

*NOTES ON
OLD GLOUCESTER COUNTY
NEW JERSEY*

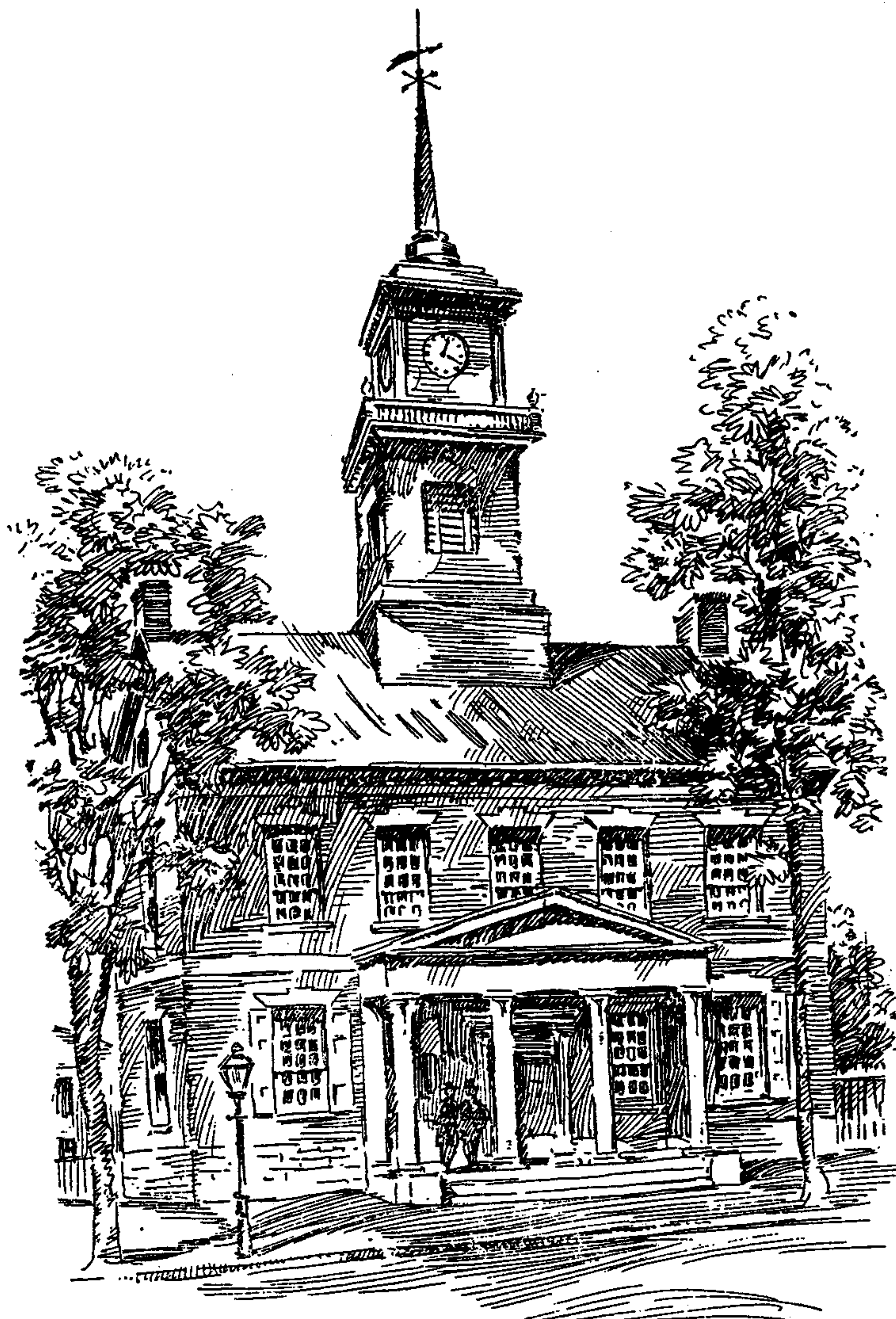


Compiled and Edited by
FRANK H. STEWART

Four Volumes in Two



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OLD GLOUCESTER COUNTY COURT HOUSE,
AT WOODBURY.

FROM SKETCH BY FRANK H. TAYLOR

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NOTES ON

Old Gloucester County

NEW JERSEY

HISTORICAL RECORDS PUBLISHED BY
THE NEW JERSEY SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA

VOLUME I

Compiled and Edited by
FRANK H. STEWART
HISTORIAN OF THE SOCIETY
1917



TATUM OAK, MT. ROYAL.

This is one of the oldest trees in Southern New Jersey. In 1917 measurements of the tree were as follows: Height, 92 feet; Girth, 6 feet above ground, 27 feet; Girth at 2 feet above ground, 32 feet; Spread of Branches, 110 feet.

Samuel Mickle's Diary*

Samuel Mickle, the son of Samuel and Letticia Mickle, was born 7 mo. 1 day, 1746, O. S., and died 3 mo. 31 day, 1830. His wife was the daughter of Robert Friend and Hannah Price. She was born 2 mo. 13 day, 1748, O. S., and died 10 mo. 13 day, 1809.

On the 28th of November, 1792, Samuel Mickle, of Woodbury, commenced to keep a diary, and between that date and July 19, 1829, he recorded an immense amount of important historical and genealogical data. Altogether there are five books written in a perfectly plain, neat, legible, almost microscopic hand, containing seven hundred and fifty pages. The books are now in the possession of Miss Anna Mickle, and to her I am indebted for the privilege of making one hundred and fifty pages of hand-written manuscript from which these printed facts are taken.

For the sake of brevity it was necessary to omit the names of many of those who merely lodged or dined with him, as well as those whom he visited. He kept an open house and nearly every day he mentions the names of those at his home. Many young persons, principally relatives, lived with him while they attended the schools of Woodbury.

His diaries make constant mention of his daily activities in looking after his home, investments, and the various properties he owned. He was of a literary and religious turn of mind, and profuse poetical quotations and prayerful meditations abound in all of the five books.

He was Clerk of the Friends' Meeting of Woodbury, member of the Fire Company, Abolition Society, Gloucester County Bible Society, Library Company, looked after Deptford Free School and many of the other public affairs of the community.

If there was any public movement for the general welfare of the people in which Samuel Mickle of Wood-

* By FRANK H. STEWART.

1798

- 1/12. He mentions visit of Elias Hicks.
 1/21. Josh'a Hopper, Jr., Inkeeper at Woodbury, died. Age about 23 years.
 1/27. Aunt Hannah Ladd deceased.
 2/22. Visited Sarah Whitalls at Red Bank, the house of mourning indeed, between 11 of 9th and 18th of 10 mo last inclusive hath deceased her husband Job Whitall, her husbands mother, Ann, and children Job, Sarah and Aaron Whitall and girl Sarah Burroughs. Also other scenes of distress have been at that place. Witness their fine apple orchard cut down and ground dug up in great trenches and works thrown up in erecting a Fort there, their dwelling house walls battered in holes while the family were endeavoring to live quietly therein, fruits of a battle between ye American & Hessian Soldiers in 1777 when after it I saw men lying naked on ye ground except in part covered with a little straw and some of them with their limbs off having died of their wounds.
 3/ 3. Visited Depthford Free School.
 5/13. Mary, widow of Solomon Lippincott (and daughter of Ab'm Chattin a dec'd Englishman) dined. Very cheerful about 76 years of age, entertained my dear wife and me with accounts of old times or days of her youth and respecting of those inhabitants, buildings &c of this part of ye county.
 6/18. Light horsemen exercising in sham fight along Woodbury street.
 8/ 9. Yellow fever in Philada.
 8/22. Yellow fever at Oldmans Creek, Port Elizabeth, Thompsons Point and Haddonfield.

1798.

- 9/12. Doctor Jno. Otto is recovering and about again.
 This day completes my 51st year.
 9/18. Isaac Saunders died of yellow fever in 24th year of his age, at Woodbury.
 Doctor Geo. W. Campbell and Sarah Kaighn died 9-2-98.
 9/30. Biddle Reeves recovered from yellow fever.
 Oct. Deaths mentioned: Hannah Inskeep, Martin Moody, Sam'l Townsend, Josiah Hopkins, Abraham Gibbon, Robt. Kirkbride, Wm. Jackson, Jas. Emlen, Hannah, wife of Jacob Lindley, Mary Sharpless, Rebecca Cooper.
 10/ 9. Mentions Deborah Steward.

1799

- 2/22. An unusual noisy time about Woodbury ye P. M. A very general parade of militia with cannon and small arms drum & fife etc and flag hoisted on top of ye Court house (Gen'l Geo Washingtons birth day celebrated).
 3/16. Went with Jno Reeve to an advertised meeting at Jos Huggs tavern to establish a fire company in Woodbury and its neighborhood, made some progress and adjourned to ye day 2 weeks 2 P. M. to meet at ye Academy.
 3/18. Report says 2 or 3 counties in Penna revolt against government, also accounts from other points of ye United States threaten trouble.
 3/24. Peter Andrews of Little Egg Harbour brother of Edward at meeting.
 Mother in law Leze Smith late Price has been ill at Egg Harbour lately, brought home yesterday.

1800.

- 9/ 5. Wife of Biddle Reeves, funeral.
- 9/10. Wm. Hutton age 70 whose father Jno. Hutton lived to be 110 years old is building a new house for Thos. Mann.
- 9/29. My dear wife went with cousin Sarah Hopkins and her grand daughter Elizabeth, daughter of Jas. Hopkins, Elizabeth widow of Benj. Whitall and Sarah wife of Jno. S. Whitall, to Joseph Whitalls.
- 10/ 1. Introduced to Duncan Campbells father who looked liked his son the late Doctor Geo. W. Campbell. On 10/3 he mentions Benjamin brother of Duncan.
- 10/23. Jas. Hinchmans barn struck by lightning and consumed.
- 10/26. Mentions Jedediah Allen and wife, Solomon S. Saunders and his intended wife, Lydia Burroughs, Mary Lippincott, Rebecca Saunders as guests.
- 11/ 9. Mary Miller deceased to-day.
- 12/12. Joshua Lord and Sarah Jessup married.
- 12/24. Election in Woodbury for members of Congress. The Federals prevailed on Mary Saunders to give her vote.
- 12/31. Noisy night with drums and guns. Read manuscript Journal of our dear deceased friend Joshua Evans.

1801

- 1/30. Visited school with Benj. Roulon, Biddle Reeves, Jas. and Paul Cooper.
- 2/15. Jno. Redman and wife and daughter Mary, Deborah Steward and Letticia Craig, Lodge.

No entry between 2/20, 1801, and 4 mo. 1, 1801, when he writes, "I now resume my pen after having been near the gates of Death, etc." Carefully describes his

sickness and Doctor Hendry's treatment. While he was sick he first told his wife of this diary, giving her liberty to destroy all or part of it after his decease.

1801.

- 4/20 & 21. Made catalogue of his books and pamphlets.
- 5/ 1. Visited by Cousin Deborah wife of Jos. Hugg and her sister Hester Matlack.
- 5/ 4. Went away in chair, visited Rebecca Lippincott at Mullica Hill and her son Joshua Lippincott, Thos. Battin and Jacob Haines, near Sweedesborough.
- 5/10. Aaron H. Middleton & Deborah Whitall married, Phineas Lord & wife together with S. M. and wife overseers. Deborah was sister of Mary Whitall, who married Robert Hopkins.
- 5/19. Visited Benj. Reeve sick at Job Tylers on way to Salem, under care of Doctor Wister.
- 5/22. Joseph Sharp buried. He was father of boy who lived with S. M., and who died a few months previous.
- 6/ 9. Joseph Ogden and Sybil Tatum married.
- 6/16. Court Week. Many people in to-day, among them Thos. Redman & wife, James Cooper, Daniel Smith & his daughters Mary & Elizabeth Smith, ye latter from Egg Harbor, wife of Evi Smith.
- 6/17. Wrote to Andrew Hunter near Trenton, about a mortgage on his land.
- 6/18. Joseph Hillman who removed from Woodbury in Spring of 1800 returned yesterday a week, died of consumption and was buried in the Presbyterian Burial Ground.
- 7/ 2. Rachel Wilkins, wife of Isaac Wilkins and daughter of Joseph Low, dec'd.
- 7/30. Joseph Eustace, mason, died this A. M.

1808.

parade with Phila Militia in Woodbury acting a mock fight, etc.

5/15. Mary Wood widow of Jno. deceased.

5/17. Another operation on his wife in Phila.

6/20. Obtained F. Davenports liberty to open a window from my stable into his orchard.

6/24. Sold my undivided moiety of salt marsh to Jno Baker for \$400.00 surveyed to my grandfather Jno Mickle & Jno Alford in ye whole 754 acres between Great Egg Harbor & Middle Rivers.

6/30. Visited our school late ye P. M., 26 boys & 23 girls, total 49.

8/ 3. Describes sting of a bumble bee that put him out of business. Called in Doctor Lummis.

9/ 8. Had a kind of special meeting of Abolition Society ye P. M. at Court House to appoint representatives to State meeting at Trenton. Till now we have had no meeting of said society since 4 mo 1806.

9/15. Mentions Red Bank school house.

9/16. Mary Snowden, daughter of Richard, died last night. Hester White, daughter of Jno. Moore deceased 2nd day 12th inst.

9/17. Describes the 3rd operation on his wife's face.

9/20. Started from Cambden about 4.45 P. M. in ye beginning of a thunder gust.

Note: This is first mention of "Cambden." Two days later he mentions ferry at Cambden.

9/26. Had 40 bushels of apples made into cider at Randall Sparks mill.

9/29. James Whitall Sen'r deceased in his 92d year.

10/24. Anniversary of my wedding day 32 years since, and I am tottering about here yet.

11/ 3. Sarah Hopkins Jun'r deceased aged 32 years, also Thos. M. Potter.

1808.

11/ 9. We walked around the walls of ye Penna Hospital which is near her boarding place. (His wife's.)

12/ 7. Attended funeral of Joseph Ridgway a prisoner for debt who died in Jail at Woodbury. The creditors not allowing his body to be removed beyond the restricted limits of the jail, the corpse was taken to Mark Browns house, a tavern, and thence interred in his yard, M. B.'s for a time.

12/11. Elizabeth Whitall, widow of Benj. deceased and mother of Joseph and Samuel, deceased today. Buried 13th.

12/27. Sarah Davenport wife of Franklin mentioned.

12/30. Roger Dicks deceased.

1809

1/29. Lawyer I. W. Crane of Bridgetown and his new wife Maria, late Alberti, came in and stayed a minute or two.

2/16. John Jessup Jr. & Sarah daughter of John Wood married at our meeting today.

2/19. Deborah Steward, Eliz. Daniels and Beulah Steward lodge.

4/ 3. Annual meeting of School Society and meeting of Fire Co.

4/ 4. Mary Newbold dec'd.

4/19. This day 30 years ago my dear wife and I came to dwell in Woodbury.

4/20. Hannah Trump went home and took her sister Matilda to live with her.

4/25. Wrote deed from Duncan Campbell to Richard Snowden conveying his house and lot for \$2800.00 consideration.

At this period he describes the daily condition of his wife who is rapidly failing.

1818.

- 3/27. Elizabeth Hopper daughter of Wm & Mary Hopper deceased, aged 14 years.
- 3/29. Invitation to funeral of Prudence Kaighn widow of Joseph said to be in her 89th year.
- 4/ 8. Annual Meeting Bible Society at Academy. Rebecca Jones a maiden of Phila interred yesterday in Phila about 89 years old.
- 4/29. Rec'd invitation to funeral of Dr Sam'l Hopkins of Phila late of Woodbury son of Jas Hopkins.
- 5/ 6. John Paul deceased ye morning.
- 5/12. Went to Phila bought spectacles at McAllisters down near ye drawbridge.
- 6/ 6. Gave Matilda Alberti large family bible late belonging to her Aunt Blanch Price deceased.
- 6/17. Geo Alberti Jr. after a runaway black slave. I did not see either of them.
- 7/12. 103° in shade. Warmest day since battle of Monmouth in the Revolutionary War and was warmer than any for 30 years before.
- 7/15. Cousin Ann Mickle (3rd wife of Joseph at Newton) late Blackwood deceased this A. M. Also Amy Ward widow of Nathan deceased yesterday.
- 7/20. Began making index of in ye latter part of Book of records of Births and Deaths of Members of Woodbury Monthly meeting.
- 8/ 4. Levi Lippincott, Evesham funeral.
- 8/13. Samuel W. Harrison dec'd at Gloucester yesterday in 56th year.
- 8/30. Levi Hopper says he was aged 74 2 mo 17th last.
- 9/ 3. Funeral of Joseph Eastlack.
- 9/12. My birthday begins my 73d year.

1818.

- 9/17. Thos Wood of Phila and Anna Maria Wood daughter of Marmaduke Wood married to-day.

Levi Hopper deceased this morning.

End of diary Book No. 3, 90 pages, 1818.

On inside of first page preceding Index of 4th Book, 9th mo. 20th, 1818, to 4th mo. 24, 1826, is written:

To my Executors

In respect to keeping a diary. I have done it for my own convenience and satisfaction—Yet I have sometimes had thoughts of discontinuing it. But on reflecting that I had often found a benefit, thereby finding divers memorandums of things which (from my own poor memory) had been by me forgotten, or not known at what time they happened some of which I have at times been anxious to know, and had forgotten I had made any note of, until on looking over I found, (sometimes unexpectedly,) an entry thereof, which hath, at times, been very satisfactory and beneficial to me in divers respects.

But as they will be of little or no use to any person after my decease—therefore unnecessary to expose them;—and will perhaps be best to be put in the Fire by my Executors amongst other (to them) useless papers.

12 mo 5, 1823

SAM'L MICKLE

1818.

- 9/30. John Fisher of Petersburg in Va. introduced to me by Robt. Roe he being brother of Sarah Fisher ye first girl my wife and I had in our family. He informed me he removed from here in 1791 and his sister Sarah in 1792.

1824.

- 12/21. Ira Allen expects to remove to ye neighborhood of Lake Ontario near Buffalo.
- 12/29. Sarah Reeves widow of Joseph (& formerly widow of Job Whitall and daughter of Jno Gill Sr. of Haddonfield) dec'd this A. M. Aged 73-7 mo-1 day buried Woodbury Friends ground.

1825

- 1/ 3. This P. M. a meeting held at Court House to devise means to counteract ye Camdenites in respect to removal of Court House and other public buildings from Woodbury to Camden.
- 1/13. Isaac Mickles son Benj'm & Ann Blackwood married this day at Haddonfield.
- 1/21. Hinchman Haines' son Hinchman and Priscilla Warrington late from & residents of ye State of Ohio and daughter of Ab'm Warrington of said place and Hester Warrington of near Moorestown daughter of Henry Warrington all dined here today.
- 1/25. Went to Deptford upper school in company with Patience, widow of Thos Sparks to introduce her and 3 sons Josiah, Robert & Samuel to ye teacher Thos Booth.
- 1/30. This P. M. wrote for cous Geo. Mickle a memo respecting Births & deaths in ye compass of Upper Greenwich Prep meeting.
- 2/ 4. Most of ye day drawing a/c of deficiencies in births and deaths on record for Woodbury monthly meeting.
- 2/ 7. Gave Dr. Fithian liberty to make and burn a Brick kiln on my triangular lot bo't of Jno Tatum.
- 2/ 8. Election at Squancum today respecting Removal of ye seat of Justice from Woodbury

1825.

- to Camden. Election to be held at Woodbury tomorrow.
- James Stephens brother of ye late Rachel Saunders dec'd was interred this day at family Burial ground.
- 2/ 9. Election day in Woodbury to determine whether ye seat of Justice be removed from Woodbury to Camden. Gave my vote in favor of its continuance at Woodbury and Friends very generally gave their votes in favor of Woodbury. A very general election to which ye sick lame and blind were bro't forward.
- 2/10. Election Return at Egg Harbor gave to Camden a majority of 159 votes. Total vote in the County 4160. Majority for Woodbury 876. But 8 votes in Deptford in favor of Camden.
- 2/14. Bought of Enoch Allen merchant tailor of Phila tenement lately occupied by his brother Ira Allen. Leased it to Sam'l Johnson.
- 2/17. Sarah Cooper (widow of Amos) deceased this A. M. also heard Nathaniel Buzby Maurice River dec'd 10 mo-10th last.
- 2/18. Cous. Hannah Whitall informed me her father John Mickle deceased when she was about 15 months of age viz. in 5th mo 1774. Herself born 2 mo-13 da 1773.
- 2/21. Drew 2 lists of deficiencies or such as are not yet recorded in ye records of Woodbury mo meeting viz. Births & Deaths 1 for each Prep meeting.
- 2/23. Cousin Mary wife of Wm Glover & dau of cousin Sam'l Mickle deceased this morning aged 48-4mo-7 da. Also Benj Carpenter, Cedar Cooper, dec'd. Also Rachel Al-

1825.

len daughter of Anthony & Mary Allen dec'd this P. M. aged 55-10 mo-4 d.

3/ 1. Josiah Clark deceased last night.

3/ 2. Our village Herald says George Alberti Jr Constable was shot on Tuesday week (or 3 day 22 ulto.) near Haddonfield in an attempt to arrest a fugitive slave.

All through his diaries he, S. M., describes the ailments and causes of deaths. He had many callers and made constant visits and records names in great numbers. I do not repeat names more often than necessary.—F. H. S.

3/ 8. Chalkley Glover married 3d inst.

3/16. Village Herald of this date says. "Died at his residence at Mays Landing on Wed. last 9th inst. Colonel Richard Wescott in ye 92 year of his age." But agreeable to what he told me a few years ago he was but in his 90th year viz. 89 years & 4 mo of age.

3/25. Jno Cooper and Abraham Anderson colored men employed by him.

S. M. had several books of receipts for making all kinds of cures for various diseases and frequently writes of his work and uses of his own drugs and combinations.—F. H. S.

3/31. Richard Snowden of Phila formerly of this town deceased last evening.

Richard Jordan lost his wife about three weeks ago.

4/ 4. Made 1 qt of best ink. [It was a fine ink judging from his diary, still unfaded].

4/ 7. Howard Abbott & Susan Stokes married.

4/ 8. Drew letter of Atty appointing Zebulon Wolf to ye care of my Swedesboro business he to collect and pay me ye ground rents and he to receive ten per cent for his trouble.

1825.

4/ 9. Mary Hopper wife of Wm Hopper (late Mary Saunders daughter of John Saunders dec'd) deceased this evening aged 46 yrs 1 mo. She came to reside in my family when about 7 years of age & continued therein until she married Wm. Hopper, then 24 yrs of age, in my family about 17 years.

4/10. Eli Stratton from Ohio lodges.

4/20. Executed to Zebulon Wolf letter of Atty to transact my business at Laddstown.

4/24. One of our Woodbury Lawyers Robt Pearson deceased last night.

5/ 3. Cousin Isaac Mickle deceased in Camden in his 68th year.

Went to Phila visited Zollicoffs medical store N. E. cor Pine & 6th St. Anna Guest informed me that her sister Elizabeth was born 7 mo New Style 1749.

He always visited E. & A. Guest when in Phila.—F. H. S.

5/ 5. Jno Knight and Mary Lippincott married today at Upper Greenwich.

5/ 7. Rec'd First report of Provident Society for ye employment of the Poor, also a copy of address delivered before ye Philada Society for Promoting Agriculture at its annual meeting on ye 18th Jany 1825, by Roberts Vaux.

6/ 5. Adin Craft deceased yesterday.

7/ 6. Joseph Justice brick mason in Philada fell from Scaffold last week and died.

7/20. Josiah Eldridge, Evesham, dec'd 15th inst.

7/24. Cousin Jos. Whitall informed me his cousin Sam'l Cooper (stiled General Cooper) near ye lower bridge over Raccoon Creek deceased yesterday to be interred ye P. M. He was ye son of Robert Cooper who used

1825.

to farm for Uncle Jno Ladd deceased. Said Robert Cooper and Benj Whitall ea married a daughter of John Hopper dec'd, said J. H. dwelt on ye farm whereon Benj. Lord now resides.

7/29. Sam'l Hudsons sister Sarah Hudson dec'd this A. M.

8/ 2. Attended funeral of Dan'l Packers child aged about 3 years. James Gibsons wife Hannah deceased last night.

8/ 3. This days Herald says "Died at Bridgeton 23 ult. General James Giles in ye 67th year, formerly an inhabitant of Woodbury."

Thos. Clements wife Rachel deceased this morning.

8/10. Ann Lawrie widow of Thos Lawrie interred 7th inst.

James Freeland dec'd about 2 months since.

8/11. Am informed by Jesse Owen that his father Joshua Owen deceased last 3rd mo.

8/14. At meeting, Hannah widow of Zaccheus Test, daughter of Joseph Reeves dec'd from ye State of Ohio last Autumn, on visit she says they removed from ye neighborhood about 20 years since and that her husband dec'd 2 mo 2d 1819.

8/23. Wm. Hopper dec'd.

8/31. Abigail Woodruff widow of Elias Deacon Woodruff and daughter of Sam'l Whitall removed yesterday to her fathers in Maryland and from thence intends removing to Trenton.

This days Herald says on ye 11th inst deceased Elizabeth widow of Jno Driver aged 90 years 2 mos and on ye 27th inst Josiah H. Middleton son of Aaron H. Middleton dec'd late of Woodbury.

1825.

9/ 4. Attended at ye house of Doctor Sam'l Howell in Woodbury ye funeral of his child which was interred at Newtown.

9/12. Entered my 80th year.

9/18. Ann Roe wife of Robt. Roe born 7 mo 12 1791 dec'd this morning.

Sam'l Webster having at several times disputed my calculations respecting ye old and new Stile and he calling in to see me ye evening I showed him Poor Richards Almanac for 1752 wherein is the British Act of Parliament for changing the Old Stile to ye new. When after some altercation he concluded my calculation to be right viz. ye 12 of 9 mo New Stile to be my birth day being born 7 mo 1 1746 Old Style.

9/27. Uriah French dec'd today to be interred in Frds Burial ground tomorrow.

9/28. At funeral of Uriah French.

9/29. Attended at ye house the funeral of Elizabeth wife of Daniel Fortiner Blacksmith in Woodbury. Interred at Haddonfield.

10/ 1. Cousin Jas Mickle here from ye State of Ohio accompanied by Benj Shreeve of said state whose residence is abt 1½ mile distant from Chas Strattons residence.

10/ 2. Thos Matthews & Othniel Alsop from Philada attended our meeting. They and 2 of Wm. Folwells sons dined.

10/ 9. Mary wife of Marmaduke Wood dec'd today.

10/10. Jas Glovers wife Mary daughter of Isaac Doughten dec'd this morning.

10/18. James Saunders informed me that Sarah Shoemaker in Philada widow of Jonathan Shoemaker my old mistress also that his fathers old master were both interred last 4th day.



ANCIENT TREE AT GLOUCESTER

The West Jersey Proprietors for the County of Gloucester have met annually on this spot since 1688, when the Council of Proprietors of West Jersey was organized. This tree is standing (1917) on the river bank about 50 feet south of the foot of Market Street.

SKETCH BY FRANK H. TAYLOR 1917

Job Whitall's Diary *

Job Whitall, son of James and Ann Cooper Whitall, was born 1 mo.-27-1743, and died 9 mo.-11-1797.

Job Whitall was a son of James and Ann Cooper Whitall, who lived in the old brick mansion still standing near the Red Bank monument visited by our Society last June. His diary, now in possession of Louis W. Whitall, contains a great deal more of interest than is mentioned here, especially genealogical data, and is another example of history that has never been copiously copied or published.

Job had the patience of Job of Old and the extracts made here from his diary certainly fail to show the slightest exasperation at the confiscation of his things by British and Continental soldiers alike. Harassment from all quarters was his portion, and while he ignores the famous battle of Red Bank he throws a great deal of light on the doings of the soldiers and the military conditions prevalent in Old Gloucester in 1776-7.

On Feby. 7, 1776, he received of Joseph Whitall one hundred Continental dollar bills.

Feby. 24 he mentions that The people began to muster this day.

May 6. The alarm guns were fired betwixt twelve and one of the clock which occasioned great commotion amongst some of the people.

On May 8th he heard a cannonading with the row gallies and a man of war or two which lasted three hours or better. The people getting in arms as fast as possible. The next day he heard the cannon firing the most of the afternoon and evening.

Oct. 8th. Brother John Whitall and Thomas Saunders set off for New York to see Brother Benjamin Whitall at ye Camp.

* By FRANK H. STEWART.

Benj. Whitall made application to Committee of Safety Jan. 10, 1776, for a command in Col. Maxwell's regiment. Benjamin Whitall was a Second Lieutenant in Artillery Co. formed March 2, 1776. He was subsequently promoted to be a First Lieutenant and later Captain Lieutenant.

Oct. 18th. He gave Barbara Down four dollars that brother John Whitall brought from Charles Spencer at ye Camp.

Nov. 29. He records: Bob Taylor came here to strain our goods and because he could not go all over our house he got in a passion and went away without anything, he threatening to fetch a file of musketeers to scare us I suppose.

Dec. 10. I got a good deal of pork of ye market people, they being scart and turned back by accounts that ye English soldiers were coming to Philadelphia or near it. I paid them all. On Dec. 14 he went to the Philadelphia Market and got to Austins ferry (Arch St.) before daylight and sold his marketing when market opened.

Jan'y 20th, 1777. Thomas Denny and John Sparks sent for cousin Thomas Redman and committed him to gaol, but he had his liberty to go home and come next morning, which he did.

Jan'y 21. Squires sent for Cousin Mark Miller again and I went to see how it went. They wrote his mittimus and ordered Ellick Mitchell to take him to gaol but Ellick gave him liberty to stay to dinner and when over he took Cousin Thos. Redman and Mark Miller to gaol.

April 16, 1777. Went down to Father Whitalls to make a haul with his seine but there being three or four hundred soldiers there we thought not to fish but we made one haul and caught one shad and two or three other fish.

April 19. Some of the soldiers went away and more came this day.

Aug. 8. A number of ye militia came in to Woodbury and took possession of our meeting house.

Aug. 15. Ye soldiers came back this day and went into our meeting house again.

Aug. 16. While I was at Fathers, John Porch ye Constable came there and demanded a fine from Brother John Whitall, and I had an opportunity to see what mine was. There were two against me, one fine was

	£	S	D
	1	2	6
Costs		2	6
Ye other fine 1		0	0
Costs		2	6

And against my man John were two more, one

		17	6
Costs		2	6
Ye other		15	0
Costs		2	6
	£	S	D
Ye whole	4	5	0

Aug. 19. Jehu Ward came here in a passion and demanded me to go over to brick house tavern before Sparks and Denny or I should be sent for by ye authority. After a little pause I went over to the Squires and they not being in Jehu and I walked into a private room and by having some conversation his passion began to cool and he concluded to go no further in it and he seemed to be very friendly when we parted.

Sept. 2, 1777. I went to Gloucester Gaol to see Thomas Edgerton whom Sparks had put in for not taking ye test.

Sept. 5. Militia had their discharge this morning and ye bigger number went home. A number of girls went to washing and cleaning ye meeting house.

Sept. 13. Ye Militia had filled our meeting house and school here and several other houses ye fore part of week.

Sept. 20. Jehu Wood *drest* a number of horses and wagons today.

Oct. 2. Capt. Sam'l Hugg had our wagon for ammunition. Ye Militia took our light covered wagon without leave and have not returned it.

Oct. 6. While I was at fathers Capt. Jos. Blewer took my little brown mare without leave to ride up to Washington's Camp, as he said.

From Oct. 7th to the 22nd he was busy moving furniture, produce and stock first to his father's place, and thence again to his Uncle David Cooper's, at Woodbury. On the 10th he writes: "The Militia turned us out of our kitchen ye largest room upstairs and the shop and took our hay to feed their horses."

On the 12th Capt. John Blewer brought his brown mare home and on the 17th he got his wagon back, which he loaded with a chest full of clothes, a tub full of china and crockery, a half barrel of wine; another tub full of pewter and one walnut box, and sent the lot to his uncle David Cooper's.

On the 21st he took another load of goods away.

On the 22nd of October, the day of the battle of Red Bank, he says: "Ye Boys and myself hung a gate in ye meadow and John and I went to finish ye stacks (hay) and our women blowed ye horn and we went home and got our horses and wagon and loaded it with goods. Ye reason was because ye English troops were close by. We ate some dinner and my wife, children and myself went off in our wagon. Father, *mother* and ye boys stayed. We got to Uncle David Coopers and stayed awhile and I went back again on horse back. Uncle David and James Cooper each sent a boy down to fathers to help me away with some cattle. I went over the Dam to fathers and got ye boys and we drove

away 21 head, 8 fat, 4 cows, one pair oxen, 3 steers, 1 heifer and 3 calves to Uncle David Cooper and stayed all night. This same day ye people in ye Fort drove from Father and me 47 sheep into ye fort."

This record showing that his mother, Ann Cooper Whitall, did not leave the farm after dinner on the day of the famous battle should forever kill the suspicion created by certain writers that she was not at home during the battle, and therefore could not have been engaged in knitting or spinning when the cannon ball went through one end of her home.

Oct. 23. The day after the battle, which is not mentioned by Friend Whitall, he records: "The Americans had filled the kitchen, shop, big room, the long room upstairs and two other rooms down stairs which forced us to move out." The next day he got several teams and loaded them with his fathers goods and took them to Woodbury to John Murdocks.

Oct. 25. He and his wife took his mother down and were loading goods when the soldiers took his mare out of harness by order of Col. Greene. This prevented the removal of the goods and he locked four rooms filled with articles. The following day he brought away his father's hogs and sheep, also Joseph Low's. Four out of 37 were missing.

On the 27th he went to his father's house and found the soldiers had broken open three of the doors. He got six more sheep and one pig.

On the 29th he got a few of the potatoes the soldiers had left and found the other door forced and the things chiefly gone out of it. This day he got his brown mare back. On the 31st the soldiers took a young mare colt away out of the meadow. At this time he sent a valuable horse down to Salem to his Uncle Richard Wood's.

On Nov. 4, while several teams were hauling, the soldiers took a yoke of oxen and his sorrel horse away.

Nov. 7. He went to Woodbury meeting and the soldiers had made a hospital of the meeting house, and a meeting was held out of doors and when over a Preparative meeting was held in Mark Miller's house. He said it was a matter of satisfaction and comfort to him.

On the 9th another meeting was held out of doors. On his return home the soldiers had stolen two of his pigs in the night. His Uncle David Cooper while on the way to meeting saw two soldiers, one of whom had a pig. He shouted to them and they dropped the pig and ran as fast as they could through the corn. This would make a good subject for some artist.

Nov. 18. The sick soldiers were all ordered away.

Nov. 21. I stayed at home on account of ye English soldiers coming here today. They took two mares from me, one sorrel horse out of the stable, the other out of the lot, a brown mare, both with foal, and while ye army was passing they came in and took our bread, pie, milk, cheese, meat dishes, cups, spoons and then took shirts, sheets, blankets, coverleds, stockings, breeches and drove our cattle out of ye brick shed and they all came back but one big brown ox that we worked while here. They broke open two doors and ransacked ye house all over but ye cellar.

Nov. 22. He stayed at home all day. The soldiers took one of his pigs and cut and hacked several others with their swords. We were pretty peaceable this day—only came and got some potatoes and milk. There was a great number of soldiers who went by this day and while passing they took off my gears with them.

On the 23rd he went to Uncle David Cooper's and found the soldiers had been there and broken open many doors and two drawers in his desk. Took nearly a whole barrel of sugar leaving only a few pounds and also took ten sheep of his father's and Joseph Low's. Towards night he went home and some soldiers were there taking as much hay as two horses could carry strung on each side with ropes.

Nov. 24. Ye English soldiers all moved off this morning and left Woodbury. I walked to where they had their camp and we found our big kettle but not our little pot. Found ye brown oxes hide belonging to father that they had killed, and took it to Aaron Hews for him to tan for me. It weighed 50 lbs. Father found a Windsor chair in the woods. I walked to Woodbury to see my friends and the soldiers had stolen out of our smoke house in Woodbury 4 or 5 flitches of bacon. They had taken over a thousand feet of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch boards and 2 or 3 thousand barrel staves.

Nov. 25. Sailors came ashore and took Brother James' hogs.

Nov. 30. Went to Woodbury meeting for the first time since the soldiers had left it.

Dec. 15. Went to Red Bank to spread Flax that ye soldiers had made tents of. It was very much tangled.

Spelling of Family Names

It is a curious fact that many of the first settlers would not recognize their names as now spelled by their grandchildren's grandchildren.

Covenover is now Conover.

Van Immen is now Vanneman.

Maffet is now Moffett.

Eslick is now Eastlack.

Pronunciation has had a great deal to do with the changes in spelling. In Salem Co., where I was born, the Steward family was a large one and there was no trouble with my name. When I went to Philadelphia everybody called me Stewart, and I, boy-like, thought it would be all right to make the spelling conform to the practice. When I started in business for myself I did

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 Notes on Old Gloucester County, 1917.

Notes on Old Gloucester County New Jersey

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VOLUME II

Compiled and Edited by

FRANK H. STEWART

President of the Gloucester County Historical Society
 Woodbury, N. J.

Writ issued, sealed 24th June.

"I never rec'd ths Writt.

Jno. Hinchman, Sheriff."

The notation made by the sheriff was for some special purpose because it is the only one of its kind appearing in the court docket. The law suit was dropped for some reason.

The writer thinks John Wood is entitled to credit as the founder of the settlement on Woodbury Creek.

Samuel Mickle, of Woodbury, who kept a wonderful diary of the years 1792 to 1829, recorded on December 26, 1820, that he "read after candle light ye manuscript papers respecting ye wars about Woodbury Dam in 1754,"

These manuscript papers, without a doubt, belonged to his uncle, John Ladd, Jr., whose papers he then had.

It was very unusual for one Quaker to sue another, and nothing but a defiance of the rules of Friends' Meeting can now be seen in this litigation record.

The bitterness of the contest is reflected in the words, "wars about Woodbury Dam." The following account shows that it was not only a source of conflict then, but continued so for seventy-five years and more.

The dam across the mouth of Woodbury Creek was built about six years prior to the twenty-fourth of April, 1760, when Ann Whitall wrote in her diary: "Hab. Ward and Mos. Ward came here to the dam there has been so much quarreling about, and brought two axes, two mattocks, and two spades to cut the dam down, and to work they went, and Sparks brought the Sheriff, and there was miserable work, but they tied them and took them to Joseph Harrison, and from there to jail." (See Notes on Old Gloucester County, Volume 1.)

Ann Whitall, afterwards known as the Heroine of Red Bank, lived on the farm where the battle of Red Bank was fought, in a red brick house still standing a few hundred feet north of the bank that dammed Woodbury Creek. Across the dam the Whitalls drove their live stock the day of the battle. After the defeat of the Hessians, Count Donop was taken across the dam to Joseph Low's, and there died in a brick house long since torn down, but the old buttonwood trees

that shaded it survived until recently, and the property was lately owned by a descendant named Low.

Benjamin Whitall, the son of Ann, was a captain of artillery. Her brother, John Cooper, was a member of the Provincial Congress of New Jersey, and a delegate to the Continental Congress. His term with the other New Jersey delegates expired a few days before the first of July, 1776, and their successors signed the Declaration of Independence on behalf of the people of New Jersey.

Joseph Low was a member of a patriotic committee, and was disowned by Friends Meeting because of his activities, the same as John Cooper. When I first became interested in Gloucester County history, I often wondered why the British and American troops, both alike, stole from and persecuted the family of James and Ann Whitall. The English knew, of course, about John Cooper and Benjamin Whitall. The Americans knew they were Quakers, and opposed to force. They were truly between two millstones.

The following advertisement appeared in Franklin's newspaper, the "Pennsylvania Gazette," of June 29, 1758:

Notice is hereby given, That the Petitioners of Woodbury Creek, in the County of Gloucester and Province of West New Jersey, have leave to bring in the Bill they pray for the first Monday of the next sitting of the House of Assembly of said Province at Burlington, for clearing out of said creek above the Dam for keeping the freshets from overflowing the meadows above said Dam, and for maintaining the said dam and waterworks. If any persons have any objections to make, they are desired to offer them. Dated June 5, 1758.

April 24, 1760, an advertisement was printed in the same newspaper by William and Ruth Wood to the effect that on May 7th following, a plantation of the late Henry Woods, situated in the township of Deptford, Gloucester County, N. J., would be offered for sale. The plantation was located about five miles from Gloucester, and one and one-half miles from Woodbury, and contained a pretty large new brick house, and one hundred

acres of the best meadow grounds our country affords, being made dry by stopping a creek whereon it lies.

When the dam was first erected at the mouth of the creek, it was done without the consent of some of the meadowholders at the very head of the creek. Four years after the bank was erected, and much exertion made to have it taken away by the owners at the head of the creek, both sides appeared before the Legislature. A compromise was made, and all of those at the head of the creek opposed to the dam agreed to accept 100 pounds (one hundred pounds), to be divided among them, and gave up their privileges and opposition to the dam.

The remaining meadow-holders who made the dam owned the principal part of the meadow on the creek, to wit: James Whitall and Joseph Low, who lived directly at the mouth of the creek, together with two or three families of the Woods. The remaining owners agreed and purchased the right to dam the creek, and paid the 100 pounds. On the north side, the meadow was owned by Whitall, Wood and Andrews up to Habakuk Ward, who was one of the men who sold his right for 20 pounds. On the south side, the meadow was owned by the Lows and Woods, parties to the project. They made the dam and supported it.

The First Dam Legislation

The first legislation we find about Woodbury Creek Dam was an act passed in the first year of the reign of King George III (December 5, 1760), entitled "An act to continue the Dam across Woodbury Creek in the County of Gloucester."

"Section 1. Whereas James Whitall, William Wood, John Sparks and others owning and possessing meadows on Woodbury Creek in the County of Gloucester, esteeming it for their interest, did erect a dam across the said creek from the land of Benjamin Wait to the land of the said James Whitall, whereby the navigation of the said creek became and still remains obstructed, as alleged to the great damage of Moses Ward, Habbakuk Ward, James Ward, and other persons which has occasioned much controversy."

This act, which was very volumi-

nous, gives the idea that the dam was built without process of law, and that it worked damage to owners of meadow land further up the creek where the Wards had erected a dam years before. The Legislative act specified a committee of John Wetherill, Andrew Smyth, John Hart, Joseph Skeleton, Azariah Hunt, William Lowrie, and John Anderson, of Freehold, or any four of them, to assess benefits and damages in case those interested in the contention did not select seven arbitrators to agree on a settlement.

Section 2 of the act required the settlement or assessment to be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Supreme Court at Burlington.

Section 6 provided that Whitall, Wood and Sparks should remove the dam if they were opposed to the award of the arbitrators.

Section 9 said it was the true design of the act to put a final end to the many disputes that had and still existed.

Section 10 gave the right for the owners of meadow land between Woodbury Creek dam and the Wards dam to meet yearly the first Monday in September at the dwelling house of Joseph Tatham, and appoint managers and an assessor to repair, maintain and uphold Woodbury Creek Dam.

This act designed to cover every little detail that might arise after its passage, as usual with such attempts, did not fully answer the purpose, because a few years later, May 10, 1768, another act was passed to remedy the defects in the first act. The second act provided for a concern henceforth to be called the Lower Meadows Co., owning meadows and swamps below Moses Ward's dam on Woodbury Creek, so far as the tide used to flow. This Company was to meet yearly in March and elect two overseers, two managers, and a clerk, and an assessor to regulate the meadows for the common good of the owners. James Whitall and Joseph Low were appointed first managers; James Cooper and John Wood overseers; John Estough Hopkins assessor, and James Whitall, Clerk, who was to provide himself with a book wherein entries should be made and minutes kept of all meetings of the Company. Mr. John G. Whitall told me that he at one time had these books. It is hoped

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Old Gloucester County
New Jersey

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VOLUME III

Compiled and Edited by
FRANK H. STEWART

President of the Gloucester County Historical Society
Woodbury, N. J.

Reuben Haynes & Co. were mentioned as former owners. The plant was advertised for sale in December, 1787.

British Vessels at Chestnut Neck

Photostat of a letter furnished by Mr. David G. Baird, Beverly, N. J., several years ago.
Batsto, Friday Evening, June 13, (1777)
My dear friend:

As the Bearer waits I have only time to inform you that a few days ago a Brig appeared off Little Egg Harbor Inlet and decoyed off Joseph Sowe (Sooy) and two or three of his boys and that yesterday afternoon a Brig of 16, a sloop of 12, a schooner of 8 and a pilot boat of six guns were piloted over the bar and are now at the Fox boroughs and in possession of a Brig in which I was concerned just ready for sea and a very fine vessel belonging to Wilmington and I take it for granted they will continue there as there are several vessels hourly expected from sea, of which I dare say Sowe has informed them. I yesterday wrote a letter to the Council of Safety advising them of Sowe's (Sooy) being taken off and that I expected him and the Pilot in this Friday and sent it to Had-donfield but the messenger is returned and informs me the Governor and Council were all dispersed and has brought back the letter. I think it is highly necessary they should know the situation we are in. I shall go down to Chestnut Neck tomorrow with a number of men in order to raise a small fortification of 8 or 10 guns to prevent them if possible from penetrating the country."

I am in haste

Your aff. humble servant

John Cox

This letter was addressed to Charles Pettit Esq., Burlington. See 1777 N. J. Council of Safety Minutes, page 76. Also pages 68-69 N. J. Revolutionary Correspondence.

Alarm Posts on the Delaware 1775-1782

1. Cape Henlopen
2. Boat at Mushmellion
3. Boat at Motherkill
4. Boat at Bombay Hook
5. Steep Water Point
6. Long Point
7. Dalby's Point
8. Chester
9. Thompson's Point

10. Billingsport
11. Gloucester
12. Market Street Wharf
13. Point No Point

These posts were equipped with a small cannon to warn of the arrival of enemy's ships. The alarm gun signal was relayed from post to post.

(See Vol. 1 Second Series, Pennsylvania Archives.)

Privateersmen of the Revolution

Privateering may be termed a patriotic sport with a fair chance for profit. John Barry, Stephen Decatur, Sr., William Bingham, Francis Gurney, James Caldwell, Thomas Truxton, Joseph Carson, Matthew Clarkson, Blair McClenachan, Robert Morris, Matthew Irwin, James Vanuxem, Cadwallader Morris, John Maxwell Nesbitt, and Walter Stewart were among those of Philadelphia who were interested as owners or masters of privateers.

New Jersey Masters and Owners of Privateers of the Revolution

Masters

Moses Griffing
William Treen
Enoch Willets
Hope Willets
Ebenezer Tucker
John Stillwell
Micajah Smith
Uriah Smith
James Leach
Robert Snell
John Babcock
Enoch Stillwell
Yelverton Taylor
Rufus Gardner
Francis DuCloss
Humphrey Hughes
Charles Allen
Nicholas Keen
David Stevens
Joseph Edwards
William Rice
Joseph Sooy

Owners

Richard Wescott
John Cox
Timothy Shaler
John White
Joseph Ball
Joseph Potts
John Neilson
William Marriner
Andrew Bunner & Co.

Henry Thorne
Joshua Baker & Co.
White Matlack
Thomas Leaming
George Payne
Jesse Hand
Elisha Clark
Lardner Clark
Richard Somers

(See Naval Records of the Revolution, also Vol. I, Fifth Series, Pennsylvania Archives and New Jersey Archives and Stryker.

The Schooner "Sly" and the ship "Chance," commanded by Micajah Smith and David Stevens respectively, captured the ship "Venus," according to a Gloucester County law suit, 1780.

The wreck of the "Venus" lies at Chestnut Neck, where she was burned at the time of "Pat" Furgeson's visit. A pulley wheel belonging to her is in the Gloucester County Historical Society.

Colonel Elijah Clark

Colonel Elijah Clark, of Little Egg Harbor, who was buried in the ancient Presbyterian grave yard in North Woodbury, had an indentured servant names James Vaulone. His son, Lardner Clark, on September 25, 1779, on behalf of the Colonel, made a written agreement with the "servant" whereby he was to go out and continue in the Brigantine "Holker" for her present cruise of five or six weeks and give as a compensation for his freedom 11-16 of whatever prize money he might become entitled to.

James Vaulone, of Parish of St. Luke, Oldstreet, in the County of Middlesex, England, watch finisher, was brought to America by Peter Osborne, mariner, when seventeen years of age. He was to serve five years from March 15, 1774, for his passage charges. It is presumed that his services were purchased by Colonel Elijah Clark.

On July 24th, 1782, Major Lardner Clark sold to John M. Taylor the cargo and outfit of the Brig "Chance" for \$500 and accepted a note in payment. Taylor seems to have been one of the owners of the privateer "Hannah," according to the records of Continental Congress. The "Hannah" had six guns and a crew of eighteen men.

Shortly after the sale Lardner Clark, who, in an old Gloucester County Deed of 1780, is listed as a merchant of Phil-

adelphia, left for the Westward and became the first merchant of Nashville, Tennessee. He died there in 1801 and an inventory of his books indicates he had a classical education. On June 28, 1777, he asked the Council of Safety of New Jersey to recommend him to General Mifflin for a higher position in the Quarter Master's Department than he then had. He probably served in a Pennsylvania brigade.

The March and June, 1917, publications of the Tennessee Historical Society give an interesting account of Lardner Clark.

The Court House Lot at Woodbury

January 11, 1787, John Bispham and his wife Hannah deeded to the Board of Justices and Chosen Freeholders of Gloucester County for a consideration of 50£, a corner lot of an intended street and the main street of Woodbury, containing 60 perches or rods of land. The deed recited the title back to Thomas Matthews, who sold 200 acres to James Thomas, of Philadelphia, September 5, 1687 who in turn exchanged land with Wolla Swanson, the deed being burned in the office when left at Gloucester to be recorded. Thomas quit-claimed at the request of Swanson's widow, the land to the estate of Swanson, June 11, 1700. Swanson's children, Peter, John, Swan, Mary, Bridget, Lydia, Catharine and Judith inherited by his will the said tract and they divided it. John Swanson sold 100 acres to Thomas Wilkins, blacksmith, June 3, 1734, who sold the same to Nixon Chattin, August 22, 1744. From Chattin a part of it was deeded to John Snowden, June 16, 1746, who died and willed it, 1761, to his son James Snowden, who willed it 1763 to his daughter Hannah, who became the wife of John Bispham.

The Fort at Billingsport

July 5, 1776, Margaret Paul, widow of John Paul, and Benjamin Weatherby one of her sons, sold to George Clymer and Michael Hillegas, of Philadelphia, Treasurers of the Thirteen United Colonies, appointed by Continental Congress, 96 acres at Billingsport for 600£ Pennsylvania currency.

This was the first piece of land bought by the Federal Government. On the Fourth of July, 1776, an order was drawn for the purchase price. The

NOTES ON OLD GLOUCESTER COUNTY

bany to 40 miles below it; a ch belonged to Sir Wm. John- ng the Mohawk & Oswego, l from actual surveys, &c all took the liberty to say would ceptable to your Excellency; them perhaps a better plan of thern parts may be learned y hitherto extant.

respect to some of the Conven- cers seeing the maps, I beg observe, that should it have represented to your Excellency ad made a public exhibition of y prudence at least might well d in question. The fact, how- as far otherwise, and is simply e only convention officer I ever s a Major Noble, aid-de-camp

Phillips, who last winter was ended to the civilities of my n his rout to your Excellency's rs; he enquired for me, and was into the room where I was g, without his being known for sh officer till he introduced him- happened then to be laying the road from Chester to this which he had just travelled over, eaking of the distance he had that morning, he cast his eye y drawing, which was the con- n of two miles to an inch, and ed, it was the only plan he had which bore a resemblance to the f the Country—the only map of therefore he saw, was that be- ae; for, on his enquiring further is rout, and the distance he had

I produced him Montresor's and nd's maps, which he had often before; he staid dinner, and went as Pompton that evening. With greatest respect, I am, may it e your Excellency, your most ent, most humble servant. his Excellency Gen. Washington.

Sale of the Brig Defiance

in Blackman, of Great Egg Har- was accused of taking a tierce of sses, about 45 gallons, from before loor of John Somers, the night of h 11, 1777, before the vendue of orig Defiance and cargo.

Tories at Billingsport

e hear that on Saturday morning Colonel Shreve, who commands 2d New Jersey Regiment sent rty of men under Major Howell to

Join some of the Salem and Cumber- land militia, in order to invest Billings- port, where about 150 tories had been intrenching themselves and fortifying themselves; but the militia not arriv- ing in time, and the tories getting in- formation, the Major returned to Had- donfield, where Colonel Shreve had taken post. The enemy in Philadelphia getting intelligence of what had passed, detached 1400 men about 9 o'clock at night, who landed at Gloucester Point, making a circuitous route with intent to surprise Colonel Shreve; but the Colonel, though in the dead of night, received intelligence of the enemy's movement, and his troops being great- ly inferior in number, all retired to Mount Holly about 3 o'clock on Sunday morning, except three who were bay- oneted by the enemy on their arrival. One of our Cavalry, who had been dis- patched to give notice to the guard at Cooper's Creek, was also killed on his way, by which means the guard had no notice of the enemy's approach, and several of them were killed and taken prisoners, among the latter is Major Ellis of Gloucester militia, and Lts Abraham Stout and John Hutchins of Colonel Shreve's regiment of Conti- nental Troops.

New Jersey Gazette
Wednesday, April 8, 1778

For further information about this affair consult the compiler's pamphlets "Foraging for Valley Forge," page 29, and "Salem County in the Revolution" page 68.

The Quakers of Woodbury Protest Against the Military Use of Their Meeting House

To General Varnum
The remonstrance of Friends the Proprietors of the meeting house at Woodbury, Sheweth

That the said house was built at our own expense on purpose to accommo- date the assembling together for the Worship of Almighty God; but hath been taken and used for a considerable time as barracks for soldiers; a viola- tion of private property which nothing but absolute necessity can excuse.

But as we continued to have the use of it at the hours appointed for wor- ship without much interruption we have patiently submitted; but to our surprise now find it is used as an hos-

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pital for sick soldiers and as we sup- pose under thy authority; whereby we are at present wholly deprived of its use to assemble in to Worship him who made us and preserves us; a duty we believe so indispensable that no rule or order of men ought to deter or di- vert us from endeavoring to perform; whatever it may subject us to; and as we cannot but consider the depriving us of the means the same in substance as the forbidding the public Worship of God; we entreat the General to con- sider how inconsistent such conduct is with the duty of a christian officer in whatever department he may be sta- tioned more especially when irreligion is complained of by good men of every denomination as the reigning vice of the age. We therefore hope on fur- ther reflection thou wilt consider it a duty not to be dispensed with to coun- tenance, encourage and promote the christian religion and Worship of that God who doth whatsoever he pleaseth in the kingdoms of men; rather than to deprive him of his honour, in any ways discountenancing his worship. Was this the general practice of those who have the authority in their hands there might then be a well grounded hope that it would draw down his blessing on the land instead of his judg- ments.

That this may be the happy case is the sincere desire of thy real friends.

Signed in behalf of Friends of Wood- bury Meeting by

John Tatum
Wm Hues
James Cooper
David Cooper
Isaac Ballinger
Mark Miller

Woodbury 11th mo. 7th 1777

Damages Claimed by James Whitall at Red Bank

An Acompt of the Damage done to James Whiteall by the American forc- es, on his place at Redbank, is as fol- lows:

April 16th 1777

First Breaking the ground
which is Rendered'd unfit for
tilling 300:0:0
Cutting and Destroying the
Timber, 1200:0:0
Pasturing Cattle and horses
for the use of the Army 26:13:0

October 12th 1777

To Pasturing Continental Cat-
tel & Horses While Colonel
Green Occupy'd Fort Mercer 100:0:0
To 15 Ton of Hay at 30f per
Ton 550:0:0
To 63 Bushel of Wheat at 6f
per Bushel, 378:0:0
To 1000 feet of Cedar Boards
at 40f per Thousand 40:0:0
8550 Rails at 12f per Hundred 1026:0:0
2048 Stakes also at 4f per
Hundred 81:18:0
50 Whiteoak Posts at 3s per
piece 7:10:0
To one Barn & Hayhouse to-
tally Destroy'd &
Damages Done to Sundry
other Buildings 350:0:0
To two pailed Gardens Cut
down and Carried to fort Is-
land, 200:0:0
To an orchard near 300 trees
all Grafted Trees 1500:0:0

£5760:1:0

We whose names are under written being Call'd by James Whiteall to View the above damage and value the Same hath Valued the same to 5760f, 1sh this 17th day of April 1779.

JOSEPH LOW
JAMES WILKINS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Trenton, June 26, 1906.

I hereby certify that the foregoing paper is a true copy of the original now on file in this office.

R. Heber Breintnall
(Seal) Adjutant-General
The figures represent depreciated curren- cy of the times. The chances are James Whitall did not receive anything for the theft, use and destruction of his property. It is no wonder he ig- nored Mauduit, De Chastelleaux and Lafayette when they visited Red Bank, 1780.

Public Protests Against Rebuilding Fort Mercer

To the Honble the Legislative Coun- cil & General Assembly of the State of New Jersey the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants Freeholders of the County of Gloucester respectfully sheweth.

That several of your Petitioners have suffered great loss of property by the