

## The Old Welsh Graveyard.

What is known as the Old Welsh Graveyard is in East Earl township, less than a mile west of Fairville. It has long been known by that name, and much speculating has there been as to its origin, which has always appeared enveloped in mystery. A few facts, gathered in connection with those old Welsh settlers, have lately come to my notice, which may be of interest to others as well as to myself.

The earliest mention is at a meeting of the Board of Property held April 29, 1720, when Thomas Morgan, of Haverford, and Jenkin Davis, of Radnor, appeared and desired about 1,000 acres of land near, or at the branches of Conestoga. (See page 701, Vol. XIX., Second Series Archives.)

June 8, 1720, the Board directs a letter to the Surveyor which reads: "If the bearer, Thomas Morgan, finds any land toward the Conestoga which will please him, lay any quantity, either under or over 500 acres, and the warrant shall be ready." And Taylor, the Surveyor, under date of June 17, 1720, says: "I have agreed with Jenkin Davis for 1,000 acres on or near the Conestoga Creek." (See Taylor's Papers in Historical Society Rooms, at Philadelphia.)

Both these surveys were made, as will appear later; that of Jenkin Davis (or Davies) at the mouth of Muddy Creek, and that of Thomas Morgan near where the Welsh graveyard is now located. This Thomas Morgan is not the same person who had a warrant for land taken up

where Morgantown is situated and dated October 1, 1718, and December 12, 1718, for an addition adjoining, nor do I think they were related.

Surveys were made in the Conestoga Valley as early as 1715—that of William Cloud for 300 acres near Beartown, and sold later to Nathan Evans, being of that date. Thomas Edwards had conveyed to him June 4 and 5, 1719, a tract of 1,000 acres located on both sides of Conestoga creek and east and west from the point where Cedar creek empties into it. This tract was slightly over a mile east and west and a mile and a half north and south. One half covered what is now Spring Grove, and what was formerly Weaver's mill, on the State road. On this tract Thomas Edwards and his three sons settled, and died there. At Hinkletown Jenkin Davies and his sons settled, and intermediate was Thomas Morgan. James Steel, a surveyor, agent for the Board of Property, took out a general warrant for "1,000 acres of land back among the late surveys..... to be laid out in one or more parcels, and a warrant is signed, dated ye 1st September, 1718." (See page 641, Vol. XIX., Second Series, Archives). Three hundred and fifty acres of this he located adjoining the Thomas Morgan tract. This warrant for 350 acres James Steel sold to Jenkin Davies. On this tract was located the burial place for all those residing in the district from Thomas Edwards' tract, on the Caernarvon border, west to where Jenkin Davies was located, at Hinkletown ; practically all the Welsh residing in what is now Earl and East Earl. They continued to bury there until 1745, when some of them were buried in the churchyard at Bangor. A good road, leading north of the Conestoga from Churchtown to Hinkletown and passing the old graveyard, formed the ready means of oom-

munion between the extremes without crossing the Conestoga creek. The road is known as the Hinkletown road, and is still in use. The 350 acres, the warrant for which was purchased by Jenkin Davies from James Steel, remaining unimproved, under the fourth section of the agreement made between William Penn and the adventurers and purchasers, dated July 11th, 1681, was taken up by Rees Morgan. Rees Davis squatted on it, built a small house, and cleared an acre or more. A contention arose for its possession between Rees Morgan and Jenkin Davies. Thomas Edwards, having been appealed to by the Board of Property, under his decision, that it was clearly *unseated* land, a patent was granted to Rees Morgan, dated October 12th, 1742, for 215 acres, the balance going, I presume, to Rees Davis, who settled in the neighborhood. Jenkin Davies, under the same rule, was given 200 acres *further back* and was forced to be content. Thos. Morgan died before 1737, as his widow held the property at that date. (See warrant to Jenkin Davies, Taylor Papers).

Rees Morgan has so long been credited with the giving of his ground—praised for his liberality—that it seems almost criminal to disturb him and place the crown on the head of another and that a woman. The interest taken in this ground is for those there buried, and praise should be given to the one whose influence secured it against destruction, and that is Margaret, his wife, and daughter of Thomas Edwards. Rees Morgan himself could have no interest in the matter—she had, in securing to posterity the grave of her father. Rees Morgan was but clay to be molded by the hands of the proud, imperious, masterful Margaret, his wife. He, a boy, married to a woman eight years his senior,

had but to do her will. She it was who directed the taking of the unseated land, and it was she also that added the words, " That Rees Morgan's wife, being my daughter, is concerned something in the interest of the affair " (see letter Thomas Edwards to Secretary Peters, Archives, page 229, Vol. VII., Second Series) and neglects to state that his son and daughter are married to a daughter and son of Jenkin Davies. The true inwardness of thin is in the relationship of Thomas Edwards with the proprietors. Rees Morgan was not in good health. Fearing death, with a dissipated son to inherit his plantation, the will of the woman again prevailed to make a deed to the second son, dated October 14, 1745—fourteen years before his death, the son giving his notes for the purchase money. Thomas Edwards died May 8, 1764, and in April, 1768, Joseph Williamson was employed to enclose the ground with a stone wall two feet thick and three and a-half feet high on the inside, the enclosure being  $75\frac{1}{2} \times 82\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The bill of Joseph Williamson for the labor was 17 pounds, 18 shillings and 4 pence—about twenty-five cents a perch. Eighteen pounds of nails were used to secure the covering. This and the other material used were paid as separate items by Rees Morgan. Little Bettie Morgan was interested in this work. Making several trips for nails, as the work progressed, to the store at the Blue Ball.

Rees Morgan died less than a year later ( January 13, 1769). He is buried so that when Margaret dies she shall have her father on one side, her husband on the other. She procured stones for both, alike in every particular, even to the lettering, except "Thomas Edwards, Esq.," is in *Italic capitals*. These stones were well selected, deeply out, and

can easily last another century. Margaret's work was well done. She linked securely the **name** of her husband with the fame of her father, and both are preserved to this generation. If any one should not believe this let him go on the ground and see the inferior stone other hands secured for Margaret, who followed twelve years later (August 20, 1781).

**Rees** Morgan, in his will, bequeaths negroes and money, but no land. The legacies are paid out of the notes of his son David. The eldest son receives his £200 in instalments of £20 pounds yearly; the balance of his estate to his wife, Margaret, and son, David. He leaves 125 perches of ground to his wife, **Margaret, and son, David**, to be held by them and their heirs forever, in trust as a place of burial to all who may desire there to bury. As the enclosure and the ground on the outside where the negroes were buried is not more than 25 perches, there is still 100 Perches left, on which there was a small house, the rent of which was to pay the quit rent (less than one cent a year) and keep the fence in repair. There are ten rows of graves, twenty-eight in each row. The first tombstones, being sandstone, have long since disappeared. Only one is left and that covers the eastern column of the gateway **and reads:**

**Here lies** the body of  
JOHN D AVIS,  
departed this life the 21st day of  
January, 1738 A. I).  
Aged 56 years.

There are only forty-four marked graves, most of which are of this century. Rees Morgan died January 13, 1769. His will gives his son Thomas 200 pounds—to be paid 20 pounds annually, commencing within two years after his decease. The remainder of **his personal estate, including seven negroes, is given to his wife**

Margaret, son David and daughter Elizabeth and her children.

Elizabeth is married to John Pawling. David remained single. Margaret Morgan died August 20, 1781. She gives her property to David, Elizabeth, and Elizabeth's children.

David Morgan died 1784. He frees his negroes, gives all that remains of his real and personal estate to his sister Elizabeth and charges her with the care of his negroes, should they fail to make a living. He makes his brother-in-law, John Pawling, executor.

Elizabeth Pawling died March 4, 1786. At an Orphans' Court, held at Lancaster, December 17, 1788, Henry Pawling, of Montgomery county (the grandfather), is appointed "guardian over the estate of Margaret Pawling, Eleanor Pawling, Elizabeth Pawling and Rachel Pawling, minor children of John Pawling, during their minority."

Thus ended, I presume, the care of the trust made nineteen years before.

THE OLD WELSH GRAVEYARD.

LOCATED ONE-HALF MILE WEST OF FAIRVILLE, IN EAST EARL, LANCASTER COUNTY. SIZE 75.8'x82.6'. WALL 2'x3.5' HIGH. COLUMNS AT GATE 5' HIGH.

PLAN OF THE GRAVES.

NORTH.

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SOUTH.

(1.) In memory of  
JOHN PATTON,  
born in the County of Antrim,  
Ireland,  
who departed this life  
May 10, 1832,  
in the 83d year of his  
age.  
He was a soldier in the Revolution, and  
fought in the battles of  
Germantown, Princetown and Yorktown.

(2.) In memory of  
MARGARET PATTON,  
who died July  
25th, A. D. 1849. Aged 84 years,  
3 months.

(3.) JAMES TREGO,  
Born February 9, 1798; •  
Died June 6, 1880.  
Aged 82 years, 8 months and 26 days.  
Gathered in a good old age to the  
Assembly of the Righteous.

(4.) In memory of  
LYDIA W. TREGO,  
departed this life April 21, A. D. 1864,  
Aged 54 years, 6 months  
and 22 days,  
She is gone, and like a pretty flower  
That once in beauty bloomed,  
Struck by the hand of Heavenly power,  
She sleeps within the tomb.

(5.) In  
memory of  
ISAAC DAVIS,  
who departed this life  
January the 5th, A. D. 1838,  
Aged 83 years, 0 months  
and 1 day.  
Weep not for me, for here you see  
My trials have been great ; But  
now 'tis true I bid adieu And  
change my mournful state.

(6.) In  
memory of  
LYDIA DAVIS,  
who departed this life  
October 5th, A. D. 1821,  
aged 63 years and 11 days.  
Dear friends, farewell, I go to dwell  
With Jesus Christ on high,  
Then for to sing, praise to my King,  
To all eternity.

(7.) In memory of  
JOHN DAVIS, who was  
born September 18, 1783,  
Died January 11, 1824,  
Aged 40 years, 3 months  
and 24 days.  
Thus much, and this is all we  
Know, they're numbered  
with the blessed.  
Have done with sin, care and woe,



And with their Saviour rest,  
On harps of gold they praise  
His name, His face they always  
View, then let us followers Be of  
them that may  
praise him too.

- (8.) In memory of  
ELMIRA E. DAVIS,  
born September the 18th, 1829,  
Died July the 21st, 1847.  
Aged 17 years, 10 months and  
8 days.

The years rowls round and  
steals away The breath that  
first it gave ; What are we do  
what are we be, We are  
traveling to the grave.

- (9.) ( Sacred  
934.) to the  
memory of  
ISAAC C.  
DAVIS,  
son of Richard  
and Catharine  
Davis,  
born January  
the 23d, 1821,  
Died April the  
23d, 1830, aged  
9 year, 3  
month.

In memory of  
ANDREW J. EVANS,  
son of Hiram and An  
Evans, who departed  
this life December the  
8th, 1828. Aged 1  
month & 8 da.

- (10.) In  
memory of  
ISAAC D. TREGO,  
aged  
11 months and some  
days. 1827.

- (101/2) In  
memory of  
ELI P. TREGO.  
Aged 5 months and  
7 days.

- (11.) In  
memory of  
HIRAM B. TREGO.  
Aged 2 years, 8  
months & 10 days.  
1841.

- (111/2.) In  
memory of  
ABSALOM TREGO.  
Aged 4 months  
and 9 days.  
1842.

(12.)

In  
memory of  
JOHN L. DAVIS.  
Born February 10, 1850,  
Died Feb. the  
24, 1850.

Aged 14 days.  
ON REVERSE SIDE.

Son of  
Henry & Susanna  
Davis.

(13.)

In  
memory of  
CA THARINE DAVIS,  
wife of Richard Davis, SEN.,  
who was born Nov. 7.  
1792,  
and departed this life  
March 81st. 1858, aged  
75 years. 4 months and  
24 days.

My flesh shall slumber  
In the ground Till the  
last trumpet's joyful sound.

(14.)

In  
memory of  
RICHARD DAVIS, SEN.,  
who departed this life  
October the 12th, A. D. 1861,  
aged 72 years, 6 months  
and 18 days.

My flesh shall slumber  
In the ground Till the  
last trumpet's Joyful sound.

(15.)

In  
Memory of  
LYDIA A. DAVIS'  
born Dec.  
21st, 1848,  
Died February  
the 12th, 1851,  
Aged 2 years,  
1 mo. and  
22 days.

ON REVERSE SIDE.

Daughter of Henry  
& Susanna  
Davis.

( 1 6 . )

In  
memory of  
ELMIRA E. DAVIS,  
born August  
the 24th, 1847,  
Died May the  
21st, 1851,  
Aged 8 years,  
8 mo. and  
27 days.

ON REVERSE SIDE,

Daughter of Henry  
and Susanna  
Davis,

- (17.) In  
 m e m o r y o f  
 SUSANNA DAVIS,  
 wife of Henry S. Davis.  
 Daughter of Jacob & Susanna Lied.  
 She was born September  
 the 10th, 1825,  
 and departed this life June  
 the 1st, 1851,  
 aged 25 years, 8 months  
 and 16 days.  
 From all my friend I gone away,  
 And took farewell with all my heart,  
 To Rest in hope for that great day  
 When shall need and never *part*.
- (18.) ELIZABETH DAVIS,  
 Born Aug. 29, 1785,  
 Died Oct. 15, 1872,  
 Aged 87 years, 1 mo. & 16  
 days.
- (18<sup>1/2</sup>.) In memory of  
 ELIZA RAIN,  
 was born April 14,  
 1807,  
 Died May 9th,  
 1868,  
 Aged 61 years and  
 26 days.
- (19.) In memory of  
 SARAH HAMBRIGHT,  
 was born November 29th, 1781,  
 Died September 4th,  
 1867'  
 Aged 85 year' 9 month  
 and 5 days.
- (20.) In memory of  
 ELIZABETH P WLING,  
 who departed this life  
 March 4th, 1786,  
 Aged 42 years  
 and 1 month.
- (21.) In memory of  
 REES MORGAN,  
 who departed this life  
 Jan. 13, 1769,  
 Aged 59 years.
- (22.) In memory of  
 MARGARET MORGAN,  
 who departed this life  
 August the 20th, 1781,  
 Aged 76 years.
- (23.) In memory of  
 THOMAS EDWARDS, ESQ.,  
 who departed this life  
 May 8, 1764,  
 Aged 91 years.
- (24.) Here lies the body of  
 ELIZABETH EDWARDS, who de-  
 parted this life the 30th  
 day of November, 1754, in  
 the 76th year of her age.

ON REVERSE SIDE.

Entombed I am, in dust I lie,  
 Within this very place  
 My soul took flight with angels bright.  
 To see my Saviour's face.  
 And in the light, within a sight  
 Of Him above the sky,  
 And so shall all who believe and call On  
 Him before they die.

(25.) In memory of  
 MARY HAMBRIGHT,  
 Consort of  
 Henry Hambright, Esq.,  
 who departed this life  
 August 4th, 1825,  
 Aged 72 years.

(26.) In memory of  
 HENRY HAMBRIGHT, ESQ.,  
 who was born April 11th,  
 A. D. 1749,  
 and died March 2, 1835.  
 Aged 85 years,  
 10 months & 20 days.

(27.) In memory of  
 MARY ANN  
 HAMBRIGHT,  
 Second wife of  
 General Henry  
 Hambright,  
 who departed  
 this life April  
 12, 1835.

(28.) In  
 memory of  
 CHARLOTTE ANN,  
 daughter of Davis and  
 Maria Hambright,  
 departed this life  
 February 17, A. D. 1851.  
 Aged 14 years, 1 in., 8 d.  
 She saught the Lord with all  
 her heart, And soon She  
 found her sins forgiven  
 Cheerful with all her  
 friends did part In hope  
 to meet them all in heaven.

(29.) In  
 m e m o r y o f  
 SAMUEL H.,  
 son of  
 Davis &  
 Maria  
 Hambright,  
 died March  
 4, A. D. 185L Aged  
 5 y. and 14 d.  
 Beloved in life'  
 Happy in death.

(30.) In memory of  
 ROBERT WALLACE,  
 who departed this  
 life the 17th day  
 of December, 1793.  
 Aged 72 years.

- (3L) In memory of  
 ZACCHEUS DAVIS, JUN.,  
 who departed this life  
 July the 4th, 1793,  
 In the 86th year of his age.
- (32.) JANE ALLEN,  
 a native of Ireland,  
 Died Oct. 9, 1826,  
 Aged 80 years.
- (33.) In  
 memory Of  
 JOHN DAVIS,  
 who departed this life  
 March 21, 1774,  
 In the 68th year of his  
 age.
- (34.) In memory of  
 ELIZABETH,  
 wife of John Davis,  
 who departed this  
 life Dec. 19, 1796,  
 aged 71 years  
 & 8 months.
- (35.) In memory of  
 ZACCHEUS DAVIS, ESQ ,  
 who departed this life  
 March the 25th, 1788,  
 In the 78th year of his age.
- (36.) In memory of  
 JOANNA, wife of  
 Zaccheus Davis, Esq.,  
 who departed this *life*  
 Jan. 21st, 1768,  
 In the 58th year of her age.
- (37.) 1810.
- (38.) 1785.
- (39.) F. L. DEB.
- (40.) A. L. A. W.  
 1814.
- (41.) E. A.  
 1746.

Used as a cap on the eastern column of the entrance, there is a sandstone, on which are the words:

Here lies the body of  
 JOHN DAVIS,  
 departed this life the 21st day of  
 January, 1738 A. D. Aged 56 years.

**B. F. OWEN.**

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