

Physicians and Medicine in Southern Lancaster County

by Henry S. Wentz, M.D.

Preface

It is exciting and exhilarating to dig up the golden nuggets of our past, to rediscover the stars of our medical heritage and to search for the long forgotten physicians in Southern Lancaster County.

I am grateful to John Long, Charles Stubbs, Harold and Dorothy Aument, John Musser, Clyde Shoemaker, Pauline Stoner, Drs. Donald Witmer and Robert Helm, Mrs. John (Jan Raub) Ripple, Harry and Peg Shank, Mrs. Mary Gilbert, Carl Beck, Jack Loose, and Debbie Smith for their contributions.

Three events introduced me to an interest in local history:

1) The Wentz family had reunions at Chestnut Level many years ago where an elderly lady began to talk about our Wentz history. When she mentioned our Wentz ancestors were pirates, my cousins and I took off, whooping it up, running around the building, and shouting—never hearing any more of the talk and probably interfering with others.

2) In the 1950s an elderly lady entered my office and said, “I act just like a physician’s granddaughter, don’t I?”

I replied, “Was your grandfather a doctor?”

She told me her grandfather was Dr. Henry Carpenter who had been a well known physician in Lancaster and that he was a personal physician to President James Buchanan and Representative Thaddeus Stevens.

3) After he retired, my uncle, Doctor Paul Wentz wrote “A History of the Dr. Wentzes” and gave it to me. It was only two pages but it contained a lot of information that could have been lost and forgotten.

I would like to begin by presenting one of our brightest stars. He may be the greatest person to ever have been born in Lancaster County.

The Most Famous Physician from Southern Lancaster County

David Ramsay, M.D.

Dr. David Ramsay was truly a medical giant in America in the 18th century. He was one of our great patriotic physicians who was very influential during the Revolutionary War, chaired the Congress under the Articles of Confederation and guided the formation of our Republic as both an author and a statesman. A monument honoring him has been erected by the Lancaster County Historical Society along the Robert Fulton Highway (Route 222) a few miles south of Quarryville.

This patriotic and talented physician was born on a farm in rural Drumore Township on April 2, 1749, in a small stone house (Figure 1). Unfortunately this historic building was torn down in 1920. He was the youngest of three boys whose mother died at an early age. His father was a great believer in education and gave his sons the Bible and the classics to read. It is said that David could read the Bible at six years of age and had read all the classics required for college by the age of twelve. Although he was then ready for college, because of his age he was enrolled in Carlisle Academy as a student and a tutor. Later he took an examination to enter Princeton (then called College of New Jersey) and his test results were sufficiently high to enter the junior class. However, because of age he was enrolled as a sophomore. He graduated from Princeton

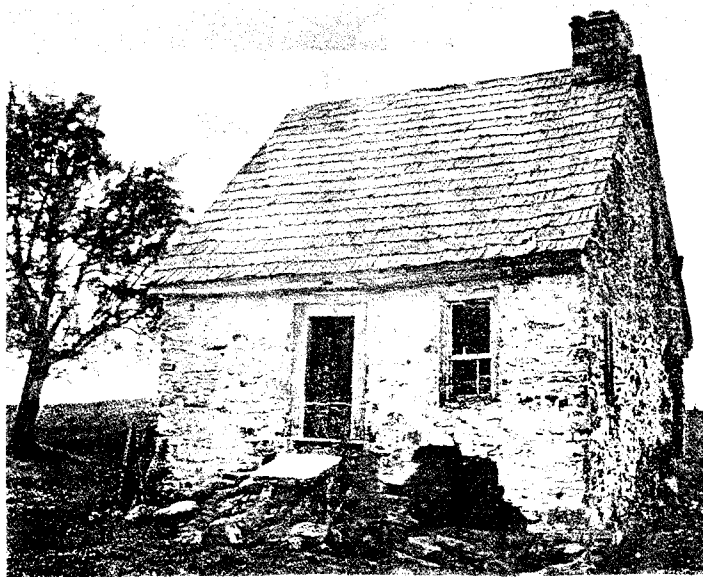


Fig. 1 Dr. Ramsay's birthplace in Drumore Township

at the age of sixteen and was considered too young to enter medical school. Thus, he became a private tutor for a family or families in Maryland and continued his reading. He went to Philadelphia and studied medicine under Dr. Bond, entered the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and studied under Dr. Benjamin Rush. After 5 years of study, he graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Physic, an infrequent honor in those days. One year later, in 1773, he received an honorary degree from Yale University. He started practice in Bohemia, Md. nine miles from Elkton. At that time Dr. Rush received a request from some people in South Carolina to come to Charleston to practice. In his place he recommended Dr. Ramsay (Figure 2) who went to South Carolina with this letter of introduction.

Dr. Ramsay studied physic regularly with Dr. Bond, attended the hospital, and public lectures of medicine and afterwards graduated Bachelor of Physic with great eclat; it is saying but little of him to tell you, that he is far superior to any person we ever graduated at our college; his abilities are not only good, but great; his talents and knowledge universal; I never saw so much strength of memory and imagination, united to so fine a judgment. . . . His manners are polished and agreeable—his conversation lively, and his behaviour, to all men, always without offence. Joined to all these, he is sound in his principles, strict, nay more, severe in his morals, and attached, not by education only, but by principle, to the dissenting interest.

With Drs. Bond and Rush, Dr. Ramsay laid down a foundation for an American system of medicine. Prior to this time physicians of standing needed to study medicine abroad. They experimented on the human system and attempted to discover the nature of the fluid of our being and their functions. They tried to innovate a method of reason and observation rather than reading and memory. On this basis they thought a system of depletion and stimulation was needed. Since they felt depletion was more frequently needed, bleeding and catharsis were utilized for many illnesses. He investigated the irritations of the blood and the causes of fevers and concluded that the pulse was a great indicator of abnormal bodily conditions. He later wrote on the progress of medicine in the 18th century. He became exceedingly successful in the treatment of the malignant fevers in the clime of South Carolina and made a national reputation in his success for the treatment of yellow fever.

In 1774 in opposition to the tax the British had imposed on tea, Dr. Ramsay wrote his first patriotic sermon, "Touch not, Taste not, Handle not, for the day Thou drinkest thereof, Thou shalt surely die". In 1778 the colony of South Carolina asked him to deliver a Fourth of July oration. It was a marvelous performance. He became a great speaker and was a well known orator of that time. While we were still fighting for our independence, he declared "our present form of government is every way preferable to the royal one we have lately renounced". He was elected to the South Carolina legislature and was President of the Senate for seven years. His fame as a physician and



Fig. 2 Dr. David Ramsay

orator was well recognized from Charleston to Philadelphia. In 1782 the Continental Congress appointed him to conduct an appropriate Fourth of July observance. At that time the Fourth of July orations had a different function than today and needed to counsel, encourage, and predict what the new government in America would mean, and act as a medium to stir the patriotism in the lagging hearts of people in a struggle which at times seemed hopeless. Appropriately Dr. Ramsay filled yet another need for his country.

Dr. Ramsay's activities in our government occurred while it was operating under the Articles of Confederation before the Constitution was written, but out of which the Constitution of the United States evolved. He was elected to the Congress of the Confederation as a delegate from South Carolina in 1782 and 1785. In 1785 he was elected vice president of the Confederation and became president pro tempore when John Hancock was unable to serve in that capacity because of his health. Before the Constitution was adopted, this position was equivalent to being President of the United States. His term in Congress involved him primarily in these activities: 1) Military Affairs, 2) Post Office System, 3) United States Finance, Revenues & Credits, 4) Organic Development of the Nation and 5) Constitutional Reform of the Frame of Government.

As a famous physician, Dr. Ramsay was well fitted to reform and reorganize the hospital and medical department of the army. He was also involved in the improvement of the condition of the soldiers necessary to maintain the army for the protection of our new Republic. The post office system was in need of an overhaul and reorganization and, here too, he expended great efforts.

The Articles of Confederation provided three means of revenue for the Federal government, viz: 1) Requisition from the states 2) Loans and 3) Bills of Credit. Dr. Ramsay was on a committee to finance and extend our French loan. He was also on a committee to work out the proportion of requisition to be obtained from each state. After the share from each state was fixed he worked hard to collect the money and was opposed to all forms of favoritism.

Dr. Ramsay was also involved in the boundaries of states that needed solution. New York, Virginia, and Connecticut claimed lands to the Mississippi River. He worked out a compromise agreeable for all of the states. The Vermont Territory was also a troublesome matter which Dr. Ramsay helped to resolve as Massachusetts and New Hampshire claimed Vermont and Vermont wanted to be independent.

He also helped to develop the constitutional reform containing the proposition that no one holding a federal office should be a member or delegate to Congress. During the Revolutionary War he served with the Army of South Carolina as a surgeon. He was honored with a position on the Privy Council of the state for two years. As a member of this important body he was banished from the state by the British during the period they controlled this area. He was imprisoned in St. Augustine for 11 months until he was allowed to return home as an exchanged prisoner of war.

Dr. Ramsay was a personal friend of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Dr. John Witherspoon, president of Princeton University and a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and George Washington and as a result he made several visits to Mt. Vernon. He married Dr. John Witherspoon's daughter and after her death he married the daughter of Henry Laurens who had been minister to England and to France. This union lasted a quarter of a century, and gave both persons the happiness and satisfaction they sought. Eleven children were born to this couple during the next 15 years and eight of them lived beyond infancy.

In business and money making Dr. Ramsay was not a success. The family was always struggling to make ends meet and his wife was not able to indulge in any extravagances. Dr. Ramsay had great expectations for his oldest son, John, who was a child of his previous wife. John went to Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and Dr. Ramsay had hoped he would return to Charleston and practice with him. John chose to practice independently and even a greater disappointment was his early death at the age of 29.

Dr. Ramsay has been called the "Father of American History" because he wrote and published many celebrated historical works. The first book that Abraham Lincoln read was Ramsay's *Biography of Washington* published in 1801. He wrote a book *The History of the Revolution* in 1790 which is considered by many the best authority on the subject. He also wrote *History of the United States*, and *History of South Carolina*. His most significant writing,

Universal History Americanized covered the history of the entire world. He wrote other books and was the first person to avail himself of the copyright privileges granted under the Constitution.

A chronicler of his times said of him:

If ever there was a man destitute of selfishness, that man was Dr. David Ramsay. It was his habit to regard himself only as a member of the great human family; and his whole life was devoted to the formation and the prosecution of plans for the good of others. His active mind was ever devising means for the improvement of the moral, social, and intellectual state of his beloved country. He was an enthusiast in everything which tended to promote these darling objects. To carry the benefits of education into every family, to introduce the Bible and to extend the blessings of Christianity to the most sequestered parts of the American Continent and to bring commerce by means of canals to every door, were his favorite objects.

Dr. Ramsay's view of national life, which he said he received from Dr. Rush, was that, "Next to the duty which young men owe to their Creator, a regard to their country should be inculcated in them. Let each pupil be taught that he does not belong to himself but that he is public property."

It is ironic that Dr. Ramsay's death came as a result of his unselfish service to others. He was appointed to examine a lunatic, William Linnen. Dr. Ramsay decided he should be confined as an unsafe man. When Mr. Linnen was considered improved at a later date and released, he went to Dr. Ramsay's home and shot him in the shoulder and back. Dr. Ramsay died a few days later on May 8, 1815, at the age of 65.

David Ramsay's fine spirit was displayed in the final hours of his life when he said, "I know not if these wounds be mortal, I am not afraid to die; but should that be my fate I call on all here present to bear witness that I consider the unfortunate perpetrator of this deed a lunatic and free from guilt". All of us have gained much from the heritage given to us by Dr. David Ramsay and the causes he fought to establish.

Famous Physicians from Southern Lancaster County

Three physicians who achieved great fame for their achievements outside of Lancaster County from 1850-1930 came from Southern Lancaster County (south of Route 30 East) according to several writers. These three physicians were: Dr. D. Hayes Agnew, Dr. John H. Musser, and Dr. John B. Deaver.

D. Hayes Agnew, M.D.

D. Hayes Agnew (Figure 3) was born in 1817 in Christiana in the house now owned by Dr. Herbert Tindall and was the son of Dr. Robert Agnew. He studied at Moscow Academy under Dr. Latta, attended Delaware College and



Fig. 3 Dr. D. Hayes Agnew



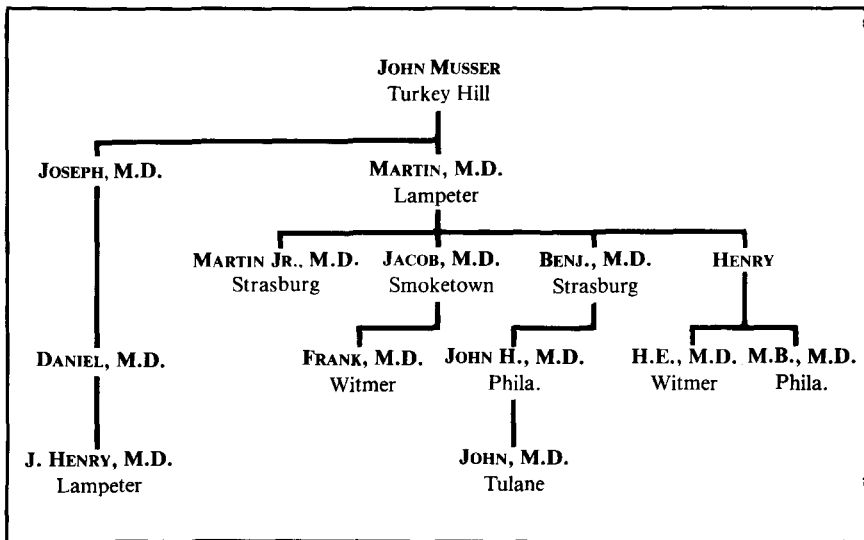
Fig. 4 Dr. John Herr Musser

graduated from University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1838. He practiced in Soudersburg for a short time and then moved to Philadelphia and was interested in anatomy and surgery. In 1870 he was appointed Professor of Surgery at his Alma Mater. He also was chief physician in the care of President Garfield after his attempted assassination.

John Herr Musser, M.D.

The Musser family is a very interesting family and as far as I can tell was the most prolific family in medicine in Lancaster County. The original Dr. Musser (there is considerable controversy whether his name was Benjamin or John) lived and practiced medicine in the Turkey Hill area in Manor Township. He was born in 1749 and had no formal training, education or degree in medicine. Two sons, four grandsons and 5 great grandsons became physicians with medical degrees. Three of them practiced in Lampeter, two in Strasburg, two in Witmer, one in Smoketown and two in Philadelphia.

Dr. John H. Musser (Figure 4) was born in Strasburg in 1856 and obtained his early education in the Strasburg schools and Millersville State Normal School. He also studied medicine under his father Benjamin Musser, M.D., graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1877, taught at his Alma Mater and eventually became Professor of Medicine. He wrote several books and gained national and international prominence in internal medicine and medical diagnosis. He was president of the American Medical Association in 1903-04 and the recipient of an honorary degree from Franklin & Marshall College in 1908. He died in Philadelphia in 1912. His son was a physician and a Professor at Tulane University Medical School.



John B. Deaver, M.D.

John Blair Deaver (Figure 5) graduated from University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1880 and was Professor of Surgery at University of Pennsylvania 1918–31. He was also chief surgeon at Lankenau Hospital. He was born at the Buck, received his preliminary education at West Nottingham Academy and later taught in country schools to raise funds toward his medical education. Dr. John B. Deaver had found a kindred spirit in Dr. Benjamin Sides and their many conversations while traveling over the hills of Southern Lancaster County inspired the boy with a desire to become a surgeon.

One of the outstanding features of his career was his operation upon approximately 15,000 persons stricken with appendicitis. He also was the author of many medical books and articles. He died Sept. 25, 1931.

Well Known Physicians Who Practiced in Southern Lancaster County

Joshua Montgomery Deaver, M.D. "Father of Physicians"

Dr. John B. Deaver's father, Joshua Deaver (Figure 6) practiced at the Buck beginning in 1843 for over 50 years. He was born in Maryland in 1822, and graduated from the University of Maryland Medical School in 1843. He was known as the "Father of Doctors". On June 3, 1892, the *Quarryville Sun*



Fig. 5 Dr. John B. Deaver



Fig. 6 Dr. Joshua M. Deaver

published an editorial tribute to Dr. Joshua Montgomery Deaver, then 70 years old, concluding with these words,

His career has been singularly successful in all regards. He has won his spurs by study and an honorable life in and out of his profession. He has brought up a family of sons who are an honor and blessing, and so in the twilight of a good and useful existence he can say truly that life is worth living.

His house and office were on Deaver Road. Dr. Deaver kept three carriage horses and two riding horses for use in his rural practice. His hostler, a boy of fifteen, slept in quarters provided in the barn. Frequently after a long trip the doctor would eat a hurried meal while the boy harnessed a fresh horse to take him to the home of another patient. When he started practicing at the Buck he rode horseback. Later he used a light carriage and still later a buggy.

The "Sage of the Buck," Robert Risk, calls Drs. Joshua Deaver and Benjamin Sides the greatest rural physicians. Dr. Joshua Deaver made three calls one day with Robert Risk. He saw a poor girl who had typhoid fever in a humble home near Rawlinsville. Mr. Risk said,

It did my heart good to see the interest the old doctor took in the case. He may not get paid but his heart was in the case. This means everything. Human endeavor must not be measured by a golden yardstick. It is the good we do and not the money we make which indicates the man. Fifty years from now nobody will know us. But Dr. Deaver, do you not think the half hour you spent in a humble home in Martic Twp. has added something to the sum total of human kindness? Damn your dollars and cents, say I, but give me some heart and feeling. He was an institution! He never rendered a bill unless requested. The family physician must be able to treat the heart, mind and body.

Mr. Risk also said that in spite of his reading and his eagerness to keep up-to-date and the discussions with his famous sons when they would come home to visit, it took the old doctor some time to accept the germ theory of disease and antiseptis. The value of antiseptis was discovered by Lister in 1865 and the germ theory was postulated by Pasteur and Koch in 1880. In the end Dr. Deaver became a modernist.

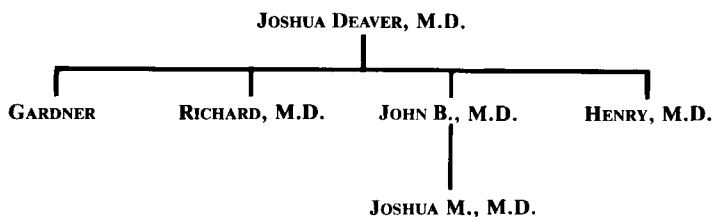
In addition to John B., Dr. Joshua Deaver had two sons and a grandson who were physicians.

Richard Wilmot was a graduate of University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1874 and practiced in Germantown for over fifty years. He was a bachelor.

Harry Clay was visiting surgeon at Episcopal Hospital in Philadelphia 1892-1931. He was Professor of Surgery at Women's Medical College in Philadelphia. He was a bachelor.

A grandson of Joshua and son of John B., Joshua Montgomery was born in 1901, went to Hill School and Yale University and graduated from University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1928. He was assistant professor of surgery at Jefferson Medical College and chief of surgery service at Lankenau Hospital.

One son, Gardner Clinton Deaver was president of a western college that the Wright Brothers attended.



Benjamin Sides, M.D.

Dr. Benjamin Sides (Figure 7) was born near Camargo in 1822. He read medicine with Dr. Patrick Cassidy of Lancaster and graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1846. He started his medical practice at Centreville (Hensel). Harry Shank's father was a stable boy for Dr. Sides at Centreville. One evening the hostler ran up the steps in the barn and ran into a skeleton Dr. Sides kept there. He was so frightened he ran home as fast as he could go. After 1876 Dr. Sides moved to Fairfield where he bought a farm and built a home. It is said that he kept some of his convalescing patients on the third floor of his house.

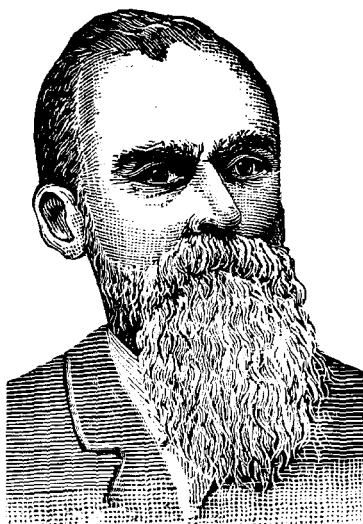


Fig. 7 Dr. Benjamin Sides



Fig. 8 Dr. James A. Peeples

Dr. James A. Peeples read medicine with Dr. Sides and together they performed many surgical procedures on patients in the southern end of the county. In that day all surgical procedures were performed in patients' homes, frequently on the dining room table. Dr. Sides had developed his proficiency in surgery during the Civil War. It was said that in his long practice he had never lost a mother or child in a childbirth case.

Dr. Sides was generally credited with the discovery of the feasibility of taking out the appendix and he performed his first operation of that kind in Little Britain Township on Mrs. John (Sarah) Shade in 1890. (One wonders whether Dr. John Deaver borrowed this procedure from him.) She recovered and lived some years thereafter. Dr. Sides took care of patients on both sides of the Susquehanna River as a colony of Welsh families lived on both sides of the river especially at West Bangor on the York County side and were engaged in quarrying slate. People developed a great deal of confidence in him.

He was a fine fiddler and was very fond of music. He died at the age of 79 in 1901.

James A. Peeples, M.D.

Dr. Peeples (Figure 8) was born near Kirk Mills, Fulton Township in 1841. His hobby was good horses and he owned a large tract of land near Rock Spring which he called "The Ranch". He had a race track there and bred and trained many fine horses. It is said he sold many physicians their horses. His office and home were at Kirk's Mills.

Dr. Peeples literally died in the harness at the age of 75; he was found sitting in his buggy unconscious by the side of the road while making his rounds in Little Britain Township in 1916.

Vincent King, M.D.

Dr. King was born in Little Britain Township in 1786. He went to West town School. A fellow student had what was diagnosed as typhus fever and the doctor caring for him said he would die and that there was nothing the physician could do. Vincent asked the superintendent for permission to nurse and attend the student who no longer received aid from the doctor. He cared for him day and night and the boy recovered. This incident led him to study for a career of medicine.

He graduated from University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1807. He practiced in Philadelphia for two years and then moved to Goshen in Chester County, then to Baltimore, Md., and to Columbia, Pennsylvania where he lost his wife in 1816. He married Patience Wright in 1821 after which he moved to Little Britain Township to his birthplace and died at 39 years of age. Dr. Jeremiah Stubbs was one of his students.

Jeremiah Stubbs, M.D.

Dr. Jeremiah Stubbs (Figure 9) was born in Little Britain Township in 1804. His family moved to Cecil Co. Md. and then back to Peach Bottom. Jeremiah went to Baltimore and entered business which he disliked and with encouragement from his family he began the study of medicine in 1824. He studied under Dr. Vincent King and graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1827. He practiced in Rising Sun, Md. for 9 years and after his marriage returned to Little Britain Township to the Dr. John Sappington farm. He practiced for 25 years in Little Britain Township. In 1847 he was elected to the House of Representatives at Harrisburg and served two terms. Through his efforts a bill was passed to tax all "quack" nostrums.

He developed angina pectoris at the age of 58 and died in 1862.

Charles Stubbs, M.D.

Dr. Jeremiah Stubbs' son, Dr. Charles Stubbs (Figure 10) went to Millersville Normal School, studied medicine under his father and graduated from Jefferson Medical College. He practiced in Wakefield, was a Civil War surgeon and was a great collector of rocks and fossils and Indian relics. His grandson showed me a rock with the initials "MDL" and the date "1780" which he was told by his father were the initials of Marquis de Lafayette and were inscribed by him on the banks of the Susquehanna River in 1781 (the date was wrong) on his way to meet Washington at Yorktown. Dr. Charles Stubbs gave most of his collection to Asa Packer's daughter



Fig. 9 Dr. Jeremiah Stubbs



Fig. 10 Dr. Charles Stubbs

and this collection is now in the museum at Lehigh University. His wife had rheumatism and in fact there was thought to be a hex on his house so that all women living there were so afflicted. Was this also the house and office of Jeremiah? The house had only one front entrance so patients entered the front door and went to the left to the office while visitors went to the right to visit the family.

The railroad, the Lancaster, Oxford and Southern, passed near his house at Westbrook Station. Dr. Charles Stubbs went to the Pacific coast by rail and added to his rock collection and at another time took the train to Luray Caverns, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and Washington, D.C. and return for \$6.40.

Ambrose Stubbs, M.D.

Dr. Ambrose Stubbs (Figure 11), son of Dr. Charles Stubbs, was born in 1874 and attended Millersville Normal School. He taught school at Cherry Hill School in Fulton Township. He studied under Dr. Harston at Oxford, Pa. and graduated from Baltimore Medical College in 1896.

He started practice in Wakefield. His brother was a druggist in Reading, Pa. and died suddenly at which time Dr. Ambrose Stubbs moved to Reading and ran the drugstore and practiced medicine in that city from 1902-1907 after which he returned to Wakefield. His first house is no longer standing. At a later date he had his home and office along Route 222.

Charles, his son, often drove him in his horse and buggy until the doctor got a Ford in 1911. His sleigh had curtains at the sides to block the winds.

He had a charcoal footwarmer and carried a wirecutter so he could cut the wire fences to cross the fields when necessary.

Dr. Ambrose Stubbs would make calls all day and eat wherever he was at dinner time. He had office hours at night including Saturday nights and Sunday mornings because people worked all day and evenings.

He charged twenty-five cents for an office visit and \$1.00 for house calls within ten miles. Over ten miles it cost \$1.25. These charges included medicine and he supplied the medicine since the nearest drugstore was in Quarryville. He delivered babies for ten dollars and was often paid for his services in food, etc.

Ambrose's son, Charles, drove Drs. Stubbs and Giles Hess as a consultant to see a man and his daughter both of whom had spinal meningitis and lived a few miles down the road. The doctors spent about three hours with these patients and when they went outside to return home, the road was a sheet of ice because it had been raining and was now frozen. When they drove over Soapstone Hill the car skidded and was uncontrollable. After it stopped off the side of the road, Dr. Stubbs went to the nearest farm, notified the farmer of his problem and the farmer brought a rope. They tied the rope to a tree and the car and by tying to different trees on the way down the hill they were able to get the car safely down the hill.

A patient owed Dr. Ambrose Stubbs the large sum of \$6 for his past medical services. He made a house call to this family and admired an old cabinet which was in poor condition. When he completed his medical visit, the man of the house asked Dr. Stubbs if he would like to have that piece of furniture. He said he could have it for his bill of \$6. He also gave him the upper portion of the breakfront which was in the barn. It had a secret compartment in the top where Ambrose kept two guns. When I asked what he used the guns for, his son told me this story.

One day a man came in their long lane to the door requesting a doctor. Mrs. Stubbs said the doctor was making house calls. The man insisted that he needed a doctor immediately or he would die. So she called the doctor to see this seriously ill patient. A short time later she looked out of the window and saw the man walking out the lane. She took the gun down, yelled and pointed the gun at him and said, "You said you needed a doctor. I called him. He is on his way home. You wait until he returns."

Charles, the son of Ambrose said, "I guess you wonder why I never became a doctor. One day a young boy came into the office who had been using an axe. He hit his knee instead of the log and he split his knee wide open. My father asked me to hold the light for him as we did not have electricity. As I held the light and looked at the boy's knee, the light started to weave. Then and there I knew I would not be a doctor." Dr. Stubbs made splints for fingers out of cigar boxes. Early in his career he carried medical equipment and supplies in his saddle bags. He administered chloroform when anesthesia was needed.



Fig. 11 Dr. Ambrose Stubbs

The roads were very bad at times with large sink holes so that the buggy would go down to the hubs and the horse's legs would sink into the mud. The doctor placed rails in the ruts and holes in the roads to help the horse and carriage or automobile in later years.

Dr. Ambrose Stubbs would take patients to the hospital when advanced medical care was indicated. A man was rabbit shooting and laid his loaded gun on a wood pile. He picked it up by the muzzle and it discharged hitting his arm and left side. Charles drove the patient with the doctor in the backseat with him to the Lancaster General Hospital. The arm was resting on pillows to absorb the blood. A tire went flat on the way to the hospital and the driver, Charles, had to stop and change it. The patient got to the hospital and later did lose his arm.

Ambrose was dying of uremic poisoning. The minister from Little Britain Presbyterian Church came to visit him and told him people thought the doctor was dead. This made him so angry that, after the minister left, Dr. Stubbs made his wife and two sons help him out of bed, forced them to dress him and help him across the street to the store and post office to show the people there that he was still living. He died later that night.

DR. JEREMIAH STUBBS

DR. CHARLES STUBBS

DR. AMBROSE STUBBS

John K. Raub, M.D.

Dr. John K. Raub was born in Strasburg Township in 1828. He taught school for two years at the Sandstone School, studied medicine with Dr. Benjamin Musser and graduated from Pennsylvania Medical College in 1851. He started practice in Mechanicsburg (Leacock) where he only remained a short time and then went to Quarryville and later to New Providence. He served as a surgeon in the Civil War and died in 1867.

Michael W. Raub, M.D.

Dr. Michael W. Raub was born in Strasburg in 1838. He attended Millersville State Normal School, studied medicine with his cousin, Dr. John K. Raub in New Providence, and graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1865. He started a medical practice in Washington, D.C. and after one year returned to Providence Township where he practiced three years and then moved to Lancaster.

He was a great nature lover of plants and birds and animals. He gave a bird collection to Franklin and Marshall College and was the curator of their museum after he retired in 1908.

Henry E. Raub, M.D.

Dr. Henry E. Raub (Figure 12) was born in Leesburg (Hessdale) in 1830. He received his education in the Strasburg Township schools and taught school at Willow Street and later at the Ross Hill school in Drumore Township. He made arrangements to study medicine and read medicine with his brother, John. He graduated from Pennsylvania Medical College in 1857 and started his medical practice at Spring Grove and in a few years moved to Quarryville. As a citizen he took an active interest in the affairs of his neighborhood and village. He was a founder of the Quarryville National Bank and a promoter of the railroad. Dr. Raub was the first burgess of Quarryville and served as a school director as well as director in the Southern Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He was very fond of the hunt and would follow the hounds with very little persuasion. When Dr. Henry Raub died in 1901 his obituary in the *Quarryville Sun* said,

. . . Hence there is a figure sadly missing on the roads of the lower end—the gaunt figure of an old-time physician, in an old-fashioned and never new gig or sulky, seen in storms and sunshine, in rain and sleet, in blizzards and fair skies, fearing nothing, caring for nothing save duty in response to a call to relieve the ailing, or soothe the last hours of the dying. . . .

Richard Vaux Raub, M.D.

Dr. Richard Vaux Raub (Figure 13), son of Henry, was born in 1872. He worked in the drugstore of Dr. Thaddeus Rohrer and studied medicine under his father. He graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1893 and



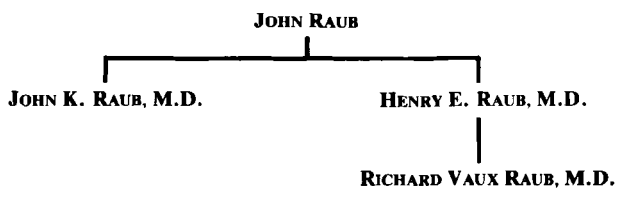
Fig. 12 Dr. Henry Raub



Fig. 13 Dr. Richard Vaux Raub

started his medical practice in Homeville. When his father died, he returned to Quarryville to practice. In the paper at the time of his death in 1914 it was said of him:

His funeral and the manifestations of heartfelt grief and personal loss by the hundreds in attendance, strikingly illustrated the simple life of the country doctor and the affectionate relations that exist in the rural district between the man who ministers to their physical wants and the people to whom he ministers. The life of a country doctor is sacrifice. His fees are small and his hours are long. No night is too dark, nor no storm too tempestuous for him to brave. He catches sleep as he climbs the steepest hills, and his faithful horse neighs at the stable door to tell him he's at home. He knows no luxury of office hours, nor specializes on any one disease. He reduces the fractured limb and oftentimes soothes the broken heart. He responds to the call of the poor, and never takes advantage of the well to do. In his laborious work, he is seldom seen in a house of worship but in the love of his profession and the nobility of his practice he seems to walk with God . . . If St. Peter honors a pass, it is when the weary country doctor knocks for admission and begs for rest.



MICHAEL W. RAUB, M.D. (cousin of above)



Fig. 14 Dr. Thaddeus Rohrer

Thaddeus Rohrer, M.D.

Dr. Thaddeus Rohrer (Figure 14) was the son of John K. Rohrer, a merchant of New Providence. Prior to reading medicine with his brother-in-law, Dr. J. Wentz of New Providence, he attended the Millersville Normal School. He graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1881. He practiced medicine in Quarryville and also had a drugstore at the suggestion of Dr. Joshua Deaver, father of the renowned Philadelphia surgeon, Dr. John B. Deaver. His office in Quarryville was later used by Drs. Marshall Steele and Charles Bair.

Dr. Thaddeus Rohrer treated Harry Shank when he was a teenager. Harry said Dr. Rohrer would whistle and dance a little jig when he came to visit him and he always made you feel better. Harry Shank had a Quarryville High School pennant over his bed with QHS. Dr. Rohrer would say, "Queer Harry Shank."

Dr. Rohrer's daughter, Mrs. Gilbert, tells the story of her father and his trouble with his prostate gland. He went to see his old friend, Dr. John B. Deaver in Philadelphia. It was agreed that he should have surgery and his wife when to Philadelphia with him. A few days after the surgery, Dr. Deaver asked Mrs. Rohrer to observe him do surgery in the amphitheatre (pit) in front of the students. With considerable reluctance she accepted. The students were sitting in the front and she, Kate, was in the back of the large room when Dr. Deaver held up the mesentery from the abdomen of the patient being operated upon and said, "This looks just like the molasses at the Buck. doesn't it, Kate?" Mrs. Rohrer was most embarrassed.

The "Sage of the Buck" called him a good and competent physician and said "Though he passed away in the ripe years of his usefulness, and after bringing into the world 1800 to first cast their eyes upon this world, he became more than a doctor, but a noted institution." Dr. Rohrer died in 1918.

Drs. Helm

From 1868 until 1984, for over 115 years, there has been a Dr. Helm in New Providence, Bart, or Quarryville. The first of these was Amos H. Helm, M.D. (Figure 15) who was born in 1845, graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1868 and practiced in New Providence. He died in 1917.

Charles E. Helm, M.D. (Figure 16) was born in 1859, graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1887 and practiced in Georgetown until 1921 when he moved to Quarryville. He died in 1939.

John D. Helm, Sr., M.D. was born in 1886 and was the son of Amos. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1913 and practiced in New Providence until he died in 1968. He first used an automobile, a Ford, in his practice in 1913, but used a horse and carriage (Figure 17) in the winter because of the poor conditions of the roads. He continued using a horse and sleigh or carriage in the winter until 1923. He never sent a bill unless requested. Amos and John used the same office in New Providence.



Fig. 15 Dr. Amos Helm



Fig. 16 Dr. Charles Helm

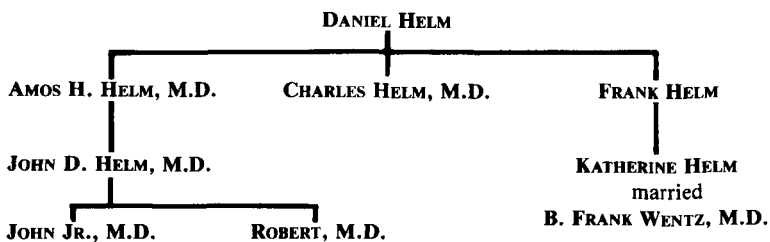


Fig. 17 Dr. John Helm with his horse and carriage

Frank Helm was a store owner in New Providence. He was a brother of Amos and Charles and the father of Katherine who married B. Frank Wentz, M.D.

John D. Helm, Jr., M.D. was born in 1915, graduated from University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1938 and practiced in Lancaster until he retired in 1987.

Robert Helm, M.D. was born in 1917, graduated from University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1942 and practiced in Quarryville from 1948 until he retired in 1984. Robert told of a house call he made to the location of the present State Park. He needed to walk a mile after parking his car to see a patient. This action typifies the dedication the Helms had to their profession.



Dr. Harry C. Zimmerly

Notoriety came to medicine in Southern Lancaster County in the person of Dr. Harry C. Zimmerly who practiced medicine in Mechanics Grove in this building (Figure 18) from 1918 to 1935. Previously he had practiced in the Pittsburgh area. He was considered a good doctor by many residents although it is said that he drank heavily at times.

Mrs. Clara Crawford of Calvert, Md. came to Lancaster County, Pa. looking for her sister, Mrs. Gladys Lawson. She told this story to Paul A. Mueller, Sr., District Attorney, who had also summoned Chief Detective Jacob Weller to his office. "Gladys came to Lancaster because she found she was going to have a baby and somebody told her about a doctor here." She continued, "I have been to his place three times looking for her and today the doctor drove me away with a shotgun. She was 26 years old, my baby sister. Dr. Zimmerly told me that Gladys had gotten well and he had sent her home."

When the detective and Sergeant Roy Simmons of the Pennsylvania State Police visited the home the next morning, they entered without any resistance and found a mother with her daughter moaning and appearing weak and sickly in an upstairs room. They immediately sent her in an ambulance to the Lancaster General Hospital where it was discovered she had had an attempted abortion. They found the doctor in a semi-comatose condition lying across a sofa on the first floor and placed him under arrest.

They questioned the housekeeper, Blanche Stone, and handyman, Dick Parker, about the missing woman, Mrs. Gladys Lawson. Blanche remembered Gladys as the cute little girl in the red dress. For eight dollars the doctor said he could help her. He operated on her three times. Blanche and Dick heard her moaning and groaning for several days. Blanche spent a lot of time with her and saw her the last time on March 15th and said she looked very poorly; and after that night no further sounds were forthcoming. Dick and Blanche told about large butcher knives being sharpened and apparently used and that there had been a hot furnace fire with the smell of burning flesh. Neither of them had seen the dead body. In spite of diligent searching by county and state authorities no body could be found. While searching around the outside of Dr. Zimmerly's place, they started to dig under a cinder path to the garage and they found pieces of half-burned bone. The next discovery was a fifty pound lard can filled with a fatty, fleshy substance, apparently the residue after a powerful acid had acted upon human tissues. On April 13th detectives discovered fragments of bones while sieving through the ashes lying in front of the furnace.

At the trial, Dr. Rice, a Bucknell University pathologist testified that these bone fragments recovered from the cinder path and ash heaps were the bones of a young adult female who weighed between 110-120 pounds. Gladys Lawson weighed 119 pounds. Judge Atlee instructed the jurors that there was no ques-

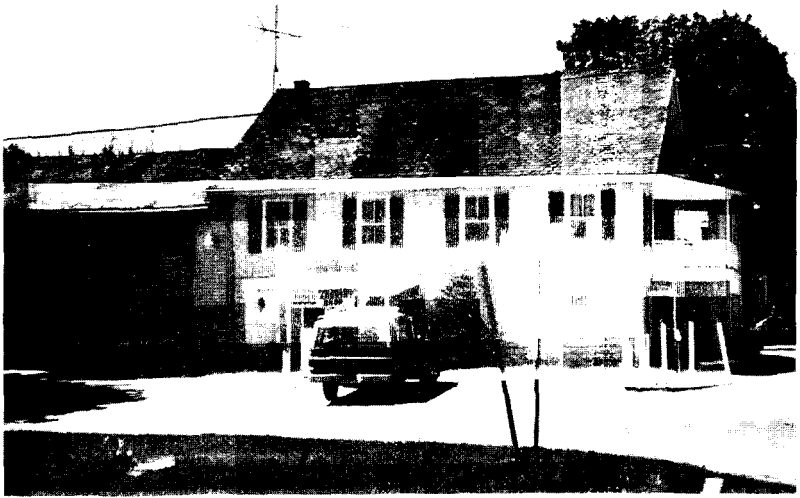


Fig. 18 Dr. Harry Zimmerly's home and office

tion of murder in this case. The defendant was indicted for performing an unprofessional operation which caused the death of Mrs. Gladys Lawson.

On June 13, 1935 Judge Benjamin Atlee declared, "The judgment of this court is that the defendant shall serve seven and one-half to fifteen years in the Eastern State Penitentiary; of which three and one-half to seven years are for the death of Mrs. Lawson; one and one-half to three years for the second unprofessional operation, and two and a half to five years on the narcotic charges, and in addition he shall pay a fine of \$100 in each of these cases." The secret of the "House of Horror" had been solved.

Dr. Charles Bair

Dr. Charles Bair (Figure 19) was "Family Physician of the Year" in 1961. He had a chauffeur for 25 years from 1935-60, travelled 35,000 miles per year and wore out 25 cars. He delivered 4,000 babies, about 20 per month and his record was six in one day without missing any office hours. One was delivered at home early in the morning, three were delivered in the hospital within one hour—over the noon hour, and two were delivered at home later that night so he was able to have office hours in the morning, afternoon and evening. When he started his medical practice in 1933, he charged \$7.50 for a delivery and fifty cents for an office visit. He sent bills once a year. He was also very active in community affairs serving as president of the Quarryville School Board, chairman of the Quarryville Chamber of Commerce in addition to being physician to the Quarryville Presbyterian Home.



Fig. 19 Dr. Charles Bair

Dr. Donald Witmer who practiced with Dr. Bair for a year said Dr. Bair told him he should take certain precautions for his car:

Weld a quarter inch steel plate on the bottom of the oil pan to keep the plug from being knocked out and the oil drained.

Carry a set of chains.

Carry a shovel.

Carry a rug.

Carry sand or ashes.

Carry bailing wire to reconnect the hose if it got torn by stones.

Physicians of Southern Lancaster County

The following is a list of physicians of Southern Lancaster County (Solanco School District, New Providence, and Bethesda) that I have been able to discover. Please note the villages in which they practiced. After 1930 practically all of the doctors in Southern Lancaster County practiced in Quarryville. After 1970 it became difficult to get them to practice in Quarryville. Osteopathic physicians seemed more willing to practice in rural areas.

The dates may be the date of graduation from medical school, the year of joining the medical society or a random date during their life.

Thomas Whiteside

1750

Little Britain Twp.

Dr. Thomas Whiteside was the first physician who practiced in Southern Lancaster County. He was born in Little Britain Township in 1750 and was a Revolutionary War surgeon serving in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Princeton and Monmouth. He returned to his homestead in Little Britain where he practiced until his death.

David Ramsey	1770	Drumore Twp.—Birthplace
Henry Noll	1780	Bart
John Cuthberton	1790	Bart
George Hamilton	1807	Bart
Vincent King	1807	Little Britain Twp.
Robert Long	1820?	Liberty Square
Kiegy	1823	Bart?
Daniel Musser	1825	Providence Twp.
Jeremiah Stubbs	1827	Little Britain Twp.
Robert Agnew	1827	Sadsbury Twp.
Hayes Agnew	1830	Birthplace Christiana
Montgomery Gryder	1836	Prof. of Surgery U. of Pa. Bethel

Drs. Montgomery Gryder, Robert Agnew, father of D. Hayes Agnew, and Jeremiah Stubbs were charter members and founders of the Lancaster City and County Medical Society.

John D. Allen	1839	New Texas
Horace Alleman	1840	New Texas
Joshua Deaver	1843	Buck
James Andrew	1845	Oak Hill

It is said that his horse brought Dr. James Andrew home dead in his phaeton in the prime of life. My grandfather, Dr. Thomas H. Wentz, was successor to Dr. Andrew.

John Martin	1845	Bart
William Thompson	1845	Goshen
Amos C. Milnor	1846	Oak Hill
Benjamin Sides	1846	Chestnut Level
Obed Bailey	1850	Colerain
Warren	1850	Buck
Joseph Duncan	1851 non-grad	Bart
John K. Raub	1851	Quarryville
		New Providence
R. Hilton	1856	Bethel
John Zell	1856	Oak Shade
C.P. Marshall	1856	New Texas
Granville B. Wood	1857	Pleasant Grove
Henry E. Raub	1857	Quarryville
Edward Chandley	1857	Little Britain
Michael Glacken	1859	Greene
Charles Stubbs	1861	Fulton Twp.
James McCullough	1861	Wrightsdales
William J. Wentz	1865	New Providence
John H. Yost	1867	Bethesda
Michael W. Raub	1867	Providence Twp.—Lancaster
Amos Helm	1868	New Providence
James A. Peeples	1868	Kirk's Mills
Ashael Stewart	1868	Fulton Twp.
R.J. Clark	1869	Oak Hill
Daniel Swift	1869	Bethel—Fultonhouse
Albert Meloy	1869	Nine Points
C.E. Iddings	1869	Mechanics Grove

E. W. Myers	1869	Liberty Square
Amos R. Zell	1869	Oak Shade
Thomas Wentz	1874	Kirkwood
John Campbell	1874	Bart
Jerome Keeley	1880	Bart—State of Texas
Thaddeus Rohrer	1881	Quarryville
Jacob Fritz	1884	Quarryville
Edward Patterson	1884	Colerain Twp.
James M. Walker	1884	Kirkwood
Charles Helm	1887	Bart—Quarryville
George Gillespie	1889	Pleasant Grove
L.H. Kirk	1890	Wakefield
S.C. Finley	1890	Greene
Amos Smith	1890	New Providence
Edward Wright	1890	Wrightsdale
Richard Vaux Raub	1896	Quarryville
Ambrose Stubbs	1896	Peach Bottom
William Giles Hess	1898	Greene Holtwood
Guy Alexander	1898	Buck
Claude Roop	1901	New Providence
William Steward	1905	near Oxford
Thomas Reed Ferguson	1906	Kirkwood
H. Conrad Egley	1910	Quarryville
Bessie Mabel Lefever, D.O.	1912	Mount Pleasant
Albert Bertram	1913	Quarryville
John Helm, Sr.	1913	New Providence
Marshall Steele	1918	Quarryville
Samuel Parke	1918	Kirkwood
Harry C. Zimmerly	1925	Mechanics Grove
Emerson M.F. Weaver	1930	Penn Hill
Charles Bair	1933	Quarryville
Harold Hogg	1935	Quarryville—Lancaster
Donald B. Witmer	1947	Quarryville—Willow Street
Robert Helm	1948	Quarryville
Paul Herr, D.O.	1951	Quarryville
Donald Stubbs	1950	New Providence
David Bucher	1957	New Providence
Southern Lancaster		
County Health Center	1971	Quarryville
William Hunt	1981	Quarryville
Gary Samberg, D.O.	1982	Buck
William Fetchik, D.O.	1985	Quarryville

The Heritage of the Drs. Wentz

“From Hi-jackers to Healers”

Peter Wentz was born in 1680 and was a pirate or, as my wife prefers, a privateer—in modern jargon a hijacker—on the high seas having been hired by the British to attack French and Spanish ships and return the loot to the

Crown. He came to America in the early 1700's and settled at Skippack, Worcester Township, Montgomery County, Pa.

His son, Peter 2nd, was born in 1719 and built a new home on a farm in 1758 which was bought and restored by Montgomery County and is now on the Freedom Trail. It was restored for two reasons: 1) George Washington stayed there before and after the Battle of Germantown, and 2) Peter Wentz 2nd sold the house to a Shultz family who kept the house in their family until the 1960s. The room occupied by Washington was revered and nothing was ever changed. If anything was altered in the remainder of the house, the old things—a window—a door—a staircase—were put in the barn. So restoration was relatively easy and was done for the bicentennial.

John Wentz, son of Peter 2nd, was born in 1743. He kept an inn at the Sign of the Rainbow in Adamstown which is now included in Lancaster city. He and his wife are buried in Lancaster cemetery.

Joseph, son of John, born in 1772 and his wife Mary, the doctors' grandparents, had a mill called Wentz's mill near Mc Call's Ferry. John S. Wentz, who was born in 1805 and was the oldest son of Joseph, lived nearby and purchased a part of his father's farm. John married Sarah Ann Penny (it is interesting to note that the Wentzes and the Pennys intermarried five times). John S. died at the home of his son, Thomas H. in Kirkwood in 1882. Two sons, Dr. Thomas H. and Dr. William J. became physicians.

William J. Wentz, M.D.

William J. Wentz (Figure 20) was born on the farm in Drumore Township in 1839. He attended school at Locust Grove Seminary and later Millersville State Normal School. During the next five years he taught school



Fig. 20 Dr. William J. Wentz

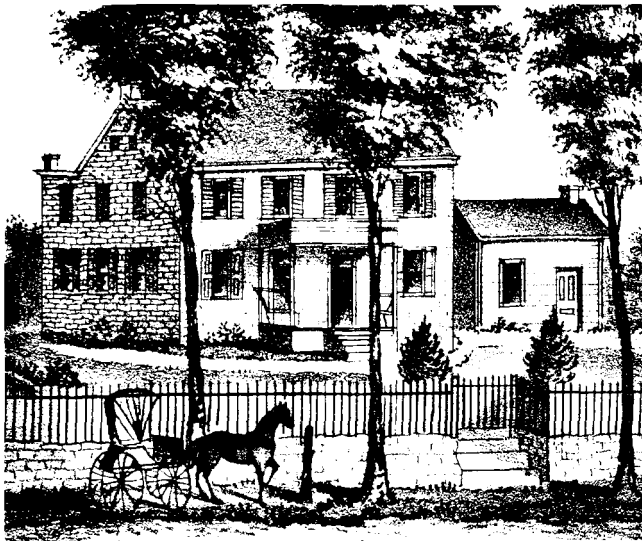


Fig. 21. Dr. Wm. J. Wentz's home and office

in Drumore and Strasburg Townships and part of that time was spent reading medicine with Dr. J.K. Raub of New Providence. He graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1865. After graduation he associated with his old preceptor, Dr. Raub, for two years and in 1867 he opened his own office (Figure 21) in New Providence. He had a small surgery or office in a separate building beside his house. Dr. William Wentz practiced in New Providence just east of Route 222 until he died in 1902.

He married Susan Rohrer in 1865. Her brother, Thaddeus Rohrer, was a physician in Quarryville. Dr. William Wentz was one of the organizers and charter directors of the Conestoga (Commonwealth, Mellon) National Bank and was a president of the Lancaster City and County Medical Society.

William J. Wentz had two sons who were physicians:

Charles, born in 1877, graduated from Medico Chi in Philadelphia and practiced for a time in Philadelphia and then returned to New Providence to practice after his father died in 1902. Charles contracted typhoid fever and died in 1905. Three people developed typhoid fever about the same time having drunk from a spring in New Providence.

B. Frank Wentz, born in 1870, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and practiced in Philadelphia until he died in 1928. Frank had a very busy practice and my father chauffeured for him at times. He smoked cigars and my father said he would put his cigar on the bannister or steps upon entering a house to see a patient and pick it up still lit on leaving the house and continue smoking. His cigar never went out showing

the short time he would spend in each home. Several people in New Providence still remember his limousine with a black chauffeur, Ruby Washington, bringing him home to see his mother. Dr. Frank Wentz married Katherine Helm and they had a daughter, Adele, who married a physician, Graeme Mitchell, who became a world renowned pediatrician in Cincinnati whose textbook I and many other medical students used in studying pediatrics.

Carl Beck, a New Providence native who now lives in Dr. Wentz's house, tells the story of two patients of the doctor who were in labor at the same time at opposite ends of the village. He drove back and forth in his buggy not being sure which mother would have her baby first. Finally a baby girl was born at one home and a short time later a baby boy arrived at the other home. These babies grew to adulthood and an elderly age. The woman died and the man attended her funeral and was heard to say, "Damn! She beat me again."

Thomas H. Wentz, M.D.

Dr. Thomas H. Wentz (Figure 22), my grandfather, was another son of John Wentz and a brother of William. He also was born on the farm near Peach Bottom in 1848. He received his education at Chestnut Level Academy and in a private school at Spring Valley. He taught school for three years and in 1871 took up the study of medicine with his brother. The following year Thomas entered Jefferson Medical College from which he



Fig. 22. Dr. Thomas H. Wentz

graduated in 1874. The same year he started his practice of medicine in Kirkwood where he practiced until 1906 at which time he went to Philadelphia to help his nephew, Dr. B. Frank Wentz, and practiced nearby on Woodland Avenue until his death in 1910. He had married Anna Roop in 1879. He left his practice in Kirkwood in 1906 to his niece's (Mabel McCombs Ferguson) husband, Dr. Thomas Reed Ferguson. Dr. Ferguson died during the influenza epidemic in 1918.

Dr. Thomas Wentz made his house calls in a horse and carriage and because of lack of heated automobiles and infectious diseases for which there were no antibiotics, house calls were much more commonly made. He would go one direction toward Nickel Mines, Bart, and Andrews Bridge in the morning, come home for lunch and get a fresh horse and go in another direction in the afternoon. When the doctor would drive by, the people would come running toward him and ask the physician to visit a sick person in their home. He disliked the advent of the telephone in Southern Lancaster County because people could call instead of riding horseback or walking several miles to get the doctor, and they sometimes called about trifling things.

Like his brother he had his office in Kirkwood (now torn down) separated from his home. In recent years I have wondered why they had their offices in separate buildings beside their home. Did other doctors in this era have this arrangement? Remembering how my uncle would sometimes change his clothes after a visit to a patient with diphtheria, infantile paralysis, typhoid fever, etc. to avoid bringing an infection to his family, I am led to believe it may have been for this reason they kept their office separate from their home. After all many infectious diseases brought a threat of death until the advent of antibiotics in the 1940s.

In Philadelphia one day a man ran into my grandfather's office and told my grandmother a man lying in the street needed a doctor immediately. A man pushing an ash cart carried Dr. Wentz's body to the police station where he was pronounced dead on January 29, 1910.

Medical Artifacts and Antiques

I have my grandfather's ledger books from 1878 to 1910—Kirkwood to Philadelphia. I would like to share a few of those things with you. It seems as if his fees never increased from 1878 to 1910 whether he was in Kirkwood or Philadelphia. He charged \$1.25, later reduced to \$1.00, for a house visit and \$5.00 for a maternity case. You will notice his earned income and his receipts remained about the same and he only collected (Cr.) about 65% to 85% of the amount he earned (Dr.) or produced.

Year	Dr.	Cr.
1889-90	\$2346.25	\$1575.21
1890-91	2000.90	1486.56
1891-92	2591.86	1680.73
1892-93	2239.08	1784.75
1893-94	2489.75	1697.97
1894-95	2032.15	2089.81
1895-96	1951.15	1660.49
1896-97	1853.35	1687.32
1897-98	1576.90	1516.30
1898-99	1893.75	1719.15
1899-00	1462.10	1362.90
1900-01	2175.15	1490.03
1901-02	2223.95	1743.68
	After his move to Philadelphia	
1907	967.50	767.70
1908	1738.50	1000.00
1909	2161.25	1252.25

However, his ledger also notes that he received a lot of payments in the form of food, wood, work, animals, pasture, etc. In looking at the ledgers of my grandfather and of Dr. Richard V. Raub, it would appear that they would only see 5-10 patients a day. People commenced work for \$1.25 a week or \$5.00 a month. Many bills were exonerated. In 1893 I noticed his usual house visit fee decreased to \$1.00. When I visited the Mutter Medical Museum in Philadelphia, I think I found the answer. An exhibit told about a secret operation on President Grover Cleveland on July 1, 1893. He was secretly placed on a private boat "Oneida" on the East River outside of New York City and a team of surgeons headed by Dr. W.W. Keen of Philadelphia removed a malignant tumor from his jaw. A New York dentist later made a prosthesis for his jaw. It was so well done that at the time of his address to Congress in January 1894 nobody was aware that there had been any surgery. It is said this was done secretly because of the state of the economy at that time. There was a depression (Panic of 1893) and people were afraid that the economy would collapse completely if the state of the President's health were known. Adlai Stevenson was Vice President at this time and he believed strongly on going on the silver standard. Dr. W.W. Keen revealed the secret to a magazine in 1917.

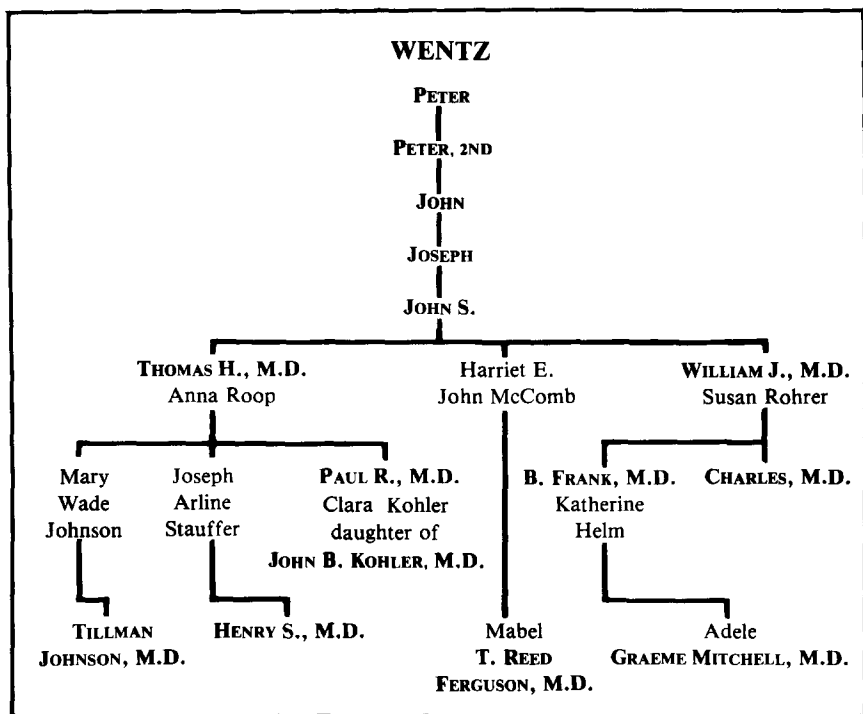
In his ledger was also his treasurer's report for the Kirkwood Association for the Detection of Horse Thieves. There were also listed charges for the administration of ether and chloroform as anesthesia in the amount of \$3.00 and \$2.50 respectively.

Dr. Paul Roop Wentz, son of Dr. Thomas Wentz, was born in Kirkwood in 1883. He attended Tome Institute in Port Deposit, Md., Franklin & Marshall Academy and Jefferson Medical College graduating in 1907. He practiced medicine in New Holland until his retirement in 1962. He married Clara Koh-

ler, the daughter of a physician, Dr. John B. Kohler, who practiced in New Holland.

Drs. Tillman Johnson and Henry S. Wentz are grandsons of Dr. Thomas H. Wentz. Both graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1938 and 1944 respectively and interned at the Lancaster General Hospital. Tillman went into the Armed Forces and later practiced in Elkton, Md. Henry started his medical practice in Strasburg in 1948 and moved to Eastbrook Family Health Center, Eastbrook Road, Ronks, Pa. with several other family physicians in 1974. He retired in 1988 ending over 120 years of medical service to southern and eastern Lancaster County by Drs. Wentz.

The first patient Henry S. Wentz had pronounced dead when he was an intern at the Lancaster General Hospital had been delivered by his grandfather.



I have many medical artifacts from my (Henry's) grandfather, my uncle, his father-in-law, and some things are from their colleagues and predecessors in New Holland.

The cupping set (Figure 23) belonged to Dr. Israel Bushong, a Civil War surgeon who practiced in New Holland. There was dry cupping and wet cupping. The scarifier with blades made multiple incisions in the skin. This was a refined method of bleeding and was used for a variety of illnesses. Dry cupping



Fig. 23. Dr. Israel Bushong's cupping set and scarifier

consists of heating the cup with a flame and immediately placing the hot cup over the skin at the affected part in order to increase the blood supply or get more blood to the surface at the affected area. Wet cupping consisted of applying the torch—usually using fire from an alcohol sponge or from paper shreds—to the cup or cups, making the incisions with the scarifier and placing the heated cup on the area immediately to draw out the blood from the diseased area. Different size cups could be used depending on the amount of blood the doctor desired to withdraw. To get the best results the entire process had to be done quite rapidly requiring a lot of dexterity and skill on the part of the physician.

Now let us look at the advances in medicine and technology over nearly two centuries and see how it has affected Southern Lancaster County's medical care in one person's opinion.

Advances in Medicine

1. Immunization (smallpox)	1800
2. Anesthesia	1845
3. Antisepsis	1865
4. Germ Theory	1880
5. X-ray	1900
6. Intravenous Fluids, Blood Transfusions	1910
7. Antibiotics	1940
8. Improved Laboratory Techniques	
9. Advances in Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	
10. Body, Organ, Anatomy Visualization	
11. Improved Surgery and Surgical Techniques (Heart-Lung Machine)	

Advances in Technology

1. COMMUNICATION

Telegraph	Telephone	Radio
Television	Monitoring	Radiopage

2. TRANSPORTATION

Horse	Carriage	Steamboat
Steam Engine (Railroad)	Automobile Roads	Aeroplane

3. ENERGY

Wood	Coal	Electricity
Nuclear		

Changes in Southern Lancaster County

1. COMMUNICATION

Telephone	1900
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2. TRANSPORTATION

Automobile	1910
Improved Roads	1930 +
Railroad passenger service discontinued	1919
Ferry service over Susquehanna River discontinued	1927

3. ENERGY

Electricity	1910 +
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Prior to 1930 each village was almost self-sufficient with its own general store, doctor, post office, blacksmith or garage, etc. With the advent of better methods of communication and transportation, people could get to the larger towns or cities for their supplies and services. Technological advances in medicine caused increased costs for medical equipment and facilities. As a result physicians practiced in larger centers of population and people from the country and small towns were able to travel to, and communicate with, doctors a greater distance away.

It has been fascinating for me to explore some of the medical heritage of Southern Lancaster County. As I make one discovery it seems to open doors to more searching for other people of the past.

Note: All genealogy charts of physician families have been abbreviated to show physicians only for the purpose of simplification. Siblings and other non-physicians in the family have not been shown.

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Communications with:

Mr. and Mrs. Harold (Dorothy) Aument, Fairfield, Pa.

Dr. Robert Helm, Quarryville, Pa.

Mr. John Musser, Buck, Pa.

Mr. Charles Stubbs, Coatesville, Pa.

Mrs. John (Jan Raub) Ripple, Lancaster, Pa.

Mrs. Mary Gilbert, Lancaster, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beck, New Providence, Pa.

Mrs. James (Emma) Martin, Maple Shade Road, Christiana, Pa.

Personally escorted tour and personal communication with:

Dr. Donald Witmer, Willow Street, Pa.

Mrs. Pauline Stoner, Buck, Pa.

Mr. John D. Long, former Fulton Twp. Supervisor, Wakefield, Pa.

Mr. Harry and Miss Peg Shank, New Danville, Pa.

Mr. Clyde Shoemaker, Quarryville, Pa.

From the President's Desk

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another way of saying maintenance of proper humidity and temperature to preserve our valuable collections.

Our long range planning committee has been studying the problem. We must look forward for the next ten, twenty-five and more years if the Society is to remain a viable resource in Lancaster County. Our first thirty-seven years were spent in moving from one rented meeting room to another with no place to house collections. The next thirty-three years found the Society in its own building, an attractive but highly-combustible and deteriorating old house with limited space. We have been enjoying our present modern fire-resistant brick, concrete and steel building for thirty-four years. Despite its handsome Georgian architecture, it was not designed by an architect who understood twentieth century museum and historical library requirements.

The time has come for the Society to think seriously about erecting a substantial addition that is both architecturally compatible and designed for modern museum and library functions. We will be pleased to receive your comments. May we talk with you about funding? Pledges of support? Bequests? Matching funds?