

HISTORY  
OF  
LANCASTER COUNTY.

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE  
EARLY HISTORY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES.

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BY I. DANIEL RUPP,  
AUTHOR DER MAERTYRER GESCHICHTE, ETC. ETC.

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LANCASTER, PENN:  
PUBLISHED BY GILBERT HILLS.

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## CHAPTER II.

Ferree family make preparations to emigrate to America—Procure certificates of civil and religious standing—By way of Holland and England come to New York—Acquire the rights of citizenship—Settle in Lancaster county—Several documents of interest—Tradition of the ancestors of the Ferrees, by Joel Lightner, Esq.—Tuscorora Indians unite with the Five Nations.

ABOUT the year 1709, as stated in a preceding chapter, a large emigration from the Lower Palatinate to the British colonies, took place. Among these were the well known names, besides those mentioned in the last chapter, of Weigand, Fisher, Kennan, Volck, Plettel, Gulch, Hubertson, Schaneman, Lefever, Ferree and others, as they are at present spelled. Some of them located themselves and became permanent inhabitants of what is now Lancaster county. It is certain that the Ferrees and Lefevers, who were what was called Walloons, did settle and improved lands, taken up by Martin Kendig,\* which was part of ten thousand acres previously purchased from the proprietary's commissioners, by him, a member of a Swiss company; and it is both interesting and instructive to see with what carefulness and regard for their own characters, both as citizens and christians for the good opinion of the world, these sterling people

\*“At a meeting of the commissioners Sept. 10, 1712—the late commissioners having granted 10,000 acres of land to the Palatines, by their warrant dated 6th, 8th, 1710, in pursuance thereof there was laid out to Martin Kendig, besides the 2,000 acres already confirmed and paid for, the like quantity of 2,000 acres, towards Susquehanna, of which the General Surveyor has made a return. The said Martin Kendig now appearing desirous that the said land may be granted

conducted their removal from their former, and the settlement in their new homes.

There is little similarity between the proceedings of these progenitors of some of our good old fashioned Lancaster county farmers, and those of the flitting population of the present day. The latter in their inconsidered removals only seem desirous of carrying with them as large an amount as possible of this world's wealth, regardless of any other proof of respectability, and trusting to it to make way for them in all the pursuits and relations of life. By way of contrast, and of gaining instruction from the actions of our ancestors, we shall present a somewhat detailed account of the removal and settlement of a particular family.

Owing to French incursions into the Palatinate and other oppressions of a religious nature, the family of the Ferrees turned to seek a home in the new world, about the beginning of the last century, when thousands came to America. Its members were Daniel Ferree, his widowed mother, (the wife of Daniel Ferree deceased) his wife and their two sons, Andrew and John. The first step as good citizens was to obtain the consent of their country to their departure, as appears by the following *original* document.

and confirmed to Maria Warenbuer, for whom the same was taken up, or intended, and who is to pay the consideration of it. But upon further consideration of the matter, it is agreed among themselves that the said land shall be confirmed to Daniel *Fierre* and Isaac *Lefevre*, † two of the said widow's sons, and the consideration money, viz: £140 at £7 per 100 acres, by agreement having been for some time due, but is now to be paid down in one sum. 'Tis agreed they shall only pay £10 for interest, that is £150 for the whole."

(† Isaac Lefevre was her son-in law.)

Demnach Maria, Daniel Fuehre's Wittib, mit ihrem sohn Daniel Fuehre, dessen Eheweib und noch andern sechs ledigen Kindern, ihrer hoffenden Besserung, Gelegenheit und Wohlfahrts willen, von Steinweiler aus der ober Schultheiserey Bittigheim, des Churpfaeltzischen oberamts Germersheim, auf die insul Pennsylvanien per Holland und Engelland sich zubegeben und allda zu wohnen vorhaben, und daherum ein beglaubdiges Certificat, dasz sie mit vorwissen von dem ort Steinweiler geschieden und sich gewahrter ihrer wohnungszeit vertraeglich und ohne klag verhalten, auch niemand mit schulden verwandt, desgleichen keiner leibeigenschaft zugethan, gebuehrend angesucht: als hat man denselben ihr suchen and bitten willfahren, anbey unverhalten wollen, dasz obgedachte leute ganz offenbar von hier wegziehen, wachrender zeit als ihr vater, die wittib und kinder in mehrgedachten Steinweiler gewohnt, sich fromm und ehrbarlich verhalten, dasz man sie gern laenger all hier und der orten gesehen haette. So sind sie auch der leibeigenschaft nicht unterworfen, massen die ober schultheiserey Bittigheim, worin Steinweiler gelegen freyzuegig; auch haben sie ihrem gebuehrenden abzug oder nachsteuer fuer gnaedigste herrschaft hinterlassen: von schulden, damit sie andern verwandt seyn sollen, hat man nichts vernommen, als schultheis Hr. Fischer in Steinweiler, welcher expresse deswegen gehoert worden, zeugniss alles dessen giebt. Dessen in urkund habe ich dieses in abwesenheit Churpfaeltzischen regierungsrath, oberamtman und gemeinschaef Gudenberg, Fauthe zu Altenstatt und ober schultheis allhier Herr von Cun ausgefertigt und den aus dieser noethdurft behaendiget.—  
Siegel Bittigheim den 10ten Martii, 1708.

[Siegel.]

J. P. DIETRICH, *Greffier.*

TRANSLATION.—Whereas Maria, Daniel Fuehre's (Feries') widow, and her son Daniel Ferie with his wife and other six single children, in view of improving their condition and in furtherance of their prosperity, purpose to emigrate from Steinweiler in the mayoralty of Bittigheim, High Bailiwick Germersheim, via Holland and England, to the island of Pennsylvania, to reside there, they have requested an accredited certificate that they left the town of Steinweiler with the knowledge of the proper authorities, and have departed themselves peaceably and without cause for censure, and are indebted to no one, and not subject to vassalage, being duly solicited, it has been thought proper to grant their petition, declaring that the above named persons are not moving away clandestinely—that during the time their father, the widow and children resided in this place they behaved themselves piously and honestly—that it would have been highly gratifying to us to see them remain among us—that they are not subject to bodily bondage, the mayoralty not being subject to vassalage—they have also paid for their permission to emigrate; Mr. Fischer, the mayor of Steinweiler being expressly interrogated, it has been ascertained that they are not liable for any debts. In witness whereof, I have, in the absence of the counsellor of the Palatinate, &c., signed these presents, gave the same to the persons who intended to emigrate. Dated Bittigheim, March 10th, 1708.

[L. S.]

J. P. DIETRICH, *Court Clerk.*

Next, as christians, they obtained a certificate of their religious standing from the proper church officers, even to a statement of the time and place of the christian baptism of their young children. No doubt they esteemed the following, which was thus obtained, as the

most valuable article among their possession. We present the original and a translation.

*Temoignage pour Daniel Firre et sa famille.*

Nous Pasteur, Anciens et Diacres de l'Eglise Reformee, Vallonne de Pelican au bas Palatinat ayants este prie par l'honorable Daniel Firre, sa femme Anne Marie Leininger, et leurs enfants, Andrie et Jean Firre, de leur accorder un temoignage de leur vie et religion, certifions et attestons quils out toujours fait profession de la pure Religion Reformee, frequente nos saintes assemblees, et participe a la cene du Seigneur avec les autres fideles : Au reste ils se sont toujours comporte honnestement sans avoir donne aucun scandale qui soit venu en notre connoissance: Estants maintenant sur leur depart, pour ses establir ailleurs, nous les recommandons a laguarde de Dieu et a la bienveillance de tous nos freres en Seign: Xt: En foy de quoy nous avons signe ce present temoignage de nos signes et marques accustumees: fait a Pelican en nostre consistoire le 10 de Mais, 1708.

[L. S.      MICHAEL MEESSAKOP,  
                  J. ROMAN, *Pasteur et Inspecteur,*  
                  PIERRE SSCHARLET,  
                  JAQUE BAILLEAUX, *Diacre,*  
                  JEAN BAPTISTE LA PLACE, *Diacre.*

Les enfans sus nome a scavoir, Andrie et Jean Firre out esti Baptistes, le premier dans l'Eglise de Steinviler l'an. 1701, le 28 me de Septembre: son parain estoit Andrie Leininger et sa Mariee Margarithe Leininger, L'autre ce scavoir Jean a este Baptize dans l'Eglise de Rhorbac, l'an. 1703, le 8 me de fevrier: le parain estoit Abraham Ptilion et Judith Mille tous deux de Steinviler.

*Certificate for Daniel Firre and his family.*

TRANSLATION.—We, the Pastor, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Walloon Church of Pelican, in the Lower Palatinate, having been requested by the Honorable Daniel Firre, his wife Anne Maria Leininger and their children Andrew and John Firre, to grant them a testimonial of their life and religion, do certify and attest that they have always made profession of the pure Reformed religion, frequented our sacred assemblies, and have partaken of the supper of the Lord with the other members of the faith: in addition to which they have always conducted themselves uprightly without having given any cause for scandal, that has come to our knowledge: being now on their departure to settle elsewhere, we commend them to the protection of God, and to the kindness of all our brethren in the Lord Christ. In witness of which we have signed this present testimonial, with our signatures and usual marks. Done at Pelican in our consistory, the 10th of May, 1708.

MICHAEL MEESSAKOP,  
 J. ROMAN, *Pastor and Inspector*,  
 PETER SSCHARLET,  
 JAMES BAILLEAUX, *Deacon*,  
 JOHN BAPTIST LAPLACE, *Deacon*.

The undernamed children, to wit: Andrew and John Firre were baptized, the first in the church of Steinweiler in the year 1701, on the 28th of September: his sponsors were Andrew Leininger and his wife Margaret Leininger: the other, to wit: John was baptized in the church of Rhorbac, in the year 1703, on the 8th of February: the sponsors were Abraham Ptilion and Judith Miller, both of Steinweiler.

NOTE.—It was customary among the Reformed to procure a church certificate before leaving their *Vaterland*.



Having openly and honestly adjusted their affairs previous to their departure, they bade adieu to their old and endeared home, this family, *via* Holland and England\* made their way to the *new world*, where they arrived, sometime in 1709, in the city of New York.— Having arrived, and being pleased with the country, their next step was to acquire the rights of citizenship from the proper authority. The following letters patent, under the Privy seal of Queen Anne will show they were successful in their application, and will be read with interest by the descendants of all named in it.

ANNE, by the grace of God, of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, defender of faith, &c. To whom all these presents may come, know ye that we for good causes and considerations especially moving us hereunto by our special grace, moving us thereunto, do grant for ourselves, our heirs and successors to our beloved Joshua Rocherthal, Sybella Charlotte, his wife, Christian Joshua his son, and Sybella and Susanna his daughters, Lawrence Schwisser, and Ann Catharine his wife, and John

\*According to the *statements* of R. CONYNGHAM, Esq., a man of erudition and well known as one of more than ordinary research into Historical facts, Mary, the mother of Daniel Ferree, accompanied by her children, and armed with a spirit of resolution superior to her sex, went to London, from thence to Kensington, where William Penn resided, to be near Queen Anne, of whom he was deservedly a favorite. Madame Ferree made her wishes known to him: William Penn sympathized with her in her misfortunes and became interested for her and her children, and next day introduced her to Queen Anne.

The Queen was delighted in thus being afforded an opportunity to display the natural feelings of her heart. Lodgings were obtained for Madame Ferree in the vicinity until a vessel was ready to sail for New York.—*Redmond Conyngham's Address of July 4th, 1842.*

his son, Henry Rennau, and Johanna his wife, and Lawrence and Henry his sons, Susanna Lisboschain, and Mary Johanna Lisboschain; Andrew Volk, and Ann Catharine his wife, and George Heeronimus his son, and Mary Barbara, and Ann Gertrtraude his daughters, Michael Weigand, Ann Catharine his wife, Tobias and George his sons, Ann Mary his daughter, Jacob Weber, and Ann Elisabeth his wife, and Eve Elisabeth, and Eve Mary his daughters, John Jacob Plettel, Ann Elisabeth his wife, and Margaret, Ann, Sarah and Catharine his daughters, John Fisker, and Mary Barbara his wife, Melchior Gulch, Ann Catharine his wife, Henry his son, and Magdalen his daughter, Isaac Tweek, Peter Rose and Joannah his wife, Mary Wemarin, and Catharine Wemarin his daughters, *Isaac Feber,\* Catharine his wife, and Abraham his son*, Daniel Firre, Ann Mary his wife and Andrew and John his sons, Hubert Hubertson, and Jacob his son, and Harman Schuneman; which persons are truly German Lutherans; and who

\*Undoubtedly Isaac Le Fevre who had married Catharine, the daughter of Mary Ferree, and who settled within the limits of this county at the time Daniel Ferree did. According to Mr. CONYNGHAM's statement, "Isaac Le Fevre was born in 1669, and in 1686, came to Philadelphia from Esopus. He married Catharine soon after her arrival." He was but a youth when he left his *pays natal*, Fatherland. Mr. C. in an eloquent address on the *Early Settlement of the Valley of Pequea*, delivered July 4, 1842, speaking of the Ferree family, says: "And now let me turn your attention to a youth of fourteen: his parents had perished in the religious wars which had desolated France—an orphan—friendless—he travelled through Holland—went to London—came to Kensington where he made known his intentions to William Penn. Alone? oh no! he had one companion—it was his consolator in Europe—it was his comforter in Pennsylvania—that companion was his Bible. That young lad was Isaac Le Fevre. That Bible is still preserved by the family of Le Fevres as a most precious relic."

being reduced to extreme poverty by the frequent French incursions into the Palatinate in Germany, lately have fled for refuge to this our Kingdom of Great Britain, and further have gone to live in our province of New York, in America, and therefore they shall and will be esteemed as natural born subjects and reputed as such by our heirs and successors of this our Kingdom of Great Britain, and their heirs respectively shall and will be esteemed as such by our heirs and successors, and their heirs shall and will be dealt with, reputed and governed as such, as the rest of our faithful subjects of this our Kingdom of Great Britain, and they shall be so esteemed in every place and jurisdiction under this our crown of Great Britain, and shall be lawfull for them or their heirs respectively in all actions of what kindsover they may be to pursue for and enter complaint in and about the same in whatsoever place or jurisdiction they may be in or under in this our Kingdom of Great Britain, and elsewhere, under our Government to have, exercise, use and enjoy the full privilege of making answer and

The descendants of Isaac Le Fevre are numerous and respectable in this county; and many of them are settled in various parts of Pennsylvania, and other states. Isaac had four sons and two daughters—Abraham, Philip, Daniel, Samuel, Mary and Esther. *Philip*, the second son, was a gunsmith, settled on a farm now owned by George Meck, and by Henry Le Fever, both lineal descendants. *Philip*, had four sons and four daughters; Isaac, George, Adam, Jacob, *Catharine*, Esther, Eve and Elisabeth.

*Catharine* was born in March, 1734, and was married to Nicholas Meck; both resided for many years in this county.—They spent their last days with their son Jacob Meck, at Harrisburg, where both died at an advanced age. Nicholas Meck died April 16, 1803, aged 71 years, 4 months and 4 days; *Catharine* Meck died October 2nd, 1804, aged 70 years and 7 months. *Philip*, their eldest son, aged 87, is yet living.

defence in all matter or matters whatsoever as any others of these our natural born subjects of Great Britain, and moreover it shall be lawfull for them or their heirs respectively to hold lands and the same to convey; and to hold places of trust anywhere under this our Crown of Great Britain, and the land purchased the same to enjoy and hold and possess to themselves and their heirs, or in any other manner to make clear titles or to alienate the same to any person or persons that they, at their own pleasure, may think proper and the same to be peaceably and honestly enjoyed as well as by any others of our faithful subjects of this our Kingdom of Great Britain, born within the same, and it be lawfull for themselves or their heirs respectively, to hold and enjoy the mannor of lands and hereditaments whereby they may be to themselves or those whom they may think proper to convey them respectively, or to any person or persons whatsoever, him or them, the same to enjoy honestly and peaceably, as well as if they were originally born in this our Kingdom of Great Britain, and the same to hold, enjoy and possess from any grievance whatever from any grievance from our heirs or successors or ministry, or any other whatsoever, nevertheless, it is our will that the persons and those to whom respectively, in the first place, and to whom their heirs respectively, relative shall make or cause to be made obeisance to us our heirs or successors and shall contribute and pay as may seem just, them and their heirs respectively, shall pay to our heirs and successors, our custom and subsidy on their merchandize as well as merchant strangers ought or should pay, and they or their heirs respectively, shall pay due regard to every ordination act, statute and proclamation of this our Kingdom of Great Britain, and shall be obedient as may appear just and formal, and shall render a

due regard to magistrates and to our ships of war and shall be in subordination to our corporations mercantile of this our Kingdom of Great Britain, by any charters or letters patent of ours, any others of our predecessors heretofore granted, and at any time hereafter, or any person or persons that are or will be master of ship or matters of ships or may follow merchandize, that then this shall be void and of none effect: *Provided, nevertheless,* That we reserve for the time being to ourselves, our heirs and successors, our full power and authority from time to time of revoking and determining, by letters patent, under the Great Seal of Great Britain, these Letters Dennizens to such person or persons, concerning whom we, our heirs, or our successors, in order, in private counsel to our heirs or successors will declare as may appear right to us, to our heirs or successors, in making Dennizens to those person or persons as may appear hurtfull or inconvenient to us our heirs or successors, yet giving and granting to persons, and any others, reasonable and sufficient time of selling, alienating, assigning or disposing of their manors, messuages, lands, so held hereditaments, and their merchandize, respectively, and likewise of removing their respective goods and effects of whatsoever kind or qualify they may be before determination of these letters patent as appears. *In witness* whereof we caused these letters patent to be made and done: witness myself at Westminster, this 21st day of August, 1708 in the seventh year of our reign. Registered under our Private Seal. COCKS.

New York, Aug. 10th, 1709, Recorded in the Secretary's office of the province of New York, in the Book of General Records, Lib: No. L. Folio 141 & 142.

Copied from the original, word for word, and concurring thereto as a sworn evidence.

JOHN CONRAD CODWEIS, *Interpreter.*

New York, 27th day of August, in the year 1709, diligently compared and examined this true copy.

JOHN CONRAD CODWEIS, (*Deponent,*)

*San me tendering the oath.*

Before me,

D: PROVOOK.

Signed with the Great Seal of Great Britain.

After spending some time in New York, they went, according to tradition, to *Esopus Settlement*, in Ulster County,\* about seventy miles from Albany. Here they

\*That there was then a settlement in Ulster county, N. Y. of those who always made "*profession de la pure religion reformee*," is a matter of history. The following extract of a letter, from our friend, *Edmund Eltinge*, to us, dated New Paltz, Feb. 25, 1843, will go to strengthen the *tradition* in the main facts. Speaking of the Huguenots when leaving France, says, "The greatest proportion went to Germany and a party of them settled at a place called *Paltz* on the River *Rhine*.— This was about the year 1650, A. D. Here they remained ten years, and in 1660 emigrated to New York, then under the Dutch Dynasty. What number came at this time, I cannot say—probably hundreds. The most opulent settled in New York city and on Long Island. The second class in point of wealth at New Rochelle, and those who were poor came to Kingston, (formerly *Esopus R.*) in this (Ulster) county, then called *Wildwyke* (Wild-retreat) and inhabited by the Dutch.

The names of *Huguenots* who came to Kingston, twelve in number, were *Louis Du Bois* and his sons *Abraham* and *Isaac*, *Christian*, *Doaice* or *Deys*, *Abraham Hosbrouch*, *Andries Lefevre*, *Jean Brook* or *John Hosbrouch*, *Lewis Berier*, *Antonie Crispell*, *Hugo Freer* and *Simon Lefevre*. Eleven of these came in 1660. Abraham Hasbrouch accompanied them as far as England, where he remained for a year or two, and while there joined the army, and formed the acquaintance of Edmund Andros, who was subsequently the Governor of this colony—when he came—he and those who accompanied him, went into Canada—where they located I cannot say—Mr. Hosbrouch was how-

remained about two years. Whence they proceeded to Pennsylvania, where (as is evident from documents) Martin Kendig had taken up for Maria Warenbuer, widow of Daniel Ferree, two thousand acres of land, as appears from the minutes of the commissioners, Sept. 10, 1712, quoted at large:—See pages 90, 91. “The said Martin Kendig now (Sept. 10, 1712) appearing desirous that the said (2000 acres) land may be granted and confirmed to Maria Warenbuer, *for whom the same was taken up or intended, &c.*”

This tract was then in Chester county, *Conestoga* township, now East Strasburg, in this county. It composed the farms now owned by Henry A. Carpenter, Ferre Brinton, John C. Lefevre, Joseph L. Lefevre, Jacob ever informed that his brother *Jean Brook* was in this county, and he came hither.

The Huguenots of Ulster spent a few years of unsettled life at Kingston and in the meantime explored the country. They finally concluded upon purchasing a tract now enclosed within the boundaries of this town, and comprising about two-thirds of its surface. The purchase was made from the Indians, subject however to the claim of the Government. The Indians, though so universally charged with treachery, yet in this instance observed strict fidelity to their covenant, and the Huguenots were never molested by them on this soil. In order to get a perfect title it was necessary to obtain a cession from the Government of these lands, and *Abraham Hosbrouch* who was entrusted with the commission, being *acquainted* with Edmund Andros, obtained letters patent in 1677, Sept. 29th. confirming to the twelve individuals above named their purchase *without charge*. This tract comprised about ninety square miles.” \* \* \* “Some of the Huguenots’ descendants, who reside in your county, (Lancaster), emigrated from this county, or rather their ancestors. The name of Lefevre and Du Bois, is from here. One by the name of Lefevre was in Congress some years since, whose ancestors resided in this town.”

Hershey, Christian Leman, Henry and Jacob Brackbill, Theo. Sherts, Isaac B. Burrowes, Jacob Eshleman, Christian Hershey, Messrs. Witmers, R. Conyngham, Esq. R. Taggart, Philip Foster, Henry Shertz, John Shertz, F. S. Burrowes, D. Lefevre.

While speaking of the family of Ferrees, it will not be out of place to direct the attention of the reader to two other documents; one is an inventory of goods and chattels of a farm of the early times, being the list of appraisement of the personal property of Andrew Ferree, the same person who is mentioned as the eldest son of Daniel, the first settler. It shows the prices of articles at that time. The reader will find in it plenty of all the useful and necessary food, and implements, of a farmer; but will seek in vain for the fine furniture of the present day.\* The other document is the marriage

*\*Inventory of the goods and chattels of Andrew Ferree, deceased.*

To wheat in the stack at £8—wheat and rye in the ground, £6,	£14	0	0
To great waggon, £12—little waggon, £5,	17	0	0
To a plow and two pairs of irons,	1	10	0
To two mauls and three iron wedges, 9s—to four old weeding hoes, 4s,	0	13	0
To a spade and shovel, 8s—to a mattock and three dung forks, 10s,	0	18	0
To two broad-axes, 12s—to joyner's axe and adze, 7s,	0	19	0
To Sundry carpenter tools, £1—sundry joyner's tools, £2 5s,	3	5	0
To seven duch sythes,	0	12	0
To four stock bands, two pair hinges, sundry old iron,	0	14	0
To a hand-saw, £2—to five sickles and two old hooks,	0	11	0



of Daniel Ferree, Jr., who was a son of the first settler; but born in this country, with Mary Carpenter or Zimmermerman. It is somewhat in the form now used by the Society of Friends. Many of the present citizens of the vicinity will recognize the names of their ancestors, in the list of signers and guests at the wedding.

To a cutting box, two knives, £1—to twenty-two baggs, £2 10s,	3	10	0
To two pair chains, 14s, two hackles, £1 10—to five beles, 12s,	2	16	0
To four smal chains and other horse geers at	1	4	0
To other horse geers at £1 10—to a mans' saddle at £1 10,	3	0	0
To three falling axes at 10s—to two fowling pieces, £2,	2	10	0
To a large Byble,	2	0	0
To two fether beds at £6—to wearing cloaths, £7,	13	0	0
So sundry pewter, £2 8—to a box iron, 4s,	2	12	0
To sundry iron ware, £2—to a watering pot, 6s,	2	6	0
To sundry wooden ware at £1—to two iron pot-racks, £1,	2	0	0
To four working horses, £24—to a mare and two colts, £11,	35	0	0
To six grown cows at £15—to ten head of yong cattle, £13 10,	28	10	0
To eleven sheep, £3 17—to swine, £1 10,	5	7	0
To two chests, 15s—to a spinning wheel, 8s,	1	3	0
To sley, 6s—to cash received of Samuel Tayler,	2	8	0
To cash received for a servant girles time,	3	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£152	8	6

As apraised this 24th day of the month called November, 1735.

HATTIL VARMAN,  
SAM'L JONES.

NOTE.—THOMAS MAKIN, in his *Descriptio Pennsylvaniae*, Anno, 1729, describes most graphically the rural state of affairs at that time:

“WHEREAS, Daniel Feire, Junior, of the county of Lancaster and province of Pennsylvania, yoeman, and Mary Carpenter, daughter of Henry Carpenter of the county and province aforesaid, spinster, having made due publication of their intention of marriage as the law directs:—These are therefore to certify all whom it may concern that on the first of May, Anno Domini, 1739, before me Emanuel Carpenter, one of his Majesty’s justices of the peace for the said county, they, the said Daniel Fiere and Mary Carpenter appeared in a public and solemn assembly for that purpose appointed and meet together at the dwelling house of the aforesaid Henry Carpenter, where he the said Daniel Fiere did

Providus in morem formicae alimenta reponit  
 Rusticus hiberni frigoris usque memor.  
 Aestivo reputans quodumque labore lucratur,  
 Quae mox insequitur, longa vorabit hymens.

Stramine tecta replet Cerealibus horrea donis  
 Impeger, et curat condere quicquid habet:  
 Despicit exoticas que dapes, vestesque superbas,  
 Contentus modicis vivere pace suis.

Esuriens dulces epulas depromit inemptas,  
 Et proprio vestis vellere texta placet,  
 Parva humilisque domus, latos quae prospicit agros.  
 Parta vel empta, sibi sufficet atque suis.

Utilis est illi, si non opulenta supella;  
 Res sapiens omnes utilitate probat.  
 O! mihi si liceat sylvas habitare beatus,  
 Et modico victu, non sine pace, frui.

## TRANSLATION.

The farmer, provident, amidst his cares,  
 For winter, like the prudent ant, prepares;  
 Foreknowing, all that summer doth produce,  
 Is only for consuming winter’s use.



ton, Daniel Zimmerman, Hans Hauser, Gabriel Zimmerman, Jacob Carpenter, Theophilus Hartman, Christian Zimmerman, Hani Hartman, Isaac Fiere, Peter Fiere, Johann Conrad Kaempf, Isaac Le Fevre, Daniel Harman, Johannes Volkaemmer, George Philip Dollinger, Christian Harman, Maria Herman, Abraham Fiere, Susan Zimmerman, Hester Le Fevre, Jacob Fiere, Philip Le Fevre, Samuel Le Fevre, Salome Harman, Leah Fiere, Mary Hain, Jonas le Rou, Rachael Fiere, Isaac Fiere.

This tract, spoken of before, had been taken up, or intended, for Maria Warenbuer. At a meeting of the commissioners, 10th, 7th mo. 1712, Martin Kendig, the widow, her son Daniel, and son-in-law Isaac Le Fevre, appeared before them, Kendig desired that the land might be granted and confirmed by patent to Maria, the widow: —“but upon further consideration of the matter, it *was* agreed among themselves that the said land be confirmed to Daniel Fierre and Isaac Lefevre—and the consideration money, one hundred and forty pounds, at seven shillings per hundred acres, having been for some time due, but *was* to be paid down in one sum, it was agreed they *should* only pay ten pounds for interest, that is one hundred and fifty pounds.”

The receipts for the purchase of this tract and quit-rents for several years, signed by James Logan, and others, are yet in existence, carefully preserved.\* Much care manifests itself in the business of this family.

In this methodical and regular manner was the emigration of our earlier German settlers conducted; and in

\*We here present a copy of a receipt: “Philadelphia, 11, 7, 1712, Received of Maria Warenbuer, twenty shillings sterling, for one year’s quit-rent of two thousand acres of land, laid out to her at *Strasburg*, in this Province.

JAMES LOGAN, *Receiver.*”

the present instance, it is a fine commentary on such honest proceedings to find the land thus obtained to be still in the hands of the lineal descendants of such worthy ancestors. HENRY A. CARPENTER, from whom we have obtained the foregoing documents, is now the owner of the old *Ferree Homestead*,\* containing two hundred and forty acres, and nearly all the owners of the other farms making up the tract of two thousand acres, first purchased by Daniel Ferree and Isaac Le Fevre, are either relatives, or closely connected with the Ferrees. H. A. Carpenter is the fifth in descent from Daniel Ferree. His father was Abraham Carpenter.

Before closing this chapter, we shall introduce a traditional account of the Ferree family, furnished us by *Joel Lightner, Esq.*, of Leacock township. It was written, in answer to several inquiries put to *Mr. Lightner*, in 1822, by the *Hon. Abraham Shreiver, Esq.*, of Frederick county, Maryland. We have added a few *notes*.—Shreiver's mother was a Ferree.

“An account of the ancestors of the Ferrie family, as given by John Ferrie, aged 84 years, (in 1822) Joseph Le Fevert and Leah Lightner, ‡ aged about 63, (in 1822), and from some of the original title papers to the lands purchased from the Hon. William Penn, proprietor of the province of Pennsylvania.

\*Mary Ferree, whose maiden name was Warenbuer, died at an advanced age, in Conestoga township, 1716. On her death, Peter Evans, Register General for the probate of Wills, and granting Letters of Administration, in and for the province of Pennsylvania, &c. granted Letters of Administration to Mary's sons, Daniel, Philip and John, the 20th of September, 1716.

†Joel Lightner's wife's father.

‡The mother of Joel Lightner.

In the reign of Louis XIV. King of France, the privileges of the Protestants were openly violated, missionaries were sent for their conversion, supported by dragoons, and severities were exercised which excited the horror and indignation of all the reformed states of Europe. In 1685, the revocation of the edict of Nantes, first granted by Henry IV. and confirmed by Louis XIII. deprived the Protestants of all exercise of their religion, and tore them from their children to be educated Catholics. The tyrant, at the same time, issued his decrees against emigrations, and placed guards on his coasts; nevertheless, vast numbers escaped from his machinations and carried their arts and industry to foreign and hostile nations.

Louis became ambitious of the fame that would attach to the extirpation of heresy from his kingdom. Calvinism in France, since the victory over it by Richelieu had become a peaceful separation from the national church, and its sectaries were useful citizens, chiefly attached to manufactures and commerce. Influenced by a spirit of intolerance and bigotry, he undertook to put an end to it. About this time the husband of Mary Ferrie or Verre resided in the town of Lindau, not far from the river Rhine, in the kingdom of France; his family consisted of himself, his wife, three sons and three daughters; the names of the sons were Daniel, Philip and John, the daughters' names were Catharine, Mary and Jane. Mr. Ferrie, the father, was a silk-weaver by trade, his religion Calvinistic; consequently he became one of the sufferers under those decrees. The troops had entered their town and commenced murdering the Protestants, taking and destroying their property, they had no other shift but to take flight, leaving behind them all their property except some trifling articles, and some cash;

they made flight into Germany, not far from Strasburg, where they resided two years. On their leaving France, they were accompanied by a young man by the name of Isaac Le Fevre, who stated that his family were nearly all put to death by the soldiers, that he himself escaped with difficulty, unhurt: he continued as one of the family until they arrived in America and married one of their daughters, Catharine Ferrie, and from whom, as far as we can learn, all the names of the Le Fevres, in this county, spring.

During their residence in Germany, the father died, and Mary Ferrie, the widow, (it is singular that after she came to America, she was not pleased to be called by any other name than that of Mary Warrinbuer, that being her maiden name)—hearing of a fine province, called Pennsylvania, in North America, that the proprietor, William Penn, resided in London, determined to set out for that place, that if she could find sufficient encouragement from Penn, she would try to get to America; she accordingly set out for London with her family, and when she arrived there, she employed a person to direct her to William Penn's residence. When on their way, her conductor pointed out to her Penn's carriage, which was just meeting them: she being of a persevering disposition, called Penn, who immediately stopped his carriage, and he being well acquainted with the French language,\* which was quite gratifying to her, as she could neither speak nor understand the English.—Penn having learned the nature and object of her call,

\*Penn, while in France, in 1662 and 1663, studied Theology and *French*, under the instruction of Moses Amyraut, a Calvinistic or French Protestant divine, a native of Bourgeuil; a man of unbounded charity and compassion. He inculcated these principles into all his students, and exemplified them in

invited her into his carriage, as he was then on his way home, when he would be more particularly attentive to what she had to say. Penn told her, he had an agent in Pennsylvania, that to him, he would give her a recommendation, so that her business, he hoped, might be done to her satisfaction.

Penn treated her very kindly whilst at his house.— They remained in London about six months, when a vessel was about to sail for the North river, in which they took passage. On their arrival at New York, they moved up the North river to a place called Esopus,\* where they remained about *two years*, then moved to Philadelphia; thence into Pequea settlement. Previous to which they had taken up a large tract of land. Before they sailed from London for America, a variety of implements of husbandry was presented to them by Queen Anne, which they found of great use when they commenced clearing land.

Philip, one of the sons, was now about twenty-one years of age, and had a desire to earn something for himself; and having formed an acquaintance with several families at Esopus, he made for that place, where he hired for one year with a respectable farmer, by the name of Abraham Dubois, whose daughter Leah he married; during the last ten years of his life, he bestowed his whole salary, which was considerable, upon the poor, without distinction of Catholic or Protestant. Amyraut was a man of moderation and candor, and had the rare fortune to be esteemed by men of all sects. His Theological works are numerous. He died in 1664.

\*Esopus was an early settlement, between eighty and ninety miles north of the city of New York. It was also formerly called *Wildwycke*, now Kingston. The village of that place was burned by the British under Vaughan, in October, 1777, when great quantities of stores were destroyed.



married at the expiration of the year, and brought her to his people in Pequea settlement, where he commenced improving a tract of land on the north side of Pequea creek, (on part of which Joel Lightner, Esq., resides at present) which land had been previously allotted to him by his mother.\*

Some of their first labor was to cut grass in the woods for the purpose of making hay,† no land being cleared on that part—for a shelter, house and barn, they placed timbers, forked at the top, into the ground, laid poles across them, built their hay upon *the frame*, which served as a roof to their house, under which they lived several months; during their “*substack stay*,” in this rude shelter, their son Abraham, was born.

They lived to raise eight children, five sons and three daughters; the names of the sons were Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Philip and Joel; the daughters' names were Lena, who intermarried with William Buffington; Leah was married to Peter Baker, and Elisabeth to Isaac Ferrie.—

Abraham, first born, was married about the year 1735 or 36, to a woman by the name of Eltinge, from Esopus, her parents were Low Dutch. Abraham lived on part of the land owned by his grand-mother, Mary Ferrie. They had several children.‡ He died at an advanced

\*From a communication to us, dated Dec. 21, 1842, by *Isaac F. Lightner*, it appears, Abraham Dubois patented one thousand acres of land, in Lancaster county, which he gave to his daughter Mary, who had married Philip Ferree. The patent was granted May 7, 1717.

†The great flats of Pequea were natural meadows on which grass grew luxuriantly, which proved a great source of comfort to new settlers.—*Conyngham*.

‡Their children were, Cornelius, Israel and Rebecca, Cornelius settled in Virginia; Israel married a Miss Dickey; Rebecca was married to David Shreiver, father of the Hon. Abraham Shreiver, of Frederick county, Md.

age, and was buried in a place now called *Carpenter's* grave-yard, about one mile from where he was born—the burial ground was pointed out by his grand-mother, Mary Ferrie, where she and several of her family were buried.\* After Abraham's death, his widow married one Curgus or Circus—they moved up the Susquehanna, and I cannot tell what became of them afterwards.'†

\*“Mary Ferrie vested in Trustees a piece of land near Paradise, as a burial place for the use of the settlement. It is neatly walled and kept in good condition by the neighbors, whose ancestors repose within its limits.”—*Redmond Conyng-ham*.

†“I have found a copy of a will of Abraham Dubois, dated Oct. 1st, 1731, among his grand-father, Joel Ferrie's papers, which had been some time in possession of his son Isaac Ferree, from which it appears that a person by the name of Roeloff Ellsting, as spelt in that instrument, is recognized as a son-in-law, married to his daughter Leah.