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(To be continued.)

ATKINSON FAMILIES OF BUCKS COUNTY, PENN- SYLVANIA.

BY OLIVER HOUGH.

[There were two distinct families of the name of Atkinson, both of considerable note in the annals of Bucks County, but not related to each other in any degree known to their founders; (though it is possible they may have had a common origin many generations back in England). One descended from Thomas Atkinson, a minister of the Society of Friends, who came from Yorkshire, in 1681; and the other from the brothers Christopher and John Atkinson, of Lancashire, who sailed for Pennsylvania in 1699, both dying during the voyage, but whose surviving children (and the wife of Christopher) arrived in the province and settled in Bucks County. As many erroneous statements have been written and printed concerning these families, some writers confusing the two where Christian names were alike, this sketch is designed to give an accurate account of several of the earlier generations of each, and call attention to and correct such errors as have found their way into print or into manuscripts deposited in public places.

In 1890, Mr. John B. Atkinson, of Earlington, Kentucky, published a small book, entitled *The Atkinsons of New Jersey*. This was primarily a sketch of his own family, descended from William Atkinson, who settled in or near Burlington, West New Jersey, about 1683, and married March 9, 1686, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Curtis; and the genealogy of this line is given quite correctly.

But the book also contains more or less brief accounts of other Atkinsons early settled in West Jersey, and the Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Atkinsons as well; and in these accounts, Mr. Atkinson having evidently made little or no personal investigation into their subjects, tradition, and in at least one instance, imagination, have apparently been drawn on. (In justice to Mr. J. B. A., it should be mentioned that his sketches of the Atkinsons not of his own family, were largely made up from some notes hurriedly put together by the late Judge Clement, usually a very careful genealogist, but who, in this instance, accepted a good deal of hearsay information, not having time to properly verify the same). These accounts are biographical, not genealogical, (with one exception, noted below). Their subjects are, (the sequence below is not that of the book):

(A). James and Thomas Atkinson, from Belfast (though said to have been Scotchmen), in ship *Antelope*, 1681. They are not stated to have been brothers, but that is the inference. Both eventually settled in West Jersey, and James married the widow of Mark Newby, in 1684. J. B. A. gives a fanciful word-picture of their landing and immediately subsequent actions, and attributes to them personal characteristics he could hardly have had any means of knowing. (This is mentioned with all respect to Mr. Atkinson, and only as a necessary step in the correction of error, since it parallels a similar treatment of the progenitors of one of the Bucks County families in his book.)

(B). *Christopher* and *John Atkinson*, founders of one of the Bucks County families; this account is almost totally incorrect; it will be taken up in detail under the proper head below.

(C). Several William and Thomas Atkinsons, of West Jersey, not identified with any of the foregoing; Timothy Atkinson, who settled in Maryland; and a number of other early Atkinsons not known to be related to any of those above. None of these is treated of at any length.

(D). *Samuel Atkinson*, of Chester Township, Burlington County, West Jersey. He was son of *Thomas*, of Bucks County, Penna., though J. B. A. fails to so identify him. This is the one exception mentioned above in which some genealogy is given, (two generations); the said genealogy, as well as the speculations regarding Samuel's parentage, containing some mistakes, which will be corrected under the caption "*Samuel Atkinson*," in the Thomas Atkinson line, below.

In the book *Isaac and Rachel Collins*, (Phila. 1893), Appendix, pages 149-150, there are some radical errors in the issue of Samuel Atkinson (son of Thomas), as well as in the genealogical sketch of the Stacy family, into which he married; these will be noted below.

In the MSS. Collections of Isaac C. Martindale, in the library of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, vol. 6, the two Bucks County families are greatly confused, and some wrong dates given; these will be noted and corrected in the proper places.

THE PENNA. MAG. HIST. & BIOG., vol. XI, pp. 309-317, has *Records of the Hall Family, of Bristol, Pennsylvania*, copied from the bible originally belonging to John Hall, whose third wife, Hannah, was granddaughter of Thomas Atkinson, the minister. Notes to this record have some errors regarding both Thomas Atkinson and his son William, which will be corrected in their individual sketches; also in the related Radcliffe family, for which see Note E hereafter; and on page 315 occurs the error that Christopher Atkinson settled in Bucks County.]

PART I.

THE THOMAS ATKINSON FAMILY.

I. JOHN ATKINSON, (the father of Thomas), by the statement of his daughter-in-law,¹ was of Thrush-Cross, in Yorkshire, England. The identification of this place was somewhat difficult, but it is now known to be a township at present called Thruscross (and sometimes Thurcross), containing a small village of the same name. Samuel Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of England*, 3rd edition, (London, 1838), thus describes it:

"THURCROSS, a chapelry, in the parish of FEWSTON, Lower Division of the wapentake of CLARO, West Riding of the county of YORK, 9 miles (w. by s.) from Ripley, containing 601 inhabitants."

The 5th edition of Lewis, (London, 1845), gives the name as Thruscross,² and describes it:

"THRUSCROSS, or WEST-END, a chapelry, in the parish of FEWSTON, union of PATELEY-BRIDGE, Lower division of the wapentake of CLARO, W. riding of YORK, 10 miles (N. N. W.) from Otley; containing 576 inhabitants. The chapelry comprises the hamlets of Bramley-Head, West-End, Low-Green, Thruscross-Green, and Rockingstone-Hall, and contains about 6340 acres."

The same edition of Lewis, article "Fewston" (parish), states that the parish contains the townships of Blubberhouses, Clifton with Norwood, Fewston, Thurcross and

¹ Jane Atkinson, in her *Testimony* concerning her late husband (1687), published in *A Collection of Memorials*, etc. (Phila., 1787), page 10, and in *The Friend* (Phila., 1854), vol. XXVII, p. 172. These are mentioned more fully in the text further on.

² Though the map of Yorkshire accompanying this edition has it Thurcross, being doubtless printed from the same plates as that in the 3rd edition. Also under article "Fewston," in same edition (quoted in text below), it is spelled Thurcross.

Great Timble; that the parish church was St. Lawrence's;¹ and that there was a chapel of ease at Thurcross.

In a gazetteer of Yorkshire, by Edward Baines,² published in 1822, Thurcross is given as a township in the parish of Fewston, wapentake of Claro, and liberty of Knaresborough, 5 miles south of Pateleybridge.³

From the above it would appear that the township, the civil division of the parish, was identical with the ecclesiastical chapelry; a parish being always a civil, as well as an ecclesiastical, unit of division.⁴ This locality was all, in former times, within the Forest of Knaresborough.⁵

¹ The 3rd edition says that the parish church was St. Mary Magdalene's, so the name must have been changed between 1838 and 1845. The earlier one was probably the name in John Atkinson's time. The 3rd edition also mentions the chapel at Thurcross.

² *History, Directory and Gazetteer of the County of York*; volume 1, West Riding; by Edward Baines; Leeds, 1822. This is practically a gazetteer only, and must not be confused with the four volume history, *Yorkshire, Past and Present*, by Thomas Baines, (no date, about 1870).

³ In vol. 14, *Yorkshire Arch. & Top. Journal*, there is mention of a Thurcroft in Yorkshire, probably in Claro wapentake, which about 1750, was the seat of William Beckwith; this might be our Thurcross, or perhaps only the name of Beckwith's estate. In some of the church registers, etc., of the shire, occasionally occurs the family name of Thirscross, sometimes Thurscrosse; this family no doubt in early times owned land in the township, taking their surname from the place.

⁴ For some explanation of these names for divisions and subdivisions of English counties, see the description of Knaresborough, below. Those of Yorkshire are especially difficult of understanding to the uninitiated.

⁵ From Thomas Allen's *History of Yorkshire*, (London, 1831), vol. III, p. 396, we glean the following: The forest of Knaresborough extends from East to West, upwards of 20 miles, and in some places is 8 miles in breadth. By the general survey completed in 1086, we find there were then only 4 townships in the forest, viz., Birstwith, Fewston, Beckwith and Rosset. In 1368 there appear to have been 3 principal towns [townships] and 16 hamlets:

1. Thruscross, with its seven hamlets, Hill, Bramley, Padside, Thornthwaite, Menwith, Holme, and Darley;
2. Clint, with its five hamlets, Birstwith, Fellescliffe, Fearnhill, Hampsthwaite, and Rowden;

The village of Thruscross is about 13 miles west from the town of Knaresborough; within about 20 miles around it are the other well-known towns of Ripon, Ripley, Otley, Keighley, Skipton, Settle, Masham and Aldborough, from several of which Friends came to Pennsylvania.

While John Atkinson might have lived in any part of the township, his residence was most likely in the hamlet or village of the same name, called in one place above Thruscross-Green; for had he lived in some other part, his daughter-in-law would probably have used the name of the nearest hamlet, rather than that of the township. This place we must take to be his residence during the time (or most of it) within his daughter-in-law's knowledge, say from her marriage, 1678, till her *Testimony* was written, 1687; but from the fact that his son was born at Newby, he must have lived some time at that place; whether this residence was only temporary, or whether John Atkinson himself was born there, we have no evidence now at hand; the latter supposition seems the most plausible. However, from a date given in Besse's *Sufferings* (see below), he appears to have moved to Thruscross or its vicinity when this son was quite a young child, before 1659; and no doubt continued there till his death.

From our present scanty means of judging, he was seem-

3. Killinghall, with its four hamlets, Beckwith, Rosset, Bilton, and Harrogate.

The names of the townships of 1086 have become those of hamlets in 1368, except Fewston, which disappears; but Fewston as both township and parish appears again later. Baines's *Yorkshire Past and Present*, vol. II, p. 609, says that the Forest was formerly divided into 11 constabularies, of which Thruscross was one. In a list of assessments for 1584, we find Thurscrosse (another spelling), in "Libertat' de Knaresburge," assessed at four shillings. (J. Horsfall Turner's *Yorkshire Notes and Queries*, vol. i, p. 147, year 1888.)

Rev. Francis Hutchinson, D.D., in his *Historical Essay on Witchcraft*, (London, 1718), p. 35, mentions a prosecution in 1622, by "Edward Fairfax of Fuyston" [Fewston] "in the Forest of Knasborough, Esq." This brings us down to about John Atkinson's time.

ingly in fairly comfortable circumstances. A recent writer¹ emphasizes the point that most of the early converts to Quakerism were persons of consideration in their localities, those in the country districts belonging largely to the landholding or "squire" class; the arrangements of the meetings being "only adapted for those having their time at their own command." Our increasing knowledge of those English Quakers who came early to Pennsylvania strongly corroborates this. While in the absence of any record to such effect, the presumption is against his being a squire himself, he may have been a smaller landowner, or a yeoman a generation or two from gentle blood; though his name does not appear on any of the printed pedigrees of the gentle families of Yorkshire.²

¹ C. D. Sturge, in *Journal of Friends' Historical Society*, vol. i, p. 90, (London, 1904).

² If he were grandson, or even son, of a younger son, his name would be unlikely to so appear. The pedigrees of Yorkshire Atkinsons to be found in print are, however, very few; those known to the writer are only four: Atkinson of Skelton (Bulmer wapentake, North Riding), in Dugdale's *Visitation of Yorkshire*, 1665-66, Surtees Society's vol. 36, (1859) p. 364; Atkinson of Leeds, in Ralph Thoresby's *Ducatus Leodensis*, 1st ed. (Lond, 1715), p. 80, 2nd ed. (Leeds, 1816), p. 76; Atkinson of Little Cattall, in St. George's *Visitation of 1612*, (published by Joseph Foster, Lond. 1875), p. 489; and the family descended from Myles Atkinson, buried 1637/8, in J. Horsfall Turner's *Yorkshire County Magazine*, vol. III (1893), pp. 180-182. Little Cattall, the seat of one of these families, was in the wapentake of Claro, in which John Atkinson lived, but the pedigree ends too early for him, even if he belonged to that family. Joseph Foster's *Yorkshire Pedigrees* has the names of a number of Atkinson's intermarried with other families, though no Atkinson pedigree; from this and many other references we find that there were quite a fair number of Atkinsons among Yorkshire gentry, whose pedigrees have not been published, one of which might have included John Atkinson. There was a gentle family of Atkinsons at Hatfield-Woodhouse, in township and parish of Hatfield, wapentake of Strafforth & Tickhill, whose heads were, about 1700, Richard, Sr., and his son Robert; no pedigree of this is known. In the same wapentake was Wentworth-Woodhouse, the seat of Sir William Wentworth, and his son the celebrated Sir Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford; Sir William's wife was Anne Atkinson, but she was not of a Yorkshire family, being daughter of Robert Atkinson of Stowell, Co. Gloucester.

John Atkinson was among the earliest converts to the Society of Friends in Yorkshire; his daughter-in-law¹ calls him "an honest Friend." The following extract from Besse's *Sufferings of Friends*, is presumed to refer to him, though there were other Friends of the same name in the vicinity:

Vol. II, p. 97, Year 1659. "In the same Month of November, John Atkinson, of Finston, was summoned to appear at a Manour-Court, at the Suit of Several Impropiators, for Tithe: Accordingly he appeared personally, yet his Appearance was not accepted, but he was fined, and had his Goods taken away to the Value of 4 l. About the same time, Agnes Atkinson, as she was passing about her Business through a Grave-yard, was met by a Priest, who without Regard either to Law or Equity, under Pretence of Tithes due to him took from her six Yards of Cloth by Force, and kept it."

Agnes may have been John's wife, of whose name we have no other record. The name Finston is probably a slip of the pen (or type) for Fewston (spelled *Fuiston*; compare *Fuyston* above); no such place as Finston having been found. Besse, in volume II, chapter on Yorkshire, mentions a number of Atkinsons, among them a John several times, but it is doubtful if any of these were our subject or his relatives.²

¹ In her *Testimony*; see previous footnote.

² Page 101. Among the names of 229 persons imprisoned in the West Riding in 11th and 12th months, 1660, for refusing to take oaths, were those of Edward, George, John and Robert Atkinson. Page 110. Among 20 committed to York Castle in 1664, was Edward Atkinson; these were taken from a meeting at Thomas Taylor's in Sedbergh. In the same year, among those fined for not contributing to the charges of the county militia, were: John Atkinson, 6 s., and Edward Atkinson, of Bradley, £2. In 1665, Robert Atkinson suffered distress of tithes, £10. Page 120. In the year 1668, Edward Atkinson of Sedbergh, had goods worth about £1, 1 s. taken for "steeple-house-rates." The places mentioned, though all in the West Riding, were a considerable distance apart, so even those of the same name may not have been the same persons. Sedbergh is 40 miles northwest from Thruscross; Bradley (or Bradleys Both) is 12 miles southwest from Thruscross.

Some years later, when the persecutions died down and meetings were regularly established, John Atkinson belonged to the Knaresborough Monthly Meeting. The meeting house was in the town of that name, which Lewis (3rd ed.) describes:

"KNARESBOROUGH, a borough, market-town, and parish, partly within the liberty of St. PETER's, East Riding, and partly in the Lower Division of the wapentake of CLARO, West Riding." Allen's *History of Yorkshire* says: "The parish and borough town of KNARESBOROUGH is situate in the liberties of St. Peter, York and Knaresborough." Baines's gazetteer says the town is in the parish of Knaresborough, wapentake of Claro, and liberty of Knaresborough and St. Peter's in the West Riding. The town which is 18 miles west from the city of York, is situated on the north-east bank of the river Nidd. Knaresborough Forest (mentioned above as including Thruscross), is to the southwest, across the river.

A word as to Yorkshire topography, (to use the English term), may not be amiss, as well as some explanation of the designations of its subdivisions. In England the counties are divided primarily into *hundreds*; in the northern counties, once occupied by the Danes, their term *wapentake* (originally a division for military purposes) survives, and is used instead of *hundred*. Yorkshire, the largest county in England, has first three grand divisions called *ridings* (North Riding, East Riding and West Riding), which in turn are divided into wapentakes. The latter are then subdivided into *parishes*, originally ecclesiastical divisions, but soon falling into place in the civil scheme; parishes however, probably on account of this origin, did not always fall within hundred bounds, some overlapping from one hundred into another. Large wapentakes were sometimes split into divisions, (as that of Claro mentioned above, into the Upper and Lower Divisions); this did not interfere with the parishes, each division containing certain parishes. The parishes were composed of groups of *townships*, which consisted of a small town or village with the surrounding land, including other smaller villages or hamlets contained therein.¹ Besides this com-

¹ In Pennsylvania and other American States, the *township* is the primary subdivision of the county, with well defined boundaries, and not dependent for its existence on the villages within it, being in fact identical with the English *hundred*. In some states, for instance

paratively simple system of division, there were others more complicated. *Liberties* are tracts of land either excluded from parishes or superimposed upon them, and whose limits were frequently uncertain;¹ they are districts "within which certain privileges are granted, or whose inhabitants have special rights or immunities;" each liberty had its special court, and in this was independent of the parish government, which came under the manor court. The *unions*, (Lewis's 5th edition mentions Thruscross as in the "union of Pateleybridge"), are amalgamations of parishes for administrative purposes; they were formed early in the 19th century, long after John Atkinson's time.

Some facts concerning Knaresborough may serve to elucidate the above explanations, as well as to present something of its history: The name Knaresborough has covered a (1) manor, (2) honour, (3) castle, (4) forest, (5) parish, (6) liberty, and (7) borough-town. (An *honour* is composed of several manors, or a principal manor exercising jurisdiction over subordinate manors, the honour-court supplanting the several manor-courts. Wills were formerly filed in the honour-courts. The *Yorkshire Archaeological & Topographical Journal*, vol. 10, p. 444, states that the wills in the Honour Court of Knaresborough, from 1640 to 1858, have been transferred to the Wakefield District of Her Majesty's Court of Probate). From Allen's *History* (vol. III, p. 395 et seq.) and

Delaware, the counties are divided into *hundreds* as in England, and the term *township* not used. In this country we have nothing to correspond with the English township idea. *Parishes* have no status in the civil scheme here; where they exist they are the private limits of jurisdiction of the several churches. But in some states, formerly French territory, as Louisiana, *parishes* take the place of *counties*.

¹ See Lewis's description of Knaresborough, above, which was partly in the liberty of St. Peter's, East Riding, and partly in the wapentake of Claro, West Riding; and compare Allen, who places the town in three separate liberties, those of St. Peter, York and Knaresborough. Pepys's Diary (April 7, 1669), mentions a case at law as to "whether the Temple be within the liberty of the City or no" (London); inferring uncertainty as to limits.

The term *liberty* is familiar to students of early Philadelphia local history, as applied to lands ("the liberty lands" or "liberties of Philadelphia") laid out immediately surrounding the city proper, but not included in it, nor in the townships composing the rest of the county. The liberties in Yorkshire were somewhat, but not altogether the same, for we have not only the liberty of Knaresborough, a town, and that of York, a city, but the liberty of St. Peter's, a church, and the "Forest liberty."

other sources we learn that at the period of the Conquest Knaresborough was a complete Saxon manor, viz., one township presiding over 10 others; it comprised the town of that name and ten surrounding villages, and was a crown demesne. It was given to Serlo de Burgh, Baron of Tonsburgh (in Normandy), who was succeeded by his brother John, whose son lost it; after which the lordship changed hands many times. Serlo built the castle, which was the residence of the lords of the manor. The manor remained in existence until the Civil War, during which the castle was rendered untenable by order of the Parliament in 1648.

The honour of Knaresborough comprised the borough, the Forest (in which Thruscross was situated) and the Forest liberty. About the time of King John the Forest belonged to the De Sturteville family; (it was then technically not a "forest," but a "chase;" a "forest" must belong to king or sovereign alone; if it fall into the hands of a subject it becomes a "chase.")¹

The date of John Atkinson's death is not known. He had at least two children:—

2. THOMAS ATKINSON, b. d. 8. 31. 1687.
Founder of the Bucks County family.
3. JOHN ATKINSON, b. d. 3. 2. 1688.

Went to Pennsylvania with his brother Thomas, who left him by will 100 acres of land in Bristol township, Bucks County, but as John died without issue (and apparently unmarried) within a year thereafter, the land reverted to Thomas's children. John's death is on the Middletown Monthly Meeting register.

2. THOMAS ATKINSON, son of John Atkinson, was born at Newby, in Yorkshire, before 1660. In 1838 there were five townships called "Newby" in Yorkshire,² (not counting one called "Newby-Wisk," in the North Riding), which all seem to have borne the name from a much earlier period. Three of these, being in the North Riding, may be left out of consideration. The other two are in the West Riding:

(a). Newby, a joint township with Clapham, in parish of

¹ See also description of the manor and forest of Knaresborough in 1608, vol. I, p. 233, *Yorkshire Notes & Queries*, J. Horsfall Turner, 1888.

² See Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary*, 3rd edition.

Clapham, Western Division of the wapentake of Staincliffe & Eweross, $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles (N. W.) from Settle. This Newby-cum-Clapham was $28\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. by N. from Thruscross and over 40 miles from Knaresborough. It is unlikely that this was the one in which Thomas Atkinson was born.

(b). Newby, a joint township with Mulwith, in that part of the parish of Ripon which is in the liberty of Ripon, Lower Division of the wapentake of Claro; on the river Ure; $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles (S. E.) from Ripon. This one was 14 miles E.N.E. from Thruscross and about $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles N. from Knaresborough. Being thus the nearest to both these places, it was almost certainly that one mentioned as Thomas Atkinson's birthplace. It was besides the best known, and was generally called simply "Newby."¹

Thomas Atkinson must have removed with his parents from Newby to Thruscross when quite a child; by the time of his marriage (1678) he had moved again to Sandwick or Sandwith, in Addingham parish, and was there in 1679, the last we hear of him till his coming to America.² This place has not been identified; it was doubtless the name of a hamlet, not of the importance of a township. Lewis (3rd ed., 1838), says of the parish, (the name of the church in parenthesis):

"ADDINGHAM (*St. Peter*), a parish, partly in the

¹ It was not from any large population that it was better known, for Lewis in 1838 speaks of it as "containing with Mulwith, 39 inhabitants," while Allen, seven years earlier, says: "*Newby with Mulwith* has fifty-two inhabitants;" (perhaps there were still more earlier, in Thomas Atkinson's time). But its principal claim to notice was that it contained Newby Hall, built by Sir Edward Blacket, about 1705, long after Thomas Atkinson had left there. For description and engraving of Newby Hall (in 1831, then the seat of Lord Grantham), see Allen, vol. III, p. 376.

² A note to *Records of the Hall Family, of Bristol, Pennsylvania*, PENNA. MAG. HIST. AND BIOG., XI, 316, speaks of "Thomas Atkinson of Newby, County York, England;" as we have seen, he was born there, but had moved away long before going to Pennsylvania. I have repeated this inaccuracy in a footnote to *Richard Hough, Provincial Councillor*, *ibid.* XVIII, 33, stating, even more inaccurately, that he came "to Pennsylvania from Newby." O. H.

Eastern Division of the wapentake of STAINCLIFFE and EW. CROSS, and partly in the Upper Division of the wapentake of CLARO, West Riding of the County of YORK, containing 2251 inhabitants," . . . "6 miles (E. by S.) from Skipton." Lewis mentions a place of worship of the Society of Friends in the vicinity, but does not name it; no doubt Beamsley Meeting House, in the township of the same name, which possibly also included Sandwich or Sandwith, as Thomas Atkinson attended Beamsley Meeting. Lewis (3rd ed) has:

"BEAMSLEY, a township, partly in that portion of the parish of ADDINGHAM, but chiefly in that portion of the parish of SKIPTON, which are in the Upper Division of the wapentake of CLARO, West Riding of the county of YORK, 6½ miles (E. by N.) from Skipton."

Thomas Atkinson joined the Society of Friends when quite young, probably at the same time as his father, and was an accepted minister of that body before his marriage in 1678, at what must have still been an early age.¹ Of the details of his ministry we have no record.² Sandwich or Sandwith (whatever or wherever it exactly was,) was within the compass of Knaresborough Monthly Meeting, in whose register the entries of Thomas Atkinson's marriage, etc., were made.

In 1681, Thomas Atkinson obtained a certificate from Beamsley Meeting³ for himself and family, and they

¹ Most of the personal data here and later are from Jane Atkinson's *Testimony*; see previous footnote.

² Although the gospel labors and sufferings of a Thomas Atkinson are mentioned a number of times in Friends' writings, all so far published appear to relate to a contemporary, but much older man, Thomas Atkinson, of Lancashire, also presumably a minister. See Note A.

³ Jane's *Testimony* says the Monthly Meeting, but *The Friend* sketch of Jane herself says Beamsley, which as stated above, was the particular meeting to which Thomas Atkinson belonged, and one of those constituting Knaresborough Monthly Meeting. At this time Friends sometimes obtained certificates from their particular meetings, or meetings for worship; the practice later was for the monthly meeting only to issue them.

removed to West Jersey, in America, persumably on the "Yorkshire purchase" on the upper side of Burlington. Their stay here was only temporary, for in 1682 they were living in Bucks County, in the Province of Pennsylvania, where Thomas bought a plantation in what was afterwards Bristol township.¹

In the formation of social lines in this new settlement, the Atkinsons naturally gravitated into that class of families which took the lead in the social and political life of the county, and,—most of these being Friends,—in meeting affairs also; this is a strong indication that they were of no mean extraction abroad, for many of these families had solid claims to gentle lineage in England. That his position as a minister of the Society of Friends would have given his family this standing without other qualification, can hardly hold here, for no mention of him as a minister appears on the meeting minutes, and it is likely that ill-health prevented any activity in the ministry, after his arrival in America; and besides there are sufficient instances of persons of obscure origin becoming very worthy in the ministry, but receiving no social recognition. Nor was it wealth that gave Thomas Atkinson a high place among his fellows, for his worldly fortunes were not prosperous, partly because of his poor health after coming here, and partly owing to his temperament being more that of the religious enthusiast than of the business man. He was, indeed, a considerable landowner, but the inventory of his estate² shows that he had been unable to pay for all of it before his death; and at the Falls monthly meeting of 5 mo. 4, 1683,

¹ A note to *Records of the Hall Family*, PENNA. MAG., XI, 316, states that he settled in Northampton township; it is true he bought land in that township also, but the land on which he resided was in Bristol township. I have copied this error, in footnote to "Richard Hough," PENNA. MAG., XVIII, 33, O. H. The account of Thomas Atkinson's residences, location of his lands, list of children, etc., on the 54th page (front and back), vol. 6, of Martindale's MSS (at Hist. Soc. of Pa.) is so totally erroneous, that it is useless to mention errors in detail.

² Filed with his will, see below.

"William Biles reported that Thomas Atkinson of Nesha-mine¹ is in want as to his outward concerns, and he and some others hath took his condition into their consideration and have bought him a cow and a calf—the price is five pounds and do desire this meetings assistance toward the payment of the said cow and calf;" on 8 mo. 3 some subscriptions for this purpose were reported.² Again, shortly before his death, Thomas Atkinson himself told the same meeting, 7 mo. 27, 1687 that he and his family were very weak, and could thresh no corn, nor had any hay for his cattle, and desired some assistance from Friends.

Thomas Atkinson bought, presumably from the Proprietary and soon after his arrival, three hundred acres of land, but as no patent, warrant nor deed for the same has been found the date and seller's name are not known. This was laid out in what became Bristol township, and was the plantation on which he resided. It is shown on Holme's map in Atkinson's name, but without exact boundary lines. In his will, he left 100 acres of this to his brother, John Atkinson, to revert to Thomas's sons, if John died without issue, which is what happened; and the balance of the tract to his wife, Jane, for life, and then to his three sons, Isaac, William and Samuel Atkinson.

At the Falls monthly meeting 9 mo. 8, 1693, "Jane the wife of William Biles proposed the sale of the Plantation she formerly lived upon . . . and upon a due consideration of the matter it was by this meeting thought most profitable for the children of Thomas Atkinson that it be sold for a valuable consideration and the money its sold for be secured at interest to be paid them with the profits arising by the said interest as they come of age."

¹ The region in early times called Neshamina, on both sides of the creek of that name, (now spelled Neshaminy), included lands afterwards erected into Middletown township, and parts of the adjoining townships of Bristol, Bensalem and Northampton.

² This and other quotations from and references to the various meeting minutes, are from the minute books in possession of the clerks or other custodians of the Society of Friends. The Falls minute books are at the Friends' Library, (Orthodox), 142 No. 16th St. (16th & Race), Philadelphia; they are, men's minutes, books A to E, 1683-1827; women's, three books, 1682/3-1852; some of these are copies, the originals being in the Newtown bank. The Middletown minute books are kept in the meeting house at Langhorne.

At a County Court held 1 mo. 18, 1695/6: "Adress being made to this Court by Phinehas Pemberton on behalf and at the request of Jane formerly the wife of Thomas Atkinson but now wife of William Biles requesting the approbation of this Court for the disposing of 300 Acre of land given to her by her husband Thomas Atkinson by will during her natural life and after her decease to his three sons Isaac, William, and Samuel. William Biles declared he quit his claim and interest in right of his wife."¹

In pursuance of the above William and Jane Biles made a deed² to George Biles (son of William) 4 mo. 10, 1696, for this 300 acres, "in New Bristol township, taken up by Thomas Atkinson, but never paid for by him." On the same day William Biles gave his bond, to Phineas Pemberton and Richard Hough in trust to secure the money to the children, and the deed was acknowledged before the court.³ As these sons came of age they executed releases for this land, Isaac's being 4 mo. 11, 1700, William's 4 mo. 9, 1702, and Samuel's March 9, 1707/8;⁴ Isaac's and William's were to George Biles, and Samuel's to William Paxson; (G. Biles had sold to Solomon Warder, and Wil-loughby Warder to William Biles, Sr., who sold to Paxson.)

At the session of the Board of Property, 12 mo. 23, 1701, ⁵ George Biles produced this deed of 4 mo. 10, 1696, for 300 acres of land in "New Bristol township, Bucks County," bounded west by John Rowland, north by William Dungan, east by Randal Blackshaw, and south by Charles Brigham, sold by William Biles and wife Jane, relict of Thomas Atkinson; also Isaac Atkinson's release; and requested a re-survey to make title to Solomon Warder to whom he had sold it. The board ordered him a warrant, and a patent to be issued on the return, Biles paying for "overplus," and the alienation from the Proprietary being further inspected.

Thomas Atkinson, in his will, empowered his executrix to sell "that one hundred ackers of land wch I bought of Joseph English." As no deed to Atkinson, nor from his executrix, has been found for this, it is impossible to exactly locate it.

He also bought from the Proprietary a tract in Northampton town-ship, laid out for 500 acres. The date of this purchase is unknown, as the patent has not been found on record, but the deed for its sale says

¹ From Court docket in Quarter Sessions Office, Doylestown.

² Bucks County Deed Book 2, p. 81.

³ Court Docket and Deed Book 2, p. 82.

⁴ Bucks County Deed Book 3, pages 20, 104 and 404 respectively. Samuel's was not dated, but was acknowledged on the date given above.

⁵ Minute Book G, Board of Property; Penna. Arch., 2 ser., XIX, 277.

the warrant was dated 6 mo. 25, 1684, and that it was laid out by the Surveyor General's order, 8 mo. 20, 1684. It is shown on Holme's Map in Atkinson's name, triangular in shape, bounded southwest by Job Howell's and Arthur Cook's land, northwest by a tract unnamed, and east by a road.

Davis says, (1st ed., p. 355): "Thomas Atkinson owned five hundred acres north of the road leading from Addisville to Newtown, reaching six hundred perches northeast of that village" [i. e. Addisville]. "Adjoining this tract on the north was John Holme, seven hundred acres, which he conveyed to Jeremiah Dungan in 1716."

He sold it to Joseph Kirkbride by deed¹ of 8 mo. 12, 1687, which was acknowledged in the County Court 10 mo. 4, by Robert Dove, attorney for Thomas Atkinson, (who was then deceased).

In a list called "Old Rights" among the papers in the Land Office of Pennsylvania,² occur the following:

18. Thomas Atkinson, warrant for 500 acres, dated 5. 26. 1684.

19. " " " " 40 " " 8. 28. 1684.

The first is no doubt for the Northampton tract, the figures here for month and day being only a transposition of those in the deed (5. 26—6. 25). The second may be for some allowance, but just what or where is uncertain, as he is not known to have had any tract that size.

In Bucks County Thomas Atkinson joined Neshamina (afterwards Middletown³) Monthly Meeting, on the minutes of which body his name first appears at the meeting held at Nicholas Waln's 7 mo. 2, 1684, when he and Nicholas Waln were appointed to attend the Yearly Meeting. He was appointed on committees of Neshamina Mo. Mtg. on 5 mo. 4, 8 mo. 1, and 11 mo. 7, 1685, and 1 mo. 4, 1686 [1685/6] after which he transferred his attendance to Falls, and was on committees of that meeting 12 mo. 2, 1686 [Feb. 1687, N. S.] and 4 mo. 7, 1687. At this time Friends sometimes transferred this way without certificates when the meetings were about equally near their homes, though the meeting losing the member generally protested.

¹ Bucks County Deed Book 1, p. 132; recorded 10 mo. 15, 1687.

² Penna. Arch., 3 ser., III, 54.

³ Neshamina Monthly Meeting was first called Middletown on the minutes of 3 mo. 2, 1700. Ezra Michener, in his *Retrospect of Early Quakerism*, (Phila., 1860), p. 77, says it was first so called in 1706, evidently a slip of the pen or misreading of the manuscript.

He was a member of the Grand Jury on 4 mo. 1, 1685, but held no public office. We have no specimen of his signature; his will and the deed to Kirkbride, of 8 mo. 12, 1687, were signed with his first initial only, T, he being then very ill.

Thomas Atkinson died 8 mo. 31st, 1687,¹ at his residence in Bristol township, and was most likely buried on his own plantation, though possibly in the ground on Slate Pit Hill belonging to Falls Mtg.; Middletown Meeting had no burial ground so early. The Philadelphia Yearly Meeting published a memorial of him, consisting of his wife's testimony concerning him, in a book entitled *A Collection of Memorials concerning Divers deceased Ministers and others*, etc. (Phila. 1787), page 10:

Jane Atkinson's *Testimony concerning her late husband* THOMAS ATKINSON.

He was born at Newby in the County of York, being the son of John Atkinson, of Thrush-Cross, was convinced of the truth and had received a gift of the ministry before I knew him. We were joined in marriage in the year 1678, and lived together in love and unity. He was a zealous man for the truth, and according to the gift which he had received, bore a faithful testimony unto it, of which many were witnesses in that country from whence we came. In 1682 we came into this country, with one consent, and in the unity of our dear friends and brethren, who gave a good testimony for us, by a certificate from their monthly meeting; and my soul hath good cause to bless the Lord, and to prize his mercies, whose presence was with us by sea and land. Since we came into this part of the world, he retained his love and zeal for God and his truth, his treasure not being in this world, and as it often opened in

¹ So stated in Jane's *Testimony*, and in the probate of his will and in the inventory; Middletown Mo. Mtg. register has 9 mo. 1, but the meeting records have in other places been found a day late. The note to *Records of the Hall Family*, quoted above, PENNA. MAG., XI, 316, has October 1689, the last figure of the year being a typographical error.

his heart, did exhort others to stand loose from things which are here below, and diligently seek after those things that are above. He was a tender husband, ready to encourage and strengthen me in that which is good. About the latter end of the fifth month 1687, he was taken with the ague and fever, which much weakened his body, in which he continued a considerable time; being well content with the dealings of the Lord: His heart was often opened in prayer and supplication unto his God, to preserve him in patience unto the end of his days, and that none of us might think hard of any of those exercises that he is pleased to try us withal. At times he would look upon me and say, *my dear wife, the Lord preserve thee and take care of thee, for I must leave thee and go to my rest;* with many more sweet and heavenly expressions and exhortations, in the time of his great weakness, which continued until the 31st of the eighth month, when he once more exhorted me to be content, and that I would desire his brother (who was then absent) to be content also; After which he passed away as one falling into a quiet sleep. And as the Lord hath hitherto been my strength and my stay in the time of my great distress, so the desire of my heart is, that I, with my brethren and sisters, who yet remain behind, may also finish our course in faithfulness, that in the end we may receive the same reward with the righteous that are gone before.

JANE ATKINSON."

An account of him prepared by Nathan Kite, in *The Friend*, vol. XXVII, p. 172, (Phila. 1854), includes the above *Testimony*, worded slightly differently in some parts, making it a little longer, but substantially the same; one additional particular being an account of her own illness before her husband's, (contained more fully in memorial of her to be given below). It is in this version that Jane speaks of her father-in-law, John Atkinson, as "an honest friend." There is an introductory paragraph which speaks of their being in

New Jersey in 1681, while Jane says they came to this country in 1682, though she may have meant Pennsylvania only.

In his will¹, dated 8 mo. 10, 1687, proved 3 mo. 21, 1688, Thomas Atkinson appointed his wife, Jane, executrix, and for the better payment of his debts empowered her to sell the 100 acres that he had bought of Joseph English. To his brother, John Atkinson, he left 100 acres of that "tract on which I now dwell," the same to return to Thomas's children, if John died without issue, (which he did). To his wife, Jane, he left the remainder of his real and personal estate during her life, and afterwards the remaining part of his home plantation (100 acres of which was given to brother John) to his three sons Isaac, William and Samuel. The inventory, dated 12 mo. 11, 1687, mentions the 100 acres which Jane was to sell, and among the debts in Jane's account, dated 2 mo. 10, 1689, are £12 owing to the Governor for land, and £14, 14s. 11d. to Joseph English; the inventory and account are filed with the will.

Thomas Atkinson married 4 mo. 4, 1678 (O. S.) under care of Knaresborough Monthly Meeting, in Yorkshire, Jane Bond². Neither her parentage nor previous residence are known to the writer.

Jean Atkinson

That she was unusually well educated for a woman of her time is proved by some writings she has left, such as her *Testimony* concerning her husband, as well as the cultivated style of her signature.³ She was

¹ Bucks County Will Book A1, p. 50; registered 5 mo. 5, 1688.

² The meeting register is somewhat illegible at this point; some copyists have rendered this name *Boid*, and one *Bord*, but as these names are unknown in the locality, while that of *Bond* occurs frequently, the preference is for the latter. Miles White, Jr., in *William Biles*, PENNA. MAG., XXVI., 353 n, has *Boid*. The marriage record gives Thomas's residence as *Sandwich*, while that of the birth of his son Isaac, has it *Sandwith*.

³ The signature herewith produced is from her bond as executrix, filed with her husband's will.

a minister of the Society of Friends, and "is said to have had an eminent public testimony."¹ On coming to Bucks County, she first attended Neshamina (Middletown) Monthly Meeting; on 10 mo. 3, 1684, she and Mary Hayhurst were appointed to inquire into the "clearness" of Joan Comly, whose marriage was proposed with Joseph English; she served on a similar committee 12 mo. 3, 1685. After that she attended Falls Monthly Meeting and was on committees there 6 mo. 4, and 8 mo. 6, 1686, 5 mo. 6, and 10 mo. 7, 1687, (and numerous others after her second marriage). She attended Middletown Monthly Meeting again, but not as a member, 11 mo. 5, 1687, and offered to accept the meeting's order in settlement of a difference that had been pending between her husband, lately deceased, and Thomas Stackhouse, Jr.; the meeting ordered her to pay Stackhouse 30 shillings. Falls made her a representative to the Yearly Meeting 7 mo. 1, 1686 and 6 mo. 15, 1688.

"In 1687 she was taken very ill, and both she and her husband thought she would die. After a time he told her he believed she would be raised up again and that he should be taken instead. This proved to be true, for that very day he became unwell, and, after lingering for eight or nine weeks, died; while she, by whom much labor in the militant church was yet to be performed, grew stronger and stronger." (White's *William Biles*, condensed from *The Friend's* account of her.)

Thomas and Jane Atkinson had issue:

4. ISAAC ATKINSON, b. 1.2. 1678/9, d. 11.3. 1720/1. Mar. 4.23. 1708, Sarah Hough.
5. WILLIAM ATKINSON, b. —. —. 1681, d. 8.29. 1749. Mar. 1st, 2.6. 1704, Mary Hough. 2nd, 4.5. 1722, Margaret Baker.
6. SAMUEL ATKINSON, b. 5.17. 1685 O. S., d. 2.21. 1775, N. S. Mar. 7. 12. 1714, Ruth (Stacy) Beakes.

Jane Atkinson, widow of Thomas, married, second, 10

¹ White's *William Biles*, PENNA. MAG., XXVI, 353.

mo. 11, 1688, William Biles, of Falls township; 'they were married at the latter's house. They had no issue.

William Biles was one of the most noted men in the Province of Pennsylvania, a minister of the Society of Friends, and a large landowner in Bucks County. He was a Provincial Councillor, and many years a member of the Assembly, and a Justice of the Bucks County Court. For an extended sketch of his life, see *William Biles*, by Miles White, Jr., PENNA. MAG. HIST. & BIOG., vol. XXVI, pp. 58-70, 192-206, 348-359. His children, by his first wife, intermarried with the Beakes, Langhorne, Hughes, Blackshaw, Yardley and Janney families, all prominent in Bucks County, and the distinguished Lambert family of New Jersey, and with their connections, constituted a large part of the old Colonial office-holding aristocracy of the county.

After her second marriage, Jane moved, with her children, to her new husband's plantation in Falls township, more directly within the compass of Falls Mo. Mtg., and continued her activity in the affairs of that body.

An account of her life is given in *The Friend*, vol. XXVIII (Phila. 1855), pp. 93, 102. By it she appears to have been an acknowledged minister before they removed to New Jersey (which this account says was in 1682), and it tells some of the particulars given above and below. When she married William Biles, "in her he had a faithful helpmeet, and one well calculated to assist him in his journey heavenward." (White's *William Biles*.) At this time she began to travel in the ministry of the Gospel, and her husband generally accompanied her. In 1st mo., 1689, with the unity of Falls Monthly Meeting and the approbation of the General Meeting of Ministers, she visited Friends in East Jersey and on Long Island.

"When George Keith began his quarrel with Friends in Philadelphia, he worked insidiously amongst country Friends, who had not an opportunity of immediately testing

¹ Register of Middletown Mo. Mtg.

the truth of his assertions, and in some instances got up a prejudice against the friends of truth and sound doctrine in those who were themselves sound in the faith." "So it was with Jane Biles. She thought for a short time that George Keith was a sound Friend and an injured man." "She was not long suffered to remain in that delusion. She took to the Select Yearly Meeting, held in the First month, 1693, a testimony against George Keith, which 'was read and approved.'" (*The Friend.*)

On 5 mo. 1st, 1696, she and her husband proposed to Falls Monthly Meeting to visit Friends in New England; they were granted a certificate and visited those Friends to their satisfaction. William and Jane Biles were appointed on a committee, 9 mo. 3, 1697, to draw up a Testimony "concerning Thomas Janney's labors and service amongst us in the Truth."

At a General Meeting of Ministers in 10 mo. 1699, Jane Biles laid before it a concern that had long rested on her mind to pay a religious visit to England. William Biles opposed her going she being "but weakly in body," but in 7 mo. 1700 the meeting gave its consent, not considering his opposition an obstacle.¹ On 11 mo. 5, 1700 she proposed the same to Falls Monthly Meeting, her husband consenting and offering to go with her; Falls issued certificates for both 1 mo. 5, 1701 [1700/1]. They sailed early in 1701 and went to both England and Ireland. "They returned towards the close of 1702, having been absent from America something under two years. In giving an account of their labors to their Friends at home, they expressed the satisfaction they had had in the performance of their duty in England and Ireland."

"Jane appears to have been strengthened in her bodily health, so as to perform the service assigned her abroad, and after her return, we have evidence that she was for several years able to attend to her religious duties. She frequented

¹ See also White's *William Biles*, p. 353.

her own Yearly Meeting, and we find her at the Yearly Meetings for worship, which were held at divers places. Her concern for the promotion of the cause of Truth, led her to open in the Select Yearly Meeting, in First Month, 1706, the case of a venerable Friend who had gone to a marriage consummated at the house of one who had separated from Friends." After hearing the Friend himself in reply to Jane's charge, the meeting decided that he "was condemned therein, and that he was mistaken in the motion that led him thereto."

"The last service I find Jane Biles engaged in, was in the year 1706, but doubtless she continued faithfully labouring as long as strength and health were afforded." (*The Friend.*)

The minutes of Falls Monthly Meeting of 11 mo. 4, 1709 record: "Our dear friend Jane Biles is deceased." She was buried 10 mo. 21, 1709. William Biles died in 1710, and was buried 3 mo. 19.

(To be continued.)

ATKINSON FAMILIES OF BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

BY OLIVER HOUGH.

(Continued from page 237.)

[*Addenda relating to 4. Isaac Atkinson.* On 11 mo. 24, 1712, [Jan., 1713, N. S.) Isaac Atkinson, of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, purchased 160 acres in Nottingham Township, Burlington County, West Jersey, from John Rogers, of that place, (W. J. Deeds, liber P, folio 100). This was about a month before he requested a certificate of removal from Falls Mo. Mtg. to Chesterfield Mo. Mtg. and confirms the supposition advanced on page 223 that he lived near what is now Trenton, for its site was within that township. This Nottingham Township was afterwards subdivided, none of the resulting parts retaining the name; its original area is now all within Mercer County. On April 16, 1715, Isaac Atkinson, being then of Nottingham Township, re-sold this 160 acres to John Rogers, (W. J. Deeds, liber N, folio 301). Their return to Bucks County must have been between this date and October of the same year, when Sarah presented her certificate to Falls Mo. Mtg.

Corrections to page 237. Footnotes 2 and 3 are there transposed; the dates of the deaths of William and Margaret's children, Rachel, Isaac and Thomas, should be referred to Falls Mo. Mtg. register, and Rebecca's to Martindale's MSS; not *vice versa* as it there appears.

On same page line 14, for 1725.]

6. SAMUEL ATKINSON, born July 17, 1685,¹ in Bristol Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, died Feb. 21, 1775,² in Chester Township, Burlington County, New Jersey, youngest son of Thomas and Jane Atkinson.³ He was born on his father's plantation and lived there till about three years old, spending the rest of his minority on one or

¹ Middletown Mo. Mtg. register.

² Obituary notice in *Pennsylvania Gazette*.

³ For much information concerning Samuel Atkinson and his descendants, and references for original sources of the same, I take this opportunity of acknowledging my indebtedness to Miss Helen Kirkbride Morton, of Philadelphia, and Dr. W. S. Long, of Haddonfield, N. J.

other of the plantations of his step-father, William Biles, in Falls Township, first that on the Delaware River and then that which William Penn complained encroached on his Manor of Pennsbury. After coming of age he continued in the same township until his removal to West Jersey, in 1714, in which year he is still spoken of as "of Falls Township," and he no doubt lived with some of his Biles relatives on the same land, as he had none of his own in Bucks County. On 6 mo. 4, 1714, he requested a certificate of removal from Falls Monthly Meeting, and the next day declared his intentions of marriage with Ruth Beakes at Chesterfield Monthly Meeting in West Jersey, to which she belonged. He may have stayed temporarily with his brother Isaac, then living in Nottingham Township, near Ruth's home, but after their marriage the following month, he took up his abode on his wife's property in Nottingham Township, she being a lady of large landed estate.

On 9 mo. 5, 1719, Samuel Atkinson having already removed with his family within the bounds of "New Town" (Newton) Meeting, requested a certificate from Chesterfield Monthly Meeting, which was issued 10 mo. 3. Newton Meeting a constituent of Gloucester Mo. Mtg. (now Haddonfield Mo. Mtg.) was held at Newton in Gloucester County, but included within its compass Chester Township, Burlington County, and it was in the latter township that Samuel Atkinson had located. He presented his certificate to Newton Mo. Mtg. 1 mo. 14, 1719/20.

He had purchased land in (as well as removed to) Chester Township before applying to Chesterfield for the certificate, as will be seen in the account below. (Chesterfield and Chester should not be confused; the two townships were on opposite sides of Burlington County, and there was a Friends meeting in each, the former being also a monthly meeting. Samuel never lived in *Chesterfield* Township, but in *Nottingham* Township, within the compass of *Chesterfield* Monthly Meeting, and from *Nottingham* Township removed to *Chester* Township, within the compass of *Newton* or

Gloucester Monthly Meeting.) The following accounts of Samuel Atkinson's lands are restricted to those in his own right, and such of his wife's as they had made their home; to include all of hers it would be necessary to give a history of the great landed property of her father, Mahlon Stacy, one of the principal proprietors of the Province of West Jersey, and her brother, Mahlon Stacy, Jr.

In 1707/8 he released¹ to William Paxson, all his interest in his father's land which his mother had sold to George Biles, and Paxson afterwards purchased.

By deed² of March 13, 1718/9, Samuel Atkinson and Ruth his wife, released to William Trent, of Philadelphia, two tracts in Nottingham Township; one of 100 acres, which William Emley by will April 21, 1704 (it then adjoining Mahlon Stacy's land) gave his daughter Mary wife of John Heywood, who sold Nov. 26 & 27, 1707, to William Beakes, who by will March 24, 1710, devised it to his son Edmund Beakes (it being the plantation William Beakes then dwelt on), who sold it Nov. 2 & 3, 1713 to his step-mother, Ruth Beakes (afterwards Samuel Atkinson's wife); the other also of 100 acres adjoining the north side of the above plantation, originally belonging to Mahlon Stacy, Senior, who on Jan. 28 & 29, 1677 conveyed to Thomas Lambert, Senior, 1/12 part of 1/100 part of West Jersey, whose son and heir Thomas Lambert on July 19 & 20, 1714, confirmed the 100 acres to the same Ruth Beakes, (now Atkinson). These adjoining lands forming one plantation were the residence of Samuel and Ruth until their removal to Chester Township.

On Sept. 20, 1719, Samuel Atkinson, "late of Nottingham Township," bought of Thomas Adams, of Chester Township, 238 acres in the latter township (Adams' late dwelling place), also a meadow of 12 acres in Evesham Township, adjoining Thomas Hooten's dwelling.³ (Evesham and Chester then adjoined, the modern township of Mt. Laurel, which now separates them, having been laid off from the former

¹ Bucks Co. Deed Book 3, p. 404; deed not fully dated; it was acknowledged March 9, 1707, [1707/8].

² West Jersey Deeds, liber DD, folio 379. Samuel and Ruth's residence is given as Burlington County, no township stated. William Trent was the founder of Trenton, which stood on land originally belonging to Ruth's father, Mahlon Stacy.

³ W. J. Deeds, liber HH, folio 225. In another deed this is stated to have been 237 1/2 acres.

in 1872; the meadow was most likely in the part now Mt. Laurel Township.)

On Dec. 4, 1722, Samuel Atkinson, then of Chester Township, bought of Robert and Benjamin Field, of Mansfield Township, 200 acres in Chester Twp. adjoining the above, part of 800 acres acquired by the Field's father, also Benjamin.¹

He had thus a plantation (not counting the meadow in Evesham) of 438 acres. By deed of Dec. 19, 1764, he conveyed to his son Samuel Atkinson, Junior, the greater part of this, 371 acres.² Of the 67 acres remaining no record has been found of its disposal; it is most likely he retained it to live on himself, and that it formed part of his residuary estate left to his two daughters, though it is not mentioned in the inventory, nor specifically in his will.

June 2, 1763, Samuel Atkinson, Edward Hollinshead, Samuel Stokes and Benjamin Hollinshead, signed an agreement, fixing lines and corners of their lands, which had become uncertain.³

On April 27, 1765, Samuel Atkinson joined Silas Crispin and others, all of Burlington County, in a quit claim to Thomas Wetherill, of Burlington City, to certain lands at Little Egg Harbor, in settlement of disputed lands.⁴ What Samuel Atkinson's personal interest was in these lands, is unknown to the writer.

The Atkinsons of New Jersey, (p. 29), says he settled in Chester Township before 1719, when he bought "a large tract of land of Thomas Adams, adjoining his own, and where he then lived." But we have seen above that the purchase from Adams was the first he made here, and that it was the purchase from the Fields that adjoined the land already his. The sale of Ruth's Nottingham plantation in March, 1718/9, and the meeting's certificate, prove that it was within the year 1719 that they moved, some time before November. The book quoted gives quite a good account of Samuel Atkinson, having a few small errors like the one just mentioned, but it fails to identify him as the

¹ W. J. Deeds, liber HH, folio 220.

² W. J. Deeds, liber U, folio 528. Matlack MS, p. 929, has a note that Samuel Atkinson sold 66 acres to Nehemiah Haines, but gives no date nor reference to record. This would account for all but the 12 acres of meadow in Evesham.

³ W. J. Deeds, liber U, folio 110.

⁴ W. J. Deeds, liber W, folio 266.

son of Thomas of Bucks County, and has some very wild speculations as to his parentage. It cites the statement in his will (see below) of his father being entitled to a lot in Philadelphia, because he "came to Philadelphia with William Penn, and rendered him some service," and then deduces from accounts quoted by Thomas Shourds in his *History of Fenwick's Colony*, that these services were the furnishing beef and pork to the Proprietary by one James Atkinson, presumably a butcher, and that therefore James was the father of Samuel, confirmed by the name J. Atkinson being found on a plan of the Province (outside the city). But Samuel himself gives the true reason in his will, that is, that it was in right of his father's purchase of 500 acres, and that he saw his father's name on a plan of the city (probably Holme's "Portraiture") not a map of the Province at large. And it is likely that the James Atkinson mentioned in the beef and pork accounts was not really a butcher, but the large landowner of that name both in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, who married the widow of Mark Newbie.

But to quote the authenticated parts of this account: "This tract" [the Adams purchase] "is at the easterly end of Moorestown (then Rodmantown), and lies on both sides of the King's Road, extending from Salem to Burlington, as laid out in 1681." "His dwelling was a stately mansion for the day in which it was built, for Samuel was a man of considerable estate, and his good wife, Ruth, a daughter of Mahlon Stacy, had brought him a large fortune." "He was a man of influence in his neighborhood, as well in the meeting, of which he was a consistent member, as in the political movements of the times then agitating the Colony."

There had been a dwelling already on the Adams tract, but Samuel Atkinson either remodelled it on an extensive scale, or built another. At the time the above was written (1890) part of it was still standing, but no longer in possession of a descendant. The same account says that Stacy Atkinson, who died about 1780, grandson of Samuel, was

the last of the name owning any of the ancestral acres. The house is now about one mile from Stanwick Station on the Camden & Burlington Co. R. R.

Samuel Atkinson did indeed live in lordly style on his fine plantation, and with the really "large fortune" of his wife they were without doubt wealthy beyond any in the township, the Rodmans and Adamses perhaps excepted.¹ Ruth's inheritance from her father, while large, was even more extensive from her brother, Mahlon Stacy, Jr., who died intestate and childless. Samuel joined Ruth and the other heirs of her brother in many sales of his property, but these have not been included in account of his land transactions above, for reasons there stated, and especially as they did not keep any of the land. *The Atkinsons of New Jersey* states that Mahlon Stacy, Jr., lived the latter part of his life with Samuel and Ruth "on the old homestead," presumably the Stacy homestead, but they had removed from any Stacy property long before his death (1744), and a deed from his sister Mary Pownall to her nephew Thomas Atkinson,² states that her brother Mahlon had lived just before his death at Bridgeton, (now Mt. Holly).

On Samuel Atkinson's plantation was a family burying ground, where he and his wife are buried, and some of their descendants; a separate lot adjoined it for the burial of slaves.³ He owned a considerable number of slaves, as did most Quaker gentlemen in New Jersey in his day. This family graveyard has shared the fate of many other such after the surrounding land has been alienated from the family; it is in a state of great neglect.

¹ Drs. John and Thomas Rodman, originally from Long Island, and ancestors of the Bucks County family of that name. The Adamses were descended from Major John Fenwick, once Proprietor of Fenwick's Colony.

² May 31, 1742, W. J. Deeds, liber C.F., folio 174. This Thomas Atkinson was son of Samuel and Ruth.

³ Woodward & Hageman's *History of Burlington County*, (Phila., 1883), p. 263; *The Atkinsons of New Jersey*, p. 32.

Samuel Atkinson's name appears on the list of freeholders in Chester Township, returned by Thomas Hunloke, Sheriff of Burlington County, April 15, 1745.¹ This does not mean the office of Chosen Freeholder, a township official, usually abbreviated to Freeholder, an office he at one time held, but this list simply shows the owners of land there at that time. Samuel, like his brother William, was active in politics, but while his influence was great in the political affairs of his township and county, the offices he held, though numerous, were only minor ones. Nevertheless, in his day politics was the gentleman's vocation, and the small local positions were frequently filled by men of the highest standing, as they are in England still. After the Revolution many of these offices came to be considered too trivial for men of means or position, and so it has continued, until the present generation has no true conception of the idea of their ancestors in accepting them. Samuel Atkinson was Freeholder of Chester Township 1725, 1726, 1727 and 1728; Overseer of the Poor, 1726, 1727, 1728 and 1729; Assessor, 1722, 1723, 1724, 1735, 1736, 1737 and 1754; Collector (of taxes), 1734; Surveyor of Roads (the modern supervisor²) 1738 to 1746, inclusive; Surveyor for Chester Township, elected 1 mo. 7, 1747.³

Samuel Atkinson was a birthright member of the Society

¹ PENNA MAG., xxix, 425.

² This position recalls the fact that in a few localities there has been an awakening very recently from the state of affairs mentioned above, and that in a few places (notably some townships near Philadelphia) men of great wealth and high social position are, to the benefit of their townships and boroughs, taking such offices as road supervisors, etc.

³ The above list has been compiled from the Court Book of Records, Burlington County, p. 206; the First Minute Book of Chester Township, commenced 1693; and the Matlack MS, in possession of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, pp. 177, 273, 320, 322. A Samuel Atkinson was Freeholder in 1774 and 1775, who was no doubt the son of this Samuel, as the latter was then nearly 90 years old, and died in the latter year. A Samuel Atkinson was Constable in 1772, who may have been neither, certainly not the father.

of Friends, and grew up under the care of Falls Monthly Meeting (in Bucks Quarter), attending Falls particular meeting. In 1714 he changed his membership to Chesterfield Monthly Meeting (in Burlington Quarter), and the particular meeting of the same name, there being none nearer to Trenton while he lived there. In 1719 he changed again to Gloucester Monthly Meeting (then in Salem Quarter), and his particular meeting was at first Newton, but within a year after his settlement there, a meeting had been established at Chester, and attached to Gloucester Monthly. Mitchener's *Early Quakerism*, p. 123, has this: "Samuel Smith says, the meeting-house at Chester was built and the meeting settled there in 1721. But the Chesterfield records mention assisting Chester Friends to rebuild their meeting-house, which had been burned in that year. The meeting had probably existed prior to that date." The fire was really the year before; compare the minute of Falls Monthly Meeting (p. 232 above) when William Atkinson, brother of Samuel, was appointed 8 mo. 5, 1720, on a "committee to collect subscriptions from Bristol meeting to assist in rebuilding Chester Meeting House, Burlington County, destroyed by fire." So there must have been a meeting at Chester very shortly after Samuel's arrival, and the first meeting-house burned when quite new, perhaps while unfinished. While he first attended Newton meeting, he no doubt at once commenced to help organize one at Chester, the advent of his family probably being the cause of establishing the new congregation. Newton meeting has since been "laid down" and Chester meeting is now called Moorestown meeting, but not till after Samuel Atkinson's death. Before 1760 Gloucester Mo. Mtg. had come to be called Haddonfield Mo. Mtg., and in that year Evesham Mo. Mtg. was divided from it, including Evesham and Chester particular meetings; so after that date Samuel's membership was in the new monthly meeting of Evesham, provided he continued a Friend till then, which is doubtful as we shall see below, (though he was buried in the Friends' burying ground at Moorestown).

Samuel Atkinson took no active part in the affairs of Chesterfield Mo. Mtg. while a member there, the only mention of him in its minutes being the declaration of his intention of marriage, and the request for and granting of his certificate to "New Town Meeting in Gloucester County."

But in Haddonfield (early Gloucester) Mo. Mtg. he served on committees 9 mo. 14, 1720; 6 mo. 13, 1722; 6 mo. 12, 1723; 8 mo. 12, 1730; and 8 mo. 13, 1740. He was made an Overseer of Chester Meeting 1 mo. 12, 1721 [1720₁?] and released from that position at his own request 4 mo. 13, 1726; and a representative to the (Salem) Quarterly Meeting, 6 mo. 12, 1723 and 1 mo. 9, 1729 [1728₆?].

On 8 mo. 12, 1730, he requested a certificate for Stacy Beakes (his step-son) to Falls Mo. Mtg., and on 2 mo. 9, 1739, one for his son Thomas Atkinson to Burlington Mo. Mtg. On 6 mo. 11, 1759, "Samuel Atkinson disunited as a member of this meeting," but whether it was our subject or not is uncertain; there were other Samuel Atkinsons within the compass of Haddonfield Mo. Mtg., besides his son, who is mentioned however as "Samuel Atkinson, Junr." But as he was buried in the Friends' graveyard it is likely this minute refers to another.¹

Samuel Atkinson died in Chester Township, Burlington County, New Jersey, Feb. 21, 1775, aged nearly 90 years. The following obituary notice of him appeared in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of March 1, 1775:²

"On Tuesday morning, the 21st. ult, departed this life, in Burlington County, New-Jersey, SAMUEL ATKINSON, in the 90th year of his

¹ His name certainly does not occur again in the minutes of Haddonfield Mo. Mtg. but this proves nothing, as shortly after this date Evesham Mo. Mtg. was established, to which his membership if he still retained it, would have been transferred; and the writer has not examined the minutes of that meeting. The above statements are from the several meeting records in custody of their appropriate officials.

² In *Index to Obituary Notices Published in the Pennsylvania Gazette*, PENNA. MAG., x, 334, the date of this paper is incorrectly given as Feb. 24.

age, and on the Thursday following his remains were deposited in Friends burying-ground at Moores-Town.

In every period and station in life, he supported the character of an *honest man*, which secured him the esteem of those who were acquainted with his virtues.—With a tender and benevolent heart, he possessed extensive knowledge and good abilities, which he always cheerfully exerted for the benefit of his fellow-creatures. He endured all the infirmities of old age with christian fortitude and resignation, leaving this world with a well-grounded hope of unfading joys, in a kingdom '*not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.*' "

His will¹ was dated 4 mo. 13, 1769, and proved at Burlington, April 13, 1775, and the inventory dated 3 mo. 27, 1775. He left his son Thomas five shillings, "having heretofore paid for him more than I could afford." To his son Samuel five shillings, "I having done sufficiently for him already." Also to son Samuel mulatto man Adam. To daughter Rebecca mulatto boy Lott. To daughter Ruth two mulatto boys Noah and Andrew. To son Thomas's two sons William and John mulatto boy Uz. "Whereas Governor William Penn deceased (as I have been very well informed) did promise my deceased Father if he would take up five hundred acres of land within his province he would give him a lott in Philadelphia together with liberty land, and my Father did take up five hundred acres as by the Survey on record may appear and dyed soon after; and the proprietor did honestly and justly lay out a lott accordingly, which I have seen in a plan or map of the City with my Father's name thereon, which said lott and liberty lands which belongeth or appertains to me I give and devise unto my two above said Daughters their heirs and assigns forever to be equally divided between them." (Whether the daughters ever obtained possession of these lots is questionable). He appointed his sons-in-law, Joshua Bispham and Thomas Say, executors. He directed that the persons to whom his slaves were left should teach them to read the holy Scriptures; and that when the slaves reached the age of thirty-five they were to be freed, if they behaved

¹ N. J. Wills, liber 17, folio 153. Burlington files 1773-1777.

well, otherwise to remain in servitude for life. All his residuary estate to be equally divided between his two daughters.

Samuel Atkinson married 7 mo. 12, 1714, at the house of Mahlon Stacy (the bride's brother) under care of Chesterfield Monthly Meeting,¹ Ruth (Stacy) Beakes, (born 1 mo. 30, 1680,² died 6 mo 9, 1755,³ daughter of Mahlon and Rebecca (Ely) Stacy, of "Ballifield," Nottingham Township, Burlington County, West Jersey, and widow of William Beakes, also of Nottingham Township. Mahlon Stacy, her father, one of the Lords Proprietors of the Province of West Jersey, (owning one quarter of a tenth), was one of the greatest men of that Province, and through his daughters was ancestor of many of the leading families of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, as Pownall, Kirkbride, Janney, Beakes, etc., as well as of New Jersey. He was of the landed gentry in England, being a Stacy of Ballifield, in Yorkshire, whose pedigree is given in Rev. Joseph Hunter's *History of Hallamshire*. [For further particulars of the Stacy family see Note F.] William Beakes, Ruth Stacy's first husband, was of a Bucks County family quite distinguished in early times; see Note G.

In Woodward & Hageman's *History of Burlington & Mercer Counties*, facing page 664 is a map of "The Site of Trenton in 1714, copied from Basse's Book of Surveys by

¹ List of marriages in Chesterfield Mo. Mtg. published in PENNA. MAG., ix, 349. It has been claimed that in this list sometimes the date of the second declaration has been taken as the date of marriage; but the minutes of the Mo. Mtg. show that the second declaration in this case was 7 mo. 2, so the 12th is no doubt the date of marriage.

² Chesterfield Mo. Mtg. register; Burlington Mo. Mtg. gives 7 mo., but Chesterfield is taken to be correct.

³ Matlack MS. p. 907. In list of burials in Friends Graveyard at Chester Meeting, Moorestown, p. 232, Matlack MS., hers is recorded as 6 mo. 10, 1754, but evidently should be the next year. Matlack's lists of burials, officials, etc. are generally correct, as taken from official lists; some of his biographical data, however, being from hearsay, are frequently wide of the mark.

Chas. R. Hutchinson." This shows Mahlon Stacy's plantation of 800 acres, on the Delaware River and both sides of Assunpink Creek; this is all now within the city of Trenton. Mahlon Stacy called it "Ballifield" from his ancestral home in England. Adjoining this tract on the south, is shown "Ruth Beaks Plantation," also with a frontage on the Delaware, near the bank of which is indicated "R. Beakes House." This is where Samuel and Ruth dwelt after their marriage; it was the 100 acres bought from her step-son, Edmund Beakes, mentioned above. Ruth also inherited large quantities of land from her father and brother, an account of which more properly belongs to a history of the Stacy family; and as such a work is now in preparation, the reader is referred to it for further particulars. [See Note F.]

Samuel and Ruth (Stacy-Beakes) Atkinson had issue, (no meeting records of their births have been found, so their relative ages are uncertain, though Thomas was eldest son; also there may have been others who died young):

21. THOMAS ATKINSON, b.
Mar. —, Susannah Shinn.
22. SAMUEL ATKINSON, b. —, d. Oct. —, 1781.¹
Mar. —, Ann Coate.
23. REBECCA ATKINSON, b. —, d. —.
Mar. 1st, 1 mo. 12, 1739, Thomas Budd, Jr.
2nd, 10 mo. 3, 1753, Thomas Say, M. D.²
24. RUTH ATKINSON, b. —, d. —.
Mar. Feb. —, 1743, Joshua Bispham.³

The Atkinsons of New Jersey, p. 32, gives two more children, John and William, but these are shown by Samuel's will to have been grandchildren, sons of Thomas. It also gives Rebecca's first husband as Joshua Wright instead of Thomas Budd, Jr.; it was really her aunt Rebecca Stacy who married Joshua Wright. In *Isaac & Rachel Collins*,

¹ Evidence of his will.

² See *Life and Writings of Thomas Say*, edited by his son, Phila. 1796. He had been married before.

³ She was his second wife. See *Memoranda Concerning the Family of Bispham*, by William Bispham, N. Y. 1890.

Appendix, p. 150, Samuel and Ruth are given twelve children; the list seems to be composed of a mixture of the children of Samuel and Ruth, and those of their son Samuel, Jr., with some added not known to belong to either. This book also makes Thomas Budd marry Rebecca (Stacy) Wright, instead of her niece Rebecca Atkinson, as he really did. It has some other errors to be noted in Note F.

12. William Atkinson, Jr., born 9 mo. 18, 1709,¹ in Bristol Township, Bucks County, died 1794 in the City of Philadelphia, son of William and Mary (Hough) Atkinson, lived in early life in the Borough of Bristol, but about 1730 (in which year he came of age) removed to the City of Philadelphia, where he in time established himself as a shipbuilder, thus becoming a pioneer in one of Philadelphia's most famous industries. He purchased several pieces of real estate in the city.

By deed of release² dated March 4, 1730, William Atkinson, then of the city of Philadelphia, bought of Philip Syng and Elizabeth his wife, a lot on the south side of Gilbert's Alley, 15 feet wide and 51 feet deep, part of a larger lot which Syng had bought of the executors of Arthur Wells. He disposed of this by his will.

By deed³ of Nov. 8, 1751, he bought of the heirs of Samuel Fisher, deceased, a house and lot on the west side of Delaware Front Street, 20 ft. 4 in wide and 35 ft. 3½ in deep, part of a larger lot originally granted to Richard Bull; this was bounded on the north partly by his lot already mentioned. He disposed of this also by will.

By deed⁴ of April 17, 1752 he bought of John Dumer & Elizabeth his wife a lot (including a dwelling house and other buildings) on the north side of Sassafras Street, 33 feet wide and 51 feet deep, part of a larger lot inherited by said Elizabeth Dumer, from her father, John Furnis. This was not mentioned specifically in his will, but was probably included in his residuary estate, as no record of his previous disposal of it has been found.

On Feb. 18, 1758, he bought⁵ of his father's executors, Joseph Atkinson and Rachel Stapler (with her husband Thomas Stapler), the lot in Bristol Borough that his father had purchased from John Bordaile in 1712. He probably re-conveyed this to his brother Joseph.

¹ Register of Falls Mo. Mtg.

² Phila. Deed Book H3, page 357.

³ " " " D59, " 400.

⁴ " " " H3, " 337.

⁵ Bucks Co. Deed Book 10, p. 55.

The lot on Gilbert's Alley had no house on it at the time he bought it, but he soon erected a brick dwelling which he made his residence the rest of his life. This alley, afterwards called Elfreth's Alley, (from Jeremiah Elfreth who bought the southwest corner of Front Street and the alley), and sometimes Preston's Alley, ran from Front to Second Streets, between and parallel to Mulberry (Arch) and Sassafras (Race) Streets; it is now part of Cherry Street. These small streets or alleys, off Front Street, now entirely given over to warehouses or the poorest class of dwellings, were then all occupied by families in very good circumstances, and with Front Street itself, up to the end of the 18th century, constituted the most exclusive residential locality in the city. William Atkinson was living here when Daniel Stanton and John Pemberton made their visitation to Friends' families in the city, 1757 to 1760;¹ as his son-in-law, Israel Cassell's, name also occurs on their list as living in the same street, he no doubt lived with William Atkinson.

The house on the west side of Front Street (the back of which lot adjoined the back of his home lot), was also, of course, between the present Arch and Race Streets; that and the house on the north side of Sassafras (Race) Street, he apparently purchased for investment only.

By his will² dated May 31, 1788, proved Sept. 15, 1794, he left his house and lot on Elfreth's Alley, and the house and lot on Front street, partly adjoining the same, to his grandchildren (the children of his deceased daughter Rebecca Cassell), Sarah, wife of Peter Letelier, Mary, wife of Josiah Paul, Elizabeth, wife of Jeremiah Smith, Lydia Cassell, Arnold Cassell and Rebecca Cassell; and to them also he left all residue of his estate, not specified; James Hartley, of the City of Philadelphia, merchant, was made sole executor.

All his children except Rebecca seem to have died before

¹ See their list of Friends' families visited in PENNA. MAG., vol. xvi.

² Phila. Will Book x, p. 112.

Stapler, removed. The latter was Joseph Atkinson's sister Rachel, who had married Thomas Stapler.

Joseph Atkinson married second, April 13, 1762, Sarah Silver¹; though of a Burlington County family she appeared with Joseph at Falls Monthly Meeting and declared intentions of marriage 3 mo. 3 and 4 mo. 7, 1762. The names of her parents are unknown to the present writer²; some of her near relatives moved to Harford County, Maryland, where the family has long been prominent. Sarah Atkinson was appointed on committees of Falls Monthly Meeting 10 mo. 5, and 11 mo. 2, 1768; 4 mo. 6, 5 mo. 4 and 11 mo. 2, 1774.

Joseph Atkinson had issue, (the first three by first wife, and the rest by second):

29. MARY ATKINSON, b. ———. Mar. ——— Watson, before 1787.

30. ELIZABETH ATKINSON, b. ———. Unmar. 1787.

31. ANNE ATKINSON, b. ———. Mar. ——— Shaw, before 1787.

Elizabeth and Anne applied to Falls Mo. Mtg. 5 mo. 1, 1771, for a certificate to Burlington Mo. Mtg. which was granted 8 mo. 7.

32. JOSEPH ATKINSON, b. ———

Mar. 5 mo. 22, 1788, at Plumstead Meeting, Rachel Child,³ daughter of Isaac, of Abington Township, Montgomery County. Isaac Child, a minister of Friends, was son of Cephas and Mary (*Atkinson*) Child; the latter was of the Christopher and John Atkinson family, which see.

33. ARCHIBALD ATKINSON, b. ———

A Revolutionary Soldier.

¹Minutes of Falls Mo. Mtg. 5 mo. 5, 1762, when the marriage was reported as accomplished on the 13th of the last month.

²She was perhaps a cousin of Joseph's first wife Jennet Cowgill. At Chesterfield Mo. Mtg. (Burlington County) 2 mo. 7, 1720, Archibald Silver and Mary Cowgill, daughter of Ralph and Susan, declared intentions of marriage; these were probably Sarah's parents, as she had a son Archibald.

³Register of Buckingham Mo. Mtg.

34. JAMES ATKINSON, b. ———

35. ABIGAIL ATKINSON, b. ———

Miscellaneous Notes. Page 68. It was hoped that before these notes went to press, the discovery of Thomas Atkinson's certificate, or at least a record of it on the books of one of the meetings he belonged to in America, would settle the question as to whether it had been issued by Beamsley particular, or Knaresborough Monthly Meeting; but a thorough search of the records of Burlington, Haddonfield (formerly Gloucester), Middletown and Falls Monthly Meetings, as well as those of Bucks Quarter, has failed to disclose it.

Pages 72 and 76. Some explanation of Thomas and Jane Atkinson's change of membership without certificate from Neshamina to Falls Mo. Mtg. in 1686 is found in the minutes of Bucks Quarterly Meeting, 3 mo. 5, 1686: "It being demanded what monthly meeting the middle lot should belong to Edmund Lovet and Thomas Adkinson two members of the said meeting—— Reported that they Enclined to Joyne to the monthly meeting at the falls to wch this meeting assented and it was accordingly agreed that they shold appertaine and joyne with the said meeting at the falls." The "middle lots," among which Thomas Atkinson's plantation was situated, were those between the lots fronting on the Delaware River in Falls and Bristol, and the lots fronting on Neshaminy Creek in Middletown and Bristol, and included lands in all three townships.

NOTE A.

Thomas Atkinson, of the parish of Cartmel, County Lancaster, England, was born, according to statements in his own writings, in 1604; he was therefore much older than the Thomas Atkinson who went from Yorkshire to America, but he lived until after the latter had emigrated, so there is some danger of his being mistaken for the latter, especially as his gospel labors often extended into Yorkshire and Westmoreland, which adjoined his own county. For instance, among epistles recorded in London Yearly Meeting, are some signed by Thomas Atkinson (and others): one from a meeting of Friends of the northern counties held at Scalehouse, 4 mo. 5, 1658; one from a meeting at Skipton, 4 mo. 29, 1658; and one from a meeting at Kendal (Westmoreland) 1 mo. 9, 1661. This Thomas Atkinson, of Lancashire, became quite prominent among Friends and is supposed to have been a minister of their Society, though the writer has seen no actual statement to that effect.

Besse's *Sufferings of Friends* relates several instances of his persecution: Lancashire, 1659. Thomas Atkinson suffered imprisonment for

tithes, 5 months. In the same year, "From *John Barrow, Thomas Atkinson, James Taylor, and Richard Fell*, Goods were taken by Distresses for Tithes to the Value of 27*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*" 1668. Thomas Atkinson and others had cattle and sheep taken from them by distress for tithes. 1672. Thomas Atkinson and others suffered by distress of cattle and goods. 1678. Thomas Atkinson lost cattle and goods to the value of £4. Other instances are told in his own writings (see below). *First Publishers of Truth*, (supplement to the *Journal of Friends' Historical Society*) p. 42, has: "And in the year 1674, the sd John Wilkin-son, John Burnyeat, John Grave, John Tiffin, Tho Carleton & Tho: Atkinson all had meets at the sd John Nicholson's house;" this was at Crosfield, a branch of Pardshaw meeting in Cumberland. All such references in Friends' publications seem to refer to the Lancashire Friend, and not to the Yorkshire-Pennsylvania Thomas Atkinson.

He was author of two works mentioned in Joseph Smith's *Catalogue of Friends' Books*:

—The Christian's Testimony against Tythes, In an Account of the great Spoil and Rapine committed by the Bishop of Chester's Tythe-Farmer, at Cartmell, in Lancashire, upon the people there called Quakers, in the years 1677 and 1678. 4 to. Printed in the year 1678.

—An Exhortation to all People. 4 to. No printer's name or place. [1684.] "Writ in the 8th month, in the Year of Christ, 1684. And in the 80th year of my Age. T. Atkinson." A postscript is addressed to "Edward Wilson, who art a Justice of Peace, within Westmoreland."

The Christian's Testimony tells that Thomas Preston (the younger), the Bishop of Chester's Tythe-Farmer for the parish of Cartmel, came to a meeting at Height in that parish, 8 mo. 7, 1677, as it was breaking up and called out: "And where is that Tho. Atkinson that old Rogue of all Rogues?" This and such like was the Language he then used against an ancient grave Person of Seventy three Years of Age." Thomas Atkinson himself figures in other episodes in this book, to which the reader is referred for a full account.

Although apparently no relation to the Yorkshire Thomas Atkinson, it seems very likely that the Lancashire Thomas Atkinson was related to Christopher and John the founders of the other Bucks County Atkinson family, for they lived not far apart in the same county and had a common religion, which was not that of the majority of their neighbors. The parish of Cartmel, in which Thomas Atkinson resided, is thus described in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* (5th ed): "CARTMEL (*St Mary*), a parish, in the union of ULVERSTONE, hundred of LONSDALE, north of the sands, N. Division of the county palatine of LANCASTER; containing 4924 inhabitants. The town of

Cartmel stands in the townships of Lower Allithwaite and Upper Holker, 14 miles (N. W. by N.) from Lancaster. The parish is bounded on the south by the bay of Morecambe, into which it extends for a considerable distance, where at low water there is a passage over the sands to Bolton: the longer course over these sands is nine miles; the shorter, over that part called the Leven sands, is four miles." Morecambe Bay divides Lancashire into two entirely unconnected parts, the head of the bay running into the County of Westmoreland. Scotforth, in Lancaster parish, where Christopher and John Atkinson lived, though "south of the sands," i. e. across the bay from Cartmel, was still in the same hundred of Lonsdale, and as the described distances indicate, not so far away but that intercourse between the two places was easy and frequent. Also, Christopher Atkinson's wife, Margaret Fell, lived in Cartmel before marriage, and her father, Christopher Fell, is mentioned in *The Christian's Testimony against Tythes*.

NOTE B.

As a sketch of Richard Hough's life has already been published in this magazine (XVIII, 20-34), it will be necessary to give here only some additional matter and a few corrections. In the list of years he was a Member of Assembly on page 24 of that sketch, the year 1699 was omitted, but it is included further on (p. 26) in the detailed account of his participation in the proceedings of that body.

The statement made on page 23 of the same article, viz.: "Before the Falls Meeting-House, the first in the county, was built, in 1690, his house was one of the meeting places," needs some explanation and may be somewhat expanded: Falls was not the first meeting house in the county, for that at Middletown had been built as early as 4 mo. 7, 1688, on which date a monthly meeting was held there. Falls meeting house was begun in 1689, but as will be seen in some minutes quoted below, was still unfinished in 9 mo. 1691, and some interior work was still to be done as late as 9 mo. 1693, which accounts for meetings being held at private houses as late as the winter of 1694. The minutes of Falls Monthly Meeting (either men's or women's), mention 43 monthly meetings held at Richard Hough's house between (and including) that of 1 mo. 4, 1684/5, and that of 11 mo. 2, 1694; perhaps there were some others, when the minutes are silent as to the place of holding. As to the Bucks Quarterly Meeting being held there, we find in Michener's *Early Quakerism*, (p. 75): "Although the meeting houses at the Falls and at Neshaminy (Middletown) had both been built for several years, yet the Quarterly Meeting continued to be held at the houses of William Biles, Nicholas Waln, Richard Hough, Joshua Hoopes, and others, up to the year 1696." The minutes of Bucks

Quarter mention that the meeting was held at Richard Hough's 6 mo. 5, 1685; 3 mo. 5, 1686; 6 mo. 15, 1688; and 9 mo. 20, 1689.¹

It is to be presumed that Richard Hough was a representative to the Quarterly Meeting (from Falls Mo. Mtg.) whenever the same was held at his house; the other meetings at which the minutes note his presence were the six dates given below when he was sent to the Yearly Meeting; Falls Monthly minutes only mention his appointment as a representative to the Quarterly 12 mo. 3, 1702, and 12 mo. 7, 1704; no doubt he was one oftener.

In early times each monthly meeting sent a representative to the Yearly Meeting, but when the quarterly meetings became fully organized, they alone sent such delegates. Richard Hough was appointed representative to the Yearly Meeting by Falls Monthly, 7 mo. 1, 1686; and by Bucks Quarter, 6 mo. 25, 1698; 6 mo. 31, 1699 (on which occasion he was chosen to take Quarterly's collections to the Yearly); 6 mo. 10, 1701; 6 mo. 27, 1702; 6 mo. 26, 1703; and 6 mo. 31, 1704.

He was made an overseer of Falls Meeting 2 mo. 2, 1701. On 2 mo. 2, 1690, he was made a trustee for the meeting house and graveyard, and on 9 mo. 8, 1693, it was agreed that the deeds for both be given into his sole custody. On 5 mo. 4, 1705, Hough being deceased these were delivered to Joseph Kirkbride. Between 11 mo. 2, 1683, and 7 mo. 6, 1704, he served on over sixty committees of Falls Monthly Meeting, besides a number of special appointments; some of the important ones were (the dates being those of appointment):

12 mo. 6, 1683. "This meeting doth order that Richard Hough doth keep the Book for Records and record therein all foreign certificates." 1 mo. 7, 1687/8. "Ordered that Richard Hough for the burying place on the hill and that end of the meeting take care to give an account of all Births and Burials." He kept this book until his death. At the meeting of 2 mo. 4, 1705, it was delivered to Joseph Kirkbride. Through a copyist's error transcribing the date, the footnote on page 229 of the present article, makes Richard turn over the book himself, 2 mo. 4, 1704, but in reality it was delivered to Kirkbride a year later, after Hough's death. He was on committees for fencing the burying place on Slate-pit Hill, 1 mo. 3, 1685/6, 7 mo. 6, 1688, and 11 mo. 3, 1693.

On 2 mo. 3, 1689, he was on the committee to select a site for Falls Meeting House, and thereafter served on many committees and special

¹ Before 6 mo. 4, 1686, the quarterly meeting was held the same day as that month's monthly meeting; at a combined meeting held that day at William Biles's, it was decided, (it being found inconvenient to transact quarterly and monthly meeting business the same day), in future to hold the quarterly meeting separately on the Fourth-day of the third week in the month.

assignments in relation to its building; one of the latter being 9 mo. 4, 1691, to speak to the carpenter to get it completed, showing it was then still unfinished (see above). And 6 mo. 2, 1699, he was appointed one of a committee to have an addition built.

4 mo. 3, 1702. On committee to collect an account of all public Friends belonging to Falls Mo. Mtg., that had died since its beginning, to send to Friends in England, to be recorded there.

Margery (Clows) Hough, wife of Richard, was also active in the monthly meeting. She was appointed representative to the Quarterly Meeting 6 mo. 6, 1707; 6 mo. 2, 1710; and 9 mo. 3, 1713. She was made an overseer of Falls Meeting 7 mo. 4, 1695, and apparently relieved later, for she was again chosen 9 mo. 2, 1720, holding the position at her death; on 12 mo. 1, 1720, Mary Burroughs was appointed in place of Margery Hough, deceased. She served on 47 committees of the monthly meeting between 7 mo. 6, 1689, and 2 mo. 1, 1719.

Richard and Margery (Clows) Hough had issue (the footnote on page 33 of article *Richard Hough* PENNA. MAG., XVIII, as to births of four of these children, should read Middletown *Monthly Meeting*, not *Quarterly*):

MARY, married WILLIAM ATKINSON; see text.

Richard, married, first, 1711/2, *Hester (Baker-Yardley) Browne*, daughter of *Henry Baker*; see note D; second, 7 mo. 27, 1717, *Deborah Gumley*, of Philadelphia, widow of *John Gumley*, of New Castle County. Richard Hough was a Justice of the Bucks County Court.

SARAH, married ISAAC ATKINSON; see text.

John, born 7 mo. 18, 1693; married 1718, *Elizabeth*, daughter of Philip and Julianna Taylor, of Oxford Township, Philadelphia. John Hough was a Justice of the Bucks County Court.

Joseph, born 8 mo. 17, 1695, died May 10, 1773; married *Elizabeth*, daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Dungan) West, and granddaughter of Rev. Thomas Dungan. Joseph and Elizabeth Hough had nine children, of whom their daughter *Sarah*, married *James Radcliffe*, son of *Edward* and *Phebe (Baker) Radcliffe*. Joseph Hough, son of Joseph and Elizabeth, married *Mary Tompkins*, and their son *Joseph* married *Rebecca Radcliffe*, daughter of John and Rebecca (West) Radcliffe, and granddaughter of *Edward* and *Phebe*. See Notes D and E.

NOTE C.

Leonard Shallcross, by will¹ dated Feb. 28, 1729/30, proved Nov. 16, 1730, left his house and plantation to his son Leonard; £10 each

¹ Bucks Co. Will Book 1, p. 134.

to his sons William and Joseph; £20 each to his daughters Rebecca and Rachel; and one shilling to his son John; and made his wife Sarah sole executrix. No deed has been found on record to show his purchase of the land mentioned, nor how many acres there were, but a mortgage¹ from John Fisher to Samuel Baker, 9 mo. 8, 1713, secured on land in Makefield Township, mentions Leonard Shallcross's land adjoining, and a deed for the Fisher tract in 1722 shows Shallcross still owned the same place.

Very little is known of Leonard Shallcross, especially his early life and birthplace. John Shallcross, Esq., of Frankford, Philadelphia, wrote an account of the family many years ago, from which Rev. S. F. Hotchkin, in his *Bristol Pike*, (Phila., 1893), drew the following (p. 40): "In 1704, John, Leonard and Joseph, brothers, came to America from Derbyshire, England, and settled in Oxford township. The old home-stand, a stone dwelling house, was located upon the southeast side of the Bustleton Turnpike Road about two miles above Frankford. The house is still standing, and is occupied by a descendant of the family. In 1708, John Shallcross, the oldest of the the brothers, purchased from Mary Fletcher two tracts of land, containing together about 377 acres, extending from the Bustleton to the Bristol Road. These tracts were divided into several farms, many of which are still occupied by different branches of the family. Joseph, one of the brothers, removed to Chester County and leaves descendants, some of whom are still residing in Delaware and Chester Counties." But there is a complete absence of any contemporary account of their arrival, whence they came, how they came, or any details of their settlement, until John bought the land in Oxford in 1708. And there is at least some ground for question whether the Joseph who went to Chester County was a brother or nephew of John and Leonard. As to their coming from Derbyshire, there can be little doubt that they were younger sons (or sons of a younger son) of the gentle family of Shallcross of Shallcross, in that part of Derbyshire called 'The Peak,' made familiar to the general reader by Sir Walter Scott's novel, *Peveril of the Peak*. In this family, which held the lordship of Shallcross almost, if not quite, as far back as the Conquest, the given name Leonard was a favorite; one of its bearers was head of the family at the time of the Spanish Armada.

John Shallcross married 3 mo. 29, 1710, Hannah Fletcher.² In his will³ dated 6 mo. 13, 1754, proved Sept. 11, 1758, he mentioned his nephews and nieces, Leonard, Joseph, William, Ann, Ruth, Rebecca and Rachel Shallcross, brother-in-law Edward Brooks, sister-in-law

¹ Bucks Co. Deed Book 4, p. 200.

² Register of Abington Mo. Mtg.

³ Phila. Co. Will Book L, p. 165.

Catharine Wilmarton, widow of Paul, and kinswoman Hannah Robison; executors, wife Hannah and nephew Leonard Shallcross. The Shallcross nephews and nieces were children of his brother Leonard, except Ann and Ruth, who were wives of nephews. He left his real estate (or part of it) in Oxford Township to the nephew Leonard, who was already living there before his uncle's death. Hannah Shallcross, widow of John, by will¹ dated 10 mo. 25, 1758, proved Sept. 5, 1759, left her property to John, Hannah, Mary, Elizabeth, Paul and Rebecca, children of her kinsman John Wilmartin; Elizabeth, Mary and Edward, children of her cousin Hannah Robison, (daughter of Edward Brooks); and Mary, wife of Joseph Shallcross; she made her cousin Hannah Robison, executrix.

NOTE D.

As the account of Henry Baker mentioned in the text has already appeared in print, space here will only permit a few additions and corrections to that sketch, and a recapitulation of Henry Baker's children, with some second marriages of theirs omitted by Mr. White. In the abstract of his will given there a legacy is mentioned to *Samuel Canby*; this should be cousin *Sarah Canby*, £ 5, "which I lent her mother."

Henry Baker's residence and principal tract in Bucks Co. was about 500 acres on the Delaware River, next below Richard Hough's in Makefield (now Upper Makefield) Township. In an account of Falls Meeting and places within its compass in early times, written about 1855 by Wm. J. Buck and E. D. Buckman, contained in a MS. book called *Friends' Monthly Meeting Records, Bucks County*, now in possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, it is stated that Henry Baker's was the first plantation below the present Taylorsville, and that the old mansion was still standing, the land being then owned by Mahlon K. Taylor. But in a later passage the authors said they believed the Baker mansion had stood on the site of the new house built by Janney Dawes on the Taylorsville lane, at the canal bridge. Baker also owned land in Wrightstown, Newtown and Falls Townships, and was one of the original lot holders in the borough of Bristol. The Upper Makefield and Wrightstown tracts are shown on Holme's Map; the others he bought at a later date.

Henry Baker was foreman of the first grand jury of Bucks County in 1685, and a member of the commission appointed September, 1692, to divide the county into townships. He was made a Justice of the Bucks County Court, by order of the Provincial Council of 11 mo. 2, 1689/90. He was also a Member of the Provincial Assembly in 1685, 1687, 1688,

¹ Phila. Co. Will Book L, p. 312.

1690 and 1698. He belonged first to Neshamina (Middletown) and afterwards to Falls Monthly Meeting, and took a very prominent part in their affairs, meetings being sometimes held at his house before the meeting houses were built; he was also a representative in the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings.

Henry Baker had issue by his first wife, Margaret Hardman:

(1). *Rachel*, born in Lancashire, 2 mo. 23, 1669; married first, 4 mo. 27, 1689, at her father's house, Job Bunting of West New Jersey; they were ancestors of the Bucks County branch of the Bunting family. Mr. White's article calls him "Robert," following the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's copy of Middletown Mo. Mtg. register, where the copyist's mistake makes it so; *Penna. Arch.*, 2 ser., vol. IX, pp. 219 & 220, has the same error. Rachel married second, in 1703, John Cowgill, of Middletown Township; see remarks on Cowgill family under 14. JOSEPH ATKINSON. Mr. White's sketch does not mention this second marriage.

(2). *Nathan*, born in Lancashire, 10 mo. 21, 1670; died there 5 mo. 27, 1680, buried 5 mo. 28.

(3). *Sarah*, born in Lancashire, 8 mo. 18, 1672; died in Penna., 2 mo.—, 1715, buried 2 mo. 29. She married first, 8 mo. 13, 1692, Stephen Wilson, of Bucks Co.; their son *John Wilson*, married, 1728, JANE ATKINSON (No. 7 in text), daughter of *Isaac*, (No. 4) and *Sarah (Hough)* Atkinson. Sarah (Baker) Wilson married second, 8 mo. 19, 1708, Isaac Milnor, of Bucks Co. She was a minister of Friends and an account of her is given in *The Friend* (Phila.), vol. XXVIII, p. 197.

(4). *Rebecca*, born in Lancashire, 6 mo. 24, 1674, married 1695, John Wilsford, of West New Jersey.

(5). *Samuel*, born in Lancashire, 8 mo. 1, 1676; married in Bucks Co. 9 mo. 4, 1703, Rachel, daughter of Willoughby Warder, of said county. He inherited most of his father's land, including the home plantation on the Delaware River, and made additional purchases. He was a Justice of the Bucks County Court, being first commissioned March 6, 1708; Member of Assembly, 1710 and 1711; and a County Commissioner in 1722. Like his father, he was active in the affairs of Falls Monthly Meeting.

(6). *Phebe*, born in Lancashire, 5 mo. 26, 1678; married first, in Bucks Co., 6 mo. 18, 1703, her step-brother, *Edward Radcliffe*, son of *James* and *Mary*, the latter having married Henry Baker after James Radcliffe's death. It was this Phebe Radcliffe to whom William Atkinson wrote the letter of 1721, quoted from in account of him above. See Note E, where her own and her descendants' connections with the Atkinson, Hough, and other families mentioned in this article, will appear more at length. Phebe married second, in 1722, William Stockdale; he was related by marriage to the other (Christopher and John)

Atkinson family, and some account of him will be given in Part II. Phebe's second marriage is not noted in Mr. White's *Henry Baker*.

(7). *Hester*, born in Lancashire, 6 mo. 28, 1680; married first, 1700, Thomas Yardley, son of William and Jane (Heath) Yardley, of Bucks Co.; second, 1704, William Browne, son of James and Honour Browne, of Chichester, Chester Co.; third, 1711/2, *Richard Hough*, son of *Richard* and *Margery (Clows) Hough*; see Note B.

(8). *Nathan*, born in Lancashire, 1 mo. 8, 1684 (1684/5?); married in Penna., May 15, 1705, Sarah, daughter of Jeremiah Collett, of Chester Co.; they lived in Chester County, and afterwards removed to Maryland.

(9). *Henry*, born in Bucks Co., 12 mo. 12, 1685, died there 12 mo. 16, 1685.

Margaret (Hardman) Baker, first wife of Henry, died in 1688, and was buried 6 mo. 5. He married second, 8 mo. 13, 1692, under care of Middletown Mo. Mtg., *Mary (Rawsthorne) Radcliffe*, widow of *James Radcliffe*, of Bucks Co.; see Note E. They had issue:

(10). MARGARET, born in Bucks County, 6 Mo. 4, 1693, died there 6 mo. 20, 1748; married 4 mo. 5, 1722, WILLIAM ATKINSON (No. 5), son of *Thomas* and *Jane*.

NOTE E.

A note to *Records of the Hall Family*, PENN. MAG., XI, 315, says: "James Radcliffe, of Chapel Hill, in Rosendale, County Lancaster, England, (probably brother to John Radcliffe, born in 1657, son of Richard and Alice Radcliffe, of Rosendale), married June 1, 1673, the widow Mary Rawthorpe at her own house in Olden;" etc. From some authorities quoted below it will be seen that James Radcliffe's father was probably *James* not *Richard*, his mother being Alice as stated; also that the widow *Mary Rawthorpe* should be *Rawsthorne*, and that *Olden* should be *Holden*.

Rosendale (not *Rosendale*) is the territory which formerly comprised the Forest of Rossendale (and sometimes is still so called, although disforested in the reign of Henry VIII). It includes a number of townships, and is within the parish of Whalley, Blackburn Hundred, Lancashire. Thomas Newbigging in his *History of Rossendale* (2nd ed., Rawtenstall, 1893, p. 32) says: "We must view Rossendale as constituting a portion of the Hundred of Blackburn, or Honour of Clitheroe, parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster." Again: "Previous to and at the time of the Norman Conquest, (A. D. 1066), the four forests Pendle, Trawden, Rossendale, and Accrington were embraced in the general name of the 'Forest of Blackburnshire.'" "The forests at that time were not comprised within the limits of any township or other subdivision of property or estate." The *History of the County Palatine and Duchy of*

Lancaster, by Edward Baines, Esq., M. P., (London, 1836), vol. III, p. 274, has: "The chase¹ of Rossendale, including Brandwood, Chope and Lench, originally members of it, contains not less than 25 square miles, or 15,360 statute acres." "In 4 Edw. II it was divided into eleven vaccaries, or cow-pastures." "In 22 Henry VII the number of vaccaries, now called booths, had increased to nineteen." "These booths were the foundations of townships."

The name of Radcliffe has been connected with this region from very early times. In 17 Edw. III (1343) Richard de Radeclive [Radcliffe,] Master Forester, had a suit with the Abbot and Convent of Whalley, in which it was shown that Thomas, Earl of Lancaster had granted the office of Forester to Richard Mereclesdene, [Marsden,] who in the reign of Edward III had granted his estate in the office to Richard de Radeclive, whose right was confirmed by Queen Isabella, to whom her son, King Edward III, had granted the forest for life. The "Compotus of Blackburnshire," by Thomas, Lord Stanley, Master Forester and Chief Steward, [Book] A. Edward IV., (4 to, in the office of the Duchy of Lancaster), shows that Jacobo Radeliff de Radcliff paid a rent of £8, 10s. for his holding, the Park of Musbury. Chapel Hill, the residence of James Radcliffe before his removal to Pennsylvania, was near to, if not adjoining, the Park of Musbury, and the records of his arrival in the said province state that he came from "Mousebury" or "Musberry." The recurrence of the names Richard and James (Jacobo) in his family strengthens the presumption that he was descended from the Radcliffes who held the Park of Musbury in the time of Edward IV. That no such line of descent has been yet established is most likely due to a lack of any genealogical investigation into the matter, and a careful search of records would very probably show the supposed connection to be a fact.

Chapel Hill, besides being the name of a real hill, was also the name given the freehold tract of land and dwelling, situated on the same, owned by James Radcliffe, and presumably by some generations of his family before him. For a description of this Radcliffe property, as

¹ The difference between a forest and a chase has been explained above in the account of the Forest of Knaresborough. Newbigging also says: "A Forest differs from a Chase in three things—in its Laws, its Officers, and in its particular Courts. The king appropriated the Forests for his own special use and pleasure. With Chases and Parks it was otherwise; these could be constructed under a license, and owned and held by any subject." "The Forests of Lancaster, in which was included the Forest of Rossendale, were * * * exceptions; for before they became the property of the Crown, they were under the Forest Laws."

well as some mention of the family, we quote from *Rambles Round Rossendale*, by J. Marshall Mather, (1st series, 1888, pub. by J. J. Riley, *Rossendale Free Press* Office, Rawtenstall, and *News* Office, Darwen), pp. 55 et seq.: "Chapel Hill is rightly named, its ecclesiastical associations reaching back to ante-reformation times. It was originally a retreat for a brotherhood of Roman Catholic recluses, who built and inhabited the old farmstead now adjoining the burial ground; and the remains of a piscina, recessed within the crumbling walls a little above the porch, are still to be seen. It is generally supposed that the name 'Chapel Hill' was derived from its associations with the Friends' Meeting House; but this is not so, for amongst the earliest recorded births are those of younger children of James and Alice Radcliff, of 'Chapel Hill.' This at once proves the name as associated with the farmstead prior to the advent of Quakerism." "Quakerism was introduced into Rossendale by William Dewsbury and Thomas Stubbs, about the year 1653." "The first to embrace the message of Dewsbury and Stubbs were Susan Heyworth, widow, and Mary Birtwistle, widow. Following these we find among the earlier names—Henry Birtwistle, Widow Rawsthorne, of Olden (Holden), Jas. Rishton, senr., and Alice Ratcliffe—whose son and daughter, James and Alice Ratcliffe, became prominent members of the sect, Alice being given to much hospitality and entertaining of Friends at her home at Chapel Hill, and her brother James granting the present square of ground on trust to the Society." This ground was that on which the Friends located their meeting-house and burying ground about 1663; an account of these is given by Newbigging, page 220, to which the reader is referred as it is somewhat beyond the scope of this sketch. Quoting again from Mather: "It is also worthy of record that in 1684, James Radcliffe, Henry Crook, Henry Hargreaves, Nicholas Rawsthorne, John Rawsthorne, John Hargreaves, Abraham Heyworth, Richard Mather, William Jackson, and Alice Hargreaves, all of Rossendale Meeting House, were committed prisoners by order of the Quarter Sessions, at Manchester, upon an indictment for being at two peaceable meetings in Musbury and Haslingden."

Besse, in *Sufferings of Friends*, vol. 1, chapter on Lancashire, notices the last-mentioned incident, as well as some previous similar ones: Feb. 17, 1660. Richard, James and Isabel Radcliffe, Mary and Alice Roysteron [no doubt Rawsthorne] were among those apprehended at a meeting at Haslenden, "and kept with a Guard all Night." On the 31st of July, 1670, some Friends met at John Ashton's house were taken without a warrant and kept in the Court house all night and next day taken before Lawrence Rawthorn of Newhall, J. P., and sent to the House of Correction in Manchester; James Radcliffe was one of them. (The Rawsthorne family appears to have been divided on the subject of

religion). On January 19, 1684 [1684/5] James Radcliffe and others, [their names are given above in quotation from Mather, this being the same incident], were in prison for meeting; a few days after, they were indicted at Manchester sessions and recommitted to prison. P. 329. 1684. "Some time before this" [last incident, Jan. 19, 1684/5] "two bold Informers came to the House of *Abraham Hayworth* of *Rosindale*, when the Meeting there was breaking up: They went and made Information that *James Ratcliff* preached there, who was not at that Meeting; however the Justices upon this Evidence fined him 20*l.* for which the Officers broke open five Doors, and took away twelve Kine and an Horse worth 39*l.*" Alice Radcliffe had bedding, pewter, etc. taken, worth 15*s.*

James Radcliffe, born about 1645,¹ was no doubt the son of the James and Alice Radcliffe, the record of whose younger children's births is mentioned by Mather, as above. He became a minister of the Society of Friends. He married June 1, 1673, at the bride's own house in Holden, Mary Rawsthorne, who was that Widow Rawsthorne, of Holden, mentioned by Mather as one of the earliest converts to Quakerism in Rossendale. The Rawsthornes were a prominent, perhaps the most prominent, gentle family in Rossendale. One of them was Edward Rawsthorne of Newhall, one of the six captains who assisted the Countess of Derby in the defense of Lathom House in 1643, and was afterwards made Colonel of infantry by Prince Rupert, dying about 1646. This Edward's mother was daughter of Robert Holden of Holden, which may account for Widow Rawsthorne having property in Holden; though we do not know at present which of the Rawsthornes was Mary's first husband, nor her maiden name. *Foster's Lancashire Pedigrees* includes one of this family under the name of "Rosthorne, of Penwortham and Hutton," but as it is very incomplete it does not help us on this point. Several of the family joined the Society of Friends.

In 1685, James and Mary Radcliffe, with their four children, removed to Pennsylvania. The *List of Arrivals* kept in that province recorded them as "James Ratclife, Mary Ratclife, Richard Ratclife, Edward Ratclife, Rebecca Ratclife, Rachel Ratclife, free persons from Mousebury in Lancashire." A note in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's copy of Middletown Monthly Meeting register, apparently taken from the certificate record book, says: "James Radcliffe, of Musberry, in Rosendale, county Lancaster, brought a certificate dated 4 m 18th 1685." Both these names mean the Park of Musbury mentioned above.

¹ His widow's account of him says he was imprisoned when about fifteen years old, which was doubtless the occasion in 1660 mentioned by Besse; which gives us the above date.

They went first to Middletown Township,¹ Bucks County, but very soon removed to Wrightstown (not then organized as a township), where James Radcliffe bought 200 acres of land from James Harrison (though his deed² was not made until 12 mo. 10, 1689, and then from Phineas Pemberton, as husband of Phebe, only daughter and heiress of Harrison). This is shown on Holme's Map, on the Neshaminy, between James Harrison's and Herbert Springett's lands. The Minutes of the Board of Property, session 6 mo. 13, 1712, state that a resurvey showed this tract to be 355 acres. Samuel Smith, the historian, writing of Wrightstown Meeting says: "In the year 1686, James Radcliff, a noted public Friend, removed to settle at Wrightstown, near John Chapman's. For the care of these two families, a meeting was held sometimes at their houses, which continued for the most part till about 1690." This statement has been quoted in Michener's *Early Quakerism* (p. 80), and repeated in Davis's *History of Bucks County*, (1st ed., p. 255), and is doubtless correct. Wrightstown Meeting, thus established, was one of the constituents of Middletown Monthly Meeting, to which the Radcliffe's already belonged. James Radcliffe was appointed on committees of Middletown Mo. Mtg. 12 mo. 2, 1687; 1 mo. 1, 1688 [1687/8]; 6 mo. 2, 1688, (two); 11 mo. 2, and 12 mo. 6, 1689.

He died 1 mo. [March] 29, 1690. His widow's "Testimony" concerning him was published by the Yearly Meeting in *A Collection of Memorials*, (Phila., 1787), p. 13. A sketch of his life has also been published in *The Friend*, vol. 27, (Phila., 1854), p. 213. After his death his widow married for her third husband, Henry Baker, as stated in Note D. After Baker's death, about 1701, she seems to have lived awhile in Middletown Township, with her son Edward and daughters Rachel and Rebecca Radcliffe and Margaret Baker, as that is given as Rachel's residence at the time of her marriage, 10 mo. 17, 1702. Very shortly after this she took her two remaining daughters into the town of Bristol to live, and stayed there until her death 3 mo. 13, 1715. On 12 mo. 15, 1704, she joined with her four Radcliffe children in the sale³ of James Radcliffe's Wrightstown land. James and Mary Radcliffe had issue (all born in England, but births recorded on the Middletown Mo. Mtg. register):

Richard, born 4 mo. [June] 8, 1675; married 1 mo. [March] 31, 1709, in the town of Bristol,⁴ Martha Stapler, daughter of Stephen, of

¹ Davis's *History of Bucks County*, 1st ed., p. 163, mentions James and Mary Radcliffe and four children as among the early settlers in Middletown Township.

² Bucks Co. Deed Book 1, p. 334.

³ Bucks Co. Deed Book 3, p. 411.

⁴ Register of Falls Mo. Mtg.

Philadelphia. They lived in Falls Township. At the session of the Board of Property, 8 mo. 7, 1713, he was granted a lease for 11 years, on about 100 acres in Pennsbury Manor, between Bridge Creek and George Heathcott's. Richard and Martha are not known to have had any children.

Edward, born 8 mo. [Oct.] 14, 1678, died 8 mo. 27, 1714; married 6 mo. 18, 1703, at Fall's Meeting House,¹ *Phebe Baker*, (his step-sister), daughter of Henry and Margaret (Hardman) Baker; see Note D. He had just previously moved from Middletown to Bristol Township and continued all his life. On 10 mo. 18, 1707, he bought² of John Cowgill, of Trevoise, in Bensalem Township, and Rachel his wife, 200 acres of land in Bristol Tp., 100 of which had been patented to Thomas Dungan, Sr., Oct. 1, 1692, and the other 100 to Clement Dungan, Jan. 7, 1692; these had been sold by Clement, Thomas, Jr., Jeremiah and John Dungan, to Walter Pumphrey, 2 mo. 2, 1698, and by the latter to Job Bunting, 5 mo. 16, 1702; both these tracts have been described under 4. ISAAC ATKINSON above, who owned other portions of the tracts of which these were originally part. *Rachel Cowgill* who was the real seller, as relict and sole executrix of her former husband, Job Bunting, was daughter of *Henry Baker*, and sister-in-law of Edward Radcliffe; her marriages have been mentioned in Note D. Edward and Phebe had two sons: James, who married *Sarah Hough*, daughter of Joseph, and granddaughter of *Richard Hough*; and John, who married Rebecca West, and had among other children, *Rebecca*, who married *Joseph Hough*, son of Joseph, of Joseph, of *Richard*; see Note B.

Rachel, born 2 mo. [April] 16, 1682; married 10 mo. 17, 1702, at Middletown Meeting,³ William Hayhurst. She was then living in Middletown Township. William was buried 6 mo. 2, 1713, and Rachel 2 mo. 4, 1715.

Rebecca, born 11 mo. [Jan.] 11, 1684/5, died 8 mo. 11, 1714; married 4 mo. 21, 1708, in the town of Bristol,⁴ *John Hall*, of that town. Their issue is given in *Records of the Hall Family, of Bristol, Pennsylvania*, PENNA. MAG., XI, 309. John Hall married second, Sarah Baldwin, and third, HANNAH ATKINSON, (No. 11), daughter of William (No. 5) and Mary (*Hough*) Atkinson.

NOTE F.

The Stacy family history mentioned in the text is being prepared, under the title *An Historical Narrative and Genealogy of the Ely, Stacy*

¹ Register of Falls Mo. Mtg.

² Bucks Co. Deed Book 3, p. 406.

³ Register of Middletown Mo. Mtg.

⁴ Register of Falls Mo. Mtg.

and Revell Families, Who Founded Trenton, Province of West Jersey, 1678-1683, by Warren S. Ely, Doylestown, Pa., W. S. Long, M. D., Haddonfield, N. J. and D. B. Ely, Montclair, N. J.

In *Isaac and Rachel Collins*, (Phila., 1893), Appendix, p. 149, a short genealogy of the early generations of the Stacy family is given, the arrangement of which is rather confusing without close study, and in one instance is absolutely incorrect. It begins:

"I.—MAHLON STACY came from England in 1678, and left one son, named Mahlon, who married Sarah Bainbridge.

Issue:

II.—1. Mary Stacy married Reuben Pounal.

II.—2. Sarah Stacy married Joseph Kirkbride."

Etc., etc.

It would at first glance appear that Mary, Sarah, and the other children that follow were issue of Mahlon Stacy, Jr., (who had no children); but the roman numerals indicate correctly they were children of the elder Mahlon. But the third daughter, "II.—3. Rebecca Stacy married Joshua Wright," appears again (p. 150) as "II.—6. Rebecca married Thomas Budd." This is an error; Rebecca (Stacy) Wright married second, Thomas Potts, which marriage is not mentioned; it was her niece Rebecca Atkinson, (III.—5. in the table) who married Thomas Budd. (See list of children of Samuel and Ruth Atkinson in the text above.)

A presumably correct list of Mahlon Stacy's children, with years of their births, is given in some "Stacy Notes," in *The Literary Era*, vol. V, (Phila., 1898), p. 59; the name of the contributor of these notes does not appear, but it was doubtless Thomas Allen Glenn, the editor of the genealogical department of the magazine, who to the present writer's own knowledge, made some researches in England on the Stacy family. These "Stacy Notes" do not give all the marriages of the children; those below have been supplied from authentic sources. This list agrees with that in register of Chesterfield Mo. Mtg. from which the dates of birth below, are taken, except that in the "Stacy Notes" Sarah's birth is given as 1676.

Issue of Mahlon and Rebecca (Ely) Stacy:

1. *John*, b. 9.30. 1671, at Dore-House, Hansworth, Yorkshire, died prior to his father.

2. *Elizabeth*, b. 8.17. 1673, married Abel Janney.

3. *Sarah*, b. 7.4. 1675, married Joseph Kirkbride.

4. *Mary*, b. 4.12. 1677, married Reuben Pownall.

5. RUTH, b. 1.30. 1680, married first, *William Beakes*, see Note G.; second, SAMUEL ATKINSON, (No. 6).

6. *Rebecca*, b. 7.30. 1682, died in infancy.

7. *Rebecca*, b. 4.8. 1684, married first, Joshua Wright; second, Thomas Potts.

8. *Mahlon*, b. 2.7. 1686, married Sarah Bainbridge; died s. p.

The discrepancy in the date of Ruth's birth, between the Chesterfield and Burlington Mo. Mtg. registers, (mentioned in footnote, p. 342), can be accounted for on the supposition that the latter ignored the first Rebecca altogether, but used the month of her birth for her elder sister, Ruth.

NOTE G.¹

William Beakes, of the parish of Backwell, County Somerset, England, married 3 mo. 12, 1661, at North Somerset Mtg., Mary Wall (or Waln) of Olverstone. (Register of No. Somerset Mo. Mtg.) William was perhaps son of Edmund Beakes, of Portshead in the northern part of Somersetshire, one of the earliest converts to Quakerism in that region, the births (but not William's), marriages and burials of several of whose children appear on the register of North Somerset Monthly Meeting.

William and Mary Beakes, with their son Abraham came to Pennsylvania in the "Bristol Merchant," arriving in the Delaware River, in 12 mo. 1682. Their sons Stephen, Samuel and William also came over, and probably at the same time, but being of age were not included with their parents in the List of Arrivals. William Beakes had by deeds of lease and release, July 26 & 27, 1681, purchased from Wm. Penn 1000 acres of land in Pennsylvania. This land, or part of it, was laid out to him in Bucks County; Holme's Map shows two tracts on the Delaware River, in that part originally considered to be in Falls Township, but after the official division of 1692 in Makefield. A 300 acre plantation "near the Falls," one of the above, was patented to his heirs and executors, by the Commissioners of Property, 11 mo. 9, 1688. In right of his 1000 acres purchase, he had two lots in the city of Philadelphia, one on Delaware Front St., 20 feet wide, going back 396 ft. to 2nd St., and one on High (Market) St., 26 ft. front and 306 feet deep; the warrant for these was dated 5 mo. 22, 1684; surveyed 9 mo. 1, 1691; return 9 mo. 5 & 10, 1692;² they may be seen on Holme's "Portraiture" of the city.

William Beakes was a Member of Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania, 1684 and 1685; and a Justice of the Bucks County Court, commissioned April 6, 1685. He died 7 mo. 14, 1687, intestate, and

¹ For much of the material in this note, especially the English records, I am indebted to Mr. Warren S. Ely, of Doylestown, Pa., a descendant of the first William Beakes.—O. H.

² Phila. Exemplification Records, Book 7, page 129.

letters of administration were granted his widow, Mary Beakes, 9 mo. 5, 1687.¹ She died 11 mo. 4, 1696, [Jan. 1695/6].² They had issue; (births of Stephen and Samuel from register of No. Somerset Mo. Mtg.):

William, b. ———; see below.

Stephen, b. 2 mo. 28, 1665; married 8 mo. 31, 1688, Elizabeth, daughter of William Biles. Stephen Beakes was a Member of Assembly, 1697. He bought 203 acres of Lionel Britton,³ 8 mo. 10, 1688; shown on Holme's Map in Britton's name. He made a deed of trust⁴ of his property to Samuel Beakes and Phineas Pemberton, for his own use during life and after his decease to the use of his wife Elizabeth, until his son John attained the age of 21 years. After Stephen's death his widow married Matthew Hughes.

Samuel, b. 1 mo. 14, 1666/7; married (circ. 1694?) Joanna Biles, sister of his brother Stephen's wife. For account of the Biles family, see *William Biles*, by Miles White, Jr., PENNA. MAG., XXVI, 58-70, 192-206, 348-359. Samuel Beakes was a Member of Assembly, 1705 (*vice* Peter Worrall, dec'd), 1707, 1708, 1709 and 1716/7 (*vice* Thomas Stackhouse, elected 1716, but refused to serve). He was Sheriff of Bucks County 1695-1701. He bought 120 acres of Richard Ridgway,⁵ 4 mo. 8, 1691; shown on Holme's Map in Ridgway's name.

Abraham, b. ———; married Margaret Hoopes, daughter of Joshua and Isabel, of Makefield Township. Joshua Hoopes was one of the leading men in early Bucks County, being a member of Assembly in 1686, '88, '92, '95, '96, '97, 1700, '01, '03, '05, '08, '09, and 1711, but later he moved to Chester County, with which county his descendants have been prominently identified. Abraham Beakes and wife accompanied her family to Chester County, Abraham dying there in 1703, and his widow afterwards marrying John Todhunter.

William Beakes (II), son of William and Mary (Waln) Beakes, was High Sheriff of Bucks County in 1689. He obtained from the other heirs of his father, viz: Mary, widow and administratrix, and Stephen, Samuel and Abraham, sons of William Beakes, deceased, the 300 acre plantation, which the Commissioners of Property had in 1688 patented

¹ Bucks Co. Adm'n Book A, vol. 7, p. 33.

² Middletown Mo. Mtg. register has the date 11 mo. 4, 1696, which would ordinarily mean January, 1696/7, but the probate of her will shows that in this instance the new year has been used, and that it should be 1695/6. Her will was dated 12 mo. 5, 1694/5 and proved 12 mo. 28, 1695/6.

³ Bucks Co. Deed Book 1, p. 197.

⁴ Bucks Co. Deed Book 3, p. 64.

⁵ Bucks Co. Deed Book 1, p. 361.