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ANOTHER OLD STONE CHURCH

BY REV. WILLIAM A. WEST, D. D.

The Fulton Republican of July 18 contains an interesting sketch, by the Rev. John L. Grove, of the old "Stone church," near Webster Mills, built in 1828.

This has suggested the publishing of a sketch of a stone church at McConnellsburg, erected one year prior to that at Webster Mills. What the writer has to say will be based almost exclusively on documentary evidence. ITS ORIGIN AND TIME OF ERECTION

By the resignation of the Rev. Isaac Keller April 13, 1824, the Great Cove (or McConnellsburg) Presbyterian church was left without a pastor. When in this condition it was visited by Mr. Merrick A. Jewett, a young man and a licentiate who preached and labored among the people with great acceptance.

At the fall meeting of the Presbytery of Carlisle Sept. 1825 Mr. Jewett appeared and asked to be received as a member of that body, presenting testimonials of having been licensed to preach the gospel by the Association of North Worcester (Congregational) and having been ordained July 14, 1825 by a council of the Congregational church composed of ministers and lay delegates, "convened by letters missive." This was the first intimation had that Mr. Jewett was not a Presbyterian minister.

Though Mr. Jewett's credentials were not deemed entirely satisfactory, Presbytery expressed its willingness to receive him on condition of his accepting the Westminster Confession of Faith. Hereupon Mr. Jewett withdrew his application for membership and requested the return of his credentials. His request was complied with.

Shortly after this had taken place and upon the same day commissioners from the Great Cove congregation appeared in Presbytery and presented a call for the pastoral services of Mr. Jewett. Presbytery very properly declined to place the call in his hands, on the ground that he was not a member of the body. This occasioned great disappointment not only to the congregation; but also to the congregation; for many of the people had become greatly attached to Mr. Jewett. Presbytery sent one of its members, the Rev. Amos A. McGinley, to McConnellsburg to preach to the congregation and explain its action. Mr. Jewett did not however withdraw from the field, as a sense of propriety would seem to have dictated, but returned and continued his labors during the following year.

The congregation having learned by the foregoing occurrence that Mr. Jewett was a Congregational or Independent minister and still desiring to have him for their pastor sent to the Presbytery of Carlisle at its meeting September 26, 1826 the following "Reference," viz:

"Whether a certain rule found in the General Assembly's Digest, edition 1820, page 297, as a plan of union between the Presbyterians and Congregationalists in the new settlements could be applied to the congregation of Great Cove without infringing on the rules or constitution of the church."—Presbytery answered this "Reference" in the negative on the two-fold ground that McConnellsburg was not a new settlement and there were no Congregationalists there.

Notwithstanding this, Mr. Jewett returned (as he had done the year before) and continued his labors. This he did in defiance of the authority of Presbytery; consequently on Sabbath, Dec. 31, 1826 the door of the Presbyterian church was closed against him.

Mr. Jewett then went to Baltimore to visit and confer with his friend and old preceptor Dr. Duncan. In the latter part of January 1827 he returned, preaching at Fort Loudon on his way back

On the following Sabbath, Feb. 4th, he preached in the McConnellsburg school house standing on the rear of the Presbyterian church lot. The following Sabbath, Feb. 11th he preached at Fort Loudon and at Mercersburg. On the 18th he preached in the McConnellsburg school house. Thus he continued to preach alternately, as a rule, between McConnellsburg and Fort Loudon.

On the 10th day of March, 1827, those in the Presbyterian church who still adhered to Mr. Jewett and some others entered into an agreement or subscription which is as follows:

"We, the undersigned persons do promise to contribute towards the building of a house of worship in or near the town of McConnellsburg, for the society at present under the care of the Rev. M. A. Jewett, the following sums or items annexed to our names, it is to be understood that when there is no preaching in said house by a person employed or invited by said society, it is then to be free for the use of any other regular preacher.

Witness our hands this 10th day of March 1827, David Hunter, John Pettitt, George Hoke J. T. McClellan, Henry Hoke, Peter Tice, Nathaniel Pettitt, J. Wilson Park, John Culler, James Agnew G. W. Darrah, John Cook, Jacob Cook, William McIntire, Eliphalet Smith, Thomas Allender, David Fore, Samuel Shimer, John Jones, W. Bishop, John Tetwiler James Austin, David Agnew."

This house of worship was erected on the North east corner of a field belonging to G. W. Darrah, just across the road or street from the Presbyterian house of worship, and in its earlier history was designated "The Stone church," whilst the regular Presbyterian house of worship was generally called "The Brick church." The Stone church was completed by the fall of 1827. Under date of Dec. 2, 1827 we have the record: "Mr. Jewett preached to-day in the new meeting house.

There exists in certain quarters the opinion that this house of worship was built in 1834 as a union church, and that it has been occupied by the Reformed congregation ever since that date. But the foregoing facts and dates, which we stand ready to establish on documentary evidence entirely overthrow this theory alike as to date and character of the building, showing that it was built seven years before the date given and that it was a union church. As to the claim for occupancy, it will be shown that it did not take place for least seven years after the date 1834.

BY WHOM THE CHURCH WAS FIRST OCCUPIED.

The purpose of its erection has in the foregoing been distinctly pointed out. Accordingly, it was regularly occupied by the Rev. Mr. Jewett or by someone "employed or invited" by those who in the beginning of the enterprise were the friends and adherents of Mr. Jewett. The house was thus regularly occupied, ordinarily every alternate Sabbath, in connection with Fort Loudon. Under the pastorate of Rev. Isaac Keller, then pastor of McConnellsburg church, a Presbyterian church had been organized at Ft. Loudon in 1823. After Mr. Keller had left in 1824 and Mr. Jewett had come upon the field the following year, the latter preached at McConnellsburg and Loudon ordinarily on alternate Sabbaths, just as Mr. Keller had been accustomed to do. While Rev. Mr. Kennedy of Welsh Run by appointment of Presbytery supplied the McConnellsburg church, he also supplied the church at Loudon on alternate Sabbaths with Mr. Jewett. After Mr. Kennedy discontinued his labors in 1833, the church fell almost entirely into the hands of Mr. Jewett and his successor; and disintegration followed in the course of time, as it

On Monday, July 29, 1901, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Engle of Whips Cove, died, aged about 9 months. Interment near the Lower Church on the following Tuesday; in the presence of a large number of sorrowing friends and relatives. The child had been sick for several weeks.

McConnellsburg, 13; St. Thomas, 12

ST. THOMAS, Pa., Aug. 3.—St. Thomas. 0 0 2 1 0 0 5 4 0—12
McConnellsburg 0 1 3 3 0 0 4 0 2—13

Winning run made with only one out and one man on base.

Batteries—Gillan and Robinson for St. Thomas; Bowden and Thompson for McConnellsburg. Umpire, Dr. Grove.

The above gives the result of the game played by our team against St. Thomas at the latter place on Saturday last. It does not, however, tell the tale of the game. The score does not properly express the superiority of our club over theirs—not only in ball-playing—but in gentlemanly conduct.

Never was a visiting team treated more shamefully by a home team and citizens than was our team last Saturday. We were told, before playing the game, that it would be impossible for our team to win from St. Thomas on their own grounds. Their reputation for meanness having traveled over both Franklin and Fulton.

Pitcher Wagner having a glass arm, was unable to accompany the team, so the manager secured the services of Frank Bowden, at Loudon. When the game was called at 3:15 p. m., St. Thomas immediately protested against Bowden pitching, but our boys were firm for Bowden or no game; and they seeing that our boys could not be bluffed, began the game. From start to finish the St. Thomas players and their rooters, continually hurled un-called for and indecent cries at all our players—especially at Bowden.

The umpire was all one sided for an intelligent, professional man, he is the meanest and most dishonest umpire our boys were ever up against.

They deserve much credit for winning this game against such odds; and although the manager of the St. Thomas team begged Manager Dalbey for another game to be played at McConnellsburg; he very wisely refused to allow our team to cross bats again with such a team of ungenerous players.

Some of the features of the game were the superb pitching of Bowden, a sensational catch by Reinsner; the general good batting of our team, and the quiet demeanor of all our players during the trip.

Our boys are all well pleased by the way they were taken care of by Landlord Miller.

The Upton base ball team played our home team in this place last Wednesday, and were defeated in a score of 13-7. The Upton team is composed of nine first rate fellows.

Base Ball Notice.

The athletic association announces that at the Mercersburg—McConnellsburg game, Thursday afternoon, an admission fee of 5 cents will be charged to the grounds, with an additional charge of 5 cents for a grand stand seat. Persons ignoring this rule by climbing over the fence or otherwise gaining admittance to the grounds will be regarded as trespassers desiring to take advantage of the sport without giving any financial support.

A. D. DALBEY, President.

Lightning Rod Man Talks.

Some one in Philadelphia, who in the excitement of his defense of that much abused class of individuals, "Lightning rod men," has neglected to sign his name seems to be particularly incensed at an article in last week's "News" which he says is a direct "slap" at those persons who risk life and limb, and brave the wrath of hotel keepers, ferry owners and toll gatherers, whose bills were not met, that unselfish class who love the souls of men and women and who seek to rescue such from the perils of lightning, who buy conductors at 3½ cents a foot and charge 60 cents, and use as many feet as they can crowd on to the building to be roided.

"But why relate my own experience" he goes on to state "of the time many years ago when I was a lightning rod man? Why tell of the six feet we were expected to put in the ground, and which an old hen ambitious to take her early morning dust bath had bored the extension, which we laid out in the morning before, and she didn't go six inches to do it neither.

"No, was not accepted as an answer when we found out the owner of an 'unprotected' property. We usually sought out the most influential resident in a new territory, and when possible, arranged that if he could not buy he permit us to put a rod on his house—often paying for the privilege, and when we had worked our territory we took it down again. Two men with two horses have traveled for one month over 275 miles of territory, and spent only 10 cents for resoling a horse shoe. 'We'll pay you when we come back this way next week.'"

"Those days have long since gone by, and the recollection of them fails to bring the sweet soothing influence as of deeds well done. But were I to stop here, I should fail in my purpose to lay before your readers truths concerning these lightning conductors. I feel that I have seen too many proofs of their usefulness in safely carrying off and discharging in the earth heavy electrical currents. Do not condescend the honest rod with the dishonest vendor.

"Only a few months ago a new smoke stack, 135 feet high, was ruined during a fierce thunder storm, while another, less than half a mile distant, and roided, has stood unharmed since 1835.

"I would accept the statement of no 'expert electrician' as to their being worthless. Let these same gentlemen be caught in one of Pennsylvania's fierce electrical storms and be permitted to fly for shelter to a tree, an unprotected house, or one having a lightning rod on it, they would trust the rod every time. They are still being used in this city, and all through this broad land, and when properly placed on a building, afford almost certain protection."

Pigeon Coves.

After spending several days visiting friends in this community and at Guilford Springs Franklin county, John Kirk will return to McKeesport where he has employment.

William Palmer of Warfordsburg, spent Sunday with his brother H. P. Palmer, John Hendershot spent Saturday and Sunday visiting friends in the Big Cove.

Sallie Hughes and sister Maggie have gone to Mountain Lake Park.

Mrs. John H. Fisher is spending a few days with her daughter Mrs. Palmer in the cove.

Clatus Palmer left for the eastern part of the State Monday where he expects to acquire a business education.

Howard Kirk and daughter Nellie spent Sunday at Jimmy Kirk's.

Vinnie Jenkins of Illinois is visiting in this community.

Jacob Baer Dead.

Jacob Baer of the Little Cove a farmer and horse dealer well known in this county, died suddenly at his home last Friday morning. The funeral took place Monday, the sermon being preached by Rev. A. G. Wolfe of this place.

Mr. Baer was one of the largest land owners in his township and was one of the most unique farmers in his section. He adhered to the old-time methods of farming, having neither binder, mow, nor hay rake on his large farm. Mr. Baer had his hay cut with scythes and raked by hand. It is said that by his great care in cutting it, his hay was free from dust and refuse matter and always commanded the highest market prices.

He was aged 74 years.

Traced from Adam.

Popular interest in Albert Judson Fisher's unique love-story, "A Daughter of Adam," in The Ladies' Home Journal for August, has been increased tenfold since it became known that the genealogical part of the story is not fiction, but fact. Not only is the marvelous line of descent, traced through 121 generations from Adam and Eve, absolutely genuine, but also the family names of the characters are the names of real people, for the line is actually that of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith Sargent, of Chicago, and Mrs. Sargent was formerly Miss Francis Moore, of Warren, R. I. Even stranger still is the fact that, as shown in the story, Mr. and Mrs. Sargent had the same ancestor eight generations back.

Saluvia.

Mrs. W. R. Speer spent last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Cutchall, of Hustontown.

John S. Harris continues in ill health.

Miss Edie Cutchall of Hustontown spent a few days the first of this week with her sister Mrs. W. R. Speer.

The ice-cream supper at Green Hill Saturday evening, was well patronized by a large crowd, and the endeavorers realized a nice sum.

Among those from a distance who attended the social at Green Hill Saturday evening, were Watson Geinger of Buck Valley who was the guest of Mr. George P. Metzler's family; Mr. McElhany, Mr. Stevens, Edie Cutchall, and Bessie Hampton of Hustontown; Ora Dixon, Howard Dixon, Anthony Mellott, and Norman Akers of Sipes Mill, Arthur Dixon, of Philadelphia, and Mrs. L. H. White and her two little sons Oran and Hollis of McConnellsburg.

New Grenada.

D. M. Cunningham and sons Coyd and Meryl, of Pittsburg, spent a couple weeks with friends here.

Charley Grissinger and Joseph Singleton, of Philadelphia, were the guests of F. G. Mills and family, part of last week.

Dr. C. A. R. McClain, of Cassville, made a business trip to our town last week.

Mrs. T. Speer, Dickson and daughter Miss Nora, and son Emmet, all of Media, are visiting their many friends here and in Wells Valley.

Frank Black and wife spent Sunday with John Thomas.

The P. O. S. of A. Hall makes a nice appearance since it has been completed. The boys should feel proud of their new home.

Next is camp meeting. We learn that there will be quite a number of tents this year. An excellent corps of ministers have been secured. But do the majority of the people go to camp to hear sermons? Go on Sunday and see where the most of the crowd is.

Stop at Dickson's drug store and get a cool refreshing drink of soda water.

Students at Needmore.

Big Cove Tannery—G. E. Clouser, Lewis Harris.

Webster Mills—Nannie C. Mellett, Jessie Mellett, Jas. Kleffer.

McConnellsburg—Bessie Morton, Don W. Morton, O. R. Martin, Horace Sipes.

Sylvan—Garry Myers.

Plum Run—Olive Zimmerman, John D. Keifer, H. W. Wink, Lillian Fisher.

Dickey's Mountain—S. L. Simpson.

Needmore—Anna F. Culler, Cora A. Funk, Olive Hess, Wm. Peck.

Covalt—Harvey Sharpe, Letitia Peck, Benj. Shives, Jeanette Shives.

Warfordsburg—Alberta Remsburg, Charles Gartner, John Hendershot.

Franklin Mills—Bertha Golden, Buck Valley—Watson Geinger, Lashley—Lettie Whitfield, Lillian Hill, E. C. Hendershot, Elsie Bottenfield.

Emmaville—Charles Lodge, H. W. Smith.

Crystal Springs—John McKibbin, Cora Clevenger.

Akersville—Ernest Walters.

Harrisonville—J. F. Daniels, Jas. Deshong, L. V. Hollenshead, Katharine Metzler, Laura Palmer.

Saluvia—R. R. Strait.

Pleasant Ridge—D. D. Deshong, Cleveland Forner, Unger Mellott, A. N. Mellott, J. P. Morton.

Sipes Mills—C. D. Mellott, Anna Deshong.

Gem—Blair Truax, Orpah Snyder, Blanche Peck.

Pinney Grove, Md.—C. A. Foster.

Fickerville.

For the benefit of those who may be a little rusty in Geography, Fickerville is a new town situated in Whips Cove on the road leading from Pittsburg to Baltimore by way of Emmaville and Hancock. Among its public enterprises are a store and an undertaking establishment. Why any one should have embarked in the latter venture, is a mystery, inasmuch as there is no doctor living within miles of the place. There is a fine church building near, and a post-office less than a mile away. The location is fine right in the heart of one of the prettiest valleys in the county, and there is plenty of room for any one who may feel like casting his lot among our good people.

Simon C. Layton has his new barn under roof and well filled with grain and hay.

James S. Akers has finished sawing the pile of logs at his mill. Buckwheat promises to be a big crop in the cove.

Cattle have been in active demand this summer and prices have been good.

I had almost forgotten to say that Simon Layton purchased a new Deering mower this season, and can now shave the grass close to the pebbles.

Clear Ridge.

Everybody is getting ready for camping.

The festival held here last Saturday evening was largely attended.

The Clear Ridge base ball team won two games last Saturday, defeating both the Dublin Mills and the Fort Littleton.

An aching tooth caused H. W. Denisar to visit Dr. Davis last Sunday.

Mr. Kuhn of Williamsport spent a few days last week with his friend Harry Huston.

B. C. Lamberson and W. G. Wink were at this place last Sunday.

Rev. A. L. Frank was calling on friends in this vicinity last week.

Margaret Daniels, Harper Barton, and Eugene Chesnut spent Thursday evening at S. L. Bedford's.

PERSONAL.

Thomas Garland, of Needmore, was at McConnellsburg Monday.

Captain Dison and daughter, Miss Ora, spent last Thursday in town.

Miss Nora D. Griffith of Wells Valley is at the Pan American this week.

Mrs. W. F. Hart and son Master Floyd, of Needmore have typhoid fever.

Dr. J. J. Palmer and wife of Chicago are visiting Thos. R. Palmer and family.

J. Bernard Wishart is visiting his parents Dr. and Mrs. Wishart at Harrisonville.

Dr. F. C. Curtis, of this place, spent on Thursday until Monday in Philadelphia.

Mrs. J. K. Van Dyke, of Philadelphia is visiting her mother and sisters at the Fulton House.

Harry Irwin is at home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Irwin for a summer vacation.

Miss Bessie Irwin, who had been visiting her Uncle Will in Altoona, came home last Friday.

Mr. Clarence Sipes spent several days during the past week visiting friends in Chambersburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore, of Pittsburg, are visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Stewart.

Miss Ruth West is visiting her grandfather and aunt, Dr. and Miss Ella West at the Washington House.

Miss Ada Rexroth, Miss Lois Caldwell, and Mr. M. W. Nace—all of this place, went to Buffalo Tuesday to see the "Pan."

Rev. and Mrs. Smith, accompanied by Mrs. Erb and son McLeod spent Tuesday afternoon of last week at Michael Knauff's.

Misses Nellie and Jessie Nace, of Chambersburg, are visiting the family of their uncle and aunt Mr. and Mrs. A. U. Nace, of this place.

Miss Mabel Trout returned home last Wednesday evening after a visit of several weeks among friends in the eastern part of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Woodcock of Altoona, arrived here from Wells Valley Wednesday, and will spend a week visiting among their many friends.

Mrs. Margaret Rexroth and daughter Miss Ada, of Harrisburg, visited Mrs. Catherine Deunick of this place, during the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Morganthall and their son Master Joe, of Waynesboro, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Nesbit of this place.

Mrs. Mitchell, of Edgewater Park, N. Y., and Mrs. Zanzensburg, of Philadelphia, spent last week with Miss Sue Washabaugh and Mrs. Aaron Richards, of Ayr township.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Wagner have returned to their home at Newville, after a pleasant visit with their parents in Tod. Mr. Wagner's sister, Miss Elsie, accompanied them to Newville.

Dr. N. C. Trout, of Fairfield, spent on Thursday until Monday with his mother, Mrs. M. B. Trout, of this place. Dr. Nick has for two years been a member of the Adams county pension board.

Prof. Gail G. Chambers, who has been assisting Prof. B. N. Palmer in conducting the latter's normal school at Needmore, is suffering from an attack of typhoid fever. Prof. B. M. Griffith of Wells Valley has taken Mr. Chambers' place in the school.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Groathead, of Morton, a suburb of Philadelphia, are visiting Mr. Groathead's parents Mr. and Mrs. John W. Groathead, of this place. Mr. Groathead is superintendent of construction in the large works of the Cutler Electrical and Manufacturing company, in Philadelphia.