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May 10, 1875.-1f

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VOL. IX. NO. 14.

## A. D. 1876. CENTENNIAL. HISTORICAL ADDRESS. BY SAMUEL D. IEWIN, ESQ.,

speculate on the future. In writing history there is no just cause for uncertainty ; for the earnest seeker after truth should not attempt to maintain untenable ground; for if the historian holds out false lights his history then deteriorates into a romance and a very mischievous romance it is at

ments of truth, yet lacking the sustenance, is then no more entitled to credit than the story of "Sinbad the Sailor," "Alladins Lamp," or the "Knight of the Burning Mountain." Therefore, in attempting to write up a calendar history for this occasion, we will endeavor to open up no "Pandora's Box," from out which shall fly evils and deceptions from which errors backed by unvarnished truth.

July 4, 1876, marks the 100th year in our political calendar as a free and independent nation. Yet at that time our County was in the Indian Territory-unclaimed from the savage-and was not invaded by the white man, save a travelling missionary, or an intropid trader, but was the hunting ground of the Red man, who claimed it as his birthright.

Eighteen years after the Declara-tion of Independence was signed, that is to say, in April, 1794, came the Surveyors, with their chains and the old Rittenhouse Compasses, to survey the lands taken up by the Old Hol-lan I Land Co., and which were afterwards patented, and titles perfected, to a large portion, by the Hollanders. This Holland Land Co., I find by examining the old surveys, consisted of Wilhelm Willink, Nicholas Van Stophurst, Christian Van Eighen, Hendrick Vollenhoven, and Rutger Jan Schemmelphennick, names which sound similar to those of the Kinckerbocker times at New Amsterdam. At that time the lands were classified in self, according to his own recorded District No. 5 and 6 of the purchase from the Indians of 1784. The tracts to the East of us were laid out after leaving the river, usually in 1000 acre lots. Other prominent early warantees were Jonathan Mifllin, General Harmer, Geo. Meade, (ancestor of Gen. Meade) and others; while West of the river, some of the tracts were patented by Pierce Butler, who was a man of note in early times. The farms of Geo. S. Williams, and Isaac Siggins, near West Hickory, were on the Butler warrants. This whole territory was then embraced within the limits of Northumberland Co., which seems almost incomprehensible, considering that the county now known by that name, lies about 200 miles toward the rising sun. What a field for reflection ; What an expanse of land in 1784, with its rivers, hills, plains and valleys; What a diversified population,-the Quaker, Moravian and Presbyterian on the cast side, and the Indian savage on the west, worshipping the "Great Spirit,"-hunting, fishing, living and dy-ing, as his fathers had done for hundreds of years before him. All this in the then County of Northumberland. Reflect, too, over the then magnificent county,-larger than Holland or Switzerland! then imagine the counties as they now exist would have made for it townships; But we cannot dwell. This part of Northumborland, a few years after, became the world know it as Lycoming. Then, in 1800, "Old Venaugo" was erected two named. Afterwards, Jefferson was made a county, in 1804, from of April, 1848, formed into a county, called Forest, which now consisted of

TIONESTA, PA., JULY 12, 1876.

nango Co., made Tionesta the county Fort Pitt, where they arrived before spected in this county, about one year company fired but few of the enemy soat of the county as remodelled, it being the centre of population, and In 1870 the population numbered in It was a strange remark—that of Walpole—when he said, "tell\_me not History, for I know that it is false." I cannot afford to dwell on its physical fea-ture at all, save a few incidental ref-erences to the changes made here. would be dreary nonsense, upon this Centennial day, to read of the past, but might dwell in the present, or corded in the plain and truthful annals of the Moravian missionaries,true this carries us beyond the century a little, but we have a very well

History, are of too extraordinary a

may swarm, but aim at a concise style and his notes shows the endurance and of three towns near the mouth of Tiouesta creek. Zeisberger and his friend stopped at the place now known as Holeman's Flats, from the description givon. Although he had travelled among Indians before, he found him-

the 1st of May.

This is the substance of our earliest

county. This the writer has found to Auditor, Commissioner, Justice of the had ceased to be a virtue." be not technically correct. What is Peace, Associate Judge, or member be not technically correct. What is Peace, Associate Judge, or member To return to John Range: he left written of early settlers should be of of the Legislature, he filled every two sons, John and James, and two complexion to be passed over in si-lence, and while it sometimes reads like a romance, it has truth for its foundation, well defined. The history of early settlers coming through first hands almost, is conso-quently reliable, or nearly so, and foundation, well defined. The history of early settlers coming through first hands almost, is conso-quently reliable, or nearly so, and from its nature is biograpical rather to the writer) was John Range sr. Poland Hunter came from West-

am indebted for the following humorous sketch of the "red house": It was the largest house in this section ; it was built by Middleton on Jamieson Flats, with an eye to a private house and Church together, one room being set spart for the church. About the Jacob Wenk's lot on the back chan-cessee Co., N. Y., came down the river testimony, among the worst lot he had ever seen. They resembled demons, pioneer (who combined, like the house, it teaches us a lesson on industry. That all kinds of game abounded. He more than one qualification, being a No engineer could have laid out with first settled at Oldtown, but soon reand Indian roughs he preached them Surveyor, Justice of the Peace and his levels a better grade or devised a moved to what is now called Newtown. Preacher) came and preached. The scheme to effect the object any better. He was a man about six fect in height. subject of the text was the meeting of subject of the text was the meeting of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, but the original manner in which the text was handled, with the attending cirwas handled, with the attending circumstances, called forth some humor parts. This party found the Indians nesta creck. He gave most of the in its purity. He writes in his journal, "Nover yet did I see so clearly depict-The speaker enraged, changed his tac-Allegheny; the scouts all hid behind his settlement. As for instance "Jug tics, and charged on the people threatening them with the terrors of the All the Indians who were not killed of his jug there. "Jake's Run," from law, and the general judgment, in hoc by the first fire were pursued and shot the name of a man who built a shanty mode. "You may laugh now, you while crossing the river. This corrob- on its banks. "Bear Creek," so samed brats of Babel, but methinks I see a orates the statements related by because he killed a bear near its wadreadful time approaching,—yes see it a-coming,—there will be a terrible time. Volcances will burst forth gravings from it, a proof copy of hither and yon, and waves of liquid cumstances are given in detail, as doleful revises of animals near its mouth, and they were related to Mr. Jeremiah mouth, &c. Kingsley wanted no mouth, &c. Kingsley wanted no son, Eli Berlin and James K. Clark, and rocks and great trees-ah, will Bonner, who kindly furnished the sweep howling by in empty space-ah, writer with a statement from the ven- a mile of him. He sold out his lands Historical Society of Pa., as well as borne by a tempest of fire-ah! and erable Wm. Walters himself, to him, to Hamilton Stow, who was a man of au original copy of Zeisberger's own I tell you brothers and sisters about Bonner, in the year 1851. handwriting, being a receipt for going that time it will not be very safe to be This church did not break up as the Moravian Missions had done before it settlers of Westmoreland county were as they lumbered on a scale that had in 1770. No steeple adorned it, but attacked by Indians and a few cabins not been known before their time. while Middleton remained in it he burnt. But hefore sunrise the Indiana life, presented by the same society. initiated St. Paul at Rome, "In his The History tells of the pow-wows and own house receiving all who came unrookeries the Indiana got up; of the to him." Spending half his time in struggles of this good man with one Church he literally lived by the altar. Eli Holeman, father of the Hon. Alexander Holeman, lately deceased, settled at Holeman's Ferry in the the evening of the third day the pur- his con John and his son-in-law An-spring of 1800, and he contined there sucres reached the mouth of Tionesta thony Coussin, and for many years prophet gave him trouble at times. until his death in 1825. He establish- creek and on the morning of the into a county, out of parts of the last These pagans were divided in opinion, ed a ferry which bears his name to this fourth day they proceeded but a short as wiser people were of old. Yet the day, on his farm, at that point where distance up the river when they dismajority requested the missionary to the State road that led from Milesburg, covered the smoke from the wigwams which 4 townships were, on the 11th remain among them and teach them on Bald Eagle Creek to Waterford, on the opposite side of the river. The crossed the Allegheny. Most of the Indians could be seen crossing the He left for a short time in 1768; early settlers crossed at this place. Eli was born in Chester Co., in 1755. In paring to eamp. Every precaution and Howe, containing about 200 few bad traders in the camp. How the Penn'a Millitia he participated was taken by the riflemen to prevent ganized for judicial purposes, until more than 2000 deer on the Allegheny town, and other conflicts for Indepen-about 1851, with Marienville for the river,-how it was determined on ac-dence. When he removed to Forest a circuitous route, crossed over the they attended the first school on Tiocounty seat. This place was for years count of fresh outbreaks of the pa- Co. his nearest neighbors were Moses river by a rapid march, flanked the though the place was really then La-wun-ak-hanck, (East Hickory)- ter now lives, and Patrick M'Crea, an circle around them as they were en-named Marienville. A small frame, as the word is translated, "meeting Irishman, who settled at what is now camped on the river bank. In the two-story building was used as a Court | waters," (Beaver and Hickory) and known as Engle Rock. Hicks moved | morning the riflemen were not slow to how a mission was established there, down the Ohio about 1805. Holeman discover by the preparations the In-In 1860 the population consisted of on the castern bank of the river, and was familiar with the noted Chief dians were making, that a new raid was from Allegheny county. He took an 298 inhabitants, all told. This terri- a few miles above the first mission Complanter, otherwise called Capt. Contemplated. Eaid Walters, we carly and active part in the settle-

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for other reasons, appearing in their history. Gladly would we amplify his father's ferry on that old Bald driven into the river. One of these report, too voluminous to mention, this narration from the History of the Eagle road. But few of those emi- alarmed the Indian village at East Pioneer missionary, did time and space grants now remain in the land. He Hickory. Among the slain was a permit, and tell of what he discovered witnessed the dawn of civilization large Frenchman who had been with and wrote about the oil springs at that here, and stood a witness of its pro- the maranders. We then went to the early day, and other matters of im- gress. He saw the wigwam of the village but no one was there except an portance. In the history of Forest, published in the Forest Press in 1868-9, a slight seven before bim, as it were a picture of the burn the village and destrey the mistake occurs in the fifth chapter re-lating to the first white settler, where it is made to appear that Eli Holeman this sketch to witness. In brief, fiable as the settlers had been tormentwas the first bona fide settler of Forest whether we view him as County ed to such an extent that "endurance

defined and plainly marked history by a truthful and vigorous writer. The records contained in the life of David Zeisberger and in Loskiel's a definite type, while in tracing the office with honor to himself and profit daughters. Many of the Range fami-sayings and doings of an uncivilized to the people, and beyond and above ly are still living in our county. the mark is not always hit exactly. all be impressed you as one of naturo's George Tubbs settled in 1800. He noblemen. What more can be said? girdled Middleton's apple trees ex-

Zeisberger was an Austrian, and the best linguist of all his people. He understood five or six Iudian lan-guages, which gave him great power int the first settlers, upon the authority guages, which gave him great power int the first settlers and the traditionary in most instances. The first settlers, upon the authority of Judge John A. Dale, were the Val-entine family, who settled on what is in the authority of the Allegheny river a few rods above where the bridge now stands. He came about 1815. From the late in 1805, in the in 1840, at a good old age, in the midst of his kindred. Of his children understood now or six Induan Int. For studie sonn A. Date, were the var. guages, which gave him great power with the savages of our land. That admirable book, his life by Bishop Scheintz, consists of over 700 pages, and his notes shows the endurance and energy of the man. Fortunate for bistorn Zaishermer kent full notes history, Zeisberger kept full notes. with her to the country, George Tubbs, years. He was a Lieutenant in the man of education, he was a man of This extraordinary man determined, it appears in the summer of 1767, to make an exploratory trip to the Iu-cleared up a piece of land and planted vices, which was taken out in the or education of the strong mind. As Dodge obtained a land warrant for his ser-vices, which was taken out in the on the Daniel Stow place. He lived dians of the Allegheny River, and out a large orchard of apple trees. This name of Tehollas Range his eldest alone and followed basket making for took with him a companion, whom he homestead, Valentine and his wife dy-called Anthony. His friends tried to ing, became vested by will of Mrs. 1808, in company with other soldiers, me he has known of his making an called Anthony. His friends tried to ing, became vested by will of Mrs. 1808, in company with other soldiers, me he has known of his making an dissuade him from going into the how- Valentine in Mrs. Barbara M'Gee, and afterwards located at Tionesta in onfire set of harness out of oak splints. dissuade him from going into the how-ling wilderness. He struck the Alle-gheny river in Butler Co., it is sup-posed. The Seneca Indians there tried to dissuade him from going further, depicting the danger of his route. But the good man proceeds although told that the Indians at Gosh-go-shunk were very ngly, full of witchcraft, and would murder bim; that they were of the Monsey tribe, who were especially hostile. But he proceeds, and arrives at Gosh-go-shunk on the 16th of Oct. To the late Dr. Wm. F. Hunter, I his skill still remains, that is his "Canal," as he was pleased to call it, which, although filled up in places, who carried on the surveys from 1802. can be plainly traced by the cyc to this day. It was a large drain begin-ning at the swamp just back of Col. one of the pioneer settlers on Tionesta

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ago. Before his vision passed the escaped; only two of the Indians suclong train of emigration that crossed | ceeded in getting away after they were

Poland Hunter camo from West-

Mr. Range used to relate concern- and well proportioned, possessing good trees, each man selecting his victim. Handle," because he broke the handle neighbors, two or three settling within Bonner, in the year 1851. Although a digression, we quote from Mr. Walters, a brief of the cir-Wheeler & Dusenbury who turned Another of the early settlers was Henry Gates, who came to the country were obliged to dig up their seed pohis son John and his son-in-law Anafter in conjunction with Holeman and Hunters, supplied the surrounding country with corn, and gave the Tionesta creek settlement the name of "Egypt." He died and was buried on the mountain side near Oldtown. About the year 1816, Hon, John A. Dale and his brother Joseph G. Dale, now an Associate Judge of Forest Co., and grandsons of Henry Gates, came The riflemen fell back to Tionesta by to the County from Centre County, and nesta creek. Mark Noble and his family strayed into this region shortly after Gates came, and with his family settled near the mouth of Tionesta creek. Major James Hulings came hero ment of this section. At Tionesta he

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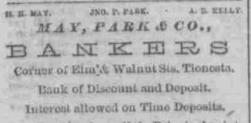
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House-Jail, they had none.

and to a congregation of murderers the first sermon they had ever heard. He understood their language to per-fection; was known and called by an Indian name, and so got th ) blind side of these desperadoes, -got their attention, and laid down to them the truth ed in the faces of Indians the blackness of hell and the power of the Gospel." A fine painting of this was made by Mr. Schussele a Philadelphia artist, for Mr. John Jordan, jr., which is in the Art Collection at the Centennial Exhibition. John Sartain, the celebrated engraver, struck some en-Commissioners of Forest Co., by the express for the Governor to the enemy out, neither !" Indians, ending with their characteristic words "I say received by me." DAVID ZEISBERGER.

Forest Co. also has a copy of his Wangomen, who opposed his messages. How Wangomen was "flaxed out" in Allegheny county, and shortly after, debate in the end, and was a conquered man. Yet still the false Indian Christianity and civilization.

3 townships, known as Barnett, Jenks came back, and by this time found a square miles, but was not really or- the Indians early in 1769 destroyed in the battle of Brandywine, Germanknown as "Blood's Settlement," al- gans at Gosh-go-shunk to remove to Hicks who lived where David G. Hun-

tory was doubled in area, and quad- where Senseman and the civilized In- O'Bail, who often stopped at his cabin. crawled quietly down the hill making rupled in population in October 1866, by the addition of 5 townships of Ve-nango, and under the Act of October 31, 1866, the Commissioners appeinted in cances all started down the river 31, 1866, the Commissioners appeinted in cances all started down the river of the started down the river the started down the river of the started do under the Act viz: Jacob Ziegler, of Butler Co., James A. Looch of Mercer Co., and Cornelius Fulkerson of Ve-a they all floated down the river to

cumstances: In August, 1796, the the resources of the forest to account, made their escape. The alarm was given, the settlement arousd, and the and settled near Oldtown about the citizens volunteered to pursue the rob- year 1806. That year was a very bers who had fled, as was found by cold one throughout. The settlers their trail, up the Allegheny river toward the mouth of the Tionesta. On tatees to subsist on. He came with river in canoes to the west side prediscovery and not alarm the Indians. Indians in the night, forming a semi-