CUMBERLAND County History

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In This Issue

Contributions Solicited

The editor invites articles, notes, or documents on the history of Cumberland County and its people. Such articles may deal with new areas of research or may review what has been written and published in the past.

Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced. Citations should also be double-spaced; they should be placed at the end of the text.

Authors should follow the rules set out in Kate L. Turabian, *Manual for Writers* (5th edition, 1987), especially chapters 1-5.

Queries concerning the content and form of contributions may be sent to the Editor at the Society.

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CUMBERLAND COUNTY HISTORY

Cumberland County Historical Society and Hamilton Library Association: Carlisle

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Contributors

WILLIAM A. HUNTER of Mechanicsburg, Chief of the Division of History of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission at the time of his retirement, was one of the principal authorities on the history of the Pennsylvania frontier during the French and Indian War. In addition to his magisterial work entitled *Forts on the Pennsylvania Frontier, 1753-1758* (Harrisburg, 1960), which he was revising at the time of his death, Dr. Hunter was the author of many carefully researched, critical papers on particular aspects of his subject, several of them read to the Cumberland County Historical Society. The Society honored Dr. Hunter as "historian of the year" in 1962. His response was printed as *Archibald Loudon, Pioneer Historian.* Dr. Hunter died in 1986.

The paper printed in this issue was read to the Society on March 11, 1976.

DR. ROBERT J. MCCONAGHIE, a graduate of Harvard College and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, after internship and residence at Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia, served in the United States Navy and for several years was pathologist and chief of laboratories of the United States Naval Hospital at Portsmouth, N.H. From 1965 to 1983 he was associate pathologist at the Carlisle Hospital. In the latter year he moved to Tampa, Fla., and then to St. Augustine, where he was medical examiner of three counties in northern Florida. He died in 1990.

The paper published here was read to the Society on November 19, 1975.

WILLIS L. SHIRK, JR. of Columbia, Pa., is a graduate of Millersville University and has the degree of master of arts in American Studies from Capitol College of Pennsylvania State University. He is Program Coordinator for the Ephrata Cloister Associates on the site of the eighteenth-century Pennsylvania-German communal society.

He extends special thanks to the Dauphin County Historical Society for permission to publish the contents of their manuscript MG-466.

Fort Loudoun Revisited

William A. Hunter

A visitor returns to a familiar scene to refresh his memory, he looks for once familiar landmarks, and he notes, with approval or regret, whatever changes have come about. An armchair revisitation to Fort Loudoun has been on the whole reassuring. Since I wrote about it sixteen years ago, the fort has not been neglected. In 1968 its site became State property; in 1970 Harry E. Foreman added another book, *Fort Loudon Sidelights,* to his list of collectors' items; about the same time the Historical Society of Pennsylvania acquired a manuscript journal containing brief but valuable information on the fort; and this year [1976] Gary T. Hawbaker is publishing a history of Fort Loudoun.

As long ago as 1937 the novelist Neil H. Swanson tried to link Fort Loudoun with the Revolutionary War; we may therefore be able to resist repeating that experiment in this year of overflowing Bicentennialism, and try to take a more realistic look at Fort Loudoun, which in fact was built in 1756 in response to a grave crisis in Pennsylvania history, and was abandoned in 1765, nine years later, when that crisis had passed.

The emergency was of course the outbreak of the French and Indian War, the first war in which Pennsylvania was directly involved. Inexperienced in military matters and ill prepared to deal with them, the Province nevertheless succeeded, by early 1756, in raising paid troops and in establishing a line of fortified posts to defend its frontier against invasion.

As first established, the four posts west of the Susquehanna proved to be too widely separated for maintaining an effective patrol line, and too far from the settled country to be adequately supplied. After one of them, Fort Granville, was captured by the enemy at the end of July 1756, the Provincial forces fell back to a line marked by Fort Lyttleton (the only remaining fort of the original four), Fort Loudoun, Fort Morris (at Shippensburg), and Fort Carlisle.

During the nine years of its existence Fort Loudoun served two different purposes. From 1756 until the Forbes campaign in 1758, it was a link in the defensive chain garrisoned by Lieutenant Colonel John Armstrong's Second Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment. For the rest of its existence it was the easternmost post on the military supply line that ran westward to, and ultimately beyond, Fort Pitt. During these seven years it was used as a supply depot, lightly garrisoned by a diversity of troops, British and colonial. From time to time, at the

beginning and end of campaigns, larger bodies of troops camped in the nearby fields.

Fort Loudoun was not an original part of this revised defense line. Of the four posts in this line, Fort Lyttleton dated from December 1755, when work was begun on the original defense line; and work on the forts at Shippensburg and Carlisle had been undertaken even earlier on local initiative. In March 1756, when the first steps were taken to revamp the defenses, troops were stationed at McDowell's Mill (present Markes), two miles south of the later fort. The location was not satisfactory, however; five months later, on August 20, Lieutenant Colonel Armstrong reported to the Governor that "McDowels or thereabouts is a necessary Post, but the present Fort not defencible."

A site at Thomas Barr's, somewhat under two miles to the northwest of McDowell's, was recommended instead; and Armstrong, having in the meantime carried out his famous attack on Kittanning, took detachments of his battalion to Barr's in November. He found this site also unsatisfactory, and on November 19 wrote the Governor that he had that day begun work at a better site, "where one Patton lived," about a mile northeast of Barr's.

As Foreman has pointed out, there never has been any real doubt about the site of Fort Loudoun. It was first of all on Patton's land, and this places it on the 256-acre tract warranted to him in 1744. When the State acquired part of this tract in 1968, the suggestion was made that the fort might have been on a part of Patton's land on or north of present U.S. 30; but this tract was not warranted to Patton until 1767, two years after the fort was abandoned. In siting forts, officers were advised to look out for secure water supplies and for spots not overlooked by nearby hills. The height and the water are not always found together, and in practice some kind of compromise was the usual solution. East of the present farm buildings on Patton's land is rising ground that overlooks the country along and beyond the creek, and this has been suggested as a commanding site for the fort. Surface hunting in this area has recovered such items as musket balls and the tip of a Brown Bess ramrod, but these may be souvenirs of one or another of the temporary encampments here, rather than of the fort itself. The record is clear that before Patton abandoned his place and the Indians burned his earlier house, he had begun to build a new one and had finished the walls and roof, and that Armstrong and his soldiers incorporated this house into the new fort "either for Officers' Barracks or a Store House." The fort was built, therefore, not on the hill but on lower ground near the creek (a secure water supply), and almost certainly at or very near where the present farm buildings stand.

But, one might ask, could not Armstrong have dismantled Patton's new house and reassembled it on a different site? Perhaps, but the evidence is clear that he did not. He wrote on November 19 that "to-day we begin to Digg a Cellar in the New Fort; the Loggs & Roof of a New House having there been Erected by Patton. . . ." The house stood *there,* where the cellar was dug *in the fort.* Furthermore, in the last days of the fort, when the Black Boys fired on it to harass the garrison, one of the depositions taken reports that "many Balls went through Patton's House, and many Lodged in the Stockades of the Fort." Unless the Black Boys were dreadful shots, the house and the stockades must have been closely associated—both, in fact, being parts of the fort.

What did the fort look like? New information on this subject has come to light lately, but the picture is still imprecise and we must make the most of fragmentary references. In the first place, there are no known plans or sketches of any Provincial forts west of the Susquehanna, except one unpublished plan of Fort Granville. In the second place, military engineering was an unknown science in Pennsylvania at that time. Before 1756 the only professionally built forts in Pennsylvania were those recently erected by the French in the western parts of the Province. The usual frontier fort was a fairly simple structure, one or more log buildings within an outer wall, usually a stockade made of upright posts. George Washington's design for Fort Necessity—a single building in the center of a circular stockade—could hardly have been worse. Benjamin Franklin's plan for Fort Allen—a row of three buildings within a rectangular stockade—was better, for this stockade had projecting angles to serve as bastions. Its chief defects were that it had no open central area to facilitate movement within the fort, and that the bastions were not flanked.

In December 1755, however, the Governor conferred in New York with the British commander, and apparently at this time obtained a pattern and instructions for laying out a simple professional fort; and after his return he sent copies of this information to officers of the Pennsylvania Regiment. Edward Shippen of Lancaster (founder and owner of Shippensburg) also obtained a book on fortification; and his son-in-law James Burd, then a captain in the Regiment, showed himself an apt learner and practitioner. Fort Morris at Shippensburg, on which Burd had done some work before this time, was not very impressive, but Fort Granville and Fort Lyttleton, on which he worked later, were built on the professional model, and he later distinguished himself at Fort Augusta, Fort Ligonier, and Fort Burd.

If we could assume that all the forts conformed to the Governor's model, we might draw a reasonably accurate picture of Fort Loudoun.

This was not the case, however. Some forts were too far completed to be rebuilt in a new design, some had to conform to the arrangement of pre-existing buildings or to peculiarities of the terrain, some were built by officers who lacked Burd's special aptitude. Fort Loudoun, built after Burd had been promoted to major and reassigned to Fort Augusta, was not a specimen of his handiwork.

At the time Fort Loudoun was built, Armstrong's battalion had achieved its maximum strength of eight companies of fifty men each, with two companies at each of the four posts of Fort Lyttleton, McDowell's, Shippensburg, and Carlisle. The two companies at McDowell's were to be moved to the new fort; and it was they, assisted by an officer and twenty men from each of the other three posts, who first carried on the construction under Armstrong's direction. On November 19, 1756, they had the walls and roof of Patton's new house to start with—the logs presumably unchinked and the fireplace and chimney not yet built—and they set to work on a cellar, presumably for additional storage. One month later, by December 22, they had erected additional buildings to house the hundred-man garrison, had moved the stores from McDowell's, and had begun work on the stockade. But the snow was by then a foot deep, work had to be suspended, and the detachments from the other garrisons undoubtedly returned to their own quarters.

Evidently workmen were later hired to complete the fort. The Governor complained in September 1757 that these workers had not yet been paid, but another year passed before the payment, on September 19, 1758, of £41 19s. 5d. was made to "John Holliday, for his and his two Sons Accounts of Sundries Building Fort Loudoun." That the stockade of the fort had been completed before this date is shown by General Forbes' reference, in a letter of July 10, 1758, to "Forts Loudoun and Lyttleton which are only two or three houses each, inclosed with a Stockade of 100 feet square." This information is not on Forbes' own authority, however; for, writing from Carlisle, where he was delayed by sickness, he did not arrive at Fort Loudoun until September 6.

Preparations for his arrival call attention to a curious adjunct to the fort. On June 15 Colonel Henry Bouquet had held a conference there with some southern Indians who had come to join Forbes' army; and since the meeting could not be held in the fort, a shelter had been erected nearby. A month later, when Forbes was being expected shortly, a British officer wrote to Bouquet from Fort Loudoun that "I have cover'd, clean'd out, & fitted up the Summer house near the River Side, in which you had the talk with the Indians; as the most agreable & commodious Place for the General to refresh himself in at

Colonel Henry Bouquet

his arrival here." That the General did make use of this facility is confirmed by a letter of September 10: "the Gen[l] . . . came . . . on Wednesday after noon seemingly in good Spirits and Dined in the Bower. . . . " This "Bower" may not be important to history, and the archeologist cannot hope to find any remaining traces of it; but the existence of a frontier fort furnished with a summerhouse seems worthy of mention.

Let us turn back to the fort itself. General Forbes' rather casual description of Loudoun and Lyttleton might easily give the impression that these two forts were quite similar, if not identical, in appearance. They were built at different times, however, and under different direction, and any idea of close resemblance vanishes when we read the journal of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Barton, a chaplain with the army, who came to Fort Loudoun on July 21, 1758, seven weeks before Forbes' arrival there. Brief as Barton's comments are, they are the fullest description known and as such deserve to be quoted in full:

> . . . The Fort [he wrote] is a poor Piece of Work, irregularly built, & badly situated at the Bottom of a Hill Subject to Damps & noxious Vapours.
>
> It has something like Bastions supported by Props, which if an Enemy should cut away, down tumbles Men & all. At little Distance from the Fort appears Parnel's-Nob, a round Hill of great Height. The Fort is properly a square Ridout [redoubt] of 120 feet. . . .

The unusual part of this description—and of the fort itself—is the matter of bastions. Strictly speaking, Fort Loudoun had none. When

Mr. Barton calls the structure a redoubt, he is stressing the fact that the stockade had no re-entrant angles such as bastions would produce. As a substitute for true bastions, the projecting elevated platforms made some provision for flanking fire.

Barton's description is supported by—and clarifies—a phrase in another of the depositions relative to the 1765 attack by the Black Boys: because of the shooting, "the Centry's could not stand *upon* the Bastions."

In contrast with his description of Fort Loudoun, Barton wrote of Fort Lyttleton that "This Fort is a regular & well-plan'd Square Stockade of 126 Feet."

Fort Loudoun was built in settled—but not thickly settled—country, among farms temporarily abandoned because of the Indians' attacks. Relying on the fort and its garrison for protection, the more hardy settlers began to venture back, and the successful Forbes campaign of 1758 gave them additional encouragement. Relations between garrison and settlers probably were not much of a problem at first. The soldiers were of more-or-less local origin and relatively few in number. They provided protection for the farmers and benefited from local produce and services. The later assignment of strange garrisons and the encampments of large bodies of troops created greater difficulties, reflected in the commanding officers' orderly books—and, occasionally, in the local court records.

One illustration may serve; it is an excerpt from Colonel Bouquet's orders of August 18, 1764, issued at the camp at Fort Loudoun, on his way to the Ohio with a small army to subdue the Indians.

> The Provost Martial will make Rounds at least twice a day, he will be furnished with a Corporal & party from the main guard for that purpose.
>
> He must be Active and use his utmost Endeavours to prevent Desertion, Pillaging, marauding and that the Orders against selling Liquor to the Soldiers are Complyed with.
>
> He must be particularly attentive that no Irregularities be permitted in the Hutts adjacent to the Incampment. The people in those Hutts to be acquainted that if the Soldiers are allowed to frequent any of them, after beating [retreat], on such Offence the hutt will be burnt. If any Liquor is found it will be Instantly destroyed—and the person Inhabiting it, will be severely punished—

Much of the difficulty referred to in these orders can be blamed on camp followers rather than on the local citizenry. The climactic dispute, a year later, however, was an encounter between a locally based frontier gang, the Black Boys, and the last Fort Loudoun garrison, a detachment of the 42d Regiment, the Black Watch. This is a story in

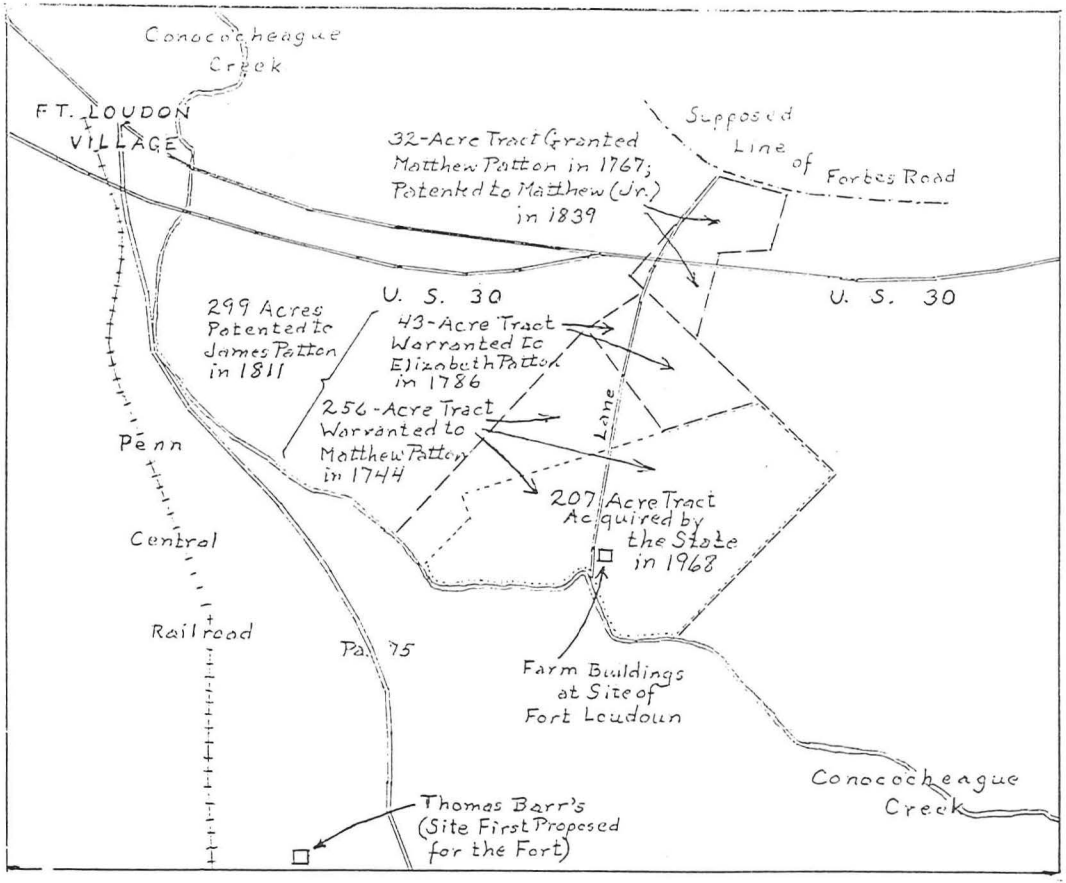
itself, which we pass by. The occasion for it was George Croghan's attempt to smuggle trade goods to Fort Pitt. Well covered by Nicholas B. Wainwright in his biography of Croghan, it was an affair from which only the garrison, which was then transferred to Fort Pitt, emerged with any degree of honor. The evacuation of Fort Loudoun in 1765 followed the Indian submission to terms of peace, thus ending ten years of hostilities, and it was part of a planned British troop withdrawal completed by the evacuation of Fort Pitt in 1772. Ironically, the Black Boys' harassment of the Fort Loudoun garrison actually delayed its departure.

I can only agree with Foreman that the Black Boys episode has been romanticized and fictionalized away from its actual character and importance. James Smith, the Black Boys' law-defying leader, wrote later in retrospect that "This convinced me more than ever I had been before, of the absolute necessity of the civil law, in order to govern mankind." Nevertheless, the novelist Neil Swanson, fictionalizing Smith's own reminiscences, represents him as "the first rebel" (the title of his book), and the evacuation of Fort Loudoun as the beginning, ten years before Lexington, of the American Revolution.

We have come a long way from Matthew Patton, who inadvertently built the first part of Fort Loudoun—the new house that he had begun before the Indians burned his old one. He had left his farm in 1755 and it was standing vacant when the place was fortified a year later. By 1759 he was ready to return, however, and on February 27 of that year the Provincial Assembly heard his petition for relief because "his Plantation had suffered, during the Building of said Fort, very great Damages, by the Destruction of his Fences, and Loss of several Stacks of Grain, besides the large Quantities of Timber cut from thence for the Use of the Fort; by Means whereof he hath ever since been kept from his said Plantation. . . . " His subsequent residence here is indirectly referred to in a letter written from Fort Loudoun by Colonel Bouquet on August 15, 1764. As will be recalled, the fort was by this time lightly garrisoned and used mostly for storage.

> The store houses for Provisions at this Fort [Bouquet wrote] are in a ruinous Condition, having originally been only little huts of Logs for Provincial Soldiers, and Swarming with Rats, by which the Provisions suffer considerably.
>
> The Place belongs to a Farmer, and is inconvenient in Every Respect.

Where, then, was Patton living? Not improbably, in the fort itself. Elsewhere, as we know, civilians moved into fort structures no longer needed for military purposes; and Patton, as acknowledged owner of the land, had as good a claim as any to use of the buildings. A year after Bouquet's letter there is explicit reference to "Patton's House" in



Location of Fort Loudon

a report of the Black Boys' attack on the fort. This presumably is the house that had been incorporated into the fort in 1756; the reference to it in 1765 as Patton's house carries the further suggestion that he was then occupying it.

Two years later, in 1767, Patton obtained the warrant for survey of a tract between his older property and the Forbes Road. He lived ten more years. His will, dated March 24, 1773, and proved on January 7, 1778, leaves his property to his widow Elizabeth (who was also to have "my Negro wench Sally to wait on her"), six sons, one daughter, and two granddaughters. And he lets us know that whatever his land was called from 1744 to 1756, it was in 1773 (as the will calls it) "this Loudon plantation."

EDITOR'S NOTE. Dr. Hunter's paper was written to be read, and was therefore without bibliography or notes. Some of the sources of his information are readily identifiable. They include Pennsylvania Archives, ser. 1, especially III, 58, and S. K. Stevens and others, eds., The Papers of Henry Bouquet (Harrisburg, 1951-94), especially II, 202, 489, and VI, 608. Thomas Barton's manuscript journal in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania was edited by Hunter as "Thomas Barton and the Forbes Expedition," Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, XCV (1971). His own account of Fort Loudoun, published 16 years before this paper, is in Frontier Forts on the Pennsylvania Frontier, 1753-1758 (Harrisburg, 1960), 463-73.

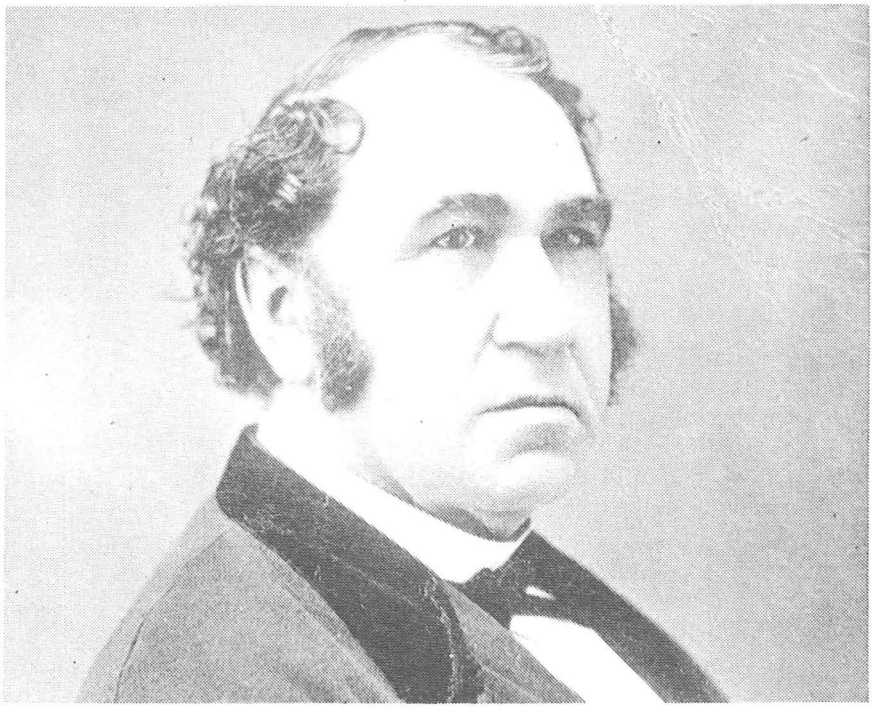
The published works referred to in the first and later paragraphs are Harry E. Foreman, Fort Loudon Sidelights (Chambersburg: Kerr Printing Co., 1970), Gary T. Hawbaker, Fort Loudon on the Frontier, 1756-1766 (York: York Press, c1976), and Nicholas B. Wainwright, George Croghan: Wilderness Diplomat (Chapel Hill, 1959).

The Cumberland County Medical Society, 1866-1916

Robert J. McConaghie, M.D.

Our story begins at eleven o'clock in the morning on July 17, 1866, when 24 Cumberland County physicians arrived at the Court House in Carlisle. This was the largest gathering of physicians in the county up to that time and, in addition to seven doctors from Carlisle, included practitioners from Shippensburg, Newville, Mechancisburg, New Cumberland, West Fairview, and a number of other smaller points in the county.

The first order of business was to choose officers, and Dr. Joseph Crain from Hogestown was elected the Cumberland County Medical Society's first president. Dr. Crain was a graduate of Dickinson College, and had served a three-year apprenticeship with Dr. Whiteside in Harrisburg, before attending a year's series of lectures at the newly opened Jefferson Medical College. Dr. William W. Dale, in a report of Dr. Crain's death in 1876, wrote that "at the time [Dr. Crain] commenced the practice [of medicine] in 1830, the life of a country practitioner was emphatically a life of toil, exposure, and self-denial. Modern conveyances were not in use, the travel was done entirely on horseback [and Dale had often] met him with a miniature drug store in his medical bag jogging along the road paying his daily visits to his patients." Dr. William Rankin from Shippensburg, who was not present at this first meeting of the Society, was, however, elected to the position of first vice-president. Born in Center County in 1795, he was, at the age of 71, probably the oldest physician in active practice in the county at that time. Dr. Rankin graduated from Washington College at the age of 18 and received his M.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1819 after attending two eighteen-week series of lectures and serving a preceptorship with Dr. Dean in Chambersburg. Dr. Dale, one of Carlisle's most active physicians, was chosen as second vice-president. He was a graduate of Jefferson Medical College in 1838 and had served as a surgeon during the Civil War. In addition to being a successful medical practitioner, he was a Mason, a trustee of Metzger College, director of the Carlisle Manufacturing Company, president of the Carlisle Gas, Water & Electric Company, director and vice-president of the Carlisle Bank, and vice-president of the State Medical Society on two occasions. Dr. George Haldeman from Newville, who later emigrated to Kansas, became recording secretary, and Dr. S. B. Kieffer, an 1851 graduate of the University of



STEPHEN BARNETT KIEFFER. A graduate of the School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania in 1851, he was a founder of the Cumberland County Medical Society, president of the Medical Society of Pennsylvania in 1873, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Medicine. (Collection of the Cumberland County Historical Society)

Pennsylvania practicing in Carlisle, was made corresponding secretary. Three censors were chosen, whose duties were "to inquire into the character and standing of applicants for membership and to investigate disagreements among members and charges brought against any member."

Committees were formed during that first meeting to write a constitution, by-laws, code of ethics, and a fee bill. Qualifications for membership had already been laid down by the State Medical Society. A member of a County Society "had to be a graduate in Medicine of some respectable Medical School or been a practitioner for at least fifteen years; was in good moral and professional standing in the place where he resided and was a regular practitioner." Physicians who dealt in patent remedies or who held a patent for an instrument of surgery were disqualified. The County Society had to observe the Code of Ethics adopted by the State Society, had the right to fix a fee bill for regulating the charges of its members, and had "full authority to adopt

such measures as they may deem most efficient for mutual improvement, for exciting a spirit of emulation, for facilitating the dissemination of useful information, for promoting friendly intercourse among its members, and for the advancement of medical science." Most of the afternoon of the first meeting was spent in discussing the fee bill and much of the discussion in the subsequent September meeting was also concerned with the fee bill and deviations from it. By the end of its first year, 49 doctors had been enrolled, and Dr. Kieffer was able to report to the State Society that "four-fifths of all the regular physicians in the county were members."

The organization of physicians had begun in the Commonwealth in 1766 with a short-lived Philadelphia Medical Society, and in 1787 with the permanent but local College of Physicians of Philadelphia. During the first part of the nineteenth century a number of local medical societies, including groups from Franklin, Perry, York, and Adams counties, had been formed. Many of these were also short-lived, and it was not until the organization of the American Medical Association in 1847 and the Pennsylvania Medical Society in 1848 that the county organizations attained any degree of stability. There were no state laws in Pennsylvania regulating the practice of medicine, or even defining medical education, in the first part of the nineteenth century, and it was difficult for the public to distinguish a "regular" practitioner from someone who had not received any training. Herbalist sects such as the Thomsonianas, botanic physicians, eclectics, homeopaths, powwow women, midwives, and numerous books of home remedies had made serious inroads into the practice of the regular physician. The medical profession itself was not in good shape. Dr. Samuel D. Gross, who wrote in his autobiography about the medical profession in Easton during the 1820's and 1830's, described it as in "a decidedly mediocre condition, without science, without learning, without progress, and apparently without ambition. Every man seemed to live in and for himself. Hardly any two could be found willing to meet each other in consultation. Jealousy and ill-feeling were the order of the day. Each physician had, of course, his little clique or faction. . . . Very few of them ever read a medical book; and, as to social intercourse [within the profession], that was of course wholly out of the question under the circumstances."

Conditions in Carlisle and the Cumberland Valley were probably not much different from conditions in the eastern part of the state. Membership in a medical society, such as the Cumberland County Medical Society with a diploma from that society, served both the doctors and the public in identifying regular physicians from the quacks. A standard fee bill, that stated the charges for house calls, con-

sultations, and certain common procedures, eliminated a great deal of the jealousy and quarreling among the physicians. Medical advancement and spread of new methods of treatment were also achieved through the social intercourse that a society afforded.

In 1863, at the June meeting of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, a major effort was instituted to enroll new members and to have more county societies represented in the state organization. Committees were formed to promote organization of county medical societies; delegates from the Philadelphia County Medical Society were responsible for contacting the physicians from Cumberland County as well as Franklin and Allegheny counties. The following year, Dr. R. N. Hatfield from the Philadelphia County Medical Society reported that "letters were addressed to some of the prominent members of the profession in [Cumberland[County requesting their efforts in influencing the formation of a society to be auxiliary to the State Medical Society and thus aid in promoting a harmony and efficiency of the profession." At the annual June meeting of the State Society in 1865 the committee on medical organization of Cumberland County reported progress and desired to be continued. In addition to letters to the county physicians, notices were to be posted in prominent places announcing a meeting. In June of 1866, this committee reported that a time and place for organization of a Cumberland County Medical Society had been established, and was discharged.

Among the requirements of the State Society was that county societies submit a yearly report listing their officers and members, rules that they might adopt, and other matters that they might deem interesting. It is from these reports, as well as from the minutes, that the state of practice of medicine during the mid and latter part of the nineteenth century can be explored.

Dr. Kieffer, in his first report to the State Society in 1867, referred to diseases that then prevailed in Cumberland County and classified them as either sthenic or asthenic. This was a reflection of a theory of disease advanced by John Brown in the mid-eighteenth century which regarded health as the result of the action of external stimuli on the body. An unhealthy condition was sthenic if the external vital forces were increased, and asthenic if they were decreased. Heat was regarded as the all-important factor and, according to Broussais' modification of this theory, disease was due to local irritation of an organ, especially the GI tract. Nature had no healing power and active measures were necessary, including an anti-phlogistic or weakening diet and extensive bleeding by the use of either a lancet or leeches. Opium and alcohol were the primary medicines and their extensive use resulted in

a great number of narcotic addicts and alcoholics, with resulting proliferation of temperance unions. Benjamin Rush, in Philadelphia, had endorsed and enthusiastically supported these theories and added to the treatment powerful drugs, such as tartar emetic and calomel. Calomel, which is a compound of mercury, had the unfortunate side effect of marked salivation. Many patients who received this drug in large doses, would find, in addition to a marked laxative effect, that they would become swollen and edematous, would continually drip saliva from their mouths and find most of their teeth loosened or falling out.

Dr. Kieffer, however, went on to say in his report that the treatment of diseases in Cumberland County was "somewhat peculiar." He indicated that the lancet was rarely used, that active purgatives seemed to be contra-indicated, that those that were used were of a mild character, and that mercurials like calomel were administered in small doses and with caution. He also noted that "in many of the diseases found in the county, little or no interference on the part of the physician was called for beyond his hygienic and disciplinary skills."

The County Medical Society was quite active during its first ten years. Meetings were held three times a year in the Court House in Carlisle on the first Tuesday of January, May and September. A few meetings were held in Newville and Mechanicsburg and three times the Shippensburg physicians played host to the County Society. Meetings began at ten or eleven o'clock in the morning and concluded around six in the evening, occasionally being abruptly adjourned because "the cars were coming." The meetings in Shippensburg were all-night affairs, generally starting at seven in the evening and ending at two or three o'clock in the morning. They were all well attended with an average of 20 members, or over half the membership, present at any one meeting. The first part of the meetings was concerned with election of new members or discussion concerning the qualification of proposed members. Not every medical practitioner who was proposed for membership was elected. Among those who were refused membership was a Dr. Paul Schoeppe who, at the age of 26, was accused of causing the death of his fianceé, a 67-year-old wealthy patient, who had remembered him lavishly in her will. Several druggists were admitted as advisory members, notably S. S. Huber from Newville, whose name appears several times in the minutes. Older, inactive physicians such as Dr. David N. Mahon of Carlisle were also elected as honorary members. Dr. Mahon had served his medical apprenticeship under Dr. [James?] Gustine in Carlisle before getting his M.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1820. He had also served as a surgeon in the Navy before settling down in Carlisle in

1824. Dr. J. J. B. Wright, surgeon at the Carlisle Barracks hospital, was also made an honorary member.

Rules were set down governing the relationship between members and those not elected. It was resolved, for example, that "no member of this [the Cumberland County] Society shall accept an invitation to consult with any physician who is not a member of this Society or of some other county society in good standing in our school of practice except under very special circumstances in which impending death could be averted." Economic matters were also considered and a resolution was passed that it "should be the duty of the members of this Society, when called to attend an irresponsible family or patient previously under the care of another member of the Society, to see to it that a suitable and satisfying honorarium has been tendered the same before he shall consent to the charge of the case." Violations of these and other rules were apparently rare. One physician was accused of consulting with one Michael Hower, a "professional homeopathic quack." Another discovered that it was worth while attending Society gatherings and meeting his fellow members when he was accused of "acting discourteously and unprofessionally toward [Dr. Thomas Stewart] in refusing to consult with him when requested to in a case of a patient in the town of Carlisle and in attempting to injure his professional and moral character before the community." The charges were dropped when it was discovered that both were members of the Society. In the Hower case the charges were conveniently lost and no action was taken against the offender.

The Society was concerned with patent medicines and in 1869 forwarded a resolution to the legislature concerning the labeling of these preparations. Their resolution read, in part, that "the manufacture and sale of remedies for the cure of disease, patented and unpatented, have become an immense system of speculation and fraud in our country and whereas, it is well known to the medical profession that the most flattering and pernicious statements are made as to the curety of the virtues of these nostrums; whereby the afflicted of mankind are deceived and the true value of medical treatment depreciated and dishonored; therefore we—request and pray the legislature of the State to enact a law requiring—a certified formula of the ingredients - on the outside wrapper of each and every bottle, box or package of such medicine." The members of the Society also, in January 1872, signed a petition presented by the Philadelphia College of Physicians in favor of an act or law protecting practitioners of medicine against unfounded law suits. Over a hundred years later members of the Society were again to urge legislation concerning malpractice suits and finally in 1975 see such a law come into being.

The meetings were filled with case discussions and presentation of essays on medical topics; through these glimpses of medical practice in the community can be seen. During several of the early meetings long discussions were held concerning the use of chloroform in obstetrics. Chloroform had been discovered and used as an anesthetic in England in 1847, about the same time that ether and nitrous oxide were discovered in America. Chloroform was better suited to obstetrics than the others because of the ease of self administration. It was not put into general use until 1853, when Queen Victoria consented to its use in the delivery of Prince Leopold, her seventh child. Arguments for and against the use of chloroform were continued afterwards by physicians for many decades, and the members of the Cumberland County Medical Society were no exception. Several of the County doctors had used it since the early 1860's and advanced the argument that "it tended to lessen the suffering of the patients in cases of nervous irritability and a tendency to convulsions or in cases requiring instrumental interference." It also "added materially to the comfort of the medical attendant as well as making him a power in the presence of the throes and anguish of the lying-in room." Those who objected to its use opposed the practice for both medical and religious reasons, that it "was dangerous to life, that it protracted labor, and that it violates the injunction of the Almighty, namely, that in pain woman was to bring forth her offspring." Despite these objections, case reports in the minutes, as well as in the county reports, illustrate its frequent use in the complications of pregnancy.

Hypodermic injections, an invention of 1843, was also a subject of prolonged discussion. An essay on the subject was presented by Dr. Ira Day of Mechanicsburg during the January 1868 meeting, with a discussion on the subject at several other meetings. The comment was made by Dr. Nevin from Shippensburg in the 1869 State report, that "the administration of remedies hypodermically is a favorite method with many members of the society in relieving pain. The nausea and vomiting, the local inflammation and abscesses frequently following the use of the hypodermic syringe will, I think, prevent its general adoption."

The treatment of wounds and methods of preventing inflammation and abscesses concerned the physicians, and we find several methods suggested during the meetings. Carbolic acid paste was mentioned on two occasions, carbolic acid being used as a disinfectant in sewage at that time. Chloral hydrate, presently used as a sleeping medication, was used then as an antiseptic. The most imaginative treatment was advanced during a May 1875 meeting when Dr. Suesserott, a visitor from the Franklin County Medical Society, claimed that "he had been

treating wounds with Whiskey dressing and had found it to be very good, proper and stimulating treatment."

Numerous reports were given during these early meetings on obstetrical problems, cases of diphtheria, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, tetanus, intermittent fever (malaria), and a single case of cholera. A patient with albumin in the urine was also presented during an 1872 meeting, suggesting that rudimentary laboratory tests on urine were being performed in the doctors' offices. Laboratory medicine as we know it today, with blood counts and blood sugars, did not appear until the early part of the twentieth century. Despite Dr. Kieffer's statement in his first State report in 1867 that the lancet was rarely used, we find that diphtheria was treated by "bleeding freely and followed with ipecac and calomel." The treatment of puerperal convulsions, a hypertensive disease state of pregnancy we now call eclampsia, was extensively reviewed in an address to the State Society in 1877 by Dr. Kieffer, and bleeding is again mentioned. He stated that "above all else and under all circumstances, the lancet is the talismanic staff upon which the physician can lean with confidence in treating puerperal convulsions." He related one instance where he removed four pounds of blood (equivalent to four pints) from a pregnant woman in convulsions and noted that "she *still lives*, not only a blessing in her home, and an ornament in society, but as an *Abiding testimony in behalf of the Lancet.*" Hypertension was not recognized as a disease state until 1902 when a practical method of determining blood pressure was invented.

Treatment of a patient with a headache and partial paralysis secondary to a blow to the head, was given in detail in an 1869 report; it consisted of a cathartic medicine, blisters applied to the temple and back of neck, and application of leeches to the point of injury.

In 1873 a long report on the use of the thermometer was presented by Dr. Israel Betz from Oakville. He reviewed the existing literature and presented five patients in whom he had measured temperatures—an 18-year-old girl who died from what, in retrospect, appeared to be acute appendicitis, with a fever of 106 degrees; a patient with a probable kidney infection with a fever of 103 degrees; a patient with pneumonia with a fever of 103 degrees; and two patients with chronic abdominal disease, shown to be cancer on post-mortem examination, that had normal to subnormal temperatures. His final statement in the report was that "our experience gained in attempting to verify the facts and principles established by others had led us to form a very favorable opinion of this method of observation. We hope that it is still destined to a wider field of research and development." Disadvantages were the necessity of taking repeated observations, which meant several trips to the patient's home in the day, and the time

required for taking the measurement—five to ten minutes with the instrument placed under the arm, and the liability of breaking the ten-inch long glass instrument. A clinical thermometer was first noted in use in Carlisle at the Carlisle Barracks hospital in 1868 but was not put into general use until the late 1870's.

The health of the county, in the absence of either a state or local board of health, was given in these state reports, although no mortality tables were available. We find occasional epidemics of diphtheria as well as typhoid and scarlet fever. Measles epidemics also occasionally occurred and, according to one report from a Shippensburg physician, were "complicated by bronchitis and pneumonia, destroying life in a few instances." A smallpox epidemic occurred in Carlisle in 1872, presumably "imported from Philadelphia by a country merchant residing six miles west of Carlisle." The disease subsided "after strict sanitary measures were adopted and enforced, including vaccination." Syphilis was reported to be "of rare occurrence, and this, we trust, is an indication not only to chaste habits, but of a high tone of moral ethics." Cases of cerebrospinal meningitis, probably spotted fever or typhus, made their, presumably, first appearance in the valley in 1872. It was also noted that "the more inveterate forms of skin disease are rarely met with here, a fact which speaks well for our pure air and bountiful land with which God is pleased to supply our children with good and substantial food."

The general state of medical practice in the county is indicated in the 1876 report which also gave a brief historical review. Dr. E. B. Brandt from Mechanicsburg noted that many of the people had "superstitious notions with regard to the treatment of the sick—that more faith was put in the manipulations of some ignorant old woman than in the treatment of an intelligent practitioner. Many believed (for example) that pow-wowing is the only thing for a burn. It is no wonder that where such superstition and ignorance abound, quackery should flourish and homeopathy find many advocates and that nature, without the aid of medicine, effects a cure, the credit should be given to pretentious impostors. Some of our regular graduates are . . . injuring the profession by encouraging quackery for the sake of pecuniary gain and personal popularity."

The County Society was active in the affairs of the State Society during this first decade. Dr. George Haldeman was vice-president of the State organization in 1868, Dr. William Dale was made a vice-president in 1873, and Dr. R. Lowry Sibbet was elected to the same position in 1876. Dr. S. B. Kieffer, previously mentioned, was elected president of the State Society in 1873. The State Society held their 24th Annual Meeting in Carlisle on June 11 of that year, with Dr. A.

M. Pollack from Allegheny County presiding and 121 delegates from all over the state attending the three-day meeting. The meetings were held in the Court House, with evening entertainment at Rheems Hall and the Bentz House. Activities and topics for discussion during that week were reported by the *Carlisle Herald;* they included such various items as a report on the water supply of Philadelphia, a discussion of ear infections and their relationship to meningitis, and resolutions to the legislature. One resolution urged the creation of hospitals for the criminally insane and another, introduced by Dr. Sibbet, was for an act "prohibiting the practice of medicine and surgery in Pennsylvania by persons not graduates of some legally authorized medical institution." The State Medical Society has not met in Carlisle since that 1873 meeting and it was not until the year 1975 that another member of the Cumberland County Medical Society, Dr. David S. Masland, was elected president of our State Society.

The first decade ended with 34 active members on the Society's rolls. Sixty-eight physicians had been elected during that ten year period, sixteen had moved away, nine were dropped for non-payment of the two dollars a year dues and the one dollar admission fee, seven members had died, and two had been given honorary status.

The Medical Society continued to gain membership during its second decade from 1876 to 1886, and the meetings were held more frequently, changing in 1881 from three to four times a year. However, Dr. Thomas Stewart, Jr. (seven times secretary of the Society and once its president) noted in his report to the State Society in 1883 that "there seems to be a lack of interest on the part of some and our meetings, although more frequent, are not as interesting or instructive as they might be." The meetings were still all-day affairs, generally held in Carlisle and less frequently than before in Mechanicsburg or Newville. Attendance ranged from eleven to eighteen members per meeting and the format was essentially unchanged; case reports, prepared papers, and discussions of medical interest dominating the meetings. The constitution of the Society was amended in 1881 to require the outgoing president to present at the end of his term an address "written upon pieces of paper to be preserved in the Archives of this Society." The secretary had been previously directed, in 1869, to procure "a tin box to keep the Society papers in, the cost of the same not to exceed $2.00." The papers prepared by the members and the presidents' addresses were presumably also kept in this tin box which, to date, has not been located. Internal strife occurred only rarely. A former officer of the Society was suspended in 1885 after two other members charged that in a consulting case "he did not treat them with due respect and did by speech and publication assume

greater credit in the case than was his due, to our own detriment, and that he insinuated and printed articles of certain unpardonable ridicule." Most of the problems of the members were with presumed consultations with homeopathic physicians and it was again resolved that no member of the Society be permitted to have any professional intercourse with anyone not a member of the Society, or with one who should be guilty of any unprofessional conduct toward any member of the Society.

In 1881 a medical library was considered and a committee appointed to investigate the possibility of a library. At the July meeting a report of the Library Committee was given. The Society had been given the use of a closet in the Court House as a bookcase, the acquisition of books from members was suggested, and it was also suggested that the dues of the members be raised from $2.00 a year to $5.00 for the purchase of books and the support of a librarian. To support the proposition for the increased annual dues, the report went on,

> we contend that it should be considered the sacred duty of each member to support this Society and his profession to contribute at least a small sum of $5.00 yearly to support a home institution which shall add a light to the dignity and advancement to our profession as well as to the mutual improvement of ourselves and indirect benefit of our subjects. Vain and feeble must be the ambition of a man who is so narrow minded that he can not reach beyond selfish or pecuniary aims. We must admit that there are those of us who will have argued that they can ill afford such an increase, but to them we can only reply that a profession which will not admit of the contribution of $5.00 per year to a mutual advancement of its members or to the support of the dignity and progress of its organization; is a profession unworthy of its followers. It is like a religion whose home missionary works fall short on the grounds of insignificance. There is no reason, gentlemen, why we should not have a standard medical library in this county as well as an earnest working profession, neither of which we can today even lay partial claim to. But, dear sirs, to accomplish either of the above objects incurs earnest active work in all of the details which pertain to medicine, the profession we have chosen, we trust, to adorn rather than to betray.

Rules and regulations of the library were also given. There is, however, no mention of the library in any subsequent minutes of the Society, and no increase in monies coming into the treasury is apparent. It is assumed that the library as proposed never came into being.

The medical topics for discussion during this period comprised the illnesses which, common then, are rarely seen today. Various methods of treating diphtheria were again discussed and several case reports

given and subsequently reported to the State Society. The use of salicin, a drug derived from the roots of the willow and poplar trees, was advanced as a gargle to dissolve the membrane which formed in the throat in diphtheria, and it was noted that the fever subsided and that there was greater freedom of breathing and speech. There was also a report of a case of acute rheumatism treated by the same medicine. It was not until the 1930's that a synthetic preparation of this drug, which we now know as aspirin, was made and came into widespread accepted use in treating arthritis and relieving fever. Scarlet fever, measles and typhoid fever still seemed to comprise most of the illnesses that concerned the physicians in the county. There was a single case report of a patient with diabetes. Diabetes during that period was still a poorly understood disease and thought to be caused by mental strain or worry and was diagnosed by the passage of large amounts of pale, sweet urine. No tests for the detection of sugar in blood had yet been devised and it was not until 1886 that an abnormality of the pancreas was found to be the cause of the disease. Cases of cancer were also discussed; in a meeting in 1881 Dr. Sibbet gave a paper on an operation for breast cancer using the Lister antiseptic method. This is the first mention of this method of antisepsis, one of the greatest of medical advances, which involved the use of carbolic acid solution on the surgical wounds, on the surgeons' hands and on his instruments. Although it had been promoted in 1866 as a method of reducing operative infections, it was still a subject of great controversy.

Several case reports submitted to the State Society in 1885 give some indication of the general mode of treatment during that period. Dr. William H. Longsdorf from Centerville characterized the county as follows: "Cumberland Valley has from time immemorial been considered a typical earthly paradise, for beauty, utility and healthfulness.Not only does it call forth the encomiums of the tourists but it has also long been a favorite resort for the invalid in search of health." Dr. Longsdorf was justifiably proud of the recovery of a 13-year-old boy who had fallen about twenty feet onto a pile of rocks. He had initially considered the case hopeless, for the boy had two fractured ribs, a fracture of the right arm and fractures of both upper legs. Longsdorf was able, *without assistance*, to splint the arm and with some difficulty to reduce both fractured femurs by traction. Silver chloride was used in this case as an antiseptic lotion and was apparently successful. Dr. Longsdorf also reported that he had been called to see a man who had attempted suicide by hanging, but had been cut down before "life was entirely extinct." His treatment consisted of multiple injections of a combination of aromatic spirits of ammonia, ether and brandy into

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

AMERICAN

ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

ORGANIZED SEPTEMBER 6, 1876.

CARLISLE, PA.:

PRINTED BY HERALD PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY.

1877.

The American Academy of Medicine was organized by a Cumberland County physician, 1876, to reform and advance medical education in the United States. (College of Physicians of Philadelphia)

one arm and bleeding from the other. The man had made a perfect recovery. Caesarean sections were not done at this time, particularly in the country doctor's practice, and it was occasionally necessary to destroy the child and to decapitate it at the time labor began in women who had a narrow pelvis. A description of such a case appears in Dr. Longsdorf's report, again caring for the patient at home and alone with his apparently necessary surgical intervention done without chloroform or other anesthetic. First mention of the use of the ophthalmoscope occurs in a report in 1880. Dr. G. Winfield Ziegler, who joined the Society in 1878 and was its president for two years, apparently brought the instrument to Carlisle shortly after he left medical school and training at the Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia; he described its use in several patients. Carlisle's first ophthalmologist, Dr. Ziegler died in 1890 at the age of 35 from an unknown lung disease.

The advocacy of medical legislation consumed much of the time of the Medical Society during its second decade. Dr. R. Lowry Sibbet, a charter member of the Dauphin County Medical Society, who had transferred his practice to New Kingston in 1869, was chairman of the Legislative Committee of the State Medical Society and spent much of his time lobbying for registration of medical practitioners. Dr. Sibbet was probably the best educated of the physicians in the county at that time, having received both a bachelor's and a master's degree from Gettysburg College before obtaining his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He also studied in Europe before beginning practice. He presented the Cumberland County report to the State Society in 1879 with a discussion of the history of medicine in Cumberland County. In this report he noted that there were 72 medical practitioners in the county at that time, or one for every 650 inhabitants, and that nine were homeopathic and one eclectic. He bemoaned the lack of education of the physicians and noted that only three of these 72 physicians had bachelor of arts degrees. From his position in the State Society Sibbet was able to realize three pieces of medical legislation, the first ever in Pennsylvania. The first, in April 1875, stated that the practitioner had to have a diploma from a chartered medical school and if he had no diploma, he must apply for examination to the prothonotary of the county in which he wanted to practice. The court of the county would then appoint three respectable practitioners of medicine of the school of practice to which the applicant wished to belong to give the examination. Alternatively, the candidate could have one full course of lectures at a medical school and been a resident practitioner for five years, or could have been in practice for ten years without formal education. This act

was soon repealed.

In 1877 a second attempt was made, in which it was required that the practitioner have a thorough elementary education and made it unlawful to practice without a diploma. Not until 1881 was legislation suitable to the physicians finally enacted. Public Law 78 required that the medical practitioner must register with the prothonotary in the county in which he intended to practice or was practicing at the time, and qualifications for engaging in medical practice were given. The members of organized medicine, particularly those in Cumberland County, were now able to see who was in practice and, shortly after the act was passed and registration begun, took it upon themselves to investigate several suspicious cases. One such practitioner was a non-medical school graduate who had moved from town to town and was presently in Kansas claiming that he was treating patients by mail. The Medical Register in 1882 showed that there were 93 medical practitioners in the county. It was not until 1893 that examination by a state board was established and a license provided. In 1911 the law concerning the Medical Register was repealed and registration was then in the hands of the state instead of the county. Other advancements during this period included the establishment of a County Board of Health in 1880 with Dr. S. P. Ziegler as president and Dr. W. F. Reily as secretary, both members of the County Medical Society. A report to the State in 1882 noted that the Board of Health was very efficient and that Carlisle in a sanitary point of view was in a pretty fair condition and that it would bear "the name of the garden spot of health in the Cumberland Valley."

The low point in interest in Society affairs occurred during the last years of the nineteenth century. Membership dropped from 38 in 1885 to a low of 25 ten years later. Meetings were still held quarterly, although almost exclusively in Carlisle, and attendance was poor, with a few scheduled meetings canceled because of the lack of a quorum. One Society president even managed to miss all of the scheduled meetings during his year of tenure. Although there were numerous medical practitioners in the county, over half either chose not to join the organization or had resigned. In 1896 Dr. Sibbet, reporting on fifteen years' experience with the law of 1881 and the Medical Register, indicating that there were 88 resident medical practitioners in the county at that time, five less than fifteen years previously, including 20 who were "illegally" registered and seven who were practicing without the degree of doctor of medicine. In addition, during that fifteen year period, 41 county physicians had died and 81 had left for other parts. Only 25 of the 68 "legally" registered doctors were Society members.

The officers did make an effort to provide interesting and instruc-

tive meetings. On January 10, 1888, physicians were invited from Philadelphia and Harrisburg to read papers at an afternoon session and to join the Society and members of the Bar Association at a banquet that evening. The *Carlisle Herald* and the *Daily Evening Sentinel* reported the names of the speakers, contents of their presentations and a description of the banquet and of the 84 guests that attended. The Society secretary was later criticized for allowing the newspaper articles to appear, particularly those concerning the contents of the medical topics, and was charged with violation of trust and the code of medical ethics. The charges were later dropped but attendant at meetings for the next several years also dropped. Interest in the Society and its activities improved when, on August 23, 1894, the Society presented a series of public lectures to the community. Four months earlier they had resolved to "hold a sanitary convention under the auspices of the Society in as much as the people of the county need instruction on the subject of hygiene and the care of the sick and the prevention of the spread of contagious disease." This apparently successful meeting included a discussion of smallpox and vaccination, diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, the prevention of these diseases, and school sanitation procedures.

Case reports during the meetings of the 1890's showed interest in a greater variety of diseases and more surgical cases appeared. In 1887 Dr. Bowman from Camp Hill had presented two cases of typhlitis and demonstrated post-mortem specimens. Typhlitis, or perityphlitis, was the name given to what we now recognize as acute appendicitis. Surgery was generally unsuccessful because the disease was not recognized in its early stages when removal of the organ could be done easily and rupture and abscesses avoided. Surgeons also were still leery of entering the abdomen and it was not until the early 1890's that Lister's antiseptic techniques were finally accepted, rubber gloves came into use, and some degree of sterility surrounded the operating site. In 1889 Dr. A. R. Allen was able to report on several cases of appendicitis; by 1910 he had accumulated one hundred patients with the disease upon whom he had successfully operated. Other items of interest presented to the Society included a report of several cases of mushroom poisoning, a case of criminal abortion, a case of infanticide, morphine poisoning, numerous accounts of cholera infantum, cases of dysentery, brain concussion, gangrene, treatment of headache, and numerous other topics. In 1898 Dr. McCollough from Newville, a recent graduate from Philadelphia, spoke on the use of X-rays, and a new era of medical diagnosis was entered. X-rays, as a possible medical tool, had been discovered late in 1895 and their use and acceptance spread more rapidly than any other previous medical advancement.

A change in the type of medical care also occurred in the Carlisle area during the 1890's. In 1893 the Lydia Baird Home and Hospital opened for the care of patients. This was the first hospital available to the citizens of the community, although hospital facilities had been present at the Carlisle Barracks as early as 1775 for the use of military personnel and at the Indian School when it was established. The physicians of the County Society responded to a request by the board of managers of the hospital to treat patients gratuitously at their dispensary after chiding them on the use of the term "Allopath" in describing graduates from the regular medical schools. In 1896 the Todd Hospital replaced the Lydia Baird Hospital and provided more rooms as well as an operating room facility. The Potts Christian Faith Sanitarium also made its appearance in Carlisle in 1893. An investigating committee from the Society found that "Doctor" Potts had not registered with the prothonotary as required by law and was not a physician. They had him bound over to the court and attempted to rid the town of his "sanitarium." They were apparently not very successful for we find the Society again, in 1902, still trying to close down his place of business.

In 1891 the Society elected to its membership its first woman physician, Dr. Hildegarde H. Longsdorf. Dr. Longsdorf came from a family of county physicians, was a graduate of Dickinson College in 1888 and of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1891. She served as secretary to the Society for a number of years and we are indebted to her for biographies of many of the physicians who practiced in the county at the turn of the century as well as for legible notes for the Society's minutes. She also served as a member of the editorial staff for the *Pennsylvania Medical Journal* and was responsible for articles on sanitation, hygiene and Christian Science. Her father, Dr. William H. Longsdorf, began his practice in Centerville in 1856, served as a surgeon during the Civil War, and returned to Cumberland County in 1865 after sustaining fractures of both ankles with permanent disability. He was a charter member of the Society and served as its president in 1887. Among his non-medical activities was a trip to Pike's Peak in 1858, a trip that included 627 miles by ox-wagon from Omaha to Denver and enabled him to be in the second party ever to reach that point. Dr. Harold H. Longsdorf, Dr. William Longsdorf's first son, was born in Nebraska in 1858 and accompanied his father on the ox-wagon to Denver that summer. He subsequently graduated from Dickinson College and the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Baltimore and began practice in Centerville in 1882. He was president of the County Society on two occasions, in 1894 and in 1937 and active in its affairs and those of the State Society until his death in 1943.

Physicians at the Indian Training School were also active in Society affairs. Dr. Obadiah G. Given, who arrived at the Indian School in 1883, was elected president of the Society for 1889, six months before his death at the age of 50. His name frequently appears in the Society minutes as a speaker on the variety of complaints suffered by the Indian students, with particular interest in skin diseases and tuberculosis. In 1887 he demonstrated for the Society a new respiratory care instrument which was described as a "new apparatus for the treatment of lung diseases by gaseous enemas." His successor, Dr. Carlos Montezuma, also joined the Society shortly after his arrival and was made a vice-president before he departed to Chicago in 1896. Dr. Montezuma was an Apache Indian, born in Arizona in 1866. He was captured as a boy by the Pima Indians and sold as a slave to a white man, Carlos Gentile, who took him to Chicago. He worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs after graduating from Rush Medical College in 1889 and returned to Chicago after several years in Carlisle to crusade for Indian Rights. He died from tuberculosis in 1923 in Arizona. When the Montezuma Highway there was dedicated in 1962 he was called the greatest of the educated Apaches, a champion of Indian Rights. Dr. Ferdinand Shoemaker, the last of the physicians at the Indian School, joined the Society in 1905 and was active in its affairs, serving as a delegate to the State Society, and remained a corresponding member from his next post in Kansas City until 1945.

The first part of the twentieth century saw renewed interest in the activities of the Medical Society. Meetings continued to be held quarterly; however, meeting sites were scattered throughout the county instead of being confined to Carlisle. Speakers were invited from medical schools in Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, and elsewhere to address the group. The first of these was Dr. David L. Edsall from the University of Pennsylvania, who lectured in 1900 on the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the stomach. He received $8 to defray his traveling expenses from Philadelphia to Shippensburg for that meeting. Well known Philadelphia physicians who visited Carlisle during this period included Dr. Richard C. Norris, Dr. John H. Gibbon and Dr. Harry Deaver. In 1910 Dr. Judson B. Daland, also from Philadelphia, presented the use of "preparation 606", the Ehrlich treatment for syphilis, the first effective treatment for that disease. The use of the X-ray in various disease states was presented on several occasions, and in 1905 Dr. Henry A. Spangler spoke on the importance of establishing a convenient bacteriologic and pathologic laboratory in Carlisle. New disease entities such as poliomyelitis made their appearance and we find that an excess of uric acid was considered, for a time, the cause of many disease states as well as for gout. In January 1900

the members of the Society were treated to a description of the injuries received by a man who fell from a balloon, possibly the first aircraft accident they had ever considered. In July 1902 Dr. Allen gave his treatment for croupous pneumonia that began with a calomel purge. Magnesium sulfate was used to relieve internal congestion, antimony was occasionally used as a depressant. Strychnine was given hypodermically to prevent depression of the heart and opium was used to counteract the effect of strychnine on the nervous system. The patients were also bled, as they were one hundred years previously and the procedure was said to have produced admirable results, especially in lobar pneumonia. The bacteria causing the disease, prneumococcus, was now known, and pneumonia was regarded as contagious. Treatment of pneumonia and its complications were not to change significantly until the era of antibiotics in the 1940's. The sale of patent medicines was in its heyday during the early 1900's and the Society had the chance to reaffirm its stand against them in 1903. An advertisement appeared in the *Daily Sentinel* that year for the Dr. Hemminger Medicine Company, which offered to anyone who bought one of their household medicine cabinets a free examination and treatment for one year. The Society considered this a violation of medical ethics and so informed Dr. Hemminger, who had been a member of the County Society for 33 years. The matter was quickly resolved when Dr. Hemminger severed his relationship with the company, although the advertisement continued to appear for several months thereafter.

Preventive medicine continued to be a concern of the Society and in April 1904 we find them urging the appointment of a physician health officer in the county to supervise public water supplies and improve sanitary conditions. In 1908 they presented a public lecture on preventive medicine by a representative of the American Medical Association, Dr. J. N. McCormack. In 1911 the Society again was urging a sanitary method for sewage disposal for Carlisle.

A Society medical library seemed to start in 1902 when Dr. James E. Pilcher donated his library and medical journals to the Bosler Library. Dr. Pilcher, a professor of sociology and economics at Dickinson College, had been made an honorary member of the Society in 1900 on his arrival in Carlisle following 20 years as a military surgeon. He had been a prolific author on a variety of topics in military medicine and medical history and had retired at the age of 43. His library has now been replaced by the medical library at the Carlisle Hospital.

In July 1917 the Society met, for the first time, in the newly opened Carlisle Hospital. From that time to the present the membership has been composed primarily of physicians from the Carlisle area,

including Newville, Mount Holly Springs, and Boiling Springs, with a few from Mechanicsburg. The Shippensburg physicians have joined the Franklin County Society because of the proximity of the Chambersburg Hospital, where they care for their patients, while Camp Hill and West Shore physicians are members of the Dauphin County Society.

In 1966, one hundred years after its founding, the Cumberland County Medical Society had 49 members, the same number that were enrolled the first year of its existence. Meetings are now held bimonthly but only for several hours instead of an entire day. Dues have increased from $2 in 1866 to $30. Medical education is now obtained primarily through hospital rather than local Society meetings. Some of the problems that faced our predecessors have been resolved, but many similar problems remain. Immunization of school children, vaccination, sewage contamination of water supplies and the question of non-physician medical practitioners are still concerns. Calomel has disappeared from the physician's bag and bleeding is done only rarely for certain diseases, although you might question this after a visit to the laboratory for a blood test. A few problems have even been reversed and the Society is now protesting against too much government regulation instead of too little. The Cumberland County Medical Society still serves to "promote friendly intercourse among its members for the advancement of medical science and for the dissemination of useful information," its original purpose in 1866.

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- 1st V.P. W. Rankin
- 2nd V.P. W. W. Dale
- Rec. Sec. G. W. Haldeman

1868
- Pres. William Rankin
- 1st V.P. I. Day
- 2nd V.P. G. Grove
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1869
- Pres. Ira Day
- 1st V.P. C. Zitzer
- 2nd V.P. R. C. Hays
- Rec. Sec. J. C. Claudy

1870
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1882

Pres.	C. A. Howland
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Pres.	R. L. Sibbet
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1884

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Pres.	George W. Ziegler
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2nd V.P.	H. H. Longsdorf
Sec.	T. Stewart, Jr.

1886

Pres.	George W. Ziegler
1st V.P.	W. F. Reily
2nd V.P.	L. H. Leuhar
Sec.	T. Stewart, Jr.

1887

Pres.	William H. Longsdorf
1st V.P.	W. M. Witherspoon
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1888

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1st V.P.	A. R. Allen
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Sec.	T. Stewart, Jr.

1891

Pres.	William W. Dale (died 2/25/91)
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1892

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1st V.P.	Harold H. Longsdorf
2nd V.P.	W. C. Stewart
Sec.	J. C. Davis

1893

Pres.	Columbus W. Krise
1st V.P.	R. N. Short
2nd V.P.	Harold H. Longsdorf
Sec.	J. C. Davis

1894

Pres.	Harold H. Longsdorf
1st V.P.	P. R. Koons
2nd V.P.	J. J. Koser
Sec.	J. C. Davis

1895

Pres.	P. R. Koons
1st V.P.	J. W. Bowman
2nd V.P.	J. C. Claudy
Sec.	J. C. Davis

1896

Pres.	John W. Bowman
1st V.P.	C. Montezuma
2nd V.P.	W. E. Swiler
Sec.	J. C. Davis

1897

Pres.	William E. Swiler
1st V.P.	M. M. Dougherty
2nd V.P.	C. K. Lefever
Sec.	J. C. Davis

1898

Pres.	C. C. Hummel
1st V.P.	D. L. McDonald
2nd V.P.	Hilda H. Longsdorf
Sec.	J. C. Davis

1899

Pres.	Edward S. Berry
1st V.P.	M. M. Dougherty
2nd V.P.	S. S. Bishop
Sec.	J. C. Davis

1900

Pres.	Joseph C. Davis
1st V.P.	M. M. Dougherty
2nd V.P.	G. C. Borst
Sec.	Hilda H. Longsdorf

1901

Pres.	Milton M. Dougherty
1st V.P.	G. Borst
2nd V.P.	D. W. Van Camp
Rec. Sec.	Hilda H. Longsdorf

1902

Pres.	George C. Borst
1st V.P.	D. W. Van Camp
2nd V.P.	H. A. Spangler
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1903

Pres.	David W. Van Camp
1st V.P.	H. A. Spangler
2nd V.P.	J. B. McCreary
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1904

Pres.	Harry A. Spangler
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1905

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1st V.P.	H. M. Linebaugh
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Rec. Sec.	Hilda H. Longsdorf

1906

Pres.	Harry M. Linebaugh
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1907

Pres.	Thomas W. Preston
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2nd V.P.	R. M. Shepler
Rec. Sec.	Hilda H. Longsdorf

1908

Pres.	Henry R. Douglas
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2nd V.P.	S. E. Mowery
Rec. Sec.	Hilda H. Longsdorf

1909

Pres.	Samuel E. Mowery
1st V.P.	E. S. Berry
2nd V.P.	E. R. Plank
Rec. Sec.	H. R. Douglas

1910

Pres.	Edward R. Plank
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1911

Pres.	Walter C. Arthur
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1913

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2nd V.P.	S. A. Kirkpatrick
Rec. Sec.	E. R. Plank

1915

Pres.	Robert M. Shepler
1st V.P.	H. A. Smith
2nd V.P.	E. A. Hudson
Rec. Sec.	C. R. Rickenbaugh

1916

Pres.	Americus R. Allen
1st V.P.	E. A. Hudson
2nd V.P.	G. L. Zimmerman
Rec. Sec.	C. R. Rickenbaugh

EDITOR'S NOTE. The principal sources of this paper are the manuscript minutes of the Cumberland County Medical Society (in the Cumberland County Historical Society) and the annual reports of the County Medical Society to the State Medical Society (in Harrisburg). The events of general medical history, such as the introduction of anesthesia, may be readily learned from such works as Fielding H. Garrison, Introduction to the History of Medicine (Philadelphia, 1913, and later editions). A biographical sketch of Dr. Robert L. Sibbet of Carlisle, an advocate of medical educational reform in the latter nineteenth century, was published in Cumberland County History, V (1988), 3-18.

William McCormick's Estate Papers, 1805

(Father of James McCormick of Harrisburg)

Willis L. Shirk, Jr.

The prominent McCormick family dynasty of Harrisburg was founded by James McCormick, the only son of William McCormick of East Pennsborough township, Cumberland County. Though a great deal has been written concerning the vast financial empire erected by James McCormick in nineteenth century Harrisburg, little attention has been paid to his father, a moderately situated yeoman farmer and distiller, who met his untimely end in a farm accident during the opening decade of the nineteenth century. The estate papers of William McCormick recently acquired by the Dauphin County Historical Society provide insights into the comparatively humble circumstances from which his son, James, rose to become one of Harrisburg's wealthiest men. In addition to shedding light on early McCormick family history, these papers provide a valuable glimpse of rural life in Cumberland County during the dawning years of the American Republic.

The McCormick family of Harrisburg is descended from James McCormick of Ulster, Ireland, whose children emigrated to America during the early years of the eighteenth century. Among these children, Thomas McCormick was born in Ulster in 1702 and married Elizabeth Carruth in 1726.[1] Upon emigrating to Pennsylvania, Thomas McCormick first settled on a 100-acre tract in Hanover township, then part of Lancaster County, about the year 1745. At the time of his death in 1767 he was living in East Pennsborough township of the present Cumberland County, where he was survived by six children.[2] One of these, James, born in 1729 while the family still lived in Ireland, later married Mary Oliver at Silver Spring, Cumberland County, about 1760. They had five children, of whom the third, William, is the subject of this sketch.[3]

Born at Silver Spring about 1766, William McCormick was married in 1800 to Margery Bines, who was born on August 22, 1767. Their only children were twins, James and Margaret, who were born at Silver Spring on February 24, 1801.[4] It is this James McCormick, who was graduated from Princeton, was admitted to the bar of Cumberland County in 1823, and married Elizabeth Beuhler in 1830, who sired the McCormick family dynasty of Harrisburg. James McCormick's twin sister, Margaret, died unmarried in 1853.[5]

Both the *Carlisle Herald* and Kline's *Carlisle Gazette* reported the tragic and untimely death of William McCormick in June of 1805:

> On the 13th inst. William McCormick of East Pennsborough Township in the act of pitching hay from a wagon was by a sudden movement of the horses, thrown off; in the fall his head struck one of the wheels, which in a few moments put a period to his existence.[6]

Married just five years, his widow was suddenly confronted by the formidable challenge of raising her twin children alone.

The Finney Papers in the Dauphin County Historical Society (MG-466) contain letters of administration for William McCormick's estate as well as an estate inventory, a list of items purchased from the estate by William's widow, a complete set of records for the public vendue, and a detailed record of payments by buyers at the public sale. In addition, there are several documents relating to judgments brought many years later by William's widow, Margery McCormick Bryson, against two buyers at the public vendue who had failed to pay for their purchases.

Estate inventories contain a description and valuation assigned to the items owned by the deceased at the time of death for the purpose of determining the total value of an estate. Interpreting such inventories after nearly two centuries is complicated by several factors. Completeness and detail varied widely, depending upon how meticulous those compiling the inventory were. Furthermore, some items might be removed from the estate by various family members either prior to, or just after, death. In addition, the styles used in recording inventories could vary from one region to another and among different ethnic groups. Sometimes inventories specified the rooms in which various items were located. Even when their locations are not specifically identified, however, it is often possible to deduce the location from the order in which the entries were made, as the appraisers moved from room to room through the house or out to the barn. Many appraisers began by listing clothing first, then moving through the first and second floors of a house, and ending outside to record articles connected with farm or other business occupations. Though uncertainties arising from language, ethnic, and cultural variations abound, these documents provide valuable clues to understanding the homes of our ancestors.

The Inventory of William McCormick's estate (Document 1), which is rather more detailed than many inventories of the period, begins with household items. Though room locations are not specifically enumerated, the arrangement of articles suggests that the appraisers began in the kitchen, moved into a dining area, then to a

parlor, before ascending to upstairs chambers that contained beds, various fabrics, a spinning wheel, and stored grains. The appraisers next moved outside to record farm implements, carpentry tools, the products of a still house, and finally the animals. The dwelling in which William McCormick lived has probably not survived, and it is difficult to know from the inventory its size, construction materials, or room arrangement. According to the Federal Direct Tax records for 1798, 1,736 houses within the present boundaries of Cumberland County carried valuations above $100.[7] In East Pennsborough township 79% of the houses were only a single story and a half in height, and fully 68% were constructed of logs. The average dimensions for the typical Cumberland County home during this period was just 29 by 23 feet.

The presence of such luxury items as three looking glasses in William McCormick's inventory suggests that the McCormicks may have lived in a house that was somewhat above the average for the township during the period, quite possibly of stone construction. Looking glasses were so highly valued during the eighteenth century that inventories often record even broken looking glasses. The initial impression that William McCormick and his family lived in relatively comfortable surroundings is strengthened by the presence in the estate of four bedsteads, two of which are described as having curtains. Fabrics of any kind were expensive luxuries at this period.[8] Nonetheless, the total quantity of furniture in the estate was not large by modern standards. A dining table, two breakfast tables, twelve chairs, three waiters, two cupboards, a desk, a case of drawers, and a trundle bed constitute the only other domestic furniture. A relatively high valuation of $12.50 for articles in one of the cupboards suggests the presence of some fine china and/or silver. On the whole, however, this inventory indicates a comfortable yeoman existence rather than great wealth, since much of the inventory is taken up with descriptions of farm implements, carpentry tools, spinning wheels, and objects needful for converting grains to whiskey.

William McCormick's widow and administratrix, Margery McCormick, apparently enjoyed access to significant financial resources since Document 2 shows that she purchased $1654.62 worth of articles from the estate, including virtually all of the household furnishings, as well as substantial quantities of wheat, rye, oats, hay, and ten acres of corn that was still in the ground. Apparently she continued to live on the farm after her husband's death and retained possession of William's two stills, as well as 456.5 gallons of whiskey, presumably not for her own consumption! She also kept two of William's six cows, along with two heifers, four calves, 27 hogs, and

three lambs. Not surprisingly, the valuations assigned to these items purchased by the widow closely mirror the valuations given in the estate inventory. The account for the public vendue records both the names of the purchasers and the prices they paid for items from William's estate.

William McCormick's eldest brother James (who was born in 1761 and was married to one Margaret Oliver) seems to have acted as agent for the estate in collecting debts from the public vendue.[9] In order to gain a broader understanding of the socio-economic position of William McCormick's family at this period, and also of the later circumstances of William's heirs, it is instructive to inquire a little into the life of his brother James. According to the 1799 tax records, this James McCormick was living in Carlisle and owned one house and one lot.[10] In the 1811 tax records he was described as a gentleman—his name was followed by the title "Esq."—and his occupation listed as a "justice."[11] This James McCormick was principal of the Dickinson College Grammar School in 1788-92, professor of mathematics at Dickinson from 1792 to 1814, and editor of the *Western Almanac,* 1792-99. In addition to his house and lot in Carlisle, James McCormick at this period also owned fifteen acres of "outlots," suggesting a budding propensity to speculate in real estate. The Septennial census of 1807 confirms James McCormick's title of "Esquire" and his occupation as a mathematics teacher.[12] The 1820 tax list shows the heirs of James McCormick owning one stone house on High Street in Carlisle as well as sixteen acres of outlots.[13] By 1835, however, no McCormicks are any longer listed as owning property in Carlisle.

Interestingly, the administrator for James McCormick's Carlisle estate was another James McCormick, his nephew, the only son of our William McCormick. In 1826 the latter James McCormick sold his late uncle's two-story stone dwelling house, a log barn, and a frame shop building in Carlisle to one John Glime.[14] Tax records show that by 1835 the dwelling house was converted to a duplex, with the eastern one third occupied by one Bernard Hendel and the western two-thirds by a Joseph B. Jacobs.[15] Professor James McCormick of Carlisle was apparently survived by no children of his own, and his estate may well have formed the seed of the financial empire his nephew constructed over the succeeding 42 years.

As is well known, when William McCormick's son, James, died in Harrisburg in 1870, he was master of a impressive financial empire that included seven farms totaling 1,053 acres located in Cumberland County, a 103-acre farm in Dauphin County, two farms totaling 192 acres in Lancaster County, 756 acres of mountain land in Perry and Lancaster Counties, and the land upon which the Harrisburg Cotton

Mill stood. In addition, James McCormick owned the Paxton Iron Furnace and Rolling Mill, the West Fairview Nail Works, the Paxton Flour Mills, and a residence located at 233 Market Street that he purchased from Simon Cameron in 1834. He served as president of the Harrisburg Bridge Company from 1856, the Dauphin Deposit Bank from 1840, and the Harrisburg Cotton Company from 1849.[16] A further measure of James McCormick's immense wealth at the time of his death is to be found in two documents dated 1870 and 1874, in which his widow agreed to accept a $400,000 trust fund in lieu of her quarter of his estate.[17] This fund generated an annual income of $25,000 at a period in which the average home sold for just $1,500.

In the summer of 1805 there was little to suggest that William McCormick's only son would one day do so well. The accounts for the public vendue of William McCormick's estate that was held on October 25, 1805 (Documents 3 and 4) disclose that the seventeen books in the estate sold for a total of $2.25. Of these, one was purchased by William's brother, James, and the rest went to a Robert Philips. The presence of such a modest library would suggest a literate though not erudite household. The presence of a number of planes, saws, and chisels, along with an auger, a maul, an iron square, and a quantity of walnut boards, indicate that William may have made a small amount of furniture to supplement his income from farming. The still house, in which he converted the bulky grain crops of the neighborhood into easily transportable and highly marketable whiskey, probably provided William's largest source of income. The value of the whiskey sold at the vendue exceeded $291, comprising nearly 12% of the total value of the estate. (This does not include the large quantity of whiskey retained by the widow and the four barrels containing unspecified amounts purchased by James McCormick with the apparent intent of preventing the bid price from falling below 54.5 cents per gallon.)

Besides William McCormick's brothers, Robert and James, a number of the 46 bidders at the vendue can be identified as close family relations, and these individuals tended to be among those making the largest purchases.[18] Robert McCormick's bill was the highest at $176.44, and included the sum of $130 paid for a gray horse. The second highest bill of $150.16 was that of the Carlisle printer Archibald Loudon.[19] Robert purchased mostly farm-related items, including William's farm wagon. Richard Loudon and James Loudon, presumably two of Archibald's near kin, were, from their purchases, apparently also farmers. Tombstone inscriptions in the cemetery of the Silver Spring Presbyterian Church reveal that Peter Manasmith was also related to the McCormicks by marriage. The Rev.

Samuel Waugh, who purchased a sledge and chain as well as three tons of hay, was the minister at the Silver Spring church from 1782 until his death in 1808.[20]

Document 4 is a ledger of the accounts of the bidders, recording how, and sometimes when, they paid for their purchases at the vendue. Five of the bidders, Conrad Emminger, James Noble, John Mitchel, Joseph Sample, and Michael Carney, are recorded as paying their bills directly to James McCormick. While most purchasers eventually paid their bills by cash in full, only James Henderson is recorded as receiving a discount for early payment. Marginal notations reveal that some cash purchasers did not settle their accounts until the autumn of 1807. Nine purchasers paid by note, and these accounts took much longer to collect. A judgment entered by William McCormick's widow, Margery McCormick Bryson, against the estate of Benjamin Junkin in 1823 (Document 5) has survived, which shows that after 18 years Benjamin had not paid the $17.42 he bid for an iron square and a barrel of whiskey. A similar judgment (Document 6) was filed against another bidder in 1814, nine years after the vendue.

Though William McCormick's widow married William Bryson in 1809, she apparently had no more children. Little is known about William Bryson except that he died in 1818, when the McCormick twins were just seventeen years of age.[21] The family's financial resources were sufficient to permit young James McCormick to attend Princeton College, from whence he began the study of law under Andrew Carothers of Carlisle, who was a graduate of Dickinson College and later president of its board of trustees.[22] The young James McCormick was admitted to the Cumberland County Bar in 1823 and removed to Harrisburg after his marriage to Elizabeth Beuhler in 1830.[23]

Comparing William McCormick's estate inventory with those of other estates in the lower Susquehanna River valley recorded during the same period, reveals it to be not atypical among upwardly mobile Scots-Irish yeoman farmers. For example, the inventories of two James Andersons of Donegal Township, Lancaster County, who died in 1790 and 1799 respectively, reveal remarkable similarities to the McCormick inventory.[24] None of these estates had a house clock, though such clocks were common in the estate inventories of German farmers throughout the lower Susquehanna River valley during the period. All three estates, however, had desks, a small number of books, and at least one chest of drawers. An average of four bedsteads (including at least one with curtains), at least one looking glass, a dining table, a tea table, a breakfast table, one or two cupboards, and

a stove were also common features found in the homes of Scots-Irish yeoman farmers of similar socio-economic station at the close of the eighteenth century. Such homes also commonly contained about a dozen chairs, sometimes described as rush bottom and sometimes as windsors. Among luxury items not specifically enumerated in William McCormick's estate, one of the Donegal Township inventories listed a couch, while the other specified Delft plates, china, Queensware, and a dozen silver spoons.

A somewhat broader basis of comparison for William McCormick's estate inventory is available in Margaret Schiffer's analysis of 763 Chester County estate inventories taken between 1800 and 1809.[25] Among these only 8.8% specifically describe bed curtains, while another 5.8% list curtains without specifying whether they were for beds or windows. Tea tables were identified in 19.9%, and breakfast tables in 12%, of these Chester County estates, while clocks were present 21.4% of the time. Desks were identified in just 2.8% of these inventories, chests of drawers in only 1.1%, while cupboards were never mentioned. (Since many Chester County cupboards during this period were built into the house, they probably were not considered a separate piece of furniture for the purpose of an estate inventory.)

Clocks and desks tended to possess such a high value that they were probably always recorded in the estate inventory if they were present. The absence of a clock in William McCormick's inventory would appear to reflect a somewhat puzzling cultural pattern among Scots-Irish farmers in the lower Susquehanna River valley at the beginning of the nineteenth century. The apparent lack of interest in house clocks among prosperous Scots-Irish families in Pennsylvania is given further support from the inventory of James McClintock, a wealthy Chester County merchant, who died in 1811 leaving an estate valued at the considerable sum of £11,049, but no house clock.[26] In contrast to the absence of clocks in most Scots-Irish estates, desks appear to have been present in inventories of Scots-Irish decedents of the lower Susquehanna River valley in greater numbers than in Chester County estates, and looking glasses appear with a frequency similar to that found in the estates of their German and English neighbors.

William McCormick is buried in the cemetery of the Silver Spring Presbyterian Church, whose congregation was originally known in 1734 as "the People over the Susquehanna" when they first migrated from Donegal Township in Lancaster County.[27] A log meeting house was erected in 1735, and the present stone building, where William and Margery McCormick were married in 1800, was constructed in 1783.[28] The building was restored to its eighteenth-century appearance in 1928 by William McCormick's descendants, William B.

McCormick, Vance C. McCormick, and Anne McCormick.

At the time Cumberland County was created out of Lancaster County in 1750, a John McCormick was among the five trustees authorized to erect a courthouse and prison.[29] Except for this occurrence, the McCormick name that would one day become so prominent in Harrisburg's history appears infrequently in a leadership role in Cumberland County's history. A list of 126 taxables for East Pennsborough township taken in 1762 reveals that three McCormick families owned property there at that period, all ostensibly farmers.[30] It is known that William McCormick's father, James McCormick, who died in 1802, served as a private during the Revolutionary War.[31]

During most of the eighteenth century, East Pennsborough township, Cumberland County, was occupied by large numbers of Scots-Irish farm families, interspersed by a few German families. According to the 1800 census, the population of Cumberland County was fairly stable at 25,378.[32] Apparently many of the local families had tended to stay put since many of the surnames from the 126 taxables of 1751 in East Pennsborough township appear as buyers in the records of William McCormick's estate vendue more than a half century later. Among these names were Bell, Carothers, Clark, Henderson, Junkin, Laverty, Loudon, Noble, Oliver, Semple, and Waugh.

With the dawn of the nineteenth century William McCormick and his young family enjoyed favorable prospects for continued modest improvement in their economic station. The tragic farm accident which cut short William's life in the summer of 1805 undoubtedly resulted in severe trials for his young widow and their twin children. Nonetheless, Margery McCormick possessed sufficient financial resources to keep the farm. With the likely assistance of William's eldest brother, young James McCormick was destined to enjoy the benefit of a fine formal education at Princeton. Combining a keen intellect, the advantages of a first-rate education, the inheritance of his uncle's estate, and a favorable marriage, James McCormick proceeded to build a financial empire the likes of which his father, the industrious yeoman farmer and distiller on his East Pennsborough township farm in the operating decade of the nineteenth century, could hardly have imagined in his wildest dreams.

Document 1

An inventory of the goods and chattels of the personal estate of William McCormick late of East Pennsborough township in the County of Cumberland dec'd taken by Margery McCormick, Admx. and James McCormick, Adm. and appraised by David Walker and John Carothers on the 17th day of August A.D. 1805.

Tub, 67 cents/Churn, 40 cents/Tub, $1 ..... $2.07
20 Earthen Crocks, $1/Butter dish, 20 cents 1.20
Wine pipe and Hogshead, $3/3 barrels, $2 ..... 5.00
Three old Beef Vessels, $2/Lot Pewter, $2 ..... 4.00
Eight Queens Ware Plates, 48 cents ..... .48
Lot Tin-ware, $1.10/Candlesticks & Snuffers, $1.50 ..... 2.60
Two Buckets, 50 cents/Two Lanterns, 50 cents 1.00
Coffee Mill & Boiler - Skimmer & Ladle 1.00
Tea Kettle, $1/Two Crocks, $2/Andiron, $1.50 ..... 4.50
Shovels & Tongs, $1.20/Bucket, 33 cents 1.53
Lot of Pots, $6.50/Two Smoothing irons, 50 cents 7.50
1 Doz. of Knives & Forks, $1.50/2 Doz. Knives, &c., $1 ..... 2.50
Doughtrough, 50 cents/Six Chairs, $1.20 ..... 1.70
Six Chairs, $3/Two Augers & Chisel, 75 cents 3.75
Sword, $6/Gun, $5/Crosscut Saw, $5 ..... 16.00
Hand Sew, $1/Dining Table, $3.50 ..... 4.50
2 Breakfast Tables, $3/One Large Waiter & 2 Small and Bread Basket, $2.50 5.50
Three Looking Glasses, $2.50/Cup Board, $5 ..... 7.50
Articles in Cup-Board, $12.80/Another Cupboard, $2.25 ..... 15.05
Desk, $14/Case Drawer, $8/Cotton Cards, 2 pr. $1 ..... 23.00
Andirons, $1.50/Ten plate Stove plates split & pipe, $6 ..... 7.50
Case of Drawers, $1/Old Chest, $1/Reel, $1 ..... 3.00
21 Yards Home made Woolen Cloth, $1 per yd. 21.00
13 Yards Ditto Flannel Cloth, 40 cents per yd. 5.20
Lot of Leather, $5/Lot of Tow & Woolen Yarn, $3 ..... 8.00
Lot of Bags, $8.50/Half Bushel, $1 ..... 9.50
Spinning Wheel, $1.50/Bucket, 75 cents 2.25
26 lb. Wool at 30 cents per lb 7.80
Bedstead, Bedtick & Bed Clothes 6.00
Bedstead &c. 6.00
20 Bushels old wheat at $1 per bushel 20.00
281/2 bushels of Rye at 67 cents per bushel 19.10
64 lb Beaken at 9 cents per lb 5.76
230 Bushels Old Corn at 50 cents per bushel 115.00
One Bedstead, Feather Bed, Curtains, Clothes 40.00
One Ditto Ditto Ditto 30.00
One Trindle Bed & Clothing 6.00
Lot of Books 8.00
Sheet, pillow cases & Table Clothes 4.00
27 Tow Table Linnen at 40 cents per yd 10.80
36 Tow Sheeting at 33 cents per yd 11.88
Gridiron, 50 cents/Axes & Hops, $6 ..... 6.50
31/2 Doz. of Cotton Yarn 1.00
Mowing Cradle, $1.50/Old Hay, $6 ..... 7.50
Apple nuts, $10/Walnut Boards, $5 ..... 15.00
Waggon, feeding trough & Long Leathers 100.00
Horse Geers, $13/Pitch Forks and Rakes, $1.50 ..... 14.50

New Wheat. 103 Bushels at $1 per bushel 103.00
Rye. 108 bushels at 67 cents per bushel ..... .72.00 [sic]
Oats. 6611/2 bushels at 25 cents per bushel 165.37½
Hay. 16 Loads at $5 per Load 80.00
Wheel Barrow, $1/2 plough & Harrow, $11 ..... .12.00
Corn in Ground, 10 acres at $5 per acre 50.00
Grindstone & Matock 2.00
Two Stills and Articles belonging to Still house 188.00
Old Whiskey, 850 Gallons at 47 per Gallon 399.00
Wind-Mill, $10/Shovel plough, 50 cents 10.50
Four Calves at $14/Sledge, $1.50 ..... .15.50
Red Cow, $12/White faced Red Cow, $16 ..... .28.00
Red Cow and Star in Face, $15 ..... .15.00
Red & white flacket Cow, $14 ..... .14.00
Brindled Cow, $12/Brown Cow & Star [?], $14 ..... .26.00
Black & White Splayed Heffer, $14 ..... .14.00
White Faced Steer, $15 ..... .15.00
Brindled Heffer, $11/Red Heffer, $11 ..... .22.00
Red Calf, $6/flacket Calf, $6 ..... .12.00
Red & White Brindled Stag Steer, $17 ..... .17.00
3 Year Old Bay Mare, $60 ..... .60.00
Yearlan [yearling] Gray Horse, $36 ..... .36.00
Grey Mare, $100/Grey Horse, $100 ..... .200.00
Black Horse, $100/Little Black [horse] $70 ..... .170.00
Flax, $6/Sow and five pigs, $10 ..... .16.00
Sow and four pigs, $8 ..... .8.00
8 Hogs. $40/Nineteen Hogs, $47.50 ..... .87.50
8 Sheep & six Lambs, $17.50 ..... .17.50
$2356.65
Add error 100.00
2456.65

Document 2

An Account of Articles purchased by Margery McCormick, Administratrix of William McCormick, decd. and of the personal estate of said William McCormick.

Tub 67 cents. Churn 40 cents. Tub $1 ..... .$2.07
20 Earthen Crocks $1. Butter Dish 20 cents 1.20
Wine pipe and Hogshead $3. 3 Barrels $2 ..... .5.00
3 old Beef vessels $2. Lot of Pewter $2 ..... .4.00
8 Queen Ware Plates 48 cents 48
Lot of Tin ware $1.10. Candlesticks & Snuffers $1.50 ..... .2.60
Two Buckets 50 cents. Two Lanterns 50 cents 1.00

Coffee Mill & Boiler Skimmer & Ladle 1.00
Tea Kettle $1. Two Crocks $2. Andirons $1.50 ..... .4.50
Shovel & Tongs $1.20. Bucket 33 cents 1.53
Lott of Potts $6.50. Two Smoothing Irons [50 cents] 7.00
One Doz. Knives & Forks $1.50. Two Doz. Ditto $1 ..... .2.50
Doughtrough 50 cents. Six chairs $1.20 ..... .1.70
Six Chairs 3.00
Sword $6. Dining Table $3.50 ..... .9.50
Two Breakfast Tables $3. One large Waiter & 2 Small Waiters &
Bread Basket $2.50 ..... .5.50
Two Looking Glasses $1.25. Cupboard $5 ..... .6.25
Articles in Cup Boards 15.05
Desk $14. Case of Drawers $8. 2 pair Cotton Cards $1 ..... .23.00
Andirons $1.50. Ten Plate Stove & pipe $6 ..... .7.50
Case of Drawers $1. Old Chest $1. Reel $1 ..... .3.00
6 Yards of Woollen Cloth at $1 per yard 6.00
13 Yards of Flannel at 40 cents per yd. 5.20
Lot of Leather $5. Lot of Tow & Woolen yarn $3 ..... .8.00
Lot of Bags $8.50 ..... .8.50
Spinning Wheel $1.50. Bucket 75 cents 2.25
26 lb of Wool at 30 cents per lb. 7.80
Bedstead, Bedtick & Bed Clothes 6.00
Bedstead &c. 6.00
20 Bushels of Old Wheat at $1 per bushel 20.00
28½ Bushels of old Rye at 67 cents 19.10½
64 lb of Beakon at 9 cents per lb. 5.76
230 Bushels of old Corn at 50 cents per bushel 115.00
One Bedstead, feather Bed & Curtains & Clothes 40.00
One Ditto Ditto 30.00
One Trindle Bed & Clothing 6.00
Lot of Books 6.00
Sheet, Pillow cases & Table Clothes 4.00
26 yds Tow Table Linnen at 40 cents 10.40
One Gridiron 50 cents. One ax $1 ..... .1.50
3½ Doz. of Cotton Yarn 1.00
Apple Nuts $10. Pitch Fork & Hay Rake 75 cents 10.75
New Wheat, 103 Bushels at $1 per bushel 103.00
Rye, 108 Bushels at 67 cents per bushel 70.35
Oats, 661½ Bushels at 25 cents 165.37½
12 Loads of Hay at 5 dollars per Load 60.00
10 acres of Corn in the Ground $5 per acre 50.00
Two stills & articles belonging to the Still House 188.00
456¼ Gallons of Whiskey at 47 cents 214.44
Four Calves 14.00
Red Cow & Star in Face 15.00
Red & white flacket Cow 14.00
Red Heffer $11. Red Calf $6. Flacket calf $6 ..... .23.00

Grey Mare 100.00
Flax $6 ..... 6.00
Sow & 6 pigs 16.00
Sow & 4 pigs 8.00
8 Hogs $40. 19 Hogs $47.50 ..... 87.50
3 Lambs at 67 cents each 2.01
Bay Mare 60.00
White faced Red Cow 16.00
Black & White Splayed Heffer 14.00
..... $1708.87
Deduction ..... [54.25]
Amount ..... 1754.62 [sic]
Goods sold at Vendue 945.60
..... 2700.22
Amount of Inventory 2356.61
Advance of Sales ..... $ 343.61

[The figures are incorrect, as was recognized by a contemporary, who added a note at this point: "This statement is wrong in the calculation an hundred dollars."]

An account of Debts paid by Admrs.

Letters of Administration ..... $
Paid John Miller 4.93
Paid John Miller 43.63
Paid James Given 8.96½
Paid Admrs. of Jacob Snively Note & interest 151.20
Paid John Stephens proven acct. 6.25
Paid Exrs of Jeremiah Rees Judgt 7.83
Paid John Hays prov. acct. 2.87½
Paid Jane Anderson's Note 108.50
Paid Thomas Bell for Coffin 7.50
Paid John Matchel 94.02
Paid Samuel A. McCoskry 12.53
Paid Benj. Junkins Exrs. prov. acct. 4.78
Paid Walter Oliver 28.00
Paid County Tax for 1805-George Ross Coll. 3.54
Paid Christopher Swiles Road Tax for 1805 ..... 2.12
Paid Robert Donaldson due Bill 11.87
Paid John McLaughlin prov. acct. 12.73½
Paid William Quigley's Exr. prov. acct. 4.00
Paid Matthew Thomson acct. 83.14½
Paid John [illegible] for Crying Vendue 4.00
$601.43
First page as per calculation $413.04½
Error in calculation - 1st page 100.00
Correct amt. 313.04½

2d Page as per calculation 1754.62
Error in calculation 2 page 100.00
Correct amt. 1654.62
Amount of Sales 945.60
Amount taken by widow 1654.62
$1600.22 [sic]

Document 3

Estate of William McCormick, decd.
An Account of Vendue Sales 24 October 1805

Persons Names	Articles	$ cts
Thomas Bell	A Cowbell	.47
Conrad Emminger	A Cowbell	.27½
Conrad Emminger	A Clevish [?]	.35
William Allaway	A Lot of Iron	.27
James McCormick	A Book on Ferrery [farriery]	.55
Robt. Phillips	2 Books - Vadimicam	.55
Robt. Phillips	3 Ditto Halleburton's &c	.50
Robt. Phillips	4 Ditto Whitefield's letters	.50
Robt. Phillips	5 2 Ditto	.25
James Corbit	a plain	.18
Thomas Bell	a Jointer plain	1.11
		£ s. d.*
Archd Loudon	2 pair of hems	12. 3
Archd Loudon	2 pair of Ditto	12. 9
John Miller	a Looking glass	1. 2. 6
James McCormick, Esq.	a quantity linen. 12 yd @ 3/3 per yd.	1.19.0
Matthew Thompson	a ditto. 24 yd @ 3/3 per yd.	3.18.0
Robt. McCormick	a grubbing hoe	5.7½
Thomas Henderson	a quantity Woollen Cloth	2.8.11½
David Bell	the residue of the above 8/6 per yd.	2.11.0
John Sample	an Old axe	2.1
Jacob Crider	a hand Saw	7.1½
Henry Smith	an Auger	5.6
James McCormick	31/2 Woolen Cloth at 8/6	1.09.9
Peter Manasmith	a Broad Axe	9.6
Benj. Junkin	an Iron Square	2.9
Henry Scheffer	a pair Cumpasses	..2

*Note that at this point prices are given in pounds, shillings, and pence.

Francis Ackles . . . . . a lot of chisels &c. 2.2
Peter Manasmith . . . . . hop bands 2.2
David Hall . . . . . a Broad ax 4.9
Thomas Fisher . . . . . a Shovel plough 4.0
£ 16.19.2**

John Matchel . . . . . 1 Barrel Whiskey at 57 per Gall. . . .[No entry]
James Blain 32 ¾ . . . . . 2 do, do, at 54½ per 17.85
George Bower 33½ . . . . . 3 do. do. at 55 cts. 18.42
James McCormick . . . . . 4 do. do. at 55 cts. . . . . .[No entry]
John Mosier 34 . . . . . 5 do do. at 55 cts 18.70
James Bell 33 . . . . . a Barrel Whiskey at 55 . . . . . .18.15
James Bell 33 . . . . . a Ditto at 55 . . . . . .18.15
Benj. Junkin 31. . . . . a Ditto at 55 . . . . . .17.05
Archd Loudon. . . . . a hay fork 33
Danl Clark . . . . . a Ditto 25
Archd Loudon. . . . . a Waggon 111.50
Archd Loudon. . . . . 1st choice 2 sheep 4.73
Archd Loudon . . . . . 2 ditto 2 ditto 4.27
Archd Loudon . . . . . 3 ditto 2 ditto 2.67
William Ward . . . . . 3 ditto 2.20
David Bell. . . . . Walnut Boards 12.18½
Matthew Thompson . . . . . One ton hay 5.00
Rev. Samuel Waugh . . . . . 3 ton hay 15.00
Jas. McCormick . . . . . 2 ton ditto 10.00

Jas. Loudon. . . . . a Wheelbarrow 1.51
Michl. Carney. . . . . a Gunn 5.05
Robt. McCormick. . . . . a Shot gun 6.00
Mary Irvin . . . . . 1 half bushel 87
Christley Harman. . . . . 3 Sickles 50
Robt. McCormick. . . . . a lot of sundries 18

Recd. of James Noble $15.00
Recd. of James Blaine 17.85
Recd. of Conrad Emminger. 1.12½
Recd. of Jacob Sample. 5.60
Recd. of Jno. Carruthers
31 Oct. 1808 in full of
One Barrel of Whiskey
and interest due 20.87
60.44½

** At this point pricing in U.S. currency resumed.

Document 4

Sundry Persons to the estate of William McCormick decd. Dr.

		$ Cts
Thomas Bell	Cow bell	.47
	Jointer Plain	1.11
	Cash in full	1.58
Conrad Emminger	Cow bell	.27½
	Clevish [?]	.35
	Pair of Double trees	.50
	Cash paid to James McCormick	1.12½
William Allaway	Lot of iron. Cash in full	.27
Admr. James McCormick	Book on Farriery	.55
	12 yds Linnen at 43 cents per yd.	5.16
	3½ yd woollen Cloth at $1.13 per yd.	3.95½
	Halter Chain	.70
		10.36½
Robt. Phillips	5 Old books	1.80
James Corbet	Plaine	.18
Archibald Loudon	Two pair of Hems	3.43
	Barrel of Whiskey at 55 cents	17.87½
	Plough	1.60
	Maul & Wedge	.50
	pr. Geers	2.40
	pr. of hind Geers	3.31
	Two Collers	.20
	Hay Fork	.33
	Two Sheep	4.73
	Ditto	4.27
	Waggon	111.50
		150.16 [sic]
John Miller	Looking Glass. Cash in full	3.00
Matthew Thompson	24 yards of Linnen at 43 cents per yd.	10.32
	1 Ton Hay	5.00
	Cash in full	15.32
Robt. McCormick	Grubbing hoe	.70
	Barrel of Whiskey. 32½ Gal @ 55½ cents	18.03½
	Grindstone	1.24½

	Maul .....40 Stag Steer .....20.00 Grey Horse .....130.00 Shot Gun .....6.00 .....176.44
Thomas Henderson	51/2 yd woollen Cloth @ 1.25 per yd. Cash in full 6.871/2
David Bell	6 yd Woollen Cloth @ 8/6:$1.13 .....6.78 Broad ax .....63 Lot of Walnut Boards .....12.18½ .....Note in full 19.59½
John Sample	An old Ax .....28 A Plough .....3.00 Traces & Back Bar [?] .....2.13½ With 4 mo. int. Note in full .....5.41½ 20 August 1806. Rec'd. in full of note & interest
Jacob Crider	Hand Saw .....Cash in Full 95
Henry Smith	an Auger .....73 Two Collers .....1.36½ .....Cash in full 2.09½
Peter Manasmith	a Broad Ax .....1.27 Hoop Band .....29 By settlement of acct 1.56
Benjamin Junkin	an Iron Square .....37 a Barrel of Whiskey @ 55 cents .....17.05 .....17.42
Henry Sheffer	a Pair of Compasses. Cash in full 02
Francis Ackles	a Lot of Chisels .....29 Crosscut Saw .....6.54 .....6.83
Thomas Fisher	Shovel plough. Cash in Full 53
James Blaine	1 barrel of Whiskey, 32 ¾ Gal @ 54½ 17.85
George Bower	Barrel of Whiskey, 33½ Gal. @ 55 .....18.42 Halter Chain .....19.31½ 1 month interest 9½

	By Note in full . . . . . .19.31½ 30th May 1806 Recd in full of Note & Interest 19.41
John Mosier	Barrel Whiskey 34 gal @ 55 . . . . . .18.70 One Ditto 31 gal @ 55 . . . . . .17.05 Note in Full 35.75
George Forney	Barrel of Whiskey 33 Gal @ 55 Note in Full 18.15
James Bell	Barrel of Whiskey. 33 Gal at 55 . . . . . .18.15 Ditto . . . . . .18.15 Ditto 321/2 55 . . . . . .17.87½ Note in Full . . . . . .84.17½ By Note in full of Debt & Interest, 24 Oct. 1809
John Loudon	a Harrow . . . . . .4.07 Waggon Saddle . . . . . .25 Cash in Full 4.32
Benjamin Clark	a Double tree. Cash in Full 31
Samuel Waugh	a Sledge & Chain. Cash in Full 2.25
James Noble	a Crow Bar . . . . . .54 a Brown Cow . . . . . .15.00 Pd. J. McCormick 15.54
Jacob Basler	a Slay. Cash & Int. Full 7.25
John Matchel	Grey Horse Coalt. Pd. J. McCormick 52.25
Thomas Boyd	Black Horse. Note in Full 90.50
Peter Sellers	Black & white faced Steer . . . . . .17.62½ Lot of old Geers . . . . . .36 Note in Full 17.98½
Richd Parker	Brindled Heiffer. Cash in Full 13.00
David Briggs	Black Horse 111.00

William Parks	pair of fore Geers. Cash in Full 93
Joseph Sample	Hind Geers. Pd J. McCormick 5.40
Robert McKean	Wind-Mill . . . . . .8.55 Lot of Sundries . . . . . .18 Note in Full 8.73
Samuel Sample	Halter Chain. Cash in Full 70
Michael Carney	Cutting box . . . . . .1.01 A Gun . . . . . .5.06 Pd. J. McCormick 6.07
Daniel Clark	Hay Fork. Cash in Full 25
William Ward	3 Sheep. Cash in Full 2.20
Rev. Samuel Waugh	3 Ton of Hay. Cash in Full 15.00
James Loudon	Wheel Barrow 1.51
Mary Irvine	Half bushel. Cash in Full 87
Christley Harman	3 Sickles. Cash in Full 50
John Kintoch	Red Cow. Cash in Full . . . . . .13.33 18 Aug. 1806. rec'd note $12 23 Sept. 1807, by cash in full

Document 5

Thomas Wise & Thomas Bell, Executors of Benjamin Junkin, decd., to Margery Bryson, late Margery McCormick, surviving Administratrix of William McCormick, dec'd. for goods purchased by said Benjamin in his lifetime at a vendue of the personal property of said Wm. McCormick, dec'd.

To an Iron Square	$0.37
To a Barrel of whiskey at 56 cts	17.05
	$17.42

Vendue held 24th October 1805
Six months credit

Cumberland County

Personally came before me a Justice of the Peace in & for the county aforesaid the abovenamed Margery Bryson who being duly sworn according to Law deposeth and saith that she is surviving Adm'x. of the said William McCormick, dec'd. and that the above sum or any part thereof was never paid by the said Benjamin Junkin in his life time nor by his said Executors since his death and that she verily believes the above sum of seventeen dollars and forty two cents with its interest from the 24th day of April 1806 is justly due and owing from the Estate of the said Benjamin Junkin, dec'd. to the Estate of the said William McCormick, dec'd.

Sworn & subscribed 30th day of April 1825.
before LEWIS ZEARING MARGERY BRYSON

Document 6

Margery McCormick	January Term 1809	
vs	1 January A.D. 1809. Judgment before	
Jane Donaldson	James McCormick, Esquire for Pl[ainti]ff	
	for	$130.60
	Costs	30
	Entered 28th Feby 1809 Pd.	50

21th of March 1814. Received one hundred dollars of the above Judgment.
WM. BRYSON

23d March 1821. The Death	Clk R	$0.79
of Defendent Suggested	Clk A	32
	Costs of &c	30
	Plff	50
		$2.91 [sic]

Cumberland County Ss

I do certify that the above is a true extract of the Record of the Court of Common Pleas of Cumberland County.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of Said Court the 10th day of September 1824.

JOHN P. HELFENSTEIN, Prothy.

Notes

1. Luther Reily Kelker, *History of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania* (New York: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1907), III, 20.
2. *Ibid.*
3. *Ibid.*, 21.
4. See tombstone inscriptions for William, Margery, and Margaret McCormick located in the cemetery of the Silver Spring Presbyterian Church.
5. Kelker, *Dauphin County*, III, 21-22.
6. *Carlisle Gazette,* June 21, 1805. See also *Carlisle Herald,* June 14, 1805.
7. Nancy Van Dolson, *Cumberland County, An Architectural Survey* (Cumberland County Historical Society, 1992), 3.
8. Susan Prendergast Schoelwer, "Form, Function, and Meaning in the Use of Fabric Furnishings, A Philadelphia Case Study," *Winterthur Portfolio,* XIV (1979), 39.
9. Kelker, *Dauphin County,* 21. This Margaret Oliver was the sister of Isabella Oliver, the well-known Cumberland County poetess whose verses were published by Archibald Loudon in 1805. See David Wilson Thompson, *Early Publications of Carlisle, 1785-1835* (Carlisle: *The Sentinel,* 1932), 46-48. The literary accomplishments of Isabella Oliver, along with the presence of an Oliver McCormick in the Dickinson College class of 1817, suggest that the McCormick-Oliver clan may have been somewhat more cultivated than many Cumberland County farm families during that period.
10. Merri-Lou Scribner Schaumann, *A History and Genealogy of Carlisle, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, 1751-1835,* (Dover, PA: Privately printed, 1987), 119.
11. *Ibid.*, 127.
12. *Ibid.*, 172.
13. *Ibid.*, 140.
14. *Ibid.*, 20.
15. *Ibid.*, 176.
16. Gerald G. Eggert, *Harrisburg Industrializes: The Coming of Factories to An American Community* (University Park: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1993), 99.
17. *Ibid.*, 99, n. 19.
18. The fact of intermarriage between the McCormick, Loudon, and Manasmith families at this period has been established from gravestone inscriptions in the cemetery of the Silver Spring Presbyterian Church.
19. Archibald Loudon operated as a bookbinder in Carlisle from about 1790 and also operated a tobacco factory from 1793. He began publishing books that were printed by Kline in 1797 until he obtained his own press in 1804. See Thompson, *Early Publications,* 23-29.
20. *History of Cumberland and Adams Counties, Pennsylvania* (Chicago: Warner, Beers & Co., 1886), Part 2, 208-09.
21. Tombstone inscription for Margery McCormick Bryson, cemetery of Silver Spring Presbyterian Church.
22. Charles Coleman Sellers, *Dickinson College: A History* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan Press, 1973), 485.
23. Kelker, *Dauphin County,* 21.
24. Estate inventory of James Anderson, 1790, and estate inventory of James Anderson, February 6, 1799 (Lancaster County Historical Society).
25. Margaret B. Schiffer, *Chester County, Pennsylvania, Inventories, 1684-1850* (Exton: Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., 1974), 81-175.
26. *Ibid.*, 374.
27. *History of Cumberland and Adams Counties,* Part 2, 208-09.

28. *Ibid.*
29. I. Daniel Rupp, *A History of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin, Bedford, Adams, Perry, Somerset, Cambria, and Indiana Counties* (Lancaster, PA: Gilbert Hills, 1848), 346.
30. *History of Cumberland and Adams Counties,* Part 2, 26.
31. See plaque on the cemetery gate and also tombstone inscription for this James McCormick at Silver Spring Presbyterian Church.
32. Second Annual Census for Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, 1800. See also *Harrisburg Business Directory, 1842* (Harrisburg: J. A. Spofford, 1842), 40.

A Traveller in Cumberland County, 1844

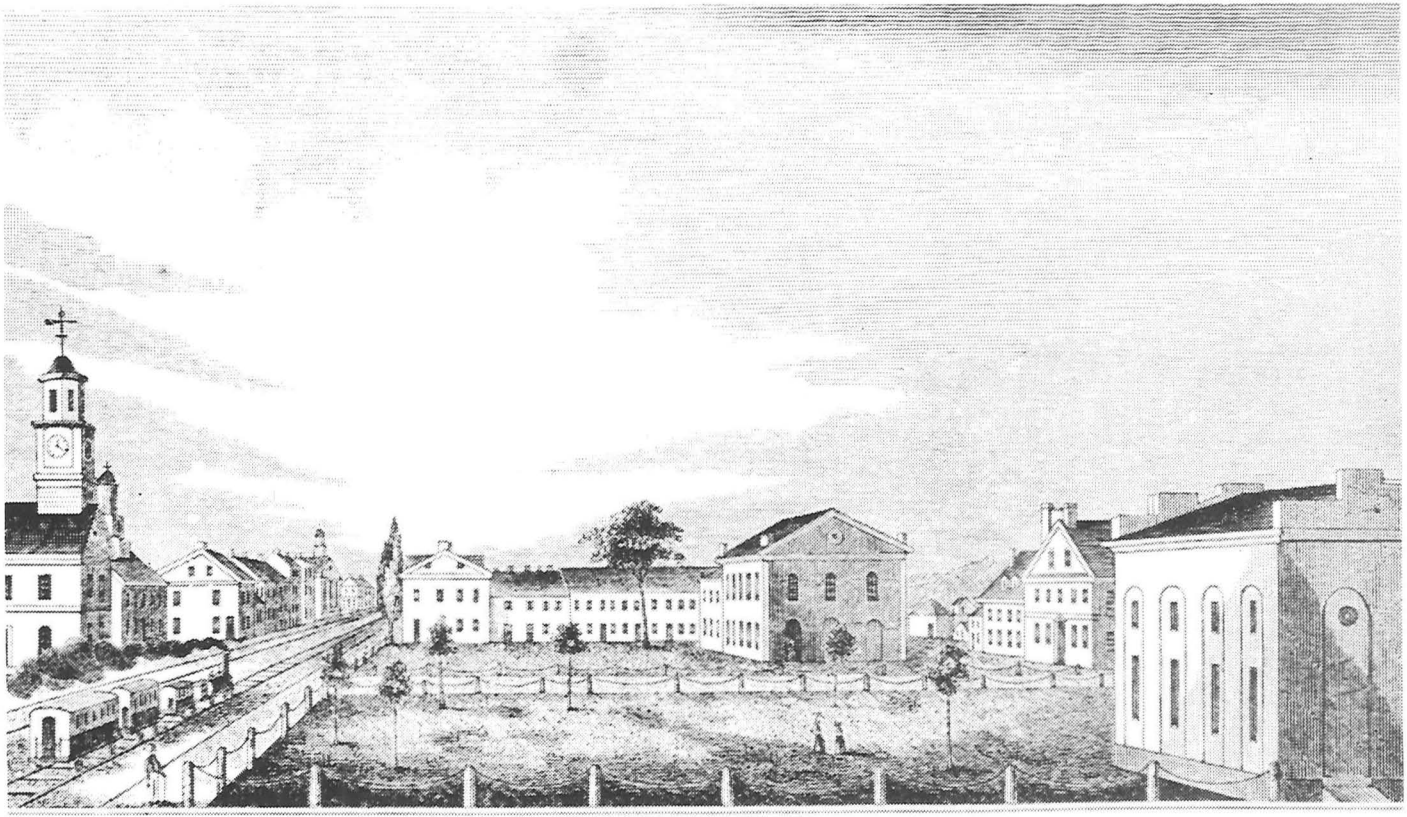
Charles Wilkes

Commander (as he then was) Charles Wilkes, U.S.N. (1798-1877) travelled through Cumberland County to Harrisburg in August 1844. He described the towns and countryside he passed through, noted institutions like churches and the county jail, and passed ten days in Carlisle, where he was agreeably entertained by the gentry and by officers at Carlisle Barracks. Wilkes had but recently returned from four years in the Pacific Ocean as commander of the United States South Sea Exploring Expedition, and was engaged in preparing the reports of its discoveries and collections. This work engaged him for much of the rest of his life, but was interrupted by periods of active command at sea. Every student of American history has read of "the Trent Affair"—in which Captain Wilkes, in an American ship, stopped a British mail steamer on the high seas, removed two Confederate agents, Mason and Slidell, and thus almost precipitated war between England and the United States in 1861. Although twice court-martialled and twice reprimanded during his career, Wilkes retired in 1866 as a rear admiral. He began to write his autobiography in 1871.

This account of Wilkes' visit to Cumberland County is reprinted from *Autobiography of Rear Admiral Charles Wilkes, U.S. Navy, 1798-1877,* edited by William J. Morgan and others, and published by the Navy History Division, Department of the Navy, Washington, 1978. It appears here with acknowledgment to the Navy History Center and its director, Dr. William S. Dudley.

For the sake of clarity, punctuation has been inserted in a few of Wilkes' long sentences. Capitalization has been made consistent, but spelling, with a few exceptions, has been left unchanged. Notes have been added by the editor of the *Journal.*

We took the car drawn by horses, an old omnibus body, quite roomy and but few passengers, and made tolerable speed. It was pleasant riding after what we had encountered before. In about two hours we reached Chambersburg, the first town in Penna. It wears quite a different aspect from that of Frederick, which we had left, and shows signs of improvement. It covers a much larger area and has many stores and the population is astir, but the old fashion of town struck us. The streets, some half a dozen, cross each other at right



Carlisle Square as Wilkes saw it in 1844 (Sherman Day, Historical Collections of Pennsylvania, 1843)

angles, and these are occupied by many wagons. The hotel was established over shops & a long stair case led to the second floor. The attendants were white but had little idea of waiting or what to do for travelers, but we found it clean; & there is nothing to be seen, and the usual incumbrance of hogsheads, boxes, barrels and many any other articles are left on the sidewalks to impede walking & serve to gather the filth which accumulates. The main street is broad, and the houses in its central portion are mostly occupied by lawyers' offices and printing establishments. We met some friends here who were anxious for us to stay a few days, but by night we had used up the town or seen all that would suffice to give us a pretty correct idea of it. Its population was said to be some two thousand, but it seemed to me to be an overestimate of its inhabitants. They look for many advantages from the laying of the railway, which now runs to Carlyle, and on it they have steam traction. The country around is very well cultivated and the crops just being gathered seemed to warrant a large yield.

We remained at Chambersburg till the next morning & then took the cars for Carlisle. The road was then rough & wanted attention and metal to give it a better foundation, but it answered all the purposes of transportation & had proved a great convenience to this section of the country. As we approached Carlisle there were many other railroads and all concentered in the Main Street of Carlisle, where the hotel is situated, and there we took up our abode.

The hotel was a two-story brick building and might be designated as diminutive, but it was well kept and excepting many conveniences was quite pleasant, although the usual noise of the bells of the locomotives and the steam whistles gave us noise enough. There are few people who stop at hotels except for a short time in this part of the state. Most seek private lodgings, of which there are very many of reputable character.

Carlisle is a very pretty town. The streets are broad and there are many pleasant looking cottages standing in enclosures well planted with trees and shrubs and an abundance of flowers. Carlisle is beautifully situated. A large extent of land occupied by its site is flat, surrounded in the distance by moderately elevated hills and showing a large extent of cultivated fields and many substantial edifices with taste. It may be termed a pleasant locality & has a population of some 3,000. It has the College on the outskirts, and a large number of students, belongs to the Methodists and has some reputation for its order and courses of study. During my visit it was vacation time. It is a large red brick building and destitute of any taste or ornament.[1] The grounds are wild with grass & weeds, and no pretentions seems to have been conceived that it could be made to occupy the seat of

learning and conform in its architecture to some style incident to a seat of learning. The president and professors have their domicile and lodgings in the town, and those students who may desire it are permitted also to have rooms outside.

We passed some ten days at Carlisle and had a most agreeable time. We made many acquaintances and enjoyed many of the picnics which our friends got up. Particularly were we indebted to the Parkers and Moores, whom we found well educated and refined people and a very pleasant society without show or ostentation and took delight in forwarding our pleasures.[2] We were kindly entertained and passed many agreeable evenings among them. The Moores are residents here and have a very pleasant abode in the limits of the town. The Parkers were passing the hot months and belong to New York, but they make this their home in the summer and give their time and occupations to society. Daily we had some enter[tain]ment and drove around the country on good roads and making visits.

At the time of our visits there was very considerable excitement in regard to church matters. The rector had adopted high ritualist service in his church and caused great displeasure in his flock by burning candles on the alter, which excited their indignation and caused the abandonment of his church by most of his parishioners, who withdrew and left the service. It was Dr Norris, who had married a Miss Rawle of Philadelphia, a daughter of the celebrated advocate of that city & who was very intimate with my father.[3] Mr Norris was much liked as a clergyman until he chose to run counter to the opinions and wishes of his parishioners. I am unaware how this fracas ended, but I believe a compromise was effected. For the time it caused a great deal of talk and the ritualistics, being but a small minority I believe, gave way and quiet was restored after some time. Mr Norris continued to hold his position and continued his services without its ritualistic character. We went to hear him and were pleased with his manner of officiating, but this was prior to his adopting the emblems of the Romanists, as they were called by the opposition. It appeared to be quite an unnecessary agitation in the church & but few adherents joined him. He was left by the prompt action of his congregation to preach to empty benches. The church is a very neat and tasteful edifice and is an ornament to the town.

The drives around the country are charming and during our stay we had most delightful weather. The only annoyance we had was the cars & the various railroads' track to encounter. The hotel, though not a first class, was however well kept and quiet, and all wished to do us kindness.

Among other places I visited was the jail of whose neatness and

good order had been mentioned, but on visiting it I was quite disappointed.[4] It was by no means up to the times and had recently a [illegible] coat of whitewash, but the jaily smell was very strong and unwholesome and the few prisoners did not appear to have any attention paid them. If it had been improved, there certainly had been great need of it. There did not appear any necessity for a police of this town; a more orderly and quiet one is probably not to be found in the state of Penna.

During our stay the regiments of horse artillery under the command of Col Paine [Mathew Payne], U.S.A., was stationed just outside the town, where all recruits were sent for the army & to undergo instruction. It was a great pastime for the citizens witnessing the drill and occasionally the reviews. Col Paine did us the honor to have a full exercise and review for my wife and many ladies and who were highly delighted with it—the well trained horses & rapid movements of the sections with the large guns galloping at full speed over the plain and going through the various manipulations. With Col Paine and his officers we became well acquainted and had much intercourse with them. I believe this was the first school of practice in the army as mounted artillery, and since then a company has been always attached to each regiment. It was proved a most effective weapon in battle and has been used to great advantage since. I timed some of the movements and the Col was greatly delighted when I showed him the results of each and every movement. The Col was an extremely agreeable officer and gentleman and [I] always with great pleasure met him. His health in a few years was greatly impaired, but he had always borne the highest reputation in the army.

I have spoken of the picnics. The locations have been for a long time chosen and frequented for this purpose and many of both sexes are ever ready to join, with the only invitation that one is expected to come off. They meet at an early hour and after many outdoor games end in dancing and a drive home by moonlight. The viands and refreshments are always in abundance, & each contributor turns over to the selected managers his contributions, which are displayed to advantage, and all enjoy themselves heartily. Old and young are gathered together for enjoyment and each does his part. The expense is not much and the trouble of little import. We were quite sorry to part with our friends, whom we had the pleasure of meeting afterwards in our summer jaunts, but we always referred back to the pleasures we had had there with the most agreeable recollections.

Carlisle is no doubt a pleasant town for the residents, and although Society does not take rank with the enlight[en]ed and intelligent of other country towns, there is great kindness in and among the people,

who make some boast of its prosperity & culture. The Institution of the College has added greatly to its appreciation of this section of the country but it will scarcely meet wants of the country otherwise than as a high school, & the wants of cultivation in the higher branches will cause it to retain but a third and fourth rank in the state. It was inaugurated in the year [1783] & has been endowed by the state, but still it needs more funds and energy to bring it up to the standard they have aimed at.

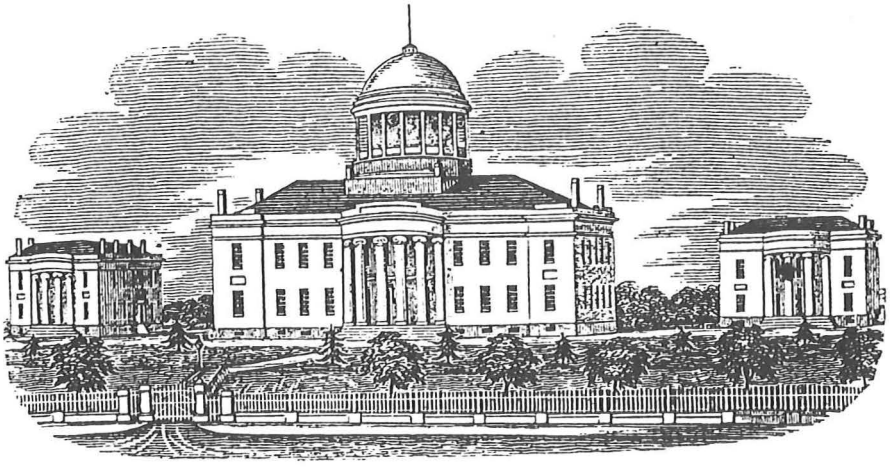
We took the cars for Harrisburg and reached there the same afternoon, passing over a very pleasant and fertile section & crossing the Susquehanna on a fine bridge, which here is wide, though very shallow at this season. Harrisburg is built on the opposite side of the river, but its banks show but little business except that in lumber, which gives its banks a scragly and tumble down appearance. Few shanties and lumbermen houses fill up in part the delapidated look. The banks of the river have quick descent to the water which, I was told, rises at times to the brink of the bank, on which the first [illegible] with few houses of the meaner class and are occupied by the lower class. Thence the streets are laid off at right angles, on which the well-to-do portion of the population occupy, but still there is not what can be called any thing like a city. In the center of the town is the markets built after the old fashion from street to street and running parallel to the side of this square or market place and after the fashion of those of Philadelphia, the butchers' stalls occupying the low central building while the hucksters gather on the outside partly under the projecting roof, and these also assemble in the street between each of the market houses and block the way. They have market days, and these are under the keeping of the person appointed to superintend. We were told this was the great sight of the city and must be seen.

We reached the best hotel but too late for dinner, and on asking to have some furnished us, we were told it was not customary to provide a second dinner and it could not be done. Tea or supper would be the next meal; for this consequently we were obliged to wait. The hotel consisted of three or four private houses thrown in one, and all with their doors and staircases just at the entrance of each. The accommodations we required could not be furnished immediately; they required time to fix, and this process we saw going forward as we sat waiting in the small parlour, which caused us much amusement. Beds and bedsteads, chairs & wash tables were moved up & down these narrow stairs until we wondered w[h]ere they had all been gathered, but after a time they were announced as ready and we gladly took possession, and I was thankful to get a place to have my dear wife to lie down. The rooms were on the second floor, extremely small and

inconvenient, but were very acceptable. The help in the house was the landlord, his wife & daughters. They were kindly disposed and did the best they knew how. It was the only hotel in the place and had been kept by the present proprietor for many a long day. They had seldom more than one visitor at a time & were not prepared for so large a party in number—but five, with a nurse and two children. All the buildings were on the street and no steps above the pavement but the door sill, built of brick of the old fashion type and with tiny windows and very narrow doors.

I made the acquaintance of the landlord and found him very communicative, said it was our intention to stay a few days, perhaps a week. His reply was "so long." We were strangers and wished to see all that was to be seen about the city and would be obliged to him to direct us. He had no carriages to hire but could procure us one and a driver who could speak English. So I sent for him and engaged the carriage for the time of our stay at the very moderate sum of one dollar & fifty cents a day, which I was told was a very high price. My wife had, in the meantime, ingratiated herself into the good graces of the landlady, and many things were added to the furniture and accommodations. We did not hear much English spoken, and we were impressed we were in Holland or some European town. It finally came round to tea time, to which we were summoned by a large hand bell rung in all the passages and particularly the one we occupied.

The next morning was market morning and we desired to see it and purchase some fine fruit. We were aroused at the hour of three o'clock. As I have said, the market was but a short distance, so we got up and dressed. It was not yet light, but there was a great stir of carts and wagons in the street passing. We sallied forth but found we were too early. No body could sell anything until the bell rang; and as the market was already full of sellers and buyers, we made a tour round, & I think there was nothing spoken by Dutch and we could get no answer to our questions. All appeared quiet and every one waiting. The bell was soon after heard, and such a babel as ensued it would be difficult to describe. All were talking, trading and engaged in the most business like way. It was indeed a novel sight, and when daylight came the numerous and qu[a]int costumes served to give a curious, picturesque effect to the whole crowd, for crowd indeed it was, and both sellers and purchasers were equally intent upon their bargains. The prices, as far as I could understand, appeared fixed and no disputes arose. The gabbering of German voices, the old fashioned and foreign dress, the hard looking population mostly composed of women, the arrangement and display of their wares, was so like German towns that it carried one forcibly back to those places on the Continent we



Pennsylvania State Capitol, which little impressed Wilkes in 1844. (Sherman Day, Historical Collections of Pennsylvania, 1843)

had visited in times gone by. The scene was a great novelty and caused us to wander to & fro. There was little of the American climate in it and few made use of our language.

Almost all the supplies come from this market, and as it was necessary to be early on hand to secure what is needed, early attendance must be observed, and this accounts for the great crowd & the competition for the articles. After 6 o'clock the bell is again rung, which is to notify that the time is up. Then comes the preparations for departure, so that in a very short time the market houses and streets are deserted or occupied but by a few lagging people. Then comes the cleanup, and all the decayed refuse is swept up and carried away in carts in the form of garbage. It seemed to me an admirable arrangement to preserve not only the cleanliness but also the health of the town.

After our fatiguing morning amusement we returned to breakfast and witnessed many of the delicacies that had been supplied by our landlord and the abundancies of the supply on our table. Many things were served in a quaint style and found to be excellent. The coffee and tea were both execreble. I cannot [say] the table was well served. There were plenty of waiters but they had no tact or knowledge of their busi-

ness, but they were as attentive as they knew how.

We passed three days and drove around the country in the afternoons, but we found the road dusty and the landscape was ordinary, and to my surprise the cultivation seemed neglected. The houses and their farm buildings were not taken care of, indeed much neglected, and we saw no improvements going on. Every house was of the usual type and had apparently been tenanted by the occupants for generations. Their barns are generally large and commodious, but after one style, and show great attention in the housing of their crops and care of their stock. These are generally large, but the houses close by are altogether mean looking and out of repair. Among other buildings we visited was the Capitol with its small and insignificant dome. The halls w[h]ere the two bodies, Senate & Legislature, meet are contracted and dark and there is no library or any where where a library could be put, and was a disgrace to the state & exhibited that the requirements of these bodies in their duties have little disposition or taste. The view from the top of the building is very contracted and the impression of Harrisburg is not very gratifying.[5] The enclosure around the Capitol is also small and has but few trees planted and no shrubs or flowers for adornment.

The town of Harrisburg offers but few buildings, and those that have pretentions are in very bad taste. So far as the essential comforts of life, these people enjoy them, but they want refinement and manners. As far as we became acquainted, they proved civil and obliging, and many of them sent us fine fruit which, strange to say, is not to be purchased. On the whole our time was amusingly spent among this foreign population, for we could not over[come] the feelings that all was foreign around and about us. We had fresh cream and cheeses with the most delicious butter in pats carefully prepared for the table after the German fashion, and many very good things of this kind. But we tired of the quaintness and staidness of all and were very glad to take our departure, and I suppose the host & hostess and their family were equally glad to get rid of us. Our bill was moderate, though I afterwards understood it was double what they were in the habit of charging.

Notes

1. Possibly the Dickinson College Grammar School (South College), which was of brick; although one would have expected West and East Colleges, both of stone, to have left a deeper impression.
2. Johnston Moore (1809-1901), landowner of Mooredale and Carlisle, who was married to Mary Veasey Parker; Isaac Brown Parker (1783-1865); and William Brown Parker (d. 1862), who was in the iron business in New York.
3. William Herbert Norris, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Carlisle, 1840-50, married in 1839 Juliet, youngest of the twelve children of William Brooke and Sarah (Coates) Rawle of Philadelphia. Two of their three sons were born in Carlisle. He was afterwards rector of Christ Church, Woodbury, N.J. He died in 1880.
4. The jail Wilkes saw was replaced in 1854 by the building that still stands, although no longer in use as the county jail.
5. Sherman Day (*Historical Collections of Pennsylvania* [Philadelphia, 1843], 282) noted that from the State House cupola might be seen "one of the finest landscapes in the state, comprising the river, studded with lovely islands and spanned by splendid bridges, the undulating fields of the valley, and the lofty barrier of the Kittatinny mountains."

What's In A Name? Carlisle Springs

A Member

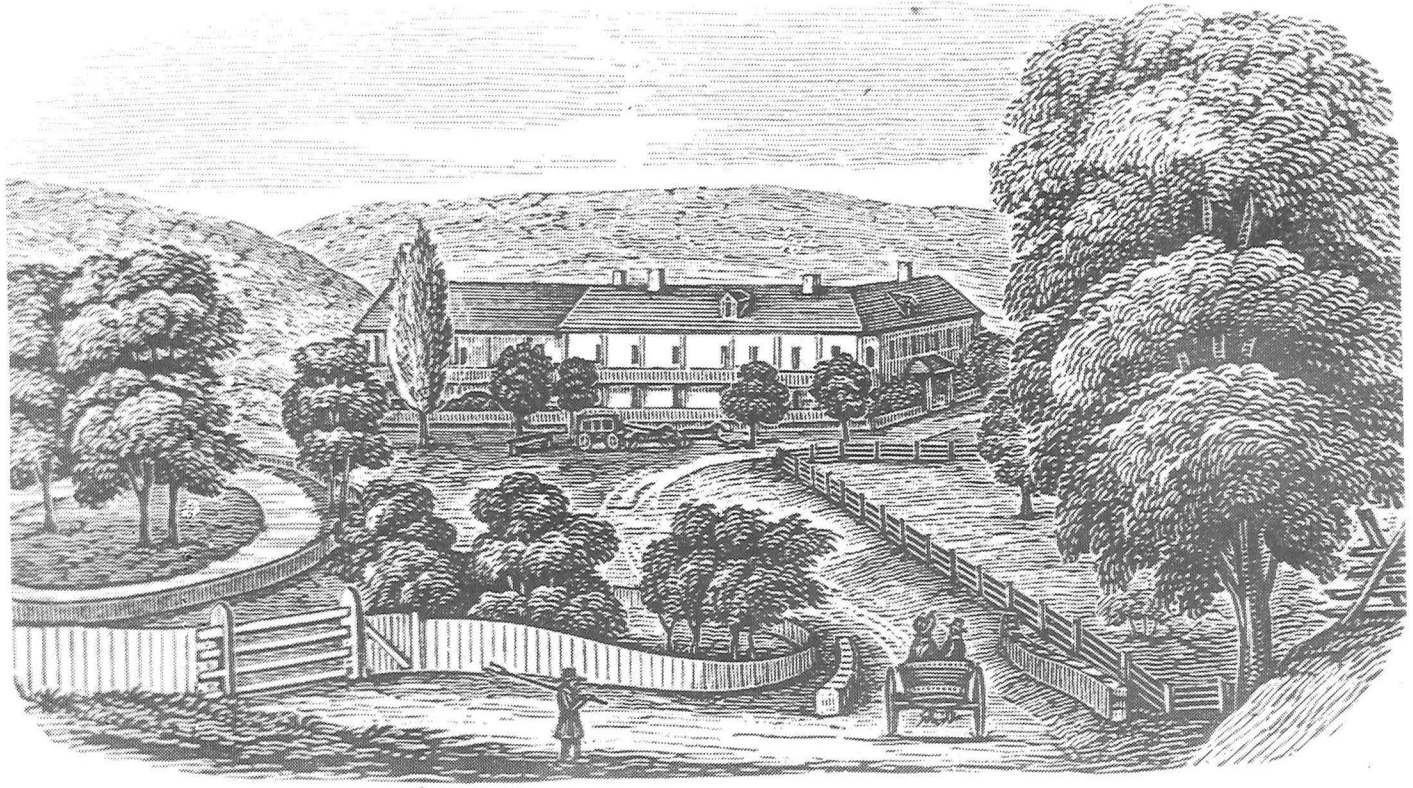
There is no mystery about the name Carlisle Springs, and no research is required to learn its origin. What other name would anyone give to a sulphur spring of medicinal properties located only five miles from the county seat of Cumberland County? What is of special interest, however, is that Carlisle Springs was one of many springs, baths, and spas that flourished as popular resorts for health and recreation in the United States in the second third of the nineteenth century.

In the decades before the American Revolution such watering places attracted a number of the leisured well-to-do. As early as the 1740s physicians inquired into the properties of the sulphur springs of Virginia; in the 1760s some doctors sent their patients to Harrowgate or Bristol, near Philadelphia, to drink the waters, bathe, and rest; while Newport in Rhode Island drew a cosmopolitan company fleeing the heat and fevers of Philadelphia, the Tidewater, and Charleston. At the beginning of the nineteenth century Baltimoreans came in numbers to York Springs (in Adams County), whose chalybeate waters had been discovered a few years before.

In 1831 Dr. John Bell, a prominent Philadelphia physician, published a book on the efficacy of thermal waters; and in a survey some twenty years later he described American and Canadian springs. A number of these were in Pennsylvania—Bedford Springs, Cambridge Springs, Ephrata Mountain Springs, among others—and two were in Cumberland County—Doubling Gap and Carlisle Springs. The latter was the better known.

As early as 1792 William Ramsey acquired the land on which the springs rise, one mildly sulphureous, the other iron; and in 1830, responding to the growing medical acceptance and social appeal of spas, Ramsey erected a two-story frame building as a boarding house for visitors. He also installed a stone basin into which the sulphur spring water flowed. As the fame of Carlisle Springs spread, its waters came into demand elsewhere, and Ramsey bottled them for shipment and sale. Operation of the hotel appears to have been leased to a neighbor Jacob Weibley and Henry Hockett. Upon Ramsey's death in 1832, 21 acres were sold to another landowner in Carlisle Springs, David Cornman, for $1530. In 1841 he paid a tax of $150 on the spring house.

In 1852 Anson P. Norton and Morris Owen of New York pur-



Carlisle Springs Hotel, 1843. This modest building was replaced in 1854-55 by a luxurious four-story hotel. (Sherman Day, Historical Collections of Pennsylvania, 1843)

chased the 21 acres and another piece from Cornman for $4000, and in 1853-54 the partners built a new hotel. Larger and more luxurious than the original structure, with four stories and a cupola "surrounded by porticos and balconies," it had accommodations for 200 boarders. These guests were assured a "full view of the Picturesque Scenery of the Blue Mountains, half a mile distant," and, as advertising handbills promised, in addition to drinking and bathing in the waters, they might stroll over the extensive lawns, walk through the neighboring woods, and dance to music at night. For the men the hotel provided a bowling alley, and there was fishing nearby. Horses and carriages were available for jaunts into the countryside, the limestone cave in the bank of the Condoguinet being particularly recommended.

Some of the guests brought their own horses and carriages (the charge was $4 a week), but most came by train from Philadelphia or Baltimore via Harrisburg, and were conveyed to the Springs in time for afternoon tea. Board was $1.75 a day or ten dollars a week, but only nine if one stayed longer than four weeks. Children and servants might be charged half the regular rates. The hotel was staffed with "attentive and obliging" black servants. Assuring their guests that Carlisle Springs was no remote backwater, the proprietors pointed out that the village had a post office with daily mail delivery, a general store, a schoolhouse, and a church shared by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations (now St. Mathias Evangelical Lutheran Church).

One wishes for information about life in this summer hotel. Who in fact were the guests? For what physical conditions or diseases did they seek the iron and sulphur waters of Carlisle? Were they cured or relieved by the treatment? Was this treatment directed by a physician, or was self-medication the common practice? What did the guests do during their weeks at Carlisle? What did they think of their accommodations, of the countryside, of the local Pennsylvania Germans, whose language, dress, and customs they were likely to have been unacquainted with? Unfortunately no hotel register has survived to tell us who the guests were and where they came from, nor are any letters known that were written on one of those balconies in "full view of the Picturesque Scenery of the Blue Mountains."

The Civil War was a blow from which the Carlisle Springs hotel did not recover. Many of the summer guests in the 1850s had come from the southern states; but after the outbreak of war in 1861 they no longer came North, while the number of visitors from Philadelphia and Baltimore fell off as well. The village had its own involvement in military affairs. Patriotic schoolboys organized themselves into the Carlisle Springs Cadets and drilled, as one of them remembered, with

"obsolete fire-arms, flintlock muskets, wooden guns, broomsticks and such paraphernalia as was obtainable." As the Confederate army approached Pennsylvania in the summer of 1863 some farmers in York, Cumberland, and Adams counties moved their horses and herds through Carlisle Springs to the safety of Perry and Juniata counties. Those who stayed, as they watched the cattle being driven up the road to the mountain, labeled the fleeing farmers derisively as "skedaddlers." Some of the citizens may have wondered whether they had done well to stay, when on June 28, 1863, a party of some 20 rebel cavalrymen rode into Carlisle Springs on a reconnoitre. They seized no property and did no harm, however, but only, as one of the local boys remembered, spoke politely and doffed their hats to the ladies.

Not only did Carlisle Springs lose some of its customary summer patronage after the war, but springs and spas began to lose some of their appeal as health resorts. The hotel burned in 1867, the work of an arsonist, some said, but the charge was never substantiated. The building was replaced by a smaller structure. A map of 1872 shows the two springs, the bathhouse, ball room, and bowling alley, but nothing is identified as the hotel. Carlisle Springs' days of fame had ended. In 1879 the property was sold to Willis W. Gutschall, who tore the building down and erected a stone farmhouse on the site.

Nothing now remains above ground to show where the hotels stood. The sulphur spring is still visible and accessible from a lane off the main road, but the iron spring has been lost to sight. Willis Gutschall's son, who sometimes took a drink from the sulphur spring when he felt poorly, searched in vain for it. Gutschall's granddaughter has had no better luck. Like her father, she has explored the area for the iron spring, but has not found it. She could not take Drs. Kornblueh and Piersol to it when they visited the springs in 1951, nor could she show it in 1995 to the author of this brief account.

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Book Reviews

Taverns of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, 1750-1840. **By Merri Lou Schaumann. Illustrated, 250 pp. Carlisle: Cumberland County Historical Society, 1994. $34.95.**

The title of Ms. Schaumann's superb work understates the wealth of material to be found therein; indeed, the book contains just about everything the reader might wish to know about early taverns, particularly those rural and small town hostelries that flourished in the Pennsylvania hinterland. Communities often derived their colorful names from their early taverns. Whatever strikes the reader's fancy—architecture, socio-economic status of the tavern patrons, historic events that occurred, ownership and proprietorship, and the varied uses to which taverns were put—it will be there, all carefully researched and documented.

What was served at the bar and board adds another interesting dimension to our knowledge of the material culture of Cumberland County. Even the legal responsibilities of tavern keepers are discussed. The author's delightful style contributes greatly to the worth of this outstanding work. Joan Navin's excellent photographs of surviving taverns, interiors, and architectural details complement the text. Photographs of taverns no longer standing introduce the reader to a Cumberland County way of life long gone.

Included is an 11" by 17" map showing the location of most of the taverns. Indexed and supplied with copious notes, this work sets a standard of excellence that would do any historical society proud!

Lancaster County Historical Society J. W. W. Loose

At a Place Called the Boiling Springs. **Edited by Richard L. Tritt and Randy Watts. Illustrated, 247 pp. Boiling Springs Sesquicentennial Publications Committee, 1995. $35, cloth.**

This book, commemorating the sesquicentennial of Boiling Springs, provides a well written and visually rich history of this

charming Cumberland County village. Although the foreword states that "with today's roads and speeds Carlisle and the village virtually run together," the book proceeds to illuminate the image of a distinct, charming, and historically rich community, whose heritage encompasses a remarkable blend of industry, recreation, and nature.

The organization of the contents is particularly notable. The first three chapters provide an overview of the village's history up to the present, and subsequent chapters focus indepth on aspects of the community's history, including its architecture, military history, industry, transportation, parks, and institutions, among others. Individual authors of these detailed chapters clearly bring their expertise and enthusiasm to bear on their subjects. This results in a local history with an unusual vitality, one which provides the reader with a genuine understanding of the community past and present. The chapter on "Preserving the Heritage" is a particularly valuable portrayal of community organizations, development issues, and planning, highlighting the kind of issues which are still facing many communities today. The editors and writers have brought real vitality to the genre of local history.

The book is cleanly designed, and profusely illustrated with maps, drawings, and stunning vintage photographs, bringing the village past and present to life and adding a visual richness to the text that is uncommon in local histories. The remarkable nineteenth century photographs taken by John Choate and the treatment of the panoramic photograph on the title page are particularly striking. The only drawback to the profusion of illustrations is that in many cases it limits their individual size. On the other hand, it would be difficult to leave any out. Of particular note are the vintage maps and drawings by book-designer Keevin-Graham of the Iron Works and the Boiling Springs Park which help the reader locate those areas in the context of today's village.

At a Place Called the Boiling Springs splendidly portrays the heritage of this remarkable village, and further serves as a distinguished model for those who seek to chronicle local history.

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Diane B. Reed

Recent Publications and Acquisitions

Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, Cemetery Records, Collected by Jeremiah Zeamer. Wilbur J. McElwain, 1994. 266 pp; paper. $36. Heritage Books, Inc. 1540 E. Pointer Ridge Pl., Bowie, Md. 20716. Phone: 1 (800) 398-7709.

United States Direct Tax of 1798: Tax List for Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Wilbur J. McElwain, 1994. 231 pp; paper. $33. Heritage Books, Inc., 1540 E. Pointer Ridge Pl., Bowie, Md. 20716. Phone: 1 (800) 398-7709.

Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, Divorces, 1789-1860. Eugene F. Throop, 1994. 406 pp; paper. $31. Heritage Books, Inc., 1540 E. Pointer Ridge Pl., Bowie, Md. 20716. Phone 1 (800) 398-7709.

Pennsylvania Genealogical Library Guide. John W. Heisey, 1994. 73 pp; paper. $6.50. Olde Springfield Shoppe, P.O. Box 171, 10 West Main St., Elverson, Pa. 19520-0171. Phone: (610) 286-0258.

Pages of History: Essays on Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Daniel J. Heisey, 1994. 97 pp; paper. $9.95. Available from Whistlestop Bookshop, 152 West High St., Carlisle, Pa. 17013.

My Mechanicsburg in the Thirties. Josephine Fish Collitt, 1995. 32 pp; paper, $6. Available at Encore Books, Hampden Center, Mechanicsburg, Pa.

The Ledgerbook of Thomas Blue Eagle. Jewel H. Grutman and Gay Mattaei, 1994. 72 pp.; hard cover, $17.95. Available at Cumberland County Historical Society.

History of Zion Lutheran Congregation of Newville, Pa., from 1795 to 1995: a Bicentennial Celebration. Nancy Shaw Tritt, 1995. 66 pp; paper, $10. Available at Cumberland County Historical Society.

Prices given above do not include State Sales Tax and Postage.

James Hamilton Collection

The Cumberland County Historical Society has recently added to its library collection a microfilm of 13,000 documents relating to Cumberland County history. The "James Hamilton Collection", from the archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, consists of records in the possession of Carlisle attorney and Revolutionary War Colonel Robert Magaw, who died in 1790, his

partner James Hamilton, who died in 1819, and those of the latter's son James Hamilton. The younger James Hamilton was also an attorney; the Cumberland County Historical Society and Hamilton Library Association was named for him.

The records contain a wealth of information on the social, political, religious and military history not only of Cumberland County but of the new nation. Hundreds of items deal with the military careers of Colonel Magaw, Samuel Postlethwaite and Colonel John Davis. There is also an assortment of other items relating to the American Revolution from such notables as Arthur St. Clair, Oliver Pollock, Ephraim Blaine, John Montgomery, William Thompson, Anthony Wayne, John André and George Washington.

Pennsylvania and national politics are discussed in letters to the elder Hamilton on topics ranging from the ratification of the Constitution in 1788 (there was opposition in Cumberland County), the Whiskey Rebellion, Thomas Jefferson's budgetary policies, the Louisiana purchase, the Aaron Burr conspiracy to the War of 1812, and much more.

Although the collection touches on the monumental concerns and issues of its day, it is the thousands of items relating to the everyday life of the citizens of Cumberland County that make this collection so illuminating and of interest not just to the professional historian but to all those with an interest in local history. Here are found accounts and bills for work done by blacksmiths, gunsmiths, carpenters, bakers, silversmiths, tailors, etc.; account books of merchants showing the wide range of goods available and who bought what on a given day at their shops; apprentice papers and servants' indentures; jury lists and land records; invitations to dinners and dances; depositions in murders, robberies, assaults, and accusations against persons suspected of being Tory spies during the Revolution.

The papers were acquired by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania more than 40 years ago from a manuscript dealer who had purchased them from heirs of the Reverend Mr. Joseph A. Murray, of Carlisle, who had used some of them in historical essays read to the Hamilton Library Association.

Michelle Hornung
Librarian

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