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ESTABLISHED 1827.

VOL. XLIV. NO. 3. SOMERSET, PA., WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1895. WHOLE NO. 2292.

—THE—
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—OF—
Somerset, Penn'a.
Capital, \$50,000.
Surplus, \$18,000.
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ACCOUNTS OF MERCHANTS, FARMERS, STOCK DEALERS, AND OTHERS SOLICITED.
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HOOD'S Sarsaparilla
Which makes rich, healthy blood, and thus gives strength to the nerves, elasticity to the muscles, vigor to the brain and health to the whole body. In truth, Hood's Sarsaparilla

Weak Strong
Be sure to get Hood's and only Hood's
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AMERICA.
My country 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrim's pride!
From every mountain side,
Let freedom ring.
My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love,
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills,
My heart with raptures thrills
Like that above.

Let me be true, wherever I go,
Let me not carry anything but
The good I have done,
And that I have seen,
Sweet freedom's song,
Let all that breathe praise thee,
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong,
Our Father's God to thee,
Author of Liberty!

To thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With Freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
Great God our King.

A GLIMPSE OF PIONEER LIFE.
Some of the Hardships and Privations the First Settlers of this Region Endured.

In the issue of the HERALD of April 17th—the one hundredth anniversary of the passage of the Act of Assembly creating the county of Somerset—was published an article briefly setting forth all of the recorded data relating to the organization of the county, the various townships and boroughs, and such other authentic information as could be collected relating to the settlement of this region.

With the exceptions above noted, the early history of Somerset county can be as faithfully and concisely written as was the historical treatise on "Snakes in Ireland."—There is no snakes in Ireland.

It is true that newspapers were established in Somerset a few years following the creation of the county, but reference to the files to reveal much of local historical interest. Their columns were filled principally with foreign intelligence (three or four months old) and with the proceedings of the general assembly of the commonwealth and of the congress of the United States.

From its earliest days Somerset county has been one of the most isolated localities in this locality, and has little historical incident. Its growth has been gradual as is the case with all agricultural regions, and we believe that the facts warrant the statement that the development of the county has been greater since it was penetrated by railroads (30 years since) than took place in the previous half century.

Present indications, however, point to even a more rapid development of our hidden mineral resources, and it will be surprising indeed if the next decade does not witness more startling changes in the character of our industrial and social conditions than any that have heretofore taken place.

In a strictly historical sense the lives of those who preceded our immediate forefathers in this locality are entitled to little consideration. They contributed but little to the civilization of the generations following them and left but little that to-day can be regarded as worthy of imitation.

The time is opportune, however, for taking a retrospective view of pioneer life in this region in order that it may be contrasted with the manners and customs prevailing in these latter days of the nineteenth century.

An early settler says in the *American Pioneer*: "A more intelligent, virtuous, and resolute class of men never settled any country, than the first settlers of Western Pennsylvania; and the women who shared their sufferings and sacrifices were no less worthy. Very many of the early settlers were professors of religion. It was common for families to ride from ten to fifteen miles to meeting. The young people regularly walked five or six miles, and in summer carried their stockings and shoes, if they had any, in their hands. I believe that no houses of worship were erected in the country until 1790. Even in the winter a grove was selected, a log pulpit was erected, and logs furnished the audience with seats. Among the men who attended services in the winter were obliged to substitute a blanket or coverlet for a great coat, when one enjoyed the luxury of that article. So great was the destitution of comfortable clothing that a highly respectable citizen whose presence was required as a magistrate, could not attend court without first borrowing a pair of leather breeches from an equally respectable neighbor who was summoned on the grand jury. The latter then, and, having no others, had to stay at home, the scarcity of clothing will not seem surprising when we consider the condition of the country at that time, and that most of these settlers brought but a scanty supply of bedding and clothing with them. Their stock could not be replenished until fall was grown and made into cloth.

The labor of all the settlers was greatly interrupted by the Indian war. Although the older settlers had some sheep, yet the increase was slow, and the country abounded with wolves. It was therefore the work of time to secure a supply of wool. Deer-skin was a substitute for cloth for men and boys, but not for women and girls, although they were sometimes compelled to resort to it. The women had to spin and generally to weave all of the cloth for their families; and when the wife was feeble, and had a large family, her utmost efforts could not enable her to provide them with anything like comfortable clothing. The wonder is—and I shall never cease to wonder—that they did not sink under their burden.

Rev. John Dorriger, who was one of the pioneers of western Pennsylvania, and whose son Philip (said to have been born in Stonybrook township, Somerset County) was in later years the pride of the Western bar, tells this story of the hardships the pioneers endured:

"The acquisition of the indispensable articles of salt, iron, steel, and castings, presented great difficulties to the first settlers of the western country. They had no stores of any kind, no salt, iron, or iron works; nor had they money to make purchases where those articles could be obtained. Peltry and furs were their only resources before they had time to raise cattle and horses for sale in the Atlantic States.

Every family collected what peltry and furs they could throughout the year, for the purpose of sending them over the mountains for barter. In the fall of the year, after seeing time, every family formed an association with some of their neighbors for starting the little caravan. A master driver was selected from among them, who was to be assisted by one or more young men and sometimes a boy or two. The horses were fitted out with pack saddles, to the hinder part of which was fastened a pair of hollowed made of hickory withes. A bell and collar ornamented his neck. The bags provided for the conveyance of salt were filled with feed for the horses. On the journey, a part of this feed was left at convenient stages on the way down, to support the return of the caravan. Large wallets, filled with bread, jerk, boiled ham and cheese, furnished provisions for the drivers. At night, after feeding the horses (whether put into pasture or turned out into the woods) were hobbled and the bells were opened.

The barter for salt and iron was first made at Bironess, Frederick, Hagerstown, Oldtown and Fort Cumberland, in succession became the places of exchange. Each horse carried two bushels of alum salt, weighing 8 lbs. to the bushel. To be sure, was not a heavy load for the horses; but it was enough, considering the scanty subsistence allowed them on the journey. The common price of a bushel of alum salt at that time was a cow and a calf; and until weights were introduced the salt was measured into a half-bushel by hand, as lightly as possible. No one was permitted to walk heavily over the floor while the operation of measuring was going on.

It would appear from Rev. Mr. Dorriger's statement that Bedford was comparatively a late settler in this region, but during the revolution he became in a degree civilized. His description of the principal furniture of the Monongahela country, but as the alumina makers say, will answer nearly as well for other places in the same latitude:

"The furniture for the table, for several years after the settlement of this country, consisted of a few pieces of deal, and some of the most primitive of wooden beds, trunks, and stools. If these last were scarce, gourds and hard shell squashes made up the deficiency. The iron pots, knives and forks were brought from the east side of the mountains, along with the salt and iron, on pack horses.

These articles of furniture correspond very well with the articles of diet on which they were employed. "Hog and hominy" were proverbial for the dish of which they were the components parts. Johnny cake and pone were, at the outset of the settlements of the country, the only forms of bread in use for breakfast and dinner.

At supper, mush and milk were the standard dish.

In our whole display of furniture, the quilts and coverlets were unknown. They did not then, as now, receive contributions from the quarters of the globe to furnish the breakfast table, yet our homely fare and unsightly cabins, and furniture composed of a hardy, veteran race, who planted the first footsteps of society and civilization in the immense region of the west.

I well recollect the first time I ever saw a tea-cup and saucer, and tasted coffee. My mother died when I was six years of age. My father then sent me to Maryland with a brother of my grandfather, Mr. Alexander Wells, to school.

At Col. Brown's, in the mountains, at Stonybrook Glades, (Col. Bejard Brown's in Brothersvalley township), I for the first time saw goose and chicken. Before that time I had never seen a turkey. After their arrival had somewhat subsided, they agreed to return for their property. A party started with pack horses, reached the place, and not seeing any Indians, collected their property and commenced their return. After proceeding some distance, a dog belonging to one of the party barked at a sign of approach, and the others to wait whilst they would go back for him. They went back, and had proceeded but 200 or 300 yards, when a body of Indians, who had been lying in wait on each side of the way, but who had been afraid to fire on account of the number of the whites, suddenly rose up and surrounded them, and took them prisoners. The others not knowing what detained their companions went back after them; when they arrived near the spot, the Indians fired on them, but without doing any injury. The whites instantly turned and fled, excepting Samuel Adams, who took a tree and began to fight in Indian style. In a few minutes however, he was killed, but not without doing some fearful service for his adversary. He and one of the Indians shot at and killed each other at the same moment. When the news reached the fort, a party volunteered to visit the ground. When they reached it, although the snow had fallen ankle deep, they readily found the bodies of Adams and the Indian; the face of the latter having been covered by his companions with Adams' hunting shirt.

A singular circumstance also occurred about that time in the neighborhood of what is now New Baltimore. A man named Wells had made a very considerable improvement, and was esteemed rather wealthy for that region. He, like others, had been forced to leave his home, and was returning to his place, and dig his crop of potatoes. For that purpose he took with him six or seven men, an Irish servant girl to cook, and an old plow horse. After they had finished their job, they made preparations to return to the fort the next day. Wells was

greatly disturbed by a dream which portended him good and he fore bade off the girl was placed on the horse and started off, the others followed as soon as it was light enough to see. Before they had gone far five Indians arose from behind a tree and approached them. The men who were with Wells fled, and he would have followed them, but without doing him much injury, or retarding his flight. Soon after this he saw where his companions had encamped themselves; and as he passed, he begged them to fire on the Indians and save him; but they were afraid and kept quiet. He continued his flight, and after a short time overtook the girl with the horse. She quickly understood his danger and dismounted instantly, urging him to take her place, while she would save herself by concealment. He mounted, but without a whip, and for want of one could not get the old horse out of a trot. This delay brought the Indians upon him again directly, and as soon as they were near enough to fire, and this time with more effect, as one of the balls struck him in the hip and lodged in his groin. But this saved his life—it frightened the horse into a gallop, and he escaped, although he suffered severely for several months afterwards.

The Indians were afterwards pursued and surprised by their mounting men; and he fired on four of them were killed, but the other, though wounded, made his escape. Bridges, who was taken prisoner, near Johnstown, when Adams was murdered, saw him come in to his people, and describes him as having been shot through the chest, with leaves stuffed in the bullet holes to stop the bleeding.

THE SHOOTING WAGON THROUGH THE COUNTY.
Col. James Smith, who figured prominently in the early history of Western Pennsylvania, thus describes the opening of a road through this county: "In May, 1755, the province of Pennsylvania agreed to send out 300 men, in order to cut a wagon road from Fort Loudon, in the mountains, to a road near the Turkeyfoot, or three forks of the Youngbushy, (Confluence). My brother-in-law, William Smith, Esq., of Conococheague, was appointed commissioner to have the oversight of these road cutters. The road went on without interruption until near the Allegheny mountains, when I was sent back in order to hurry up some provisions that were on the way after us. I proceeded down the road as far as the crossings of the Juniata where, finding the wagons were coming on as fast as possible, I returned up the road again towards the Allegheny mountains in company with one Arnold Vignora. About four or five miles above Bedford, three Indians had made a blind of bushes, stuck in the ground as though they grew naturally, where they concealed themselves, about fifteen yards from the road. When we came opposite to them, they fired on us, at this short distance, and killed my fellow traveler; yet my bullets did not touch me. My horse, making a violent start, threw me up, and the Indians immediately ran up and took me prisoner. The one that laid hold on me was a Conestoga; the other two were Delawares. One of them could speak English and asked me if there were any more white men coming after. I told them "not any more that I knew of." Two of these Indians stood by me while the other scolded my comrades. They then set off, and ran at a smart rate through the woods, for about fifteen miles; and that night we slept on the Allegheny mountain without fire.

Smith was carried by the Indians to Ft. Duquesne, where he was compelled to run the gamut through two long lines of Indians, leading to the fort, and scarcely leaving the breath in his body. He was there at the time of Braddock's defeat, and witnessed the horrid cruelties inflicted by the Indians upon the prisoners taken at that time. He was afterwards taken into the Indian country west of the Ohio, and there, with a grand ceremony of painting, hair plaiting, and washing in the river by the king, and wearing of necklaces, more kind than gentle, he was adopted as one of the Caginawagon nation. He remained with them in all of their wanderings for several years, until, by way of Montreal, he was exchanged with other prisoners, and returned home in 1760.

SOMERSET IN THE WHISKY INSURRECTION.
Somerset County, (then a part of Bedford) took a conspicuous part in the Whisky Insurrection of 1791-92. The Province of Pennsylvania, as early as 1756, had looked to the excise on ardent spirits for the means of sustaining its bills of credit. The original law, passed to continue for ten years, was from time to time continued, as necessities pressed upon the treasury. During the revolution the law was generally evaded in this region, by considering all spirits as for domestic use, such being excepted from excise; but when the debts of the revolution began to press upon the state they became more vigilantly enforced in Western Pennsylvania at once. Liberty poles were erected, and people assembled in arms, chased off the officers appointed to enforce the law, tarred and feathered some of them, and compelled others to resign their offices; but they had no idea of subverting the government.

The pioneers of this region, descended as they were from the people of North Britain, Ireland and Holland, had come very honestly by their love of whisky; and many of them had brought their hatred of an excisean directly from the old country. The insurgents followed, as they supposed, the recent example of the American

revolution. The first attempt of the British parliament—the very cause of the revolution—had been an excise law. There was nothing at that day disreputable in either making or drinking whisky. No temperance societies then existed; to drink whisky was as common and honorable as to eat bread.

It is not surprising that the moral and respectable as any other business. It was early commenced and extensively carried on in western Pennsylvania. There was neither home nor foreign market for rye, their principal crop; the grain would not bear packing across the mountains. A horse could carry but four bushels; but he could take the product of 24 bushels in the shape of alcohol. Whisky, therefore, was the most important item of remittances, to pay for their salt, sugar and iron. The people had cultivated their land for years at the peril of their lives, with little or no protection from the federal government; and when, by extraordinary efforts, they were enabled to raise a little more grain than their immediate wants required, they were met with a law restraining them in the liberty of doing what they pleased with the surplus. The people of this region, therefore, regarded a tax on whisky in the same light as a people now would regard a United States tax on hard, pork or flour.

It should also be remembered in this connection, that the new federal government was not recently organized; its powers were but little understood on the frontier; and the people of this region generally, for the previous twenty years, had been much more in the habit of opposing a foreign government, than of sustaining one of their own.

In order to allay opposition as far as possible, men of the most deserved popularity were appointed to collect the excise. Capt. Webster, a hero of the revolution and a wealthy citizen of Somerset, was appointed excise officer for Bedford county. It was with much difficulty that he was induced to accept the office, as he was the best loved man in the county. The public mind in Westernland, Washington, Fayette and Allegheny counties was in a very inflammatory state, and as a result a number of outrages were committed upon the excise officers. In June or July, 1794, a company of 150 men from Westmoreland county men marched to Somerset and captured Capt. Webster. They took his commission from him and made him promise never again to act as a collector of excise. An attempt was made by some of the party to fire his bayonets, but it was prevented by his officers. They marched homeward, taking Webster a few miles. Seeing him very submissive, they ordered him to mount a stump, and repeat his promise never again to act as collector of excise, and to hurrah three times for Tom the Tinker, after which they dispersed him.

The opposition to the excise became so strong and the rebellious spirit so alarming that the president thought it necessary to forward an army consisting of 15,000 men from the east. This army was commanded by Gen. Lee, of Virginia. Secretary of the Treasury Hamilton also went to Pittsburg, and stopped overnight in Somerset with Capt. Webster. The army reached its destination in November, but met with no opposition and shed no blood.

A number of the leaders of the insurrection among Capt. Webster's household and friends, were arrested and sent to Philadelphia for trial. Husband died in prison and Philson was discharged. In the spring the troops were withdrawn, order had been fully restored, the law was acquiesced in, and business resumed its wonted course.

A PLEASANT REMINISCENCE.
It is pleasing, after the details of the hardships endured by the first settlers, to contemplate the more peaceful and convivial scenes of the early pioneers, as drawn by the graphic pen of Rev. Mr. Dorriger.

For a long time after the first settlement of this country, the inhabitants in general married young. There was no distinction of rank, and very little of fortune. On these accounts the first impression of love resulted in marriage; and a family established cost but little labor, and nothing else.

A wedding engaged the attention of the whole neighborhood; and the frolic was anticipated by old and young with eager expectation. This is not to be wondered at when it is remembered that a wedding was almost the only gathering which was not accompanied with the labor of reaping, log rolling, building a cabin or planning some sort of campaign.

In the morning of the wedding day the groom and his attendants assembled at the home of his father for the purpose of loading the mansion of his bride by noon, which was the usual time for celebrating the nuptials.

Let the reader imagine an assemblage of people, without a store, tailor, or manufactory, within a hundred miles, and an assemblage of horses, without a blacksmith or saddler within an equal distance. The gentlemen dressed in shoe-packs, moccasins, leather breeches, leggings, heavy hunting-shirts, and all home-made. The ladies dressed in lacy petticoats, and lacy or linen bodices, coarse shoes, stockings, handkerchiefs, and buckskin gloves, if any. The horses were caparisoned with odd saddles, bridles or halters, and pack-saddles; a rope or string as often constituted the girth of a piece of leather. The march in double file was often interrupted by the narrowness and obstructions of our horse-paths, as they were called, for we had no roads. When the party were about a mile from the place two young men would single out to run for the bottle. The worse the path and the more obstacles the way afforded the better opportunity for the display of horsemanship. The English fox race, in point of danger, is nothing to this race for the bottle. The start was announced by an Indian yell; logs, brush, muddy hollows, hill and glen, were speedily passed by the rival ponies. The bottle was always filled for the occasion, so there was no need for judges; the first who reached the shore was presented with the prize, with which he returned in triumph to the company. At the head of the troop, he gave the bottle first to the

groom and his attendants, and then to each pair in the line in succession. The ceremony of the marriage preceded the dinner, which was a substantial breakfast of beef, pork, fowls, and sometimes venison and bear meat, with plenty of cabbage and potatoes. During the dinner the greatest hilarity prevailed. After dinner the dancing commenced, and generally lasted until the next morning. The figures of the dances were three and four-handled reels, or square sets and jigs. The commencement was always a square four, followed by what was called "jigging it off"; that is, two of the four would single out for a jig, and were followed by the remaining couple. The jigs were often accompanied by what was called "cutting out"; that is, when either of the parties became tired of the dance, his partner was supposed to be invited to the dancing lock, otherwise the mode of revenue adopted by them on such occasions, was that of cutting off the manes, forelocks, and tails of the horses of the wedding company.

On returning to the inn for the race for the bottle was the same as before. The feasting and dancing often lasted for several days.

Should I be asked why I have presented this unpleasant portrait of the rude manners of our forefathers—I may in turn ask my reader, why are you pleased with the histories of blood and carnage of battles? Why are you delighted with the fictions of poetry, the novel and romance? I have related truth and only truth, strange as it may seem. I have depicted a state of society and manners which is fast vanishing from the memory of man, with a view to give the youth of our country a knowledge of the advantages of civilization, and to give contentment to the aged by preventing them from saying "that former times were better than the present."

The First Settlers.
Prior to 1795 the territory now embraced in the County of Somerset comprised the township of Brothersvalley, in the County of Bedford. The first assessment made in Brothersvalley township was in 1772, and the list of names therein contained comprises, with perhaps a few exceptions, all of the settlers located in this region at that time. The assessment is recorded in Bedford and the following is a correct copy:

Abraham Henry, Andrew Frederick, Adams Samuel, Adams Solomon, Brown Richard, Bridges John, Baxter John, Boag Ludwick, Benach Christopher, Biigs Benjamin, Cramer William, Claypole James, Kater Frederick, Campbell James, Cables Abraham Esq., Catts John, Kefer Michael, Hunsland Herman, Thomson Douglas, Gentry James, Dwyer William, Dillinger John, Endow Henry, Endow John, Esop Robert, Flick Adam, Fisher James, Ferguson John, Friend Andrew, Friend Augustine, Friendman Paul, Flick Michael, Friend Charles, Grieg John, Fry John, Giesner John, Grieg William Joseph, Groatness William, Greene Thomas, Hise Walker, Hart Michael, Hoeland Richard, Hindrix Andrew, Jennings Solomon, Johnson William, Kessinger Benjamin, Kemble Philip, Kimball Geo., Laut Valentine, Laut Daniel, Markley John, McMillen James, McClie William, Miller John, Ogle Joseph, Polen Adam, Piden Francis, Parsley John, Parsley Benjamin, Parsley David, Peters John, Rhoads Henry, Rhoads James, Rhoads Gabriel, Rhoads Henry, Rhoads John, Reed John, Rice John, Rose Cutlip, Robinson Hugh, Sheaf Frederick, Swiner John, Sappington John, Small Adam, Shiels Bastian, Spence James, Skinner Nathaniel, Sinclair William, Smith Henry, Shute Solomon, Tyslow William, Van Alstons, Frye Thomas, Wagley Philip, Welch Frederick, Weimer John, Wells Richard, Wells George, White Aquilla, Wense John, Wingard Peter, Waller Thomas, Wallis Samuel.

Then followed the names of those whom we presume were singlemen: Mathias Ditto, Thomas Slinton, John Penned, Felix Morgan, Frederick Adams, James Winter, James Winter, Nicholas Eiland, Richard Paley, Ephraim Tracy, Martin Kefer, James Moore, Frederick Vandux, Edward Grimes, Samuel Worrel, James Wells, Peter Booker, Ludwick Greenwalt.

Gabriel Abraham, James Black, Henry Bruner, George Bruner, John Bowman, Casper Stoy, Joseph Jennings, Francis Hay, James Hoeland, John Hendrix, Edward Henderson, William Harkin, Edward Higgins, Mathias Judy, John Sinclair, George Shidler, Henry Shidler, Jacob Wingert, Atwell Worell, Richard Wells, Thomas Ogle, Daniel Parsley, John Hinkshaw.

The 124 taxables above mentioned were undoubtedly the first settlers in Somerset county. Some of them had been here less than a year, and but few were more than five years. Among them were many who had served in the wars against the French and Indians. All were then subjects of King George III, and but three or four years later they were active participants in the war for freedom and national independence.

Other familiar Somerset County names are found among the taxables of Bedford township in the same year, as follows: John Hite, John Bower, George Koller, George Liechtenberger, Samuel McKensie, Frederick Nawgle, Jacob Saylor, William Trent, John Casbeer, Adam Croyle, Hugh Simpson, John Dibert, George Kauffman, Basil Ball, Abner Wood.

All of the above were owners of from 100 to 400 acres of land each. Some had as many as 20 acres under cultivation and owned as many as three horses and five cows.

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Other familiar Somerset County names are found among the taxables of Bedford township in the same year, as follows: John