

LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORY IN THE SEVERAL SERIES OF
THE PENNSYLVANIA ARCHIVES AND OTHER PROVINCIAL AND STATE SOURCE BOOKS.

By H. Frank Eshleman.

In the proceedings of this Society for 1923 page 19, printed in the February pamphlet of that year may be found in chronological order all the references to Lancaster County, from 1682 to 1750, noted in the Statutes at Large, the Colonial Records, the First Series of Pennsylvania Archives and the Votes of Assembly, to that date.

Prior to the date of the Sesqui Centennial, July 4, 1926, our Society ought to bring to light all of our county's history down to that date from the four "Source Books" above mentioned; and also from the other several series of the Pennsylvania Archives, now published, seven or eight series in all.

This local history lies hidden in a mass of our Pennsylvania History generally, as it is found in the several thousand of pages in the above mentioned Archives and Records, and as there is no specific index on the topic "Lancaster County" noting every mention of that title of course no one knows what Lancaster County History is there contained until he goes through the entire mass.

Such an examination of the 200 odd volumes is not so great an undertaking as it would seem to be. We have over 550 members and if each one took up one volume, less than half our members would be engaged in the work. The task simply amounts to this that each member so engaged have a hundred or more slips of paper about 2 by 4 inches in size, and take his particular volume and go over it, page by page, and seek out the word Lancaster wherever it occurs, and jot down the list of the item and the exact date, year, day and month on the paper slip, and the book and page where found. Then the next step will be to shuffle and arrange the slips chronologically and the daily record of the county as shown in these detached items will appear.

It seems to the writer that by July, 1926, we ought to have practically all the pre-Revolutionary History of our county, gathered arranged and made public. The great Centennial could then be made the new starting point for the county's history, not yet published, not yet brought to light.

In order to inform our members of the general nature, quality and quantity of our County History, still lying diffused among the hundreds of pages of the records which I have just mentioned, I purpose to set forth in a general way the scope of those archives and the veins of our own local history running through the general mass.

To begin, I must call your attention to the fact that the history already culled out and found in chronological order in our pamphlet of February, 1923, from 1682 to 1750, does not contain all our local county history prior to 1750, because some of the books yet to explore contain Lancaster County History prior to 1750. I must also remark that bringing out history down to 1750 from those four "source books" exhausted the Votes of Assembly only down to Vol. 4, the Statutes at Large to Vol. 5, the Archives to near the end of Vol. 2 and the Colonial Records to the middle of Vol. 5. Let us now delve for the main veins of our county's history in the several series of Archives which are published. What we are about to bring to the surface, will be, I think, a revelation to practically all of our members. It will be delightful information to them if they have even a small part of the love for our county's history, which we all should have.

SECOND SERIES:

Volume 1—The following local matter appears: Prisoners taken at St. John's and St. Lawrence River in 1775 arrive at Lancaster. The various captains of the companies of the regiment and privates are given. (p. 411)

Another lot of prisoners taken in Canada arrive in Lancaster July, 1776. (Do.)

Prisoners in the Philadelphia Jail, taken in the Revolutionary War by the American armies, beg that they should have the same kind treatment given to prisoners at Lancaster. (420)

Among the said prisoners at Lancaster are 82 weavers; 38 shoemakers; 30 tailors; 12 masons; 10 joiners; 15 wagon makers; 15 carpenters, and 10 smiths. (315)

In 1776 there were 830 war prisoners at Lancaster, captured from the several British Regiments.

Interesting items appear about Geo. Hubley and Col. Ross in the Revolutionary War. (484)

It is stated that Loxley and King are erecting a boring machine, at "Martics Mill" and that old cannon can be rebored at little cost and be made serviceable. (485) This is some evidence that the presence and operation of a cannon boring mill near Smithville, held forth as a local tradition, have some foundation of fact back of it.

One of Lancaster's experienced file cutters is called for at Philadelphia, for service in the War. (486)

A lead mine is rumored to have been discovered on the farm of Vincent King at the lower end of Lancaster County on Soap Hill, adjoining lands of James Killchrist and others. (486)

Mr. Loxley has patterns for brass cannon to be made and wants an order to make the same. (487) This no doubt is at the plant at Martic.

An order is asked for one officer of each battalion to go to Lancaster to muster more men. (488)

William Atlee asks pay for eleven battalions at Lancaster. Other counties have only 4 or 5 or 6 battalions. (491) Atlee receives \$6,966 to pay the Lancaster man.

Captain Matthew Smith late of the First Rifle Battalion Companies under DeHaas is promoted. He was complimented for gallantry in the Canadian campaign where, it is stated he suffered many hardships. (493)

Adam Hubley, Jr., late Major to a Brigade commanded by Gen. Woelk relieved from service after brilliant conduct in the severe Canada campaign under St. Clair and DeHaas. (493)

(Note: Matthew Smith's command gave about the first blood shed by Lancaster County in the War for Freedom.)

Several wagon loads of tents are under Mr. Slough's care stored in the Lancaster Court House. (495) On the same page it is stated that the powder stored in Lancaster is at a very improper place in 1777.

The Boro of Lancaster has orders to send a large quantity of flour to camp at———; but it is stated that it may not be possible to purchase it at the price to be allowed. Wheat can be bought at 15 shillings per bushel and flour at 40 shillings a barrel. (503) Malsters in Lancaster are giving 15 shillings per bushel for the worst wheat; rye is plentiful. (503)

Ten loads of army supplies are lodged at Webb's but the roads are too bad to use. (504) This is likely Webb's on Conestoga Creek.

Every able-bodied man to be called on to serve his country and a fine to be put on all who refuse. (505)

Great success in making iron cannon is noted; and no doubt Loxley's plant is included in the commendation. (505)

Samuel Potts is directed to make his furnace hearth large enough to

double his output of cannon. The government desires to contract with him. This may be the Martie Forge plant. (506)

Mr. Loxley is now making mortars for use in the Revolutionary War. (508)

Col. Samuel Atlee's Journal of the battle of Long Island is given in full, beginning on page 513.

Joel Ferree of Leacock writes a letter agreeing to furnish gun barrels and agrees to enlarge his plant to double his output. This was in 1775. See page 543.

Lieut. James Long's plan of recruiting is set forth at page 563.

An account of the magazine in the Boro of Lancaster in May, 1775, shows powder there 1284 pounds; and lead 3187 pounds. The amount in 1776 is also given. (587) A memorandum of clothing in Lancaster for use of the soldiers is also set forth. (671)

Benj. Loxley's report on his plant and equipment for making and boring cannon is set forth page 682.

Volume 2—Registry of Marriages in Pennsylvania from about 1740 to 1770 or later, appears in volume 2, covering 344 pages, and among them the records of the following Lancaster County ministers are given: Rev. Reager; Rev. Casper Stoeber, and Rev. Thos. Barton; and also of Ed. Shippen, Esq. The form of bond necessary to be executed is also given. There are 12,000 of these marriages here set out. They are alphabetically arranged and the year, month and day of the licenses are given.

About 325 pages of marriages at Christ's Church and the First Presbyterian Church at Philadelphia and other nearby places are given.

About 140 pages of early naturalizations in Pennsylvania are given in this volume, showing their seven years residence etc., etc. There are about 4,500 of these. These extend from 1740 to 1770 or 1772.

Those of Lancaster County are few in earlier years but in later years they are numerous. About 800 of them are Lancaster County persons who were naturalized in those years.

The soldiers of the Province of Pennsylvania from 1744 to 1756 are listed. Thos. Edwards' Company of Lancaster Co., 1744, is the earliest. See Associated Companies of Lancaster, pages 509, 511, 531 and 543.

Return of the troops on the frontiers of Lancaster (and some other counties) is given from 1764 at page 614. And page 619 a list of our Indian traders is given. Cartier, Galbraith, Lowry, Clark, Wallace, Atkinson, etc., of Lancaster County appear in the list. A must larger list of those licensed from 1762 to 1775, is given beginning page 621.

A German's view of the election of 1741 is given on page 675. He seems to be a Lancaster County German man advising his brethren. Protection to two friendly Indians living at Lancaster is asked in 1764. See page 739.

An address of the German Protestants in 1754 signed by 26 of them is given on page 686.

James Burd at Lancaster writes to Richard Peters of certain irregularities in the action of some of the public officers. (890)

General Gage asks carriages to be provided for carrying six companies of Royal Americans during the march through Pennsylvania by way of Lancaster. (740)

Judge Yeates gives his impressions of Braddock's Field visited by him in 1776. He states that in 1758 the English buried 450 skulls and many more since. (740)

Balance of Volume 2, is James Burd's Journal while building Fort Augusta.

Volume 3—This Volume contains 99 pages of those who took the oath of allegiance to Pennsylvania. (Note: Deed Book "M" in the Recorder's Office in the Lancaster County Court House, contains about 300 pages of Lancaster Countians who so took the oath.)

The balance of Volume 3 is made up of "Papers Relating to the Revolutionary War."

As to Lancaster County:

The Committee of Drumore write to Pres. Wharton of imposition by some officers in Col. Porter's Battalion. (105)

Six hundred wagons ordered in Lancaster County. (113)

Proceedings of the Supreme Executive Council and other official bodies of the Revolutionary War, have headquarters at Lancaster from October, 1777, to middle of 1778, and many letters here appear dated Lancaster. Pages 134 to 208 contain them.

Special Lancaster items, other than the above appear. Among them are a letter from Wharton to Jos. Hubley, December 16, 1777 (148); a petition of the inhabitants of Lancaster County dated December 31, 1777, praying that the full strength of the state may be called into the field to drive the British out of Philadelphia, while in great numbers the patriots might cross the frozen Schuylkill and enter Philadelphia in hordes (153); a list of the recruiting officers for Lancaster County (173); a commission on forfeited estates in our county (199); action against Little Britain's tumultuous election (110); remonstrances by Lancaster County inhabitants against a State Convention in 1779 to adopt a new state constitution, especially complaining that the method used by the Legislature to call such convention was arbitrary and unconstitutional (354); protest by Martic Township on the same subject (359); call for militia, wagons, horses and flour, to wit 1200 men, and 600 men, 400 horses and 50 wagons (426); return of wagons and owners and wagoners from Lancaster County in 1780, page (431); letter from William Atlee to Pres. Reed (469); complaint against condition of barracks at Lancaster (499); Capt. John Hambright's letter to the President on the conditions at Lancaster, of British sick soldiers in the barracks, the necessity for a hospital, a fatal malady among soldiers, stating that he has bought 500 cords of wood at 10 shillings a cord standing, that the prisoners are taken out to cut it etc., etc. (508); letter stating that Adam Hubley expects 600 Lancaster County Militia to march via Philadelphia for Bucks County, very soon (531).

Volume 4 contains the full history of the Whiskey Insurrection, covering hundreds of pages; and the balance of the volume made up of Prostor's Journal of his journey to the Indians of the Northwest and also of "Defense of the Frontiers" 1790 to 1796. Lancaster County had part in all of these matters.

Volume 5 is wholly made up of papers and documents on the Early Colonies on the Delaware, 1638 to 1643. Our Indian History and some of our early trade and trade routes, form part of this history.

Volume 6 is wholly composed of "The French Occupation in Western Pennsylvania" and the establishment of Presque Isle. Lancaster County figures in the French occupation and the dislodging of it.

Volume 7 is composed largely of "Provincial Affairs from 1682 to 1750, the Boundary Dispute with Maryland, the Dutch and Swedish Settlements, etc., Penn's Letter to John Wright in 1733. History of lands on Pequea and Lancaster County's involvement in the boundary dispute," indicate a few of the many items of Lancaster County History in this volume.

Volume 8 is wholly made of Pennsylvania Marriages from 1750 to 1810; but it is limited to the records of Christ's Church; Sweedes Church; Presbyterian Church at Carlisle; Falkner's Swamp Reformed Church; German Reformed Church at Philadelphia and First Baptist Church of Philadelphia. Even these records have interest for many local people here.

Volume 9 is made up of more marriage records of the same churches last mentioned and also of many other churches in and about Philadelphia. The records go back as early as 1700.

Volume 10 is wholly taken up with the Revolutionary War, and contains a mass of Lancaster County History in that War, scattered through it.

Volume 11 contains matter on the same subject and also an index of the matter included in both volumes. The scope is from 1775 to 1781.

Volume 12 consists wholly of War of 1812 History and contains the rolls of volunteers. An index adds to the value of this volume. Lancaster County figures more largely than we would suppose.

Volume 13 contains "The Associated Battalions of Militia in the Revolutionary War from 1775 to 1783." There are about 260 pages of Pennsylvania Soldiers' names alphabetically arranged—hundreds of them Lancaster County men. This is followed by about 550 pages of Documents Relating to the Associators and Militia, existing during the War.

At page 269 the Muster Rolls and Papers of the Associators and Militia of Lancaster County begin and consumes about 280 pages. Some interesting items on the subject are found on pages 273 and 275; and page 503 correspondence between the General Committee and the Committee of Lancaster County begins, and consumes 49 pages. The action of many of our townships also appears here. See pages 461 and 463, etc., etc.

Volume 14 is on the same subject but includes other parts of the state.

Volume 15 is made up of the campaign against Quebec, and Judge Henry's description and James McMichael's Diaries feature it. There is an interesting section of history also contained in the volume on Marshall's Company formed in Drumore Township.

The balance of the volume treats Sullivan's Expedition in which our own Gen. Hand had a large part. Beatty's and Roger's Journals each take up about 30 pages.

This volume also contains lists of Revolutionary War soldiers pensioned under the Act of 1818. Lancaster County in the Flying Camp and in the 5th and 10th battalions is discussed, pages 629-660 and 672.

Volume 16 is entirely made up of the papers, the legal steps and the litigation and history resulting from the Pennsylvania-Maryland Boundary Dispute, and the Chancery Court Proceedings in England growing out of the dispute. Lancaster County figures largely in all of this.

Volume 17 contains the ship records of the German and German-Swiss Immigrants into Pennsylvania between 1727 and about 1800, containing about 30,000 names, specifying the dates of clearing for America, the names of the immigrants, names of the ships etc., etc., etc. It is safe to say that over two-thirds of them were early Lancaster County immigrants. At least this proportion of them will hold in the earlier years of the period. Two-thirds of our Lancaster County people, and millions of people living in other parts of the United States can trace the beginning of their line in America to this list; and can fix Lancaster County as their first American ancestors' homes.

Volume 18 is made up of the Pennsylvania Company's Claim to Lands at Wyoming—Connecticut's Claims to Pennsylvania Lands—Dutch Records in Regard to the Claim—Letters of the Pennsylvania Claimants—the foregoing accounting for 385 pages of this volume. Beginning at page 390 there are 40 pages of correspondence at Lancaster on the subject; and the balance of the book is made up of miscellaneous letters on the same subject.

Volume 19 is a very valuable and interesting volume to Lancaster County citizens. It contains the minutes of the Board of Property of Pennsylvania, in minutes books "C"—"D"—"E"—"F"—"G"—"H" and "I" and includes the warrants, drafts and some of the patents for land in Pennsylvania issued by the Land Commissioners from 1686 to 1727. Hundreds of them are Lancaster County tracts; and the very genesis of our local titles may here, largely, be found. The records are not entirely complete. The exact opening up of each section of our county may here be traced with unerring accuracy as to dates, etc., etc. The volume is carefully and completely indexed as to names.

THIRD SERIES:

Volume 1 is on the same subject and embraces minute book "K" recording transactions from 1732 to 1741. It is prefaced by 24 pages of the Welsh purchases, of the Province prior to 1702, that is before the Welsh entrance into northeastern Lancaster County. The main body of the Book, about 650 pages from 113 to the end, is made up of Minutes of the Board of Property and includes contests, caveats etc., etc., from about 1765 to 1791. The volume is carefully indexed as to names. Much Lancaster County History appears in it.

Volume 2 contains "Old Proprietary Rights" and seems to be limited to land in and about Philadelphia.

Volume 3 is made up of warrants for Islands in the Susquehanna River from 1793 to 1812; and of Donation Lands to Revolutionary Soldiers. In both of these heads Lancaster County figures largely. The names of the soldiers are given.

Volume 4 consists of a score or more of valuable and interesting maps, of the Proprietary Manors. Conestoga Map No. 1 and Conestoga Map No. 2 and the Indian Tract Map containing Lancaster County's interest in the volume.

Volume 5 is made up of the Treasury Accounts of Pennsylvania in the Revolutionary War and sections here and there, together with occasional items form the Lancaster County History in it.

Volume 6 contains the State Treasury Accounts of the Revolutionary War same as Volume 5, except that 330 pages are devoted to Lancaster County figures

Volume 7 contains similar matter as far as other counties are concerned; also more history on Donation Lands.

Volume 8 contains the Provincial Commissions of all descriptions from about 1737 to 1752; among them are a considerable number of Lancaster County Commissions. As illustrations see pages 61 and 662 etc.

Volume 9 contains similar matter—1762 to 1766. Many Lancaster County Commissions.

Volume 10 is similarly made up from 1766 to 1790—a considerable number thereof being Lancaster County Commissions.

This volume also contains the Constitution of Pennsylvania of 1776 and the minutes of the Convention of 1776. Lancaster County's Commissioners are set forth here and the part they took, also appears.

(Note: This Constitution of Pennsylvania was framed and adopted by the State of Pennsylvania in compliance with an order of Continental Congress adopted upon a Resolution offered by John Adams in that Congress on May 15, 1776, gist of which was that "all British authority in these Colonies be suppressed and ended and that each state form a new form of government for itself." John Adams always contended that his resolution was the real resolution of Independence and that the one Richard Henry Lee, of June 7th, out of which the Declaration of Independence grew, was only an enlargement of Adams' Resolution. Forty years after it was passed he complains pathetically that he was not treated fairly in the matter.)

At page 788 in this Volume the Minutes of the First Session of the Council of Censors appear. These minutes record great criticism of the Constitution of 1776, and paved the way for the Constitution of 1790, seven years later. Lancaster County by her representatives had considerable part in the meeting.

Volume 11 is devoted to Chester County Taxes and Assessments from 1765 to 1771; and

Volume 12 is on the same subject bringing it down to 1785.

Volume 13 is on the same subject in Berks County.

Volume 14, the same on Philadelphia City and County.

Volume 15, the same subject on Philadelphia City, later years.

Volume 16, the same subject, Philadelphia County.

Volume 17 contains the proprietary and state tax lists for Lancaster County, for the years 1771-72-73-79 and 82, by townships, etc. Cattle, servants and the names of taxables are set forth.

Volume 18 contains similar matter as to Berks County.

Volume 19 contains the same of Northampton.

Volume 20 contains the same matter as to Cumberland.

Volume 21, the same as to York.

Volume 22, the same as to Bedford and Westmoreland.

Volume 23 contains a variety of subjects: The Muster Rolls of the Pennsylvania Navy, occupy 192 pages; soldiers who served as rangers on the Frontier from 1778 to 1783, take up 180 pages; the Muster Roll of First Pennsylvania Regiment, of the Seventh Regiment, the Tenth Regiment, Miscellaneous Soldiers of the Pennsylvania line, the Militia, Flying Camp and Rangers of the Frontiers from 1776 to 1782, in ALL OF WHICH LANCASTER COUNTY LOOMED LARGE, take up 200 pages; the roll of Pensioners of the Revolutionary War under the Act of 1818 and under the resolution of 1835, in all of which Lancaster County is very prominent, take up the balance of the volume.

Volume 24 contains warrants for land from 1733 to 1896. The Lancaster County section begins on page 349, and occupied 200 pages. That section contains about 8,000 names, alphabetically arranged, with the acres and dates specified and sometime the location.

Volume 25 contains the same as to other counties.

Volume 26, the same as to yet other counties.

Volume 27 is an Index of the matter contained in Volumes 1 to 11 of this series.

Volume 28 is a General Index of Volumes 11 to 26 down to the letter or abbreviation "Ju."

Volume 29, an Index to the same Volumes from "Ka" to "Re."

Volume 30 an Index for the same from "Re" to "Zy."

Volume 31 is an appendix of Volumes 1 to 10 consisting of a large number of splendid maps. Among them are:

Map of Pennsylvania in 1681.

Map of the 7200 acres of the Estaugh Tract in Lancaster County 1716.

Map of 1490 acres along Conestoga 1760.

Map (large map of Pennsylvania)—Scull's of 1759.

Map—Reading Howell's Map, part of Pa., 1792.

Map of Pennsylvania dated 1770.

Map of the Three Original Counties 1681 by Scull.

Map of southeastern Penna., dated 1790.

Map, early map of southeastern Pennsylvania.

Also many other maps.

THIS ENDS THE THIRD SERIES.

FOURTH SERIES:

The entire series of 12 volumes is made up of the papers of the governors of the Province and State—including addresses, special message, veto messages, proclamations in full; and a certain amount of the correspondence of the said Governors from 1681 to 1901. In the last volume there is an index of about 300 pages. Scattered throughout the series, there is a considerable amount of Lancaster County History. See Index also.

FIFTH SERIES:

Volume 1 contains lists of the provincial officers and soldiers of Pennsylvania beginning in 1744, with Thomas Edwards' Company of Earl Township. (Several volumes of this series are an enlargement of and a supplement of omitted matter to that of the Second Series; and also considerable repetition of matter therein.)

Volume 2 contain muster rolls and lists of Revolutionary Soldiers.

Volume 3 contains similar matter. A great mass of Lancaster County History appears among the matter.

Volume 4 contains depreciation pay—pension applications and lists of soldiers of the Revolution by Counties. Lancaster County's share begins on page 643.

Volume 5 contains muster rolls and papers relating to the Militia of Pennsylvania by Counties to Chester County.

Volume 6 contains the same of Cumberland County.

Volume 7, CONTAINING 1150 PAGES IS DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO LANCASTER COUNTY SOLDIERS.

Volume 8 contains the same kind of matter as to Northampton and Northumberland Counties.

THIS ENDS THE FIFTH SERIES.

SIXTH SERIES:

Volume 1 contains Military Papers of the Revolutionary Times relating to Philadelphia County and City.

Volume 2 contains the same as to Westmoreland and York Counties.

Volume 3 **military papers from 1783 to 1790 of Lancaster County and of many other counties.**

Volume 4 contains Military Papers of Philadelphia, same years.

Volume 5, Pennsylvania Military Papers 1790 to 1800.

Volume 6 contains the marriage licenses and ceremonies from 1734 to 1834; and among them the marriages performed by Rev. John Waldschmidt between 1752 and 1786 while he was pastor at Cocalico, "Moden Krick" "Weisseichen Land" and "Seltenreich" gemeinde in Lancaster County. There are about 150 pages of this divine's marriages and comprise about 2000 names.

There are also in this small volume the records of marriages of several Philadelphia Churches.

Volume 7 contains the records of Pennsylvania's part in the War of 1812. Lancaster County was in the Fourth Division of the Forces. The regimental numbers in which she was interested were :5th—7th—120th—121st—34th—98th—60th and 104th. Her "First Brigade" had 691 men and the "Second" 840. She had also the Pequea Rangers made up of Strasburg, Lampeter, Leacock and Salisbury, etc., troops. See pp. 267 and 269, etc., etc.

Volume 8 contains more history connected with the War of 1812. Lancaster County's share partially appears on page 631. Captain Reitzel's services and his command are shown here also. His command was in the United States Service.

Volume 9 contains pension lists of the War of 1812.

Volume 10 contains rolls of the Mexican War Soldiers furnishe by Pennsylvania. There are about 200 pages of names, about 2000 in all. A short sketch of each one is given, showing his military alignment, etc.

Volume 11 contains early Pennsylvania election returns arranged by Counties. Lancaster County returns so far as they have been found by the Archivists are contained in pages 209 to 227 of this volume. They extend over a period beginning 1756 and continue down to 1788. The earliest returns containing any statistics are those of 1757.

(Note: The earliest election figures of Lancaster County known, are those of 1737 contained in the American Weekly Mercury. A few others

nearly as early are found in the said newspaper and in the Pennsylvania Gazette.)

Volume 12 contains the record of forfeited estates from 1770 and onward. Lancaster Countians' records in this unfortunate subject begin page 257 and run to page 308.

Volume 13 contains the same subject from the counties of Philadelphia, York, etc., etc.

Volume 14 is a volume of miscellaneous subjects. It contains, the following Lancaster County matter: John Ewing's Memo Book in the settling of the Pennsylvania Boundary 1784; Orderly Book of Hand's Brigade to Tioga, with much Lancaster County matter; about page 255 begin certain Lancaster County miscellaneous petitions—petition for road about Pequea in eastern Lancaster County in 1718, appears p. 261; order for road to Donegal in 1726 (p. 262); the Petition for the Creation of Lancaster County (p. 263); petition for the King's Highway in 1730 (p. 267); return of "a road from Harris Ferry to one lately laid out from Lancaster to Philadelphia near Kennison's. The last named became the Downingtown and Harrisburg Turnpike. It was one of the three King's Highways in early Lancaster County—the other two being the Road from Lancaster to Philadelphia and the Road from near Lancaster, about Witmer's to Churchtown, Morgan Town, etc.

There are about 130 signers on the last specified petition. See p. 272.

There is a petition page 274 dated 1736 for a King's Highway from Lancaster passing through near New Holland, Blue Ball, Morgan Town and to Coventry Iron Works signed by the Welsh and Scotch-Irish, to the number of about 50 persons. This became the King's Highway mentioned as one of the three early ones.

The site and course of the road from Harris Ferry to the Philadelphia Road in 1736 are set out page 276.

About 1770 a strong movement arose to obtain a new King's Highway south of the old one of 1733 (now the Old Philadelphia Pike), and the purpose was to avoid the bad ground and great hills, near the Gap and the Ship Tavern and to shorten the distance "several miles." This eventually resulted in building our Philadelphia Road known today as the Lincoln Highway. Prominent Philadelphians filed a petition before the Provincial authorities in 1770 (see page 287) setting forth that the old King's Highway of 1733 was in bad condition and had great ruts and that the one by way of Strasburg to Lancaster would be shorter and better. A larger number of Lancaster County citizens filed a similar petition the same year (see p. 289) condemning the old King's Highway in a similar manner. From both ends the petitioners allege that trade was suffering very greatly and that wagoners were compelled to go in groups so as to be able to help one another out of the mud and ruts, and that wagons upset frequently, and travelling was dangerous to person, etc., because of the condition. The Lancaster petitioners further urged that those who desire to go to Philadelphia from Harris Ferry can take the road through "Dunkertown, formerly caller Peter's Road" and that, at the Brandywine they can connect with the main road. This petition is signed by about 160 of the principal people of Lancaster County and Boro. Eventually the road was laid out as we can see lying between the King's Highway or Old Philadelphia Road and the Great Conestoga Road to Philadelphia by way of Strasburg. That explains why said road now used (Lincoln Highway) from Lancaster to Philadelphia, between Lancaster and Leaman Place does not appear in the records of our Court down to 1760, the end of Volume 2 of the Road Records of Lancaster County. Soon after 1770, we will remember, steps were taken to make a turnpike road from Lancaster to Philadelphia which Judge Landis has written up fully under the head, "The First Long Turnpike in United States."

Volume 15 consists of two parts and it is a comprehensive Index to the Fifth Series. The first part includes letters "A" to "K" and the second part the letters from "L" to "Z".

THIS ENDS THE SIXTH SERIES.

In conclusion it may be stated that the recital of contents of the volumes which do not contain Lancaster County History, is valuable to inform our members (who may profit by this paper) where NOT TO LOOK in the Archives for Lancaster County History.

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