

FOR THE TIMES. Little Germany, Nov. 24, 1879. Mr. Editor—This is called Little Germany, but for what reason it received this appellation, we are not able to tell.

It is supposed that it received its title from the fact that a number of Germans at one time solely occupied this goodly land. If a committee were now appointed to honor this picturesque and romantic valley with a name, we are inclined to think it would be called Holy Land, not because we have two good, comfortable churches here, and because most of the people in this favored spot adhere to some ten religious beliefs, but because more holes have been dug here in search of minerals, than in any other part of the county.

This is truly a Holy Land, for holes can be found in nearly every field. Digging for coal and iron ore was commenced here more than forty years ago, and hundreds and even thousands of dollars spent for that purpose. Ore digging here some years ago, was attended with success. The Perry Furnace and Oak Grove Furnace, took tons of iron ore from the mines on Mr. Dum's farm in this valley.

It is said during the boring that they struck a vein of coal (?) about three inches thick.

Another company was organized about three years ago, and after operating a few months they quit.

Interest in digging iron ore was revived a few months ago. Different localities have been prospected, but finally the old ore mines on Mr. Jacob Dum's farm have been reopened, where three or four hands are employed daily.

For fear of wearying your readers, I will change the subject.

One of the first schools in this county was established here. About 1780 a school-house was erected on a lot of 17 acres of ground, by Henry Ludolph Spark, a German school-master. Mr. Spark taught school many years, and at his death donated the lot and the house thereon erected for school purposes.

The old Germany church stands on the ground that was donated by Spark. This church was occupied by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations for about thirty years, but now abandoned by them.

The Dunkards have services here every eight weeks, and the United Brethren have services here every four weeks. A Union Sabbath School is held here nearly every summer, but for want of interest, it generally dies out in good time to go into winter quarters.

A very interesting Bible class was organized here with Mr. D. H. Smith as teacher. Mr. Smith is a very efficient Bible teacher and his class were very sorry that the class was broken up so soon.

There are six grave yards in this valley, of which the oldest is the Indian grave yard, where it is supposed several red men have been buried. The next oldest is the one in which Ludolph Spark is supposed to be interred. About one hundred people are buried there, but only a few mounds can be seen now and a few rough slate stones with rude letters upon them mark the resting place of some unknown persons.

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