

EARLY LANCASTRIAN.

WILLIAM TRENT.

William Trent, son of William Trent, for whom the city of Trenton, N. J., was named, had a military career. In Cooley's Genealogy of Early Settlers in Trenton and Ewing, 1883, it is said at page 289:

"Major Trent is again found July 6th, 1776, at Fort Pitt, in an official capacity, participating in a treaty making with the Indians. He resided for some years at Lancaster, Pa. where his second and third children were born. For a much longer period and until 1768 he made his residence at Carlisle, and was appointed by Governor Hamilton Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Cumberland county, where his youngest three children were born; before his visit to England he removed to Trenton, New Jersey, where his family lived during his absence, and he himself after his return until the close of 1783, as his wife is credited with the rent of the Presbyterian parsonage (Dr. Hall's History of Presbyterian Church), from 1768 to 1771, and his letters are written from Trenton, lower ferry. He was the owner of 800 acres below the falls of the Delaware, which are offered for sale in the 'Trenton Gazette' of June, 1784. During this year he removed to Philadelphia, where he remained until his decease in 1787 (date of will), engaged principally in managing the affairs of the Indiana company, of several shares of which he died possessed.

“Major Trent, being the grandson of a prominent lawyer, and the son of one of the most eminent merchants and distinguished Judges of the colony, doubtless enjoyed in early life the best educational advantages that the city afforded, yet his tastes seem not to have led him to adopt a professional course, but rather to engage in business pursuits, to which, notwithstanding public engagements, both civil and military, he devoted himself with great activity and perseverance; yet his efforts were not crowned with the success they deserved, for such were the troublous times in which he lived, that misfortunes numerous and crushing pursued him till he was at least financially overwhelmed, from which condition, however, he partially recovered before his death.

“William Trent (2), son of Chief Justice William Trent (1), married Sarah Wilkins, who died 1807. and is believed to be buried in the little graveyard on the hill beyond the New Jersey State Lunatic Asylum, and had issue by her: William, born May 28, 1754, at the mouth of Wills Creek, and baptized by Mr. Hamilton, chaplain to the regiment, probably died young; Ann, born October 20, 1756, at Lancaster, married Mr. Raymond; Martha, born October 24, 1759, at Lancaster; Mary, born December 3, 1762, at Carlisle; Sarah, born November 29, 1768, at Carlisle, and John (3), born April 21, 1768, at Carlisle.”

REV. THOMAS BARTON.

Probably very few of us know that that the Rev. Thomas Barton was married twice. The first wife, Esther Rittenhouse, married December 8, 1753, at Old Swedes Church, Philadelphia, whose memorial slab may be seen in St. James' Church, died June

18, 1774. His second wife, whom he must have married within a very few years, was Sarah Bird, whose first husband was a Le Normandie. She survived Mr. Barton for many years.

Mr. Barton owned property in Lancaster. On November 5, 1760, he bought land from Abraham and Maria Neff. In 1778 (Book S, p. 724), "desiring to retire out of the State," he obtained permission from the Supreme Executive Council, "given by order of the Council, under the hand of the Hon. Geo. Bryan, Vice President," under date of May 30, 1778, to sell his property at any time within ninety days to any person. So, on August 26, 1778, Thomas Barton, clerk, and Sarah, his wife, sold to Paul Zantzinger, for £1,000, the house and one-half lot on Orange street, 122½. Bounded north by Orange street, east by Lime street, south by lot of Joseph Rose, now of John Musser. (S, p. 727). The same grantors to the same grantee, for 5s., land called "Barton's Garden, 64 feet 4½ inches, on Orange street, 245 feet on Lime street. Bounded east by a lot of Thomas Bond, on the south by vacant ground. Subject to a yearly ground rent due to James Hamilton, Esq.

The witnesses are Henry Dehuff and J. Yeates, and both deeds are recorded November 30, 1778.

*Information supplied by Frank Willing Leach.

Author: Hensel, W. U. (William Uhler), 1851-1915.

Title: Early Lancastrian : William Trent / by W. U. Hensel.

Primary Material: Book

Subject(s): Trent, William, 1715-1787?
Lancaster County (Pa.)--Biography.

Publisher: Lancaster, Pa. : Lancaster County Historical Society, 1912

Description: 142-142 p. ; 23 cm.

Series: Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society ; v. 16,
no. 5

Call Number: 974.9 L245 v.16

Location: LCHSJL -- Journal Article (reading room)

=====

+++++

Institution Name

Institution Address

Institution Phone Number

Institution E-mail Address