THE AMERICAN LINEAGES

of the

VEACH AND STOVER FAMILIES

Together With an Appendix

Containing Historical Notes of Strasburg and vicinity; a list of the Heads of Families in Strasburg in 1785; a Bibliograph of 98 books and references for Students of History and Genealogy; and blank spaces for Family Records.

Compiled and Arranged by

ROBERT SPANGLER VEACH

1913
PREFACE

This little book is not intended as a literary production. I am not a genealogist and do not claim to be a writer, but I hope that the work will meet with the approval of my many relatives and friends. The book had its incentive at the "hearth where soft affections dwell," and was undertaken more as a "hobby" or pastime than anything else. The members and friends of both the Veach and Stover families expressed such great interest in the undertaking however, that it was decided by me to prepare the data for publication. The record is not as complete as it might be, partly on account of the limited facilities of the writer and partly on account of a lack of interest shown by several of the members themselves. The latter is the exception rather than the rule, however, as I received most generous support from the majority of the members of both families, for which I thank them. I will not give the individual names here as they are mentioned separately in foot notes throughout the book where the information which they furnished appears.

The records herewith presented are prima facie evidence of the fact that I devoted considerable time, and some money, to the collection thereof, but it has been the source of great pleasure for me, and I expected some pecuniary losses;—therefore, I do not ask any profit
from the book. I hope that the book will be revised and extended by the descendants of those recorded therein, as occasion may require.

While the records are not all brilliant ones, still they are the annals of noble people who have never hesitated to soil their hands with honest labor, and they should animate their descendants with the will to keep sacred their names, and should convey to them the inspiration of lasting achievement.

—R. S. V.
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We cannot deduct the majority of our American surnames from the nomenclature of any single people, for the Americans of today are an amalgam of many races that are fused into one. The European domicile of the Stauffers, or Stovers, has been established beyond question, but there still remains some doubt about the Veach family. We know that they came from the British Isles however, and the writer is of the opinion that they were of Norman descent; that the name was first DeVesci; that after settling in Scotland it became Vaitche, then Veitch, and that it was changed to Veach in England. The name in Maryland was first Veitch; it was then changed to Veatch, and, during the Revolutionary War, it became Veach.

An examination of the Index Library, British Record Society, Ltd., vol. 16, p. 281, reveals a record of a number of families by the name of Veitch (Vaitche), at Edinburgh, Scotland, from the year 1570 to 1600. The ancient form is given in parenthesis. There is no Veach, Veitch, or Veatch, or anything similar to it, recorded in the "Sixteenth Century Marriages" (England) 1538-1600. S. Baring-Gould in his book "Family Names and Their Story," p. 272, says: "DeVesci was a famous name. It was like the tree in the vision that had its boughs wide extended, and the birds of the air lodged in the branches"
INTRODUCTORY AND HISTORICAL

of it. It stretched into Scotland. It is represented at the present day by Messrs. Veitch the nursery gardeners and seed merchants.”

Cosmo Innes in his book “Concerning Some Scotch Surnames,” p. 9, says: “The grand old Norman name of DeVesci is now Veitch.” On p. 56, he says: “The early seals of the DeVescis, before marshalling arms on shields had become common, have a bunch of vetches for a cognizance.” The DeVescis were contemporaries of William the Conqueror and came with him to England.

In the Index Library, British Record Society, v. 30, p. 244, there is a record of marriage license as having been issued from the Faculty office of the Archbishop of Canterbury, at London, March 11, 1708, to Alexander Veach and Jane Hutchins. This record covers the period 1632-1714, but the above is the only Veach recorded.

The German word stauf means a cup. Stauffer means a cup-bearer; therefore, the original Stauffer must have been a cup-bearer to the King of Hohenstaufen.

The Veach family of Virginia must have arrived in the United States during or immediately subsequent to the Revolutionary War. During the eighteenth century thousands of German, French, Swiss, Dutch, English, and Portuguese families were driven out of Europe by religious persecution and political oppression. The majority of these families emigrated to Philadelphia and from there they settled in different parts of the Union. Christian Stauffer evidently came previous to 1727. An examination of numerous lists of the names of these emigrants between the years 1727-1777 and 1786-1808 fails to reveal the name of Veach. Unfortunately, the
lists for the years 1778 to 1785 inclusive, have not been located.

On account of the Revolutionary excitement and the disfiguration of the names of foreign arrivals, it may be that the records will never be located which will lead to the positive establishment of the date of arrival of our early ancestors. The Revolutionary War began in April, 1775 and ended October 19th, 1781. The treaty of peace was signed two years later (Sept. 1783), at Paris. Conditions were not at all favorable in this country for home-seekers from England between 1775 and 1783, therefore it is not unreasonable to believe that the Veach family made its entry into the New World subsequent to 1783. Very often whole families arrived from Europe, and it is likely that Jesse and his brothers were accompanied by their wives. There is no record in the New Jersey Archives of a marriage license having been issued to them. The first census records of the States of New Jersey, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and a part of Virginia, taken in 1790, were destroyed when the British burned the Capitol at Washington, during the war of 1812.

THE MARYLAND VEACHES

The writer labored several months under the impression that the Veaches of Maryland and the Veaches of Virginia were one and the same family. This impression was created by reason of the similar Christian names of the two families, the uncertainty concerning the original American home of the Virginia Veaches, and the removal to Virginia of part of the Maryland
family. A close investigation, however, during which considerable genealogical data was collected from Montgomery and Prince George counties in Maryland, Shenandoah county in Virginia, and Hardy county in West Virginia, fails to substantiate this theory. The writer is still of the opinion that the families had the same origin, and were more or less remotely (probably closely) connected before or immediately after emigration to America, but, on account of his inability to prove this connection, he does not deem it wise to publish all of the data here. The name in Maryland was variously spelled "Veitch," "Veatch," and "Veach." All three forms were at different times applied to the same person. The name first appears in October, 1654, at which time James Veitch was appointed Sheriff of Maryes, Potomake, and Patuxent counties. His name is often spelled "Veatch." Between the years 1678 and 1690 the following names appear in the Maryland Archives: Thomas Veitch, Nathan Veitch, John Veitch and James Veatch.

John Veatch had three tracts of land surveyed in Prince George county, August 7, 1766, which were afterward considered one tract, and called "The Three Tracts Re-Surveyed." Part of Montgomery county was included in Prince George county up to 1777. John appears to have had rather a large family, as proven by the Montgomery county records. We find deeds, wills, etc., connecting the following Veaches (Veatches) with "The Three Tracts Re-Surveyed:" Ninian, 1785; Solomon and John, sons of Ninian, 1798; Jeremiah and John

1 Maryland Archives, v. 2, p. 347.
2 Maryland Archives, v. 10, p. 481-483.
H., sons of John, 1820; William and Jesse, sons of John, 1817; Hezekiah, his sons, Hezekiah, Jr., of Richmond, Va., and Nathan T., of Maryland, and grandson, Alexander C. H., 1819; Richard, 1778; Nathan, 1764; Silas, 1800, mentions children in Maryland, some in Kentucky\(^3\) and some on the northwest side of the Ohio river.

It does not follow that all of the above named were descendants of John, but the records show that they were all very closely related to him.

Ninian Veach, one of the sons of John, had two sons, named Solomon and John. Solomon moved to Hardy county, Va. (now West Va.), in 1805, and the Hardy county records show that he had two sons, Nathan and James.\(^4\) John had four sons, William, Jesse, John Hilleary, and Jeremiah. All of his sons removed to Hardy county, Va. John Veatch served in the Revolutionary War. The Maryland Archives have his name spelled "Veach."\(^5\) Hezekiah also served with distinction during the war; his name was also spelled "Veach."\(^6\) The census records of 1790 give all the names as "Veach." The Maryland Archives and the "Virginia Soldiers in the Revolutionary War" also mention several other Revolutionary soldiers named Veach whose names do not appear in any of the county records which were examined.

Hanson or Henson Veatch, an attorney, bought a tract of land in Hardy county, Va., May 21, 1791. He

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\(^3\) In the "History of Sangamon county, Ill." by John C. Carroll, p. 743, there appears a record of William Veatch (indexed Veach) who was born in Kentucky about 1810 and moved to Illinois in 1830.

\(^4\) Hardy county, W. Va., D. B. 9, p. 354.

\(^5\) Maryland Archives, v. 18, p. 8.

\(^6\) Maryland Archives, v. 16, p. 373; v. 21, p. 356.
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bought the land from Denny Fairfax,\footnote{Hardy county, W. Va., D. B. 2, p. 48.} legatee of "the late Lord Thomas Fairfax." Hanson was a son of Thomas.
THE VEACH FAMILY
FIRST AMERICAN GENERATION

NOTE—It behooves the writer to explain that in calling this chapter the "First American Generation," he does so, not because he has proven it to be the first American generation, but because he has been unable to connect it with any other generation.

JESSE VEACH
Born ————, died 1821 by drowning

Tradition tells us that Jesse emigrated from England to New Jersey, and, later, to Powell's Fort, Va., where he owned a large tract of land, and that he was accompanied to New Jersey by several of his brothers. ¹ The Veach family came to Virginia after 1785 as the name does not appear in the census taken that year. Jesse bought 188 acres of land from John Woolard in Powell's Fort, Va., March 1st, 1797, paying therefor 254 pounds current money of Virginia. ² On October 19th, 1803, he purchased from John Mauck, of Washington county, in the State of Tennessee, for and in consideration of the sum of 78 pounds current money of Virginia, a tract of land containing 200 acres in the County of Shenandoah and the State of Virginia, and in Powell's Fort. ³ On April 9th, 1810, Jesse purchased of John and Adam

¹ The writer enlisted the services of Elizabeth B. Satterthwaite, a professional Genealogist of Trenton, N. J., but she was unable to locate a record of the Veaches in the State Archives. If they stopped in New Jersey at all, they evidently rented or squatted there.
Sherman sixty acres of land which was situated in Powell's Fort. 4 Jesse's wife's name was Unicy.

Jesse was accompanied to Virginia by three brothers, Dorman, William and one other whose name is unknown. William was called "Mountain Veach" because he lived so near the mountain. Dorman Veach bought of David Munch December 9th, 1816, a tract of land in Powell's Fort, Va., containing 222 acres in consideration of one thousand dollars. 5 On July 7th, 1817, he sold a part of the land to Joseph Strother for $322.37. 6 On December 8, 1817 Dorman Veach and Mary his wife sold to Daniel Munch a tract of land for two hundred dollars. On January 12th, 1818 they sold to John Sherman a tract of land for $850.00. 7 On September 7th, 1818 Dorman bought of John Sherman a piece of land in Powell's Fort for $300.00. 8 On September 7th, 1818 Dorman and Mary, his wife, gave George F. Hupp a deed of release for two tracts of land in Powell's Fort. 9

On June 12th, 1815 Jesse Veach and David McInturff gave seven hundred and fifty dollars bond for William Veach who was appointed constable in the district composed of the 97th Regiment of Virginia Militia. 10

William Veach, Jr., bought a tract of land in Shenandoah county from Henry Bumgertner on November 17th, 1818. 11 On November 6th, 1817 he bought a tract of land from John Smith which was situated on the forks

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4 Shenandoah county D. B. R, p. 293.
6 Shenandoah county D. B. Y, p. 117.
7 Shenandoah county D. B. Y, p. 123.
8 Shenandoah county D. B. Y, p. 457.
9 Shenandoah county D. B. Y, p. 469.
10 Shenandoah county D. B. V, p. 597.
11 Shenandoah county D. B. V, p. 349.
of the Shenandoah River and Cabbin Run.\textsuperscript{12} He sold a great deal of land in 1822.

Jesse's brothers left the Fort, and it is supposed that they went to what is now Grant county, W. Va.\textsuperscript{13}

Powell's Fort is a small valley located in the northeastern part of Shenandoah county, Va. It is surrounded by mountains. It derived its name from a notorious Englishman who used the valley and adjacent mountains as a retreat in which to carry on his nefarious work of counterfeiting. The mountain folk of this section have many thrilling traditions of this old man and his treasure. Parts of the valley are very fertile, and this was no doubt what attracted our ancestors to what was then, more or less, a desolate wilderness, isolated from the outside world.

Samuel Kercheval in his History of the Valley of Virginia, third ed., p. 313, describes the Fort Valley as he saw it about the year 1803 as follows:

"Powell's Fort presents to the eye much grandeur and sublimity. * * * The grandeur and sublimity of this extraordinary work of nature consists in its tremendous height and singular formation. On entering the mouth of the Fort, we are struck with the awful height of the mountains on each side, probably not less than a thousand feet: Through a very narrow passage, a bold and beautiful stream of water rushes, called Passage Creek, which a short distance below works several fine merchant mills. After traveling two or three miles, the valley gradually widens, and for upwards of

\textsuperscript{12} Shenandoah county D. B. Y, p. 247.
\textsuperscript{13} The sale of the property of Jesse Veach, deceased, took place May 30th, 1822. Solomon Veach was executor of the estate.
twenty miles furnishes arable lands and affords settlements for eighty or ninety families, several of whom own very valuable farms. The two mountains run parallel about twenty-four or twenty-five miles and are called the East and West Fort Mountains, and are then merged into one, anciently called the Masinetto, now Massanutten, mountain. The Massanutten continues its course about thirty-five or thirty-six miles southerly, and abruptly terminates nearly opposite Keiseltown in the County of Rockingham. This range of mountains divides the two great branches of the Shenandoah River, called the South and North Forks. This mountain, upon the whole, presents to the eye something of the shape of the letter Y, or perhaps more the shape of the houns and tongue of a wagon. * * * The territory now composing the County of Page, Powell’s Fort and Woodstock Valley, between the West Fort Mountain and North Mountain, extending from the neighborhood of Stephensburg for a considerable distance in the County of Rockingham, was almost exclusively settled by Germans.”

This then, was the natural environment of our forefathers. It must have presented a strange contrast indeed, to the old home in Europe. They had heard wonderful tales of the strange land across the seas, where freedom reigned supreme and where the peopled “revelled in milk and honey.” Were they disappointed? No! Their posterity bears evidence of the fact that they came, they saw, and they conquered.
DEED OF THE LAND PURCHASED BY JESSE VEACH FROM JOHN WOOLARD, IN POWELL'S FORT, VA., MARCH 1st, 1797

D. D. This INDENTURE made the first day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand and seven hundred and ninety-seven Between John Woolard and Margaret his wife of Beckford Parrish, Shenandoah county & Commonwealth of Virginia of the one part and Jesse Veach of the Parrish, county and Commonwealth aforesaid of the other part witnesseth; that for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred and fifty-four pounds current money of Virginia to the said John Woolard in hand paid by the Jesse Veach at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge and thereof doth release acquit and discharge the said Jesse Veach, his executors and administrations by these presents the said John Woolard and Margaret his wife have granted, bargained, sold, alienated released and confirmed, and by these presents doth grant bargain, sell, alienate, release and confirm unto the said Jesse Veach all that piece parcel or tract of land containing one hundred and eighty-eight acres and a half of land, be the same more or less situated lying and being in the parish, county, and commonwealth aforesaid

14 Shenandoah County Deed Book K, p. 416.
and in Powell's Fort, being the same tract which he the
said John Woolard purchased of John Carryer who con-
veyed the same by his deeds of lease and release to him
bearing date the 19th and 20th days of December, 1774,
which is of record in the county court of Shenandoah
and which said tract of land the said John Woolard pur-
chased again of the grantees by virtue of act of General
Assembly passed the fourth day of December, 1795; the
said Act appointing agents for the sale of said land there-
in mentioned and for other purposes, James Williams,
Johnathan Clark being appointed agents, Johnathan
Clark, William C. Williams, Philip Williams, James
Green the Elder, and Andrew McKay, or any three of
them appointed commissioners for the purpose of mak-
ing conveyances aforesaid, sold by the said agents to
the purchasers persuant to the said Act, the said John-
athan Clark, Philip Williams and James Green by the
deed made the conveyance aforesaid bearing date the
6th day of April, 1796. Also of record in the county
court of Shenandoah, reference thereunto being
had will more fully appear; the said is bounded as fol-
lows, viz: Beginning at a white oak and a Spanish oak
in the line of Conrad Tibo on the south side of Passage
Creek, thence with his line No. 47 W 114 poles to a hick-
ory and a white oak on the creek bank, thence down the
creek, the several courses thereof 316 poles to a hickory
and a dogwood on the creek bank, thence So. 47 E 161
poles to two red oaks and a white oak sapling near the
head of a hollow, thence So. 45 W 219 poles to the be-
inning, Being a part of a larger tract of 300 acres
which been granted by deed from the proprietors office
of the Northern neck of Virginia bearing date the 24th
day of April, 1753 to George Weaver and the said George Weaver conveyed the same by his deed to John Carryer died intestate leaving no will, the land descending to his son John Carryer he being heir at law to the said Decedent and the said John Carryer Junr. conveyed the one hundred and eighty-eight and a half acres, part of the 300 acres of aforesaid, to the said John Woolard aforesaid. . . And all houses, building, orchards, ways, waters, water courses, profits, commodities, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever to the said premises hereby granted, or any part thereof belonging or in any wise appertaining and the Reversion and Reversions, Remainder and Remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof and also all the estate, right, title, interest, use, trust, property and demand, whatsoever of them the said John Woolard and Magaret his wife. of, in and to the said premises and all deeds evidences and writings touching or in any wise concerning the same to have and to hold the lands hereby conveyed and all singular other the premises hereby granted and released and every part and parcel thereof with their appurtenances unto the said Jesse Veach, his heirs and assigns forever to the only proper use and behoof of him the said Jesse Veach and of his heirs and assigns forever and the said John Woolard and Margaret his wife for themselves and their heirs, executors and administration doth covenant, promise and grant to and with the said Jesse Veach, his heirs and assigns by these presents that the said John Woolard and Margaret his wife now at the time of sealing and delivering of these presents and seized of good sure perfect and indefeasible estate of inheritance in fee simple of and in the
premises hereby granted and released and that they
hath good power and absolute authority to grant and
convey the same to the said Jesse Veach in manner and
form aforesaid and that the said premises now are and
forever hereafter shall remain to be free and clear of
and from all other gifts, grants, bargains, sales, dower
right and title of dower judgements, executors, titles,
troubles, charges and incumbrances whatsoever: Made,
done, committed or suffered by the said John Woolard
and Margaret his wife or any other person or persons
whatsoever. And lastly that the said John Woolard and
Margaret his wife and their heirs, all and singular and
the premises hereby granted and released with the app­
urtenances unto the said Jesse Veach his heirs and as­
signs against the said John Woolard and Margaret his
wife and their heirs and all and every other person and
persons whatsoever shall warrant, defend and forever
be warranted, defend by these presents. In witness whereof the said John Woolard and Margaret his wife have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

JOHN WOOLARD (Seal)

MARGARET X WOOLARD (Seal)

Signed sealed &
delivered in the presence of

At a court held for the County of Shenandoah on
Tuesday the 14th day of March, 1797, This indenture of
bargain and sale from John Woolard and Margaret his
wife to Jesse Veach was acknowledged and ordered to
be recorded, she first being privately examined as the
law directs.

I. Williams,
C. S. C.
SECOND AMERICAN GENERATION

SOLOMON VEACH
Son of Jesse
Born May 22, 1790, died February 5, 1846
Aged 55 years, 8 months, and 13 days

He was married July 30th, 1816, to Miss Polly Lichliter, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Lichliter, of German descent. She was born July 16, 1791, and died February 20, 1878.  

Solomon was a millwright and planter. He lived and died in Powell's Fort, Va. He was appointed Constable in the district composed of the 97th Regiment, Monday, October 11, 1819, succeeding his uncle, William Veach. He was an industrious, christian gentleman of the type which made possible the present staple condition of our great Union. He was tall, straight and rather dark complexioned. His wife spoke German and he English; neither could understand the other to any great extent, but, despite this enormous detriment,

15 The water often came into the house in which Mrs. Solomon Veach lived (on Passage Creek) and on one occasion reached a chest in which the Bible was kept. The Bible came to pieces. Mrs. David L. Veach saved the pages upon which the family record was preserved, storing it away with old deeds, etc., after which she forgot about it. David L. was under the impression that the Bible had been destroyed by fire, until he had occasion to look through the old deeds, when he found the family record which he kindly loaned the writer.

16 Letter from Mr. James Habron who was intimately acquainted with Solomon.
they raised a large family of children which reflected
great credit upon the father and mother.

SONS

Washington
Levi
Isaac
Harrison
William
Jacob

DAUGHTERS

Anna—Born May 5, 1818, married Charles Derflinger. They left the Fort in 1853, moving to Reliance, Va., where she died at the age of 83.

Katharine—Born March 13, 1825, married Emanuel Stover December 28, 1848, and moved to Arizona. She died January 6, 1898, in Phoenix, Ariz. (See Stover Lineage.)

Leah—Born June 6, 1827, died May 18, 1905. She married Jacob McInturff and lived and died in the Fort Valley.

Elizabeth—Born August 23, 1829, married a Mumaw, went west and soon died.

Christiana—Born May 24, 1831, and died during the summer of 1846 of typhoid fever.

Polly—Born April 29, 1833, married William Golladay in the fall of 1856. She died in Texas in 1873. She was reputed to be very beautiful.

Harriet—Born April 10, 1835, died in 1877. She married Lafayette Ritenour. They lived with her mother on the old home place.

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17 Solomon’s Bible; letters from D. L. Veach, J. S. Veach, Buford Veach and Mrs. Lydia F. Bowman.
CONSTABLE'S BOND OF SOLOMON VEACH
SHENANDOAH COUNTY, VA.¹⁸

Know all men by these presents that we Solomon Veach, David McInturff and Jacob Coverstone Senr. are held and firmly bound unto James P. Preston Esq., Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth of Virginia for the time being and his successors in the sum of one thousand dollars to be paid to the said Governor or his successors to which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators jointly, severally, firmly by these presents as witness our hands and seals this 11th day of October, 1819.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the above Solomon Veach hath been appointed a constable in the district composed of the 97th regiment: Now if the said Solomon Veach shall, will, truly & faithfully discharge the duties of a constable according to law; these the above obligations to be void, else to remain in full force.

(Signed)

In the name of God Amen. I Solomon Veach of the county of Shenandoah and the state of Virginia, considering the uncertainty of this mortal life and being low in body but perfect in mind and memory, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following, to wit; first I bequeath my soul to God who gave it, and as to my worldly goods that I shall be possessed of at my death, it is my will and desire that my executor hereinafter named and appointed, shall soon after my death ascertain as near as possible the amount of the debts that shall be by me owing and shall then proceed to sell at public sale and on a reasonable credit so much of my personal estate as it will take to pay off all my just debts and costs of sale, selling such property as my beloved wife Polly can most conveniently spare and if the sale should exceed my debts and cost of sale, to pay such money over to my wife as aforesaid; then I bequeath to my youngest son Jacob Veach my large Bible and one arithmetic and slate, and as to my interest in a sawmill situate on the lands of Peter Coverstone I will that it shall be rented yearly to the highest bidder and the money put on interest until the time is expired, then one third of the money shall be paid to my wife Polly and the balance divide (?) to my heirs as herein-
after described. And as to all the rest, residence and remainder of my estate both real and personal of what kind and nature whatever, I give and bequeath the same to my beloved wife Polly Veach to her only use and benefit until my youngest son Jacob shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years, provided she will remain in a state of widowhood, but if she should marry, then I will that all the remaining property both real and personal be sold at public sale immediately, the widow retaining her dower on the land during her lifetime and being entitled to one third of the money accruing from the personal property. If my wife shall live and stay single until my son Jacob is of the age of twenty-one, then her dower is to be assigned her in the lands, and the land shall be sold subject to it at public sale to the highest bidder. All the personal property herein bequeathed to my wife for the time aforementioned shall also be sold at the time of Jacob arriving at the age of twenty-one and my wife shall in the first place have one third of the money accruing from the personal property that shall be remaining, then my sons Levi Veach, Isaac Veach and Jacob Veach shall be paid fifty dollars each out of the money accruing from the land, the personal property and rent of the sawmill aforementioned. Second, my seven daughters, viz; Anna Veach, Catharine Veach, Leah Veach, Elizabeth Veach, Polly Veach, Christina Veach and Harriet Veach shall have thirty dollars each out of the same, then my sons, Levi, Jacob and Harrison shall each of them be paid seventy dollars and all my aforesaid seven daughters forty two dollars each if my effects shall reach so far, if not, they shall all have in the aforesaid proportion so
far as it shall reach. And after the above legacies shall be paid and there shall be anything left then my sons Washington Veach, William Veach and Harrison Veach (Who left home under age for which reason I do not make them equal) shall come in with the rest and it shall be divided among all my children equally, to them and their heirs forever; and lastly I contribute and appoint David McInturf executor of this my last will and testament, ratifying and confirming this to be my last will and testament, in witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and seal this 19th day of January in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-Six.

SOLOMON VEACH.

Signed sealed and delivered
in the presence of
Henry McInturff Sr.
Henry L. McInturf
Silas Munch
Frederick McInturff.
THIRD AMERICAN GENERATION

WASHINGTON VEACH
Son of Solomon
Born April 23, 1817, died in August, 1850

He married Eliza Ann Ridenour, daughter of John and Polly Ridenour, August 8, 1844. She was born August 26, 1819. Washington lived and died in Powell's Fort, Virginia.

NO SONS

DAUGHTERS

Catharine—Born May 1, 1845, and married David Kneisley, of Strasburg, Va. They have one daughter, named Maggie, who married James Gaines, a locomotive engineer of the N. & W. Railroad.

Alcinda—Born May 20, 1847, married Samuel Mortimer Grove May 25, 1870. He served in the Southern army during the Civil war. They have one son, named Guy, who is a prominent railroad official in Texas, and two adopted children.

LEVI VEACH
Son of Solomon
Born October 23, 1819, died November 29, 1898

20 Solomon's Bible records.
21 Letter from Mrs. Catharine Kneisley.
22 Letter from Mrs. Alcinda Grove. See note page 40.
23 Solomon's Bible records, letters from D. L. Veach and Mrs. Lydia F. Bowman.
Levi married Miss Priscilla Lichliter January 19, 1846, the Rev. G. G. Brooke officiating. She was born September 7, 1819, and died February 23, 1894. He lived in Powell’s Fort where he followed the vocation of his father and grandfather—that of tilling the soil. Five of his children died in 1863 of diphtheria. Levi is said to have been inoculated against poison. He did not stop plowing for snake bite and the hornet’s sting had no more effect upon him than the bite of the common house fly.

Levi bought his land in Powell’s Fort from John Shipe’s estate, who bought it from William Moreland, who bought it from Michael Knicely. He was married twice, his second wife, Mary I., was a daughter of James and Mary Burner. They were married in 1898, she being a widow at that time. There were no children by the second marriage.

SONS
John H.
George A.
David L.
Benjamin F.

DAUGHTERS
Elmira—Born December 6, 1852, died October 17, 1863.
Lydia Francis—Born May 17, 1851, married James Bowman in the fall of 1899. She now lives at Pugh’s Run, Va., near Woodstock.
Amanda Catharine—Born April 23, 1860, died of diphtheria November 19, 1863.

24 Letter from Mrs. Mary I Veach, of Detrick, Va.
ISAAC VEACH
Son of Solomon

Born in Powell’s Fort, Va., December 27, 1820, died in Grundy county, Mo., August 6, 1897. He married Miss Julia A. Clem, of Virginia, in 1850. At the present writing (1913) she is still living. Isaac moved to Timberville, Va., and in 1852 he moved to Missouri. He was a wagon maker by trade, but upon reaching the fertile plains of the West, he discontinued his trade and became an agriculturist.  

SONS
Nason
Joshua
Benjamin
Buford

DAUGHTER
Ella—Born December 5, 1860. She married B. F. Proctor and is now living at El Dorado Springs, Mo. They have one boy.

HARRISON VEACH
Son of Solomon

Born April 20, 1822, died November 30, 1849

He married Miss Sarah Jane Stover November 19, 1846, the Rev. George Shaver officiating. She was a daughter of Joseph Stover. She was born June 26, 1829, and died May 16, 1908. She was popularly known as “Aunt Jane” and was dearly loved by both young and old throughout the community in which she lived.

25 Letters from Buford Veach.
26 Solomon’s Bible records show his birth as 1822, while Sarah Jane Veach’s Bible shows 1823. We learn from Solomon’s will that he left home before he came of age.
Harrison was a farmer and resided upon the farm near the Bend-of-the-River, about one mile south of Strasburg, Va., which is now owned by Jos. Stickley. Harrison, with his young wife, moved from the above farm to that now owned by Mr. George Beeler, about two miles east of Strasburg, where he died of typhoid fever, leaving a widow twenty years of age with two small children to care for. Jacob Kern was appointed guardian of the two boys, Joshua and Joseph, on December 13, 1852. In the year 1859 the guardianship was transferred to James Bly.

SONS
Joshua Stover
Joseph H.

NO DAUGHTERS

WILLIAM VEACH
Son of Solomon

Born September 25, 1823, married Dorothy Bly, of near Strasburg, Va., December 1, 1846, the Rev. George Shaver officiating. The author was unable to obtain any detailed information regarding him. He had two sons and two daughters. One of his daughters married Joseph Sonner, of Strasburg, member of Company A, 10th Va. Regiment. The other daughter died young.

SONS
Robert Samuel
William Jasper

DAUGHTERS
Rebecca Ellen—Married Joseph Sonner. She died

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27 Solomon's Bible records.
28 Shenandoah county (Va.) marriage records. William also left home before he came of age.
November 16, 1886. Her daughter, Ida Gertrude, married George W. Metzger and is now living in Chicago, Illinois.

Cordelia Francis—Died in March, 1876.

JACOB VEACH
Son of Solomon

Born March 11, 1839, in Virginia, and died March 16, 1912, in Clay county, Mo. He married Elizabeth Crook July 30, 1868. She was born February 5, 1847. He moved from Powell’s Fort, Va., to Ohio about the year 1863, and from there he moved to Grundy county, Mo. In 1871 he moved to Kansas and in 1872 he moved back to Missouri. He died of heart disease. Jacob was a firstclass wagon maker and blacksmith by trade. He served some time in the cavalry, Confederate army, during the Civil war. He was well liked by all who knew him. He learned his trade with Mr. Alfred Hoffman and we have it from Mr. Hoffman’s son, Edward, that his father held Jacob in high esteem.

DAUGHTER

Sarah Kathryn—Born September 7, 1877, married William A. Jones March 18, 1897, and is now living near Excelsior Springs, Mo., R. F. D. No. 3. They have three boys and one girl.

29 Letter from Mrs. Sarah K. Jones.
FOURTH AMERICAN GENERATION

JOHN H. VEACH
Son of Levi
Born November 19, 1841, died September 26, 1863.\(^{30}\)

GEORGE A. VEACH
Son of Levi
Born May 11, 1849, died October 4, 1863\(^{30}\)

DAVID L. VEACH\(^{31}\)
Son of Levi
Born March 17, 1856, married Miss Addie V. Fielding, a relative of Zachary Taylor, hero of Buena Vista and one time President of the United States. They are now living near Cedarville, Warren county, Va. He is a thrifty agriculturalist and optimist. He owns a 159-acre farm about one mile west of Cedarville, known as the Clifton farm, upon which there stands a very spacious and imposing mansion. David is a Justice of the Peace and Registrar of Vital Statistics for District 931-B.

SONS
Cary W.
Carl L.
Benjamin F.
Schuyler H.
Lower O.

\(^{30}\) Letter from Mrs. Lydia F. Bowman.
\(^{31}\) Letters from D. L. Veach.
DAUGHTERS
Addie Jeanette—Born March 8, 1891, married Ralph B. Finell, of Roanoke, Va. They are now living in Detroit, Mich.
Mary—Born March 22, 1895. She is single and at home. She is an expert horsewoman and is now attending the Middletown (Va.) High School.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN VEACH
Son of Levi
Born November 7, 1858, died October 11, 1863

NASON VEACH
Son of Isaac
Born November 24, 1852, died in 1855 in Caldwell county, Mo.

JOSHUA C. VEACH
Son of Isaac
Born March 18, 1856, died May 1, 1882, in Florida of typhoid fever. He was unmarried

BENJAMIN A. VEACH
Son of Isaac
Born May 24, 1858, died December 1, 1893, in Buffalo county, Neb. He was a sawmill man and later turned his attention to traction threshing machinery. He was unmarried. He contracted pneumonia while assisting in sheep dipping on a western ranch and died suddenly.

BUFORD VEACH
Son of Isaac
Born December 20, 1863. He is now living in Grundy county, Mo., (P. O., Trenton, Mo., R. F. D. No. 7).

32 All information relative Isaac Veach furnished by Buford Veach.
He traveled over a number of the States but finally settled in Missouri. He is a farmer and stock raiser. Describing his early history he says: "I was born December 20, 1863, snow two feet deep all over the country (my father afterwards told me), in a log cabin in Mercer county, Mo." He was married in Plattsburg, Mo., March 7, 1890, to Miss Norah Collins, who was born January 5, 1868, in Grundy county, Mo. Buford is six feet and two inches tall and weighs 185 pounds.

SON
C. Monroe

DAUGHTER
Julia W. — Born December 16, 1891. She expects to graduate from the University School at Columbia, Mo., in 1913. She is a great book lover.

JOSHUA STOVER VEACH
Son of Harrison
Born September 26, 1847, married Miss Molina Del Rey Spangler January 18, 1871. She was born June 23, 1850. She is a daughter of Capt. Adam Lemuel Spangler. 33

Joshua was a lad of 14 when the Civil war broke out (1861). At that time he was living with his

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33 Adam Lemuel Spangler was born in June, 1826, and died in October, 1885. He was a son of Philip H. Spangler who was born October 30, 1796 and died January 10, 1879. Philip H. married Catharine Cook, who was born October 22, 1807 and died June 17, 1890. Adam Lemuel was in the Mexican war and was Captain of Co. A, 10th Va. Regt., Stonewall Brigade, in the Civil war. He married Mary C. Grove who was born October 13, 1832 and died March 20, 1912; she was a daughter of Lorenzo Grove who married Sarah Cooper April 9, 1829. She was born October 10, 1811 and died March 23, 1876. Lorenzo Grove died January 19, 1843, and his widow married Abdel Louden Davis November 27, 1853. Besides Mary C., Lorenzo and Sarah had seven other children,—William L., Philip E., S. Jane (Balthis), George C. (a Federal General), Francis V., Samuel Mortimer (a Confederate...
grandfather, Joseph Stover, on the Stover farm about three miles south of Strasburg. Two of his uncles marched away with the Southern army never to return again. They left Joshua to care for the women and farm as best he could.

In accordance with Grant’s orders, Gen. Sheridan proceeded to lay waste the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. He did this work of destruction so thoroughly that, to quote his own language, “a crow flying across the Valley would need to carry his rations with him.” At the close of the war, Joshua, being a healthy young man and having a natural craving for rations, among other things, decided to seek his fortune in the promising country west of the Alleghanies. He left Strasburg on November 10, 1866, for Urbana, Champaign county, Ohio. He remained there until 1868 when he went to McHenry county, Ill., and remained there one year, returning to Strasburg in November, 1869, where he took up the work of reconstruction. On August 28, soldier who married Alcinda Veach), and John Lorenzo, of Memphis, Tenn.

Abdel L. Davis and Sarah had one son, Capt Abdel A. Davis, who was born October 10, 1854, and died July 25, 1911.

Philip H. Spangler was the son of Solomon Spangler. Solomon was born in 1770 and died in 1830. He was in the war of 1812. He married a Miss Taylor and emigrated to Virginia from Pennsylvania about the year 1790. He was accompanied by several brothers, among them Col. Philip Spangler who married Regina Stover, daughter of Peter Stover. Solomon’s father’s name was Philip Caspar; he was born in 1730 and died in 1786. He married Margaret Salome Dinkel, daughter of Johann Daniel Duncke (Dinkel), a nobleman of Strassburg, Germany. Her mother was also of the noble Von Colmar birth. Philip Caspar was the son of Caspar Spengler, the founder of the American paternal lineage. Caspar was born in Weyler, Germany January 20, 1684 and emigrated to America in 1727. He died in 1760 in York, Pa. The German lineage is traced back to George Spengler, 1150 in the “Spengler Annals.” Caspar was the son of Hans Rudolf Spengler, whose father, Jacob Spengler was a citizen of Schoefltland, Canton Berne, now Aargan, Switzerland, and a descendant of George Spengler A. D. 1150.
1877, John W. Painter and Joshua S. Veach obtained Letters Patent of the United States for an improved shovel plow and cultivator No. 194713. Later he was engaged in various pursuits, such as merchant, miller, railroader, stone-cutter, etc. He bought a small farm from Silas B. Grove on March 22, 1884. The property is located on the Old Mill or Jack Ford road near Strasburg. He built Mountain View on the property in 1887. Joshua is an energetic, law-abiding citizen of the class that makes a community staple. He is a diligent student of current events and of the Holy Scriptures, having been prominently identified with the Presbyterian church and Sunday school of Strasburg for many years.

SONS
Lemuel Harrison
Clyde Converse
Robert Spangler
Louis Stover

NO DAUGHTERS

JOSEPH H. VEACH
Son of Harrison

Born April 28, 1849. He left Strasburg during the latter part of the Civil war with Henry Setzer. They went to Mt. Pleasant, W. Va. He left there with his cousin, Mrs. Betty Drew, for Palmyra, Mo., where he has been located ever since. He resided in Palmyra for some years with his guardian, Jacob Kern, who married his mother's sister, Mary. Joseph was married three times. His first wife was a Miss Martha

34 Related by J. S. Veach.
Hoskins, daughter of Armstead Hoskins. She died about one year after marriage. His second wife was a school teacher. His third and present wife is an artist. In 1880 he married Miss Katie Kerns, of Palmyra, Mo. The newspaper account of the wedding speaks of her modesty and innocence and of him as a quiet, industrious, upright young man. Joseph owns a farm near Palmyra, but at the present time he is a rural free delivery contractor. From 1884 to 1891 he was engaged in the sawmill business.

No Issue

ROBERT SAMUEL VEACH

Son of William

Born July 5, 1851. He married Elizabeth Winters of Ohio, April 1, 1882. He is now located in Chicago, Ill., address 235 W. 60th Place. He left the Fort at the age of 13 (1864) going to Northern Vermont and after remaining there for several years removed to Canada. From Canada he moved about considerably; going to New Kingston, thence to Utica, N. Y., thence to Grand Rapids, Mich., thence to Minneapolis, Minn., thence to Chicago, Ill. From Chicago he moved to Champlain, Ill., where he lived on a farm for four years. He then married (1882) and moved to Chicago remaining there only a short time when he moved to Middle Point, Ohio. He remained in Middle Point until 1888 when he finally settled down in Chicago. He is a mason contractor.

NO SONS

35 Old newspaper clipping.
36 Letter from Robert S. Veach, of Chicago, 7-24-12.
FOURTH AMERICAN GENERATION

DAUGHTERS

Dollye E. Francis—Born December 26, 1882. She married Fred Pinkel March 8, 1912.

Lillian V.—Born June 1885, married Edgar Long March 8, 1912.

Bernice—Born May 6, 1890, died June 9, 1907.

WILLIAM JASPER VEACH

Son of William

Born July 4, 1855, married Almanary Foster December 30, 1879. She was born January 31, 1857. He is a farmer and now lives at Middle Point, Ohio, where he owns a fine farm. William is a Bryan Democrat, his motto being, "Never say quit."

SONS

Ralph Raymond
William Robert

DAUGHTERS

Viola Gertrude—Born April 19, 1881, died February 17, 1897.

Laura Ellen—Born August 12, 1883, married Claude C. Fast August 12, 1903. They have two children, Helen R. and Howard V.

Dollye Agnes—Born March 9, 1886. She married Rev. I. R. Ladd, of Mulberry, Ind., in August 1913.

Lulu Dayle—Born December 12, 1891, married James E. Manship May 27, 1912.

Mary Susanna—Born November 21, 1894.

Dorothy Mildred—Born May 28, 1902.

Dates furnished by Dollye A. Veach, 7-8-12.

Letter from Dollye A. Veach July 8, 1912.
FIFTH AMERICAN GENERATION

CARY W. VEACH

Son of David L.

Born May 3, 1881, married Miss Rose Naylor, of Cedarville, Va., June 23, 1905. He is one of the principal managers of the firm of W. B. Moses and Sons, Furniture Establishment, Washington, D. C. He traveled the year 1902 with Prof. N. N. Magrue through Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, lecturing on “Pilgrim’s Progress” and selling religious books. He moved to Washington, D. C., in 1903. He owns a residence at 3301, 17th Street, N. W., Brooklyn, D. C.

SONS

W. Alden

Naylor

DAUGHTER

Ruth E.—Born December 31, 1906.

CARL L. VEACH

Son of David L.

Born September 25, 1882, married Miss Alma Clayton, of Hoopersville, Dorchester county, Md., in January 1909. He was Treasurer and office manager of

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39 Letters from David L. Veach and C. W. Veach July 1, 1912.
40 Letter from David L. Veach.
the Barrett McKee Co. of Baltimore, Md., until the fall of 1912 when he went into the Fish, Oyster and Crab business on Hooper’s Island, Md., with his father-in-law and brother, Benjamin F. Veach.

SON
Olyn R.

BENJAMIN F. VEACH
Son of David L.
Born May 13, 1885, married Miss Emma Simmons, of Hoopersville, Md., July 22, 1907. He is in the Fish, Crab and Oyster packing business at Hoopersville.

NO SONS
DAUGHTER
Pauline—

HOWARD SCHUYLER VEACH
Son of David L.
Born September 18, 1886. He left home in 1903, residing in various places, being in Washington and Philadelphia each one year, and is now located in Cleveland, Ohio. He married Miss Martha Wahe, of Rocky River, Ohio, September 25, 1912.

LOWER O. VEACH
Son of David L.
Born December 22, 1888. He left home at the age of 18, residing respectively in Washington, Philadelphia, Detroit, and is at present located in Cleveland, Ohio. He is a mechanic.

Letter from David L. Veach.
C. MONROE VEACH
Son of Buford
Born May 8, 1896, in Grundy county, Mo. He is an enthusiast of the ranch—a cowboy and rough rider by inclination.

LEMUEL HARRISON VEACH
Son of Joshua S.
Born October 9, 1872, married Miss Virginia Pearl Beale, of Suffolk, Va., June 21, 1899 who died January 12, 1904. He then married Miss Virginia Frances Dews, daughter of B. F. Dews, of Smithfield, Va., October 18, 1905. He left Strasburg in 1891 and was employed at various places by the Western Union and Postal Telegraph Companies. He settled in Suffolk Va., as manager of the Western Union office there, where he remained for several years, moving thence to Norfolk, Va., where he was employed as operator for the Postal Telegraph Co. He remained with the Postal until the Commercial Telegraphers, strike of 1907 when he engaged in the hay, grain and feed business. The call of the key prevailed upon him however and in 1909 he accepted a position with the Southern Railway Co. as operator in their Columbia, S. C. relay office. He was appointed manager of the office July 17, 1912. He is a lover of books and owns a very fine library.

SON
Charles Eugene Veach

DAUGHTER
Virginia Delray—Born January 7, 1909.

Benj. F. Dews married Maritena Jackson Davis who was born December 6, 1853 and died December 22, 1902. Maritena’s father, Merritt Jackson Davis was born in 1818, married Mary Virginia Chapman in January, 1853. He died in July, 1868. Benj. F. Dews married Bettie Berryman December 29, 1904.
CLYDE CONVERSE VEACH
Son of Joshua S.

Born October 17, 1876, married Miss Ava Lewis December 23, 1896. She was born in 1880. He left Strasburg in 1891 and was employed by the Western Union Telegraph Co. at New Market, Va., during the year of 1891. He was employed at various places on the Southern Railway during 1892. He settled in Fairfax county, Va. in 1893, working at Springfield, Ditchley and Edsall until 1905 when he accepted a position with the same company in the chief train dispatcher’s office in Alexandria. In 1910 he was made train dispatcher on the main line of the Southern—a very responsible position, requiring above all things a steady nerve and a level head.

SONS
Lancelot Stover
Clyde Converse, Jr.

NO DAUGHTERS

ROBERT SPANGLER VEACH
Son of Joshua S.

Born May 19, 1887, married Miss Grace T. Gantt October 5, 1910, who was born October 8, 1890. She is a daughter of Charles R. and Annetta Gantt. She learned telegraphy in 1892 and was employed at vari-

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42Charles Randolph Gantt was born in 1844 in Virginia, and died January 14, 1903. He married Annetta Kelly, of Pennsylvania, who was born May 31, 1850. They moved to Maryland. Charles R. was a son of William Gantt of Virginia who was born about 1811 and died in 1893. William married Maria Richison. Annetta Kelly was a daughter of Samuel D. Kelly who was born in 1812 and died in 1896. He served in the Federal army during the civil war. He married Margarett Ann Turner who was born in 1829 and lived to be about 70 years of age. Samuel
ous places by the Southern Railway Company until 1904, when he was transferred to Alexandria, Va. He worked in Alexandria from April, 1904, to June 20, 1905, at which time he was transferred to the General Telegraph Office in Washington, D. C. He was made second night manager of the office in June, 1909, and in July, 1910, he was promoted to first night manager.

NO ISSUE

LOUIS STOVER VEACH
Son of Joshua S.

Born May 15, 1891. He was employed at various places on the Southern Railway as telegraph operator in 1906 and 1907. He went to the General Office March 11, 1907. Although very young he was considered one of the best operators on the system. While employed as operator he attended a commercial school, and, among other things, he learned the art of stenography. He resigned his position as operator in the spring of 1909 to accept a position as stenographer in the office of the General Passenger Agent of the Southern, where he remained for several months. He resigned there to accept a more remunerative position as Telegraph operator and stenographer for the District Passenger Agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Washington, D. C. He was appointed secretary to the chief law agent of the Southern Railway Company at Washington, July 15, 1912, and on February 1, 1913, he was promoted to

D. Kelly was a son of John Kelly of Pennsylvania. John was born near Shippensburg, Cumberland county, Pa. He died very young.

Margarett Ann Turner was a daughter of William Turner who married a Miss Bell. Both the Bell and Turner families were reputed to have been very wealthy at one time.
Secretary to the general attorney of said road. He entered the Georgetown University, Department of Law, October 1st, 1913. He is unmarried.

RALPH RAYMOND VEACH
Son of William J.
Born May 23, 1889. Married Miss Gladys Carlo April 10, 1912. He resides in Middle Point, Ohio. ¹³

WILLIAM ROBERT VEACH
Son of William J.
Born January 8, 1899, in Middle Point, Ohio. ¹³

¹³Letter from Miss Dollye A. Veach.
SIXTH AMERICAN GENERATION

WARREN ALDEN VEACH
Son of Cary W.
Born January 14, 1912, in Washington, D. C.; died April 9, 1913, and was buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Front Royal, Va.

NAYLOR VEACH
Son of Cary W.
Born April 16, 1909, in Washington, D. C.

OLYN R. VEACH
Son of Carl L.
Born October 13, 1909, in Baltimore, Md.

CHARLES EUGENE VEACH
Son of Lemuel Harrison
Born July 11, 1912, in Columbia, S. C.

LANCELOT STOVER VEACH
Son of Clyde C.
Born February 1, 1902, in Fairfax county, Virginia.

CLYDE CONVERSE VEACH, Jr.
Son of Clyde C.
Born June 15, 1903, in Fairfax county, Virginia.

**Letter from C. W. Veach, July 1, 1912.**
**Related by David L. Veach.**
**Family Bible of J. S. Veach.**
THE STOVER FAMILY
EARLY HISTORY AND TRADITIONS

The early Stauffer history, traditions, etc., up to and including Christian Stauffer, of Salford, are gleaned from the following books: History of the House of Hohenstaufen, by Fred Raumer, of Germany; History of the Mennonites, by D. K. Cassell; History of the Stauffer-Stover Family, by Rev. A. J. Fretz; History of the Descendants of Daniel Stauffer and Hans Bauer, by Rev. Henry S. Bower; and the Stouffer Genealogy, by Kate S. Snively.

Frederic Buren was the founder of the House of Hohenstaufen in Suabia, Germany. He was beyond doubt of Franco-Alsatian ancestry. Frederic died in 1105 and the dynasty ascended to his heirs who variously ruled until the year 1268, when, “after a period of splendor and glory it was suddenly seized by a dreadful calamity and hurled into the darkest night of oblivion.” The last of the House, Conrad by name, while attempting to enforce his right, gained several battles and was finally defeated at Tegliacozzo in 1268, taken prisoner and beheaded in cold-blooded murder, November 29, 1268, at the age of fifteen. This ended the House of Hohenstaufen. The male sex of the late
Imperial House being annihilated, and all who claimed any prior family connection took to flight—one portion going to Baden, to another Bavaria, and a third to Switzerland.

Fred Raumer, of Germany, in his History of the House of Hohenstaufen, states that at the time of the prosperity of the House their ancestry was traced back to the ancient Emperor of France, as far back as the reign of Charlemagne. He states that a close inquiry, however, throws some doubt on the legend.

According to tradition, the Stauffers owe their origin to a generation of knights called Stauffacher, at Hohenstaufen (D. K. Cassell and Rev. A. J. Fretz).

Daniel Stauffer, a descendant of the ancient House of Hohenstaufen in Suabia, was born in Alzeim or Wiesennan, near the old Rhine in Switzerland, about 1630, and where he also died. The first ancestors of the American Stauffers (Stovers) came from Switzerland, their birthplace. They lived in the neighborhood of Zurich. They belonged to a religious sect called Mennonites and were haled by the adherents of Zwingli (German Reformed). A persecution arose and they were driven out of the land (church history corporates these facts), and in the year 1709 many of them went to North America, others following in later years.

These Stauffers were very wealthy in their time. We find them mentioned as early as the time when William Tell won his great victory in Switzerland.

It is presumed that all the Stauffer pioneers who emigrated to America at different times have the same origin, and are more or less remotely connected—and in all probability the pioneers of the Shenandoah have also
their origin in the ancient House of Hohenstaufen in Suabia.

From the year 1268, the year of the downfall of the Hohenstaufen dynasty, to the time of the pioneers of this work several hundred years intervened. In that period are included many generations of the family of which we have no account and therefore cannot give a complete line of descent.

(I) Christian Stauffer, a pioneer emigrant and an early settler of Montgomery county, Pa., was a resident of Salford when he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty acres at Harleysville long before there was anything of a town there. The great Philadelphia road was laid out in 1735, and in 1728 when Christian Stauffer purchased the farm it was nearly or entirely covered with timber. Christian Stauffer purchased it from a well-known speculator, Henry Pennepacker, and wife Eve, of Skeppack, November 28, 1728. Christian made the first improvements here, and here he lived and died in 1735.

After his death his executors sold the farm to three speculators, Rev. John Philip Boehm, of Whitpain township (Christian’s granddaughter married a Boehm), Gabriel Shuler, of Salford, and Ulrich Stephen, whose residence is not given.

It is not known when Christian Stauffer came to America, and of his life and personality nothing is known. He was a farmer and endured the hardships of a pioneer settler and was no doubt a Mennonite.

Andrew Swartz and Jacob Funk were the witnesses

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1 Explanatory Note—The Roman numeral at the left of a name indicates the American generation to which the name belongs.
of Christian's will. Jacob Funk emigrated to Virginia soon after this and purchased a great deal of land there. He conveyed 438 acres of it to Christian's son, Peter, in 1749.

Christian had nine children, which were named in the following order in his will: Annalee, Mathias, Christian, Hans Ulrich (John), Peter, Jacob, Barbara, Henry, and Elizabeth.

(II) No record of Annalee, Mathias, Barbara, or Elizabeth Stauffer. Elizabeth was only five years of age when her father died.

(II) Christian settled in Lower Salford township, Montgomery county, Pa., in 1736. He died in 1781.

(II) John Ulrich Stauffer settled in lower Salford township, Montgomery county, Pa., April 17, 1745. He died in 1803, far advanced in age.

(II) Henry Stauffer is supposed to have settled in Hatfield township, Montgomery county, Pa.

(II) Jacob and Peter Stauffer emigrated to the Valley of Virginia about the year 1749.

The following is a copy of Christian's will:

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WILL OF CHRISTIAN STAUFFER

Sulford Township, Twenty Sixth of February one thousand seven hundred and thirty four, five. In the name of God. Forasmuch as that my body is mortal and must dye, as other men, and in all likely hood I may not have a long time here to live, therefore I conclude it necessary to make this my last will and Testament in

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order that my children may possess and enjoy their share or Dividends of my Estate in severalty after my decease: And whereas it is held that no Testament is Good without exed. I think meet to appoint my loving and trusty neighbours, Christian Allebach and Christian Meyer jun, to be my sole exeds over my rights and credits also to take care of my children, believing that they will truly & faithfully discharge their Trust therein. Wherefore I Christian Stauffer of Sulford aforesaid yeoman, Do on this day of the date hereof before, or in the presence of the under written witnesses order and direct by this my last will & Testament; that my said Exeds shall within six weeks after my decease, sell all my Land & improvements, as also, All my household Goods, Chattles, Husbandry Implements, with all other that I am the proper owner of (except one over bedstead with two coverings for the same, also one Bolster & one pillow, all which I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Barbary.)

And when the money arising by the sale of my said Estate becomes due & payable I order then, that first of all my just debts be duly paid and afterwards, the remainder thereof I dispose between my children in manner following viz: I Give & Bequeath unto my eldest daughter Annalee Five pounds to be paid her when the said money becomes due as aforesaid. I Give and Bequeath unto my eldest son Mathias one pound in the first place to be paid him when the said money is due as aforesaid and afterwards, immediately Five pounds as an equal share with his sisters to be paid him in like manner.

I Give & Bequeath unto my son Christian Stauffer Tenn pounds to be paid him when the said money be-
comes due as aforesaid. I Give & Bequeath unto my son Hans Ulrick Tenn pounds & unto my son Peter Ten pounds, and unto my son Jacob Ten pounds and unto my said Daughter Barbara Ten pounds, and unto my son Henry Tenn pounds and unto my daughter Elizabeth Ten pounds, which said Legacies shall be paid to each and every one of my said children, when they goes to housekeeping, and such of my said children that are housekeepers before the said money is due shall stay for their shares or Dividends until the same becomes due & payable by the sale aforesaid. And what is over & above paying and performing as before directed, So much of the remainder Part thereof, that is necessary Shall be used toward bringing up of my younger Children until my said Daughter Elizabeth arrives at fifteen years of age, She being now four years & a half old. And if there be any left of my said Estate, that is not used as aforesaid, the same shall be divided after the same method with the above Legacies (that is to say) where each of my eldest doth receive one pound, each and everyone of my seven youngest Children shall receive Two pounds and so proportionably until the whole is divided. My children that are now at home must have good cloaths before they goes to get their living among Friends or Strangers, and for the further confirmation hereof I have hereunto set my hand and sealed the same with my own seal the day and year first above written.

CHRISTIAN (e. s.) STAUFFER

Witnesses present
ANDREW SWARTZ &
JACOB FUNK. Probated July 12th, 1735.
THE FAMILY IN VIRGINIA

(II) Jacob Stover, son of Christian, emigrated to the Shenandoah Valley about the year 1749. He settled in Frederick county. The Virginia census of 1782 shows Jacob Stover in Frederick with a family of four. Jacob married the daughter of Christian Bowman. The Estate Accounts of Jacob show Peter Stover as administrator. Peter's account shows money paid to the following heirs-at-law of Jacob: "Daughter who married Rubin Boehm; Barbara Stover, now wife of David Pifer; John Stover, now deceased; Mary Stover and Christian Stover." This account is dated and recorded in 1791.

(II) Peter Stover, son of Christian, emigrated to the Shenandoah Valley about the year 1749. He bought four hundred and thirty-eight acres of land from Jacob Funk May 2, 1749, upon which he laid out the town of Staufferstadt or Stover's Town. All the inhabitants were Germans, some of them from Alsace. It was through the influence of the latter that Peter changed the name to Strasburg. He had the town established by law in November, 1761. Many old deeds for lots in

Frederick county D. B. 4, p. 463.
Frederick county W. B. 5, p. 306.
See Historical Notes.
Strasburg bear the signatures "Petrus Stauffer and Frainey his wife." He also bought considerable land further down the valley.

The Virginia census of 1783 shows that Peter had a family of eight. The census of 1785 shows a family of seven, one dwelling and four other buildings.

Peter was a quiet, unpretentious old German with the national characteristic of great perseverance. He knew no failure. He was a philanthropist, having endowed the community with land and funds for building a schools, etc.\(^6\)

As far as the writer has been able to ascertain, the exact location of his grave is unknown. Before Riverview Cemetery was established the writer used to have a small bunch of trees which stood on top of the hill pointed out to him as being over the resting place of several of the early Stovers. There is nothing there now to mark the place. In fact, other graves appear to have been dug upon the spot. Peter Stover, benefactor of civilization, christianity and humanity; the progenitor of a race of warriors, statesmen\(^7\) and citizens of the first rank; the man of all men whose memory should be honored by the people of Strasburg—rests in a desecrated grave!

Peter's will was probated September 10, 1799, and he evidently died in this year, far advanced in age. He had four sons and four daughters. Sons: Jacob, Joseph, John and Christian. Daughters: Elizabeth Hoffman, Ann Stickley, Catharine Shroubb, and Regina Spangler.

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\(^6\)The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley, by J. W. Wayland.

\(^7\)Stover Spangler, grandson of Peter Stover, was a member of the Virginia Legislature.
The following is a copy of his will:

WILL OF PETER STOVER a

In the name of God Amen, I Peter Stover of Shenandoah county and commonwealth of Virginia, being at present of a sound and disposing mind and memory, do think proper to make this my last will and testament, and I do in the following form and manner and in the first place I order and my will is that all my just debts, if any, shall be paid and discharged and the funeral expenses as soon as convenient by my executors after my decease, and I do order will and direct that my son Joseph Stover shall provide and fulfil during the natural life of my loving wife Frainey Stover, the engagement and provision made for her, in covenant entered into between me, the said Peter Stover and him bearing date the day before these presents, which I order and direct shall be fulfilled and performed by the said Joseph Stover and his heirs, executors and administrators in every respect to my beloved wife Frainey during her natural life aforesaid, and after her decease what estate she shall leave is to be divided amongst my four daughters and their heirs equally share and shares alike.

Item. I give and devise to my son Jacob Stover all that plantation or tract of land for which I have made him a deed bearing date the day before the date of these presents containing about one hundred and seventy acres be the same more or less to have and to hold to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give and devise to my son John Stover all

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a Shenandoah county, Va., Will Book E, page 308.
them two tracts or plantations on the Narrow Passage containing about 673 acres of land be the same more or less for which I made him a deed bearing date the day before the date of these presents for him to have and to hold and his heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I do give and devise to my son Christian Stover all them three five acre out-lotts of land number one, two and three and about eighteen half-acre in-lotts five out of the same are conveyed and sold, that is to say number eighty-two, eighty-three, eighty-four and eighty-five and ninety-eight, all which said out and in lots of land are distinguished and lying within the following bounds of the town of Strasburgh, Shenandoah county and State aforesaid, and which my said son Joseph Stover is to make a deed for the same out the deed to him made bearing date the day of the date of these presents for the whole town and lots yet unsold by me to him and his heirs and assigns forever, that is to say my said son Christain Stover shall have the before mentioned lots of land aforesaid, and the annuities out of them sold within the bounds herein mentioned, that is to say beginning at the corner in the line of Abraham Creabil on the street corner to the old school house lott, thence along the line with said Creabil down to the river to the old corner thence down with river line to the corner of the bottom lott thence up the line of said lott along the alley called the Long Alley to the corner of the lott number eighty-five Samuel Speaker's lott at the street called Queens Street thence along the said street to the place first mentioned being at the old school house aforesaid, all the out and in lots within the said bound and not already sold and the buring ground excep-
ted I do give and devise to my son Christian Stover
to him and his heirs and assigns forever, with all the
privileges, annuities, whatsoever forever.

Item. I do give and devise to my son Joseph Stover
all the remainder lotts in and out lotts and all the ben-
efits, annuities, rents or otherwise coming out of lotts
sold of the said town of Strasburg and all the remainder
of the land not already sold, and that part also excepted
which my son Christian Stover shall have, all the other
to him and to his heirs and assigns forever, and for
which made him a deed bearing date the day before the
day of these presents, provided, that nothing shall alter
the agreement and covenants entered upon and which
are or may take effect hereafter between me the said
Peter Stover for and on the part of my wife Frainey
Stover after my decease if she should survive me and
between the said Joseph Stover on his part be per-
formed, fulfilled and accomplished as in and by the said
obligation reference thereunto being had will more ful-
ly appear.

Item. I do give and devise all my personal estate
consisting of bonds notes bills and accounts purse or
otherwise and the same to be equally divided amongst
my four daughters shares and shares alike, that is to my
daughter Elizabeth Hoffman deceased to her for chil-
dren her share alike, to my daughter Ann Stickley and
to my daughter Catherine Shroubb and to my daughter
Regina Spangler and their heirs or assigns.

And lastly I do nominate, constitute and appoint my
two sons Joseph Stover and Philip Spangler to be joint
executors to this my last will and testament allowing
this and no other to be my last will and testament, al-
lowing to each of my executors five pounds each for their trouble in the execution of the said estate. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this eight day of August One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-five.

PETER STAUFER
(Seale)

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Peter Stover as for his last will and testament in the presence of

ALEXANDER HITE
THOMAS NEWELL SR.

Probated September 10th, 1799.

(III) Jacob Stover, son of Peter, owned a plantation just south of Strasburg. He died in 1816. He was one of a very few Germans who owned slaves. The Virginia census of 1783 shows that he had a family of eight, and the census of 1785 shows a family of nine, one dwelling and three other buildings. He had two sons, John and Joseph; and a number of daughters, viz: Catherine, Betty, Frainey, Mrs. Samuel Bowman, Sr., and Mrs. Samuel Bowman, Jr. Perhaps he had one or two whose names are unknown.

Jacob's will is as follows:

WILL OF JACOB STOVER*

In the name of God Amen. I Jacob Stover of Shenandoah county Virginia, now weak in body but of sound

*Shenandoah county, Va., Will Book K, p. 209.
mind think proper to make this my last will and testament in manner and form following, viz:

First; I commend my body to the dust from whence it came and my soul to God who gave it, hoping for a glorious resurrection through Jesus Christ my saviour. I desire that my executor may order my burial in a decent manner and my body put where they may think proper.

Item. I desire that my funeral expenses together with all my just debts shall be paid as soon as possible after my decease.

Item 2. My wish and desire is that my two sons John and Joseph Stover shall take care of my daughter Frainey who is an idiot.

Item 3. I give and bequeath to my two sons John and Joseph Stover jointly all the land together with the improvements that I may be possessed of at my death, also my black man Peter, my black woman Redes and her three male children namely Charles, William and Arch. Also my wagon and four of the choice of my horses with their gear and harness, all my ploughs and harrows forever, they my said sons John and Joseph Stover are to support and take care of my unfortunate daughter Frainey during her life and pay to my daughters five hundred dollars as follows: two hundred and fifty dollars within five years after my death and two hundred and fifty dollars within ten years after my death to be equally divided among my daughters or their representatives be it understood that in case my two sons John and Joseph Stover should treat my daughter Frainey improperly and continue to do so that in that case my daughters may take her and provided they
treat her well that the property left to my sons John and Joseph Stover shall revert to them during Frainey’s life but in case they should not treat her in a Christian like manner, that it shall revert to any person who will treat her properly during her life.

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Catherine Stover one hundred dollars over and above her equal part for her services rendered me and the family since she became of age, to be paid as soon after my decease as possible.

Item. I give and bequeath to each of my single daughters (Frainey excepted) one bedstead and furniture and one walnut chest to be taken at the appraisement and considered as a part of their legacy also I wish Betsey to have the black girl Nancy at the appraisement and accounted in part of her legacy.

Item. I wish all my personal estate that is otherwise disposed of to be equally divided between my daughters (Frainey excepted) as soon as it can be sold and the money collected. As I have given to my two sons in law, Samuel Bowman Sr. and Samuel Bowman Jr. considerable money and property charged in my account against them it is my wish and desire that the rest of my daughters shall receive as much as they have before they receive any more and in case they or either of them my said son in laws have received more than will be coming to them by an equal division that they or he shall pay up to my estate what they or he has received over and above his or their parts which amount shall be equally divided between the rest of my daughters.

I appoint David Stickley and my son John Stover the executors of this my last will and testament supersed-
ing all other wills by me at any other time formerly made. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 6th day of Jan., 1816.

JACOB STOVER

Signed sealed and acknowledged (Seal)

in the presence of—The words During Frainey's life underlined before signed—

SAM GARDNER, JONAS CRABILL, JOSEPH STOVER, JACOB BOWERMAN, (??)

(III) Joseph Stover, son of Peter, owned a large portion of the town of Strasburg. The records tend to show that he was unmarried—if he was married he had no children, and there is no mention of a wife in his will which was filed December 13, 1816. He devised all of his property to his brothers. He took an active part in the town's affairs and in advancing the philanthropic work which his father began, as indicated by the following law:

An Act for Raising by Lottery a Sum of Money for the Purpose of Finishing Certain Buildings for a Seminary of Learning in Strasburg.\(^10\)

Passed Jan. 4th, 1804.

1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That it shall and may be lawful for Jacob Funk, Sr., Alexander Hite, Joseph Stover, Jacob Lambert, Jonas Crabill, Anthony Spangler and George Lind, gentlemen, or a ma-

\(^{10}\)Henings Statutes, vol. 16, p. 47.
The majority of them, to raise by lottery or lotteries, so much money, not exceeding two thousand dollars, as they shall think sufficient for completing certain buildings which were begun for a seminary of learning in the town of Strasburg and county of Shenandoah, and the money so to be raised shall be applied by them to the purpose aforesaid.

2. This act shall be in force from the passing thereof.

(III) John Stover, son of Peter, owned a large plantation on the Narrow Passage. The census of 1785 shows that he had a family of three, two dwellings and two other buildings. No further record of him.

(III) Christian Stover, son of Peter. The census of 1785 shows that he had a family of six, two dwellings and four other buildings. He left no will and the information at hand regarding his descendants is very meagre, it is thought they emigrated to the west. He inherited a part of the town of Strasburg from his father.

(IV) John Stover, son of Jacob, had three sons and two daughters. Sons: John, Joseph and Jacob. Daughters: Peggie, wife of J. J. Finley, and Mary, who was unmarried. John married a Miss Funkhouser. The sons emigrated to Ohio and died at Westville.

(IV) Joseph Stover, son of Jacob, born June 1, 1790, and died September 24, 1864. He married Margaret Zea in December, 1817, who was born in 1795, and died August 5, 1834. Joseph then married Catharine Sonner April 6, 1835; she died August 24, 1860. He owned a fine farm several miles south of Strasburg. He had two
sons and five daughters by his first marriage. Sons: Emanuel and Joshua. Daughters: Sarah Jane, Frances, Catharine, Mary and Ann Elizabeth. He had two sons and two daughters by his second marriage. Sons: David and Nathan. Daughters: Regina and Margaret.

(V) Ann Elizabeth Stover, daughter of Joseph, born November 13, 1818, and died June 10, 1828.

(V) Sarah Jane Stover, daughter of Joseph, born June 26, 1829, and died May 16, 1908. She married Harrison Veach November 19, 1846.\(^{11}\)

(V) Frances Stover, daughter of Joseph, married Amos Keister, of Strasburg. They had five children as follows:

(VI) Elton Keister, daughter of Frances, married a Mr. Mowery, who is now dead.

(VI) Effie Keister, daughter of Frances, married Arthur Kendall, of Strasburg.

(VI) Robert, or "Bud" Keister, son of Frances, single and now living in Strasburg, Va.

(VI) Ernest Keister, son of Frances, married Annie L. Hickerson, of Strasburg, on February 14, 1882. He was killed by a fall from a scaffold in Strasburg on October 28, 1910. He had two children as follows:

(VII) Mabel Keister, daughter of Ernest, single.

(VII) Lewis Keister, son of Ernest, is a telegraph operator.

(VI) Thurston O. Keister, son of Frances, born in Strasburg, Va., May 16, 1860. He married Ella R. Lantz in Edinburg, Va., December 27, 1887. She died in the German Hospital in Philadelphia on August 18, 1898. Thurston entered the ministry in July, 1886, be-

\(^{11}\)See the Veach Lineage.
ing ordained in Easton, Pa., in June, 1886, by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania. He was given the title of Doctor of Divinity by Newberry College in the spring of 1907. Newberry College is located in Newberry, S. C., and is one of the leading colleges of the state. He was pastor of the Lutheran church at Greencastle, Pa., for some years but is now located in Roanoke, Va., and is President of the Synod of Southwestern Virginia. He has four children as follows:12

(VII) Thurston Lantz Keister, son of Thurston O., born October 6, 1888.

(VII) Mary Gardner Keister, daughter of Thurston O., born December 28, 1889.

(VII) Frances Rebecca Keister, daughter of Thurston O., born May 19, 1892.

(VII) Emma Elizabeth Keister, daughter of Thurston O., born March 9, 1895.

(V) Catharine Stover, daughter of Joseph, born April 19, 1826, married Noah Rhodes and moved to Ohio. He died in June, 1896. They had four children.

(V) Mary Stover, daughter of Joseph, born April 4, 1820, married Jacob Kern and moved to Missouri. They had nine children.

(V) Emanuel Stover, son of Joseph, born November 11, 1821,13 and died February 26, 1904. He married Catharine V. Veach December 28, 1848, who was born March 13, 1825, and died January 6, 1898. Emanuel moved from Strasburg to Champaign county, Ohio, in

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13 There is a discrepancy in the dates shown in the different records as to Emanuel's birth. The Strasburg records show Emanuel born November 11, 1821 and Joshua born April 29, 1824. Several other records show Emanuel born January 5, 1823.
1856; moved from Champaign county, Ohio, to Palmyra, Mo., in the fall of 1878; moved from Palmyra, Mo., to Phoenix, Ariz., in January, 1887. Emanuel and Catharine both rest in the cemetery at Phoenix. They had twelve children.¹⁴

(VI) Edward Harrison Stover,¹⁵ son of Emanuel, born March 1, 1850; married Susan J. Collett December 18, 1877. She was born near Palmyra, Mo., October 17, 1859. He went to Missouri from Ohio in the Spring of 1875 and farmed there for four years. He bought a farm in Monroe county, Mo., near Hunnewell, and moved there in the spring of 1882. They lived there eight years. Oklahoma was opened for settlement April 22, 1889, and in December, 1889, Edward H. and family moved there, homesteading a farm near Britton, fourteen miles north-west of Oklahoma City, where he still resides. They had fourteen children.

(VII) Harry Stover, son of Edward H., born October 1, 1878, died the same day.

(VII) Mabel Stover, daughter of Edward H., born September 27, 1879, died August 25, 1880.

(VII) Bertha Alice Stover, daughter of Edward H., born January 1, 1881. She was married to George W. West, a native of Tennessee, August 29, 1903. He was born near Joppa, Grainger county, August 20, 1879, but was living in Oklahoma at the time of marriage. They moved to Roger Mills county, where they lived for four years. Bertha died October 9, 1907, leaving three boys. Mr. West is an architect by profession and now resides

¹⁴Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Veach collected considerable data relative to Emanuel's family during their recent tour of the south-western states. Mrs. Agnes Isaac kindly supplied the dates.
¹⁵Letter from E. H. Stover.
at Tulsa, Oklahoma, with his family, having married again.

(VIII) Robert Edward West, son of Bertha Alice, born June 4, 1904.

(VIII) Paul Hubert West, son of Bertha Alice, born October 16, 1905.

(VIII) Raymond Thomas West, son of Bertha Alice, born January 16, 1907.

(VII) Robert Preston Stover, son of Edward H., born May 7, 1883, in Monroe county, Mo., He is a farmer and now living in Oklahoma. He married Miss Bes­sie A. Bryant March 25, 1909, who was born near Brit­ton, Oklahoma, November 23, 1889. Her father is a farmer. They have one son.

(VIII) Robert Preston Stover, Jr., son of Robert Preston, born September 10, 1911.

(VII) Marion and Margaret C. Stover, twins, children of Edward H., born November 1, 1884. Marion died the same day. Margaret graduated as a trained nurse from the El Reno Hospital at El Reno, Oklahoma. Just as she finished her course she was taken sick with typhoid fever and died September 27, 1910.

(VII) Emanuel Stover, son of Edward H., born April 28, 1886, died March 24, 1887.

(VII) Howard Sidney Stover, son of Edward H., born September 2, 1887. He went to California in 1912 where he is studying electricity.

(VII) George William Stover, son of Edward H., born February 4, 1889. He is a button cutter and resides at Canton, Mo. He was married to Miss Lillian Hinners November 13, 1911. She was born near Mere-
dosia, Ill., and was living there with her parents at the time of her marriage.

(VII) Lottie Eleanor Stover, daughter of Edward H., born April 24, 1892, in Oklahoma. After teaching school three years she was married to Albert Wiley Thompson April 24, 1912. Mr. Thompson is a farmer and was born in Champagne county, Ill. They reside on a farm near Toronto, Kansas.

(VII) Gladys Stover, daughter of Edward H., born April 13, 1895. She is now a student at the Central State Normal School at Edmond, Oklahoma.

(VII) Susie Stover, daughter of Edward H., born October 2, 1898, died August 14, 1907.

(VII) Mary Stover, daughter of Edward H., born October 28, 1900.


(VI) Sarah Margaret Stover, daughter of Emanuel Stover, born December 25, 1851, died July 28, 1860.

(VI) Mary Catharine Stover,16 daughter of Emanuel Stover, born September 16, 1853, married M. V. Samuels, Sou. Pac. Freight Agent at Tucson, Arizona. They had seven children.

(VII) Catharine V. Samuels, daughter of Mary, married Raymond Nichols, Wells-Fargo express messenger, Tucson, Arizona. No issue.

(VII) Agnes Samuels, daughter of Mary.

(VII) Easter, Clifford, Spurgeon, Helen and George died in infancy. All were children of Mary C.

(VI) Robert Emanuel Stover, son of Emanuel, born July 23, 1855, died in March, 1906. He married Clara

16Letter from Mrs. Agnes Isaac, December 24, 1912.
Buckner, of San Diego, Cal., in February, 1898, who died in Tucson, Ariz. Robert E. was killed in a bridge accident at Seaward, Alaska.

(VI) Alice Virginia Stover, daughter of Emanuel Stover, was born April 29, 1857, married Andrew Jeter Hoskin, stockman, October 20, 1879, at Phoenix, Ariz. They had seven children. They reside at Hemit, Cal.

(VII) Allen Hoskin, machinist, son of Alice V., born August 17, 1880.

(VII) Agnes Hoskin, nurse, daughter of Alice V., born March 1, 1882.

(VII) Ernest Emanuel Hoskin, son of Alice V., born April 27, 1884.

(VII) Clarence Jeter Hoskin, son of Alice V., born February 23, 1887, died October 28, 1903. He was killed in a railroad accident at Coachella, California.


(VII) Virginia Catharine Hoskin, daughter of Alice V., born August 25, 1895.

(VII) Hazel Hester Hoskin, daughter of Alice V., born April 7, 1899.

(VI) Joshua Tanquary Stover, son of Emanuel Stover, born February 2, 1859, died July 27, 1860.

(VI) Agnes E. Stover, daughter of Emanuel, born February 7, 1861, married John H. Isaac at Phoenix, Arizona, July 7, 1892. John H. Isaac is a real estate broker at Phoenix. They have two children.

(VII) Stover Isaac, son of Agnes E., born June 5, 1898. He is a stenographer and bookkeeper. He is also an accomplished musician.
(VII) Gretchen Catharine Isaac, daughter of Agnes E., born September 16, 1897.


(VI) Minnie Warren Stover, daughter of Emanuel, born October 1, 1864, married Fleming Franklin, of Los Angeles, Cal., February 5, 1894. They are now living at 2321 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, Cal. They have three children.

(VII) Mary O. Franklin, daughter of Minnie W., born November 24, 1894. She is now in college at Petersburg, Va.

(VII) Grace D. Franklin, daughter of Minnie W., born April 28, 1897.

(VII) Lynn Franklin, son of Minnie W., born April 22, 1902.

(VI) A twin sister of Minnie W. Stover, daughter of Emanuel, died in infancy.

(VI) Omar Preston Stover, Son of Emanuel, born August 24, 1866, died in October, 1874.

(VI) Jeanetti Waugh Stover, daughter of Emanuel, born February 10, 1868, married Andrew Kirkpatrick, farmer, November 21, 1890. They have four children.

(VII) Minnie Kirkpatrick, daughter of Jeanetti, born
October 11, 1890, married Guy Nichols, machinist, September 20, 1908. They live in Tempe, Ariz.

(VII) Earl Rickerson Kirkpatrick, son of Jeanetti, farmer, born December 24, 1890. He is unmarried and now living at Mesa, Ariz.

(VII) Helen Agnes Kirkpatrick, daughter of Jeanetti, born January 25, 1894.

(VII) Robert Stover Kirkpatrick, son of Jeanetti, born August 16, 1895. He is now living with his parents at Mesa, Arizona.

(V) Joshua Stover, son of Joseph, born April 29, 1824, married Mary Jane Crabill December 6, 1853. She was born January 17, 1829, and lived to a ripe old age. At the beginning of the Civil war Joshua was Captain of the Strasburg Greys, known as Company A, 10th Regiment Virginia Volunteers, Stonewall Brigade. He was later promoted to Major. The command of the regiment devolved upon him at the battle of Cedar Run (Slaughter's Mountain) and he led them to a well earned victory. He was a gallant officer and was held in high esteem by his men. He was wounded in the second battle of Manassas and was killed in the battle of Chancellorsville May 3, 1863. He now rests, with his brother, Nathan, among the unknown but honored dead of Chancellorsville. The Stover Camp Confederate Veterans, of Strasburg, is named in honor of him. He had three sons, Marion, William P. and George, who reside in or near Strasburg.

(VI) Marion Stover, son of Joshua, born August 2, 1854, married Miss Mary M. Stickley December 30, 1880. He owns a furniture store and conducts an un-

\[17\] Hardesty's Encyclopedia and letter from Marion Stover.
dertaking establishment in Strasburg, Va. He had three sons and two daughters.

(VII) Joshua Ruffner Stover, son of Marion, born October 3, 1881, died October 19, 1900.

(VII) Douglas David Stover, son of Marion, born July 11, 1888, married Miss Lizzie Windle October 7, 1908. He has charge of a large apiary at Mayhew, Miss. He has two children.


(VIII) Marion Francis Stover, son of Douglas D., born June 14, 1912.

(VII) Frank Carson Stover, son of Marion, born September 26, 1890, married Mary Virginia Funk in November, 1911. She was born in June, 1891. They have one daughter.

(VIII) Madolyn Stover, daughter of Frank C., born October 3, 1912.

(VII) Edmonia Chrisman Stover, daughter of Marion, born September 18, 1884.

(VII) Beulah Lillian Stover, daughter of Marion, born April 6, 1886, died October 5, 1900.

(VI) William P. Stover, son of Joshua, born March 24, 1856, married Miss Laura Newell April 26, 1877. She was born October 1, 1856. They have seven children.

(VII) Joseph Stover, son of William P., born March

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18 Mary Virginia Funk is the daughter of Hugh S. Funk, the enterprising agent of the Southern Railway in Strasburg, Va. Both her father and her mother, who was a Miss Lillard, come from excellent old Virginia families.

19 Beulah Lillian Stover unveiled the Confederate monument which was erected in the old Presbyterian graveyard in memory of her grandfather’s comrades.

20 Letter from William P. Stover, February 10, 1913.
19, 1883, married Olie Baker. They have two children.  
(VIII) Carl B. Stover, son of Joseph.  
(VIII) Ralph W. Stover, son of Joseph.  
(VII) David Stover, son of William P., born January 10, 1885, married Miss Della Willis.  
(VII) Daisy Stover, daughter of William P., born February 22, 1878, married R. M. Stickley, of Strasburg. They have one son.  
(VIII) R. Marion Stickley, Jr., son of Daisy.  
(VII) Rose Stover, daughter of William P., born July 19, 1880.  
(VII) Sallie Stover, daughter of William P., born April 14, 1887, was twice married. First husband, Hamilton Richard. After his death, he married Ernest Ambrose August 31, 1909. They have one child.  
(VII) Ruth Stover, daughter of William P., born May 26, 1889, married Ernest Windle November 28, 1907. They have two children.  
(VIII) Malcolm Windle, son of Ruth.  
(VIII) Mildred Windle, daughter of Ruth.  
(VI) George Stover, son of Joshua, born May 29, 1859, married Miss Rose Newell February 5, 1885. She was born May 10, 1860. No issue.  
(V) David Stover, son of Joseph, born May 26, 1842, married Miss Fannie Waugh, of Ohio. The last time heard from he was living in Paxico, Kansas. David was a member of Rosser’s Cavalry, Company E, 7th Virginia Regiment, during the Civil war, under Capt. Hess. His foot was frosted during the war and it gave him trouble until June, 1892, when he had to have it amputated.
(V) Nathan Stover, son of Joseph, born August 1, 1840, killed in the battle of Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863. He was a member of Company A, 10th Virginia Regiment, Stonewall Brigade. It is said by his old comrades that when his brother fell mortally wounded, he lost all reason and charged madly into the jaws of death.

(V) Regina Stover, daughter of Joseph, born March 31, 1838, married Obed S. Funk. They had six children.

(VI) Granville I. Funk, son of Regina, born January 22, 1866, married Edna F. Bush April 15, 1910. They have one daughter.

(VII) Almeta Funk, daughter of Granville I., born August 12, 1912.

(VI) Sallie M. Funk, daughter of Regina, born November 17, 1867, married P. S. Rhodes June 8, 1899. They have one daughter.

(VII) Ruth Rhodes, daughter of Sallie M., born November 23, 1904.

(VI) Jesse Funk, son of Regina, born August 22, 1869, married Laura Spengler April 7, 1904. No issue.

(VI) Ruth Funk, daughter of Regina, born September 22, 1873, died November 26, 1904.

(VI) Clarence Funk, son of Regina, born July 14, 1876, married Annie Keller December 31, 1906. They have one daughter.

(VII) Geneva Regina Funk, daughter of Clarence, born February 6, 1908.

(VI) Rose Funk, daughter of Regina, born August

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21 Letter from Jesse Funk.
5, 1881, married Abe Stickley December 26, 1908. They have two children.

(VII) Linden Stickley, son of Rose, born December 3, 1909.

(VII) Tinah Stickley, daughter of Rose, born April 5, 1911.

(V) Margaret Stover, daughter of Joseph, born January 22, 1836, married James Bly and moved to Texas.
Descendants of Regina Stover, who Married
Col. Philip Spengler

(III) Regina Stover, daughter of Peter, married Col. Philip Spengler who was born March 17, 1761 (see page 41 for his lineage). He was a member of the Second Company, Third Battalion, York county, Pa. Militia in the Revolutionary War. About 1790, he together with five of his brothers moved to Strasburg, Va. He was Lieut. Col. of the sixth Regiment Virginia Militia in the war of 1812. He was also a member of the Virginia Legislature. Philip died in Strasburg in 1823. They had three children: Joseph Stover Spengler, Catherine Spengler and Elizabeth Spengler.

(IV) Joseph Stover Spengler, son of Regina, born in Strasburg November 13, 1790, and died at the same place December 15, 1876. He was twice married, first to Mary Smith and secondly to Elizabeth Hurn. He was educated at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., and was for many years a Justice of the Peace; also Sheriff of Shenandoah county, and a member of the Virginia Legislature. He inherited a large landed estate, and was educated for the bar, but preferred agriculture. Children:

(V) Vienna, daughter of Joseph S., married William Miller May 28, 1823. She subsequently married Prof. G. E. Roy. She died at Front Royal, Va., August 16, 1893. Children:
(VI) Joseph W. Miller, son of Vienna, merchant, married Fannie Porter. He was a member of Co. B, 17 Regiment Va. Inf. Vol., Corse's Brigade, Longstreet's Div., C. S. A., and was drowned in the Shenandoah River in sight of his home in 1866. His widow and son survived him.

(VI) Hampson M. Miller, son of Vienna, married Mary C. Roy, served in the same regiment as his brother, and is now living at Front Royal, Va.

(VI) Mary J. Miller, daughter of Vienna, married Rev. W. Rippatoe, of the M. E. Church South, and is now living at Eureka Springs, Ark.

(V) Regina V. Spengler, daughter of Joseph S., married John Hupp Lee, a merchant of Strasburg, November 17, 1840. She died March 20, 1891. Children:

(VI) Richard Hupp Lee, son of Regina V., member Co. A, 23 Regiment, Va. Infantry. He married Ella Cooley and lives in Strasburg. They have one daughter, Mary, who married Conductor Hal Woolf.

(VI) Lizzie S. Lee, daughter of Regina V., married Luther Hurn, of Strasburg, who was also a Confederate soldier. They have two children, Mrs. David Hupp and Mr. Carson Hurn.

(VI) Caroline Lee, daughter of Regina V., married James Corlen, of Barnesville, O.

(V) George P. Spengler, son of Joseph S., married Rosina Windon, of Mason county, W. Va. Both are dead.

(V) Richard H. Spengler, son of Joseph S., died in his minority.

(V) Mary S. Spengler, daughter of Joseph S., married Grafton A. Murphy, April 24, 1845, she died Novem-
ber 16, 1893. They had five children who are all living in Warren county, Va. Children: Mary E. Murphy; Philip A. Murphy; Anna R., wife of O. K. Brown; Sallie E. Murphy, who married Rudolph Updike and R. M. Murphy.


(V) Elizabeth C. Spengler, daughter of Joseph S., married Samuel P. Eshleman, April 1, 1852. They had seven children all of Warren county as follows: Anthony Eshleman; Wm. L. Eshleman; Mary F., wife of Edward Putmon; Mattie E. Eshleman; Carey W. Eshleman; Asbury R. Eshleman and Sallie M., wife of Nathan Ennis.


(V) Sarah Margaret Spengler, daughter of Joseph S., unmarried.

(V) David Morris Spengler, son of Joseph S., married Virginia Balthis, Strasburg. Children: Ellen G., wife of R. S. Fritts, merchant, Warren county, Va.; Laura V., wife of Jesse Funk; Mary E. Spengler; Margaret, Gertrude, Blanche, Florence H. and Olive B.

(V) Daniel Hupp Spengler, son of Joseph S., married Roberta Finnell of Anderson, Ind. He was a member of Co. B, 17th Va. Inf., C. S. A. Children Annie R., Moselle, Maxwell, Edgar A., Harry M., Samuel W.,


(V) Isaac M. Spengler, son of Joseph S., died in 1858.


(IV) Catherine Spengler, daughter of Regina, married George F. Hupp. She was born March 16, 1794 and married December 22, 1814, died January 31, 1875. Her husband died December 22, 1884 in his 94th year. He was Paymaster in the war of 1812. He owned extensive iron mines, one of them being the Columbia Furnace. They had eight children:

(V) John Spangler Hupp, son of Catherine, died with fever contracted in the Confederate Army while acting as Post Quartermaster, at Winchester, Va.


(V) Frances Catherine Hupp, daughter of Catherine, married James L. Miller, merchant. They had four children: Geo. W. Miller, manufacturer of stoneware;


(V) Joseph S. Hupp, son of Catherine, married Belle Hollis, of Winchester, Va. No issue.

(V) Philip Martin Hupp, son of Catherine.

(V) Sarah Jane Hupp, daughter of Catherine.

(IV) Elizabeth Spangler, daughter of Regina, married John Machir of Strasburg, Va., January 29, 1805. She was born January 7, 1789. They had three children:

(V) Philip A. Machir, son of Elizabeth, merchant, married Caroline H. Arthur, born September 27, 1807, died July 8, 1884. They had ten children as follows: Elizabeth M., wife of James A. Sonner; Laura V., wife of Wm. Machir, merchant; Fannie S.; John A. Machir, farmer; Nora B., wife of Asbury Redfern; James W. Machir, carpenter; Mary C. Machir; Carrie H. Machir and Susan I. Machir.

(V) Catherine S. Machir, daughter of Elizabeth, married Noah Funk, born May 17, 1811, died January 29, 1891. No issue.

(V) Joseph S. Machir, son of Elizabeth, married Harriet Bennet, born October 23, 1813, died February 14, 1873. No issue.
Rev. A. J. Fretz, the historian, informs us that all of the early Stover pioneers were closely related. Christian and Jacob Stover both emigrated to America from Switzerland about the same time and they were either brothers, or very near relatives. While Christian settled in Pennsylvania, Jacob, who was an interesting character and enterprising, as it seems, to a fault, pushed on to the unexplored country west of the Blue Ridge mountains, becoming one of the earliest settlers of the Valley of Virginia.

In the year 1729 Jacob made application for a grant of land on the Shenandoah river and on June 17, 1730 he was granted leave by the Colonial Council to take up 10,000 acres on the south fork of said river, for the settlement of himself and divers Germans and Swiss whom he proposed to bring thither within the next two years, the said land to be laid off in such tracts as he should judge fitting.

Jacob selected his grant in two tracts of 5,000 acres each, one along the river between the present Luray and Elkton, the other along the same river, higher up, between Elkton and Port Republic. The present town of Massanutten was established on his grant. His wife’s Christian name was Margaret. Samuel Kercheval narrates the following in connection with Stover’s grant:
"On his application to the executive for his grant, he was refused unless he could give satisfactory assurance that he would have the land settled with the requisite number of families within a given time. Being unable to do this, he forthwith passed over to England, petitioned the King to direct his grant be issued, and in order to insure success, had given human names to every horse, cow, hog, and dog he owned, and which he represented as heads of families, ready to migrate and settle the land."

The citizens of Massanutten became apprehensive that Stover did not have a good title to the land which he had sold them, and we find the following names signed to a petition to the Council in 1733: Adam Miller, Abram Strickler, Mathias Selzer, Philip Long, Paul Long, Michael Rhinehart, Hans Rood and Michael Kaufman. Stover was sustained in his title, however, and given deeds for the two tracts December 15, 1773. He disposed of the major portion of the land soon after this.

Jacob Stover, Sr., died near the end of 1740, or early in 1741. On March 22, 1741, Jacob Stover, Jr., with Henry Downs and Jacob Castle, gave bond for administering the estate of Jacob Stover, dec'd.¹

¹Orange Co., W. B. 1, p. 140.
**HISTORICAL NOTES**

In compiling the Historical Notes, access was had to the following books and references:


Jamestown was founded in May, 1607, by Captain Christopher Newport with a colony of one hundred and five persons. They obtained their charter from King James I, of England, on April 10, 1606. Captain Newport was sent over by the London Company, a mercantile establishment. The first legislature was convened in Jamestown in 1619. Negro slaves were introduced in 1620.

About one hundred and twenty-five years after the settlement at Jamestown, the settlement of the Valley of Virginia began. Governor Alexander Spottswood and his party of twenty or thirty gallant "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe" are generally credited with having
been the first white men to gaze upon the Shenandoah Valley, this being in 1716. History seems to have overlooked a certain "Dutchman," however, in this instance. As a matter of fact, John Lederer made two tours or "marches" of the Valley between March, 1669, and September, 1670, at the instance of Gov. Berkeley of Virginia. Lederer made maps of the country and it was the subject of a small descriptive book by him. The book was translated from the Latin and published in 1672 by Gov. William Talbot of Maryland, under the title "The Discoveries of John Lederer."

The territory composing the Shenandoah Valley was, according to scientists, at one time a lake. When it was first discovered by the white man it was a "blooming prairie," the only timber being along the rivers and creeks. The writer's father stated to him that he has found fossils of sea-shells and other evidences of water high up on the mountain sides. This beautiful valley was the hunting ground of the Indian on account of the abundance of fur-bearing animals, game of all description, wild fowl and fish found there, "It was in fact, a tract of land inviting settlers, and the most exaggerated reports concerning it were circulated in Pennsylvania."

Joist Hite was one of the first settlers. He came from Pennsylvania with his family and sons-in-law, viz: George Bowman, Jacob Christman and Paul Froman, with their families; Robert McKay, Robert Green, William Duff, Peter Stephens, and several others, amounting in the whole to sixteen families.

Hite purchased a part of his land from the Van Meters in 1732, who obtained a warrant from Governor Gooch for locating forty thousand acres in 1730. Hite
soon became involved in a prolonged law suit with Lord Fairfax who claimed the whole of the Northern Neck of Virginia by virtue of grant. The suit was not settled until all of the parties thereto were dead.

Shortly after the Hites settled in the Valley there was a great influx of Germans from Pennsylvania, Maryland and New York. They were mostly protestants and originally came from the Palatinate, Wurtenburg and Darmstadt. These German pioneers at least possessed the rudiments of education as evidenced by the county records. It seems that they nearly all had money too, as they paid cash for their lands in almost every instance. The majority of the Germans left their dear Vaderland and came to America for religious causes. They generally bought small farms and tended them well. A few of them however, bought larger tracts of land and sold it in smaller lots to later settlers. Among these are Peter Stover, Jacob Miller and the Funks.

In 1729 Jacob Stover, an enterprising German, received a land grant of ten thousand acres on the South Branch of the Gerando (Shenandoah) river. Some historians claim that Jacob located near the northwest end of the Massanutten Mountain and founded there Staufferstadt (afterwards re-named Strasburg through the influence of two inhabitants born in Alsace, Anton and Philip Mueller.) This is in error however as Strasburg was founded by Peter Stover of Pennsylvania.

On August 21, 1734, Henry Wills obtained a large grant of land on the North Branch of the Sherando (Shenandoah) river. The tract is described as being called Stony Lick, on Tumbling Run, and included a part of the site which the town of Strasburg now occupies.
On July 14-15, 1735, Wills sold two thousand thirty acres of his tract to Jacob Funk for one hundred pounds five shillings. Funk sold 438 acres of the land to Peter Stover on May 2-3, 1749. Peter laid out the town of Strasburg on this land. The town was established by law in the month of November, 1761. The original citizens were all Germans. The following is extracted from the law:

AN ACT FOR ESTABLISHING THE TOWN OF STRASBURG IN THE COUNTY OF FREDERICK

November 1761, 2nd George III.

1. Whereas the erecting of towns on the frontiers of this colony may prove of great benefit and advantage to the inhabitants, by inducing many of them to settle together which will enable them the better to defend themselves on any sudden incursions of an enemy; and whereas it hath been represented to this present General Assembly that Peter Stover, of the county of Frederick, hath laid out a certain quantity of his lands in that county into lots and streets for a town, where many families are already settled:

   Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the land so laid off and the town in the said county of Frederick by the name of Strasburg, and that the freeholders and inhabitants of the said town

1Orange County D. B No. 1.
shall enjoy the privileges which the freeholders of other towns erected by Act of Assembly enjoy.

And whereas it is necessary that trustees should be appointed for the said town hereby erected, Be it further enacted, by the authority of the aforesaid, That William Miller, Matthew Harrison, Jacob Bowman, Valentine Smith, Charles Buck, Peter Stover, Isaac Hite, Leonard Baltice, John Funk and Philip Huffman, gentlemen, for the said town of Strasburg in the county of Frederick: And the said trustees, or any three of them, respectively, shall and may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to make from time to time such rules, orders and directions, for the regular and orderly building of houses in the said town respectively as to them shall seem expedient, and also to settle all disputes and controversies concerning the bounds of the lots in the said town . . . . .

The town of Staunton was established in the same act. The act further provided for annual fairs and stated that "no wooden" chimneys should be built.

Previous to 1734 the territory lying west of the Blue Ridge (except that now composing the county of Page) was not included in any county. Orange county was taken from Spotsylvania in the year 1734 and was made to include the country west of the mountains. The county of Frederick was taken from Orange in 1738, but no court was held until 1743. Dunmore was taken from Frederick in 1772. Dunmore was changed to Shenandoah in 1777 on account of the conduct of Dunmore, which made his name so hateful to Virginians.

The early settlers of the Valley experienced very lit-
tle trouble with the Indians. In the year 1754 the Indians suddenly disappeared, and crossed the Alleghany Mountains.

The Germans who settled Shenandoah and Rockingham counties were tenacious in the preservation of their customs and language and up to the war of the Rebellion the German language was generally spoken and understood. On account of the political issues, the lack of a high national self-esteem and the disfiguration of German names, as Kloess to Glaise, Kuntz to Coontz, Stauffer to Stover, Heid to Hite, etc, it is difficult to compile a history of any one family. These immigrants brought with them the religion of their ancestors. They were composed generally of Lutherans, Mennonites, Reformed, and Calvinists. The Dunkers and United Brethren appear during the last quarter of the eighteenth century. A number of Irish Presbyterians also settled along Back Creek, the North Mountain and Opequon. A few Scotch and English families were among them. The Church of England, or Episcopalianism was the established religion east of the Blue Ridge up to the year 1776, when by act of Assembly the salaries of the clergy were suspended and in 1802 the glebes confiscated. The State was divided into parishes, Shenandoah county being included in Beckford Parish. There were comparatively few Episcopalians west of the Blue Ridge.

In 1752 Heinrich Sangmeister (Brother Ezekiel) and Anton Hollenthal (Brother Antonius), members of the Ephrata Sabbatarian Colony of Pennsylvania, came to the Funks in Strasburg and established a small community there. The following is taken from Wayland’s "The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley:"

HISTORICAL NOTES
“The Strasburg brethren kept as holy both the seventh and the first day of the week. They were law-abiding and industrious, and maintained themselves comfortably and above reproach; yet an incident growing out of their religious zeal at one time seemed to threaten their peace. Brother Ezekiel and Brother Antonius built a small cabin far up on the peak of the Massanutten Mountain, (called the Knob of the Mountain) as a place for retirement and prayer. The little oratory had but a single small window, facing the east; but, by virtue of its eminent position, it commanded a view both wide and beautiful. But various mysterious reports of this mountain retreat came in time to the ears of the county authorities at Winchester, and the sheriff was sent out to investigate. When he came to Strasburg, and learned the real facts in the case, he had no word of objection or censure to offer; but the two brethren, meek enough for the blessed inheritance, hearing beforehand of the suspicions they were arousing, and being anxious to prove their law-abiding intentions and avoid all appearance of evil, had already demolished the sacred structure, and scattered its timbers upon the mountain-side. A hundred years later the armies of the South and the North seized the height, now one, now the other, and erected their signals of war upon the site of the little house of prayer.”

The compiler of these notes knows of no better description of the customs, dwellings, etc. of the Germans of the Shenandoah than that of Samuel Kercheval, the historian of the Valley, which he takes the liberty of quoting as follows:

“The first houses erected were log cabins, with cov-
ers of split clapboards, and weight poles to keep them in place. There were, however, a few framed and stone buildings erected previous to the war of the revolution. As the country improved in population and wealth, there was a corresponding improvement in the erection of buildings. When this improvement commenced, the most general mode of building was with hewn logs, a shingle roof and plank floor, the plank cut out with the whipsaw. Before the erection of saw-mills, all the plank used was worked out in this way. The timber intended to be sawed was first squared with the broad-ax, and then raised on a scaffold six or seven feet high. Two able-bodied men then took hold of the saw, one standing on top of the log and the other under it. The labor was excessively fatiguing and about 100 feet of plank or scantling was considered a good days work for two hands. The dress of the early settlers was of the plainest materials, generally of their own manufacture. Previous to the war of the revolution, the married men generally shaved their heads, and either wore wigs or white linen caps. When the war commenced, this fashion was laid aside, for wigs could not easily be obtained, nor white linen for caps. The men's coats were generally made with broad backs and straight short skirts, with pockets on the outside having large flaps. The waistcoats had skirts nearly half-way down to the knees and very broad flaps. The breeches were so short as barely to reach the knee, with a band surrounding the knee, fastened with either brass or silver buckles. The stocking was drawn up under the knee-band and tied with a garter (generally red or blue) below the knee, so as to be seen. The shoes were of coarse leather, with
straps to the quarters, and fastened with either brass or silver buckles. The hat was either of wool or fur, with a round crown not exceeding three or four inches, with a broad brim. The dress for the neck was usually a narrow collar to the shirt with a white linen stock drawn together at the ends, on the back of the neck, with a broad metal buckle. The more wealthy and fashionable were sometimes seen with their stock, knee and shoe buckles, set in gold or silver, with brilliant stones. The female dress was generally the short gown and petticoat, made of the plainest materials. The German women mostly wore tight calico caps on their heads and in the summer season they were generally seen with no other clothing than a linen shift and a petticoat—the feet, hands and arms bare. In hay and harvest time they joined the men in the labor of the meadow and grain fields. Many females were most expert mowers and reapers. The natural result of this kind of rural life was to produce a hardy and vigorous race of people. It was this race of people who had to meet and breast the various Indian wars and the storms of the revolution. The Dutchman’s barn was usually the best building on his farm. He was sure to erect a fine large barn, before he built any other dwelling house than his rude log cabin. There were none of our primitive immigrants more uniform in the form of their buildings than the Germans. Their dwelling houses were seldom raised more than a single story in height, with a large cellar beneath; the chimney in the middle, with a very wide fire-place in one end of the kitchen, in the other end a stove-room. Their furniture was of the simplest and plainest kind; and there was always a long
pine table fixed in one corner of the stove-room, with permanent benches on one side. On the upper floor garners for holding grain were very common. Their beds were generally filled with straw or chaff, with a fine feather bed for covering in the winter. Many of the Germans have what they call a drum, through which the stove-pipe passes in their upper rooms. It is made of sheet-iron, something in the shape of a military drum. It soon fills with heat from the pipe, by which the rooms become agreeably warm in the coldest weather. A piazza is a very common appendage to a Dutchman's dwelling house, in which his saddles, bridles, and very frequently his wagon or plow harness, are hung up. The Germans erect stables for their domestic animals of every species; even their swine are housed in the winter season. Their barns and stables are well stored with provender, particularly fine hay; hence their quadrupeds of all kinds are kept throughout the year in the finest possible order. The German women, many of them are remarkably neat house-keepers. There are some of them, however, extremely slovenly, and their dwellings are kept in the worst possible condition. The Germans are remarkable for their fine bread, milk and butter. They consume in their diet less animal flesh, and of course, more vegetables, milk and butter, than most other people. Their 'Sour Krout' in winter constitutes a considerable part of their living. They generally consume less and sell more of the product of their labor, than any other class of citizens. A Dutchman is proverbial for his patient perseverance in his domestic labors. Their farms are generally small and nicely cultivated. In all his agricultural pursuits his meadows
demand his greatest care and attention. His little farm is laid off in fields not exceeding 10 to 12 acres each. It is rarely seen that a Dutchman will cultivate more than about 10 to 12 acres of Indian corn any one year. They are of the opinion that the corn crop is a great exhauster of the soil and they make but little use of corn for any other purpose than feeding and fattening their swine.”

The German settlers of Shenandoah Valley took an active part in the French and Indian war from 1754 to 1763 and also in Dunmore’s war in 1774.

Just before and at the close of the Revolution the immigration to the valley increased, the settlements thickened and expanded, causing a crowding further up the valley and through the mountain gaps into the neighboring counties of Virginia on the Piedmont Plateau.

History in general seems to have again overlooked the German-Virginians during the Revolution. “The circumstances which caused them to receive comparatively little recognition in our histories were entirely beyond their control.” As a matter of fact, they were a home-loving, law-abiding people. Despite this, when their religious and political rights were infringed upon, they gave up their homes, crossed vast sheets of water that seemed to have no limits, in miserable sailing-vessels. They faced the savage and starvation in the midst of immense tracts of forest country. With the poorest mode of transportation, they led the trend of civilization across lofty mountains and into the beautiful Valley of Virginia. They fled from the usurper’s grasp and faced the hardships of the primitive frontier settler in quest of freedom. Unlike their English neighbors east of the Blue Ridge, they refused to bow their
heads in humble submission to an earthly command, of
"Thou shalt worship God thusly."

The Germans held a meeting at Woodstock August 4, 1774, at which the Rev. Peter Muhlenberg (later the fa­mous "Priestly General") presided, one year previous to the celebrated Mecklenburg (N. C.) meeting, for the purpose of protesting against British rule. Some of the resolutions adopted at the meeting were anything but loyal to King George.

When Patrick Henry made his famous declaration "But as for me, give me liberty or give me death," he expressed the sentiment of the Valley Germans, and when the call came they flocked to the standard of Washington to defend the rights and liberties of their chosen country.

The German colonists were in no way responsible for the presence of Hessian troops in the English army. Whether the Hessians were sold to the King of England or whether their services were reciprocal on account of the English aid in the war against France, is immateri­al. Their presence did not deter the German colonists from standing by the new stars and stripes, and it should not deter honest historians from giving them the credit which is their just due.

The first Federal census of Shenandoah county, 1790, shows 2409 free white males 16 years and upward; 2779 free white males under 16; 4791 free white females; all other free persons 19; slaves 512; total 10510.

The Germans abhorred the institution of slavery and on account of this antipathy, the number of negroes has always been smaller there than in other parts of the state. While they were not slave holders, yet when the
great crisis came in 1861 they were weighed in the balance and found not to be wanting. They all heartily endorsed the resolution of the Legislature to call a "Peace Congress" in order to avoid civil war. The peaceful proposals were rejected by the extremists, however, and the delegates returned to their homes to prepare for the inevitable. "The Germans with all their devotion to the Union and pride of American citizenship, felt in duty bound towards the State where they had become domiciled," and during the bitter struggle which followed they gave of their life-blood freely in the unsuccessful attempt to maintain the Stars and Bars. The Rev. R. C. Cave, in his Memorial Oration at the unveiling of a Confederate monument in Richmond in 1894 said:

"Not as a passion-swept mob raising in mad rebellion against constituted authority, but as an intelligent and orderly people, acting in accordance with due forms of law and within the limit of what they believed to be their constitutional right, the men of the south withdrew from the Union in which they had lived for three-fourths of a century, and the welfare and glory of which they had ever been foremost in promoting. States which had been hesitating on the ground of expediency and hoping for a peaceable adjustment of issues, wheeled into line with the States which had already seceded. Virginia, mother of States and statesmen and warriors, who had given away an empire for the public good, whose pen had written the Declaration of Independence, whose sword had flashed in front of the American army in the War for Independence, and whose wisdom and patriotism had been chiefly instrumental in giving the
country the Constitution of the Union—Virginia, foreseeing that her bosom would become the theater of war with its attendant horrors, nobly chose to suffer.”

In an address made in 1912 at the cornerstone laying of a monument to the Confederate dead of Arlington National Cemetery, William Jennings Bryan said in part:

“Man seeks for light and follows the way in which to him seems right, but ever mindful of the limitations of human understanding, is grateful that there is One who is wiser than he, One in whose hands are the destinies of nations as well as the happiness of individuals.

“The North and South jointly contributed to the causes that produced the war between the States. They share together the responsibility for the introduction of slavery; they bore together the awful sacrifices that the conflict compelled and they inherit together the glories of the struggle, written in bravery and devotion. Enormous as was the cost and bitter as were the animosities that were aroused, charity and forgiveness have sprung up like flowers from the battlefields and their fragrance will endure.”
Heads of Families in Strasburg, Virginia
in the Year 1785
List taken by Alexander Hite

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<th>White Souls</th>
<th>Dwellings</th>
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These statistics were compiled by the Department of Commerce and Labor, United States Bureau of the Census, "Heads of Families," vol. 10, p. 105.
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Giving the call numbers for the Congressional and Public Libraries at Washington, D.C.

Note—The call references for books in the Public Library are shown in parenthesis; unless shown thus, the references refer to the Congressional Library.

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Personal Names in Hening's Statutes at Large of Va., by Joseph J. Casey. 4BD. Get at desk.


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Wills and Inventories illustrative of the history and manners, etc. of the northern counties of England from the eleventh century downwards. DA20. S9. v2.

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has 4 editions.
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