

ANDERSON'S FERRY

Waterford and New Haven were contemporary "boom" towns which subsequently became united and christened Marietta, a compound word, formed from the Christian names of the founders thereof, viz., Mary and Henrietta. The first named town was laid out upon land located by Robert Wilkins in 1719. He was an Indian trader, and had sons, John, Thomas, William and Peter, all of whom were also Indian traders. He gave the farm at the river to his son William. In the summer of 1726, the Rev. James Anderson received a call from old Donegal Church, which he accepted, and located in the neighborhood, purchasing 305 acres of land from Peter Allen, an Indian trader. This farm lay along "Spring Run," about half a mile east of where Marietta now stands.

In the year 1727 the Rev. James Anderson and William Wilkins traded farms, the former giving some "boot" in the deal. Mr. Anderson at once moved to his new purchase. From the year 1718 to the year 1737 there was a great deal of contention between the Donegal Glebe settlers and the Penns about their land titles. Mr. Anderson, after his arrival, took an earnest and active interest in behalf of his congregation, which then included very nearly the whole population of Donegal township. He frequently rode to Philadelphia to plead the cause of his people. Finally, the disputes were settled to the entire satisfaction of all parties. Then Mr.

Anderson, in his own behalf, or that of his oldest son, James, took out a patent for a ferry at his river farm. This was not accomplished without much delay, on account of objections filed by John Wright, who then had a ferry three miles further down the river.

Rev. James Anderson died in 1740, and his ferry and mansion farm passed to his son, James, who became a prominent officer in the French and Indian wars, and also in the Revolutionary War. He was a member of the General Assembly for many years. He died in 1790. He first married Perth Bayly, a sister of the Hon. John Bayly, member of the Supreme Executive Council from this county. His second wife was the widow of Rev. Joseph Tate, formerly pastor of Donegal during the French and Indian wars and the Revolutionary war. This ferry was prominent when Congress was in session at York, in the fall of 1777 and spring of 1778. It was more frequently used than Wright's ferry on account of the condition of the water and ice. James Anderson (No. 2) gave the ferry and farm to his son. William Ellery, signer of the Declaration of Independence from Rhode Island, in his journal or diary, records as follows: "1777, Nov. 14, stopped at Lititz and on the 15th crossed at Anderson's Ferry at noon and reached York in the afternoon.

James Anderson founded "Waterford" in the fall of 1804. According to the custom of the time the lots were disposed of by lottery, in accordance with the following advertisement in the Lancaster Journal, published by William Hamilton, on March 16, 1804:

"Town of Waterford.

"The subscriber has appropriated a tract of land on the north side of the Susquehanna river, at Anderson's Ferry, for a new town, to be called Waterford, and wishes to dispose of the lots on the same by way of lottery. Waterford will be excellently situated on account of health; will afford an elegant prospect and good limestone water in abundance. It is laid out at right angles. Each of the upper lots are 206 feet in depth and 50 feet in width, fronting on a main street and having a 16-foot alley in the rear. The water lots are 132 feet in depth and 40 feet in width, separated from each other by a 10-foot alley. All the lots will be clear of ground rent. The bank of the river is to be kept open for the use of the holders of town lots and for no other purpose whatever. No privilege will, however, be given that can affect the interests of the present ferry. A plan of the town may be seen at the home of Mr. Hugh Wilson, at Lancaster, and at Anderson's Ferry. The drawing of the lottery, it is expected, will commence in the month of February, or early in the month of March next. Tickets at \$60 each may be had of Hugh Wilson and William Ferree, in Lancaster; of John Pedan, Chickeys; of John Greer, Yorktown; and the subscriber, at the Ferry.

"JAMES ANDERSON.

"November 16."

"I do hereby certify that the above is an exact copy of an advertisement printed in my paper, (the Lancaster Journal) on November 16th, 1804, and in several succeeding numbers, as may be seen by reference to the files.

"WILLIAM HAMILTON."

A plan of the town was put up at Hugh Wilson's tavern, in Lancaster, on West King street, sign of the "Golden Fleece," lately owned by Peter B. Reed, a few doors west of Steinman's hardware store. Hugh Fulton was born on a farm adjoining Donegal Church, now owned by Hon. J. D. Cameron. He married a daughter of the Rev. Colin McFarquhar, pastor of Donegal Church, joined Captain Reitzel's Company, of Lancaster, and marched to Western Pennsylvania to help quell the whisky insurrection; moved to Maytown and kept the Brick Tavern in the square. From thence he moved to Columbia and kept tavern on Second street, in a building now owned by H. F. Bruner. He purchased the "Golden Fleece" Hotel, in Lancaster, and moved there. He was also connected with the stage line. Andrew Boggs, who married a niece of Mrs. Wilson, bought the hotel. After the war of 1812 they moved to Hagerstown. Some of Mr. Wilson's descendants were distinguished officers in the Mexican war, and others are now prominent in the United States Army.

John Pedan owned the farm and hotel at Big Chickies creek, where Garber's mill now is. He was a son of Captain Hugh Pedan, a Revolutionary officer. He married a daughter of Zachariah Moor and Mary, nee Boggs, of Donegal. In connection with James Mehaffy and James Duffy, they purchased 160 acres of land from Mrs. Frances Evans, and laid out a town known as "Fishtown," at the western end of Marietta, but it was never included within the limits of the latter. They also purchased Anderson's Ferry.

John Greer married a daughter of Hon. John Bayly, and, in connection with James Hopkins and others, laid

out the town of Falmouth, at the mouth of ~~Cassio~~ creek, several years prior to the founding of Waterford. At this time he was keeping store, and perhaps a tavern, also, in York, Pa. The lots in the town sold rapidly, and almost from the date of its foundation there was a "boom" in the sale of lots, until about the year 1816 or 1817, when the Sheriff took a hand, and for three months he was engaged daily in selling lots. Many thousand dollars were paid for single lots. The two taverns were infested with gamblers and speculators, and these remarks apply alike to both towns, before and after they were consolidated.

"New Haven"

was laid out by David Cook, in 1803, but was soon distanced by Waterford. The land upon which this town was built was taken up by George Stewart, Esq., about the year 1720. He died when a member of the Assembly in Philadelphia in January, 1733. He was a Justice of the Peace for Donegal township when it was a part of Chester county. His son, John Stewart, took out a patent for the land in 1738. He married a daughter of Rev. James Anderson. The land passed to his son, George Stewart, who married a daughter of Capt. Thomas Harris, Indian trader at Elizabethtown. George Stewart sold the land about 1760. It then passed to David Cook, and at the close of the Revolutionary war to David Cook's son, David Cook, who married a daughter of Rev. Colin McFarquhar. In 1812 Henry Cassel established a private bank, which a year later became the Marietta and Susquehanna Trading Co., which for a while did an immense business, but finally went down in a crash.

The ferry was also known at one

time as Keeseey's ferry. The name Accomac, which was given to the ground opposite Marietta, is a name of Indian origin, although the site was so called only about twenty years ago. According to Trumbull, the word means "the other-side place," or "on the other-side of water place." In the Massachusetts language "akawine" means "beyond" and "ac," "aki," or "Akhi" in the Algonquin means "land." The term, according to Dr. William Jones, is probably akin to the Chippewa "ugaining," "the other shore." The Accomacs were a tribe of the Powhatan Confederacy of Virginia, who formerly lived in Accomac and Northampton counties, Virginia, east of the Chesapeake Bay, and their tribal town or village of Accomac, according to Jefferson, was about Cherrystone inlet. In 1608 they had eighty warriors, and, as they declined in numbers and importance, lost their tribal identity, and the name became applied to all the Indians east of Chesapeake Bay. Up to 1812 they held their lands in common. They had become much mixed with negroes, and, in the Nat. Turner insurrection, about 1833, were treated as such and driven off.

Captain John Smith, in his History of Virginia, 1629, spells the name "Accowmacke," and says "they use javelins, headed with bone, instead of stone, and dartfish, swimming in the waters. They have also many artificial weirs, in which they get many fish."

On an old Dutch map of New York State, in 1616, there is, also, a small Indian village called "Aquamackes."

Drake also spoke of the Acomaks, in his Indian book, printed in 1848, spelling the name "Acomaks."

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