



Fall Meeting Features Postal History

HUNTERDON COUNTY NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY will be the subject of the fall meeting of the Hunterdon County Historical Society on Sunday, November 16th at 2 PM at the Flemington Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, on Main Street in Flemington. All are invited to attend, and light refreshments will be served.

James Walker will talk on Post Offices in Hunterdon County, many of which have disappeared. Before rural delivery, the local Post Office was usually part of the general store or in a private home and was a gathering place for the community. Mr. Walker was born and raised in Lambertville as were his parents. He served in the U.S. Army in the Republic of South Viet Nam. He has worked for 38 years as the station operator in Mount Airy, West Amwell Township, for Spectra Energy, a Texas Eastern facility. His wife is a nurse at the Medical Center in Princeton. For the past 20 years, they have lived with their three sons in East Amwell Township.

Jim has been a stamp collector since about the age of 10 and a serious collector of local postal history since the early 1970's. He is also a member of the New Jersey Postal History Society and regularly contributes articles of local interest for their Journal. He is an active member of the Coryells Ferry Stamp Club which meets regularly in the Lambertville Baptist Church. His grandfather was one of the first three letter carriers when home delivery of the mail started in February 1909 in Lambertville, which was the first town in Hunterdon County to receive such service.

Hiram E. Deats, who was for many years librarian of the Hunterdon County Historical Society, was a charter member



U. S. Mail Coach, White House and Flemington.

and chairman in 1905 of the American Philatelic Society, the largest national stamp collector organization in the United States, with its offices in Bellefonte, PA. Mr. Walker has been a member of the society since 1975.

Mr. Walker has written a new book, *Hunterdon County New Jersey Postal History*. It is 288 pages long and is copiously illustrated. Many items from his collection have been used to illustrate the book, which was printed with a grant from the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Committee. Copies of the book in spiral-bound form will be available for \$30 at the meeting. Hardbound copies are available for \$50.

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 16:	2 PM, Fall Meeting of HCHS
Thursday November 27:	Happy Thanksgiving! <i>HCHS Closed</i>
Saturday, November 29:	HCHS Open, 10 AM-4 PM
Thursday, December 25:	Merry Christmas! <i>HCHS Closed</i>
Saturday, December 27:	HCHS Open, 10 AM-4 PM

HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

Copyright © 2008 Hunterdon County Historical Society
Published Winter, Spring and Fall by the Society,
114 Main Street, Flemington, NJ 08822

Terry A. McNealy, Editor

Library Hours

Thursday, Noon to 4 p.m.
2nd and 4th Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
and by appointment

TELEPHONE: 908-782-1091
US ISSN-0018-7850

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Membership Report

A warm welcome is extended to those members who have recently joined the Hunterdon County Historical Society.

Lisa Arnold, Provo, UT

Mary Ann Barnes, Hampton, NJ

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Denise Williams, Lakewood, CO

NOTES AND QUERIES

Address correspondence to the Genealogical Committee, or to our email address. One query listing of ten lines is free to members, 25 cents per line over ten lines; non-member rate is 25 cents per word. Remember to include a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) with genealogical correspondence for the courtesy of a reply.

BLAIN: Seek info on parents of Alam/Elam Blain, born May 15, 1760, Tewksbury, NJ; served under Gen. Anthony Wayne in Rev.; married Catharine Read Apr. 12, 1784, Oldwick, NJ. They lived in PA to 1815, then Zanesville, OH, then to Delaware Co., OH, 1820. Denise Blain, DB7226@yahoo.com

MANSCH, BAJOR, SCHWEINERT, KASPER, YOUNG: Information sought on these surnames in Hunterdon County. Jonathan L. Mansch, 1550 Bridge Street, Apt. D, New Cumberland, PA 17070

MCCULLEY/MCCULLEY: Seek information re any descendants of John McCully (McCulley) who died 1773, including John, Joseph, James, Samuel. (I do know of the Joseph who was buried in Trenton, and is 1773 John's great grandson.) Any suggestions welcome. Ruth Naomi Lloyd, P.O. Box 84, West Creek, NJ 08092

SHEETS, SHEATS: Have info on early Sheets, Shits families, 1772 forward, Central NJ: Hunterdon, Warren, Sussex, Morris Counties, and some South Jersey. Willing to share info equally. Have over 100 families, 500 names. John Sheets, 334 Rocktown-Lambertville Road, Lambertville, NJ 08530

HOW TO JOIN

Hunterdon County Historical Society
114 Main Street
Flemington, NJ 08822

Please enroll me as a member of your Society

Annual	\$15.00 per year
Family	\$18.00 per year
Contributing	\$25.00 per year
Sustaining	\$50.00 per year
Institutional	\$50 and up per year
Life	\$250.00
Patron	\$1,000.00 or more
Student	\$3.00 per year (18 years of age or less)
Century Club	\$100.00

for which I enclose my remittance in the amount of \$

Name _____

Address _____

Archive Update



As can be seen in this issue's September photo, progress on our new storage building continues. The work in October concentrated on the interior with the rolling shelving also to be installed. Underground electrical and natural gas lines should be in by the time of this reading. Work on the landscaping and driveway will have commenced also. The building is, in October, already an attractive structure. If all goes well, it will not be too long before we can pull our stored materials out of their several temporary sites and begin to relieve the archives storage pressure in our Doric House.

Preliminary planning for the move is already started. Terry McNealy and Don Cornelius will develop the system for placement of our materials in the new archives. Some of these materials will have to be fumigated and that problem too, is being addressed. As for physically moving, if anyone could supply a box truck and strong back for a short time, even for a day, that might materially reduce the financial cost of the move.

Today's financial climate has not been exactly favorable to our efforts to pay for this building. Our membership has generously responded to date with contributions of nearly \$350,000. Over and above the construction cost were added substantial engineering fees, environmental fees, municipal costs and escrow accounts, hook-ups for water, sewage, electrical (\$2,340) a gas line (\$10,700), and much more. The total project will have cost a million dollars once completed.

The good news is that we have that amount now in our treasury. The bad news is that we need at least another \$500,000 to replenish our treasury to the point where interest and dividend income will continue to cover our annual operating costs. Today's low rate of interest makes this more challenging than ever. We badly need additional donations if

we are to continue our mission of preserving our county's past. Historical materials continue to flow in. Just this past month we received records of one of the county's premier agricultural granges. It was the bequests in the wills of multiple past donors that initially put us in the position to undertake this new building. We beg to suggest that those not in a position to donate more right now, could likewise consider us in their own estate planning. Your board of trustees and all the society members sincerely thank those who have already given their time and money towards the success of this vital project.

-John W. Kuhl, Treasurer

Archives Building Campaign Donors

Since the last newsletter was published, we have discovered some donations that had not been acknowledged in previous newsletters. We apologize for these omissions, and again we emphasize that we are grateful for every contribution. The following gifts were received in the past. Some are additions to prior donations.

Platinum Club, \$5,000 and up

Stephen Case
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fisher
John Kuhl

The following gifts have been received since the last newsletter was published, and are here gratefully acknowledged.

Contributions up to \$99

Shirley Barnes
Anna H. Holbrook in memory of Helen Carkhuff
Dave Mathews

Patrons, \$100-\$499

Richard and Pamelyn P. Bush in honor of Roxanne Carkhuff
John and Elizabeth Kinney
Susan G. Leigh
Richard F. Sollner
Marilyn Souders
Lois K. Stewart
Elizabeth C. Stratton in memory of Helen Carkhuff
Jay B. Wright in memory of Zenas Lake (1770-1842) and Mary Hartpence Lake (1770-1835) who were married in Hunterdon County ca. 1792, as well as Elisha Warford Lake (1799-1881) who was born in Hunterdon County

Benefactors, \$500-\$999

Jane Fuhrmann
David A. Ramsey

Trustee Club, \$1,000-\$4,999

Richard B. Fisher
Edward Large

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A YOUNG GIRL

Contributed by Mary Elizabeth Sheppard

At our annual Tunis Case Family Reunion, a cousin gave me a small leather diary that that his grandmother Mary Hannah Stout Errickson had written in 1904 when she lived in the area of Reaville. Mary was born in 1886, the daughter of John Stout 1858-1950 and Louisa Van Cleaf Case 1856-1931.

Every entry was prefaced with the weather of the day. Many times it decided the activities for the day.

Sunday, January 3

Snowed nearly all night. Clear today and very cold. Roads drifted some.

Tuesday, January 5

Clear and cold. Good sleighing. Men threshed. 15 degrees below zero at Flemington Junction.

Saturday, February 20

Clear and not so very cold. The sleighing isn't much good.

Thursday, March 24

Clear and warm. A fine spring day

Monday, May 23

Clear and very warm with south wind.

Friday, June 10

Cloudy and windy all day. Men mowed the road. We got all ready to go to Aunt Mary XE "Aunt Mary" s this afternoon but it looked so rainy we did not go.

Thursday, July 7

Very warm and sultry this forenoon. Men shook up their hay and were going to haul this afternoon but had a big shower after dinner and has rained off and on ever since.

Wednesday, August 10

Hot, sultry and showery. Had a shower this morning and another this afternoon and a very hard one tonight. Hard lightning. We can see two or three fires.

Tuesday, September 20

Cloudy and rainy looking all day Rained quite some tonight. Men cut corn until it rained and then they quit

Thursday, October 27

Clear, cold and windy. Mother, Father and Billie husked this forenoon. Billie and I picked four jags of corn and Father and mother hauled pumpkins this afternoon. (A jag was an open wagon pulled by two horses.)

Sunday, November 13

Rained last night and this morning and turned into snow this afternoon. Wind blows very hard and is cold and snows and hails and rains. Very bad weather.

Thursday, November 17

Clear and cold. Father hauled manure and they hauled in a wheat stack this afternoon. The leaves got on fire in the woods and I put it out. We went to F.

(Flemington) tonight to the Rep. Parade. Father came home feeling sick.

Sunday, December 25

Very cold. Has snowed and blowed hard nearly all day. Good sleighing but very little traveling. Mother went down to Whits (Whitfield Case) this morning. Very slippery as the rain yesterday froze into ice.

Some activities went on despite the weather. Every Monday they washed and ironed.

Monday April 18

Cloudy this morning but cleared off before noon. Men plowed. We washed and ironed. Mother cleaned the cookhouse. I went to the creamery.

Garden activities depended on the weather. Food was produced on the farm.

Friday, April 22

Clear and warm and pleasant. The men plowed. Mother planted her onions this afternoon.

Monday, April 25

Clear and quite warm. Looked showery at times but has not rained. Men harrowed and rolled. We washed. Mother planted peas and beets.

Wednesday, May 11

Clear and cool. Men plowed sod. Mother planted celery seeds.

Friday, July 29

Clear and a fine day. We had another shower last night in the night. Father set up oats which blew down and cut some. Old Peter and Anne XE "Old Peter and Anne" stopped here for the night. Had first tomatoes tonight for supper out of the garden.

Thursday, August 4

Cloudy and foggy most of the forenoon, but broke away this afternoon. Men set out some oats to dry and hauled it in. Mother set out her first celery this afternoon.

Tuesday, August 16

Cloudy and warm and sultry about all day. Harry Scudder helped us plow again today. Mother set out her last celery today.

Saturday, November 12

Clear and pleasant. Ground froze quite

hard last night. Father hauled manure and took a load of applies to Flemington. J.H. Thompson XE "J.H. Thompson" fixed the pump at the barn this forenoon. Mother took up her celery.

Some foods took several days of work.

Monday, December 12

Started to snow this morning and has snowed all day. Father cut up the hogs and we worked in the grease.

Tuesday, December 13

Clear and cold. We got the sausage meat done and some skinned. George Brokaw XE "George Brokaw" was here about noon.

Wednesday, December 14

Clear and very cold. Father took sausage to Reaville and got it chopped this morning. He took posts down to our place this afternoon. I went to Whits this morning to get pan to put lard in.

Rural mail delivery had not started.

Tuesday, March 22

Cloudy, foggy and rainy all day. Men greased and washed harness. Father went to Reaville for this mail this afternoon. Got 88 eggs.

Courtesy was shown to strangers.

Tuesday, November 8

Clear and a fine day. We finished hauling the stalks and corn today. Scudders men helped this forenoon. Father went to mill this PM. He went to elections with Harry Scudders XE "Harry Scudders" tonight. A tramp came here and we let him stay tonight.

Tuesday, November 29

Cloudy and cold this forenoon but got warmer this afternoon and rain some tonight. Father took two loads of hay. Mother and I went to Flemington this afternoon. A tramp came here tonight and is in the barn.

Doctors of the day made house calls.

Monday, January 11

Changeable with cold east wind. Men hauled in some oats out of the grain barn and cut wood. Doctor Conover was here this afternoon to attend a cow.

Thursday, December 29

Clear and cold and windy. We threshed

wheat. Dr. Conover XE "Dr. Conover" was here to attend a cow. Wm. C. Quick XE "Wm. C. Quick" was here this forenoon. Father & Mother have gone over to Anderson Force XE "Anderson Force" s to take supper.

Friday, August 12

Clear and cool this morning but clouded up at times. Father was taken sick last night and we sent for the Dr. at two oclock. He came again this afternoon. I went to the drug store at Fl.(Flemington) toward night. Ben plowed.

Neighbors worked together to get various tasks completed.

Tuesday, January 19

Clear and very cold. Killed 4 hogs today. Reed, Scudder and Strycker helped.

Monday, February 15

Clear, cold and windy. Snowed a little last night. The men threshed oats. We washed. Charles Counce brought his meat over to be smoked and his wife was here begging for the church supper.

Monday, November 7

Clear and windy. We finished husking corn today. Mr. Stryker, Mr. Scudder, Eugene and their man helped all day and Howard Waldron helped this afternoon. Howard Counce XE "Howard Counce" was here after his clothes today.

Tuesday, December 20

Clear this forenoon. Had a snow squall this afternoon and cleared off. Foggy or hazy tonight. Father helped Stryckers kill hogs this morning and put pickle on his meat. We threshed oats this afternoon.

Property owners were responsible for taking care of the public road. Travel was not as easy as today.

Thursday, February 25

Clear, cold and windy. Father went to Herder's sale XE "Herder's sale" this afternoon. Howard barked rails. Howard XE "Howard" started to go to the dance at Neshanic tonight but came back. Roads very rough.

Monday, April 4

Clear and pleasant. Father sowed grass

Recent Acquisitions

Artifacts, manuscripts, books, pamphlets and other material representative of the history of Hunterdon County and the families who lived here are welcome additions to the Historical Society's collections. To the donors of recent acquisitions the Society expresses its sincere appreciation.

DeMott family World War II ration books and other memorabilia, 10 items. Gift of Monica Szmul from estate of Anna Zyck.

Clinton Town Building and Loan Association, Shareholders' Ledgers and other records, 1924-1973, 12 large volumes.

Greenagel, Frank L., *Less Stately Mansions: The 18th and 19th Century Churches of Hunterdon County*. Gift of Frank L. Greenagel.

Deats family pedigree chart. Gift of Edmund Deats Abegg.

Krull, Michael G., *The History of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen, New Jersey; St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church, Hampton, NJ, 50th Anniversary booklet (1909), Centennial booklet (1959), 125th Anniversary booklet (1984)* Gift of St. Ann's Church.

O'Donnell, William J., "Pristine Stockton, Quiet Town With a Famous 'Small Hotel,'" *Trenton Evening Times*, June 22, 1964 (clipping) Gift of Carol Brooks Thomas.

Photograph of Inez Robins, n.d., by Frank Z. Fritz, Lambertville, NJ. Gift of Shelley Cardiel.

Hanley, Robert, Series of articles on the suburbanization of Raritan Township, from *New York Times*, Oct. 3, 1987, to Mar. 15, 1988; and article by Rachele Garbarine, Oct. 18, 1996 (computer printouts) Gift of John Kuhl.

Family charts of families that moved from New Jersey to Fairview, IL, in 1830's and 1840's. Gift of Mary Jo Willis.

Collection of records and artifacts of the Kingwood Grange. Gift of Joan C. Verity.

Thompson, Robert Buckley, *Descendants of John and Judick Bodine Thomson*. Gift of Juli A. Wilson.

Walker, Jim, *Hunterdon County New Jersey Postal History (2008)* Purchase.

Williams, Robert A., Jr., *The Forrester Family of Hunterdon and Warren Counties, New Jersey: The First Five Generations, in the 1700s and 1800s (including the allied families of Pyles, Sowers, Sutton, Vanatta and Walters (2008)* Gift of Robert A. Williams, Jr.

DIARY OF MARY HANNAH STOUT – 1904, AGE 18, Reaville, New Jersey (*cont'd from previous page*)

seen this morning and went to Flemington for a load of boards this afternoon. Washed and ironed. They scraped the road this afternoon.

Tuesday, April 12

Rained last night. Clear, cool and windy today. The men worked on the road.

Friday, June 10

Cloudy and windy all day. Men mowed the road. We got all ready to go to Aunt Mary XE "Aunt Mary" s this afternoon but it looked so rainy we did not go.

Church activities were an important part of life.

Sunday, January 10

Clear and cold, a fine day. Mother and I went to church this morning. Aunt Hann came home with us. Father went up to Grandpa's. Aunt H., Mother & I walked to church tonight.

Sunday, January 17

I went to S.S. (Sunday school) this afternoon in a sleigh. Good sleighing.

Sunday April 24

Clear and warm. Father and mother went to Larisons Corner to church and to John Case XE "John Case" s to visit.

George Allen XE "George Allen" was up here this afternoon. Howard has gone away tonight.

Sunday, June 5

A hard shower this morning. Cleared off very warm. Showered again tonight. Went to Baptist anniversary

Sunday, June 12

Clear and cool. Howard went away after dinner. Father and mother returned tonight. I went to Children's day at Three Bridges tonight.

Sunday, June 19

Clear and warm. A beautiful day. We went to church at Reaville this morning. I went to Childrens day at Wertsville this afternoon and Centreville tonight. Uncle John P XE "Uncle John P" . was over this afternoon

Sunday, October 16

Clear and a fine day. We all went to the anniversary at Reaville this afternoon. A big crowd there.

Sunday, November 20

Cloudy this morning and it was not very clear and somewhat hazy all day. Mother and I went up to Uncle Sam XE

"Uncle Sam" s to spend the day and attended Summit Mission. Howard and May came over tonight and Lina Voorhees XE "Lina Voorhees" and Sadie Shafer XE "Sadie Shafer" too.

A copy of the diary has been placed in the library and available to anyone who would like to read the writings of a young woman and what was important enough for her to note.

Special events were noted and several vital statistics are also listed.

Saturday, January 16

Cloudy all day. Snowed quite some this afternoon. Cleared off tonight. I went to Whits this afternoon. About thirty of my friends gave me a birthday surprise tonight. Had a fine time. Aunt Hann got it up.

Friday, January 22

Eugene Latourette's baby died today aged 15 months. Its name was Ida May.

Tuesday, January 26

Ida May Latourette was buried today.

Thursday, April 7

Rained a little last night. Clear and warm today. Father and Mother went to

Harry Cronces funeral this forenoon. Howard hauled manure. Father went to mill this P.M. Pop took Bill to the hospital tonight. I went with them to T.Brgs. (Three Bridges) and drove the horse back.

Wednesday, April 20

Froze ground hard last night. Very cold and windy today. Men made fence. Father and I and Howard went to the Hat Sociable at Reaville tonight.

Friday, May 13

Clear and warm. Men rolled and harrowed. Father and Mother went to Joseph Sergeants' funeral this afternoon.

Wednesday, May 25

Clear and hot. Men made fence. Sprinkled some tonight. We all went to the strawberry festival at Reaville tonight.

Thursday, June 16

Clear and warm. Men worked in corn. Mother and I went to Uncle Jim XE "Uncle Jim's" to see the new baby today.

Monday, July 4,

Clear and warm with south wind. Men

Give History for Christmas

The following publications are available not just for Christmas gifts, but throughout the year as well. For mail requests, add \$4 for the first book and \$1 for each additional book, unless otherwise specified. For out-of-country checks, please add \$5.

Beers, Comstock and Cline, 1873 *Atlas of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*. 77 pages, 13 ? x 16 inches. Hard cover. Contains maps of 14 townships and 32 towns. Reprinted 1987 by HCHS. \$40.00.

D'Autrechy, Phyllis B., *Hunterdon County New Jersey Fisheries 1819-1820*. (1993) 44 pages, soft cover with maps, illustrations and full index. Give historical background on shad fishing and the names and locations of fisheries in the county. \$7.50.

More Records of Old Hunterdon County, Volume I, compiled by Phyllis B. D'Autrechy (HCHS, 1998) 276 pages, maps, illus., full index, hard cover. Includes Division of lands 1795-1876; Orphans Court Minutes, 1785-1797; Naturalizations, 1803-1876, and much more. \$25.00

More Records of Old Hunterdon County, Volume II, compiled by Phyllis B. D'Autrechy (HCHS, 2000) 258 pages, maps, illus., full index, hard cover. Includes wills and inventories, 1818-1825; bastardy cases, 1761-1890, and much more. \$25.00.

Deats, Hiram E., *Hunterdon County New Jersey Militia, 1792* (1936; reprinted HCHS, 1994) 37 pages, soft cover. Alphabetical listings by township of "free and able-bodied white male citizens" between 18 and 45. \$12.00

Deats, Hiram E., *Marriage Records of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, 1795-1875* (1918; reprinted with additions and corrections, 1986) 348 pages, hard cover. \$25.00

Deats, Hiram E., ed., *The Jerseyman: A Quarterly Magazine of Local History*, Volumes 2 through 11 (1893-1905), 376+ pages, unbound, with added table of contents compiled 1985 by Roxanne K. Carkhuff. (Some early issues may be supplied through photocopies) \$100.00

Hunterdon's Role in the Revolution (Published by the Hunterdon County Democrat, 1976) approx. 11 x 17 inches, 88 pages, illus., maps, soft cover. \$3.00

Moore, James W., *Records of the Kingwood Monthly Meeting of Friends, Hunterdon County, New Jersey* (1900) 42 pages, soft cover. \$12.50 for non-members, \$10.00 for members.

Myers, Kenneth V., *The Flemington Fair Story* (1978) 95 pages, illus., soft cover. \$5.00

Myers, Kenneth V., *Old Stones at Oak Summit* (Kingwood

Presbyterian Church at Oak Summit, 1985) 20 pages, index, soft cover. \$3.00

Paterson, William, *Address on the Dissolution of Nations* (HCHS, 1997) 25 pages, soft cover. Essay on political science written about 1770 by a future Governor of New Jersey and U.S. Supreme Court Justice. \$1.00

Bush, Egbert T., *In the Grip of the Expert* (1904) 277 pages, hard cover. Novel by a noted Hunterdon County newspaper writer. \$7.00 for non-members, \$5.00 for members.

Bush, Egbert T., *When Leaves Grow Old and Other Poems* (1916) 32 pages, hard cover. \$6.00 for non-members, \$4.00 for members.

Roberson, Elmer, *The Centre Bridge* (1928) 10 pages, soft cover. History of the Centre Bridge Company and the covered bridge over the Delaware River that burned in 1923. \$3.00

Sheehan, Betty Choyce, *The Choyce Compendium* (2006), hard bound, 907 pages with indices, photographs and family charts. The Choyces were part of an English migration to Flemington in 1785, along with the Capners, Peter Haward, Isaac Passand, and others. \$85.00 plus \$10.00 shipping.

Snell, James P., *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey* (1881, reprinted by HCHS 2008) 2 volumes (864 pages), illus., maps, hard cover. The standard classic county history. \$89.50 for non-members, \$85.00 for members. Please add \$10.00 for shipping and handling.

Stout, J. Edward, *Facts and Fantasies of Franklin Township* (1995) 448 pages, illus., maps, soft cover. \$20.00

Zdepski, Stephen, *Baptists in Kingwood, New Jersey: A History of the Kingwood Baptist Church at Baptistown and Locktown and the Present Baptistown Baptist Church* (1974) 37 p., illus., soft cover. \$5.00

The weekly newspaper *Hunterdon Gazette*, on 4 CDs, #1, 1825-1834; #2, 1835-1844; #3, 1845-1854; #4, 1855-1866. The CDs include digital photographic images of the Gazette newspaper pages, and typed and formatted text of the newspaper items containing people's names and events of Hunterdon County, with an overall name and key word index. Price per CD includes shipping and handling: \$20 per CD for nonmembers, \$15 per CD for members. A bonus - #4 contains the text of the book *Hunterdon Place Names*.

The following are small pamphlets. Add just \$1.00 each for postage and handling.

Anderson, Hannah Coryell, *General Washington at Coryell's Ferry* (1928; reprinted 1969) 24 pages, illus. \$2.50 for non-members, \$2.00 for members.

cont'd next page

FROM THE CURATOR'S DESK

In past articles, I have chosen to shine a spotlight upon some overlooked collections in our Society's holdings that contain rich sources of information concerning individuals from our County's past. As satisfying as this information may be for the genealogists amongst our membership, it should be noted that our repository contains several collections that record the activities of prominent historical businesses and organizations as well.

One of the more famous business interests in the history of Hunterdon County is the Fulper Pottery Company. This company is represented in our collection by Manuscript Collection No. 25, which includes product photographs, sales order books, and exhibit catalogues. The records in the collection date from approximately 1914 to 1979. Manuscript Collection No. 60 represents the Flemington Auction market, another famous Hunterdon concern. This collection includes a written history, booklets, advertisements, newsletters, items for auction, and a 35mm filmstrip with storyboard. For more recent developments, Manuscript Collection No. 55 includes records and published material relating to the introduction of Cable Television into Hunterdon County. The records primarily relate to the activities of two competing cable companies in Raritan Township from 1978 to 1980.

The records of societal and fraternal organizations may be found within our holdings as well. Civil War buffs may be surprised to learn that the Society holds many records of the Lambert Boeman Post 48, Grand Army of the Republic in Manuscript Collection No. 10. There are many more records of this Post as well, awaiting processing as an addendum to this collection. Apropos of our recent Hunterdon County Fair, the Society also holds records of the Hunterdon County Agricultural Fair Society in Collection no. 13. Do any of our members know what the George Junior Republic Society was? If you are interested, you can find the answer in Collection No. 15, which includes information, reports, news clippings, magazines, and other miscellaneous records from this society in 1910.

These, of course, are only a sample of what may be found in our archival holdings. So, the next time a question arises as to the nature or history of a past business or organization from Hunterdon County, check out the Archives here at the Society – you may be surprised at what you can find!

In other news, the activities of the manuscript curator have taken an abrupt turn recently. Instead of organizing historical material for release to researchers, I am now heavily engaged in preparation for our upcoming move into our new Archival Facility. The first step of this process

is to conduct a thorough and comprehensive inventory of all of the archival materials in the Society's possession. This list will be used to create a database (index) that will be used as a master moving list, identifying donated and processed material by location. Why should you, as a member or researcher, care about this?

The point is that, while I have attempted to educate our membership and the public in general about the extent of our historical holdings, there is at least as much material waiting to be made available in our holdings as there is already processed. Chances are, even if a particular subject you are interested in may not be found in our Guide to Manuscript Collections, it may still pay to ask a research question during our open public hours and see if there is as yet unprocessed material concerning the subject. Even if the material is not processed, we will be glad to allow access to the raw material under the proper research conditions during open hours or by appointment.

Once this inventory is complete, we will then be ready to begin moving our very large collection of important historical documents into our new, state of the art storage facility. This facility will be a wonderful addition to the operations of the Society, allowing us the proper arrangements and conditions to serve the past needs of our researchers well into the future. With our move into the new facility slated for the winter months, next time, "From the Curator's Desk" may come from a different desk!

-Don Cornelius Curator of Manuscripts

Give History for Christmas

(cont'd from previous page)

Fleming, John, *History of the Readington School, Formerly Called Holland Brook School, 1804-1897* (1898) 15 pages, soft cover. (Hunterdon Historical Series, no. 4) \$2.50 for non-members, \$2.00 for members.

Sterling, Edward Boker, *Historical and Genealogical Sketch of James Sterling* (1893) 27 pages, illus., soft cover (Hunterdon Historical Series, no. 3) \$2.50 for non-members, \$2.00 for members.

Vosseller, E., *Tucca-Ramma-Hacking* (1901) 21 pages, soft cover. (Hunterdon Historical Series, no. 5) Tales and traditions from the area where the branches of the Raritan River meet. \$2.50 for non-members, \$2.00 for members.

DIARY OF MARY HANNAH STOUT – 1904, AGE 18, Reaville, New Jersey (cont'd from page 1043)

worked in hay. We went to Three Bridges to the forth of July celebration tonight.

Monday, August 8

Cloudy this morning, but it broke away and did not rain. Al Force and Whits men helped haul oats and we finished. Aunt Hann, Rhoda and John came over tonight and brought Mothers birthday present.

Wednesday, August 24

Clear and warm. Men hauled manure. Father, Mother and I went to the farmers picnic this afternoon on the fairgrounds.

Sunday, August 28

Clear and cool. Newt Case was over a little while this afternoon. Father went over to Harry Scudders. Ben went on an excursion to Bellewood Park.

Tuesday, August 30

Clear and cool this forenoon but got very warm this afternoon. Men hauled some dirt this morning. Dug potatoes the rest of the day. Father went to mill this morning.

Martin V.B. Dilts died today.

Thursday, September 1

Cloudy and rainy looking this morning but cleared off. Men hauled dirt. Father and Mother went to M.V.B.Dilts funeral . We all went to the harvest home at Reaville today. Quite a crowd there.

Wednesday, September 14

Cloudy and rainy looking and sprinkled at times this forenoon and this afternoon. It rained had and tonight we had a dreadful storm. Wind blew hard and flattened the corn. We went to Uncle Howards wedding.

Thursday, September 15

Clear and cool. A fine day. Wind blew today. We came back from the wedding today. Ben went after phosphate this afternoon and Aunt Hann went home with him. Father

cleaned wheat this PM.

Friday, September 16

Clear and cool. A fine day. Ben went to mill and got a load of phosphate. The men cut corn this afternoon. Father went to Mr. Peter Conovers funeral .

Thursday, September 29

Cloudy and rainy looking all day and

rains tonight. Father went to Trenton Fair with Harry Scudder. They started half past three this morning. Ralph and Billie finished cutting corn. Mother made hot catsup.

Thursday, October 6

Very rainy looking and rained some this morning. Mother and I went to Flemington to the firemans parade this morning and father came up this afternoon. It cleared off cool and windy before noon.

Saturday, October 8

Clear and cloudy by turns and rains some tonight. Father husked corn and Billie and I hauled in one load. They brought a man down from Flemington this forenoon and buried him in the graveyard here.

Thursday, November 3

Cloudy this morning but cleared away. Father and Mother went to Aunt Ella 's funeral this morning and did not get back until eight o'clock tonight.

Thursday, November 10

Cloudy all day and rains some tonight. Father came home tonight with four

rabbits. Mrs. Rex died today. Madeline Lowe died today.

Sunday, December 11

Clear and very cold. Not so very much snow on the ground. I went down to Berts this afternoon. Howard Waldron was over this morning. He has a young son, born this morning.

MEMORANDA in the back of the journal.

Ruth Cleveland died of diphtheria, Jan. 7, 1904

Hiram Hart died Dec. 28, 1903 aged 79 years and 11 months

December 30, 1903 fire in Iroquis Theatre, Chicago in which 587 people were killed.

Ida May Latourette died of membranous croup Jan.22,1904 aged 1 year and three months.

Annie H. Bellis XE "Annie H. Bellis" was married to Russel W. Case Jan.20, 1904

David Nevius died April 21, 1904 aged 59 years. "