 sq. miles.

pp 67-70

1st Conn colony 1752 had Rev. William Marsh. He was murdered by the Indiana.

2nd colony 1769, a fighting experience. Their minister Rev. George Beckwith (1 yr) next - Rev. Jacob Johnson, had been missionary to Mohawks.

Land for schools and churches reserved

Only 2 years here, when a pastor -- 50 acres -- a lot and the "Island" raised money by lottery p 73

Luzerne Presbytery.

The old red school house was voting place of Pittston Township. A. T. cast his first vote there in 1848. Men came from Plains to vote here.

Our schools -- pushed public schools -- Mr. T. was a school Director and prodded the public schools to come up to us --

A brick school house back of the old M. E. church (the present T.M.C.A.) was injured by a mine cave about the year ------

M. A. T., a very young man elected school Director, resigned to serve that term, fearing trouble about the cave. A Prof. Harvey of Wyoming Seminary Faculty who was a Spiritualist came to this school house to lecture in his belief. The seats were rough boards.

In later years an omnibus ran to Wyoming to carry pupils. April / 51 -- Exercises at Luzerne Institute. Mr. Lowry leaving to preach, a watch presented by school. Mr. Stevenson (Paul E.) made the address. Mr. Lane of Tunkhannock to be Principal -- He was followed by Mr. Stevenson whose wife was daughter of Dr. (Iraneus) Prime.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

A short distance below the Benedict residence stood the Old Red School House, which served all the purposes of education in general. Not only were the children taught the ordinary elements of education, but the building also served as a place of preaching on Sunday; and as a Sabbath School in the afternoon and as a Town Hall on week day evenings.

The stone house of Dr. Curtis still stands on the East side of the street. Above that, near the Central Hotel, was the house of Mr. Thos. Benedict. Further down the road, in the Ravine, stood the farm house of Roger Searle and some other small buildings. This house was the home of Methodism in Pittston. Here the first meeting and many meetings subsequent were held. "Aunt Katy" was the familiar name given to Mrs. Searle, who before her marriage was Catherine Scott.

Opposite the Searle house stood a small one-story-and-attic house occupied by a family named Hart; and next below was Mr. John Sax's Tavern, painted white, with upper and lower piazzas and long wing at the south end. This wing was one story high and served as a ball room for the dances of the neighbourhood, as a dining room for banquets and as a hall for political meetings, the complexion of these latter giving it the name of "Whig Hall." The canal came close to the back of this house, which was built before the canal was begun; and Mr. Sax had much trouble with the canal commissioners because they blasted out the rock so near his house. They finally reconciled matters by building a bridge from his house across the canal, so that his customers, the lumbermen on the river, could have access to the house.

Across the road, on the old parade ground, stood a large, old, white tavern, with its swinging sign, but not so well-kept as John Sax's house. It was known as the "Sheepskin Tavern" and the road curved up to its front door.

The Delaware Road (Parsonage Street) branched off below this tavern and extended up the hill. About half-a-mile up might be found the house of Dr. N. Giddings, the first physician in the town; and of William Searle, the son of old Constant Searle who fell in the battle of July 3rd., 1778. William Searle was a carpenter by trade. He built the Sax Tavern in 1825 or 1830.

In 1838 occurred the "buckshot war" in Penna. The Whig or anti-masonic party under Thaddeus Stevens, although in a minority, undertook to organize the House of Representatives by excluding the Democratic

members from Philadelphia and to ignore the election.

Each part organized a Legislature of its own. For some days, all business was suspended. The Governor called out the militia. For two or three days a collision was imminent, but wiser counsels prevailed. The Whigs weakened; and one by one, all except Thaddeus Stevens went over to the Democratic Party and gave a decisive majority. The Legislature expelled Stevens by a vote of 54 to 30.

From W.B. Transcript, (weekly) 1846.

The Mexican War in full blast. 122 killed at seige and capture of Monterey. War Dept. calls for 9 new regiments, one from Penna. Anyone bringing in a recruit to W.B. Office would be entitled to $2.00. The latest news was six weeks old.

One could go to Philadelphia by stage from W.B. to Hazleton and thence by railroad in 1½ days at a cost of $5.00.

Rubber tires were advertised in London.

********and rifle ball were reserved in separate chest to be put in a glass case for exhibition. These must have been the ones in chest in Swetland's barn which we used to look at in 1856-57.

"Through much tribulation we enter into the kingdom of Heaven" Calpp. "Tribby Clapp" for short.

"Mademoiselle: "Maselle"

Marietts Tintoretta Tintontario Thompson.

Wyoming Valley described

✓ 16.1 mi long (the line) ! p. 43

Latitude & Longitude

Above sea level P. 44

✓ Mountain Ranges " "

✓ Description of the Poconos. 45

✓ Sea level from Mts. P. 46

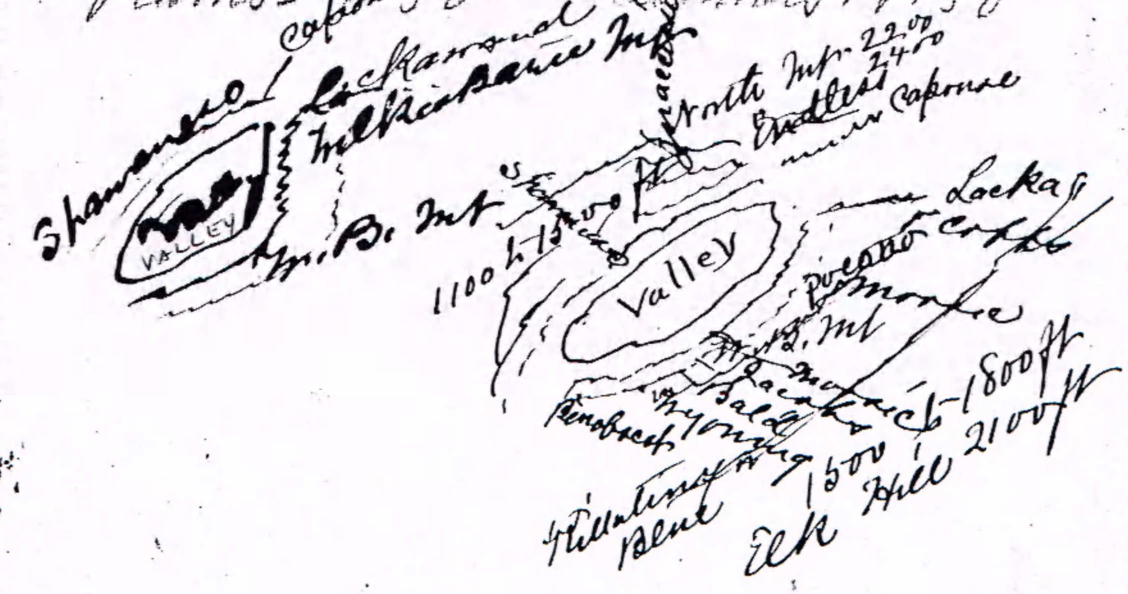
✓ Kinds of timber P. 47

Campbell's Ledge 47

Mt Lookout – P. 49

Susq. 17 mi long

Plains – p. 50 — Islands. P. 50



"along crooked River" Muddy Stream

Chap. II

Siska = muddy, hanna = stream

Rise of Susquehanna - Enters thru a presidents gap - 7 mi to N. B., 99 mi to Nanticoke Falls - to Northumberland, then West B. 200 mi long - 450 miles

Hills on its sides, from 300 to 600 ft h.

At Nanticoke Falls ~~made~~ a dam in connection with N. B. canal (1830)

Susquehanna Indians inhabitants P. 37-

Name Sus - from earliest times -

Capt. J. Smith says - P 38

Their towns at mouth of River 1608

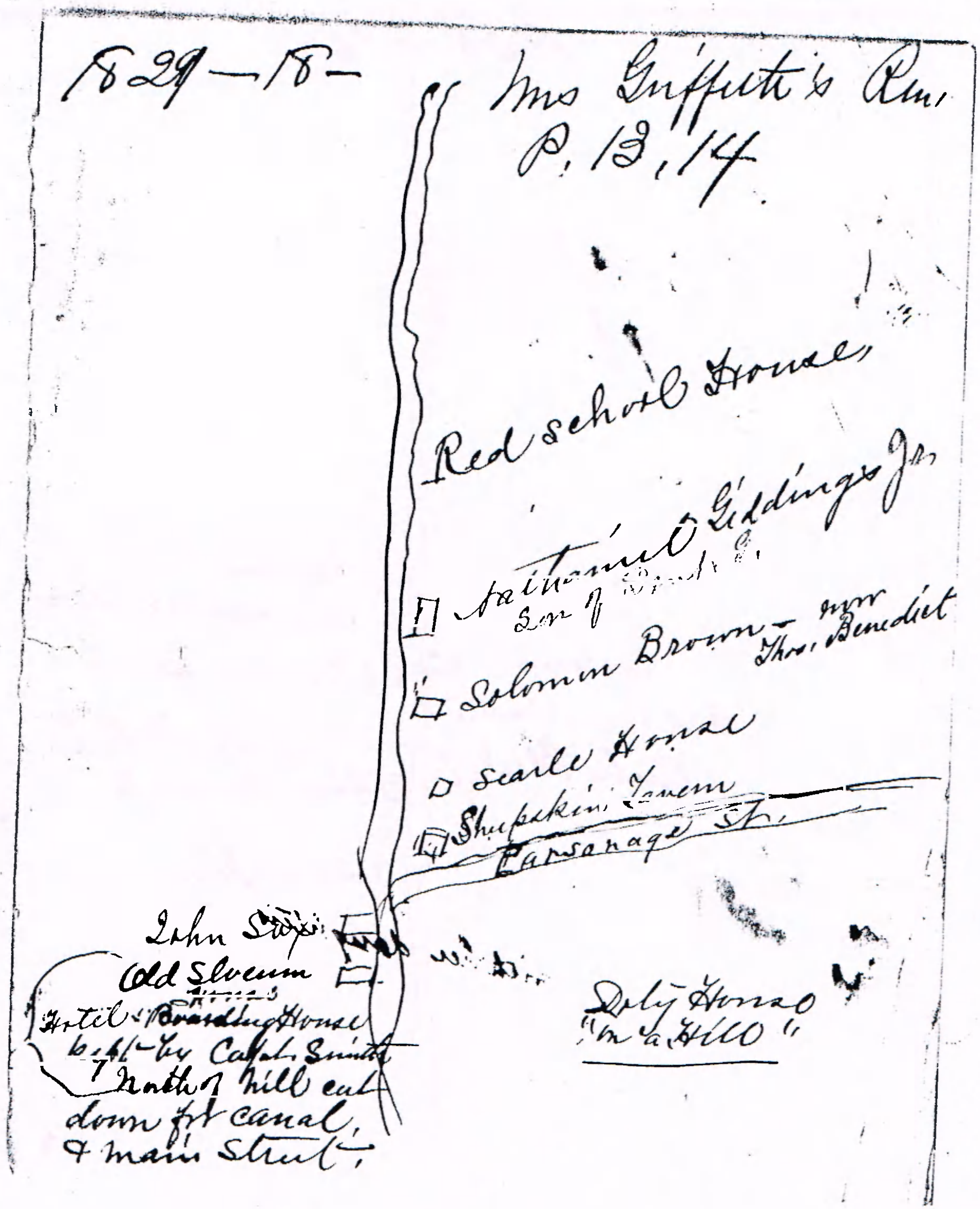
Market, Susquehannocks P. 39

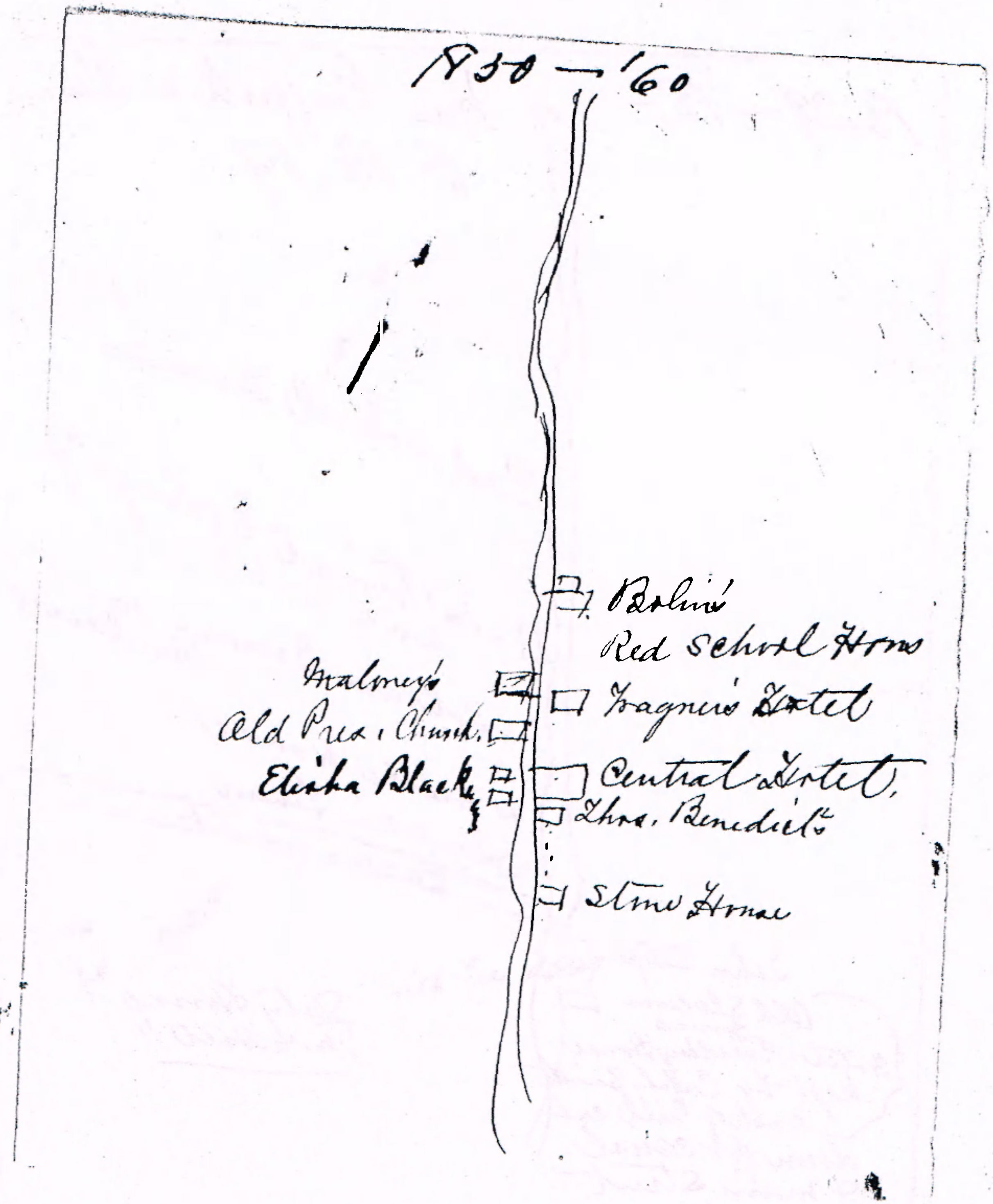
About 1630 - they claimed " "

Description of P. 40,

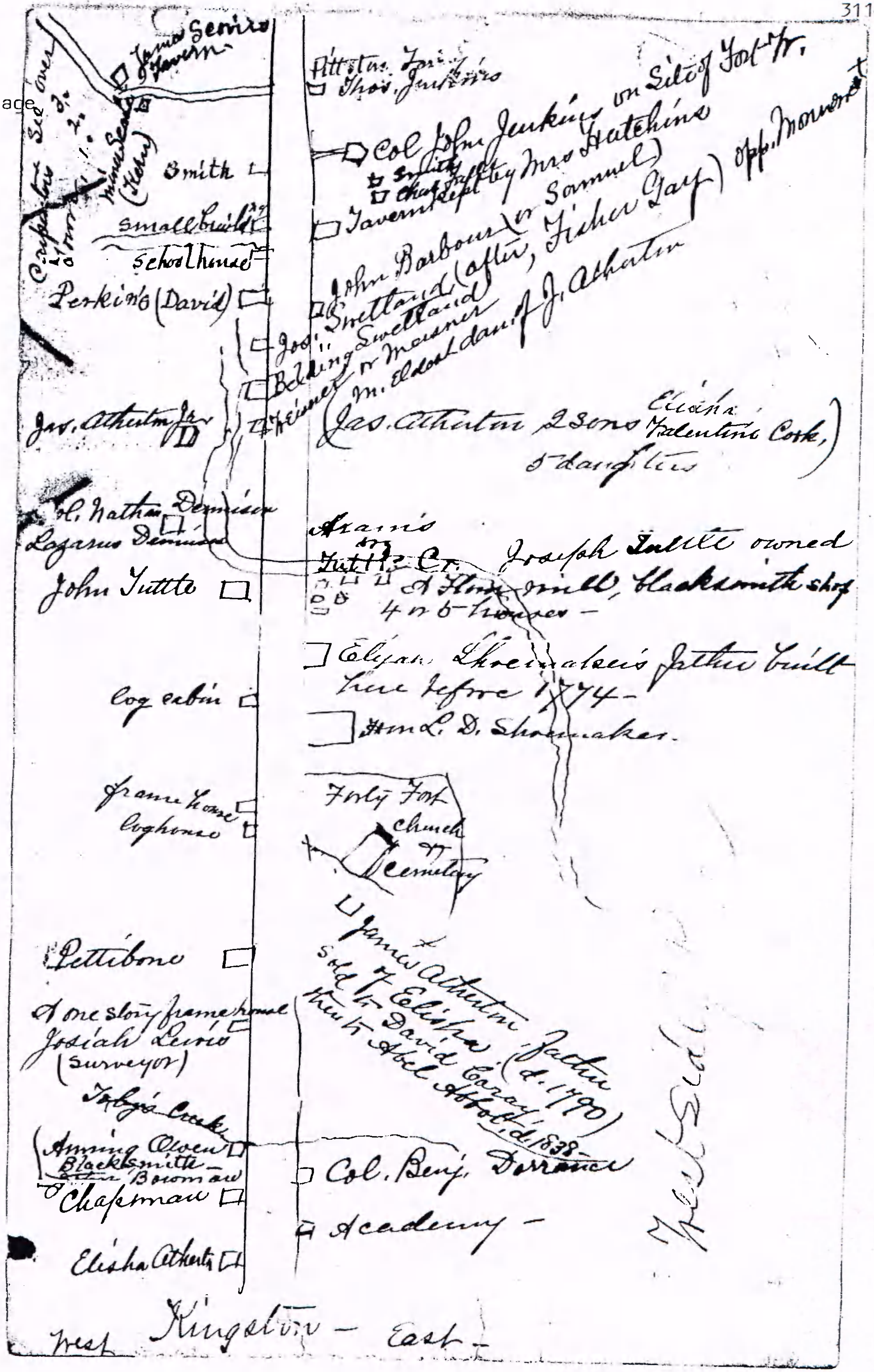
Nathaniel Bacon their oppressor P. 41

Susq. Indians


1829 — 18 —
Mrs Griffith's Rem.
P. 13, 14.
Red school House,
Nathaniel Giddings Jr
Solomon Brown — now Thos. Benedict
Tavern
Parsonage St.
John
Old Slocum House
Hotel & Boarding House
built by Capt. Smith
North of hill cut down for canal, & main street.
Doty House
"on a Hill"


1850 – '60
Bolin's
Red School House
Maloney's
Wagner's Hotel
Old Pres. Church.
Elisha Black's
Central Hotel.
Thos. Benedict's
Stone House

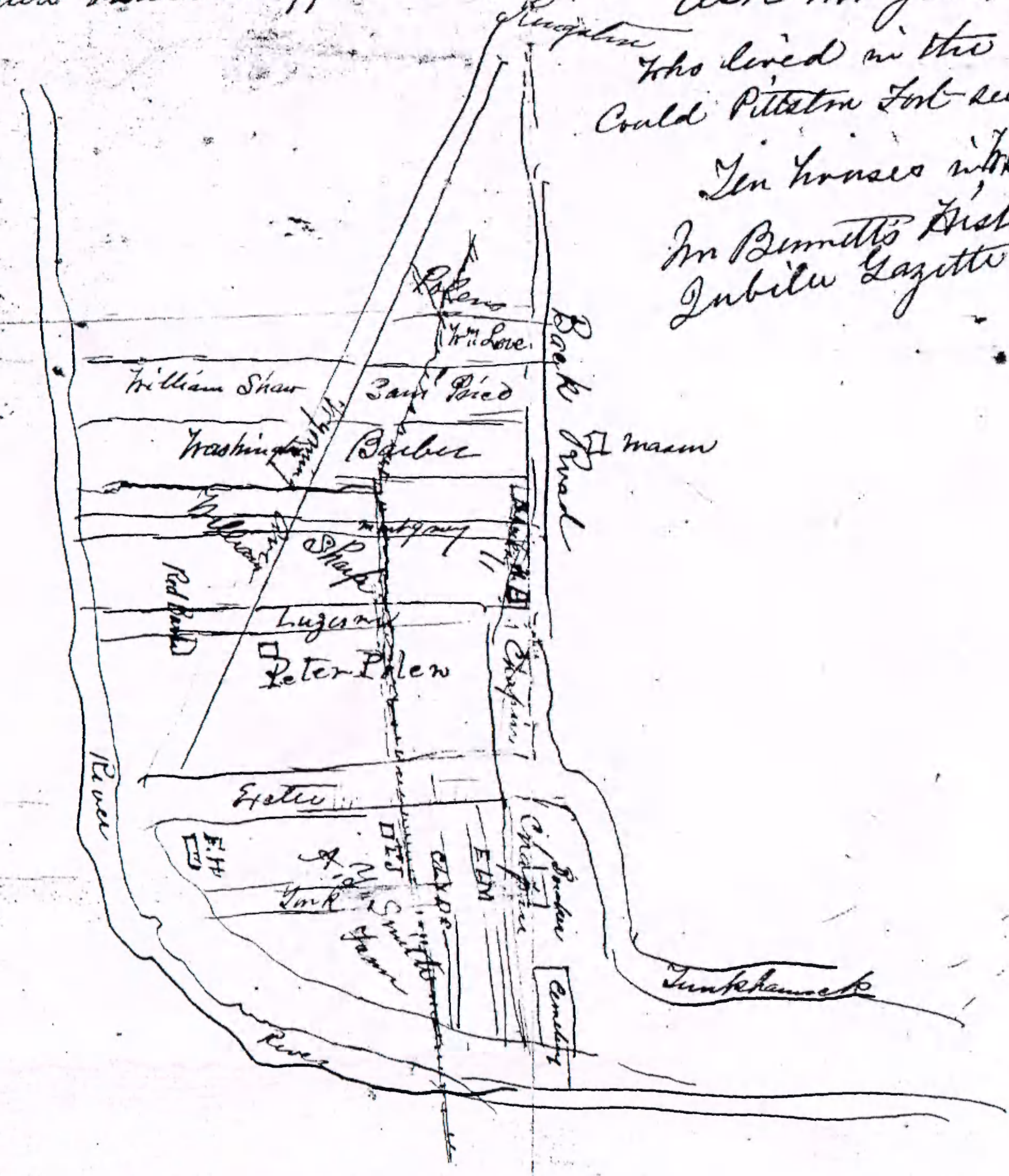
next page


James Sevirs Tavern
Smith
Small buildings
Schoolhouse
Perkins (David)
Jas. Atherton Jr.
Nathan Dennison
Lazarus Dennison
John Tuttle
Log cabin
Frame house
Loghouse
Pettibone
A one story frame house
Josiah Lewis
(Surveyor)
Toby's Creek
Anning Owen
Blacksmith
Chapman
Elisha Atherton
Pittston
Thos. Jenkins
Col John Jenkins on Site of Fort W.
Tavern kept by Mrs Hatchins
John Barbour (or Samuel)
Swetland (after, Fisher Gay) opp. Monument
Belding Swetland
Jas. Atherton 2 sons Elisha Valentine Cook, 5 daughters
Abraham's Cr.
Joseph Tuttle owned
A flour mill, blacksmith shop
4 or 5 houses
Elijah Shoemaker's father built here before 1774
Hon L. D. Shoemaker
Forty Fort
Church
Cemetery
James Atherton father
sold to Elisha (d. 1790)
then to David Carey
then to Abel Abbott, d. 1838
Col. Benj. Dorrance
Academy
West Kingston East

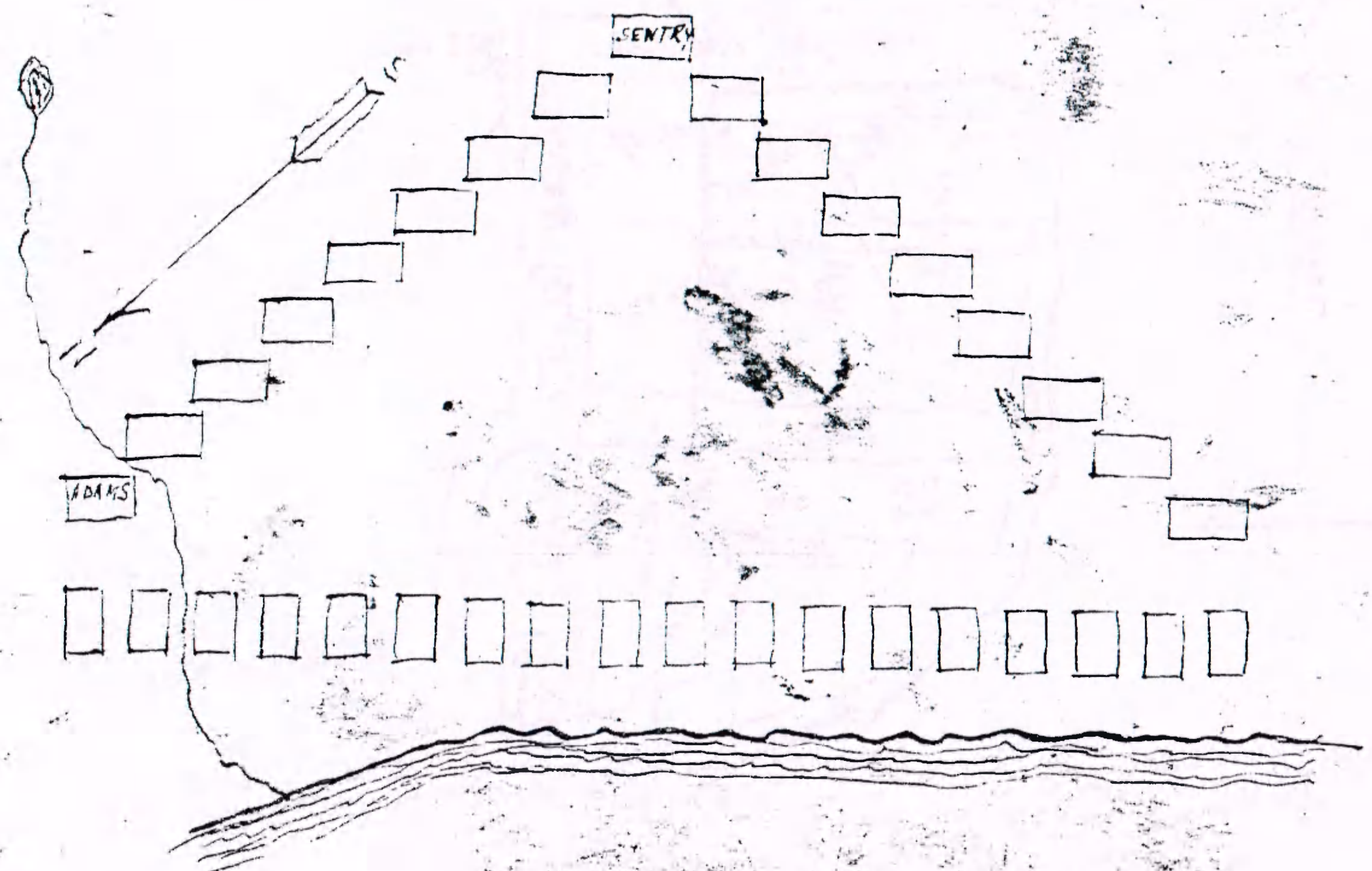
Dot "1" represents Laton Slocums Home
Dot "2" " William Slocum's "
Dot "3" " Hurlbut's Home. (John)

Ask Mr Jenkins –
Who lived in the 10 houses?
Could Pittston Fort see & talk across?
Ten houses in Pittston
Mr Bennett's Hist paper in
Jubilee Gazette

Are soldiers buried in upper Pitts ?



Old Mr Pittston



Pittston Fort O Susquehanna At Pittston

FORT STANWIX AND SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

A notable event of the year 1768 in American Colonial History, was the Treaty of Fort Stanwix (now Rome, New York State). This was in the very heart of the country of the Six Nations. Sir William Johnson whose influence with the Indians was paramount, had arranged for a meeting here of the Governors of New York and New Jersey and Pennsylvania with the united force of the chiefs of the Six Nations. The object was one that concerned all the colonies. It was to determine the boundary line between England's colonists and the Indian Domain. To this congress, Conencticut was not invited. The claimed ownership of the Wyoming lands, by Charter from King Charles, and by purchase from the Indians at Albany in 1754. Moreover she had attempted to occupy these lands and had failed. She was about to send another colony and just at this time was getting ready for the one which came in 1769. The Penns, sons of William and present Proprietors of Pennsylvania also claimed Wyoming by a subsequent charter from Charles, and were now come to the treaty Congress fully intent on buying and getting valid title from the Indians.

Connecticut was non persona grata. The French and English war was over, and France had yielded Canada to England. Settlements everywhere were encroaching on the Indian lands. Sir William Johnson perceived the dangers of the future colonists, unless an amicable adjustment should be made.

He was the man of influence over these savage hordes. He had traded with them for many years always treating them fairly. Like the Dutch Arendt vonCorlaer, who founded Schenectedy in 1661, by honesty, tact, generosity, he gained the confidence and friendship of the Indians so that they called him "Brother Corlaer", named the town Corlaer, the Mohawk River was "Corlaer River" and when he was accidentally drowned in Lake Champlain, they changed its name to Corlaer's Lake and all Colonial Governors subsequently they called "Corlaers". They were a confiding example truthful race and men who like Peter Schuyler whom they called "Quidder" and Von Corlaer, and Sir William Johnson treated them honestly had then respect and homage.

Sir William had, only the year previous to the Fort Stanwix Treaty, been very ill. The Indians with great solicitude took him in a boat down the river from Fort Johnson to Schenectady and thence carried by them in a litter to High Rock Spring at Saratoga to drink of the medicine waters of that Spring. He is believed to have been the first

white man to taste it.

That or some other potent influence cured him, for we find him ready for business at Fort Stanwix in the Fall of the next year, 1768.

Rev. Jacob Johnson of Connecticut was at the Congress quite unexpectedly. He had been sent by Rev. Eleazer Wheelock who had a school for Indian Boys at Lebanon, to solicit from the Indians, support and pupils for this school. He also besought the approval and aid of Sir William to further his effort.

When he arrived he found Gov. William Franklin of New Jersey, Gov. John Penn and his brother William of Pennsylvania, Col. John Butler, other notables from Virginia, besides Sir William Johnson. He found also, with these, generous gifts, a great sum of Gold and Silver, several boat loads of blankets and other goods besides much Rum, the purpose being to obtain from Indians, a large tract of their lands under cover of settlement of a boundary.

It was the unfailing custom of Sir William to give large presents to Indians, on all treaty occasions. He took boat loads of blankets and food for them to Onondaga in 1748, and in 1783 he thus met in Council, Pontiac and his Iroquois at Oswego.

Born of that bright and sympathetic Irish race, he could turn his sympathies and adapt his policies to suit his friends and his purposes. He was resourceful and at the age of 23 he was called by an Uncle to come to America and superintend the settlement of a large tract of land in the Mohawk valley.

He identified himself with the Indians by making his home there and acquiring their language. He dressed in Indian costume, painted himself as they did, and took Mollie Brant, sister of the noted chief, for his Indian wife. By honest dealing with them and thus adopting their customs he gained unbounded sway over them. The English Govt. made him its Superintendent of Indian affairs, created him a Baronet and Colonel of militia.

He built himself a stone house which was a fortress and it still remains, with wings, (or fortes) in either side.

Did this man promise the Indians $5 for every scalp?

He would not allow the Indians to have any intoxicants during the two weeks they were waiting and assembling for Fort Stanwix Congress.

Rev. Jacob Johnson was not permitted to attend the daily sessions of the Congress. He asked that he might be permitted to preach to the Indians as thanks Sir William keeping rum from them. He persuaded

the Indians not to part with their lands and go far away from Christian missionaries of whom there seems to have been some Roman Catholics as well as Protestant, for he prays Sir William, to disabuse their minds of the prejudice ---------

****

NAMES OF MEN IN
PITTSTON FORT
at time of its surrender, July 4, 1778.

Allen, David
Allen, Stephen
Bennet, Ishmael
Cary, Barnabas
Brown, David
Campbell, J.
Finn, James
Finch, Isaac
Halstead, Isaiah
Halstead, Richard
Jones, Benjamin
Jones, Nathan
Marcy, Ebenezer
Phillips, Francis
Safford, David
West, Eleazer
West, Richard
Whitaker Esq. ----.
Officers:--Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard
Lieut. Timothy Keys

****

NAMES OF MEN IN PITTSTON FORT AT SURRENDER.
(See Harvey II pp 1034-1037, interesting details of surrender)

Ishamel Bennet
-------Whitaker, Esq.
Eleazor West
Richard West
David Allen -There was a Noah Allen
Stephen Allen
Nathan Jones

David Brown

Barnabas Carey

J. Campbell

James Finn

Isaac Finch -- was he old father of Sam, John David, Benjamin?

Isiah Halstead

Richard Halstead

Ebenezer Marcy

Francis Phillips

David Sanford

18 names. Where were the rest of the 40?

****

PITTSTON MEN IN THE BATTLE.

Cary, Saml. (survived)

Searle, Constant

" " Jr. (survived)

Cooper, George (survived)

Howe, Timothy Lieut. (survived)

Capt. Dethie Hewett Co 40

Aaron Stark (killed)

Marcy, Zebulin (survived)

Killed: Corey, Jenks

Brown, Thos.

Brown, John

Carey, Joseph

Murfee, John

Bixby, David

Benedict, Silas --killed with Weeks family in battle. (Miner 238)

Carey, Silas

John Williams - From "N. Distrik, Up the River" (Exeter)

Thomas Brown - Swam nearly across the River, but was driven back and killed by an Indian.

John Brown - See Miner; Appendix 39.

John Murfee - From Providence. Son-in-law of Obidiah Gore (Miner p. 241)

Silas Benedict - Married Johnathan Weeks's grand-daughter. Perished in the Battle with six others of the Weeks family.

Constant Searle - Killed in Battle.

Constant Searle, Jr. - Survived.

William Searle - Would have been in the Battle with his father, Constant Searle, Sr., but he was confined in Pittston Fort with a sprained foot, an accident of a day or two previous, when

out on a scout with Dethie Hewitt and Sam Finch, when Finch was captured and Hewitt wounded in the hand. William Searle led a party of 12 women and children in the flight on July 7th.

Among the known survivors of the Battle were 15 or 20 men of dethie Hewitt's Company; Lieut. Timothy Howe; Samuel Cary and George Cooper; Constant Searle Jr. were Pittston men.

****

PITTSTON FORT.

The most historic and interesting site in Pittston City is that occupied by the fine new school building, named the"Pittston Fort School". The large block of conglomerate erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution bears a very brief inscription written by C. I. A. Chapman, Esq., which reads as follows:

"This Stone marks the Southern Side of Pittston Fort. Here in June and July, 1778, gathered Four Hundred Fugitives for Protection against British and Indian Foes.

"Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard and Lieut. Timothy Keyes in Command."

A brief summary of the history of the Fort includes the permission early granted by the Town Meeting to the people of Pittston "to fortifye for themselves in view of their isolated position and liability to the attacks of foes". This was in 1772, four years earlier than the other forts in the valley were begun. It was built, or begun, by the Browns, pioneer settlers, on their own land and therefore was often called "Fort Brown." Each Proprietor, or citizen, of the Town was expected to own a plot of ground in the Fort and to build a log house on it, for his family to retreat to in time of danger. Some were dilatory and at the invasion of 1776, the Fort was not yet completed, but was made to serve as a stockade defense for all the people of the Township.

****

****

****

****

PITTSTON FORT

F O R E W A R D

This narrative of Pittston Fort is not merely a recital of facts culled from the various histories. It is that and more. It aims to interweave with the facts, the personalities of the men and women who lived in the Fort; and to draw from the events of the time such reasonable inferences and conclusions as like circumstances would imply, or suggest, in the present, or in any time. It seems at times fanciful, it yet ties its fancies to solid, foundation facts.

Thus: It was fact that Jenkins Fort, on the West bank of the River and Pittston Fort on the East bank, were diagonally opposite each other. A ferry ran between them, its west landing directly at Jenkins Fort, its east landing above the present Electric Light Plant and therefore but a short distance below Pittston Fort.

From these conditions I infer that communication between the occupants of the two stockades was easy and frequent; that the people in Pittston Fort could see what was transpiring in the other fort; and that the sentry, from his position on the uppermost house, kept them informed of all movements. When sickness and death, or a funeral, or a wedding took place a Jenkins Fort, I infer that it was most natural that word should be brought across and that Pittston friends would respond.

History states that Major Butler led away his army July 7th., by way of Capouse. I call attention to the reasonable inference that he crossed the river by means of the ferry between these Forts; and that the inmates of Pittston Fort must have seen and recognized the prisoners with them.

History states that the soldiers marched up to Exeter to recover the bodies of the Hardings; and that they were brought down. Dr. Peck explicitly states that the bodies were brought down in a boat by Matthias Hollenback, who, with Zebulon Butler, had gone up the River on a scout and had come upon the bodies.

I assume that no boat could have come down the narrows unspied by the Pittston Fort sentry in his aerie; and I make his see and tell of the bodies being carried into Jenkins Fort; and of the funeral the next day.

My chief regret is that the facts are so few; and the characteristics of the people individually are so meagrely recorded. Such brave and intelligent people, in such heroic circumstances should make the pages telling of their deeds glow ith the spirit of their fortitude and heroism.

The ground was then used as a Parade ground for the Militia who were required by law to meet there and drill in military tactics once every year. The land was never divided among the many owners and it was finally sold by the Township authorities and the money put into the Treasury for the benefit of Public Schools.

Fitting it is that it should again be devoted to public school purposes. An obligation rests upon teachers to make known to the rising generation the events which transpired on this ground and the heroic sufferings of the pioneer settlers who strove to redeem this valley from the savage Indian and the grasping white man.

Many valuable papers public and private, were lost in the hurried flights of the inhabitants in 1778 and 1784. Therefore authentic documents covering details of Pittston Fort's history are few. Those of Wilkes Barre and Forty Fort are more numerous. All public business for the five settling towns was transacted at Wilkes Barre and records were carefully kept. In the hurried flight after the Battle, these Records were carried in a pillow case by Mrs. Anderson(?) Dana to Connecticut and when peace was established, they were brought back.

But Pittston had no such happy experience and much that might have been of special local interest was lost. In all the early history of the valley, fact and tradition blend so closely that it is hard to discrimonate between them. It is to be deplored that we realize so little that history is making every day and should be recorded in its passing. But everyone knows what is going on; and the historian does not "Take his pen in hand"--does not think it worth while to record what everybody knows, and the events are soon forgotten. Twenty five years hence it will be hard to write a tale of the Pittston of Today. Fifty years hence, few will be living who knew it; and one hundred years hence, great research in many public records and old, private correspondence will be required to learn anything of the city life and customs of the Pittston of 1911. We repeat the neglect of the historians of 1778.

So it has been with the history of Pittston Fort. No data were to be found here. The old Westmoreland records gave the date of permission for its building, and The Hon. Steuben Jenkins, of Wyoming, who had the instincts and intelligence of the historian, among his many valuable writings, contributed a sketch of this Fort to the Wyoming Geological and Historical Society of Wilkes Barre. The Hon. Sheldon Reynolds also, in his "Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania", published descriptions of Pittston and Jenkins Forts. From both these sources, information has been

drawn for this article. Facts gleaned from the Wyoming histories, from Chapman to Harvey, have been interwoven in the story, with the hope that it may awaken interest and inspire respect for this site, hallowed by the heroic sufferings of the Pittston pioneer settlers.

It is a story full of incident and character and variety, as all Wyoming Valley history must be. -- A story whose plot embraces the conflicting schemes and intrigues of no fewer than four grasping, powerful agencies viz: the Susquehanna Company, of New England; The Six Nations Indians of New York; the soldiers and Tories in the service of the King of Great Britain; and the greedy, grasping Pennamites, the successors and professed followers of that Quaker apostle of peace-- William Penn.

Wyoming Valley became the stage of action where these hostile forces met to draw lances and contend in clash of arms; and the unoffending settlers were shoved on and off the scene, like pawns in the game. Five times were they driven up the Warrior's Trail, over the mountains to the Delaware, and as many times did they return with fresh hope and new courage. Their patient, heroic endurance and perseverance in spite of oppression and suffering, enlist our sympathy and win our admiration; and Pittston Fort, which they built for defence in time of peril, has for us an interesting history.

To prevent confusion of understanding, it may be well to preface this narrative with an explanation of a few terms used. "The Susquehanna Company" and "The Delaware Company" were associations formed chiefly in New England, for promoting the settlement of lands along the Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers in Pennsylvania. These lands were claimed by Connecticut, according to her charter from the King of Great Britain and these companies were incorporated under Connecticut Charter. The Companies held also a Deed of Purchase from the Six Nation Indians.

They named this tract of land "Westmoreland". It extended from the Delaware River on the East to the head waters of the Allegheny on the West; and from the 42nd. parallel of latitude on the North to about the 41st. parallel on the South. It comprised the whole north-eastern part of Pennsylvania; and included the coveted Valley of Wyoming.

Westmoreland was in 1772 attached to the western county of Connecticut, Litchfield, as an incorporated town. It received its laws from that state, sent delegates to its General Assembly, paid taxes to it, and contributed two companies of soldiers to its line.

The Pennsylvania Government also claimed Westmoreland by a later charter from the same King, which overlapped Connecticut's by one degree of latitude. The New England settlers and the Pennsylvania settlers contended for the Wyoming Valley in two bitter struggles called "The Yankee-Pennamite Wars."

Wilkes Barre was the chief town of Westmoreland, where town meetings and elections were held and records written of the proceedings. These are the "Westmoreland Records", so often referred to in Wyoming History. Also, at Wilkes Barre Justice was administered and punishment meted out by imprisonment, the whipping post and the stocks.

Pittston, or Lackawanna, as it was often called in the old records, covered a large area. It comprised all the land on the East side of the Susquehanna, from a short distrance above Mill Creek to Providence, which latter town in now included in the city limits of Scranton. Therefore, the people of Pittston included the people of Providence, Taylor, Old Forge, Duryea, Lackawanna and intermediate points above the Fort; and Jenkins, Inkerman, Port Blanchard, Port Griffith and Plains below. It extended back five miles from the river and thus included Avoca, Moosic, Yatesville, Browntown, and all other settlements remote from the river. Francis Yates and Newman Brown gave names to the last named towns. The historian, Miner, gives as "Among the early families here, the Marcys, Careys, Bennetts, Benedicts, Blanchards, Sawyers, Silbeys, St.Johns and Browns." We shall find others.

Lackawanna, or Pittston, was sparesly settled for many years. Of the original 240 men settlers who came to the Valley in 1769, only 35 located, or "made their pitches" on the Lackawanna. These all lived near the mouth of the Lackawanna river for mutual companionship and aid. (Insert here list of early settlers from Hollister p.p.77 & 78. From 1776 - 1779 List also from Harvey II.) It was everywhere dense forest, and wolves, bear and panther were numerous. The men were good shots and could defend themselves against the wild beasts. But against the wild Indian, they had no protection. Being the farthest from the main body of settlers, therefore it was voted in a town meeting held in Wilkes Barre May 20th., 1772, "That ye Proprietors Belonging to ye Town of Pittston, Have ye Liberty to Go into their town and there to fortify and Keep in a Body Near together and guard by themselves, until further notice from this Committee.

Statements as to the date of the Fort's building, what part the Browns took in its construction, whether they gave the land, or whether each man in the settlement bought a plot on the grounds on which to build

his log cabin, we know not. Certain it is that after all wars were over, and the fort was demolished, the "Fort Lotts" became the subject of legal processes, sub-sales etc.

We know neither the size nor the form of this emergency defence in its first building, but believe it was a stockade made by digging a trench three feet deep around the boundary, setting in this the ends of small logs fifteen feet high, set close together, sharpened at their tops, and then filling the trench with earth again. These defences were sometimes made with a double row of logs, the outer ones covering the cracks between the inner row. Inside were nailed horizontal timbers to bind the uprights together. Loop holes were bored, through which to fire at an emeny; and a strong, barred gate, or door, gave admittance. Inside these walls were built one-story log houses, each proprietor building his own for use in emergency.

(From the records of sales and transfers at the end of this article, we may know a few of the individuals who had houses in the fort. There were Francis Hopkins, Lavainia Hawkins, Noah Allen, (a constable) who served an execution on Daniel Allen, and others.)

The settlers lived on their farms, until signs of danger gave warning; then they took their belongings and repaired to their homes in the Fort. The Fort must always be built with access to a large spring, or other water supply. Pittston Fort enclosed the running stream on the North, and probably another on its Southern boundary. (See Mr. S. B. Bennett's suggestion.) This is probably the way the Pittston Fort was built for immediate use; but we shall see that the ultimate plan as carried out after 1778, was much more complete and elaborate.

The Fort capitulated to Major Butler July 4, 1778. In his report of it, he says he received the surrender of the "three Pittston Forts. Here again we feel the need of documentary evidence, which is not in existence.

Oscar J. Harvey Esq., in his recent History of the Wyoming Valley, states that there were, at that time (1778) two other forts; but the reader will observe that Pittston (or Brown) Fort antedates one of them by at least five years. We Quote from Mr. Harvey's book, Vol.II. Pages 923 & 1030.

Footnote:- Major John Butler was a Connecticut man and he was buried in that state. His epitaph reads, "He feared God and honored the king"-- What fear of God restrained him that day, July 3, '78. Butler officially reported the taking of 227 scalps--This does not number all the slain, some were killed in the river and their scalps not obtained.

PITTSTON FORT

Found among Mother's notes - November 5, 1912.

Mr. Editor-

The reference in the Gazette of September 10th, to the Pittston Fort Marker in connection with the Fort School grounds seems to call for a brief history of the Fort, and the circumstances which led to its building. The history dates back to 1769 when the Susquehanna Company in New England sent 240 men to Wyoming Valley to form a colony here. Pittston was then called by the Indian name "Lackaworna" and was one of the original five settling towns. It extended in length from a little above Mill Creek, this side of Wilkes Barre, to Providence, and in width from the east bank of the Susquehanna to the mountains, above the junction of the Lackawanna with the Susquehanna, it extended from mountain to mountain and was called "The Gore".

Pittston Fort was the principal refuge in time of danger, for this large extent of territory.

Lackawanna (or Pittston since 1772) was covered with the primeval forest in which bears, wolves and panthers abounded. The Indian was the most dangerous of all foes. He was jealous of the white man and resented his intrusion into these hunting grounds. In this brief sketch, it is impossible to dwell upon the attractions of the streams filled with choicest fish, and offering excellent water power of the abundance of all kinds of game, of the valuable timber and the rich soil, which drew settlers here. Full description and history of circumstances and events connected with Pittston Fort, would fill a small volume. Of the 240 settlers sent here in 1769, only 35 made their "pitch", or clearing, in Pittston. The larger number lived in Forts in Wilkes Barre and vicinity and cultivated the rich river bottoms, which required little clearing with the axe.

At Wilkes Barre were called and held the Town Meetings at which, by common consent, laws for the government and protection of the colony were formed. Because of Pittston's extent and isolation, in 1772 it was voted at a Town Meeting that --------(page of notes missing) ------fled to their old homes in New England. The stories of this flight over the Pocono and Moosic Mountains, through the swamp ever since called "The Shades of Death" because so many perished there from want and fatigue, andlosing the way, would fill many pages. The road was only a rough trail widened, and overgrown with underbrush. The settlers gave up the valley to the Indian roving bands until in

1779, after General Sullivan had destroyed the power of the Indian Confederacy, some of them ventured back and Pittston Fort was completed according to the original plan. They lived in the Fort at night with their families, and took their guns with them when they went to work on their clearings by day. The Indians were prowling around for scalps, for each of which the British Commander paid one pound English money. Such was the peril of the times.

When peace was finally restored between Great Britain and the United Colonies, and the Indians were subdued or removed far West, the Fort cabins were taken down, the stockade abandoned, and the ground became a Parade Ground for General Training Day of the militia. After the second war with Great Britain, the Parade Ground was abandoned. The Fort Lots were never divided but became the property of the Township. The land was sold to individuals and the proceeds used for public school purposes.

Those early Fathers of our city could not have imagined that the ground sold for the building of a little unpainted school house with a cylinder wood-burning stove standing in a box of sand in the middle of the room, and desks built against the sides of the walls with a long bench in front of them for the older scholars, and a long low bench without a back for the primary pupils. They could not have dreamed that this ground would be re-purchased by the City Fathers of 1900 on which to erect a palatial public school building with all modern improvements. This is an interesting coincidence, the the present Board of Directors of Pittston City Schools should incorporate in the newly improved grounds of the Pittston Fort School, the Memorial Stone of the Pittston Fort Marker! The ground sold for public school had after many transfers come back to its own. May it never be again used for a defensive Fort, nor need other defenders than the boys and girls who shall pass through its halls and go out to battle for the right , not with weapons of gun and sword, but with deeds and words springing from bed-rock principles whose foundations were laid and cemented in the instruction and influence given here.

During the time the ground was under individual ownership, early in 1800, a large frame house occupied the site of the school building. In 1850 it was unoccupied when Mr. C. E. Patterson bought the plot for his lumber yard, the old untenanted building, called the "Sheepskin Tavern" was torn down. Where the Fort Marker stands was a store kept at some time in the '40's by Mr. Harris Jenkins, father of Mrs. Annette Gorman and of Mrs. George Richart. In this store kept in about 1813-14

by "Squire" Eleazer Cary, was the Pittston post office.

Such in brief is the history of the Pittston Fort site. Nothing has been told of the stirring, thrilling experiences of the 3 or 4 hundred refugees within the stockade during June and July of 1778.

On July 4th, 1900, the Daughters of the American Revolution erected the conglomerate block to mark the southern end of the Fort grounds. The site was generously given by Mr. C. E. Patterson and Mr. Oscar Brandon, his partner. At the dedication, an interesting program was given in which Pittston citizens and school children took a prominent part. Mr. Harold Mahon delivered the historical address. Attorney A. T. Welsh made an eloquent patriotic speech. The school children under the able leadership of our present Mayor Golden, sang patriotic songs. The large assembly present contributed liberally in a collection to help defray the cost of the stone. The City Council had generously donated $100. The marker belongs not only to the Chapter of patriotic women who caused it to be placed there, but to the city and to its school children. It should be a means of education. It should send teachers and pupils to the history of our own locality and of our Valley. They should cherish this memorial stone and point out to the child of the foreigner the record of the men who helped to establish a government under which the oppressed and downtrodden of every land may live in prosperity and freedom. They should be taught to honor its anniversary, as if done at the monument at Wyoming. The Inscription on the tablet tells of another chapter of history. It reads as follows:

"This stone marks the southern side of Pittston Fort. Here in June and July 1778, gathered Four Hundred Fugitives for protection against British and Indian foes.

Captain Jeremiah Blanchard and Lieut Timothy Keyes in command".

This Inscription was written by C. I. A. Chapman. The plate was paid for by the descendents of Capt. Blanchard. This tells the story of the growth of Pittston between the years 1772 and 1778 from 35 families in a town of "400" people. The Inscription can only suggest to the imagination the distracted crowd, driven by fear, to this stockade, sick and old and feeble as were some of them.

The reason for their coming was the approach down the River of 700 Indian warriors and 400 British and Tories to destroy the settlement. Very exciting reports of preparation for this invasion had been brought in by scouting parties during the months of May and June. Here and

there a man was shot in the River or in his field. A ferry ran between Pittston and Jenkins Forts. The eastern landing was just below the Fort above the site of the Electric Light Plant. Communication between the Forts was frequent. James' and the Hardings were slain and John Gardiner was captured, young James Hadsall was slain and his father and brothers-in-law captured by the oncoming host. All these men had gone out from Jenkins Fort that morning to work in their farms in Exeter. News of the tragedy soon came across to Pittston and accelerated the speed of the incoming fugitives. Capt. Blanchard, with part of the 1st Pittston Company remained on guard in Pittston Fort to protect the terrified women and children. Young Capt. Dethie Hewitt, son of Constable Isaac Hewitt of Pittston, led off his forty men to join Col. Zebulin Butler in an attempt to drive back the invaders. Then the Ferry and all boats was captured with Jenkins Fort, July 2nd. The Pittston people looked across and saw Indians curing (?)and scraping the flesh and blood from fresh scalps and making merry over their victory. They heard the sounds of the battle in the afternoon of the 3rd, and in the evening some of the men led by Capt. Blanchard walked down the east bank attracted by fires burning among the trees. they saw tortures indescribable as the savages performed their scalp dance around their victims on the ground now covered by West Pittston. The groans and shrieks of the victims drove the men back to the Fort, not knowing that next day would witness similar scenes on the East bank.

Refugees from the battle field who had swam the river came in and reported the defeat and massacre of the colonists. Weeping and mourning filled the cabins and spaces of Pittston Fort. Some prepared for hasty flight under the cover of night, others held by infirmity were compelled to stay.

Next morning early, a sheet was elevated on a pole on the bank of the river. Major John Butler, some Tories and Indians came over. The Fort surrendered under promise of safety to life and property. The Indians put a smear of black paint on the face of each prisoner, and told him to carry a piece of white cloth if he went outside the Fort. This was to protect from other roving Indians. All who were overtaken in flight were killed or captured. Capt. Blanchard's three children were taken and tied to a tree for some hours.

Stories of the subsequent flight of individual experiences, of the Indians plundering and burning grain and houses, of their final

departure loaded with stolen booty on stolen horses and cattle is of absorbing interest, but would require too much space for this brief article which set out merely to tell enough to show the intimate connection in history between the Pittston Fort and the Pittston Fort School Building, and to emphasize the propriety and the wisdom of the School Directors in inclosing the Pittston Fort Marker in their school grounds as a stimulus to the teachers and pupils to acquaint themselves with local history.

****

SALE OF FORT LOTS.

Sales, Execution and transfers of Fort Lots.

In 1774 the Fort Lots became the subject of deeds and legal process. These are interesting as they reveal names of some of the men who lived and owned property in Pittston as well as exhibit methods of legal procedure and the values placed upon property. Each lot contained three or four perches (50 or 60 feet sq.) and was counted worth little. (The coal under it was yet undiscovered.) The Fort was laid out in 1772 and from the following records, building must have begun immediately. James Babcock vs. Lovinah Hawkins.

"On ye 8th day of November, A.D. 1774, and in ye 15th year of his Majestic reign, Nathan Dennison, Justice of the Peace issued an attachment at the suit of James Babcock against Lovinah Hawkins, wherefore the plaintiff declares that on the 10th day of September, 1774, defendant promised the plaintiff to deliver to him ye possession of one certain House in ye Fort at Pittston in ye possession of William Williams, and also to give a lawful rite to ye same; but ye defendant not regarding, hath never performed etc. to ye damage of ye plaintiff at etc."

But at an earlier date, even, Lovinia Hawkins appears in the role of plaintiff as follows:

Execution.

Lavinia Hawkins : L2 Debt 7s 10d cost
vs. :
Daniel Adams : L Butler, J. P. 24 June 1774.

Daniel Adams seems to have repeated troubles in legal processes.

We find in the records the story of a "certain house in the N.E. Corner of ye Fort."

Continuing the above "Execution" we read, --

Westmoreland, Aug. 6, 1774. Levied on a dwelling house in Pittston District in ye N.E. corner of ye fort. Beginning at ye N.E. corner

of house, thence running 18 ft to ye S.E. corner running west 6 ft and one half foot, thence running north 18 ft to ye chimney, thence running east to ye first mentioned bound. Said house appraised by Messrs. Caleb Bates, James Brown, Abraham Harding at 18 dollars and was divided by Mr. John Jenkins (surveyor). Above named men were all under both and described to ye Plaintiff in peaceable possession.

Test. Timothy Smith, Constable.

-- More trouble for Daniel Adams--

Next we find that on same date as the preceeding, Aug. 6, 1774, before N Denison, Justice of ye Peace.

Execution	:	Levied on the other half of the said house
	:	
Joseph Sprague	:	5 and one half feet by 18 ft, approved and
vs.	:	
Daniel Adams	:	divided by same parties adding after same description.

"From Ye floor up to ye roof, with privelege of going out ye door."

Lovina Hawkins had first half and must have owned the door. Whether she or Joseph Sprague drew the fireplace there is no intimation. Thus the one house described in the Fort enclosure passed into this joint ownership. From them it passed to Solomon Strong and meantime has been occupied by Isaac Adams, for we read:

"Deed

Solomon Strong	:	23d day of Sept. 1775 -- $19.00
to	:	All the right, title and interest in and to
Francis Hopkins	:	the dwelling house where Isaac Adams now lives,

being ye N.E. corner House in ye Pittston Fort etc."

One cannot help wishing to know more of David Adams whose house was sold in halves, and at so small price. It is left in possession of Francis Hopkins whose name appears in other litigation. He seemed to do quite a business in acquiring Fort Lots. We find that soon after he had acquired the N E Lot he bought (23 Sept. 1775) the North West House in Pittston Fort containing all the house to Jones, blacksmith shop. This he bought from Solomon Strong. It is interesting to know there was a "Jones Blacksmith" there.

Solomon Strong was selling his property to be free to answer the call which had come from Lexington and Bunker Hill. (See Steuben Jenkin's story). In the following winter (1775) Col. Wisner came to Wyoming for recruits for the Continental Army and he led away Obediah Gore of Kingston and Solomon Strong of Pittston with 20 or 30 others.

We learn :

A Deed from Abraham Harding to Francis Hopkins for about 1 acre adjoining the Susquehanna Lot 33, North side of Fort. Consideration £5. Date Sept. 23, 1775. Under same date, Lemuel Harding to Francis Hopkins, lot No. 34 about 1 acre.

The Hardings evidently owned each an acre. Lot on the base of the triangle shaped Fort. The base of the triangle was parallel to the River.

Francis Hopkins has bought of Capt. Bates under date of May 5, 1774, for £10 "Land lying in ye survey of old Pittston, and is five small lots of land lying and being a little east of ye Fort, and South of a highway that runs through said small lots, which lots are known by ye name of Fort Lots and contain ye second third and fourth with a dwelling house that ye said Hopkins now lives in and ye sixth and seventh." Chas. Munson to Francis Hopkins.

In the preceeding purchase of Francis Hopkins of Lots 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7, we observe the omission of No. 5. We find that he, in the following January 13th, completed his plot by purchasing from Charles Munson, lot No. 5 for the sum of £1.

Capt. Blanchard to Isaac Baldwin.

Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard, Apr. 18, 1775, sold Lot No. 35 to Isaac Baldwin. Deed was given, no sum mentioned.

Solomon Strong to Isaac Baldwin.

Solomon Strong to Isaac Baldwin a one acre lot bounded E by a highway, south by Daniel Allen's land, West by said Baldwin land where his house now stands, north on ye parade for ye fort.

Solomon Strong to Isaac Baldwin.

A few weeks later we find these same Real Estate dealers under date of Nov. 4, 1776 in another transaction. Solomon Strong deeded to Isaac Baldwin a lot, estimated about 10 acres, bounded west and north by a highway, east by land of Elijah Silsbury (Silsby) where he now lives, southerly on David Allen's land.

Solomon Strong to Col. Jere. Hogeboon.

Under same date (Nov. 4, 1776) Solomon Strong sold to Col. Jeremiah Hogeboon a Fort Lot of one acre, more or less, bounded southerly on a highway, westerly on the Susquehanna River, northerly by land of William Williams, east by said Hogeboons land.

The next entry makes a long stride down the lapse of years, even to 1790 after the wars are over and the Fort demolished.

Deed

Noah Adams : of Windham County, Conn.
to : Date Jan. 26, 1790
Roger Searle : For several tracts of land to wit:

One meadow lot in District of Pittston, lying on Lackawannock Great Island at the mouth of the Lackawannock River, as the one half of said Island. Also a number of House lots lying in said Pittston and situated on the north side of a road that leads from Lackawannock old Fort easterly to Lackawannock River and being lots number 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and the south half of Lot no. or the Lot that Rufus Baldwin now lives on.
Caleb Bates, Constant Searle, Witnesses.

After the Fort was no longer used the buildings were removed. It passed through the hands of the township officers who sold the lots to individuals and put the money into the school funds. In 1850, the Roger Searle house and a large white frame two story building called "the Sheepskin Tavern" stood on that part of it now used by the school building (Pittston Fort S. Bldg.)

This tavern was torn down in the 60's (?) and the ground became a part of Patteson's Lumber yard. The next transformation was the placing of the Pittston Fort school on its site.

****

ROSENCRANZ FORT.

In June, 1777, Capt. Daniel Rosencranz, a native of Ulster County, New York, removed with his family from Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey, to Wilkes Barre, where he had purchased certain lots lying along the river, adjoining the Wilkes Barre-Pittston boundary line, in what is now Plains Township. Here he erected a log block-house, which he occupied with his family, which became known as Rosencrantz's Blockhouse.

There was another blockhouse, neither the name nor the location of which is now exactly known; but it undoubtedly stood in Pittston Township. This explanation of the "three Pittston Forts" is interesting, but, Dr. George Peck, in his History, explains the "three forts" as three block-houses in the Pittston Fort, surrounded by a palisade of split logs, or pickets; and since Dr. Peck gained his information direct from Mr. Joseph Marcy, son of Mrs. Ebenezer Marcy, who repeated it often in his hearing, Dr. Peck is entitled to full credence. (See Peck, Page 221)

Pittston Fort had, as we have seen, been begun in 1772. But its completion had not been urgent. The Pennamites had ceased to trouble the settlers since 1771 and until 1775, when the War of the Revolution broke out, the settlers had enjoyed a season of peace and prosperity. Only a few Indians were scattered here and there and they lived on terms of amity with the whites.

When Congress called for two companies to be raised in Westmoreland, the Lackawanna Valley and Pittston had responded generously from their scanty population and had sent their strong young men to fight the battles of Washington's campaign in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, leaving themselves with few defenders beside aged men and boys.

When rumors of the impending Indian Invasion were brought down the River, messages were sent to congress for the return of the two companies. Every commissioned officer but two resigned and 25 men left the ranks and came home. (Miner - p. 215)

Companies consolidated under Simon Spaulding, Captain; and
Timothy and Phineas Pearce, Lieutenants.

George Cooper, P. 224.

Westover (?)

Sergt. Jeremiah Bigford, 225.

Young Searle, P. 226.

Rufus Bennett.

Saml. Carey P. 226.

Motives for Indian Cruelty, P. 227.

Capt. Blanchard, Whitaka and Ishmael Bennet, P. 227.

Even so late as March, 1778, Dethie Hewitt, son of Isaac Hewitt, of Pittston, had been appointed by Congress Captain of a third company and had enlisted 40 men for home defence. The slow-traveling coach or post rider carried everywhere the tidings of sickness and death in camp or on the battle field and there were soldiers widows and orphans in Lackawanna, and lonely firesides and anxious hearts. In a legally warned and held town meeting, December 30th., 1777, as the cold was increasing, it was "voted by this town, that the committees of inspection be empowered to supply the Sogers wives and the Sogers widows and their families with the necessaries of life." No county poor-house; nor fireless, foodless cabins; but all the necessaries of life and in time ofdanger, refuge in the fort with neighbours and friends, for the widows and orphans of the honored soldiers. Sometimes one came home on a furlough and the rejoicings--See Miner.

But in the Summer and Autumn of 1776, the Indians left the valley ---there were rumors that the British in New York, dismayed at Burgoyne's defeat at Saratoga, were preparing to enlist the Six Nations to engage in a war of exterminationa gainst the frontier settlements and Wyoming was isolated from help,--so easy of access from the North by the river!

The settlers began to strenghten their neglected forts. Rumors were rife and passed from vilalge to village. Queen Esther and a retinue had come up the river in the Autumn and camped for a few days at Forty-Fort. Mrs. Thomas Bennet and her daughter Martha visited the camp. They asked Queen Esther if it were true that the Indians were coming down the river to kill all the settlers. Esther declined to answer.

Perhaps these signs of danger made the men more zealous to build their log houses in the fort as soon as the harvests were gathered. They could cut and haul logs in the Winter, while the women knit and spun and wove wool and flax; and as soon as the Spring opened, they would build -------.When April suns melted the snows and swelled the streams a----- -------were ready for the plow, a storm of terrible wrath was------ ------. News came down from the North of the dreaded------the rifle, tomahawk and fagot in New York. News---------fierce Senecas taking lives and scalps, re--------times for the families of Pittston and -------- settlements to hasten to the Fort. ----------women will tend the crops and--------them to the Fort. Their -------rs of happy days gone ------of recovering them ---------ls and beddings are -------the cabins in the Fort. These were of logs, built closely together in the form of a hollow square, thus forming the walls of the blockhouse. All doors and windows opened

on the enclosed court. Our forefathers were forsighted. They built their houses so that they could be turned into Forts and they built their forts to serve as dwellings. The whole was then surrounded by log palisades and sometimes a broad, deep ditch was outside of that.

To this stockade, the Marcys, the Bennetts, the Silsbys, the Careys, the Benedicts, Hewitts, Blanchards and others moved. There were sick and infirm brought in on litters, or in jolting carts, or perhaps in a wheelbarrow, as was Dorothy Sutton, at Forty Fort.

Meantime scouting parties went daily into the mountains and watched the Indian Trails. They brought report that a large number of boats and rafts was assembled up the river. Sometimes parties of Indians and Tories were met and shots exchanged.

In the midst of all these alarms, young John Jenkins, commissioned second Lieutenant in Capt. Ransom's company and held for six months a prisoner at Niagara, has made a wonderful escape and returned to his family, just across the river in Jenkins Fort. He is nearly dead from starvation. He is delirious and is kept confined in a room with an attendant and fed very carefully. As soon as he is sufficiently recovered, he confirms all the reports of the great preparations being made to invade Wyoming. He had seen and he knows.

Great consternation prevails throughout the valley at this news. The Forts are being enlarged. Jenkins Fort is building around the log house of John Jenkins by the Jenkins, Gardners, Hardings, Hadsalls and others. These names are repeated at Pittston Fort. The families are bound together by ties of blood as well as by those of sympathy and of common danger. John Jenkins owns and manages the ferry from his house to the East bank of the river and communication between the two forts is easy and frequent. The Pittston people can look across and see the urgency of building. Young Elisha Harding, a mere boy of 14, is driving the oxen that haul the logs. It is the Sabbath day; but this Sabbath certainly was made for them and they trusted that the Lord of the Sabbath who was also the Son of Man, would bless and help them to build for the defence of their wives and children. All lesser anxieties were forgotten. The small-pox was prevalent. Every district had its pest house, one-half mile from the road. The inmates must be left to their fate. They were safe from attack, for the disease was more fatal to the Indians than the guns of any enemy.

On June 12th., the first life was taken. Asa Budd comes down the river with all haste to report the shooting of David Crooks by Tories,

about twenty miles up the river. The alarm spreads everywhere and messengers are sent to emphasize the danger to those living far from the Fort. Urgent messages are also sent to General Washington to send home the two Independant Companies raised for wyoming's defence, which are now at the front with the Continental Army.

A few days later, news comes from across the river at Jenkins Fort that Minor Robbins and Joel Phelps have been wounded going up the river in their canoe. Stephen Jenkins alone escaped unhurt, and to aid to the uncertainty, even the ties of closest kindred seem severed in this unnatural strife. One of the party of Tories who fired on these young men was Elijah Phelps, a brother of Joel Phelps and a brother-in-law of Robbins. Robbins died in Jenkins Fort the next day and was probably laid to rest in the Jenkins Cemetery; and some of the friends from Pittston Fort went over for the funeral.

Pittston Fort had among its occupents, the Reverend James Finn, who, according to Mrs. Mary Jenkins Richart in her Annals of Fort Jenkins, married Lieut. John Jenkins to Miss Bethia Harris in the Fort, at about this time, which was the middle of June. There were no prolonged festivities; neither was there a wedding journey. Doubtless the Hardings, the Gardners and other relatives took time from their toil and put their anxiety away for the wedding, and the relatives in Pittston Fort were invited.

On June 26th., the young Captain, Dethie Hewitt, went up the river with a scouting party. After four days he returned and reported a large number of Indians and Tories a few miles above. This was on Tuesday, the 30th. of June. He did not know that the enemy were even then entering the valley through a notch in the mountains above Sutton's Creek. They had killed and scalped the two Hardings, Benjamin and Stukley and young James Hadsall; and had taken John Gardner and Daniel Carr prisoners and had driven John Harding, Ebenezer Reynolds and Wallen in terror to the woods. These men and boys had gone up the river from Jenkins Fort in canoes that Tuesday morning to work in their corn fields. Night came, but it did not bring back to the Fort the anxiously awaited party. No historian has ever tried to picture the scene in Jenkins Fort that night. John Gardner's wife and five children, her sister (the mother of the Harding boys), the old father, Capt. Stephen Harding, the wounded Joel Phelps, the young bride of Lieut. Jenkins, anxious for the safety of her husband in Forty Fort, the old patriot and father, John Jenkins, all were keeping vigil that long night for the return of the twelve strong young men, who were their reliance in danger and who now were absent and exposed to danger.

The ferry was running early next morning: and the friends and relations in Pittston Fort would get the news that the young boy, John Hadsall brought to the barricaded fort at midnight. At sundown, the party left the cornfield to go home. Hadsall heard shots; and also saw Indians running and he quickly plunged into some willows and drifted at the edge of the river and lay concealed there until after dark, when he crept out and ran through the dark woods, all the six miles to the Fort. He could not tell what had become of any of the party of eleven who had gone up the river that Tuesday morning.

Very early next morning, the worst fears of the watchers were confirmed, when Reynodls, wounded and John Harding and Wollen found their way back and reported their sad tidings. Doubtless, it was all brought over to Pittston Fort, early that morning of Wednesday, July 1st. Relarives here would sympathize as they had when Minor Robbins died and was buried a few days before. At midday the Pittston Fort sentry might see a boat manned by a single oarsman land at Jenkins Fort, and from its bottom see lifted the bloody bodies of the Hardings, Stukely and Benjamin. (see Park.)

Word was despatched to Col Dennison, commandant at Forty Fort. He sent swift messengers to every fort and to the unorganized militia through the region, to assemble at once at Forty Fort and march to Exeter to drive back the invaders. The word came to Pittston Fort. Dethie Hewitt, with his company responded and among them, his father-in-law, old Constant Searle and his son, Constant Jr., 15 years old, and other Pittston men; and after the march to Exeter, they followed Col. Dennison to Forty Fort, to be ready for the foe when he should appear. Zebulon Marcy was there, too, and tradition credits him with firing the shot that day, that killed Queen Esther's son, who was sitting near the bodies of the Hardings. Zebulon Marcy was the man who had built the first cabin on the Lackawanna in 1771.

The men that left the fort that Wednesday morning, staid with Col. Dennison and went into the battle on the following Friday. This may explain why Capt. Blanchard's company of 40 men mustered only 18 at the surrender on July 4th.

Among the killed in the battle of the following Friday are names of many Pittston men. Some of these are:

Carey, Joseph	Brown, John	Searle, Constant
Carey, Silas	Brown, Thomas	Searle, Constant Jr., (survived)
Benedict, Silas	Coray, Jenks	Stark, Aaron
Bixby, David	Murfee, John	

Survivors were: 15 or 20 men of Dethie Hewitt's company; Lieut. Timothy Howe; and Samuel Cary and George Cooper.

These could cross the ferry early on Wednesday, July 1st. but not after that time. During that day, Major Butler sent a detachment of his men to collect all river craft and guard them at the head of the Island. Early next morning, after his entrance to the valley, he sent an officer to demand the surrender of Fort Jenkins. With the possession of the fort he also controlled the ferry and stopped all crossing, leaving a number of Indians on guard.

The people in Pittston Fort may have seen the bodies of Benjamin and Stukley Harding carried into the Fort on that Wednesday. They may have seen the funeral procession walk from the Fort to the near-by cemetery on the next day, Thursday. But none could go over. They were in constant apprehension that their dreaded enemies would cross over to them.

How many were in the three stockades in Pittston Fort that week, history does not tell. We learn that in Pittston Township there were about 60 taxibles. Supposing each represented an average family of five, three hundred would represent the total of men, women and children, and the quarters would be crowded. Mrs. Marcy says that they were crowded and tells that they hid their provisions in hollow logs, or stumps, and some of it they buried to keep it from the enemy. They had driven their cows and horses and domestic animals to the Fort grounds, so they needed large space within the palisade.

Meantime, Col. Zebulon Butler, who had resigned his commission in the Continental Army to return to Wyoming in her hour of danger, had taken the supreme command of all the forces that could be collected. By the morning of Friday, July 3rd., all companies from all the forts except Pittston Fort had responded to the call and were assembled at Forty Fort. They numbered about 300. As before stated, Major John Butler, on entering the valley, had confiscated all boats at the Ferry and on both banks of the river, thus protecting his force from attack in the rear and preventing dessertions to the East side by his Indians intent on scalps and plunder. The Pittston men could reach Forty Fort only by marching down the East side to the Ferry opposite Forty Fort. A large proportion of them were already with Col. Butler at Forty Fort. Capt. Blanchard conferred with his men and they deemed it unwise to leave the large number of women and children entirely unprotected in this the most isolated of all the settlements and decided to remain with them, which they did. They might reason that the combined forces of

all the other forts together with the Alarm List, or militia not enrolled in the forts, would be sufficient to repel the enemy, or to hold them in check until the expected Wyoming Companies from Washington's army could arrive. What had happened at Exeter three days ago might be repeated in Pittston today, or tomorrow.

Another reason why the Lackawanna men should not march down to Forty Fort is found in Harvey II p. 1005.

Quoting from Col. Franklin's account, it was learned at Forty Fort from incoming scouts that the enemy were burning all the settlements above and collecting all the cattle within their reach. It was apprehended that they would not attack Forty Fort, but would burn, plunder and destroy all the upper settlements across the river at Lackawanna (Pittston) plunder and burn the settlement, massacre the inhabitants or make them prisoners and then return with their booty whence they came. To prevent this, it was urged that the combined force at Forty Fort march up and attack them wherever they might be found.

And yet some did go, for their names are writ high on the roll of honor, as among the slain. We may not know how many fought and escaped with the fugitives after the battle. We know that when Capt. Blanchard surrendered the Fort, the morning after the battle, there were only eighteen names enrolled. Where were the rest of the forty of the garrison?

Here follows a list of all the taxibles in Pittston and Lackawanna in 1777,1778,1779 as copied from Harvey, Page 877, Volume II.

From the list we find that a large proportion of the Pittston men did find their way to the battle field, never to return.

Here is a list so far as the writer could obtain it. Doubtless others should be included:

OFFICERS

Capt. Duthie Hewitt — Sent from Forty Fort July 2 on a scout and was wounded in the hand. One of his men, Sam. Finch, was captured at Carpenter's Notch, another, Wm. Searle sprained his ankle and remained in Fort all day, Finch's body was brought in later.

Lieut. Timothy Pierce — Left Spaulding's company and rode all night. Was a son-in-law of Obidiah Gore. See Miner p. 241 & 221. He arrived just in time for the battle.

Ensign Jeremiah Bigford (Bickford) Waded out into the river to swim across to Pittston Fort --was pursued and killed by an Indian.

PRIVATES.

Avery, Christopher
Cary, Joseph
Coray, Jenks)
Coray, Anson) Brothers
Coray, Rufus)
Comstock, Robert, of Providence
Hopkins, James " "
Park, Capt. Silas " "
Palmer, Abel Up the River (Exeter)
Stark, Aaron
Williams, John N.Districk Up the River (Exeter)
Brown, Thomas Swam nearly across the river, but was forced back and killed.
Brown, John See Miner, Appendix 39.
Murfee, John Providence; Son-in-law of Obidiah Gore Miner p. 241.
Benedict, Silas
Bigford, Lieut.
Searle, Constant Killed
Searle, Constant, Jr., Survived
Searle, William Would have been in the battle with his father Constant, but he was confined to the fort with a sprained foot, an accident of a day or two before when out on a scout (See above upon Capt. Hewitt.)
Searle, Roger Escaped with Anning Owen.

During the morning of July 3rd., the inhabitants of Pittston Fort were impressed with the ominous quiet of the valley. The scene of activity was within Forty Fort, where Col. Zebulon Butler, Col. Nathan Dennison and Maj. John Butler, demanding the surrender of the fort. This message was borne by Daniel Ingersoll, a prisoner from Fort Wintermoot, where Butler was encamped; and Ingersoll was guarded on either side by a Tory and an Indian. Fort Wintermoot was then Butler's headquarters, while his army was encamped near the entrance to Schooley's Gap.

Samuel Finch, as noted in the preceeding list and note, had been sent out as a scout to ascertain the number and position of the enemy and had been shot by Indians near Shoemaker's Mills. But Pittston knew nothing of these happenings. Across the river, at Jenkins Fort, the Indians and

Rangers were in posession and were making merry with the plunder; and the fears and griefs of the Hardings and the Gardners.

But all this quiet was broken in the afternoon. The Indians and Rangers left at the call of Butler to come down to Fort Wintermoot and to bring the prisoners at Jenkins Fort along, as the Yankees were coming up the Valley to fight. At three o'clock, the rattle of musketry, a mile and a half away, told that the battle was on. It was over in half an hour and the yells of the pursuing savages, as they overtook their victims might easily have been heard across the river. If any of the men from Pittston Fort crept down to what is now the site of Pittston Hospital, they might very possibly have looked across the river and seen in the open field in the present village of West Pittston, about a mile above Fort Wintermoot, a small camp of prisoners and squaws. John Gardner was there; and Daniel Ingersoll and his wife, taken at the opening of Wintermoot's gates to the enemy on the evening of July 1st.; Elisha Scoville, also, and all others who had been in the fort, which had been set on fire before the battle.

Footnote:- All honor to Daniel Ingersoll and his wife! They seized---------to resist the entrance of Major Butler and his officers and were promptly arrested. How these Pittston People and Scoville, from Exeter, made the mistake of taking refuge in a Tory Fort can be explained only on the supposition that they were unaware of its character.

Queen Esther and her retinue of squaws were in this camp, too, triumphantly offensive. As darkness settled down upon the scene, fugitives began to come in to Pittston Fort on their way to the Delaware. News of the disaster spread from cabin to cabin. One man swam the river and came in to Pittston Fort, limping, wounded in the foot. We do not know his name, as we know Mathias Hollenback's who carried the news to the Wilkes Barre Fort. This man conferred with Mr. Ebenezer Marcy. Mrs. Marcy's account is that "he brought over the sad tidings of the defeat and slaughter of the little army. After a few words upon the subject, he mounted a horse which belonged to Mr. Marcy and laid his course across the mountains. (Note:- Perhaps Mr. Marcy sent him to the old Fishkill home to ask for help. Certain it is that on the arrival of the family at the Delaware a horse and wagon from Mrs. Marcy's father had come to meet them.)

Mrs. Marcy's story continues: "All was stir, alarm and confusion in the Fort. The darkness of night came on, but not to hide from the eyes of the Lackawanna People the horrors of the scene which was being

enacted on the west wide of the Susquehanna. They saw the Indians making preparations for their fiendish orgies. They kindled fires and filled the air with their terrible yells. At length, two prisoners were brought up. One was tied to a tree in a sitting posture with his hands and feet bound to stakes driven in the ground and a train of pine knots laid, extending some twelve feet and terminating at his bowels. The further end of the train was fired and then the Indians commenced dancing around the poor creature, while the flames gradually approached him and he was filled with the most indescribable horror at its progress.

Splinters of pine were stuck into the flesh of the other and lighted. The poor victims of savage cruelty shrieked and called on God for help. Their wailings and the unearthly yells of the savages mingled together and were wafted by the breeze across the plains and echoed back from the hills. That was an awful night for the Lackawanna people. That would be their fate they could not forsee; but immediate flight was impossible. The best they could do was to throw themselves upon the mercy of their conquerors". (Peck's History: p. 222)

"On the river bank on the Pittston side, Captain Blanchard, 'Squire Whittaker, Ishmael Bennet Sr., and Ishmael Bennett Jr., attracted by the fires, on the opposite shore, took their station and witnessed the process of torture. Several naked men, in the midst of flames, were driven round a stake. Their groans and screams were most piteous while the shouts and yells of the savages, who danced around, urging the victims on with their spears, were too horrible to be endured. They were powerless to help or avenge and withdrew, sick at heart,--glad that they did not know who the sufferers were. This was more than a mile above Wintermoot." (It must have been within the present limits of West Pittston.) Miners P. 227.

In Miners History are given the following. "Articles of Capitualetion for Three Forts in Lackawanack, July 4, 1778".

Art. I: That the said commanders of the different forts do immediately deliver them up with all the arms, ammunitions and stores in said Frots.

Art. II: Major Butler promises that the lives of men, women and children be preserved entire."

The three forts mentioned may refer to the three stockades erected for temporary defence within the Fort grounds.

The Indians placed a mark of black paint on the faces of the prisoners, in order that they might be preserved from harm. they also commanded them, in case they went outside the fort, to carry a piece of white

cloth for the same reason. The savages enacted here the same scenes as at Forty Fort and Jenkins Fort. They searched the houses for clothing and finery and food and robbed the inmates of all they posessed. As soon as possible after the surrender, most of the people fled to the settlements on the Delaware to their friends. A few, because of illness, remained two weeks in the Fort but they were subjected to constant terror and disturbance from the hordes of savages who roamed about on marauding expeditions. Finally they all left; and then the buildings were partly burned by the vagrant Indians.

But within two years, the fort was restored and the original plan carried out, making an extensive and strong defensive work. The houses in the Fort were the dwellings of the Proprietors. The garrison therefore comprised most of the inhabitants of the township. The fort remained standing until some years after the close of the war, when the buildings were removed and the fort lot became a common and was used as a public parade ground. In this connection must be related Mrs. Ebenezer Marcy's tale of her experiences in the fort.

Men in Pittston Fort at the time of its surrender:

Ishmael Bennet	Stephen Allen	Benjamin Jones
Squire Whittaker	Nathan Jones	Isiah Halstead
Eliazer West	David Brown	Richard Halstead
Richard West	Barnabas Carey	Ebenezer Marcy
David Allen	J. Campbell	Francis Phillips
James Finn	Isaac Finch	David Safford

This is a total of 18 names. Where were the Forty?

There was little sleep in Pittston Fort the night of July 3rd. Horror at the sights and sounds of the bloody carnival across the river, filled the minds of men and women and apprehension for themselves and their families made rest impossible. Many planned for flight and waited only to collect sufficient food and clothing for the long journey over the mountains. They fled that night in companies (See------) and in the morning, only eighteen men were in the fort to be made prisoners, to be smeared with black paint, carry a white cloth and give up their arms and ammunition.

According to Mrs. Marcy's story: "The morning came and they raised a sheet upon a pole on the river bank. The flag of truce was discovered and several British officers, attended by a posse of Indians, came over and demolished the pickets around the blockhouse and the Indians painted the prisoners. The people had hid their provisions in secret places; their flour and meal were hidden in hollow logs and their meat was buried

in the ground. A wretched old squaw soon came over, having seventeen scalps strung on a stick. She spoke broken English; and talked of being 'dreadful tired', having, as she said, been 'out all night scalping the Yankees'.

"A plan was soon set on foot still further to torture the feelings of the prisoners. An old mare belonging to Mr. Marcy was brought up and Mrs. Marcy's side saddle placed upon her back, with the hind part before and the crupper tied to the mane. The squaw was then seated upon the saddle, astride, a looking glass being held in one hand and the string of scalps in the other. In this plight, the animal was led by one Indian and driven by another, back and forth before the fort, while the Indians hooted and laughed and otherwise insulted the prisoners. There were men there, who if their wives and children had not been in the power of the savages, and they had had in hand their trusty rifles, would have sent a ball through the heart of the old limb of Satan and run the hazard of dying the next moment. But grinding their teeth, they smothered their wrath as well as they could.

Parties of the enemy collected the horses and cattle and turned them into the fields of grain. This saved them the necessity of destroying the crops by other and more laborious means. The officers ordered the prisoners to milk the cows and bring in the milk for their use. It was soon found that unless they resorted to some stratagem to save a portion of the milk, the children in the Fort must soon starve; so that the cows were then left half-milked and the rest was obtained under cover of the night.

At evening, the Indians made large fires of the pickets and lay down before them and soon fell into a deep sleep. This was the time for the prisoners to take their meal. The men stole away and milked the cows while the women prepared and baked Johnny cake. Then the prisoners partook of the only meal they had the privilege of enjoying in the whole twenty four hours. All this process of milking, cooking and eating had to be conducted with the utmost silence and care. The prisoners were not cared for at all by the British officers and could only furnish themselves and their helpless children with food and avoid utter starvation by stealth. Were not these British and Torys magnanimous conquerors?

On one occasion the prisoners were left by themselves and the wife of Zebulon Marcy resolved upon trying to bake a loaf of light bread. Just as her loaf was well done, it was announced that an Indian was coming. The bread was rolled in a towel and hidden in the foot of the

bed. The Indian came in, sniffing and looking around. "Me want bread!" he said. One of the women replied: "We have none". Continuing his sniffing, he said "Ah! Me smell 'um!" and going directly to the place where the loaf was deposited, he took it out. Mrs. Marcy cried: "You shan't have that bread! I want it to keep the children from starving!" and spring forward, she seized the loaf by one end. In the contest, it was broken in two, she retaining one half, while the Indian seemed satisfied with his portion. "Well! thought the brave woman, "Half a loaf is better than no bread!" and so it was.

Butler and his men left the valley a few days after the battle but parties of Indians kept prowling about, plundering and burning the houses of the settlers as opportunity offered, and their feelings inclined them.

About two weeks after the battle, an Indian came to the fort and said: "Wild Indians come soon! Kill Yankee and eat 'em!" The settlers had gradually disappeared and few besides the family of Ebenezer Marcy were left. Mrs. Marcy was in a delicate state of health and besides, was lame in her feet from rheumatism, but there was no alternative. She must undertake the journey across the mountains on foot.

(Note:- It will be remembered that Mr. Marcy had sent the messenger with the wounded foot across the trail the night after the battle and the old squaw had ridden his only other horse the morning of the surrender. When Butler and his horde marched away, they took the Lackawanna trail up to Capouse, thence North to Otego in New York. They drove off the cattle of the settlers and their horses also, loaded with plunder.)

Mr. Marcy's family consisted of himself, his wife, and five small children, the eldest being a girl of eleven years of age. There was but one other in the company--an old lady, still more of a cripple than Mrs. Marcy. The exigencies of the journey would necessarily require covering at night, and hence the necessity of taking along blankets. Mr. Marcy was the only individual in the party who could carry any burden. He made a large bundle, in which he had carefully stowed away a family Bible which Mr. Joseph Marcy has now in his posession and preserves as a precious relic. It contains the family records and settles some facts of public interest. All being ready, Mr. Marcy shouldered his burden and ordered all hands to move on.

The little company commenced their doubtful and perilous journey, probably on the 20th of July. Their course lay through Jacob's Plains, up Laurel Run by the path from Wilkes Barre to Stroudsburg. They had nearly exhausted their provisions and had to be put on short allowance.

They subsisted mostly on the twigs and roots of the sassafras and on berries. Mrs. Marcy had a cane in one hand and a spikenard root in the other and would frequently take a little of the root in her mouth and chew it making it serve, as she ever after maintained, the double purpose of food and medicine. On the evening of the 22nd. of July, "on the Tobyhanna hill" Mrs. Marcy was taken ill. Mr. Marcy left her with the old lady, while he went forward with the children a short distance and deposited them in the bushes. He then returned and soon he was the father of another child. The newcomer was a daughter and was welcomed and provided for as well as circumstances would permit.

Early in the morning, Mrs. Marcy arose and set off on her journey with good courage and for her, at a brisk pace. The little piece of humanity that had been sent to them on the mountain had been added to Mr. Marcy's burden and that day they travelled the astonishing distance of sixteen miles, which brought them to Captain Spaulding's encampment. The Captain kindly sent on two soldiers, each having a horse, to assist Mr. Marcy and his family to the Delaware.

Here they were met by a man with horse and wagon, sent by Mrs. Marcy's father, Mr. Johnathan Spencer; and then the worst of the trials of that journey were over. In eight days after the birth of the little girl, Mrs. Marcy and her family were welcomed at her father's home near Fishkill. Friends and neighbors came to her assistance in renewing the clothing of the family which had been whole when they left the valley, but was reduced to tatters by the journey through the wilderness.

"The little woods girl" as she was called, was an object of great curiosity. Mrs. Marcy felt thankful to God for her strange preservation and that of her infant and for the deliverance of herself and her family from the tomahawk and scalping knife; and in accordance with her feelings, she called the little daughter "Thankful". The child lived to the age of seventeen and then died of the measles.

(From Dr. Peck's History. Copied six pages. Here too should be related the story of the Blanchard family.

The experiences of these families were only two of the many which have been told. The greater number of these, however, have never been recorded by the historian and have faded from the memories of descendants. (Capt. Blanchard's story)

The settlers returned in small numbers after a few weeks, in order to save what remained of their growing crops. In the Fall of 1778, they completed the Fort according to the original plan. They intended to have a more effective defence in any future emergency.

The diagram of the fort that has come down to us, is of 35 houses built on the lines of a pyramid. The river was the base and the apex extended back up the hill in the direction of Parsonage Street. These houses were built each one three feet within the other on the upper side so that the rear of each successive house could be defended from the preceeding one. There was a space between these houses, with a large gateway, flanked by pickets at each end. The houses on the upper faced the river. Those on the river faced the hill, or enclosed area.

They built their houses so that they could be turned into forts, and they built their forts to serve also as dwellings. Provision was made to guard those on the river bank from stealthy attacks by the savages. The house at the apex overlooked the fort were constructed so as to communicate with each other in the upper stories. Along the north corner was a stream of water, which was the water supply of the Fort.

(Note:- This stream, reduced in size and volume, still flows past the site of the old Ravine Shaft and across the road through a culvert and into the Susquehanna. Our honored Townsman, Mr. S. B. Bennett, is of the opinion that another and similar stream flowed through the southern part of the fort grounds, a little below Parsonage Street. There was, within his recollection such a stream coming down from the hills. All such streams were full of trout in the early days and it would seem good domestic economy to enclose one within the fort grounds.

After the compromising act of 1799, all lands had to be resurveyed and allotted by a Commissioner and the following paper is on record:

"Mr. David Brown, to whom I was referred for information respecting the Parade Ground in Pittston, says:

"'The lot certified to Jacob Hardford contains a principal part of the Parade Ground. A small part is included in William Slocum's survey. The lot was laid out for the purpose of a fort in time of war and each proprietor of the township had the privilege of building a house on the grounds. Two rows of houses were accordingly built of logs one facing the river and one facing the hill. These served as walls for the fort and were flanked by pickets at each end.

"'After the war was over, these buildings were demolished and the land remained a common for some time. All the Proprietors in the town claimed a partnership in this land, which amounted to 3 or 4 perches for a right. It was never divided.'

"If Mr. Brown could know whom Mr. Key bought of, he could tell where

some of their houses stood, but it is not possible that all Mr. Key bought of had their houses contiguous and to survey 3 or 4 perches to him in separate places would be folly.

"In conversing with the Board of Commissioners, they think it best that the whole limits of the ground be exactly ascertained and a certificate made out to the assignees of Mr. Key for 12/35ths. of the same undivided."

(Signed) benj. Newberry

Endorsed:----------

"The land mentioned within is certificated to Jacob Bedford and William Slocum. Then follows P?W. Shafer, Esq., and names of occupants.

WINTERMUTE FORT.

Wintermute Fort was situated in Exeter Township, in the limits of the present Borough of Sturmerville, on the bluff overlooking the broad river flats, near the head of Avenue. Its site may be further described as having been opposite the site of the low island, known as Wintermute Island. A fine, large spring, the back stone wall of which is still visible, gushed out from the base of the bluff, but the mines have long since drained it of water and bushes now grow in the basin.*

*(Foot note: By the older generations, this spring was called the "Indian Spring". When the Indian chiefs came down the river from New York State on their way to Washington City to confer with the "Great Father", the Indian women and children accompanied them as far as this spring, where they encamped and wove their baskets until the chiefs returned. After the wars were over, Col. John Jenkins became the posessor of the site of this spring and he built there the first two-story frame house in the neighbourhood. After his death, it was occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Rachael Goodwin. It finally was burned; but until 1910, the tall chimney that had stood in the center of the building with its fireplaces on the first and second floors, remained standing.

Wintermute Fort was properly a stockade built (prior to 1776) around the dwelling of the Wintermutes. They were a numerous family who had come to the Valley from New Jersey; and were strongly suspected by the loyal settlers of being Tories and spies in the interests of the British. These suspicions were confirmed when they built the stockade around their house, without authority from any one.

This action led to a Town Meeting at Wilkes Barre on August 24, 1776, at which it was voted that "three field officers of the Regiment be warned to view and determine the most suitable places for forts in the several districts and to mark out the same." It also led to the building of Jenkins Fort, a mile further up the river, as an offset and guard against this suspected Tory fort. The Committee's influence put Lieut. Elisha Scovil in command of this Fort; and at the time of the invasion a few patriot families were gathered within its walls. Among the Tories in this Fort were Jacob Ankers and Michael Showers (or Shores), who, on June 30th., were with the murderous band at Harding. A family of VanAlstynes from New Jersey were also there. Of the happenings in this Fort after July 1st., 177-, the patriot Daniel Harding and his wife have told all that we know.

On the eve of July 1st., the whole force of Major John Butler was encamped on Lookout Mountain, directly back of this fort. From this vantage

ground, they could see the location of Pittston, Jenkins, Wintermute and Forty Forts. On this night, two of the Wintermutes were observed going up the notch in the mountain (now called Schooley's Gap); and in the morning they returned, followed by Butler and his hosts.

The army encamped on the plain between the mountain and the present Wyoming Avenue. For a long way, the base of the mountain was skirted by a wide, bush-grown morass and plain. In the cover of this brush, the main body of the Tories and Indians encamped. Butler and his staff knocked at the gate of Wintermute Fort and demanded its surrender. Daniel Ingersoll, Scovell and the other patriots were ready to fight against the intruders and Mrs. Ingersoll seized a pitchfork to aid her husband. But the Wintermutes interefered, saying that Major Butler would find a welcome there. Thus the Fort was formally surrendered; and articles of capitulation were signed by Lieut. Scovel and Major Butler. Ingersoll and the others who had opposed Butler's entrance were placed under guard, but the safety of their lives and property was granted them on condition that they give up all stores and arms and agree not to take up arms again in the present contest.

Early on Thursday, the second of July, Capt. Caldwell was sent up to Fort Jenkins to receive its surrender and left a posse of Tories and Indians on guard. Major Butler was very busy that day, sending out scouting parties to ascertain the number of defenders in the Valley, and at the same time keeping the number and placing of his own forces concealed from the patriot scouts. In the upper part of the Valley, he had parties scouring both sides of the river for cattle and supplies for his army. He also captured all river craft and had them tied at the upper end of the Island, so that none but his emissaries could cross to the East shore.

Then he sent Daniel Ingersoll to Forty Fort between two guards, one a Tory and the other an Indian, with a white flag of truce, to demand of Col. Zebulon Butler the immediate surrender of that Fort. The demand was in writing; and Ingersoll was not permitted to hold any conversation with any whom he saw. The guard that brought him kept their eyes open to learn as much as possible of the defences of the Fort, but none the less they kept strict watch to see that no communication was made by Ingersoll.

The demand for the surrender was refused by Col. Dennison (Col. Butler?); and the next morning Ingersoll was sent again to Forty Fort, to have the demand again refused. On the afternoon of the third of July, at about three o'clock the patriots assumed the aggressive and their little army

of 300 set out to meet the foe, who numbered over 1100.

In Fort Wintermute, the British officers learned from incoming scouts every half mile of the little army's progress. Butler laid his plans well. He called in all the guards from Fort Jenkins with the word that "the Yankees are coming up to fight"; and on the West bank of the river, midway between Forts Wintermute and Jenkins, he established a camp for prisoners and squaws. Here were placed under guard John Gardner, Daniel Carr, Samuel Finch, Daniel Ingersoll and his wife and some others, doubtless, who had been captured.

Of the squaws who were in this camp during the afternoon of the battle, we know the name of only one -- Queen Esther. In the evening, the squaws broke away from the camp; and Esther presided at the horrible tortures at "Bloody Rock". Another old squaw who was there we hear of again, at the surrender of Pittston Fort, when she flourished a stick bearing seventeen scalps and boasted that she had been out"scalping the Yankees". Although the men were the chief actors in the afternoon, the squaws took the lead in the evening and it was they who devised and carried out the horrible tortures that were practiced on the helpless prisoners.

When the patriot army advanced to battle, Fort Wintermute was set on fire by Major Butler's order and its burning logs became the funeral pyre of Capt. Bidlack and other victims. Daniel Ingersoll must have gone from the prisoner's camp to the burning fort, for he told afterward how the British sent out after the battle and collected all the picks and shovels in the neighbourhood and buried their dead, estimated at about eighty, in the edge of the swamp to the right of the Fort. The evening was very warm, but there was glorious moonlight, flooding the Valley and revealing the ghastly battle ground, strewn with the unburied, mutilated dead; the torture fires and their victims; the hideous, painted, savages, crazed with the intoxication of Blood; the British and Tories carrying their dead to the swamp, digging a long trench and placing them in a common grave, known for generations after as the "Indian Grave."

But to their nostrils came the sickening odor of burning flesh. Butler expressed much disgust and seemed much troubled. "I can do nothing with them!" he exclaimed. These details are given to us by Daniel Ingersoll, for to this observing prisoner we owe all that we know of the doings at Major Butler's headquarters.

He also relates that on the sunday following the surrender of

Pittston Fort and Forty Fort, the Indians were free from all restraint. They drove in the cattle and horses and robbed the settlers of everything they desired throughout the whole valley. Major Butler confessed repeatedly that in their elation over the victory, he had lost all control over them. On Monday, the fifth of July, he summoned all his officers and the chiefs and read to them what looked like a letter, seeming very earnest in his talk to them.

Preparations then began for the departure. Butler paroled the occupants of the forts who had been held as prisoners. Samuel Finch, who had been taken at Shoemaker's Gap by a scouting party, had already been delivered to Col. Dennison at Forty Fort in exchange for some Indian prisoners held by the latter. All these freed prisoners immediately fled from the Valley. The Wintermutes and the other Tories joined Butler's Tory Rangers and marched away with them. On Tuesday, the seventh of July, Butler led his Rangers, the Royal Greens and as many Indians as would go, up the road towards Pittston Ferry.

It will thus be seen that the location of Wintermute Fort determined the place of the battle. The opening of its gates to Butler gave him his first foothold in the Valley and doubtless the information of the strength of the defenders given him by its Tory occupants was a large factor in the success of his campaign. So far as we know, its ruins were unvisited by any white persons from July 7th to October 20th. following, except for the five white women who ventured up to the field of the dead a few days after the battle, to look for the bodies of Timothy Pierce and John Murfee. (Peck: Page 166)

Until October 22nd., the prowling Indian and the screaming vulture alone looked upon the unburied dead and the ruined homes of the once-happy settlers. On that day might have been seen two carts, drawn by horses and guarded by a military detail from the Fort at wilkes Barre, passing slowly over the field. The men were armed with spades and forks; and with what care they could, they lifted the unrecognizable forms and conveyed them to their common resting place, later marked by the Wyoming Monument.

After peace settled upon the Valley, the settlers gradually returned. Lieut. John Jenkins had become a Colonel in Washington's army; and he secured posession of the site of Fort Wintermute and, as was before stated, there built him a home where he lived with his wife, Bethiah Harris, and reared a family in the posession of whose descendants the site remains.

********** **********

PITTSTON IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND PITTSTON FORT.

Pittston and Lackawanna were a part of Westmoreland and all public business was transacted at Wilkes Barre where every freeholder had the privilege of attending town meetings and might exercise his right to vote. When news of the Battle of Lexington came, the hearts of these patriots rose in an aspiration to help resist the tyrant and to sustain the Government. We find them assembled in town meeting as early as Aug. 8, 1775, to declare, "We will unanimously join our brethren in America in the common cuase of defending our liberty".

Some of the young men had already gone from Wyoming to Boston, as soon as news of Lexington arrived. Major Durkee, so prominent in the Westmoreland government, had enlisted in the Continental Army from Connecticut, in April 1775, and had been in active service. So also had Obediah Gore and Solomon Strong. In April 1776, these Westmoreland patriots organized a military company of sixty six men, and offered their services to the Continental Congress, with expressions of loyalty to the cause of liberty. They were accepted the August following together with a sufficient number in addition, to meet the demand of Congress for two companies be raised in Westmoreland. They were mustered into the Continental service at Wilkes Barre Sept. 17, 1776. They numbered 180 men furnished with their own equipment of blankets, guns and ammunition.

Early in 1776 John Jenkins obtained permission of Comm. Legislature to erect a powder mill in Westmoreland. At a town meeting held March 10, 1776 "Voted, that the first man that shall make fifty weight of good saltpeter in this town shall be entitled to a bounty of ten pounds lawful money to be paid out of the town treasury. Miner's history relates that Mrs. Bethia Jenkins, wife of Lieut. John Jenkins, says, the women took up their floors, dug out the earth, put it in casks and ran water through it, as ashes are leached. They then took ashes in another cask, made ley (sic), mixed the water from the earth with the ley(lye), boiled it, set it out to cool and saltpeter rose to the surface. Charcoal and sulphur were then pounded and mixed with the saltpeter, and powder was thus produced for the public defense. Matthias Hollenback brought a pounder from down the river in his boat to pulverize and mix(?) these ingredients. The women also ran bullets in molds, sometimes melting up their cherished pewter plates, for the purpose

January 1777, these 180 men marched from Wilkes Barre to Morristown to join General Washington's forces. They were known as the Wyoming

Independent Companies, and were attached to ---- Connecticut Regiment under ----.

From Records from C.I.A.C. we find 4th Company, Pittston.

Capt. Solomon Strong Oct. 1775
Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard "
Lieut Jonah Barker "
Ensign Timothy Keyes "
" Wm. Shay "
" Jeremiah Buford "

Comp. Exeter:

Captain Stephen Harding
Lieut. Elisha Scoville
Ensign John Jenkins Jr.

We recognise among these enlistments names prominent in the records of the town settlement of Pittston and Lackawanna. These companies served under General Washington in his New Jersey and Pennsylvania campaigns enduring all the hardships that fell to that impoverished and oft-defeated army, losing many by disease and by battle.

Meantime at Westmoreland a sentiment had arisen that with its best defenders away, and their old enemies the pennamites near at hand on the Southern and the Indians on the Northern border, it were wise to take precautions for defense. At a town meeting held at Wilkes Barre Aug. 24, 1776, it was voted "that it now becomes necessary for the inhabitants of the town to erect suitable forts as a defense against our common enemy". Colonel Butler, Lieutenant Colonel Denison and Major Judd were appointed 'a committee to fix' on proper sites for the forts, lay them out and give direction how they should be built". It was further ordered that they "proceed in building said forts without either fee or reward from ye town".

The people of Kingston had built Forty Fort in 1772 and named it in honor of the Forty men who came to the valley in 1769 as pioneers. This was to be enlarged to an acre or more in extent. Wilkes Barre Fort was built on the public square. Plymouth and Hanover also built blockhouses. John Jenkins, Stephen Harding, the Gardners, their relatives with their friends, proceeded to build a stockade around the home of John Jenkins which was called Jenkins Fort. This was in Exeter township, now West Pittston, about ten or twelve rods above the northwest end of the Ferry Bridge. The site of this house has been washed away by the successive floods in the River, wearing away

the bank. The marker erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution is as near the site as can be reached.

The Wintermutes, or Tory family who had come into the valley erected a Fort one mile below Fort Jenkins close beside a large Spring of purest water which bubbled out from the high bank. The basin of this Spring is to be seen to this day, with its back wall overgrown with bushes. But the mines have drained the trickling streams of water which filled it in early days. Col. John Jenkins, son of the Judge, built his house beside it, after the wars were over. By a great misfortune it burned and the large chimney stack of stone alone remains with its fireplaces on every floor. Joined with the Wintermutes in the erection of this Fort were Elisha Scovell and some other residents of Exeter, the Van Alstyns and others from New Jersey. It was probably built with British money, as a part of the preparation for the anticipated attack of the next year. Not all the families who took refuge in Fort Wintermute were aware of the Tory character, as was evident, when Daniel Ingersoll was proceeding to resist Butler's entrance, July 2nd. The Wintermutes were suspected by the Wyoming settlers but they had committed no overt act of treachery and one of the trials of these patriots was that they were compelled to live in toleration of such.

On the East side of the Susquehanna, opposite Jenkins Fort, was Pittston Fort. This was a place of some strength and of ample space and when completed, afforded refuge in its log houses for all the people of Pittston and Lackawanna and their neighborhoods.

We come now to a description of the most historic place in Pittston-the Fort-the southern part of which is marked by the monument at the intersection of Parsonage and Main Streets. In response to the vote at the town meeting at Wilkes Barre Aug. 24, 1776, that it now becomes nevessary for the Inhabitants of the towns to erect suitable forts as a defense against our common enemy.

Comparing a list of the taxables in Pittston and Lackawanna for the years 1777, '78 and '79, with the list of slain, we find that a large number of Pittston men did find their way to the battlefield, never to return. Though doubtless the names of others should be included, the following list comprises, so far as the writer could obtain it, the names of those in the Battle:

OFFICERS	REMARKS
Capt. Dethie Hewitt	July 1st, left Pittston Fort at call of Col. Dennison to march to Exeter. Sent from Forty Fort July 2nd., on a scout and was wounded in the hand. One of his men, Sam. Finch, was captured at Carpenter's Notch. Finch was killed by the Indians and his body was later brought to Forty Fort. He died in the battle line, trying to rally his command.
Lieut. Timothy Pearce	Left Spaulding's Company and rode all night, arriving in time for the Battle and falling on the field. Was a son-in-law of Obidiah Gore. (Miner,pps.221 & 241)
Ensign Jeremiah Bickford (Bigford)	Ensign in 4th Pittston Company, killed in the river by an Indian, trying to escape after the Battle.

PRIVATES	REMARKS
Christopher Avery	
Joseph Carey	
Jenks Coray	- One of original Proprietors of Pittston
Anson Coray	
Rufus Coray	
Robert Comstock	- of Providence
James Hopkins	- of Providence
Capt. Silas Park	
Abel Palmer	- Lived up the River at Exeter.
Aaron Stark	

****

THE PITTSTON AND LACKAWANNA COMPANIES

In 1775, when the Revolutionary War broke out, the patriotism of the young men in Westmoreland was aroused. Some of them marched to Boston and joined Washington's army there. Others formed themselves into military companies and chose officers, who were confirmed and commissioned by the Continental Congress. One of these latter was the 4th, (or Pittston) Company of the 24th Regiment of the Continental Line.

The officers were: Captain, Solomon Strong; Lieutenants, John Jameson, Jonah Barker, Timothy Pierce; Ensigns, Timothy Keyes and William Shay.

Captain Strong, a Pittston man, recruited the company; and soon after he marched away with about twenty-five strong young men under Col. Wisner, who had come down from Orange County, New York, to recruit good riflemen.

In 1777, we find that new officers were elected, as follows:

Captain: Jeremiah Blanchard

Lieutenant: Timothy Keyes

Ensign: Jeremiah Bickford

Of the above named, Timothy Pierce and Jeremiah Bickford were slain in the battle of July 3rd. Timothy Keyes was killed by the Indians.

The Lackawanna Company was organized at the same time as the Pittston 4th. Its Officers were as follows:

Captain: Elijah Farnham

1st Lieut.: John Sharr

2nd. Lieut.: Johnathan Haskell

Ensign: Elijah Winters

The 3rd. Independent Company was recruited by Dethie Hewitt of Pittston in the Spring of 1778. It's officers were:

Captain: Dethie Hewitt

Lieuts: Timothy Howe and Daniel Gore

Sergeant: William Searle

Captain Hewitt fell, refusing to retreat and summoning his drummer to beat the drum and rally his fleeing men. Lieut. Gore survived the battle, but suffered a shattered left arm.

REFORMADOS.

After building the Forts, all the men old and young formed themselves into train bands. They were greatly aided by the instructions of two deserters from the British Army, Abram Pike and Sergt(?) Boyd. These had become dissatisfied and disgusted with the cruel and oppressive treatment of the Colonies by Great Britain.

The old men in these train bands were called Reformados and were appointed to defend the Forts and do garrison duty while the younger men should go forth to meet the enemy. Thus, the Fort at Plymouth was kept by a company of which old Mr. Bidlack was Captain. At Wilkes Barre the "Reformados" were commanded by Capt. Wm. Hooker Smith with Elisha Blackman for his Lieutenant. At Jenkins Fort, Capt. Harding, father of the boys killed at Exeter commanded and old John Jenkins Esq. was his Lieutenant. At Pittston Fort, a company was commanded by old Mr. Blanchard, father of Captain Jeremiah Blanchard, who was the actual commander when in the Fort and who conducted the capitulation on July 4th, 1778. (see Miner's Hist. App. P.33.)

****

******

THE GRIMES STORY OF WYOMING MASSACRE.

(Mrs. Soper, a descendent of a family in the Wyoming Massacre. The parents both killed. A boy and a girl, their children, escaped. The boy went up the river in a boat with other fugitives and lived and died in northern part of N.Y. State. The girl went down the river with another boat full of people and grew to womanhood near Philadelphia and married a man named Banghart(?) and became the mother of the well known Methodist preacher of those days, George Banghart. Brother and sister never met, but learned of each others existence in extreme old age. Each supposed the other had been slain by Indians. The little girl is my great-great-grandmother. I have never seen this story in any of the local histories or sketches.) E.R.J.

Account of a little girl left at Northumberland in Hollister; account of the Wyoming Massacre in 1778. P. 158 of 1857 edition.

June 3, 1912.

Dear Mrs. Johnson,

A short time ago I received a phone message from Miss Susan

Dickinson saying you wished to hear from me in regard to the Wyoming Massacre incident that I mentioned to you once in a letter, I am very glad to get your address again and be able to answer your letter and request of so long ago. I hope you will pardon me for what must have appeared to you like neglect or discourtesy, but after I received your letter I suffered a long and serious illness and on recovering found much to my regret, that your letter had been mislaid or lost.

About the story, am sorry I can give you so few details, those who would know more about it have passed away and the few members of the family that I know of are in distant states and diffecult to locate; of the branch of the family in York State descendants of the boy who escaped I know absolutely nothing.

The name of the family killed by the Indians at the Wyoming Massacre was Grimes, father and mother and three children, the boy, named Wm. I think, escaped with people who went up the river and finally reached New York State, where he grew up, married and raised a family, living to be a very old man, believing all the time that he was the only survivor of his Father's family; The little girl, Sarah went down the river with a boat full of people and was landed many miles down the river in a wilderness, where she wandered through brush and brier for days till at last nearly perished and her clothing torn to rags she arrived at a settler's cabin in a most pitiable condition. She stayed with them for a time, eventually reaching Philadelphia where she married a man named Banghart. In later years she lived in Warren Co. New Jersey, near Belvidere and at Oxford Furnace with her son George Banghart, a noted Methodist Minister; he was a circuit rider, who was known far and wide in those days, very much beloved and his memory still honored in hundreds of homes. An engraved portrait of him can be found in most of the old homes of Warren Co. and surrounding country. I once tryed to purchase one of them I saw hanging in the parlor of an old lady at Broadway, Warren Co. but she said, "Oh, no! I could not part with that; why he preached my grandmother's funeral sermon."

Another son, Wm. Banghart lived in New Jersey. He had one daughter, named Sarah who married Jacob Weller, their daughter Margaret Weller, was my Mother; so the little girl who escaped from the Indians is my grandmother; grandmother, she lived to be very old always believing that she was the only survivor of her Father's family; my grandfather's home was near that of George Banghart with whom the old lady, his

mother, lived, and my mother when a child used to like to go over there and was often told the story of her escape from the Indians.

One day a drover who had come from New York State passing through the country with a drove of cattle stopped in the village and related a story of a man he had met up there who said he had escaped when a small boy from the Indians at the Massacre of Wyoming Valley, and said his name was Grimes, my grandfather heard the drover's story and concluded that it must be a brother of the old lady. George Banghart's Mother, and his wife's grandmother's investigation proved that it was indeed the little brother that she had last seen fleeing in terror from the savages.

She was then very old and feeble so it was arranged that the brother who was younger should visit her but before he could make the journey she had passed away, so they never met.

Communication was difficult in those days and after the old lady died but little was ever learned of the York State branch of the family. Some of the old lady's descendants still live in Warren Co., New Jersey, some are in Iowa and the middle West.

My name was Baylor, my Mother's name was Weller, her mother's name was Banghart, her father was Wm. Banghart, the son of the little girl, Sarah Grimes, who escaped from the Indians at the Wyoming Massacre in 1778, and I am her great-great-grand-daughter.

I have given you as clearly and concisely as possible the story as it has been related to me by my mother, will be glad to answer any questions you may care to ask and give any further information you may wish and will be pleased to know the result of any investigations you may make in regard to it.

Very sincerely yours,
Annie Baylor Soper,
1628 Capouse Avenue,
Scranton, Pa.

GRIMES

Sarah M. Banghart. William
/
George William
a noted Meth. /
Preacher. Sarah m. Jacob Weller
/
Margaret m. Baylor
/
Annie m. Soper

Scranton, Pa.
Dec. 2d, '07.

My Dear Mrs. Johnson,

My attention has been called to Miss Susan E. Dickinson's letter in the Scranton Tribune of Nov. 21st in regard to a book, "Mary Derwent", to be brought out by the society of which you are president. I wish to subscribe for a copy of the book and hope I am not too late.

I am a descendant of a family who were in the battle of Wyoming, the father and mother were killed and two children, a boy and a girl escaped. The boy went up the river in a boat with other fugitives and lived and died in the northern part of New York State. The girl went down the river with another boat full of people and eventually grew to womanhood down near Philadelphia and married a man named Banghart and became the mother of the well known Methodist minister of those days named George Banghart. Brother and sister never met but learned of each others existence in extreme old age. Each supposed the other had been slain by the Indians. The little girl fled down the river is my great-great-grandmother. I relate this thinking it may interest you under the circumstances as I have never found it in any of the local histories or sketches.

Will be glad to have the book, "Mary Derwent," when published, please send it to,

Annie B. Soper,
1628 Capouse Avenue,
Scranton, Pa.

(Mrs. C. H. Soper.)

APPENDIX

THE GRAVE OF THE MASSACRE VICTIMS.

So late as 1850, farmers plowed up human bones. These were preserved in a chest; and finally in 18-- were interred with the others in the Wyoming Monument.

The full story includes the loss of the site of the common grave for many years and its finding by Philip Jackson. The problem of the location of the bones became part of a political campaign, when nearly all of the survivors of 1778 had passed from the earth. The plowshare had gone over this unmarked grave until all sign of it was obliterated and speculation as to its location was rife. It was known only that it was somewhere on Fisher Gay's farm.

Matthias Hollenback offered Philip Jackson, who had formerly lived on the farm, 25 dollars if he would locate the bones. Hollenback would thus triumph over his political antagonists. Jackson made a long, steel rod and with it he prodded deep into the ground until he struck the bones.

This led to the opening of the grave, when a large gathering looked down upon the skeletons. At the side of the trench stood Elisha Blackman and a few veterans who had marched up to the fateful battle field and had escaped. Affecting addresses were made by Dr. May.

A determination was then formed to erect a monument to the memory of these heroes and to place their bones beneath it. The assembleage immediately adjourned to Helm's tavern at Kingston to form plans and effect an organization.

(Insert here Monument Story)

HEROES WHO SURVIVED.

George Cooper, Miner p. 220 and 223 and 24 p. 220.
Young searles, Miner 226 (Constant Jr.)
Sam'l Carey d. 1842 - buried with military honors.
Lieut. Timothy Howe belonged to Dethie Hewitt's Co.
Capt. Hewitt, Miner 224
Anderson Dana and Stephen Whiton -- killed
Constant Searle Jr. 220, d. at Providence Aug. 4, 1804 at 45 yrs.
Other companies (what?) were at Capouse and Lackaney
Christopher Avery Esq. Justice of Court -- Miner 220
Dan'l Ingersoll -- sent twice -- p. 218
"See!--- said Westover to George Cooper, "our men are retreating. Shall we go?" "I'll have one more shot first" An Indian fired and sprang toward him with tomahawk uplifted. Cooper drew his rifle, fired and the Indian sprang several feet into the air and fell at his feet. "Come" said Westover, "I'll load first" said Cooper and his coolness saved their lives for the pursuit had passed far beyond them. Capt. Hewitt on the right, an officer said to him "This day is lost -- see -- the Indians are 60 rods in our rear. Shall we retreat? "I'll be d---d if I do was the answer "Drummer strike up" cried he, and strove to rally his men. Thus he fought and thus he fell.

****

NAMES OF MEN IN PITSTON FORT

July 4,1778	Fell in Battle
Ishmael Bement	Constant Searle and his son-in-law Dethie Hewitt
------Fletcher	3 Careys
Eleazer West	Saml & Jos. Carey
Richard West	On the organization of Westmorland by the election
David Allen	of 100 officers Barnabas Carey was a Grand Juror
Stephen Allen	James Brown was a Tything man
David Brown	Timothy Keyes also G. J. (Miner p.157)
Barnabas Carey	Jere Blanchard one of Keyes
J. Campbell	What other Pittston man ?
James Finn	A Saml Carey was killed in the battle
Isaac Finch	Stephen Gardner and John and Col. Franklin spoke
Benjamin Jones	against the compromise law (Miner p. 411)
Nathan Jones	Franklin called for Wm. Slocum p. 414

Isiah Halstead
Richard Halstead
Ebenezer Marcy
Frances Phillips
David Sanford

Solomon Bennet was brother to Mrs. Myers. He gave shirt to Hollenback after the battle. For Hist. of Zebulin Marcy, see Miner ap. p. 59
Jenks Corey was Original prop of Pittston. Three brothers Jenks, Anson, and Rufus died in battle.

The Father died in Kingston and was buried in N.E. corner of New Tr where tavern now stands. Miner app. 57. This tavern must be Brace House or Laycock House at Wyoming.

PITTSTON MEN WHO WERE IN THE BATTLE.

Brown
Blanchard
Baldwin, Isaac and Rufus
Bennet, Ishmael ?
Bates, Caleb ?
Cooper, George (escaped)
Carr, Dan'l (captured by Indians)
Carey, Barnabas
Carey, Samuel
Hardings, (Capt. & Sons)
Lieut. Timothy Pierce of Pittston Fort
Sergt. Bickford, killed in river
Zeb. Butler
Dethie Hewitt -- killed
Finch
Benedict, Silas

SURVIVORS OF THE BATTLE.

Lieut Timothy How
George Cooper
Constant Searle, Jr.
And about 15 of Dethie Hewitt Company, who with Col. Zebulon Butler and men enlisted in the Continental army fled, the night of the battle to avoid being taken as prisoners of war.

At a Christmas tree in a large hall with a large fireplace the guests nearest the fire were too warm while those at far end of the table were half freezing and glad to change places and bring their chilled plates of victuals to the warm end of the room, except the old ladies and they had a screen put at their backs.

No roast beef for three years back. It all went to the army but a haunch of venison instead and roast pork, a roast turkey on one table, roast goose on the other with pigeon patties--a new vegetable (celery) Mince pies and dried cherries for raisins.

PITTSTON MEN IN THE SETTLEMENT, AND WARS. (1770-1800)

Capt. Ransom
Isaac Tripp
Zebulin Marcy
Joseph Knapp
Constant Searle 1771
Constant Searle Jr. & Miner
Barnabas Carey
Francis Phillips
Jeremiah Blanchard
Elias Scott
Samuel Carey
Eleazer Carey
Timothy Keyes
Jeremiah Bickford
Isaac Hewitt
Dethie Hewitt
Capt. Elisha Harding
Capt. Stephen Harding
Lemuel Harding
Dr. Wm. Hoke Smith
Thomas, Deodet Erastus Smith
Scoville
Slocum
Jenkins J. Jr. Thos
Saml Miller - had 200 acres
Danl Carr-Capt. tried at Exeter, taken to Canada, held 7 years, was not on lists of 1777 anywhere.
Pittston had John Carr-taxible in Pittston.
Capt. Robert. Carr-up river
John Carr
Mina Robbin
Amos York-up river (Harvey II p. 146, 947)

Abbots
Stark
Williams
Blanchard
Bates, Caleb
Carr, John
Danl. St. John
Hickman
Leach
Ishmael Bennet
McKnight of Lacka
John Stewart
Downing, Cary
Cornelius Atherton
Eliezer Atherton
Elisha Atherton
Cooper, George Dilts
Winters
Tompkins
Thompson
Swallow
Miller
Baldwins
Hurlbuts
Augustine Hunt, made a pitch of 150 acres
Elisha Harding m. Martha Ryder

AFTER THE BATTLE.

****

Early on the morning after the battle, July 4, 1778, Col. John Butler sent a detachment across the river to Pittston Fort (or Fort Brown). Captain Blanchard surrendered on the same terms of capitulation as had been made a Jenkin's Fort. All inmates were marked with black paint on the face and told, if they went outside the fort to carry a white rag on a stick, to insure their safety. The enemy tore down the pickets and plundered the houses. Among the Indians were Tom Turkey, Andrew Turkey, David Lingsing and Anthony Cornelius who had formerly resided in the valley. Some of the squaws accompanied the party. They proceeded to appropriate whatever of women's clothes they found, dressing themselves with back of garments to the front and waving strings of fresh scalps in the faces of the prisoners. Some of the captives were killed or hurt. (Capt. Blanchard's story.)

Only 18 names of men were given in the surrender. It is recorded that about forty were in the fort for defense. They had probably set out on the retreat to New England joining some from down the valley. The Blanchard family have traditions that Capt. Jeremiah with his wife and a party of refugees set out for Conn. By some mishap his two children, a boy and a girl were kept prisoners by the Indians and were tied to a tree a little way above the fort, while the pillaging and destruction were going on. (That tree stood as late as 1870 or later. It was nearly opposite the Ravine Shaft, very old with few limbs.) ? These children were taken to a camp the Indians had at or near Wilkes Barre and the squaws took care of them. The boy's courage was put to a severe test at the first. He was painted as if for death. But he did not show a tremor. The old braves decided he whould be spared and grow up a warrier and he was well cared for in camp.

One day the children felt so eager to go up to Pittston to see the ruins of their home. The men were off on an expedition and an old squaw with a touch of natural compassion gave them a bottle of milk and they set out on their journey. They had walked as far as where Port Griffith now is, when to their surprise and joy they met their own father, on his way to the Indian camp in search of tidings of them. It is unnecessary to picture the joyful meeting and the swift retreat of the little family, over the Pokono to the Connecticut home where the mother waited. Capt. Blanchard had married into one of the Brown families. He was interred in the Fell ground etc.

Before the surrender of Forty Fort, Thos. Bennet, his son Solomon and Andrew left for Stroudsburg.

Col. Butler also dispatched a messenger to Forty Fort on the 4th at 8 o'clock in the morning, requesting Col. Dennison to meet him at Fort Wintermute and agree on terms of capitulation. Col. Dennison immediately responded, taking with him an aged man, Obediah Gore, Esq., and Dr. Lemuel Gustin. He found headquarters near the ruins of the Fort Wintermute. Major Butler insisted that Col. Zebulin Butler and the remains of Capt. Hewitt's company, being continental soldiers, should be surrendered as prisoners of war. (?) Col. Dennison asked and received permission to consult with fellow officers. He hastened to Wilkes Barre interviewed Col. Zebulin Butler and it was decided that he and the seventeen men surviving of Capt. Hewitt's company should immediately leave the valley. He threw a feather bed across his horse's back, took Mrs. Butler behind him and rode away and that night lodged twenty miles from Wilkes Barre. Capt. Hewitt's men went to Shamokin.

Col. Dennison assured Maj. Butler that all the enlisted men were beyond his power and negotiations were resumed. Rev. Jacob Johnson, pastor of the church at Wilkes Barre, and father-in-law of Col. Zebulin Butler, wrote the articles of surrender on a small round table, to be seen in the Hist. room at Wilkes Barre. This was Forty Fort at four o'clock in the afternoon. There was no place to write at Wintermute.

There were some barrels of whiskey among the stores to be surrendered. Maj. Butler advised that these be emptied in the river as he could not control drunken Indians. Before the surrender this was done. The barrels were rolled out to the river bank the heads stove in and the whiskey poured into the river.

Then the two gates of the fort were thrown open, one on the north and the other on the south.

All fire arms were stacked in the middle of the ground. The fort was so spacious there was room in the center to drill a company. Around the sides were the small cabins in which the inmated lived. In one they took the precaution to hide some stores of provisions and locked the door. In searching for fire water, the Indians were about to force open this door when some women cried out "small pox". They had a great dread of this plague and knowing that the disease prevailed, believing it was a pest house, they left it hastily and gave it a wide space.

Col. Dennison with the few weary, worn soldiers from the battle field and Capt. Franklin's company which had arrived from Huntington too late for the battle, made as respectable a showing of defenders as was possible. The enemy marched in four (?) abreast. The Indians through one gate, the British through the other. The dwellers took refuge in their cabins. Queen Esther marched with the Indian chief at the head of the line. He rolled his eyes from side to side watching out for any possible treachery. Queen Esther spoke insolently to Col Dennison. "I told you I'd bring some Indians here they are." Major Butler ordered her to be silent. The tories seized the rifles that were stacked for surrender. Major Butler ordered them to replace them and himself gave them to the Indians as a present from the Yankees, at which they were greatly pleased. Queen Esther's remark is explained by reference to the detention of the two Indian spies in Forty Fort, who had come down the river with their squaws a few weeks earlier pretending a friendly visit to the settlers. It is surmised that Queen Esther had interceded in vain with Col. Dennison for their release, and had made him the threatening promise repeated as she entered the fort.

On the morning after the battle there was a demand for pickaxes and shovels at the ruins of Wintermute and the dead Indians and British were buried in a mound in the swamp marked by some tall trees overshadowing.

The patriot dead lay unburied till Oct. 22, following. Butler and his savages remained in the valley till July 8th. The Indians singly and in groups went everywhere burning barns and houses and crops. Most of the settlers had fled across the mountains for their lives. The Indians pursued and killed
(Taylor) Lackawanna and on the mountain at Indian Spring. It was impossible to attempt to bury the 100 or more men who lay on the field. Mrs. Bertha Jenkins went under a special Tory escort to see if her young husband lay there. She was cautioned "You will see many painful sights, but must make no exhibition of feeling. Whatever you see, be calm, show no emotion." And she went among the dead, saw relatives but not her husband, Lieut. John Jenkins.

More than a week later the widows of Timothy Pierce and John Murphy (they were Gore sisters) with Ellis and Hannah Pierce, maiden ladies, and Mrs. Thos. Bennet went to the battle field to see if they could find the bodies of Pierce and Murphy. They found the bodies of the slain

broiling in the sun and so changed that they could not distinguish one from another. The young widows had besides their husbands, three brothers, Silas, Asa and George Gore, dead on the field, but they had not the satisfaction of identifying their remains. They returned to the fort sick, and broken hearted at the remembrances of the roasting bodies of their relatives and friends.

The settlement was so broken up, the Indians came so frequently to burn and to kill, that no attempt was made until the following October to inter the remains. It was impossible to do so, until the frosts made it possible to remove them.

By Act of Town Meeting, "Camp Westmoreland", Oct. 21, 1778, ordered that there be a party consisting of a lieutenant, two sergeants, two corporals and twenty five men to parade to-morrow morning with arms, as a guard to those who will go to bury the remains of the men who were killed in the late battle at and near the place called Wintermute Fort.

On the 22d day of October therefore, carts were driven along all the way from Forty Fort and the bodies were lifted on wooden spades and forks into them. Before they reached the battle ground the carts were full and a very long trench was dug on the Fisher Gay, afterward the Payne Pettibone farm in Wyoming. The bodies were deposited in it and the mournful procession moved on to the battlefield. Constant alarm from the enemy even in this sad duty prevented any offices of ceremony or respect. The bodies here were lifted into the carts and carried back to the trench until all were buried and only the mound marked the resting place.

One of Sullivan's officers visited the Battle Ground in 1779. Many bones were there. During successive years the plowshare and the scythe passed over the mound until it was nearly lost to recognition.

As late as 1856 farmers were plowing up scattering bones in their fields. These were deposited in a large red chest in the Wm. Swetland's barn. Finally all were interred under the monument erected to their memory in

Few bodies on the field could be identified. Lieut. Perrin Ross was known by a ring he wore. A brother Jeremiah also fell. Some families were fearfully decimated. Mr. Week's family of seven perished. Anderson Dana and his new son-in-law Mr. Whiton, were slain. Old Mr. Searle and his son-in-law, Capt. Hewitt, and two sons of Mr. Bullock likewise. Three of the Innmans, three of the Carey's fell. The Gore's

suffered pitifully, seven -- five sons and two sons-in-law of Obediah Gore Esq. Daniel, Lemuel, Asa and Silas. The sons-in-law were Timothy Pierce and John Murfee. Anderson Dana, Timothy Pierce and Constant Searle were resident in Pittston in 1772.

Three of the Gore sons were slain. Samuel escaped unhurt. Daniel with his left arm shattered. Another son, Lieut. Obediah Gore was with Washington's army.

Names of the slain, Miner -- p242

All the families living in Pittston and its neighborhood were assembled within the Fort the day of the battle of Wyoming. The full garrison consisted of about forty men under Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard. Other officers of the company were Solomon and Strong, but was marched away with Obediah Gore of Kingston and 20 or 30 others. Lexington and Bunker Hill first called to arms and Col. Wisner came to the valley to recruit men for continental service. Lieut. Jonah Barker was another. Lieut. Timothy Keyes who with Capt. Blanchard surrendered the Fort on the morning of July 4th. Ensign Wm. Shay was a Pittston man.
Sergeant Jeremiah Beckford

(incomplete)

The survivors of the battle belonging to the Continental army who escaped after the battle.

15 or 20 survivors of Capt. Hewett's, including Lieut. Tim Howe, Capt. Spaldings, Westmoreland Ind. Co. in continental service.

These must get to places of safety, also Col. Zeb Butler, wife and two year old boy (Zeb. Jr.)

Among the survivors were:
Lieut. Phineas Pierce
Sergeant Thos. Seill
James Stark, Jr. The houses of these were first burnt.
Constant Searle, Jr.
Rufus Bennet

Sunday july 5 -- See Harvey II p 1037
Very interesting details of surrender p 1034.

AFTER THE BATTLE
AND
SULLIVAN'S EXPEDITION.

Colonel Dennison and a few settlers in Forty Fort, trusting to the terms of capitulation, remained in the Valley after the retreat of Butler's forces, hoping to care for such crops as had not been destroyed. But almost immediately came news of the killing of Hickman and his family, of Leach, and of St.John in Lackawanna, so Col. Dennison and all with him abandoned the settlement, some fleeing down the river, some through the swamp to the mountains. The Valley now presented a wide scene of desolation. Scarcely a house or barn remained standing; and save for the few in the Fort at Wilkes Barre, not a white man remained in the Valley.

Col. Butler implored Washington for aid to save the remaining crops. Early in August, he joined Capt. Spalding at Stroudsburgh, who was then in command of the remainder of the united Independent Companies of Wyoming. These returned to the Valley with all haste, built a new stockade at wilkes Barre which they called Fort Wyoming and preceeded to sow corn, late though it was and to gather in what remained of the harvest. But the Indians still hovered around and descended upon the scattered farms. John Abbott, of Plains, who had escaped death in the battle and a neighbour, John Williams, were shot and scalped in their fields.

At aboutthe same time on the Lackawanna, Isaac Tripp, Sr., his grandson, Isaac, with two young men named Keyes and Hocksey were made prisoners. Keyes and Hocksey were killed and scalped; the younger Tripp was carried captive to New York; and the elder Tripp marked with the safety paint, was released. Shortly afterwards he was obliged to attend a session of the Assembly at Hartford, so washed the paint from his face. On his return, he was working in the harvest fields; and there he was shot and scalped.

On August 24th, Luke Swetland and Joseph Blanchard were carried off from Nanticoke by the Indians. In the midst of such dangers, it was impossible to continue the harvesting. Therefore Col. Hartley, of the Pennsylvania Line, was ordered to join Col. Butler; and together they led a force to Sheshequin, up the river, where the Indians had pitched their lodges. This village the troops utterly destroyed; killing a few of the Indians and recovering horses, cattle and other

stolen property. Three of Col. Hartley's troop were slain and several wounded.

October frosts came; but still the dead from the massacre of July 3rd., lay unburied on the field. On October 21st., an order was issued at Camp Westmoreland for a detail of twenty-five men to parade next morning with arms, as a guard for those who should go up to bury the dead. They set out from Forty Fort with two carts and wooden pitch-forks and spades. As they proceeded, they came upon scattered bodies that lay where they had fallen in flight. All were shrivelled by the intense heat of the sun and blackened by exposure to the weather. They were unrecognizable and of so light weight that they were easily lifted into the carts by putting a fork under the knees and a spade under the body.

When the carts reached the place where now stands the Wyoming Monument, they were filled, so a trench was dug and all the bodies laid in a common grave. The carts then proceeded towards the battle ground; and as soon as they were again filled, they returned and placed the bodies in the long trench until all were gathered and given sepulture. The grave was then filled, not to be opened until fifty years later.

Bodies found afterwards scattered through the fields, were burned where they lay. A visitor to the battle-field a little later stated that dismembered bodies bore mute testimony to the cruelty of the foe.

(Note: One year later, in June, bodies were yet unburied. Nathan Davis, of one of the New Hampshire Regiments quarteered below Wilkes Barre while the army was assembling wrote: "This part of the country has been lately pillaged and burnt over by the Indians, its inhabitants murdered and scalped. Here and there lies a human skeleton bleaching in the woods or the open field, the marks of the tomahawk upon it". In a wigwam he found hanging side by side, scalps of gray-haired sires and suckling babes. If the soldiers needed anything to nerve them for the vengeance they sought, surely it was here. See also opening of the grave in Appendix)

Notwithstanding Col. Hartley's decisive blow at Sheshequin in September, numerous depredations by the Indians followed closely upon each other. Col. Hartley left one hundred men in the Fort at Wilkes Barre when he withdrew, but these could not guard against the murderous bands that found concealment in the rocks and gaps of the mountains surrounding the Valley. Men went armed to their work, but in spite of precautions, a large number were killed by the lurking foe.

(Note: This list is as follows:

October: Three at work on Kingston Flats.
Wm. Jamieson at Plymouth.

John Perkins at Plymouth.
Wm. Jackson at Nanticoke.
---Lester at Nanticoke.
Old Mr. Hegeman.

November: Captain Carr.
Philip Goss.
Robert Alexander.
Amos Parker.
Isaac Inman.
The Utley family, of aged mother and three sons.
Nathan Kingsley, made prisoner -one son killed and one captured with Frances Slocum.
Johnathan Slocum.
Isaac Tripp.
Wm. Sowers.

In view of this situation, General Washington conceived the idea of sending a large force of 5000 men with full equipment and supplies, into the heart of the enemy's country in New York, to destroy the Long House and to scatter their Council Fire. On the lakes in central New York were their villages and on the sloping banks were their orchards and fields of grain and corn. To destroy these would be to break the power of the Iroquois, both by force of arms and by starvation. Gen. Schuyler had conceived this plan and forseen its effect after the defeat of Burgoyne, at the time Butler was preparing for the Invasion of Wyoming. Schuyler had advocated this expedition, but Washington was then too busy watching the British in Philadelphia and could not spare the force necessary for the undertaking. But now he decided upon the movement and planned the campaign.

Though the Continental Army then numbered 15,000 men, it was decided that an aggressive campaign of this kind could not be accomplished with less than 5000 energetic and determined men. The command of this army was first offered to General Gates, but he fortunately declining the position, Washington was free to choose Major General John Sullivan.

(Note: When appointed a brigadier General by Congress in June, 1775, John Sullivan was living at Hurham, New Hampshire and engaged in the practice of law. Acquitting himself with honor at the seige of Boston, he was placed in command of the army in Canada. Badly defeated at Three Rivers, he managed his retreat to New York with the greatest skill. Promoted to a major general he found himself a prisoner during the battle of Long Island, but was soon exchanged and able to serve in the battles of Brandywine, Trenton, Princeton and Germantown. On August 29, 1778, he soundly thrashed the British at Butt's Hill, and afterwards withdrew from Rhode Island. Exactly one year later he was to fight the battle of his life and win the laurels of a conqueror.)

The army organized for this venture comprised the main body, or center under Sullivan and a right and a left wing. The left wing was composed of 600 men under Col. Broadhead and was to advance from Pittsburgh into Northern Pennsylvania and Southwestern New York to chastise the Indians there. The right wing, under General James Clinton, was to move from Schenectady, or "Old Dorp", as the palisaded town was then called, up the Mohawk Valley to Canajoharie, then across country to Lake Otsego and thence by the Susquehanna to Tioga Point, there to unite with the main army under Sullivan, who was to move up the river from Easton.

Thus the Continental Army, supported on either flank, east and west, would be prepared to carry out its project of annihilating the power and posessions of the Six Nations. Only two or three inspirations of Napoleon himself have excelled this piece of Military strategy, that has been aptly termed one of the three great episodes of the Revolution, ranking in importance with Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga and that of Cornwallis at Yorktown. Deeming themselves secure in their forest strongholds, firm in the belief of their own power, this movement went so far beyond the wildest dreams of the Indian mind and was executed with such prudence and precision that the people of the Long House were not more physically overwhelmed than morally awed. The spirit of their long-established brotherhood was broken, as by some potent wizadry; and their tribal ideals and caste were blighted forever.

The Winter of 1778-79 was occupied in preparing for this expedition. Information concerning the Indian towns, their strength, their location and the difficulties of reaching them, was gathered from all possible sources. The feasability of the river route was decided upon and means of transportation and subsistence arranged. Every precaution was taken to secure the success of the undertaking, that no untoward event might make the blow less decisive.

But in March, 1779, the Indians descended again upon the Valley. On the Kingston Flats, they captured old Mr. Bidlack, the father of Capt. Lames Bidlack, who had been killed in battle, and drove off 60 head of cattle and 20 horses. Less than a month later, 250 warriors appeared before the Fort, in which were a garrison of but 100 men and demanded its surrender; but the four-pounder cannon was fired at the invaders, their chief was killed and they withdrew from the

attack. Part of this force later surrounded the house of Thaddeus Williams, but they were repulsed by gallant Sergeant Thomas Williams and his boy brother.

Kingston Flats were again attacked, this time in broad daylight, when another band appeared before the fort and killed Elihu Williams, Lieut. Buck and Stephen Pettibone. Frederic Follet they left for dead in the fields, scalped and pierced with spear wounds but thanks to the skill of Dr. Wm. Hooker Smith, he recovered and lived a long and useful life.

After these attacks, Colonel Butler received a reinforcement of 300 men; and although the Indians were now less bold, they still hovered on the borders of Wyoming like wolves about the sheep-fold. Major Powell was also sent to Wyoming with 200 men; and during April and May, 1779, much excitement prevailed in Wyoming, for one regiment arrived from York County, Pennsylvania and another from New Hampshire; and in the meantime, General Sullivan was gathering four regiments at Easton and had sent a detachment forward to cut a wagon road through the forest for the artillery. (Note: This road is still called Sullivan's Road.)

On June 18th, 1779, the army left Easton and arrived at Wyoming on the 23rd., encamping on the river flats below Wilkes Barre to await ammunition and provisions from Philadelphia. Then next day, June 24th.,a large fleet of 120 boats arrived, loaded with these supplies; and they were welcomed by the thunder of artillery and the music of Major Powell's band.

These stores and transports had been ordered by General Washington long before, but the Governor had failed to act and General Sullivan with his army was kept waiting for nearly two months. When finally they did arrive, they were far short of what he had demanded. So inadequate were these supplies that when the army finally did move, for 25 days they were on half-rations, many were without shirts, many were made sick and some died from exhaustion

(Note: This dilatory course on the part of the Governor was doubtless encouraged by the attitude of two influential parties in Pennsylvania who did not approve of this expedition and used every means in their power to hinder it. One of these parties was the Quakers, who were opposed to war on principle and used this as their ostensible reason. The other party were the Pennamites, who had bought large tracts of land up the river for the Penn Government at a few cents an acre; and so long as the Indians dominated the region and kept the Yankees from asserting their Connecticut claims, they were selfishly secure.)

Although 300 men were encamped on the plains of Wyoming, so bold were the Indians that a man was shot at twice only two miles from the Fort. Indeed, not a movement of the Americans escaped the observation of the British and Indians. Seeing the size of the force and knowing that they had no force strong enough to meet it in open battle, they resorted to strategy, attacking Sullivan's army on both wings, hoping thereby to divert his center to their defence. One body of warriors went to the West Branch, killing and burning as far as Northumberland. Another party, under Brant attacked the Minnisink settlement in Orange County, New York and exterminated it; destroyed the settlement at Lackawaxen; and returned with some prisoners and twice the number of scalps that he had warriors. Repeated appeals for aid came to General Sullivan from the East and from the West, but he was but the more resolute in his determination to carry out the campaign on the original lines and ordered the artillery into the boats and all haste made for departure.

The army was divided into seven divisions--the first under Colonel Dearborn; the second, under General Maxwell; the third, under General Hand; the fourth, a strong detachment of riflemen under Major Parr, in which were enlisted a number of Wyoming expert riflemen; the fifth, Capt. Spalding's Independent Wyoming Companies, too late to meet the savages on July 3rd., of the previous year, but thirsting now for vengeance; the sixth, Capt. Schott's company of riflemen; and the seventh, Captain John Franklin's Wyoming Volunteers. The chief scout of the army was Lieut. John Jenkins, of Spalding's Independent Company, who had escaped from Fort Niagara. Who knew better than he the mountain trails and passes and the difficulties of the way?

On the Susquehanna voyaged a flotilla of 214 boats, carrying 100 men, the artillery, the ammunition and heavy baggage, liquor, flour and salt provisions. On foot went 3500 men in Indian file, among them being Capt. Spalding's Riflemen covering the left Flank of the column; 1500 pack horses (Note: These horses, weakened and disabled on the return journey, were put to death at the place now called "Horseheads" in New York State.) and 700 cattle to furnish fresh meat. In addition to these, Col. Butler, with 1200 men, had been left behind to garrison the fort at Wilkes Barre.

The column of the army, parallel with the boats, extended for a mile, (Miner). Colors were flying, fifes shrilling and bands of music on the land and on the boats filled the air with martial sweetness.

As the fleet neared Monockanock Island, where perished so many of the fugitives from the battle-field, the music changed to a solemn dirge. Then followed a moment's silence, after which the fleet and army proceeded on its errand of vengeance, for the wrongs committed on these shores.

The road followed by the army is now known as the "Back Road" and it leads through Plains, Inkerman, Sebastopol and Pittston. Col. Hubley kept a journal of the march in which we find the following: with regard to the village of Wilkes Barre, then consisting of 70 log houses:

"Two thirds of the inhabitants are widows and orphans, who, by the vile hands of savages, have been cruelly deprived of husbands, indulgent parents and affectionate friends, besides being plundered of all furniture and clothing. In short, they are utterly dependent of the public and are become objects of charity."

At another time he writes:

"I was struck on this first day's march with the ruins of a number of houses, chiefly built of logs, and inhabitated, I have been informed, by an industrious set of people, poor, but happy until the British tyrant let loose upon them the savages of the wood, who not only destroyed and laid waste their cottages, but also in cold blood massacred and cut off the inhabitants, not sparing even the grey locks or the helpless infant."

And again:

"After a march of 10 miles, arrived on a most beautiful plain, covered with abundance of grass and excessive rich soil, thro which ran a delightful stream of water known as the Lackawanna. Crossed and encamped for the night on the north side." This was on Saturday, July 31st., 1779.

(Note: This was the John Phillips farm, now known as the Coxton Farm, from which Phillips had been driven the year previous. Before his occupation, it was the site of the Indian town of Assurughny.)

The boats arrived at this point at noon; and at 2 P.M., the army again moved forward. Upon entering the narrows, the Light Corps was detached and sent over the "almost inaccesible mountain" (Campbell's Ledge Mountain) to guard against any ambucade or Marathon-like disaster. The path through the Narrows was exceedingly bad. The army struggled along all night before they reached a camping place seven miles up the river, probably near the present village of Ransom.

Here they remained over that day (Monday) to send back pack horses and men to gather up the scattered stores lost on the night march.

(Note: Col. Hubley wrote in his journal an enthusiastic description of a beautiful cataract called "Spring Fall -- 90 feet high from its top to the ledge of flat rock where it struck and then rolled gently down to the Susquehanna." He also described Buttermilk Falls, just as we see it today and called it by the same name. He tells of the narrow path along the mountain side with a sheer precipice of 100 feet. Some of the animals of the expedition were dashed to death here.)

For sixty-five miles, the land force trudged through a rough country that sorely taxed their health and strength, but did not sap their courage. On August 9th., the army reached Sheshequin, the town on Queen Esther's Plains, that had been burned the previous Autumn by Col. Hartley. On the 10th., they halted about a mile below the junction of the Chemung and Susquehanna Rivers; and here they had to ford the river, which they accomplished by locking arms stepping waist-deep into the water and bracing themselves against the swift current, with cartridge boxes held aloft on bayonets, working their way to the other side. Going westward a mile they again forded the Chemung River and encamped at Tioga Point, that southern outpost and strategic point of the heart of the Confederacy. Here were established the headquarters of the army and the base of supplies for the further march westward; and here also, on August 22nd., General Clinton joined forces with the main body, he having come down the river in a fleet of 200 boats. The combined forces now numbered 5000 men.

Four days later, on August 26th., all preparations having been made, the combined divisions began the more perilous part of their march. Ahead went the surveyors and chain bearers, then the axeman of the engineer corps, to chop down trees and to improvise a road for the artillery. Flanking detachments guarded them on the right and left; and Clinton's brigade, holding the post of honor, brought up the rear. They went forward but three miles the first day. During their third days toilsome march, the men in the two right flanking forces beheld from the westward slope of the mountain they had scaled, columns of smoke rising in the clear air to the Westward, near Newtown (now Elmira). Over there they knew they would meet the enemy. At twilight they encamped on the site of the Indian town of New Chemung.

Warned by the Indians in the Wyoming Valley of the start of this expedition and apprised of its progress by their scouts, the Senecas had sent out a call for reinforcements; and in response, Brant, Butler, Johnson and Macdonald and all their available forces, 100 in all

hastened from Geneva where the Seneca runner had found them, to Newtown. Of the 300 white men in this band, about 100 were New York Tories and the rest were Canadian Rangers and British Regulars. Quickly they built hidden breastworks, carring a zig-zag line of timber and earthen defences up the side of a hill and well on towards the top for a mile or more. The whole fortification had the form of a V, with the point towards the advancing Continentals. Pits were also dug along the only available path and all the defences were masked by newly-cut trees and foliage, great care being taken that no bright, new chips from the axes or any traces of their presence should be seen from the side towards Sullivan.

The hope of the Indians and Tories lay not in a pitched battle, but that the Continentals would charge their intrenchments and that they then could pour into them an enfilading fire from three or four Indian houses reserved as bastions outside the lines.

But fortunately, their designs miscarried. A young sharpshooter in Major Parr's division climbed to the topmost limb of a tall tree and from there detected the whole design of the enemy, which he promptly reported to his superior officer. Sorties were made by the Indians, in the hopes of luring the invaders within the toils, but their designs now being evident, the Continentals refused to be lured from their concealment. An essay on a larger scale was made by two hundred Indians and as many Tories painted to resemble the savages, when they rushed from the angles of the breastworks, whooping and firing as they came, but their volleys were returned with interest and no break of shelter, so that they sullenly returned to their own lines.

In the meantime, Sullivan sent a flanking party to strike the army in the rear, but in getting across a swamp, this party was delayed somewhat, so that the vistory was less decisive than it would otherwise have been had Poor and Dubois been able to carry out their orders more quickly.

But at three in the afternoon, Proctors nine guns belched forth solid shot at first, then grape and canister, while two bomb howitzers throwing five and a half inch shells, demolished the breastworks, killed and wounded many Indians and carried panic into their ranks. A little later, Brant attacked Col. Reids Second New Hampshire Regiment, which had in some way become isolated from the main force but Dearborn and Ganesvoort and other forces came quickly to the rescue, so that Brant was repulsed. Victory for the Continentals and utter rout for

the Indians and Tories was now the order. Pursued for two miles, many were killed and the whole force demoralized and in full flight. By six oclock, Sullivan's army was encamped at the Indian Village of Newtown; and although the battle of the day just passed was not a very sanguinary one, yet it made the further work of demolition comparatively easy.

On the 1st. of August, the expedition went forward to lay 40 Indian towns in ruins, to destroy more than 200,000 bushels of corn in the fields and in granaries, to hack down wonderful peach and apple orchards and to demolish beautiful gardens. From Newtown, up through the Genessee and through the lake country, cruel devastation was wrought, Sullivan's determination being to utterly destroy the power of the Six Nations. On the last day of September, the lame and weary soldiers returned to Tioga Point, where Fort Sullivan had been built in their absence. Here they rested awhile and recovered their strength.

On the 4th. of October, the return began. The victorious army came down the river in boats, having altogether 320 of them. It is needless to say that this mode of proceedure was easier than the arduous trails that they had followed on their northward march over the same route a few months earlier. When they reached Wyoming, great rejoicing prevailed. October 17th. was appointed a day for Thanksgiving; and at Easton, a sermon was preached to the several brifades before they disbanded.

It was now believed that the Indians were effectually subjugated; but the painful truth is that for three years following, from 1780 to 1783, Wyoming was the frequent victim of murder, conflagration torture, captivity and all the cruelties of Indian depredations. In March, Thomas Bennett, his young son, Andrew, and Libbens Hammond were captured by Six Indians and carried up the river into the deep forest. Hammond was one of those who had escaped at Bloody Rock, after the Massacre. The same day, Asa Upson was shot in Hanover. A few days later, two men making maple sugar were attacked, one being shot and the other carried into captivity. Josiah Rogers, a mere boy, was also carried off. (Miner, Page 281)

THE WAR OF THE TWO COCKADES.

James Gordon's Letter No. III.

In 1799, the Democrats elected Thos. Mc Kean, Governor of Pennsylvania. This was their first triumph under the Constitution of 1795. Mc Kean was a foreign birth which was prejudicial to him in the Valley, of independent Americans hating everything which savored of Europe and kings. He had acted as Chief Justice, too, and some of his decisions had been very arbitrary.

Soon after assuming authority he proceeded to exercise it. As Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the State of Pennsylvania, he commanded that all officers, commissioned and non-commissioned wear at all General trainings the tri-colored cockade. The general government had already adopted the Black Cockade surmounted by the American Eagle, on parade.

At this time Robert Faulkner was Colonel of the Lackawanna Regiment. He was a man of ability, an ardent democrat, and the "Wild Yankees" kept close watch of his military procedure. The old spirit of antagonism to anything savoring of Pennamite dictation was still smouldering in the yankee breast of those Lackawanna settlers, Ebenezer Slocum, brother of William, was Captain of the Capouse Company General Training Day came and the various militia companies assembled on the parade ground, the site of the demolished Pittston Fort. Col. Faulkner had taken pains to promulgate the order to wear the tri-colored Cockade, and great was his surprise to see the large majority present themselves for training wearing the black cockade. Persistent in their disobedience he could only order the offenders discharged and under arrest. The drill proceeded but insubordination ruled the day.

Reuben Taylor proclaimed loudly that he had fought on land and sea, wearing the black cockade and he would never wear any other. William Slocum asserted that his sympathies were with the insurgents. He had suffered imprisonment in defiance of Pennsylvania's arbitrary rule and was prepared to sustain this Revolution now -- The Capouse boys made it known that they had no veneration for Pennsylvania laws. In short the old Pennamite yankee antagonism awoke and a spirit of war prevailed.

Colonel Faulkner's good sense prevented a riot, but he was obliged to take notice of the infringement of military discipline. A Court Martial was ordered at Faulkner's tavern.

Nathan Palmer, Esq., was judge. Advocate, Roswell Wells and Ebenezer Bowman, Counsel. A large crowd attended, all wearing the black cockade. Seeing this Col. Faulkner would have dissolved the court but the judge would not permit. The offenders were sentenced to be publicly reprimanded at the next Parade Day. When that time came, Col. Faulkner was absent and so were the offenders. The matter was not pressed farther but the tri-colored and the black cockades became for that year respective badges of the democratic and Federalist parties. Like the white and the Red Roses in the struggle of England's rival Houses of Lancaster, and York, these emblemes were the challenge to combat not of swords but of those mightier weapons, the tongue and the pen.

Ebenezer Slocum, established Mills and a Distillery at Roaring Brook (Scranton).

He was an amiable kindly man not ambitious for office. He established interests which gave employment to many men. His sawed lumber found a market down the Susquehanna at Columbia and Baltimore. He never had disagreements with his employees.

****

A MEMORABLE TRAINING DAY. (DR. THROOP)

Swords had been turned into ploughshares, literally. The spirit of war had died out and the need of Training Day with it. The yearly drill was a mere perfunctory duty, mostly neglected.

In 1842, Benjamin Griffin was elected Captain of Militia and a sprig of the law from Wilkes Barre served notice on all settlers of military age to report armed and equiped to the company captain at Hyde Park. This announcement was served in Summer, when all were busy on their farms; and there was a suspicion that the Wilkes Barre man was making fun of his rustic neighbours up the Valley; that led the young men to plan a burlesque.

The legal provision of the law was that there must either be drill done by all taxibles of military age, or else military taxes must be paid. Accordingly, a mock company, called the "Still House Rangers" was organized. Bill Ray, a tinner, was elected captain; and he appeared in a suit of tin armor. There were twenty-five in the company and all carried Gallon jugs. Their fife and drum corps was equipped with horns and tin-pans; and they marched repeating "Hay-foot; Straw-foot" and one of their evolutions was: Foot to knee; knee

to seat; jug to mouth; drink!

This burlesque company marched in front of the assembled countryside and the officers who were striving to be dignified, with the result that no other parade or drill could command attention, and the day was fruitless of any instruction in military tactics.

****

****

PITTSTON SOLDIERS IN THE WHISKEY INSURRECTION

In May 1799, Capt. Saml. Bowman led 75 men volunteers at President Adams call to repel a prospective invasion of the French. These Volunteers marched to the delaware thence to Newburg and remained till June 14, 1800.

Pittston names: Asa Harris, Benj. C. Om---(?), David Curtis, B. Hazzard, Elias Thompson, Ichabod Tompkins, John Stark, Phineas Underwood, Samuel Harris, Stephen Brown, Samuel Evans, Robison - Pierce's Annals.

****

WAR OF 1812

Artillery Co. - May 5, 1813: Phineas Underwood, Geo. W. Smith, Samuel Parrish, Isaac Hollister, James Bird, Daniel Hoover, Jas. W. Barnum.

45th Regiment-Co. 1st: Wm. Stark Jr., John Rosencranz, -----(?) Miller, Geo. Gardner, Aaron Phillips, Syms Blanchard, Hyram Blanchard, Robt. Vaughn, Ebenezer Marcy, Wm. Polen, Saml. Lefrance, Hos--(?) Hosea Phillips, Thos. Benedict, Jared Marcy, Saml. Mott, Benj. Knapp, Geo. W. Benedict, John Thompson, Saml. Cary Jr. and others.

****

For Mexican War names, see Pierce's Annals in Hist. Rooms-App. J etc. (Capt. Jos. Hileman was one)

SCHOOLEY"S BATTERY.

Schooley's Battery was organized in 1862 by David Schooley, who was made captain; and enlisted to serve until the war was ended. At the eleventh anniversary of the organization, speeches were made by Major A. P. Barber; Morris Hughes; John Stone, who had been cook; Benjamin Emigh; and Joseph m. Alexander.

In his speech, Stone asserted that he had never killed a man during his entire service, because he was the cook for the Battery. One quickly responded: "Aye, John; but you cooked the food of the men who did the killing!"

Benjamin Emigh, Post Master of Pittston, told in an amusing vein of the red-tape that hampered the early attempts to mobilize the army at the front and of his own experiences. He spoke of the kindness and courtesy of the men after he lay sick in hospital, after he lost a leg. By some chicanery, he was transferred from Battery M (Schooley's Battery) to another, so that he did not share all the time the society of the Pittston boys. He was one of a large number of young men clerks in Chas. Law's store at the corner of Main and Broad Streets before his enlistment. Others were Cyrus Campbell, Albert Ink(?), Albert Barber and Hugh Crawford (?) All the fine, good-principled, noble young men of the town were among the first to go to the front.

Emigh told how, during his long stay in the hospital at Washington, the doctors had given up hope of his recovery and told him to ask for anything he wanted to eat or drink. He called for pork and beans; and his improvement began from that time. He lived for many years afterwards, going about with a crutch. He would not wear a "Government leg" and his wound never healed. Finally it sapped his strength and he died from the effects of it.

After his recovery he was made Postmaster at Pittston, and recieved all the honor and respect the citizens could bestow in appreciation of his services and his sufferings in the service.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS

---Delivered at---

THE UNVEILING OF THE HARDING MEMORIAL

We are met here today not only to honor the memory of Benjamin and Stukley Harding, whose names appear upon this Inscription Plate, but also to revive our knowledge of history and to recall to memory the heroism and the sacrifices of the pioneer settlers who gave us this beautiful Valley as an inheritance.

Many of these were Quakers from Rhode Island -- men of the Roger Williams type of piety, who believed that they were the emissaries of the Lord Jehovah, sent to redeem this wilderness for Him. They settled here in these "Endless Mountains" and lived in amicable relations with their Indian neighbours for many years, until the policy of King George the Third of England, turned friendship to hatred and security to destruction. Among these who thus reclaimed the wilderness were the Hardings, the Suttons, the Scovills, the Jenkins, the Gardners, the Hadsall, the Coray and the Jones families; and in doing reverence to the memory of one, we do reverence to them all.

In June, 1778, these families were driven from their farms to take refuge in stockades, from whence they went to their daily labours with muskets in their hands. When the crucial day of July 3rd. arrived, they sent their stalwart men to drive back the invader, or to perish in the attempt.

Those pioneers have long since passed from mortal scenes. Their children, too, have died. Their descendents have moved to new and distant homes; and strangers have come in to till these fields and reap the yearly harvests. That the memory of these brave men may not be forgotten, the Daughters of the American Revolution have set this stone here, to teach the present and the future generations the story of their heroism. Well does Macaulay, the Historian, say: "A people which takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants."

But let us refresh our memories by recalling the historical events that took place in the field east of yonder picturesque little church and the tragedy of the same day, so closely associated with the story of the Hardings, that occurred less than a mile distant from here. These were but the opening shriek of savage warfare; the fanfare of the tomahawk, the scalping knife, the torture stake and the scalp-

dance, with a background of the glitter and pomp of British uniforms worn by Johnson's Royal Greens and Butler's Tory Rangers. This stone marks only the headlines of the chapter; and it stands, not only as a memorial to two brave young men, but also as an index, pointing to that sreies of awful tragedies which occurred in this neighbourhood on that fateful 30th of June.

The plain statement of historical facts is, that Benjamin and Stukley Harding were killed by Indians in their cornfield; John Gardner was made prisoner; and two boys--John Harding, and another named Rogers, escaped by running into the thick woods. But this does not satisfy the inquiring mind. Who were the actors in this bloody drama? When, and how, and why, were the victims slain? Whence came their slayers and why? And what happened afterwards?

To answer the queries, it is necessary to go back and touch upon a few points in the previous history of the Wyoming Valley. But first, let us introduce the Actors in the Drama,Dramatis Personae.

The Hardings, who were killed, were sons of Capt. Stephen Harding, commanding officer in Jenkins Fort, at Pittston Ferry. Benjamin was 25 years old and Stukley, 23. John Harding, the one who escaped and the boy Rogers, whose first name is unknown, had gone with the men to ride the horses before the plow, or to stand guard.

John Gardner, who was captured, was an uncle of the three Harding boys. He was a man of family, having left a wife and five children in Jenkins Fort that morning, when he and the others came up the river to till their fields.

Other men had also come from the Fort that morning to care for their crops. Down at the mouth of Sutton's now called Coray's creek, was Hadsall's tannery, where worked that day James Hadsall, Sr., his son-in-law, Daniel Carr; and a negro servant named Quocko. On a large island in the river, opposite the mouth of the creek which is now partly washed away, were James Hadsall Jr., Ebenezer Reynolds, his brother-in-law; a young lad, John Hadsall; and a man named Wallen, all of whom were hoeing corn.

The attacking party were Tories and Indians. Of the tories, we know the names of two--Michael Shores and Jacob Anguish. There were probably others also. The Indians were the fierce Oneidas and Senecas of the Six Nations, who had come down the river that day in a fleet of boats, bringing an army of 1100 British, Tories and Indians, all under the supreme command of Major John Butler, who bore the King's

Commission. This attacking party was a detachment Major Butler had sent down the river to scout, forage and plunder; and to secure and sequester all river craft at the head of the Valley; while he, with the main force, cut off the bend of the river by marching through the notch in the mountains in the neighborhood of the Harding Cemetery and encamped that night back of Lookout Mountain, opposite Fort Wintermute.

Having thus introduced the actors in this drama, we must now present the stage and its settings by a brief review of the times and the circumstances of the Wyoming settlement, as they were in 1778. This is the background of the scene, from which these events took place here stand out today, in bold relief.

In 1776, Congress declared the Independence of the American Colonies; and nowhere had this action been received with louder acclaim than in the Wyoming settlement. From Providence to Pittston and from these farms in Exeter to Nanticoke the stalward men formed companies to drill in military tactics. They were attached to the 24th. regiment of the Connecticut Line. The men of this neighbourhood formed the 7th. Exeter Company; and chose Stephen Harding, Sr., for its Captain.

Among the young men who marched away after the firing at Concord of "the shot that echoed round the world", were the pick of the defenders of Wyoming. One of these was Stephen, the eldest son of Captain Harding. Later, a call from Congress for volunteers, brought out two companies of 84 men each from the settlement; and under Captains Durkee and Ransom, they joined Washington at Morristown and followed him through the campaigns of New Jersey, Germantown, Brandywine and Valley Forge. These companies had been organized for "home defence" and were called "Independent Companies" by Congress. They had to provide their own acoutrements; but when Washington was sore beset by the enemy, they marched away from their homes and joined him, believing that on the first approach of danger to Wyoming, they could return to its defence. In her unbounded patriotic zeal, Wyoming furnished eight times her quota; and then, deprieved of her strong defenders, the old men and boys formed themselves into companies and practiced military manouvres; and when the battle was imminent the old men did garrison duty, and the boys jointed the ranks of the fighters.

Col. Dennison, who had resigned from the army and had come home to take charge of the military situation in Wyoming, was in command

at Forty Fort; and under his direction, scouts were kept in the passes, and watched the Indian trails. But Indians were not the only enemy the settlers had to contend with. The old feud between the settlers under Pennsylvania's grants, and those under Caonnecticut's, still smouldered, though it had been put aside, in the commons truggle for independence; This old feud led some of the inhabitants of the Valley, to give aid and sympathy to the British cause. These men were the Tories, hated and shunned by the community to such a degree, that residence in the valley was hardly endurable; and many of them withdrew to the upper waters of the Susquehanna, and to New York State, and joined themselves to Major Butler's forces.

The Indians, during the first years of the Revolution, had remained neutral. Those who lived in Wyoming were friendly with the settlers. They used to visit the home of James Sutton, where now stand the Coray residences, and amuse his children with their good-natured antics. They brought their corn to be ground at his mill; and never but once emptied back into the mouths of their sacks the toll of meal that belonged to the miller.

But after Burgoyne's defeat, King George was so desperate that he ordered the employment of the Six Nation Indians to co-operate with his forces in the extermination of the frontier settlements of these, Wyoming was the most prominent, by reason of its ardent patriotism; and the most desirable, by reason of its beauty and fertility. It was especially alluring to the Indians. Until the white man took posession, Wyoming had been their favorite hunting ground. The forests abounded with game and the river swarmed with fish, especially in the spring, when the shad came up in countless numbers. [The chief of Wyalusing had his hunting lodge on Monockanock Island, below the present city of Pittston; and to it he came yearly to get his supply of fish and game for Winter use. The money the Indians had received for the land had long since been squandered. (was to be omitted by author)] Envy and resentment were easily aroused; and when the British Commander in Chief offered to the Indians an alliance which might restore to them their loved native hills and valleys; and in addition, guaranteed to them a bounty of two pounds sterling (about 18 dollars) for every scalp taken of able-bodied men, with proportionate rewards for those of women and children, their greed, united to their savagery; and they took the war trail.

After this alliance was consummated, all the Indians resident in the Valley withdrew, and joined their over-lords, the Six Nation Indians of New York State. Their departure was ominous; and a black, threatening cloud of foreboding hung heavy on the northern horizon. Wyoming was a frontier settlement, cut off from aid, by the surrounding mountains, but open to attack by way of the river from the North, where were none but enemies. An army could descend upon Wyoming by this way, in twenty-four hours. In the face of this danger, express messengers rode to Congress and to Washington to urge the immediate return of the two Independent Companies, which had been organized for home defence. But emergencies at the front, and governmental red-tape, delayed action until too late; and the settlement was wiped out.

Such were the times and the circumstances when, in the summer of 1777, a Town Meeting was called at Wilkes Barre at which John Jenkins presided, and it was voted "that the time had come when it was necessary for the inhabitants of the Valley to join together and to erect forts in the several towns as a defence against their enemies." This led to the erection of six stockades in the Valley. It was also further decreed that three Officers of the Line be appointed a Committee to visit the several towns and mark out the sites for these forts. Fort Wintermute had already been built around the house of Daniel Wintermute, one mile below Pittston Ferry. This stood on the west bank of the river, beside a large, pool-like spring of pure water. It was strongly suspected by the settlers that this large family were Tories, and that British gold and British influence assisted in the erection of the Fort. Therefore, in the hope of counteracting the danger from this stockade, the Committee chose the house of John Jenkins, Esq., at Pittston Ferry as the site for the defence at the head of the Valley and up the river in Exeter.

Several families, prominent in the community, joined together to build this fort. It enclosed half an acre; and, doubtless, these families did as others in Pittston Fort, and Forty Fort had done, each building a cabin for its own use within the stockade and removing thereto such household utensils as were indispensable. Then they moved to the stockade, to live there so long as danger should threaten. The women and children remained within the walls; but the men, relying on their scouts to warn them of imminent danger, went to their daily labours on their farms. It was from this fort that the Hardings

and the others in our story had gone forth on the day that the former met their deaths.

As June wore on, danger signals flashed from that threatening cloud to the North. Lieut. John Jenkins, son of the Proprietor of Jenkins Fort, arrived from a Canadian Prison. He had been held captive through the Winter, and had escaped by the connivance of a friendly Indian guard. He confirmed the rumors that the scouts had brought. The British and Tories and Indians were making preparations to invade Wyoming. [He has seen, and he knows. The scouts, also, report that a large number of boats and rafts are being assembled up the river; and they have also met parties of Tories and Indians and exchanged shots with them.

[On the 12th. of June, the first life was taken. Asa Budd came down to Jenkins Fort with all haste to report the shooting of David Crooks by Tories, twenty miles up the river. A few days later comes the news that Minor Robbins and Joel Phelps have been wounded going up the river in their canoe, Stephen Jenkins alone escaping unhurt. (was to be omitted by author)] From the West branch came the news that the Indians were scalping and killing helpless women and children; and from New York come tales of the dreaded Brant's campaign with the rifle and tomahawk and fagot.

The terrible news spreads from fort to fort, and from mouth to mouth, throughout the Valley. Defences are hastily strengthened and messengers again despatched to Washington, to implore aid. Everywhere was excitement and alarm and terror. Such was the stage and such the setting for the drama to be enacted in this field, in which we now are, on that 30th. of June in 1778.

Little more remains to be told. History, says that "the bodies of the Harding boys were taken to the Fort and interred in the West Pittston Cemetery." Dr. George Peck, who had his information direct from the lips of those who lived but one generation later than the actors in these events, says that Mathias Hollenback, not knowing the nearness of the enemy, went up the river on a scout with another man, whose name is not given. This was on the Wednesday morning after the Hardings were killed; They came upon the bodies, lying as they had fallen; and he brought them down the river in his canoe and delivered them to their friends at Jenkins Fort. His companion was so overcome at the sickening sight that Hollenback was compelled to put him ashore soon after they started.

The last sad acts of the story is related in "Traditions of Fort Jenkins", by Mrs. Mary Jenkins Richart, and in Mrs. Amy Harding De Witt's book, "The Harding Family". The mutilated bloody bodies were carried into the Fort, with the injunction: "Bury them quickly. The enemy is at hand!" Amy Harding, their mother, replied:- "They shall have decent, Christian burial." No words can describe the lofty courage, the sublime faith and piety of that mother, as with her own hand she bathed and prepared those precious bodies for the grave. She would let none other help. It is a scene too sacred to intrude upon, even in imagination. When asked afterwards how she was enabled to endure the ordeal, she replied: "My Savior was close beside me and sustained me until I had performed all the sad duties".

On Thursday morning the little funeral procession went out from the Fort; and the bodies were laid to rest in the little cemetery nearby. A British officer accompanied it as a guard. A body of Indians in the wooded hollow back of it, hooted and jeered at the manifestation of grief. In after years, their brother, Elisha Harding, placed at the head of their graves the double stone which still stands there. It bears the Inscription "Sweet be the sleep of those who prefer liberty to slavery". Their parents, Stephen and Amy Harding, were later laid beside them; and rough stones, with chiselled inscriptions mark their graves. these old stones are sacred, and should not be removed; but it seems fitting that beside them should stand some memorial more fitting to remind later generations of the historic events associated with their names. West Pittston has a right to feel proud of the honor of having their dust lie within her bounds.

On Wednesday, the day the bodies of the Hardings were brought to Fort Jenkins, the invading army was entering the Valley by way of Schooley's Gap. Fort Wintermute at once opened its doors to Butler and his staff; and it became his headquarters for the bloody week to follow.

On the evening of that day, he sant Capt. Caldwell with a force of Tories and Indians to demand the surrender of Fort Jenkins. The garrison of seventeen had been reduced by death and wounds and capture to ten men, most of whom were old; so John Jenkins made the terms of surrender. Capt. Harding was in tears. His two fine, strong sons lay dead; and his wife was preparing them for the grave. Capt. Caldwell observed his grief and made an awkward attempt to express his sympathy. He said: "We are sorry to have killed such fine young

men; but they should not have taken up arms against their sovereign, King George."

Time will not permit to anticipate the events of the next few days; but as we stand here today, we can see in imagination the host of 1100 invaders paddling down the peaceful river as it flows by silent mountains, and grassy plains all in contrast to the array of the soldiers, and the war paint of the savages; we see them reach Three Islands, opposite La Grange, they land on the West shore. They then divide, the main body disappearing in a notch in the mountains, while a smaller, but numerous band, fully armed for war, come down the river road. The first victims of their cruelty they found here and at Sutton's Creek, a little below. This stone tells, very briefly, a small part of the story, but we trust that it will arouse in the minds of those who will look upon this memorial, a desire to know the whole history; and that knowing it, they will feel a new respect and reverence for this soil, hallowed by the shedding of innocent blood.

****

****

PITTSTON AND THE HARRISON CAMPAIGN.

In all the history of the United States there has been no greater and more universal political excitement than in that of 1840, when General William Henry Harrison was the Whig candidate and John Tyler a former Democrat, was for Vice President. The great Abolition Party was just born and Texas was knocking for admission to the Union with slavery as an established institution. Genl. Harrison among his many achievements had won the battle of Tippecanoe in Indian Territory. "Tippicanoe and Tyler too" became the slogan of the Whigs, and the log cabin and hard cider the emblems of the Campaign. "Stump" speaking was the universal practice throughout the country. Even General Harrison himself "stumped" for the Whig party.

Following the general custom of the North, a log cabin was built at Wilkes Barre and this Mr. Tompkins contributed the large log from Col. Johnson's farm.

At the dedication of this cabin, Col. Abram Bird made a speech in a very dramatic manner. All the oldest residents will tell of it. He had always voted with the democratic party. On this day he appeared on the platform of the cabin, with a chain around his feet and also around his body. He began by declaiming that he had always been a member of the Democratic Party. He dilated upon his bondage to its principles and to its commands. But he proceeded to explain how his eyes had been opened, his understanding enlightened, and a resolve had been formed in his soul, to be free from its shackles, to throw off its chains! And at the dramatic climax, he threw off the chain that was wound around his body, and stepped free from the shackles about his feet and proclaimed himself henceforth a Whig-- a member of the party that advocated free speech, free soil, and no slavery, no shackles for north or south, for white man nor for black!

The speech and the action suited to the word must have excited great applause judging from the pleasure it seems to arouse in the memories of those who relate it.

****

****

POLITICS IN 1850

Calhoun, supported by two friends, tottered into the Senate Chamber and listened with closed eyes while another read his last and greatest speech in behalf of the claims of the slave states. This patriot of the South foreseeing the dismemberment of the Union, plead and reasoned with his last strength for what he conceived to be southern rights. He failed to take into account the fact that no legislature could control the conscience of the people, nor destroy the conviction that the extension of slave territory would be a crime.

Daniel Webster, the idolized orator of years before, delivered a notable speech on the issues, but he took sides with the South and brought execration upon himself from the North and from all sides, as a traitor to the cause of liberty.

Four years later, William H. Seward took strong ground against the pending Fugitive Slave Law. He made the statement that "There is a higher law than the Constitution". This utterance became the slogan at the North in resisting the law for the capture of fugitive slaves. In April, Senator Foote of Mississippi drew a revolver on Senator Benton of Missouri in the heat of controversy.

Newspapers brought the tale of these struggles in Congress and the country became greatly agitated and in the North, leaders arose, who were pledged to the abolition of slavery and out of the discussion and the events following came the book of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, "Uncle Tom's Cabin".

President Taylor died July 9th and Millard Fillmore, "a northern man with southern principles" took the Presidential chair. He dismissed several from his Cabinet and made Daniel Webster Secretary of State. He appointed me to positions who favored the Compromise bill.

The Pittston Gazette, in its early issue, reports these appointments. As it was a Whig newspaper, we can understand why it gave so much space to eulogy of President Taylor and mere passing comment or criticism to the acts of President Fillmore.

By September, the President had signed these bills of momentous importance. Slavery was abolished in the District of Columbia and California was admitted as a Free State. Both measures were very distasteful to the South, but the third, the Fugitive Slave Law which required Northern men to turn in and help the slave catchers to capture the alleged property, was humiliating and contrary to the spirit and principles of all citizens of the Free States.

What was called the "Underground Railroad" was established to help the fleeing slaves on to Canada where by British law they would be free. There were men who believed "there was a higher law than the Constitution". These brave would at the risk of their liberty, and their own property, defied the law and provided places of concealment in their houses or barns, and means to carry the fugitives on to the next station. These men of conscience incurred the dislike of their pro-Southern neighbors, office holders and office seekers, and the large number of adherents who, without strong moral conviction, follow the lead of those in power. The names of these are fading into oblivion, but the names and deeds of such as -------- ------ shine with unfading lustre as years roll on, names not born to die--. Their decendants glory in their resolute stand for the cause of liberty and feel inspired by their example, to do something for humanity worthy of their sires.

Pittston in 1850, had only two negroes in its community. Mose and Becky lived over Charles Johnson's Cabinet shop, in the rear of Colonel Bird's Hotel and did service for the firms and families, as they were asked. It is not known whether they were escaped slaves, but no brutal slave driver ever came to seize them. The rattling wagon swiftly hastening up Main Street at midnight, from Wilkes Barre to Arlington was supposed to have conveyed fleeing slaves to that next station on the way to Canada. When the news was brought a day after that Mr. Gildersleeve was said to have helped on a party--Mr. Gildersleeve was one of these brave souls who cared more for the right, than for prosperity. He was well known to Pittston, as being the father-in-law of Rev. N. G. Parks.

(Footnote)

Mr. William Camp Gildersleeve has left a record of christian character and heroism which his decendants may well be proud. He was a Southern man, born in Georgia, reared among slaves, was a slave holder. His father, Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve became pastor of the Wilkes Barre Presbyterian Church in 1823. He grew up a strenuous opposer of the use of tobacco and intoxicants and became a pronounced abolitionist when the issue of the extension of slavery was agitated. He was persecuted even to mob violence by some of his Wilkes Barre neighbors. But he adhered to his convictions of right and in the end triumphed over his foes. He was a supporter of churches and of

the Home for Friendless Children in Wilkes Barre, besides numerous benefactions unknown to the world at large. His joy over Abraham Lincoln's proclamation of freedom to slaves was almost ecstatic. He lived to see the beginning of what he hoped and sacrifieced for, for many years. He was father to Mrs. N. G. Parks of Pittston and to Mrs. B. C. Sayre of Montrose and Florida.

****

****

TO THE SUSQUEHANNA
ON ITS JUNCTION WITH THE LACKAWANNA.

by Mrs. Sigourney.

****

Rush on, glad stream, in thy power and pride
To claim the hand of the promised bride
For she hastes from the realm of the darkened mine,
To mingle here murmured vows with thine.
Ye have met; ye have met! And your shores prolong
The liquid tone of your nuptial song.

Methinks ye wed as the white man's son
And the child of the Indian King have done.
I saw the bride, as she strove in vain
To cleanse her brow from the carbon stain;
But she brings thee a dowry so rich and true
That thy love must not shrink from the tawny hue.

Her birth was rude, in a mountain cell;
And her infant freaks there are none to tell.
Yet the path of the beauty was wild and free
And in dell and forest she hid from thee;
But the day of her fond caprice is oer
And she seeks to part from thy breast no more.

Pass on, in the joy of thy blended tide
Through the land where the blessed Miquon died.
No red man's blood, with its guilty stain
Hath cried unto God from that broad domain.
With the seeds of peace they have sown the soil;
Bring a harvest of wealth for their hour of toil.

On, on through the vale where the brave men sleep;
Where the waving foliage is rich and deep.
I have stood on the mountain and roamed through the glen
To the beautiful home of the Western men,
Yet nought in that region of glory could see
So fair as the vale of Wyoming to me.

****

SERENADE SONG.

By Prof. Grimes- as sung by Mr. Carle.
Air- "Lone Starry Hour".

By the banks of the blue Susquehanna,
On the beautiful banks of the stream.
Where in childhood, sweet childhood I wandered
And years passed away like a dream--
Oh there is the cottage of Rosa
Surrounded by old forest trees,
There the flowers she planted are lending
Their fragrance to each passing breeze.

And there when the sun has departed
And the moon calmly smiles on the scene
I will sing to my beautiful Rosa
Till the beams of the morning are seen.

Come list to me, lovely one, listen,
For my soul gushes forth in my voice-
I love thee, dear Rosa, I love thee
My heart's dearest treasure and choice.
My locks are all wet with the dew, love
While I wait for a token from thee,
The stars are exchanging their glances,
Oh hast thou no signal for me?

Sweet be thy slumbers, thou dear one
I leave thee with sorrowing heart-
May the angels of heaven still guard thee
Though the morn bids thy lover depart.

This old "Serenade Song" preserved by Charles Foster in memory of a social evening at Augustus Frothingham's home on River St., W. Pittston in 1848 or 9, when Mr. Theodore Strong proposed that each sing a song for the entertainment of the others. Mr. Foster, unused to sing, was embarrassed, but fortunately recalled one verse of this Serenade he had heard in Utica before coming to the "blue Susquehanna".

1849 - 1850.

GOLD IN CALIFORNIA AND ANTI-SLAVERY.

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

News of the wealth of the new territory by recently acquired from Mexico, spread across the continent, and across the oceans, and men 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 hardships 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 and Joseph Hileman. 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 El Dorado is hard to realize now. The year 1850 was, for this nation, the darkest in its 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 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 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

the leaders; and although now upward of 72 years old, his influence and eloquence 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 southwest territory must be free soil.

The echos of three great speeches made in the Senate Chamber during March, 1850, reached every town and hamlet in the United States; and local politicians discussed the issues heatedly in their meeting palces and in the streets.

****

****

NEW YORK in 1845 vs. 1795.

From "Ladies' Wreath" - Editor Mrs. S. T. Martyn.
(Washington inaugerated 1789)

The street (Wall Street) was then lighted by the inhabitants, every seventh family being compelled by law to hang out a lantern on a pole when the moon did not shine. The wealthiest and most distinguished people lived on Wall street. B. Arnold lived there where now is bank of New York in seclusion and contempt. 1795 Wall Street had 2 banks, and 1 broker. In 1845, near a hundred, and 500 broker's offices (Mr. Winslow) and more than 1000 within the watch and lamp district. The only hosiery store in the city was here. In 1794 the women knit the stockings. Mr. Winslow was a barber also, and relied on his trade mostly as few hose were sold. In 1848 New York extended 3 miles north of Wall Street over ground largely covered by water. the population about 400,000. Annual Revenue for 1845 was $18,155,733 value of imports $9,983,746. From 75 to 100,000 newspapers and about 27,000 letters and circulars pass daily through the Post Office for the city and other offices throughout the United States. The eye is also pained by the extreme magnificance and squalid poverty.

The writer closes with the lines of Cooper beginning:

God made the country, and man made the town
What wonder then, that health and virtue, gifts
That can alone make sweet the bitter draught
That life holds out to all, should most abound
And least be the eternal in the fields and groves."

Titles of some contributions to the "Ladies' Wreath". Every issue has a colored flower plate with botanical description, also a mezzo-tint engraving of a portrait or scenery. An Appeal; always Spring; A Father's Chastisement by L. A. H.; A Night Thought Mrs. F. C. Smith; A Chapter on Beauty; a Finished Education; An Evening in Cuba; A Mother's Prayer Mrs. Ann Stevens, Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, Mrs. L. F. Martin appear (with portraits) as contributors. Rev. Clement Babb has several stories and homilies "The Shadow of Death" Ellen Conway, A Tale of Wyoming, Light out of Darkness, Little Kate, F. S. Arthur also The Binding made for Parlor table (?)

Note: 1871 only two watches were assessed. One was owned by Mrs. Durkee and the other by Col. Franklin.

Mrs. Jacob Johnson who with her husband and family had fled from W. Barre after the Massacre of 1778 to Wallingford Conn. wrote in 1779 to Mrs. Col. Zebulin Butler, her daughter in W. Barre. "We had thought to come to wilkes Barre when news of Indian atrocities decided then to wait a few days." She writes: "I hope Colonel will send for us soon as we have wrote for it would be beyond account to get horses here for such a journey. Your father went to town for calico. Could get none. He sent to Hartford and got a patron(pattern) one. If you like it he can get more. It was $25.00 a yard. It was the cheapest I have seen.

See Saml Miller for piece of calico and wages. 40 cents per yard, 5 yards, spun wool for a month to pay for it. Her sister worked at .75 per week for 10 yards and saved $100. for wedding outfit. Another worked in a family and took her wages 19 bu. grain.

****

PITTSTON GAZETTE

MARRIAGES.

David Blanchard to Elizabeth Frick, March 11, 1851
Capt. W. G. Dennis to Almeda Billings, April 30, 1851
Isaac Moister to Sarah, daughter of John Hepler
Benj. D. Beyea to Catherine, daughter of James Stark
Nancy Gertrude Blanchard to Capt. Allabaugh.

DEATHS.

Mrs. Dr. Ansen Curtis, July, 1851
Mrs. Eleanor L., wife of Dr. W. W. Miner, daughter of Abram and Eliza Bird-18 years old. Left one daughter. Twins died.

PITTSTON GAZETTE-AUGUST 26, 1853.

A temperance ticket now at Wilkes Barre. For Senator, Madison P. Myers, of Luzerne County. For Representative, Lord Butler, of Wilkes Barre; and John McAuley of Union Township.

Telegraph line finished to Beweden(?)

County Ticket (Judge--John Conyngham
(Prothonatery--Ansen Curtis
(Commissioner--Peter Winter

September 2, 1853. The execution of Reese Evans is set for Friday next. The confession will be before the public in a short time.

The exodus from Ireland for twelve past has reached a total of one million persons.

September 9, 1853: Topsy's Song - a poem, by Eliza Cook

Dr. Shelp, Dentist.

Congress had been surprised at receiving applications for pensions from 2400 widows of Revolutionary soldiers. When the act was passed in February 2, 1853, it was limited in its effect to those who married subsequent to 1800. It was expected there would be 300.

GAZETTE OF SEPTEMBER (? 9, 1853.

Smith Sutherland advertises new goods.

E. F. Ferris replies to Clyde in Camp Gr.

Old Forge Store, E. Drake.

****

THE FIRST ANNUAL BALL
OF THE
EMMETT LITERARY AND MILITARY ASSOCIATION
OF INKERMAN
TO BE HELD AT PHOENIX HALL
PITTSTON, PENNA.
THURSDAY EVENING JANUARY 24th., 1878
Tickets: Fifty Cents.

Committee of Arrangements: W. A. Loughney
P. Duffy.
P. Durkin.

****

Chair and Cabinet Manufactory: Reuben Cutler has bought out Abram Hass.

Commission and Forwarding -- J. H. Brown and Lazarus

Steam Mill for sale -- J. V. L. DeWitt.

A New Store in Upper Pittston---G. W. Sweallen(?)

Sept. 30, 1853: A long and eloquent appeal for temperance from Jenkins.

Dr. Peck and wife driving were fallen over a bank.

FROM GAZETTE ----1853.

October 14: A case against Wm. C. Gildersleeve in which John Jenkins and others tried to arrest a waiter at the Phoenix Hotel.

October 20th: Thanksgiving Day has not been generally observed.

Wood is the fuel for use of locomotives, but is becoming scarce. Discussion in regard to the probable use of coal.

New Court House (Wilkes Barre) Corner Stone laid in 1856. This was the third court house built.

****

ADS AND NEWS IN PITTSTON GAZETTE OF 1873.

Jan. 1. Gazette given over by G? M? Richart to C. H. Chamberlin and W. E. Keller, after 23 years. Mrs. Richart will continue job printing.

P. K. Richards of Ransom acts as auctioneer.

Pittston Street Ry. Directors meet in Sturmer's Hall.

H. S. Phillips cashier 1st. National Bank.

H. C. Dewey Cashier Pittston Savings Bank.

Board of Trustees of East Pittston Pres. Church elected Jan. 29, 1873: T. Strong; Geo. Johnson; F. Brune; C. H. Campbell; S. P. Fenn; J. J. Merriam; C. M. Sax. Prest of Board: Geo. Johnson. Secretary, S. P. Fenn. Treasurer, F. Brune.

Ads of Apr. 5, 1873:

Hillers Steam Bakery

Patterson's Sash Door and Blind Factory.

Outside foreman Chas. H. Campbell.

Engine manufacturing by Wisner and Strong. This business started by the late John H. Loveland.

****

****