Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.
Adam Muller (Miller), First White Settler in the Valley of Virginia.

Editor Virginia Magazine of History and Biography:

In the opening chapters of Mr. John Walter Wayland's article upon the German element of the Valley, which appeared in the April number of the Magazine, reference is made to the German settlement at Elkton, on the Shenandoah river, in the eastern portion of Rockingham county. It may be of interest to your readers to know something of the first white man who settled in the Virginia Valley, of whom there is record evidence, and the writer believes that there is certain information bearing upon this subject with which Mr. Wayland was unacquainted when his article was written.

The Adam Muller (Miller) mentioned in Mr. Wayland's essay as one of the Elkton pioneers, was born in Germany about the year 1700. He was naturalized March 13, 1741-42, by Governor Gooch, and the original certificate of his naturalization is to-day in the possession of Miss Elizabeth B. Miller, his great-great-granddaughter, who resides near Elkton, and it was printed in the October number, 1900, of William and Mary College Quarterly. The statement is made in this paper that Adam Miller was born in Schresoin, Germany, "and had settled and inhabited for fifteen years past on Shenandoa in this colony." This declaration proves beyond question that he had settled on the Shenandoah river either in 1726 or 1727, as time is now reckoned.

The story of his coming to America, first to Pennsylvania, and then to Virginia and the Valley, has been preserved by the oral testimony of one who knew him personally. Jacob Miller, grandson of Adam, was born in the year 1760 and died in 1861, aged 92 years. His grandfather survived until about the close of the revolution, and Jacob Miller remembered him well. Upon his authority it is stated that Adam Miller came as a young man, with his wife and an unmarried sister, to Pennsylvania from Germany, and first located in Lancaster county, and after residing there several years determined to try his fortunes in Virginia. He embarked at the head of Chesapeake Bay and landed in the vicinity of Williamsburg, where he fell in with some members of the Spotswood expedition, and, learning of the wonderful country beyond the mountains, determined to see it for himself. He followed closely the line of Spotswood's march, crossed the mountains at Swift Run Gap, and was so well pleased with the country that he immediately returned to Pennsylvania for his family and brought them to Virginia. It is also related that the pioneer first located on the Hawksbill, a tributary of the Shenandoah now in the county of Page; but the location proved unhealthful,
and, after losing several children, he removed to the place on the Shenandoah, which became his permanent residence and is to this day in the possession of Miss Elizabeth B. Miller, his descendant. The Hawksbill enters the Shenandoah a few miles northeast of Swift Run Gap, while the permanent home of Adam Miller is a few miles southwest of that point, at which Governor Spotswood entered the Valley.

It is further related that the colonists who settled at Elkton were friends and neighbors of Adam Miller in Pennsylvania, and came to Virginia upon the representations made by him as to the beauty and fertility of the Valley. Miller was certainly there with his family several years before Rangdman, Folk, Crimsart and others came, and with them constituted "the very few inhabitants and they frequently visited by indians," referred to in the petition mentioned by Mr. Wayland, which is given in full in Palmer's Calendar of Virginia State Papers. So far as can be ascertained, Adam Miller had no title to his lands until he joined with Rangdman, Folk and others in the purchase from Jacob Stover, and hence his signature to the petition referred to above. It may not be amiss to preserve in this paper the names of this sturdy German's children and some of the families in the Valley who descend from him. The sons of Adam Miller were: Adam and Henry, and his two daughters, Anna Barbara and Elizabeth. Adam, Jr., was killed by the Indians, but the date is unknown. Henry married a Miss Cooger, and the house which he built is still standing at Green Meadows, the ancestral home of the Millers. Anna Barbara Miller married Jacob Baer (Bear), the son of Jacob Bear, a native of Switzerland, who located in Pennsylvania about 1728, but removed to the Elkton settlement about 1740. Elizabeth Miller married John Baer (Bear), brother of Jacob. Through these children Adam Miller has left a numerous posterity in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and among the families in Rockingham county who descend from him may be mentioned the Millers, who reside in east Rockingham along and near the Shenandoah; the Bears, of east and west Rockingham; the Kempers, of Cross Keys, Va.; the Yanceys, Gibbons, Hopkins, Mauzys, Harnsbergers, and others, nearly all of whom reside in the eastern portion of Rockingham county, in the same general neighborhood where their enterprising ancestor made his home, then the lone outpost of civilization west of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

This narrative is based upon the statements made by Major Thomas K. Miller, deceased, of Elkton, who died some years ago. He was the son of Jacob Miller referred to in the beginning of this paper, and from Major Miller the foregoing information has come to the writer through his daughter, Miss Elizabeth B. Miller, Mr. C. W. S. Turner, of Washington, D. C., who formerly resided at Elkton, and Mr. John W. Blackburn, of Grottoes, Va. It is much to be regretted that contemporaneous record evidence of the foregoing facts is not obtainable, but the great
age of Jacob Miller, his acquaintance with his grandfather, the high character of Major Thomas K. Miller, and the unquestionable veracity of the three living persons mentioned, all combine to stamp this bit of local history as true beyond a reasonable doubt.

CHARLES E. KEMPER.

Washington, D. C., April 24, 1902.

GENEALOGY.

THE FARRAR FAMILY.

(CONTINUED FROM VOL. IX, 322.)

38. PERRIN' FARRAR (William'). lived first in Goochland county and afterwards in Louisa, where he died at the age of 60. He married Sarah Lacy, of St. Martin's parish, Hanover county, and had issue:

73. Ann, born October 9, 1758, died unmarried; 74. Matthew; 75. Stephen; 76. Sally, born Feb. 2d, 1765, married Matthew Anderson, of Goochland county; 77. Lucy, married Landsie Jones, of Hanover county; 78. Elizabeth, born August 14, 1769, married John Lee, and went West; 79. Fanny, married John Hancock, and went West.

39. JOSEPH ROYAL7 FARRAR (Josepho) was born about 1740, and lived for many years in Goochland county. In 1766 he was commissioned Captain of militia. In 1785 he removed to Kentucky, where he died in Fayette county. He married three times, (I) August 3d, 1762, Phoebe, daughter of James Harris, of Cumberland county (see "Chart of Descendants of Captain Thos. Harris"); (II) Martha Gaines; (III) about 1783, Jane, daughter of Thos. Ford, of Goochland. Issue: (1st m.) 80. Sarah, born July 18, 1763, died in infancy; 81. Sarah, born February 10, 1765, married John Royster; 82. Mary, born January 27, 1767, married William Harris; 83. Lucy, born February 19, 1769, married John Crouch; (2d m.) 84. Judith, married John Flourney; 85. Elizabeth, married Dr. John Selman, of Maryland, Surgeon U. S. A.; 85. Joseph Royal, who died at the age of 13 years; (3d m.) 86. William, who married and died young, leaving children in Indiana; 87. Bernard Gaines; 88. Jane, married Dr. Coleman Rogers, of Louisville, Ky.; 89. Joseph Royal, married ———, daughter of Benjamin Smith, of Fayette county, Ky., and died leaving children.

44. ABSOLAM FARRAR8 (Thomas') removed with his father to Georgia. He married in Columbia county, Ga., Mrs. Phoebe Clark (née Avery) and afterwards removed to Morgan county, Ga. They died in Henry county in the same State. He was aged nearly 90 years.