

in quelling the mutinous feeling which broke out among the artisans engaged in the Allentown shops for the manufacture of cartridges and the repair of arms. Deshler and Arndt were appointed commissaries, and in that capacity performed most valuable services, which they were enabled to do fully as much through their wide acquaintance and popularity with the farmers as by their business ability. Such instances were not by any means rare. In fact, the majority of the people, sustained by a pure patriotism, did all in their power to advance the cause of the colonies. Most of the farmers voluntarily came forward and sold to the commissaries and their purchasing agents their cattle and produce, receiving only the depreciated Continental currency, when they might have transferred them to the British agents for gold.

But while the majority were loyal, there were of course some exceptions to the rule, men in whom the mercenary was stronger than the patriotic feeling, and who for gain surreptitiously sold their grain and corn and live-stock to merchants in Philadelphia and elsewhere engaged in supplying the enemy with provisions. To prevent the British from purchasing cattle or breadstuffs in the province of Pennsylvania the Assembly passed an act, Jan. 2, 1778, "to prevent forestalling and regrating, and to encourage fair dealing," the principal object of which was to deter all persons from making purchases (especially of cattle) from the farmers except those to whom permits were granted. One, John Peter Miller, of Macungie township, could not resist the temptation of securing British gold by evading this law, and was prosecuted under it in the Court of Quarter Sessions of Northampton County. The entry of the case on the docket was as follows: "The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania *vs.* John Peter Miller, of Macungie, For purchasing a number of cattle without a permit to do so, contrary to an act of the General Assembly to prevent forestalling and regrating, and a complaint lodged by Mich'el Shaefer, committee man of Macungie township." Miller was brought before Justice Robert Levers, Sept. 3, 1779, and was bound over to the next term of the General Quarter Sessions, being admitted to bail in the sum of one thousand pounds, one-half secured by John Peter Miller, farmer of Upper Milford, and two hundred and fifty pounds each by Peter Miller, farmer of Macungie, and Peter Fox, tailor of the same township.

The necessities of the American army were oftentimes very great and urgent, and cattle became so scarce through the frequent levies made on the whole country that most families had to do without meat. Tallow was as a matter of course equally scarce, and the people in many instances had recourse to a bush called the candle-berry-bush to obtain the material for candles. The stems and twigs of this bush, cut in small fragments, were boiled in a kettle, when a peculiar wax or grease arose to the surface, which was carefully skimmed off, and when a sufficient amount

was procured, formed into candles by dipping or moulding. The candles were of a delicate green color, and gave a pale but clear light. This serves as a fair illustration of the expedients to which the people were driven to provide the commonest necessities. An extreme scarcity of salt was a more serious deprivation during Revolutionary times than would at first be imagined. It brought from eight to twenty dollars per bushel, and oftentimes was not to be had for any price. A plant of the fern species was used by many families as a substitute, but poorly answered the purpose, though it made meat and vegetables more savory and palatable than they would be without its application.

The asperity of life during the Revolution in what is now Lehigh County, and throughout the whole of the great territory of old Northampton, as well as in other portions of the province, was very great, and the imagination with all of the aids of fact fails to draw an adequate picture of it. Added to privation the most severe, there was in the latter years of the war period the haunting fear that the war-whoop of the red allies of the British would be heard in the settlements, and scenes of savage butchery follow, which would be illumined by the lurid glare of burning cabins.

Nor was this fear a groundless one. The confederated Six Nations, which had been induced by the English to take the war-path against the Americans during the year 1777, committed great ravages in the State of New York, and in 1778 they determined to make a murderous foray into Pennsylvania, with the especial object of striking the settlements on the two branches of the Susquehanna, which were left in an almost defenseless condition through the departure of their patriotic men for the army. The Wyoming settlement was very naturally the object of the Englishmen's especial hatred, because of the devotion its people had shown to the cause of liberty; and it was easily accessible by the North Branch of the Susquehanna. Late in June there descended that stream, under command of Col. John Butler, a force of eleven hundred men, four hundred of whom were Tory rangers and regular soldiers of Sir John Johnson, Royal Greens, with seven hundred Indians, chiefly Senecas. Jenkin's fort capitulated, and Wintermoot's (which, as was afterwards learned, was built to aid the incursions of the Tories) at once opened its gates to the invading host. At Wyoming were several so-called forts, mere stockades, in no one of which was there a cannon or an adequate garrison, the arms-bearing men nearly all being absent, as has heretofore been stated. Col. Zebulon Butler, who happened to be at Wyoming, took command by invitation of the people, and the little band, consisting chiefly of old men and boys, with a handful of undisciplined militia, against whom eleven hundred warriors had marched, made as heroic a stand as the world ever saw. On the 3d of July they marched out to meet and fight the

enemy, for a safe retreat with their families was impossible, and surrender seems never to have been thought of. It is beyond our province in this work to describe the uneven battle and the slaughter which ensued. Suffice it to say that the brave defenders, about four hundred in number, were defeated by the assailing force, outnumbering them by nearly three to one. Then followed the horrible massacre, a carnival of murder and torture performed by fiends. But who is there who knows not Wyoming? Who that does not shudder at the recall of that name? Of four hundred men who went into battle, but sixty escaped the fury of the Indians. That bloody day made one hundred and fifty widows and six hundred orphans in the valley. And now the Wyoming Valley is a scene of pastoral quiet and loveliness, as if in recompense for the dark deeds done, the Creator had breathed upon the bosom of nature the benison of eternal peace.

The massacre of Wyoming thrilled the world with horror. What, then, must have been the feeling of those people who had reason to think they might at any hour meet with the same fate which had extinguished the lives of the four hundred settlers in the beautiful valley? The whole border was filled with the wildest alarm, and a fever of fear took possession of the people even as far down the country as Bethlehem and Easton. Fortunately, no great raid southward was undertaken by the Indians, and their subsequent atrocities, committed by small bands, were confined to the region north of the Blue Ridge, and were similar in character to the capture of the Gilbert family and some other occurrences which are related in the history of Carbon County. Gen. Sullivan's expedition in 1779 quieted the Indians by creating in them a wholesome fear of the military, and the effective blows which he struck forever destroyed the Iroquois confederacy. The danger, however, was not entirely passed, and two companies of rangers were maintained in Northampton County for the protection of her people during 1781 and the following year. One of these was Capt. Philip Shrawder's Pennsylvania Rangers, and the other Capt. Johannes Van Etten's Volunteers, a body of veterans who had been in the field in 1777, and had fought at the Brandywine.

After 1778 the battle-line was broken, and swept away from the Delaware to the north and the south, to the highlands around New York and the Carolina swamps. The lull of quiet had fallen upon busy Bethlehem, which De Kalb had once thought of fortifying. Washington and Lafayette, "Mad Anthony" Wayne, Sullivan, and many other heroes of the war, John Hancock, Samuel Adams, Richard Henry Lee, Henry Laurens, John Adams, and a host of other civil leaders, who had sojourned at the Moravian town, were engaged in their labors as soldiers and statesmen in other localities; the drum's wild roll and the tramp of armies no more resounded by the Le-

high, and only the news of the distant battle came occasionally to arouse the dwellers in the region which had been for two years a centre of war planning and of war activity. A condition of comparative peace had come to the people, a sense of partial security, which was made complete at the close of the war, when, although left in poverty in common with the citizens of all the colonies, they enjoyed liberty and stood upon the threshold of a greater and truer prosperity than the most sanguine had ever imagined could be theirs.

CHAPTER IV.

FRIES' REBELLION.

The Trial of John Fries and his Followers for High Treason.

THE first occurrence of unusual character which broke the calm and monotonous current of affairs in the region of which we write, after the close of the Revolution, was that organized opposition to law which has variously been called "Fries' Rebellion," the "Milford Rebellion," the "Hot-Water War," and the "House-Tax War." This opposition to Federal authority reached its height in 1798 and 1799. The theatre of its action centring in Milford township, Bucks Co., included Bucks, Northampton, and Montgomery, and a large proportion of its scenes were enacted in the territory which constitutes Lehigh.

Shortly after the inauguration of John Adams as President of the United States, on March 4, 1797, a number of acts were passed by Congress, and approved by the Executive, which, by many of the people of the country, were regarded as obnoxious. Among these were the alien and sedition laws, and another known as the house-tax law. The latter, which was looked upon as especially unjust and burdensome by a portion of the people of Eastern Pennsylvania, contained a provision directing the assessors to measure, count, and register the panes of glass in each and every house, and make their number and size the basis of a direct tax for government revenue. This tax led to what we shall hereafter uniformly designate as Fries' Rebellion, which was by no means the first revolt caused by taxation in the United States.¹

The insurrectionary movement against the house tax of 1798 broke out in Milford township, Bucks Co., in the fall of the year. The head and front of it was John Fries,² who had as his trusty lieutenants

¹ Shay's Rebellion, in Massachusetts, was the first organized opposition to Federal law, and was much more serious in its consequences than that which we here have to consider. The Whiskey Insurrection in Pennsylvania (chiefly confined to Washington and Fayette Counties) arose from taxation in 1794, and was not so easily quelled by any means as Fries' so-called rebellion.

² John Fries was born in Hatfield township, Montgomery Co., about 1750, married Mary Brunner, of White Marsh, at the age of twenty, and five years later removed to Milford, Bucks Co., where he built a house on the land of Joseph Galloway, at Boggy Creek. At the time of

Frederick Heany and John Getman. The opposition of Fries and his followers to the tax prevented all assessments in Milford township, and they were given up. The insurrection also extended into Northampton County (the region now embraced by its limits, and that also within the bounds of Lehigh), where the assessors were chased from one township to another, and effectually deterred by the fear of physical ill treatment, and even worse consequences, from carrying out the duties for which they were elected. It is said that the resisters of the tax assembled in parties of fifty or sixty, and that most of them were well armed. Fries usually carried a large horse-pistol, and accoutred himself in semi-military style, for he had been a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and had considerable knowledge of war manoeuvres as well as martial spirit. The system of terrorism was carried on with a high hand, but at length it received a check. One Nichols, who was a marshal of Northampton, had the hardihood when he knew that Fries was absent, to serve warrants on seventeen of his known adherents and take them for imprisonment to Bethlehem. Some were released on bail, but several were retained in custody. This was about the 1st of March, 1799, and it was upon the 6th that the redoubtable Fries learned what had been done. He at once formed a resolution to rescue his adherents from the officers of the law. He drew up a strong agreement, which the members of his band signed, pledging themselves to stand by the leader until his purpose was accomplished.

On the morning of the 7th they marched to Bethlehem, about one hundred and forty strong, bearing arms of almost every variety, and forming almost as motley a throng as an old-time Western company of "corn-stalk militia." They were a determined band, however, and they were inspired not alone by fife and drum, but by the words of a man who had in him the elements of a leader. They surrounded the "Sun" Tavern, where the prisoners were confined, and Fries boldly demanded of the marshal that they should be released. After a slight show of resistance, this demand was acceded to, and his object thus being accomplished, Fries rode away in exultation, his supporters following. This bold act came very near costing the leader and some others their lives, for news of the open rebellion coming to the President, he sent an armed force to re-establish order in Northampton and Bucks Counties. Several companies marched from Lancaster, April 1, 1799, wending their way toward the scenes of disturbance by way of

the outbreak he lived in a log house on a lot that belonged to William Edwards, on the Sunnycytown road. He had served in the Revolutionary army. "He was a man of good mind," says Gen. W. H. H. Davis, in his "History of Bucks County," "but had received only the rudiments of an education. He talked well, and possessed a rude eloquence that swayed the multitude. His character was good, and he stood well among his neighbors. He learned the cooper's trade, but followed the occupation of a vendue crier." He died about 1820.

Reading (where also considerable opposition to the tax had been manifested).

Fries had no disposition to meet these soldiers, and so went into hiding. About one month, however, from the time he had boldly marched into Bethlehem and intimidated the marshal and his aids, he was captured in a swamp near Bunker Hill, on the farm of John Keichline. His hiding-place had been betrayed by a little dog called "Whiskey," which followed him everywhere. He was completely crest-fallen, and unresistingly allowed himself to be taken by his captors to that confinement from which he should only emerge to stand trial for treason, the penalty of which was death.

On the 15th of May, 1799, Mr. Sitgreaves, of Easton, opened the trial on the part of the United States. Following are extracts from his speech,¹ which give quite a detailed history of the "rebellion":

"It will appear, gentlemen, from the testimony which will be presented to you, that during the latter months of the year 1798 disorders prevailed to an enormous extent throughout a large portion of the counties of Bucks, Northampton, and Montgomery, and that considerable difficulties attended the assessors for the direct tax in the execution of their duties,—that in several townships associations of the people were actually formed in order to prevent the persons charged with the execution of the laws of the United States from performing their duty, and more particularly to prevent the assessors from measuring the houses. This opposition was made at many public township meetings called for the purpose. In many instances resolutions in writing were entered into, solemnly forewarning the officers, and many times accompanied by threats. Not only so, but discontents prevailed to such a height that even the friends of the government were completely suppressed by menaces against any who should assist those officers in their duty; repeated declarations were made, both at public as well as private meetings, that if any person should be arrested by the civil authority, such arrest would be followed by the rising of the people, in opposition to that authority, for the purpose of rescuing such prisoners; indefatigable pains were taken by those charged with the execution of the laws to calm the fears and remove the misapprehensions of the infatuated people; for this purpose they read and explained the law to them, and informed them that they were misled into the idea that the law was not actually in force, for that it actually was; at the same time warning them of the consequences which would flow from opposition; and this was accompanied by promises that even their most capricious wishes would be gratified on their obedience. The favor was in many instances granted, that where any opposition was made to any certain person executing the office of assessor, another should be substituted. In some townships proposals were made for people to choose for themselves; but notwithstanding this accommodating offer the opposition continued. The consequences were actual opposition and resistance; in some parts violence was actually used, and the assessors were taken and imprisoned by armed parties, and in other parties mobs assembled to compel them either to deliver up their papers or to resign their commissions; that in some instances they were threatened with bodily harm, so that in those parts the obnoxious law remained unexecuted in consequence. The state of insurrection and rebellion had arisen to such a height it became necessary to compel the execution of the laws, and warrants were in consequence issued against certain persons and served upon them; in some instances during the execution of that duty the marshal met with insult and almost with violence; having, however, got nearly the whole of the warrants served, he appointed headquarters for those prisoners in rendezvous at Bethlehem, where some of them were to enter bail for their appearance in the city and others were to come to the city in custody for trial.

"On the day thus appointed for the prisoners to meet, and when a number of them had actually assembled agreeably to appointment, a number of parties in arms, both horse and foot, more than a hundred men, accompanied with all their military apparatus, commanded in some instances

¹ It was reported in short-hand and published at Philadelphia in 1800.

by their proper officers, marched to Bethlehem, collected before the house in which were the marshal and prisoners, whom they demanded to be delivered up to them, and in consequence of refusal they proceeded to act very little short of actual hostility; so that the marshal deemed it prudent to accede to their demands, and the prisoners were liberated.

"This, gentlemen, is the history of the insurrection. I shall now state to you the part which the unfortunate prisoner at the bar took in those hostile transactions. The prisoner is an inhabitant of Lower Milford, Bucks County. Some time in February last a public meeting was held at the house of one John Kline, in that township, to consider this house tax; at that meeting certain resolutions were entered into and a paper signed (we have endeavored to trace this paper so as to produce it to the court and jury, but have failed). This paper was signed by fifty-two persons, and committed to the hands of one of their number. John Fries was present at this meeting, and assisted in drawing up the paper, at which time his expressions against this law were extremely violent, and he threatened to shoot one of the assessors, Mr. Foulke, through the legs, if he proceeded to assess the houses; again the prisoner at a vendue threatened another of the assessors, Mr. S. Clark, that if he attempted to go on with the assessment, he should be committed to an old stable and there fed on rotten corn. The assessor in Lower Milford was intimidated so as to decline making the assessments, and the principal assessors, together with three other assessors, were obliged to go into that township to execute the law. At the house of Mr. Jacob Fries, on the 5th of March, Mr. Chapman, the assessor, met with the prisoner, who declared his determination not to submit, but to oppose the law, and said that by next morning he could raise seven hundred men in opposition to it.

"On the morning of the next day twenty or more of them met at the house of Conrad Marks in arms. John Fries was armed with a sword and had a feather in his hat. On the road, as they went forward, they were met by young Marks, who told them they might as well turn about, for the Northampton people were strong enough to do the business without those from Bucks County. Some were so inclined to do, but at the instance of Fries and some others they did go forward, and actually proceeded to Bethlehem. Before the arrival of these troops, a party going on the same business had stopped at the bridge near Bethlehem, where they were met by a deputation from the marshal, to advise them to return home; they agreed to halt there, and send three of their number to declare to the marshal their demand. During this period Fries and his party came up, but it appears when they came Fries took the party actually over the bridge, and he arranged the toll and ordered them to proceed. With respect to the proof of the proceedings at Bethlehem it cannot be mistaken; he was the leading man, and he appeared to enjoy the command. With the consent of his people he demanded the prisoners of the marshal, and when that officer told him that he could not surrender them, except they were taken from him by force, and produced his warrant for taking them, the prisoner then harangued his party of the house, and explained to them the necessity of using force; and that you should not mistake his design we will prove to you that he declared that was the third day which he had been out on this expedition; that he had had a skirmish the day before, and if the prisoners were not released he should have another to-day. 'Now you observe,' resumed he, 'that force is necessary, but you must obey my orders. We will not go without taking the prisoners. But take my orders: you must not fire first; you must be first fired upon, and when I am gone you must do as well as you can, as I expect to be the first man who falls.' He further declared to the marshal that they would fire till a cloud of smoke prevented them from seeing each other and executing the office of command of the troops, which at that time overawed the marshal and his attendants; he harangued the troops to obey his orders, which they did. The marshal was really intimidated to liberate the prisoners, and then the object was accomplished, and the party dispersed amid the huzzas of the insurgents. After this affair at Bethlehem, the prisoner frequently avowed his opposition to the law, and justified that outrage; and when a meeting was afterwards held at Lower Milford to choose assessors the prisoner refused his assent, and appeared as violent as ever."

Most of the foregoing charges were proved with a variety of other details, and John Fries was convicted of the crime of high treason and sentenced to death. A new trial was granted, of which the result was precisely the same; but the prisoner was pardoned by President Adams. Upon his release Fries returned to

his home and resumed the occupation of vendue crier, which he had long followed. He had no longer a taste for violent rebellion, and his remaining years were passed in a quiet and law-abiding manner. He died about 1820, having passed the allotted age of threescore and ten.

His lieutenants, Heany and Getman, were also tried and convicted of the crime of high treason, but neither of them received sentence of death. About thirty others who were implicated in the rebellion were tried, and most of them convicted and punished by the imposition of fines or short terms of imprisonment.

Among the disaffected who had been taken prisoners by the marshal and rescued by the insurgents was one Jacob Eyerman, a German preacher, who had not long been in this country. He seems to have exerted nearly as great an influence as Fries in stirring up the people in Bucks County. When he was tried, one of the assessors testified that while he was on the round of his duty in Chestnut Hill township, Eyerman "came in and began to rip out in a violent manner against this taxation, saying that Congress had made laws which were unjust, and that the people need not take up with them; if they did, all kinds of laws would follow; but if they would not put up with this, they need not with those that would come after, because it was a free country; but in case the people admitted of those laws, they would certainly be put under great burdens." He said also that "Congress and the government only made such laws to rob the people, and that they were nothing but a parcel of damned rogues, or '*spitz bube*' (highwaymen or thieves)."

Eyerman, who had fled to New York State after the rescue, was followed and brought back, and the trial in which the foregoing evidence was elicited was held before William Henry, of Nazareth. He was sentenced to be imprisoned one year, pay fifty dollars fine, and give security for his good behavior for one year after release from confinement.

"All the German population of Northampton County," says a good authority,¹ "were more or less affected by the spirit of opposition to the house tax." In Weisenberg township the opponents of the law are said to have prepared a house as a place of defense against the troops, and to have stored within it quite a large quantity of arms and ammunition.

Fries' Rebellion has been attributed by some writers² to the overbearing disposition and conduct of Jacob Eyerly, who had been appointed by the President to collect the direct taxes in Northampton County. (He was charged, too, with having deserted the Republican or Democratic party, which had elected him to the State Legislature in 1796, and going over to the Federalists.) The *Aurora*, a Democratic paper published in Philadelphia, was the original authority for this

¹ M. S. Henry (a native of Northampton County), in his *History of the Lehigh Valley*.

² Notably by Professor Ebeling, in his *History of Pennsylvania*.

view of the matter. That journal affected to regard the whole affair as one of insignificant interest and importance, and (warranted by an incident) called it the "Hot-Water War."¹

A disparaging account of the operations of the military, presumably from the *Aurora*, or at least based upon an article in that paper, is as follows:

"In some parts of the counties named (Berks, Bucks, and Northampton), in demonstration of their opposition to government, they erected liberty-poles. To quell the insurrection troops, in obedience to Adams' instruction, were raised in Lancaster County. Several companies marched from Lancaster April 1, 1799, wending their front toward the arena of dispute by way of Reading, where Capt. Montgomery's troop of light-horse arrived on the evening of the 1st of April. Their first act to display their prowess and gallantry was to go clandestinely to the house of Jacob Gosin, who, in the spirit of the times, had erected a liberty-pole on his own premises, which they cut without meeting with any resistance.

"To give undoubted proof of their daring bravery, they brandished their damascene weapons, drew pistols to show that they were armed, in the house of the inoffensive father, whose minor children were scared 'half to death' at the martial manœuvres of the Lancaster troops.

"To let no time slip, and while they were undaunted, they proceeded from Gosin's to the house of John Strohecker, whither their eagle eyes were drawn by a recently-erected liberty-pole, tipped with a rag 'flopping in the breeze.' This pole, to show the independence of some sturdy urchins, had been erected by some children, in which Strohecker's were ringleaders. To deter these young heroes, the soldiers took down the pole, stripped it of its insignia, entered the house, where they found the little wights, and, as they did at Gosin's, so did they here: brandished weapons of war, presented pistols and swords to the youthful company, to the no small alarm of both parents and children.

"To consummate their martial plans and desigus they molested the house of Jacob Epler, and maltreated him unprovokedly. Like braves ever merit, these merited the contempt of all reflecting persons, rendering themselves obnoxious to the orderly and well-disposed among all classes.

"Satisfied of having rendered their country some service, the troop next morning started for Northampton to fully execute the specific purpose of their mission (the capture of Fries). This done, they again returned by way of Reading, where they entered the office of the *Adler* (*Eagle*), a paper edited and printed by Jacob Schneider, whom they rudely denuded by violently tearing his clothes from his body, in a somewhat inclement season, and by force of arms dragged him before the commanding captain, who peremptorily ordered the editor, for writing and printing some offensive articles, to be whipped. 'Twenty-five lashes,' said he, 'shall be well laid on his denuded back, in the market-house,' which order, however, was not executed because of the timely and manly interposition of some gentlemen of Capt. Leiper's company of Philadelphia. A few lashes, however, had been inflicted before these men had time fully to interpose. These were laid on by one accustomed to beat when little resistance is to be dreaded: he was a drummer.

"Col. Epler, it appears, had by this time erected, by the assistance of his neighbors, a liberty-pole in place of the pole erected by his children. Thither the soldiers resorted, where they attempted to compel a common laborer to cut down the 'offending wood,' notwithstanding that he protested against doing so at the same time on most solemn asseverations, declaring he was also a Federalist ('*Ich bin auch ein Federal ihr liebe Leut; das bin. Ju ich auch ein Federal!*').

"They succeeded in divesting the pole, and with it appended as a trophy, they rode, vociferating as they went, through the streets of Reading to their place of quarters. In a few days they left, but on the 24th of April an army under the command of Brig.-Gen. McPherson arrived at Reading, apprehending some of the insurrectionists, who were afterwards tried." . . .

And so ended Fries' Rebellion. It was one of those lesser disorders to which all governments are

¹ Says the *Aurora*, "A person was in the act of measuring the windows of a house when a woman poured a shower of hot water on his head."

subject, and it might have become a dangerous disease in the body politic had not the effective means been resorted to for its eradication which was ridiculed in the foregoing extracts.

CHAPTER V.

WAR OF 1812-14.

Rosters of Lehigh County Companies at Marcus Hook and Elsewhere.

WHILE the State of Pennsylvania was at no time invaded by hostile forces during the second war with Great Britain, her people exhibited a sturdy patriotism, and her soldiers went forward to the field with a spontaneousness and alacrity which was commendable, and entirely natural to the sons of sires who had fought in the Revolution. When the metropolis of the State was threatened, there was an outpouring of the militia and other military elements such as had up to that time been unequalled, and has only since been exceeded by the grand muster for the war against secession. In this rally to arms Lehigh County was not behind the other divisions of the State.

It was supposed that the enemy's movement up the Chesapeake was planned for the assault of Philadelphia, but it proved that the objective-point of the British was the national capital, instead of Pennsylvania's principal city and port.

President Madison issued July 14, 1814, his call for ninety-three thousand five hundred militia, of which number the quota of Pennsylvania was fourteen thousand. In pursuance of this general call, Governor Snyder, of Pennsylvania, on the 22d of July, sent out general orders to the militia of the State to organize and march against the enemy. The newspapers of Allentown, the *Friedensbote* and the *Republikaner*, published the order August 4th. Ten days later, Capt. Abraham Rinker, of the Allentown Rifles, and Capt. John F. Ruhe, of the Northampton Blues, called their companies together for the purpose of mustering them for service. On the same day the martial spirit of the community was stirred by the sight of one hundred regulars, under Capt. Schell, marching through the seat of justice of the new county on their way to New York State from Reading. On the Monday following the people heard with sorrow and indignation that the national capital was in possession of the enemy.

On Tuesday, the 6th of September, the light infantry company of Capt. John F. Ruhe and the riflemen under Capt. Abraham Rinker went voluntarily to Philadelphia in response to the call from the Governor to protect the sea-coast. Capt. Peter Ruch's cavalry troop, raised in Whitehall, also rode out a few days later for the same destination. Besides these

there were the companies of Capt. Joseph Wilt and John Dornblaser, the former raised principally in Upper Milford, and the latter consisting of militiamen from Lehigh, Northampton, and Pike Counties.

On September 9th the companies of Capts. Ruhe, Rinker, Dinkey, and Ruch went into camp at Bush Hill, near Philadelphia. Altogether there were about one thousand men in this camp, including several companies not here mentioned. After the lapse of several weeks they were ordered to Marcus Hook, where they remained until November 30th, when orders were received for breaking camp, and the troops marched home without having been in any engagement. While they won no especial glory, they showed their willingness to meet the enemy, and fully expected to when they were mustered and went forward to the Delaware.

The company of Capt. Ruhe arrived at Allentown, Monday, December 5th, and on the Sunday following attended divine worship at the Lutheran Church in full uniform. Other soldiers from Lehigh County who had been in winter-quarters at Chester returned soon afterward.

The news of Jackson's victory at New Orleans, Jan. 8, 1815, was received at Allentown February 28th. It was celebrated by the firing of cannon, illuminations, blazing bonfires, and the marching of a torch-light procession, headed by "Eine herrliche bande musik" from Bethlehem, and thus an extraordinary air of festivity and rejoicing was given to the whole proceeding.

It is not possible to give the names of all the Lehigh County soldiers who obeyed the call of the Governor in the war of 1812-14, but the majority of them are included in the following rosters, for the most part derived from official sources.

ROLL OF CAPT. JOHN F. RUHE'S COMPANY.

A complete muster-roll of the Fifth (Capt. Ruhe's) Company of the Second Regiment Volunteer Light Infantry, under the command of Col. Louis Bache, under the order of the commander-in-chief of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania of 27th August, 1814, and attached to the First Brigade, Second Division, Pennsylvania Militia.

	<i>Captain.</i>	
Ruhe, John F.		
	<i>First Lieutenant.</i>	
Blumer, Jacob.		
	<i>Ensign.</i>	
Fatzinger, Solomon.		
	<i>Sergeants.</i>	
Miller, William.		Kauffman, George.
Dobbins, William.		Gangwere, Isaac.
	<i>Corporals.</i>	
Mehr, John.		Swander, Daniel.
Gangwere, Andrew.		Miller, John.
	<i>Drummer.</i>	
Keiper, George.		
	<i>Piper.</i>	
Klotz, John.		

Privates.

Raser, Benjamin.	Mickley, Jacob. ¹
Stattler, John.	Biery, Peter.
Seip, Christian.	Horn, Samuel.
Keichline, Peter.	Keiper, Daniel.
Nagle, Leonard.	Derr, Abraham.
Weaver, William.	Ballott, Barthold.
Weal, John.	Klotz, Andrew.
Houck, David.	Mohr, Jacob.
Stattler, Henry.	Keichline, William.
Ebner, Henry.	Houck, Jacob.
Gudekunst, Adam.	Spinner, George.
Huber, David.	Hutter, Charles L.
Keiper, William.	Gossler, Jacob.
Ruhe, Charles A.	Wilson, John.
Mertz, George.	Weaver, Charles.
Swenk, Mathias.	Gross, Henry.
Haveracher, George.	Wagner, John.
Keiper, Peter.	Ginkinger, William.
Seip, Jacob.	Reep, John.
Good, John.	Reichard, Henry.

CAMP MARCUS HOOK, November 29, 1814.

I do hereby certify, upon honor, that the above is a just and true muster-roll of Capt. Ruhe's company.

JACOB BLUMER,
First Lieutenant.
LOUIS BACHE,
Colonel First Regiment P. V. I.

ROLL OF CAPT. ABRAHAM GANGWERE'S COMPANY.

Pay-roll of the First Company of riflemen, commanded by Capt. Abraham Gangwere, attached to the First Brigade, Second Division, Pennsylvania Militia, in the service of the United States, under the command of Brig.-Gen. H. Spering, Maj.-Gen. Shitz commanding.

	<i>Captain.</i>	
Gangwere, Abraham.		
	<i>First Lieutenant.</i>	
Moyer, Daniel.		
	<i>Second Lieutenant.</i>	
Newhart, Jacob.		
	<i>Third Lieutenant.</i>	
Stein, Jacob.		
	<i>Ensign.</i>	
Koller, Adam.		
	<i>Sergeants.</i>	
Dull, John.		Beidleman, Abraham.
Minor, Pitkin.		Quear, Jacob.
Quear, Daniel.		
	<i>Corporals.</i>	
Keiper, Abraham.		Bickle, Daniel.
Long, Joseph.		Nagel, Joseph.
	<i>Musicians.</i>	
Keiper, Jacob.		Quear, Daniel.
	<i>Privates.</i>	
Poyer, John.		Kuntz, Philip.
Daniel, Daniel C.		Hilman, Daniel.
Rose, Joseph.		Hany, Charles.
Swenk, Jacob.		Kinkinger, James.
Frain, John.		Hoffman, Peter.
Keik, Daniel.		Brobst, Henry.
Moyer, Nicholas.		Hartman, Henry.
Koider, Joseph.		Amhiser, Henry.
Rhoads, Daniel.		Fisher, George.
Brobst, Solomon.		Flouts, George.
Ott, Jacob.		Good, Henry.
Moyer, Abraham.		Kentz, George.
Rhoads, John.		Long, Jacob.
Yundt, James.		Eline, Mathias.
Litzenberger, George.		Kammerer, Henry.
Shoemaker, Benjamin.		Loudenslager, Peter.

¹ Jacob Mickley is the only one of this company now living. He resides in Whiteball.

Londonstager, John.
Foght, Gollib.
Henry, George.
Gangwere, Thomas.
Hubenstine, David.
Acker, Henry.
Besh, George.
Shivry, Jacob.
Deal, John.
Shriver, William.
Besh, John.
Woodring, Gabriel.
Good, Michael.
Flexer, John.
Reichenbach, Jacob.
Hamor, Jacob.
Druckemiller, Michael.
Miller, John.
Nerfer, John.
Frack, Jacob.
Nagel, Jacob.
Shantz, John.
Miller, John, Jr.
Guishler, John.
Rinebolt, Cornelius.
Hill, George.
Sloufer, William.
Frymon, Michael.
Rider, Frederick.
Rownolt, Solomon.
Kuntz, Peter.
Highleageor, Adam.
Rish, Henry.
Heller, Frederick.

Snider, Henry.
Minich, Peter.
Herner, George.
Rice, Henry.
Seip, Peter.
Breder, George.
Ebenrider, Peter.
Trexler, Israel.
Koch, Jacob.
Caldwell, John.
Erich, Jacob.
Fatzinger, Henry.
Keifer, Elias.
Erhard, John.
Hower, Jacob.
Herwig, Henry.
Ott, Jonathan.
Flower, John.
Snider, John.
Mushlitz, Jacob.
Poc, Michael.
Seutle, Michael.
Lehr, George.
Nagel, Philip.
Rau, Conrad.
Weil, Conrad.
Luckenbach, Abraham.
Hillegas, Jacob.
Shontz, Jacob.
Shontz, Henry.
Heller, Jeremiah.
Wetsel, George.
Good, Solomon.

Doll, Charles.
Kloekner, Solomon.
Whiteman, John.
Shoudt, Michael.
Nunemacker, Henry.
Keck, David.
Lehr, Michael.
Lehr, Adam.
Mensch, Adam.
Hartzel, Andrew.
Diffenderfer, Jonathan.
Deily, Jacob.
Yost, Nathaniel.
Whiteman, Jacob.
Moritz, George.
Hantzel, Solomon.
Gordon, Jacob.
Merlocher, George.
Good, Adam.
Kunckel, Lewis.
Beidelman, Jacob.
Hicker, Adam.
Tower, Michael.
Swander, Henry.
Petzer, Daniel.
Shaffer, George.
Billig, John.
Eschenbach, Daniel.
Bortz, George.
Newhard, Frederick.
Steinberger, Jacob.
Spangler, Jones.
Sharrer, Adam.
Bachman, Jacob.
Rou, or Rau, John (quit the company Sept. 23, 1814).
Klotz, Peter (quit the company Sept. 23, 1814).
Ealer, John.
Mausch, Peter.
Frantz, Henry.
Moll, Peter.
Cooch, Peter (enlisted in the army of the United States Oct. 2, 1814).
We do certify that the within list is a true statement, on honor, this 13th day of November, 1814.

ABRAHAM RINKER, *Captain*.
THOMAS HUMPHREY,
Colonel First R. P. V. R.

CAPT. PETER RUCH'S LIGHT-HORSE.

This company was formed almost entirely in the territory now embraced in Whitehall and North and South Whitehall townships, and went to Philadelphia about the same time as the other Lehigh County troops, subsequently going into camp at Red Bank, N. J. The muster-roll has not been preserved, and we are able to give only a partial list of names of those who were members of this cavalry organization:

Captain.
Peter Ruch.
First Lieutenant.
William Boas.
Privates.
Peter Good. Michael Frack.
James Seagus. John Swartz.
Peter Troxell. Jacob Schreiber.
Solomon Steckel. Daniel Leisenring.
John Deichman. Peter Leiseuring.
Peter Burkholter.

ROLL OF CAPT. JOHN DORNBLASER'S COMPANY.¹

Muster-roll of Capt. John Dornblaser's company, belonging to a detachment of Northampton, Lehigh, and Pike County militia, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Christopher J. Hutter.

Captain.
Dornblaser, John.
First Lieutenant.
Bush, John V.
Second Lieutenant.
Winters, John.
Third Lieutenant.
Fenner, Frederic (elected 10th October, 1814).
Ensign.
Smith, David.
Sergeants.
Morrison, John W. Hartzell, Jacob.
Hartzell, John. Fenner, Frederick, promoted.
Corporals.
Teel, Nicholas. Stocker, Samuel.
Barrot, Henry. Brady, William.

¹ The names in this roster are not *exclusively* those of Lehigh County soldiers, but as it is found impossible to effect a thorough separation, the entire roll is here presented.

The above statement commences from the 23d day of September, 1814, to the 31st day of October, 1814, making one month and eight days complete.

I certify, upon honor, that this muster-roll exhibits a true statement of the number of men in my company, attached to One Hundred and Eighteenth Regiment, First Brigade, Seventh Division, Pennsylvania Militia, in the service of the United States.

ABRAHAM GANGWERE,
Captain.

I believe the above to be correct.

CHRISTOPHER J. HUTTER,
Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding.

I certify that the company commanded by Capt. Abraham Gangwere is now in the service of the United States, under order of Brig.-Gen. H. Spearing, commandant militia district.

THOMAS J. ROGERS,
Brigade Major.

MARCS HOOK CAMP, Oct. 23, 1814.

ROLL OF CAPT. ABRAHAM RINKER'S COMPANY.

CAMP DUPONT, Nov. 13, 1814.

A true list of Capt. Abraham Rinker's company of the Eighteenth Section of Rifemen, commanded by Col. Thomas Humphrey.

Sergeants.
Knouse, Peter. Marck, Jacob.
Lehr, Peter. Strouse, John.
Corporals.
Shiffert, John. Stoer, or Starr, Conrad.
Nunemacker, George. Keck, John.
Musician.
Wotring, Ferdinand.
Privates.
Bower, Henry. Lucas, Solomon.
Siegfried, Daniel. Strouse, George.
Hartzel, Henry. Yohe, Jacob.
Mayer, George. Deily, Christian.
Smith, Adam. Hartzel, Adam.
Hartzel, Jacob. Steinberger, Peter.
Reinbold, John. Kerslner, Conrad.

Saylor, Isaac.	<i>Drummer.</i>
Hockman, Jonas.	<i>Fifer.</i>
	<i>Privates.</i>
Dietz, John.	Miller, Henry.
Rape, George.	Morris, Obed.
Snyder, Peter.	VanHorn, Cornelius.
Ward, John.	Barr, Adam.
Ostertack, John.	Cooper, Joseph.
Young, John.	Davis, William.
Shaffer, Joseph.	Clack, John.
Nolf, George.	Bureau, William.
Hoffert, Samuel.	Arndt, Jacob.
Bunstein, Jacob.	Smell, Samuel.
Walter, Conrad.	Eric (or Ibric), Conrad.
Young, Adam.	Gower, John.
Stocker, David.	Myer, Henry.
Willower, George.	Serfus, George.
Miller, Abraham.	Serfas, John.
Wimmer, Joseph.	Fisher, Dewald.
Price, Freeman.	Crisman, Jacob.
Kehler, Leonard.	Klincrup, John.
Hutmacher, J. (disch. Oct. 17, 1814).	Mack, John.
Kehler, Daniel.	Posty, Thomas.
Winland, Christian.	Miller, George (disch. Oct. 17, 1814).
Stoufer, John.	Swenk, John.
Stocker, Jacob.	Brewer, James.
Gangwehr, Jacob.	Smith, Christopher.
Holman, Jeremiah B.	Merwine, Jacob.
Nye, Lawrence.	Huston, John.
Nye, Andrew (disch. Oct. 20, 1814).	Rinker, George.
Steiner, Joseph.	Roes, Samuel.
Miller, Daniel.	McGannon, Alexander.
Hahn, Peter.	Strunk, Peter.
Hahn, George.	Faulk, John.
Myer, George.	Coolbaugh, Garret.
Schick, Peter.	Jayne, Peter.
Keyser, Jacob.	Bunnel, Barnet.
Geres, Frederick.	Place, Jacob.
Swartwood, Jacob.	Adams, John.
Winner, John.	Horman, Frederick.
Fisher, Phillip.	Winans, Samuel.
Crawford, John.	Kincaid, Sylvester.
Beard, John.	Vandemark, Peter.
Shepperd, David.	Vanetter, Anthony.
Lowman, John.	Howe, John.
Evans, David.	Impson, Robert.
Stine, John.	Vansickle, William.
Barr, James.	Steel, Isaac.
Kester, Phillip.	Courtwright, Levi.
Kester, Leonard.	Watson, George.

CAMP MARCUS HOOK, October 21, 1814.

I certify, on honor, that this muster or pay-roll exhibits a true state of the company, — Regiment, Pennsylvania militia, now in service of the United States, and the remarks set opposite the names are accurate and just, to the best of my knowledge.

JOHN DORNBLASER,
Captain.

I believe the above to be a correct muster or pay-roll.

CHRIST. J. HUTTER,
Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding.

CHAPTER VI.

THE PENNSYLVANIA GERMANS.

Their History, Character, Customs, Language, Literature, and Religion.¹

FULLY three-fourths of the population of Lehigh County, and a large proportion of that of Carbon, are Pennsylvania Germans or their descendants. A his-

tory of these counties would remain far from being complete without giving at least a brief account of this people, their language, habits, customs, and other characteristics. Since the preponderance of the population of the counties of Pennsylvania east of the Susquehanna, with the exception of the southeastern extremities, is of the same nationality, what is said of this class of people, as they are found in Lehigh and Carbon, applies with equal force to those of the eastern and central part of the State.

Their History.—The German tongue belongs to the great Aryan family of languages, and in times very remote was spoken on the highlands of Central Asia. From this part of the world the Germans swarmed westward, and took possession of Central and Northern Europe. Five hundred years before Christ, the historian Herodotus makes mention of the Germans as "Shouters in battle." They were fully established in Europe when history begins. In the second century before Christ, two thousand years ago, Papi-rius Carbo, a Roman consul appointed to fight with the Celts, came upon this people, and found the men of huge strength and fierce courage, and the women scarcely less formidable. For five centuries from the time of Julius Caesar, as we go down through the ages, Ariovistus, Arminius, Maroboduus, Alaric, Chnodomar, and Theodoric are the confronting Goths who vanquished the Romans, and took up the sceptre. Tacitus, the great Roman historian, who wrote in the first century after Christ, holds up the Germans to his people as purer than themselves. Christian churches were established among the Germans before the migration of the races in the fourth and fifth centuries. Ulfilas, the Moeso-Goth, made a translation of the Bible at the end of the fourth century, the earliest memorial in any Teutonic speech. When Ulfilas died the Goths carried the Bible with them to Italy and Spain. This Bible translation is the foundation-stone of German literature. This was A.D. 388. Charlemagne, one thousand years ago, crossed and recrossed the Main at Frankfort (*Frank-furt*) with his Franks, exterminated the youth of the land and exiled multitudes. In the year 800 he was crowned emperor of Germany, France, and most of Italy and Spain. His great problem to solve was to give the Christian religion and free schools to the people. The various tribes settled in the present regions after the migration,—namely, the Hessians, Palatinians, Alamanians, Suevians, and Alsatians. For eight centuries longer the Germans shifted about in their country till, in 1682, by the invitation of William Penn, their emigration began to the New World.

Several thousand Germans had entered Pennsylvania prior to 1689. From this year on a steady stream of immigration set in. In 1742 their number was given at one hundred thousand, and in 1783 at two hundred and eighty thousand. They settled in that part of the State which is now included in Lehigh, Northampton, Monroe, Carbon, Berks, parts of Bucks,

¹ By A. R. Horne, D.D.