...local Indians

[Continued from page 6]

the Great Spirit to enter the delightful hunting grounds of the Spirit World, and that their reconciliation could be accomplished by giving the disputed ground to the twelve braves whose lives were spared in the great battle. In accordance with the visio, of the Chief of the Arroquas, called the Braves together, and formally delivered over to them, and their posterity for ever, a full title, to the before mentioned ground.

After the twelve had taken possession of their hunting ground, they fixed their head quarters, at the 'Oses' or Rock Wigwam, on the west stream, not a fourth of a days journey from the Great River.

This place was long known to the hunters, and now known as the Cave, and only about half a mile from Mount Joy Borough.

Here the twelve cast lots for a Chief; the lot fell to one of the Canadagas. He had shortly before taken to himself a wife; a beautiful young maiden of the Chickasaws, a tribe still known in history. And the name of the creek on which the cave is, and where they lived, called Chicquesaw, in honor of their Queen. A year after this event, the Queen gave birth to a daughter and called her Ollinga; and the creek on the east boundary of their land (now Big Chiques) was called or named after the daughter.

The streams at their junction, and from that to the river, was named by our people to that of Chiques. Hence the name of our creek Chiquesalunga

This small band increased rapidly from that time, but after Penns treaty, the pale faces came into the country, made settlements near them, they did not live these settlers, but rather than fight them, left their home, their delightful head quarters, their Osres Wigwam, to seek better hunting grounds. They emigrated towards the setting sun and united with the Chickasaws.

The old chief, the Fifteenth succession, claimed to have what is above set forth as being regularly handed, from one Chief to another as Indians keep their record. Mr. Bender says the meeting was a pleasant and interesting one. They parted as friends, wishing each prosperity and happiness and all the good things they could think of.

After these Indians left, other Indians roamed over the country, and became very troublesome, especially in the Paxton settlement, which was then the western township of Lancaster

County. Murder after murder was committed - many of their families had suffered by the Indian tomahawk. These Paxton men were goaded on to desperation. A deadly animosity was raised against all of Indian blood. They formed themselves into a band called themselves "The Rangers," and determined to protect themselves, even if it cost the life of every Indian.

They had traced some of the murders of hostile Indians, to the friendly Indian settlement at Conestoga, and knew that they were there, they were determined to destroy them they passed through this place to Conestoga, and under cover of the night, reduced the place to ashes, mounted their horses, and returned to Lancaster, heard that one of the Indians concerned in the recent murders was there in safety. The Indians were kept in the prison for safety. The Paxton boys broke open the doors. The Indians were left without life. Two of the Indians killed in Lancaster were recognized as murderers.

After this was done they returned to their homes, it gave quiet to the frontiers, for no murder of the inhabitants happened in that region again. I know that they passed this way, for I often heard my grandmother talk about the Paxton Boys, some of them near relatives. They stopped on their return at my grandfathers' the 'Big Chiques tavern.' In conversation with one of them, she said, she hoped he was not among the number in the bloody and unjustifiable act. He spoke not, but put his hand into his coat pocket, drew out an Indian scalp, held it up for a short time and then returned it.

They were 'Scotch Irish' and at the opening of the Revolution like the Donegal people sought the ranks of the army to tight for their country. The German emigrants who came some what later in the last century, with the exception of the Lutherans, were nearly all non-residents. Only a few of the decendents of the Scotch Irish now remain here and there a solitary family. The decendents of the Germans filled up the places they left, and inherit the language, the farms, and the thrift and industry of their forefathers.

On the grave stones, in the grave yard at the old Donegal Church, or meeting house, may be seen, many of the names of former occupants of this section of our country. I must here say something about this old Donegal Church. It is but a little distance from this place, and in it in olden time,

many of those who worshipped there, were from one immediate neighborhood.

When Philadelphia was in possession of the British army under General Howe, the Continental Congress left their in a hurry for Lancaster, and from there to York. It was supposed

that the band of Rebel signers of the Declaration of Independence, would be followed by the British Army. The old church, a strong stone house, was to be fitted up as a Fort, and the people ready and anxious to give them a peppery reception; but they did not come this week.

Near the N.E. corner of

the church, stands a very large white oak tree, that is still called the 'Covenant or witness tree.' Woodman spare that tree, harm it not, let no randal hand touch it; let it stand there for ever when a stripling it was dedicated to Liberty, and stands sentinel, guarding the dust on noble ones, who toiled fought and died

in Freedom cause.

Concerning that tree I will give the incident as near as I can recollect. I had it from the lips of my grandmother who was one of the party. After the signing of Independence, there was great excitement everywhere, it was the all absorbing theme.



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