

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO PLACE AND UNVEIL A MARKER
DESIGNATING AND COMMEMORATING THE INDIAN
TOWN OF CONESTOGA, IN MANOR TOWNSHIP,
LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNA.**

To the President and Members of the Lancaster County Historical Society:

Your committee appointed to place, and with appropriate exercises unveil, a marker to designate and commemorate the Indian Town of Conestoga respectfully report:

This event had its origin August 1, last, when Dr. Albert Cook Myers called on David Landis, the Chairman of this Committee, and asked him to assist in placing a marker to designate and commemorate the site of Conestoga Indian Town.

After quite a search, on August 11, by Albert Cook Myers, Herbert H. Beck, D. F. Magee, D. H. Landis, Hershey F. Mann and F. S. Stoner, a suitable boulder was found in the ravine near the river on the Hershey F. Mann property; and a site was secured on the farm of Ira K. Shenk, on which to erect the same.

The chairman then organized the following Local Committees:

For transporting the boulder, Hershey F. Mann, chairman; George F. Murry and F. S. Stoner.

For erecting and setting the boulder, Frank B. Rummel, chairman, Park M. Kauffman and Ira K. Shenk.

For arrangements necessary for the unveiling—the speakers' stand, seats, financing, etc., Albert B. Witmer, chairman; H. B. Frey, Park M. Kauffman, E. O. Sneath, Chas. F. Eshleman and J. W. Brennehan.

As a committee of refreshments, and also for assisting in financing the local expenses, the Women's Missionary Association of Stehman's U. B. Church, provided chicken corn soup, cakes, ice cream, etc., Mrs. E. O. Sneath, chairman.

Of these local committees Charles M. Witmer was treasurer.

All of these committees served faithfully, and promptly and nothing interfered with the complete success of the event. A list of those of the community who assisted these committees appears in appendix hereto.

The boulder was a contribution by Hershey F. Mann. A deed for the tract on which the marker stands was executed and delivered by Ira K. Shenk, owner of the ground. The seats were contributed by the Stehman U. B. Church.

The labor of clearing away underbrush, road construction and other work, incident to transporting and erecting the boulder, erecting the speakers' stand, etc., represented a value of at least \$300. A considerable portion of this was contributed, and the remainder was met by proceeds of the meals and refreshments provided by the Women's Missionary Association and the remainder was collected from patriotic citizens of Indian Town District.

Two auto trucks provided transportation from the trolley line, at Millersville and transported about 100 persons at 25c per trip, one way.

The Boy Scouts rendered splendid service in placing direction cards at road corners, directing the parking of autos, etc.

The following was the Committee on Publication and publicity: David B. Landis, chairman; I. C. Arnold, Henry C. Carpenter, Carl W. Dreppard, Miss Eleanor Fulton, Geo. K. Erisman and Wm. F. Worner.

The programs were prepared and printed in a very commendable manner and the event was given publicity in the local newspapers.

About 1,000 persons attended the unveiling. Many prominent persons from Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Wilmington, West Chester, York, Gettysburg, Lancaster and elsewhere were present. The weather was cool and cloudy. The event was delightful to everyone and a success in every respect.

The chairmen presiding at the rendition of the program were Col. Henry W. Shoemaker, chairman of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, and Professor Herbert H. Beck, president of the Lancaster County Historical Society.

The program was opened by an invocation to the Great Spirit by Indian Chief Strong Wolf.

THE WM. PENN LETTER

The next feature of the program was the reading of an original autograph letter, written by William Penn, while on his visit at this Conestoga Indian Town, June, 1701. This letter is a priceless possession of Dr. Albert Cook Myers. It contains some matter concerning a land transaction and was addressed to Secretary James Logan. How the letter was conveyed to Secretary Logan at Philadelphia we can only conjecture, it was probably, by an Indian runner.

This letter was written farther west than any other letter written by Wm. Penn, as at this period this section was on the extreme western border of "Penn's Forest Lands" or Pennsylvania.

Owing to Mr. McGrann's illness, the letter was read by Mr. D. J. Eckman.

Following the reading of the Wm. Penn letter, Mr. Ira K. Shenk presented to the Society the plot of ground whereon the marker was erected and delivered to President Beck a deed for the same.

The marker was then unveiled by Miss Ella A. Shenk, daughter of the grantor of the land.

The marker is of native rock, stands about seven feet high, is about five feet wide at the ground, tapering toward the top, and about 18 inches thick. A fine large memorial bronze tablet is attached thereto. A half-tone print of the same is herewith presented.

Next followed the formal acceptance of the marker by President Beck and his speech of acceptance is made part hereof.

ADDRESS OF ACCEPTANCE

By Prof. Herbert H. Beck.

It is my privilege, acting for the Lancaster County Historical Society, to accept the custody of this monument and this tract of land. In taking over these valuable things I thank all of the many who by their labors or contributions have made this marker possible; and I especially acknowledge the worthy spirit and generosity of Mr. Ira K. Shenk, who has donated this piece of ground. In surrendering his property for the mere memory of persons he has never seen and events which cannot immediately concern him, Mr. Shenk has done something which will bring a breeze of credit and well deserved prominence to Manor Township. He has done something that will permanently place his name on the Historical records of his County and his State. Those who contribute time, thought or money to recording local history are public benefactors who in many ways serve the best interests of the past, the present and the future.

In accepting the custody of this fine monument, nothing impresses me more than the majestic beauty and ancient heritage of the rock which forms it. This rugged fragment in its new role has taken on a personality. The episodes in its long career may well set the imagination afloat. Established by geology as a formation of great antiquity the material of its mass could scarcely have been piled together less than 100 million years ago. For periods infinitely longer than recorded history, it was swept by the sea waters of the region. With the emergence of North America from the sea, or perhaps sometime later, with the shrinkage of the earth the surface hereabouts was subjected to enormous pressures. Our rock was reborn in this process and took on the character imparted by this pressure and its attendant heat. It became, with its fellows of the River Hills as you see it plate-like, scaly and micaceous—flattened at right angles to the pressures upon it. In the course of a period which again baffles thought in its length our rock was dismembered from the twisted and shrinking River Hill System and found itself in what was to be Hershey Mann's ravine at the base of Turkey Hill. Here, to the soft, steady voice of the flowing Susquehanna it must have rested for tens of thousands of years. Here its face has been softened and smoothed by millions of rains and snows. Here for centuries it was trod by pad of the saber toothed tiger and here the giant mastodon elephant browsed about it. In later centuries how often in the frosty forest night has there come to it the screech of the bob-cat and howl of the timber wolf! Placed as it was table-like in its ravine this great rock must have given passing rest to many an Indian hunter or muttering war party. Nor is the final glorification of this rock without its interest. A few short weeks ago a party of historians like a scattered pack nosing for a lost trail, worked through this ancient ravine. All were outwardly intent upon finding this very rock; and all inwardly concerned about ivy poison and copperheads. There was a bark of exultation from one of the more industrious, Mr. A. C. Myers. He had run down the rock of destiny, and the rest of us barked to him to nose and wag happily about so fine a quarry.

Then came the monumental task of bringing this great mass from its deep, rough-bottomed ravine to Ira Shenk's meadow. But Hershey Mann, George Murry, Frederic Stoner and their gang of stalwarts were quite up to the problem, and here it is. And now securely set in many feet of concrete, as Frank Rummel, Park Kauffman and Ira Shenk will attest. The legend on the bronze tablet tells of the Conestoga Indians, of the visit of their distinguished patron, William Penn, and of their ultimate destruction by the Paxton Boys. The details of this legend will presently be furnished by persons amply qualified, but the theme itself suggests a personal incident and a personal sentiment. Certain coincidences connected with this celebration, perhaps, justify the former; for it so happened that it was the local Chairman's great grandfather, a life long missionary among the Indians who had charge of a band of Delawares which for safe keeping against the frenzied Paxton Boys were lodged in the barracks in Philadelphia, which was on what is now Washington Square, in the rear of Independence Hall. About the time that the Paxton Boys destroyed this Conestoga Town, largely augmented for their errand of death they headed toward Philadelphia to kill the Delawares in charge of Bernard Adam Grube; and it was only by the tactful persuasion of Benjamin Franklin, who with several others went to the outskirts of the city to meet them, that the blood thirst of the Paxton Boys was appeased and the lives of the Christianized Delawares and their white leader, of cherished personal memories, were spared.

Grube was one of a small group of missionaries, of whom David Zeisberger was the best known, who were messengers of peace on the Colonial frontiers. These men lived their lives with the Indians and understood them perhaps better than any other men of the day. They found in the Indian nature only those traits which they had themselves—an inherent capacity

for all that is good side by side with a capacity for all that is bad. To the frontiersman the Indian was a sinister form stalking like a timber wolf in the night; and like a timber wolf, to be hunted and killed; for injustice had tended to make the Indian resentful, treacherous and bloodthirsty and the accumulated vices of a civilization growing stale in Europe were fast infecting him. To Zeisberger and Grube the Indians always remained, as they called them, "the dear brown hearts" worthy of fair dealing and elevation.

The displacement of the Indian in America is only an episode recurrent in history—the establishment of an expansive, better informed people.

Then followed the historical address by Mr. David H. Landis, of Windom, Lancaster County, and it is submitted as part of this report.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS

By David H. Landis, of Windom, Lancaster County, Pa.

As we view this beautiful agricultural section today its past has been so completely obscured that scarcely a trace remains to remind us of the role of historical importance which it has played. Let us then review and if possible picture some of the scenes which have long since passed away.

The earliest information we have of the tribe of Indians which lived here we get from Capt. John Smith's description of them when he met a band of them at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay in 1606. He describes them thus, "Such great and well proportioned men are seldom seen, for they seemed like giants to the English, yea also to the neighboring tribes, their language, sounding from them as a voice in a vault."

John Alsop in 1660 also gives a quaint but graphic description of the tribe in the following—"The Susquehannas are a people looked upon by the Christian inhabitants as the most noble and heroic nation of Indians that dwell upon the confines of America, also so looked upon by the rest of the Indians, the men being for the most part seven feet high in latitude and in magnitude and bulk suitable to so high a pitch, their voice, large and hollow, as if ascending out of a cave, their gait and behaviour, straight, stately and majestic, treading on the earth with as much pride, contempt and disdain as can be imagined from a creature derived from the same. The tribe then dwelt in several towns and forts along both sides of the Susquehanna in the Washingtonboro section and also Long Level, York County section.

VERITABLE INDIAN PARADISE

This was then a veritable Indian paradise, with its great forest, deep fertile soil, beautiful springs and streams where grapes, nuts, fish and game were abundant. Thus Alsop in 1660 also describes—Fowls of all sorts and varieties dwell at their several times and seasons here, especially the turkey, whom I have seen in whole hundreds in flights in the woods, the swan, the geese and the ducks arrive in millionious multitudes. The deer are mighty numerous in the woods and are not at all affrighted by the face of man. They will stand almost until they be scratched, being daily killed by the Indians and brought in to the English. There is such a glut of their flesh that it is rather denighed than esteemed or desired. Plenty of almost all sorts of fishes inhabit the several streams and rivers here far beyond the apprehension or crediting of those who never saw the same.

Father White's description of 1635 and also illustrations on Lindstrom's map of 1654 clearly (1) prove that buffalo also were among the animal life of this section at that period.

Other animals native here then were the black fox, now scarce in remote Canada. Bears, beavers, fishers, otters, black squirrels, wolves, wild cats and

panthers, which produced the peltry in which European traders soon had a lucrative business, for which they exchanged clothing and fire arms soon and also the glass beads, clay tobacco pipes, and other trinkets which we find in the Indian burial sites here today.

INDIAN SUPPLIED FOOD

Captain Smith states, "the Indian cabins are in the midst of fields or gardens which are small plots of ground some 20 acres, some 50 acres, some more, some less." The early explorers and first settlers depended almost entirely on the Indians for food. Capt. Smith states—"I durst undertake to have corn enough from the savages for 300 men for a few trifles." Hudson's and Harriett's accounts also correspond with Smith's statement.

When Gov. Calvert arrived in Maryland in 1634 the natives had such a store of corn that he traded 1000 bushels of it and sent it to the colonies of New England in exchange for other commodities. Beans, mellons, potatoes and tobacco were also among their cultivated products to which Europeans fell heir. Their women cultivated the soil, the men engaged in fishing, hunting and war.

When they first met Europeans, the Indians had little or no conception of what we know as business methods or commercialism, and as a result were imposed upon in the sale of their lands and property which were usually bartered away for a few trifles. A common custom with Indian traders was to exchange a long barreled gun for a pile of peltry as high as the length of the gun. This was so lucrative a business that William Clayborn, an English trader, who located a colony on Kent Island at the head of Chesapeake Bay in 1621, exported beaver skins alone to the amount of 40,000 crowns and the profit on them was estimated at thirty fold or 3000 per cent.

TWO PICTURES OF INDIANS

In a description of the dispositions of the Indians given by William Penn in 1683 he states—"In liberality they excel, nothing is too good for a friend. Although they were exact observers of property, give them a fine gun, a coat or other thing, it might pass between twenty hands before it sticks, light of heart, strong affections but soon spent, most merry creatures that live, feast and dance perpetually, they never have much nor want much, wealth circulateth like blood. They are not disquieted with bills of lading and exchange. We sweat and toll to live, their pleasure, hunting and fishing, feeds them."

However, when their ire was aroused they presented quite a different picture as also presented by Alsop, who states when they determine to go on some design, they wear their war equipage. In this posture and dress they march out from their fort or dwelling, singing or rather howling out, the warlike exploits of their ancestors raging the wild woods until their fury has met with an enemy worthy of their revenge."

In mental ability, this tribe produced men and women of remarkable capacity, an example of which was the reply given a Lutheran Missionary from the Swedish colony along the Delaware, who visited them during 1709. Other examples can also be seen in their pleas to the proplelaries of Pennsylvania. Logan the great Indian orator was also said to be a descendant of this tribe and had taken his name from Secretary James Logan.

When we search among old documents, maps, books and records for historical material pertaining to this section, we find a great confusion of the names given to the Indians and also to this territory, this is principally due to the names given to the early European explorers in the several Indian languages and also because the explorers, Indian traders and early settlers of this section were of several nationalities.

THE FIRST PURCHASE

Clayborne, who, about 1621 was the first European to purchase this territory from the Indians, calls it Virginia (2) which then extended from the 34th to the 41st degree. Robert Evelyn, who was Clayborne's interpreter, and who describes his view of this section of the Susquehanna river about 1634, refers to this section as part of Sir Edmond Plouden's grant of New Albion.

Lord Baltimore's grant of Maryland in 1632 extended to the 40th parallel or the beginning of the 41st degree, which passes through Washington Boro, Millersville and Strasburg. Then this section was part of Maryland. North of that line, by Cabot's discovery, was New England until the Dutch settled at what is now New York in 1609. From this line northward we were then in New Amsterdam, and west of the Susquehanna river the French claimed as part of Canada (3) and named it New France. All the English of Virginia and Maryland knew these Indians as Susquehannocks or similar names.

The Sweeds who began a settlement at New Castle along the Delaware in 1638 also purchased this territory from the Indians and named it New Sweden. The Dutch and Sweeds named the Indians Minquas and several similar names. The French knew them as Andastas and Gandastogues. In the article stipulating the peace treaty between (4) Wm. Penn and these Indians in 1701, they were styled Minquas, Conestogas, or Susquehannas.

Hermain's map of 1665, which is the earliest map on which the streams of this section appear, names the Conestoga river Onestego river, doubtless from this Indian name the word Conestoga is derived.

When Wm. Penn's colony located at Coaquannock (Philadelphia) (5) in 1682 this territory became a portion of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

A decade later, as stated by Rev. Conrad Templeton, the present (6) limits of Lancaster County was known as Conestoga. In 1717 all of what is now Manor Township South of the Charleston road was surveyed and reserved as Penn's Conestoga Manor and since 1729 we have Lancaster County and then this was part of Hempfield Township and later Manor Township.

Capt. John Smith states in 1606, the Susquehannocks have about 600 able bodied men; also that at that time they were at war with the Iroquois. This war continued until about 1675, when the Iroquois finally defeated them, after which they became their tributaries and the Iroquois took possession of their lands. As was their custom of war the Iroquois took some of the Susquehannock men and women to their towns in New York State and some of the Iroquois remained here, and by their intermarriage wiped out the identity of the Susquehannocks as a tribe.

LIVED ALONG SUSQUEHANNA

Until this time the Susquehannocks lived in several towns and forts on both sides of the Susquehanna river bordering what is now Manor Township. They also had a fort on the Potomac where they served the Marylanders as a protection from the Iroquois, but after their defeat, the Marylanders catered to the stronger power, the Iroquois, and treacherously killed a number of the Susquehannocks and drove the remainder out of the fort.

This was about the same period as when Wm. Penn started his colony and made a treaty with them in 1682. The remnant of the tribe then located at this Conestoga Indian town and became known as Conestogas. At this time and up to Gov. Goodkin's visit in 1711 there were about 40 men besides women and children.

From all data we have at hand from documentary, traditional and archaeological sources the earliest location of this town was on top of the hill about 400 yards west of this marker.

The religion of these Indians was similar to that of King Tut of Egypt. They believed that after their death they would require all of their effects when living another life, consequently, with their remains they buried all of their implements, weapons, utensils and ornaments of various kinds.

After the arrival of European explorers, traders and governors the remains of their dead were accompanied by such European articles as brass kettles, a great variety of glass beads, iron hoes, knives and iron tomahawks, tobacco, pipes made of European clay, brass bells, jews harps, finger rings, etc. By unearthing these at the Indian town sites here today, they serve as a guide in giving us the period of their habitation.

When the Indians made a treaty with William Penn at Philadelphia for this land in 1685, among the articles he gave them were guns and lead, glass beads, kettles, iron axes, hoes and knives, scissors, jews harps, hawks, bells, clay tobacco pipes, vermilion, etc. These very articles have been found at the earlier Indian sites along the Susquehanna and also on the hill referred to above.

In 1707 Gov. Evans gave the Indians clothing and also clay tobacco pipes and glass beads. But Gov. Keith in 1721 and Gov. Gordon in 1728 gave them only ammunition, food and clothing, such as straud coats, duffels, shirts, shoes stockings, blankets, hats, bonnets, bread, biscuits and rum. These were all perishable articles while the earlier articles given above, were indestructible and remained.

At the site on the top of the hill referred to above, on account of the quantities of these European articles found there, we know that that site was occupied as an Indian habitation during that early period.

AN INDIAN FORT

An Indian fort is an Indian town surrounded with stockades interwoven with wicker wood. In a rare document recently found by Dr. Albert Cook Myers it shows an abandoned Indian fort at that site in 1678, so it must have been one of the Susquehannocks' forts at an earlier period.

In Surveyor General Taylor's survey of Conestoga Manor of 1717, we find Conestoga Indian town marked as twelve cabins. By careful measurements we find these located on the site between the farm building at present occupied by Enos K. Frey and those occupied by Ira K. Shenk, a short distance southwest of this marker. Several Indian graves were unearthed at this location.

It is also the terminus of that early road which leaving Philadelphia passed the long lane crossed from Rock Hill, crossing the little Conestoga near the Iron Bridge, through the Sauder farm and Coffee street to the bend and passing through what is now the Ira K. Shenk farm to this Indian town. This road was near the line between the Indian tract and Cartledge tract.

That these Indians were molested at this period is shown by Gov. Kieth's (8) statement, after the Indians complained of the settlers cattle destroying their crop, Keith said: "We have had a line thrown around the Indians, that none might come near them, and had their corn fields fenced in by John Cartledge's care, whose house alone was placed in those lines so that he could look after the tract and also the bounds of it."

It is evident by Gov. Kieth's statement that the Indians about this time moved to the site where the Kuhns house was located, which was closer to John Cartledge. The Kuhns house was on that portion of the Cartledge tract which he received from the Proprietaries for his service. John Cartledge was an Indian trader and was also the (9) Propriethies Indian agent here and was appointed His Majesty's Magistrate July 4, 1718. Cartledge was doubtless the most prominent citizen and first official of this section.

Secretary James Logan held a conference with the Indian Chiefs at Cartledge's house in 1720. Gov. Kieth held his notable two day council there in 1722.

After Cartledge's death about 1726, this was the home of his widow, who had been married to Andrew Cornish, who was his successor as an official. When Gov. Gordon held a council with the Indian Chiefs in 1782, also at his house.

This site is located in an air line about one-half mile east of this marker. The Benj. Wright's house is at present the dwelling of Isaiah F. Hess, John Cartledge's house (which Rupp also visited) is the main portion of the present dwelling on the George Baker farm.

The Isaac Kuhn Indian cabin was on the opposite side of the road from Isaiah F. Hess, on what is now the Jacob Doerstler property. There is a fine spring there, which may have attracted them.

Rupp states this cabin was made of round logs. Some years ago I was told by John R. Witmer, an old resident, that some of the logs of that cabin were built into the present Jacob Doerstler barn, and a few such logs can be seen there.

Also in describing these Indians states: "Their houses are low and long, built with the bark of trees, arch wise." This is not in keeping with the Isaac Kuhn cabin but doubtless they also patterned after the Europeans in building their houses.

FAMOUS PENN DEED

While Wm. Penn had returned to England he had engaged his friend and agent, Thomas Dougan, a former governor of New York, to purchase the Susquehanna lands from the Iroquois nation. This was finally completed by the deed of January 13, 1696, which for a consideration of 100 pounds, granted him—"the river Susquehanna and all the lands therein and all the land lying on both sides of the river and next adjoining to the utmost confines of the lands which are or formerly were the right of the people called Susquehannas."

As this remnant of the Susquehannocks then living here did not approve of this transaction, when Penn returned from England he held a council with them at Philadelphia. At this council he told the Conestogas that he had been informed that they were sorry that he had purchased the Susquehanna lands from their conquerors, the Five Nations or Iroquois, whereupon he drew out a great roll of parchment and spread it on the ground saying to them: "that although he had sent a great many goods in a vessel to New York (to the Iroquois) for the land, it shall be in common among them that the Conestogas shall enjoy the same privileges on the Susquehanna lands as the English." And then in 1700 the deed was confirmed by two Conestoga chiefs.

It was doubtless the above promise or privilege which gave the Conestogas their reservation here where they lived. This tract was finally confined to a survey of 414 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres and was later known as the "Indian farm." This is the tract on which the marker is located. In the patent deed of this tract we find this item in a recital of the warrant for its survey, February 1, 1818, "Within the bounds whereof is an Indian town or settlement which by the said first proprietor, Wm. Penn, was leased and licensed to some Indian families,"—the deed then goes on, "by virtue of which they lived and maintained themselves on the said land until they were destroyed."

These last few words stating that they were destroyed is the most pathetic part of the picture.

While it is true that these Indians were frightfully cruel when they were offended, yet we know that the first food the early settlers needed they received from the Indians.

It was their custom on the arrival of each new Governor, to brighten the chain as they expressed it, or renew this treaty. John Penn, the new Governor, had been in the province only one month when (10) these Indians sent a letter of welcome to him, dated November 30, 1763. This letter reached Governor Penn December 19, 1763, five days after six of their number had been massacred by the Paxton boys. It seems incredible that after years of poverty and struggle the last remnant of this once noble tribe was murdered by Europeans.

FRANKLIN DESCRIBES MASSACRE

We will not enter into the controversy concerning the cause of this massacre, but will briefly state what occurred. It is well known that this horrible act by the Paxton boys occurred during the period when the Indians along the frontier settlements in other parts of the state began to feel oppression and injustice as the Europeans crowded them westward, which resulted in frightful terror and blood shed along the border.

And it was not so much any crime which this feeble band of Conestogas had committed as the fact that they were Indians, and the bitterness of the frontiersmen towards Indians in general. In a rare pamphlet of 1764 discussing this massacre, Benjamin Franklin sums up the situation by saying, "This is another story of the method in which the cowards of the frontier revenged upon innocent and helpless old men, women and young children, the outrages of Indian warriors, whom they dared not meet."

On Wednesday, December 14, 1763, Rev. Colonel Elders corps of (11) rangers led by Lazarus Stewart, Scotch Irish settlers, made up from Paxton, Hanover and Donegal, 57 in number, came well mounted with fire locks, hangers and hatchets, having travelled through the night. Their route was down along the river to where the Indian spring had been along the bank of the river before the low grade road was constructed, south of Cresswell station, and then up the ravine there, which was afterward named Paxton hollow (Bucksta deich), to Conestoga Indian Town.

There they surrounded the small village of Indian huts and just at day-break broke in upon them all at once. Only three men, two women and a young boy were at home, they were Shee-hays (Shechays) George (Wo-ahen) Harry (Tee-kanley) a son of Shechays (Ess-kanesh) Sally, an old woman (Tea-monsha Oong) and a woman (Kamenguas). All of these were shot down and murdered and some of their cabins were burned. Sheehays, one of these Indians, was a very old man, having officiated at Wm. Penn's treaty in 1701.

After the report of the massacre reach Lancaster, Sheriff Hays was sent to the Indian Town to gather up the effects of the Indians and among them were several instruments on parchment, one stipulating a peace treaty between the Governor of Maryland and these Indians, and another an article of agreement concerning this tract of land on which they lived, made with Wm. Penn, April 12, 1701, also others from Secretary Logan, Governor Kieth, and later proprietors. The remainder of the Indians were out among the neighboring settlers, some selling their baskets, brooms and bowls, which they manufactured, and some on other missions.

The magistrates of Lancaster sent out and gathered up these remaining Indians, fourteen in number, brought them to Lancaster and gave them quarters in the Jail, a strong building where the Fulton Opera House now stands. It is said they condoled with them, took them by the hand and promised them protection.

THE PAXTON MASSACRE

On the 27th of December, Proud states, this murderous band of rangers (the Paxton boys) suddenly appeared in Lancaster, fifty of them armed as

before, dismounting went directly to the jail, broke open the door, and entered with the utmost fury. When the poor Indians saw they had no protection and being without the least weapon of defense, they divided their little families, the children clinging to their parents, then fell on their knees, protested their innocence, declared their love to the English and in this position they were inhumanly murdered.

The gruesome details of this fiendish massacre is graphically (12) told by William Henry of Lancaster, "The first notice of this affair was, that while at my father's store near the court house (then in center square) I saw a number of people running down street toward the jail which enticed me and other lads to follow them. At about six or eight yards from the jail, we met from 25 to 30 men well mounted on horses and with rifles, tomahawks, and scalping knives, equipped for murder.

I ran into the prison yard, and there, oh what horrid sight presented itself to my view. Near the door of the prison lay an old Indian and his squaw, particularly well known and esteemed by the people of the town on account of his placid and friendly conduct. His name was Will Sock. Across him and the squaw lay two children of about the age of three years, whose heads were split with the tomahawks and their scalps taken off.

Toward the middle of the jail yard, along the west side of the wall, lay a stout Indian whom I particularly noticed to have been shot in his breast, his legs were chopped with the tomahawk, his hands cut off, and finally a rifle ball discharged in his mouth so that his head was blown to atoms and the brains were splashed against, and yet hanging to, the wall. In this manner lay the whole of them, women and children spread about the prison yard shot, scalped and shot to pieces.

These remains were then buried in what was then a potter's field on the northeast corner of Duke and Chestnut streets, where afterwards the cut of the Pennsylvania railroad passed through.

LED BY A MINISTER

Proud states "the perpetrators of this deed were lead on by a Presbyterian minister, persuading themselves that they were doing God's work by extripating the heathen from the earth, as Joshua did of old, that these Saints might possess the land alone," at any rate, sometime afterward, some of these Paxton boys located on this tract and claimed it by conquest and built two cabins on it, but they were dispossed by the Governor's orders and (13) the Penn Proprietors took possession of it. Jacob Wissler, whose property was on the eastern border of it, was it first overseer, serving five years, from 1765 to 1770.

In a letter written by Thomas Barton, December 18, 1770, in describing this Indian Farm, he states it has neither house, barn nor stable, except two cabins erected by the Paxton people. This appears to contradict Rupp's statement that the Isaac Kuhns house was the last Indian cabin, but it does not, as the Kuhns cabin was not located on the 414 acres Indian farm or reservation, but as stated above was on the John Cartledge tract. That site was doubtless the scene of the massacre.

The Indian farm as it was then called, a tract of 414¾ acres, then had about 5 acres of cleared land, and August 28, 1784, this tract was sold and deeded to John Musser (14) and his wife, Sarah, of Lancaster City.

In 1786 a portion of this tract was sold to John Brenneman, whose descendants lived on the tract until recent years and many of his descendants are still living in Manor Township. And about this same time the tract was divided up and sold to others.

ADDRESS OF D. F. MAGEE, ESQ.

D. F. Magee, Esq., of the Lancaster Bar, then delivered the following address:

Record Title and Description of "The Indian Town," taken from records in Court House at Lancaster.

"The Indian Town" as it was called in the early records, was a tract of land containing four hundred and fourteen acres and three-quarters of an acre, together with six acres added to the hundred for roads and highways, or a total acreage of four hundred and thirty-five acres of land, neat measure situated in Conestoga Manor, afterwards and now called Manor Township, in Lancaster County.

The story of the setting aside to the Indians and the possession and ownership of it from that time to this is fortunately set forth in the recorded deeds in the Recorder's Office at Lancaster, in recitals in said deeds by which this tract was from time to time conveyed in part or in whole back to the Penns and to purchasers under them, from which records I have been able to trace by unbroken chain the ownership of the identical portion upon which we are now placing this marker, to Ira K. Shenk and Barbara D. Shenk, who hold the deed therefore today.

As the story of the Indian tribe, the Conestogas will be told fully by other speakers here today, I will confine my task to quoting mainly the words of the recorded recitals, and giving the chain of title as it is recorded.

Quoting from Book B-B p. 28 etc., we find the following: "Richard Hill, Isaac Morris and James Logan, commissioners of property of Pennsylvania by rescript dated 12th mo. (February) 1717, directed Jacob Taylor, Surveyor General of the Colonies to survey all of the tract of land between the Susquehannock and Conestoga creek as far up the river as the land granted to Peter Chartiers, and they by a line running from the said river to Conestoga creek; and to make return thereof to the Secretary's Office, for the proper use of William Penn, Esq., Proprietor and Governor-in-Chief of the said Province, his heirs and assigns forever.

"WHEREAS, The said Jacob Taylor, Surveyor General did accordingly return a draft of sixteen thousand acres of land at the place aforesaid, within the bounds whereof is an Indian Town or settlement, which by the first proprietors was leased or licensed to some Indian families, who by virtue of said proprietors license lived and maintained themselves on the said land until they were destroyed."

"AND WHEREAS, At an Indian Treaty held at Fort Stanwix (in New York State), in the year 1768, the nearest of kin and relatives of said destroyed Indians, by Deed Poll under their hands and seals, for a valuable consideration did grant, bargain and sell unto the said Thamos Penn and William Penn all the estate, right, title and interest of the said Indians in and to the said town and lands thereto belonging."

Similar recitals are found also in Deed from John Penn, grandson of William Penn to John Musser, under date of September 16th, 1780, also similar recitals in other deeds from the Penns, from Robert Morris and others as hereinafter noted in chains of title.

The metes and bounds of this "Indian Town" tract in the Penn deed, the John Musser deed of 1780, 1784 and 1786, is as follows:

DESCRIPTION—"Beginning at a locust, a corner of Jacob Musser's land, thence by the same South, forty-one degrees west, one hundred and ninety-one perches to a black oak; thence by James Pratts land South sixty-three degrees thirty minutes east, eighty-two perches, to a black oak; and North fifty-three degrees thirty minutes east, nineteen perches to a Post; and South forty-nine degrees east, seventy-six perches to a chestnut; then

partly by Adam Brenners land and partly by Jacob Whistlers land; North fifty-three degrees thirty minutes east, three hundred and nine perches to a Post, a corner of Rudolph Whistlers land; thence partly by the same and partly by Peter Witmers land, North thirty-eight degrees West two hundred and nine perches to a Post; a corner of Christian Hershey's land.

Thence by the same South seventy-four degrees thirty minutes West one hundred and sixty-five perches to a Post; and thence by the said Jacob Musser' land South thirteen degrees East, eighty-eight perches to the place of beginning.

Containing four hundred and fourteen acres and three-quarters of an acre, and the usual allowances of six acres for Roads and Highways."

Deed Poll of the surviving relatives of Sohaes to John Penn Esquire, dated July 10th Anno Domini 1781, at Philadelphia.

Written on the back of the Deed of the Six Nations by their Chiefs which was executed at Fort Stanwix, November 5th, 1768, recorded at Lancaster in Deed Book, B-B page 68.

This Deed Poll is recorded at Lancaster Book, U, page 72.

Connawaushay and others,
Relatives surviving Sohaes,
To

John Penn, Esquire.

Recorded in Book U, page 72.

Enrolled in the Rolls Office for
the State of Pennsylvania in Book of
Deeds No. 3, page 23, etc.

We, the subscribers, surviving relations of Sohaes, within named, do hereby acknowledge to have received from the Honorable John Penn, Esq., three hundred dollars over and above the within mentioned consideration of two hundred pounds, in full satisfaction of all the claim and demand whatsoever which the Representatives of the said Sohaes may have to the within mentioned five hundred acres of land, part of the Conestoga Manor, where the said Sohaes and his family lived by the permission of the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania.

WITNESS our hands at Philadelphia, this twentieth day of May, in the year 1775.

Witnesses at signing and paying
over the money, this Receipt being
first interpreted to them.

James Tighlman.
Edward Shippen, Jr.
William Logan.
Andw. Allen.
Joseph Shippen.
Isaac X. Still,

Interpreter.

Connestawyen Docko, in behalf of
himself and Ayenenshaw and Awewen-
Wanday.

X Isaac of the same Tribe present.
Tohondo of Chesquagy, himself and
Ayen.

John Hudson and Billey George of
the Cayuga Tribe.

Shall-dedry Sowaw.

(The last name is hardly decipher-
able and is probably more of it.)

(Acknowledgement.)

State of Pennsylvania, to wit:

The tenth day of July Anno Domini 1781, personally appeared before me the Honorable Thomas McKean Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Edward Shippen, Esquire, one of the subscribing witnesses to the Release or Instrument of writing indorsed on the back of the within written Deed and made Oath according to Law.

That he was present when the same was signed by and interpreted to the Three several Indians who signed the same as well on their own account as on behalf of other Indians, and saw the money therein mentioned paid to them.

That the name Edward Shippen, Jr., subscribed as witness thereto was of the proper Handwriting of the Deponent, and that he saw the other subscribing witnesses write their names as witnesses to the Execution thereof.

Witness my Hand and Seal the Day and Year above written.

Recorded the 23rd day of July,
A. D. 1781.

John Hubley, Recorder.
THO. McKEAN. (Seal.)

As a further proof and verification of this Deed to the Indian Town tract of land and its return to the Penns and through them to the subsequent and present owners of this land I quote the following from the recitals in some of the Penn Deeds.

"AND WHEREAS, At an Indian Treaty held at FORT STANWIX, in the year 1768, the nearest of Kin and Relations to the said destroyed Indians for a valuable consideration to them paid, they, the said Indians by Deed Poll under their hands and seals did grant, bargain and sell unto the said Thomas Penn and William Penn, all the Estate, Right, Title and Interest of the said Indians in and to the said Town and Lands thee—to belonging."

"AND WHEREAS, Under the Last Will and Testament of his Grandfather, the said William Penn and of his Uncles John Penn and Thomas Penn and of his Father Richard Penn, and by virtue of sundry Family Agreements and settlements, he, the said John Penn, Party hereto is and stands seized of one full equal and undivided fourth part of and in all that Tract or Parcel of Land called Indian Town within the said Manor of Conestoga in the County of Lancaster."

Then the description of the land by metes and bounds of the said four hundred and fourteen acres and three-quarters of an acre follows.

The above is from a Deed from John Penn, Esq., son of Richard Penn (another John Penn, son of Thomas and cousin of this John held title to the other three-fourths the passing of which to John Musser is hereinafter quoted in this chain,) to John Musser, of Lancaster, dated September 16th, 1780, witnessed by Will Parr and Edmund Physick and recorded in Recorder's Office at Lancaster in Record Book B-B page 28.

Similar recitals occur in several other of the deeds in this chain of Title as hereinafter given.

Complete chain of Title by the Record.

- A. Ira K. Shenk and Barbara D. Shenk.
From John B. and Jacob B. Witmer.
Administrators of
Zachariah R. Witmer, Deceased.
- Deed dated March 29, 1924.
Recorded in Book R, Vol. 26-340.
Containing about 54 acres.
- B. Joseph Brenneman and wife Barbara by their Assignee, Jacob R. Frey
To
Zachariah R. Witmer.
- Dated April 26, 1871.
Record D—10, 548.
Containing two purparts of one hundred and nine acres and 117 perches in two purparts.
- C. John Brenneman and wife Barbara.
To
Joseph Brenneman.
- Dated June 22, 1836.
Record Book Z—6, 399.
Containing two same purparts as described in B.
- John Musser and Sarah, his wife,
To
Henry Brenneman and by same record,
Henry Brenneman's heirs transfer and release their interest to their brother,
John Brenneman.
- Dated April 22nd, 1786.
Record Book I, Vol. 3, page 272.
Containing eighty-nine acres and fifty-seven perches.
- Benjamin Musser and wife, Magdalena.
To
John Brenneman.
- Dated March 9, 1798.
Record C.—3, page 489.
Containing twenty-five acres.
This would seem to account for the difference between the eighty-nine acres and the one hundred and nine in deeds.
- F. John Musser and Sarah, his wife.
To
Benjamin Musser.
- Deed dated April 22, 1786.
Record E—E page 366.
Containing thirty acres.

The entire Indian Town tract became vested in John Musser in several undivided portions at first and finally in Robert Morris, of Philada., and then in its entirety back to John Musser as follows.

It will make this record clearer to the layman if I trace it from the first taker downward instead of from present owner backward as usually followed in briefs of Title, will therefore give it in that way from the Penns in whom we have seen it was vested by the survivor of Old Sohaes Chief of the Conestogas as above given.

- G. John Penn, Esq., eldest son of
Richard Penn,
To
John Musser.
- H. John Musser and wife, Sarah,
To
William Parr.
- I. John Musser and wife, Sarah,
To
Robert Morris, of Philada.
- J. William Parr and wife, Grace,
To
Robert Morris, of Philadelphia.
- K. John Penn, Jr., son of Thomas
Penn and a grandson of William
Penn first Proprietor.
To
Robert Morris, of Philada.
- Robert Morris, of Philadelphia, and
wife, Mary Morris,
To
John Musser.
- John Musser and wife, Sarah
To
Robert Morris, Esq.
- Deed dated September 16, 1780.
Record Book B—B. page 28.
- For the one-fourth of the undivided
one-fourth of Indiantown, of which
he became seized by inheritance and
family agreements from his father,
grandfather and uncles.
- Deed dated September 18th, 1780.
Record B—B. page 31, etc.
- For the undivided one-fourth of the
undivided one-fourth which Musser
had obtained from John Penn, (G).
- Deed dated August 28, 1784.
Record A—A. page 268.
- For his remaining interest of the one-
fourth of the one-fourth he had re-
ceived from John Penn.
- Dated November 16, 1784.
Record B—B. 35.
- For the fourth of the undivided fourth
Parr had received from Musser. (H.)
- Dated October 1, 1784.
Record B—B. page 38.
- Grants all of his three-fourths interest
in Indian Town which he had re-
ceived from Wills and agreements of
his grandfather, father and uncles.
- Dated August, 1784.
Record F—F. page 122.
- Conveying title in fee to the whole of
Indian Town. Which was vested in
Robert Morris by Items I, J. and K.
Consideration £7000.
- Dated September 18, 1780.
Record B—B. page 33, etc.
Consideration 833 £, 6s, 3d.
- For the one-half of the one-fourth he
had received from John Penn.

John Musser and wife afterwards divided the tract up into numerous smaller purparts and sold it off to individuals in farm plot sizes.

The following is the Caption and title references to the Deed of the Indian Chiefs of the Six Nations, by which they granted and conveyed to Thomas and Richard Penn, practically comprising the greater part of the present Territory of the State of Pennsylvania, described by natural boundaries such as the Ohio River on the West and the Delaware on the East, the slopes of certain ranges of mountains, etc., and other land marks of a similar nature, lakes and rivers and streams.

This Deed was the resultant fruit of a Treaty held at Fort Stanwix and embodied in its recitals the conclusions reached by said Treaty.

It will be noted it was made and executed some six years after the United States or Colonies gained their independence from Great Britain. In it was mentioned the Indian Town Tract and the Deed for it was written, as a Deed Poll, on the back of this Deed from the Six Nations.

The Indian Chiefs signed by hieroglyphics made by them in form of birds and animals of various forms, which have been reproduced in the Record Book in the Court House by the engrossing Clerks.

Tayansare, alias, Abraham, and
others, Sachems of the Six Nations.
Senughessis, Sachem of the Oneidas
Chenugaliel, Sachem of the Onondagas.
Gaustara, Sachem of Senecas.
Sequarisser, Sachem of the Tuscaroras.
Taga, Sachem of the Cayugas.

Witnesses present at signing.
Wm. Franklin, Governor of New Jersey.
Frederick Smyth, Chief Justice of New Jersey.
Thomas Walker, Commissioner for Virginia.
Richard Peters,
James Tighlman,
of the Council of Pennsylvania.
Richard Peters, Jr.
Tarbutt Francis.
Fitch—
Joseph Chue.
John Walker.
Samuel Wharton.
William Trent.

ACKNOWLEDGED the thirtieth day of March, 1779, before David Kenned, a Judge of the Common Pleas Court of Philadelphia, where they severally made oath upon the Holy Evangelists that they were present and saw the said Chiefs of the Six Nations attach their signatures thereto in the presence of one another, etc., etc. By James Tighlman and Richard Peters, Esq., two of the subscribing witnesses.

D. F. MAGEE.

Dr. Albert Cook Myers next addressed the audience and referred to the following events associated with the Indian Town locality.

DR. ALBERT COOK MYERS' ADDRESS

Dr. Albert Cook Myers, the Secretary of the Penna. Historical Commission, had been slated to give an address on "The Notables Who Visited the Conestoga Indian Town," and knowing how abundantly qualified he is to bring that subject out in all its details it is regrettable that other matters which were crowded upon his time, made it impossible for him to prepare an address, however, we were honored with a brief address in which he touched on the early visits of Indian Traders and explorers, Wm. Penn and other notables. The following items were here substituted by David H. Landis.

The earliest visit which had a bearing on the founding of Pennsylvania was when during August, 1658, Josiah Cole, Thomas Thurston and Thomas Chapman, three Quaker Missionaries from Virginia, called at the Indian

Town here when Cole states—"The Indians courteously received us and entertained us in their huts with free diet for three days."

After Penn's arrival the first record we find of any of his subjects reaching here, is the statement in a letter of Wm. Penn dated 1686 to Wm. Markham and others, when he directs their course thus—"Tis that which goes towards the Susquehanna by which they rode when Ralph Fretwell went to view the river."

In 1688-89 Penn's Surveyor General, Benjamin Chambers, run a Survey from Philadelphia through this Indian Town to the Susquehanna river.

The most notable visit here was during the summer of 1701 when Wm Penn and his retinue, visited the Indians here of which Penn states—"We were entertained right nobly at the Indian king's palace at Conestoga."

During October of 1705 Secretary James Logan and two sheriffs and ten others were here at Conestoga to adjust some misunderstandings which had arisen between the several Indian tribes here.

Thomas Chalkley, a Quaker Missionary, gives a very graphic and interesting account in his journal of a trip in 1706 which he and thirteen of his brethren took from Nottingham, Maryland, to the Indians at Conestoga.

During July of 1707 Gov. Evans and several members of his Council visited Conestoga and the other Indian towns here to capture and punish an unscrupulous Indian Trader.

During the summer of 1708 Gov. Evans again visited the Conestoga Indians accompanied by Wm. Penn, Jr., when their conduct during a brawl was an event too disgraceful to describe.

About 1709 a Lutheran Missionary from the Swedish Colony on the Delaware while engaged in his efforts of christianizing the Indians at Conestoga, received in reply from the Indians a most memorable and astonishing argument with the intent of showing that their religion and their conduct and principles are superior to those of Europeans.

During 1710 Gov. Gookin held a conference with the Indians at Conestoga.

Col. French and Henry Worley delivered a message to the Indians at Conestoga during the June of this same year.

June 18, 1711, Gov. Gookin again visited the Indians at Conestoga when he asked them to protect the colony of Palatines which had recently located here, they gave him this promise which they never violated.

June 28, 1719, Col. French delivered a message of Peace to the Indians at Conestoga.

June 27, 1720, Secretary James Logan visited the Indians at Conestoga for the purpose of brightening the chain of friendship.

July 6, 7 and 8, 1721, Gov. Sir Wm. Keith, an English Baronet, Sec. James Logan and several other members of his Council and thirty other gentlemen held a three-day council with the Indians at Conestoga during which the limits of territory was fixed where the Indians could hunt and the chains of friendship brightened generally.

March 9, 1722, Sec. Logan and Col. French again came to Conestoga on official business.

May 26, 1728, a Council was held at Conestoga between Gov. Patrick Gordon and the Indians. Gov. Gordon was accompanied by about thirty other gentlemen when he left Philadelphia but others joined him along the way until when he reached Conestoga he was accompanied by about 250 men on horseback.

The chains of friendship were again brightened and some differences adjusted. The encroachment of the settlers caused more and more hardship and discontent among the Indians. The shawanese leave and move westward.

This was the last Council held at Indian town. Foulke states, "In 1728 Lancaster City was founded, there being then upon its site a single dwelling of a very humble description," the next year Lancaster became the county seat of the newly organized Lancaster County and thereafter all treaties and council and official events were held there.

Each one of the above items and also the earlier ones, by careful research could be made a creditable subject for a historical address and the whole panorama at Indian town from Capt. Smith's time to the present would produce an instructive and valuable historical moving picture film.

REMARKS OF HENRY W. SHOEMAKER

Hon. W. C. Sproul was not able to be present, and Col. Henry W. Shoemaker delivered a few remarks, at this time as follows:

Professor Beck, members of the Lancaster County Historical Society: The dedication of this marker at the historic Conestoga town reminds me forcibly of an old legend or tale concerning the last of the Conestoga Indians, which was told to me several years ago at the old inn at Fannettsburg, in Path Valley. During the war I secured several brief leaves of absence from my duties at Washington, to attend meetings of the State Forest Commission at Harrisburg, and journeyed there by way of Harper's Ferry, the picturesque Catoctin Valley, and Path Valley, usually spending a night at the ancient hotel in old Fannettsburg. The landlady's father was an interesting old gentleman, past eighty years of age, and well versed in the old time history and legends of that part of the country. On cold, wintry nights it was a pleasure to sit up late with him, by the stove, listening to his anecdotes and memories of the long ago. One story related about old Simon Rostraver, a Presbyterian Clergyman, who for sixty years was pastor at Farmersmith, an obscure settlement in the extreme northern end of Path Valley, and no longer on the map. The old clergyman in his youthful days had been a member of the notorious Paxton Boys, and helped exterminate the last of the Conestoga Indians at their village here, and at Lancaster work-house. Well over ninety years of age, he still preached forceful sermons on righteousness, and lived a life of rigid simplicity at the manse. His favorite great-granddaughter, while on a visit during the Christmas Holidays went on a skating party, and had the misfortune to fall into a bonfire built to warm the skaters, and was severely burned. Late one night when the old patriarch was sitting up with the patient, the girl woke from a doze, and shouted that there was an Indian standing in the doorway. Rev. Rostraver looked around and saw an Indian whom he recognized as the Chief of the Conoys, whom he had personally massacred in Lancaster jail, standing with arms folded, and impassive, a huge vengeful figure out of the past. Quick as a flash the old preacher hurled one of the iron fire-dogs at the Indian, then the other, but they had no effect. After eyeing the old man for a few moments the Indian turned and calmly walked up the dark stairs to the attic of the manse. The hired-girl hearing the commotion soon appeared with a candle, and the old man having found his flint-lock, boldly led her to the garret, to seek out the redman. They rummaged everywhere, behind great walnut chests, piles of lumber, and heaps of discarded clothes, but found nothing. When they returned to the sick-room the burned girl was dead. In the complicated but interesting mythology of our Pennsylvania Mountain people it is given to the spirit of a person wronged or forcibly put out of life by another, to act as "token," or fore-runner of a disaster about to encompass his destroyer's house. Hence the great Chief of the Conoys, was privileged to warn Rev. Simon Rostraver, that the end of his beloved great-grandchild was near. It is easy to recognize the exact Indian described in this legend from the contemporary account of the Con-

estoga massacres quoted in our good friend Mr. Landis's eloquent address this afternoon. I thank you for your kind attention.

CHIEF JOSEPH STRONG WOLF'S PART IN THE UNVEILING

The concluding performance was executed by Chief Strong Wolf.

Chief Strong Wolf, of the Ojibways, now one of the progressive tribes of the Northwest, is a splendid type of the Red Man of today and is a full blooded relative of the extinct tribe of the Conestogas. The Chief whose Indian home is in northern Wisconsin is a graduate of Leland Stanford University and is at present taking a post-graduate course in Indian Archaeology at the University of Penna. What he said was in the purest English, his deep, strong voice was well trained and splendidly modulated.

The exercises were opened in a most dramatic manner by the Chief who at the sound of a bugle and accompanied by an escort of boy scouts, seemed to have arrived from the ancient Indian Fort-Site on the hill, and being in Indian garb appeared to be the very reincarnation of the Conestogas themselves, he marched slowly past the marker and chanted in his native tongue thanks to the Great Spirit that he had the privilege of being among such good friends with a plea that they may always be good friends.

Taking the platform Chief Strong Wolf lit his Catlinite pipe of peace, a relic of his ancestors, and devoutly delivered the invocation in Indian, ending with an Indian chant while he passed the pipe along the line of speakers on the platform.

His part on the program was filled by an able and eloquent address. He thanked the Pennsylvanian Historical Commission and the Lancaster County Historical Society for the interest in things relating to the Indians, told of the good feeling he had for the people of Pennsylvania, declaring it was but a perpetuation of the spirit of the Quakers whose treatment of the Indians he termed, "the only bright spot in the otherwise dark page of the record of the White man's dealing with the Red," and also "were it not for such pale faces as David H. Landis his people here would lie in oblivion."

He told of serving in the World War, the first American Indian soldier in France, of which there was a total of 17,200. After being twice wounded he returned "thoroughly disgusted with the barbarity of the white man," he said "we fought for liberty and the stability of government throughout the world, but strange as it may seem, very few of those brave red men who helped to gain victory over the opposing forces in Europe are allowed to vote in this country. In round tones of fervent eloquence he portrayed in choicest English the noble characteristics of his race. He explained how the young boys and girls of the Indian race are now being trained for citizenship all over the west, following this line of thought he entered a strong and forceful plea for the betterment and advancement of the Indian. He did not advocate sympathy for his people, but opportunity to prove how they can become important factors in the government of the United States.

The Chief's address sparkled with humor as he frequently introduced a story or anecdote and he was enthusiastically applauded by the audience. His address ended with a deep throated fervent prayer, while all hats were lifted and heads lowered to the "Great Kishamanato creator or the universe, whose powers are displayed in the wonders of the stars and the glories of the moon that when the people of the four corners of the earth should step off into the happy hunting ground" they should do so "with faith in each other and in thee."

Music was discoursed and interspersed through the program by the Witmer Sextette.

The full roster of official personages, officers, committee and sub-committees under whose direction and by whose assistance and participation the success of the event was achieved and the program carried out follow:

THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Chairman, Henry W. Shoemaker; Secretary, Albert Cook Myers; Treasurer, Henry D. Paxson; Mrs. Frank B. Black, E. Maclay Gearhart, J. George Becht; Trustees Ex-Officio, Gifford Pinchot, Governor, Samuel S. Lewis, Auditor General, Charles A. Snyder, State Treasurer.

THE LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President, Herbert H. Beck; Vice Presidents, Chas. I. Landis, David F. Magee; Recording Secretary, Adaline B. Spindler; Assistant Recording Secretary, John L. Summy; Corresponding Secretary, Eleanor J. Fulton; Treasurer, Albert K. Hostetter; Librarian, William F. Worner; Associate Librarian, Gertrude Haldy.

GENERAL COMMITTEE ON CONESTOGA INDIAN TOWN MARKER

David H. Landis, Chairman; Herbert H. Beck, Albert K. Hostetter, David F. Magee, Adaline B. Spindler.

Names of persons who participated in erecting, contributing, donations of time and material, etc., Conestoga Indian Town Marker, September 13, 1924.

Monument Committee—F. B. Rummel, Chairman; Park M. Kauffman, Ira K. Shenk.

Boulder Committee—Hershey F. Mann, Chairman; George F. Murry, Frederick S. Stoner, Geo. H. Springer, Benj. H. Herr, Wm. Lawrence, Ezra Neff, Earl Murry, Victor Murry, Gilbert Mann, Horace Mann, Harry Springer, Clyde Ament.

Boulder was secured on the Hershey Mann Farm at Creswell and donated by himself.

Committee on Arrangements—A. B. Witmer, Chairman; H. B. Frey, E. O. Sneath, C. F. Eshelman, J. W. Breneman.

Persons who assisted in setting up the Marker—Park M. Kauffman, Chairman; F. B. Rummel, Henry M. Witmer, Daniel H. Shenk, Christian Thomas, Henry S. Witmer, John Kreider, Granville Stambaugh, H. N. Breneman, Abram F. Witmer, Adam Murry, John Manning, Amos M. Witmer, Wm. F. Rummel, J. K. Binkley, E. O. Sneath, Wm. A. Sneath, Paul E. Brady, John Henry, John Thomas, Edgar Rice, Ira K. Shenk.

Chicken Corn Soup Supper under the direction of the Women's Missionary Association Stehman's Memorial United Brethren Church—Ellen N. Sneath, Chairman; Carrie H. Vogt, Fannie Glick, Amanda W. Frey, Emma J. Ament, Mary Herschick, Mrs. Granville Stambaugh, Annie Binkley, Emma Hess, Minnie Baker, Edith Rice, Lizzie Christ, Ellen Hoffstadt, Edna Hoffstadt, Myrtle S. Witmer, Florence Baker, Gertrude Sneath, Mary S. Kauffman, Bertha F. Witmer, Anna M. Stumpf, Alice Herr.

Charles M. Witmer Treasurer of the Local Committee.

Refreshments on Sale—Harry E. Christ, Chairman; E. O. Sneath, A. B. Witmer

THE SITE OF

CONESTOGA INDIAN TOWN

of the

HISTORIC CONESTOGA INDIANS

has now been marked by

THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

and

THE LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

A native boulder of picturesque chloritic rock, to which is attached an inscribed bronze tablet, designed by Paul P. Cret, has been erected at the place, which is in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, four miles south-west of Millersville, on the road from Letort to Safe Harbor.

The Ceremonies of the Unveiling

will take place

at the Site of the Town

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1924

2 P. M. (Standard Time.)

All interested are invited.

All of which is respectfully submitted by the undersigned Committee—

DAVID H. LANDIS, Chairman,
ADALINE B. SPINDLER,
HERBERT H. BECK,
A. K. HOSTETTER,
D. F. MAGEE.

LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES FOR
NOVEMBER 7, 1924.

The Lancaster County Historical Society held its stated meeting for the first time in the new home, 307 North Duke Street, this evening. All were happy to be under their own roof-tree at last. In the enforced absence of the President, Professor Herbert H. Beck, the Junior Vice-President, D. F. Magee, Esq., presided. All the officers were present.

The Treasurer, Mr. A. K. Hostetter, reported that the Armstrong annuity had been paid during the month; that orders to the amount of \$108.06 had been paid, leaving a balance of \$346.12 in the treasury.

The Librarian, Mr. W. F. Worner, reported the following exchanges and gifts to the Society during the past month: Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine; The Washington Historical Quarterly; Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution; Catholic Historical Society Quarterly; Minnesota History Bulletin.

Souvenir booklet of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Lancaster, from the Rev. Robert D. Hartnett, Assistant Rector; eight bound volumes of the Pennsylvania School Journal, from Miss Lola Zug; a four volume set of the recent History of Lancaster County edited by Dr. H. M. J. Klein, presented by the Lewis Historical Publishing Company of New York City; a miscellaneous collection of newspapers, pamphlets, papers, etc., from Mr. Wilbur Marion; five rare editions written by Col. Henry W. Shoemaker and presented by him; a bound volume "Men of the Century" edited by Charles Morris, presented by Mr. A. K. Hostetter; a portrait bust of President Calvin Coolidge, made by Mr. Ray Peters, a young student of Mr. Walter C. Hager, from Mr. Peters; a portrait bust of Robert Fulton by Houdon, presented by the National Academy of Design, New York City, also the bronze label for attaching, including the name and presentation; a large quantity of back numbers of the Society's pamphlets, from Mr. Luther Willig. A vote of thanks to all donors was unanimously accorded.

There were six new applicants for membership all presented by Mrs. A. K. Hostetter.

There were twenty-nine new members elected, which include the following: W. J. Saul, 201 East King Street; Miss Rebecca Jane Slaymaker, 108 East Walnut Street; W. G. McAllister, 140 Broadway, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; James Breitigan, Lititz; names presented by Prof. Beck.

Park B. Edwards, Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, name presented by Walter C. Hager.

E. L. Fenstermacher, 811 Columbia Avenue; D. J. Eckman, 511 West James Street; Mr. and Mrs. C. Emlen Urban, 619 West Chestnut Street; Frank B. Rummell, R. D. 1, Millersville; Mrs. H. R. Snavelly; Miss Ella H. Snavelly; Miss Rosa H. Snavelly; Miss Helen H. Snavelly, all of Snavelly Mill, Lancaster Junction, names presented by Mrs. Albert K. Hostetter.

Walter W. Hollinger, 339 North Duke Street; F. B. Bausman, 928 Columbia Avenue; Mrs. Wilhelmina Marshall, 132 East King Street; Kirk Johnson, 33 West King Street; William H. Bitner, 635 West Chestnut Street; James H. Spotts, 836 East Orange Street; Mrs. George A. Wallace, 241 East Orange Street; Dr. W. F. Mylin, 546 East Orange Street; Col. John M. Groff, 941 East King Street; Ralph Eby, Paradise, Pennsylvania; Samuel G. Zimmerman, Blue Ball; Samuel H. Boyd, Columbia, Pennsylvania; H. Walter Jones, Christiana, R. D.; William R. Good, New Holland, R. D.; B. M. Roseboro,

254 Crescent, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, names all presented by Hon. A. G. Seyfert.

Mr. Walter C. Hager, Chairman of the committee for remodeling the new building, presented the following report:
To the members of the Lancaster County Historical Society:

Your Committee, to whom was entrusted the remodeling of your building, at 307 North Duke Street, report that the work undertaken is practically completed and the house is ready for occupancy and for your inspection. We trust same will meet with your approval.

The main items of work done, are as follows:

1st—Creating an auditorium by the placing of a colonnade.

2nd—Removal of all incongruous ornaments from the front and installing an appropriate colonial doorway, with new French doors for vestibule and tiled flooring and new paneling, and painting front of house.

3rd—Remodeling of the windows on front roof—reslating back building and repairing slate on front building.

4th—Placing a steel beam to support third floor back room floor.

5th—Cementing of basement and arranging three store rooms in it.

6th—Repairing furnace.

7th—New suitable electric lights for auditorium and re-arrangement of fixtures in the balance of the house.

8th—Linoleum for rooms on first and second floors of front building.

The above changes in the opinion of your Committee provide conditions not only for stated and other public meetings, but for the installation of a local historic museum (of moderate size) for Lancaster.

Although not within the province of your Committee, we take the liberty of suggesting the contemplation of a fireproof building in the rear of the present building to be put up in units of twenty-four feet in depth, the units to be added as required.

Please note that the means necessary for the above remodeling done have been secured by your Committee.

Respectfully,

HERBERT H. BECK,
HENRY SHAUB,
WALTER C. HAGER, Chairman.

This report was received with expressions of great pleasure and a vote of thanks was extended to the Committee for the splendid results.

On motion of Mr. Hostetter with a simultaneous second by D. F. Magee, Esq., and Mrs. Hostetter, a resolution was passed, unanimously, instructing the Secretary to send a letter of appreciation and thanks to Mr. Walter C. Hager for his generous work in the remodeling effected, this resolution to be entered on the minutes. A similar resolution, expressing the Society's thanks and appreciation with entry on the minutes, was passed requesting the Secretary to send similar letters to Mr. William F. Worner, Librarian,

for his work on the Library and museum and to Mr. David H. Landis, Mr. Hershey Mann, and Mr. Ira K. Shenk for their generous contributions and help in the erection of the Conestoga Indian Town Marker.

D. F. Magee, Esq. read a letter from the Earl of Colquhoun (Calhoun), Scotland, stating that the books entitled "The Chiefs of Colquhoun," which the Earl of Colquhoun had very kindly sent at the time the Society was investigating the records of John C. Calhoun and which for a time it was thought had miscarried on their return trip, had turned up having been duly received by his factor unknown to himself.

The unveiling of a tablet at the Department Store of Watt & Shand occupying the ancient site of the old Swan Hotel, was discussed and the announcement was made that the Lancaster County Historical Society would hold appropriate historical exercises at this celebration, on December 3rd of the present year.

The announcement was made that the site for the Ferree monument had been located. In the absence of Hon. A. G. Seyfert, Chairman of the Committee; further action would await his report.

Tentative plans for the formal opening of the New Home were mentioned. The statement was made that Dr. H. M. J. Klein had been appointed Chairman of this Committee by the President; Prof. Herbert H. Beck, to whose decision the matter was left at the stated meeting in October.

On motion of Miss Martha Bowman it was decided that the Society procure a "Guest Book" which would serve somewhat in the nature of a register.

There was no special paper read. The reports of the Conestoga Indian Town celebration were reviewed and made ready for publication in the November Journal.

On motion the Society adjourned at the usual hour.

Respectfully submitted,

ADALINE B. SPINDLER,

Secretary

Other Author(s): Magee, Daniel F.
Landis, David H., 1864-
Beck, Herbert Huebener, 1875-1960.

Title: Report of the committee to place and unveil a marker
designating and commemorating the Indian town of
Conestoga, in Manor Township, Lancaster County, Penna.

Primary Material: Book

Subject(s): Penn, William, 1644-1718.
Indian Town (Conestoga, Pa.)
Historical markers--Pennsylvania--Lancaster County.
Indians of North America--Pennsylvania--Lancaster County.
Conestoga Indians.
Paxton Boys.
Conestoga Massacre, Pa., 1763.
Conestoga (Pa. : Township)--History.

Publisher: Lancaster, Pa. : Lancaster County Historical Society, 1924

Description: 129-149 p. : ill. ; 23 cm.

Series: Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society ; v. 28,
no. 9

Call Number: 974.9 L245 v.28

Location: LCHSJL -- Journal Article (reading room)

=====

+++++

Institution Name
Institution Address
Institution Phone Number
Institution E-mail Address