

Excerpted from History of Lehigh and Carbon County

This should go with my earlier comments re my favorite Pennsylvania spot. Incidentally, there is an Arner school still standing near the corners where the Arner house and hotel still stand. Why it is Arner school is not clear but I suspect the Arner family donated the land.

.....was a miller by trade, and about 1814 came to the Landing Tavern, on the Lehigh River, and for a year or two was at work rafting and in the mill. In the year 1816, he went up the Mahoning Creek and obtained work in the mill on the site of the Gilbert Mill. In this year he married Elizabeth, the daughter of Robert McDaniel, who lived a short distance from the mill. He remained at the mill till about 1823, when he built a mill on Pine Creek, now known as the Hoppes (A famous gun maintenance goods Line.) mill-site, and moved his family thereto. At this place his wife died, Nov. 5, 1826, aged thirty-one years, leaving five children,—Ammon, Robert, Charlotte, Anna, and Joseph. Ammon and Anna (Mrs. Grover) settled in Franklin township, where the former is still living. Charlotte became the wife of a Mr. Yost and is long since deceased. Joseph resides at Pittston, Luzerne Co., Pa. Robert lives at Mauch Chunk. He was elected the first register and recorder of the county of Carbon in 1843, has filled many important offices and was a member of Congress for this district in the Forty-sixth Congress. Christian Klotz married a second wife, by whom he had several children. He died at Lehigh, March 12, 1848, aged fifty-nine years, and was buried by the side of his first wife in the Moravian Cemetery.

John, Jacob, and Daniel Klotz, brothers of Christian, came to the Mahoning Valley and settled. John died in Lehigh in 1829. Jacob and Daniel lived and died in Mahoning township.

John G. Kamerer, a native of Lehigh County, came to the valley in 1818 and purchased the farm now owned by Zachariah Ham. Of his children, Thomas is the new president of the National Bank of Lehigh. Theodore R. and William are engaged in business at Lehigh. Catharine also resides in that place. Rebecca, one of the elder children, became the wife of Joseph Musselman and removed to Ohio.

Thomas Beltz, a son of Leonard and Elizabeth Beltz, was a native of Towamensing township, where he was born in 1805. In 1820 he engaged with the Coal and Navigation Company at Summit Hill, and worked for them fifteen years. During this time he married Rebecca, a daughter of Jonathan Bachman, and settled in what is now Mahoning township. She died early in life, leaving two children, of whom Nathan resides in Stockton, Luzerne Co., Pa. He married, as a second wife, Maria, the daughter of Henry Arner, who is still living. Harrison A. Beltz, now a justice of the peace at Lehigh, is a son.

The mother of Thomas Beltz resided with him in her later years, and died at his house in February 1867, at the age of one hundred and five years. She was a daughter of Frederick Boyer and was born in Towamensing township, Dec. 14, 1761.

Septimus Hough, a Quaker, who was a native of Bucks County, born near Doylestown, in the year 1820 purchased the old Gilbert mill and farm and settled there. His wife died in 1845, and he survived her

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until May 4, 1852. A son, John, died many years ago. A son, James P., now lives at Mount Jefferson, in Mauch Chunk township. After the death of Mr.

' Hough the property was sold to Michael Garber,

who now owns it.

A sketch of the Balliet family will be found in the history of North Whitehall township, Lehigh Co., to which place the first of the family, Paul Balliet, emigrated in 1742. Joseph Balliet, who settled in this township, was a son of Leonard Balliet, a native of Northampton (now Lehigh) County, who settled in West Penn township, Schuylkill Co. Joseph bought a farm first at Centre Square, now owned by Joseph Huusecker, and later he purchased a farm of Jacob Feller, which he lived on and where he died in 1881, aged eighty-seven years. He left a son, Nathan, who lives on the homestead. Thomas M. Balliet, the present superintendent of common schools, is a son of Nathan Balliet,

Solomon Gordon, who, in 1808, lived near the Gilbert Mill, was a blacksmith, and had a shop at that place. Later he moved about half a mile east, where he lived a few years and then emigrated to the West, and died on the way.

Philip Sanders, in 1808, lived on the road from Lehighton to New Mahoning, where his son, John, now resides.

Jonathan Bachman is mentioned in 1808. daughter married Thomas Beltz.

In the year 1842, when the township was erected and the first assessment-roll was made, the following persons' names appeared in connection with the properties and pursuits here given :

John Ammon, clock-maker and trader.

Henry Arner, powder-mill and saw-mill.

John Betz, grist-mill.

Jacob Fenstenmacher, innkeeper.

Michael Garber, grist- and saw-mill.

David Heller, tan-yard.

Reuben Hagenbuch, innkeeper.

Christian Horn, innkeeper and butcher.

Alfred Havline, merchant- and powder-mill.

Morganroth & Hanline, merchants.

William Horn, teacher.

Abram Horn, innkeeper.

George Heilman, saw-mill.

John Kuntz, grist- and saw-mill.

Jacob Musselman, saw-mill.

Henry Notestine, saw-mill.

John Solt, saw-mill.

Stores—Mills.—The first store in the township outside of what is now the borough of Lehighton was opened by Thomas Walton before the year 1825 on the farm now owned by A. Reigel, a quarter of a mile east of the New Mahoning post-office. He also opened a hotel and blacksmith-shop. The store was soon latter kept by Abraham Hanline, and later by —— Hunsicker, and the hotel was abandoned.

About 1820, Henry Arner opened a shoe-factory on

His the present farm of Ammon Arner to supply the miners at Summit Hill. Henry Bretnich learned his trade with Arner, and upon his retirement, in 1835, succeeded to the business, and continued till 1855.

In 1832, Henry Arner and Abraham Hanline erected a powder-mill on the site of the present bone and saw-mill of Ammon Arner. An explosion occurred in 1839 or 1840, which resulted in the destruction of the buildings. They were rebuilt, and 'on the 8th of June, 1841, another explosion took place, and Daniel Arner, a son of Henry Arner, and John Snyder, a brother of the present State representative, E. H. Snyder, were killed. The mill was again rebuilt, and run under the management of Jonas Fritz until 1854 when it was abandoned. Hanline & Morganroth erected a powder-mill

after 1842 on the run where the bone—mill of David Kuntz now stands. This was run for many years by John Erb for the proprietors. An explosion occurred and one man was killed. It was rebuilt, and again exploded, killing two brothers, Kemerer, and wounding Emanuel Durmitzer, then one of the proprietors. These powder-mills gave employment to charcoal-burners, prominent among whom was Robert Blair, a Scotchman, who burned charcoal in the summer and taught school in the winter. He also had a cooper-shop and employed several men to make kegs. and David Miller were coopers and worked at the shop. ,

The first grist-mills erected in the limits of the township were at the Gnadenhiitten Mission soon

after the arrival of the Moravians, in 1746. After this, the first one built was one on the site of what is known '

as the Heilman Mill, which was built before the destruction of the mission. It was owned by Nathan Hinkle. His name does not appear in 1781, and he probably abandoned his settlement. The next mill was built by Benjamin Gilbert, soon after 1775, upon the site of the Garber Mill of to-day. After its destruction, in 1780, Capt. Joseph Longstreth purchased the property, in 1783, and rebuilt it. The property passed to D. and S. Kennedy, and from them to Septimus Hough, who sold it to the present owner.

The next mill of importance was erected by Christian Klotz, in 1823, on the stream and by the site now occupied by Solomon Hoppes. The old mill is still standing. The present mill was built across the street about 1850, by the present owner. It was operated in 1842 by John Beltz.

In 1832, David Boyer, a native of Berks County, came to the township and established a gun-shop on the site of the present St. John's Church, where he manufactured guns for three years. He removed to

Orwigsburg. He married Hannah, a daughter of,

George Beck.

Lutheran and German Reformed Churches.- . ' tween Centre Square and Leighton.

This congregation was organized prior to 1850, and in that year erected the present church edifice. At the same time, a lot adjoining was laid out for a

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burial-place. The pastors who have served the Lutheran congregation have been as follows: Rev. E. A. Bauer and W. H. Strauss, the last named being now in charge. The German Reformed have been served by the Rev. Charles Eichenberg and the Rev. Abraham Bartholomew; the last mentioned now occupies the pulpit. The church is situated about a mile east of New Mahoning, on the road leading from Lehighton up the valley.

Evangelical Church—The Evangelical Church, situated in Mahoning township, is about half a mile east of New Mahoning. The edifice was erected in 1861. Prior to 1873 the church was supplied with preaching from ministers who were located at Weissport and other places. Since that year the ministers of the association at Lehighton have served the church, and have been as here given: Rev. A. F. Leopold, A. Kreeker, D. B. Albright, B. J. Smoyer, and W. K. Wieand, the present pastor.

Beaver Run Methodist Episcopal Church—A society of Methodists was organized into a church in the spring of 1881, and a church edifice was erected, at a cost of eight hundred dollars, on the road leading from Packerton to Tamaqua, about three miles west from Lehighton. It was dedicated on the 29th of January, 1882, and placed under the charge of the Rev. L. B. Hoff'man.

Post-Offices.—A post-office was established, about 1850, at New Mahoning, with Tilghman Arner as postmaster. He was succeeded by John H. Arner, who is the present incumbent.

A post-office was established at Pleasant Corner, and

We can get more of this should we need it