



# Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

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## The Forans - a Family and their Foundry



FORAN FAMILY REUNION 1945. William, Mrs. Arthur F., Sr., Arthur F., Jr.; Back Row: Walter E., Arthur F. Sr., John Nicholas (Dick), and James F. Foran.  
*Hunterdon County Democrat*

The Fall Meeting of the Hunterdon County Historical Society has been scheduled 2 p.m. Sunday, November 22, 1987 at the Flemington Women's Club on Park Avenue. Our guest speaker will be James Foran who shares his recollections of the Foran family and foundry.

The family business was founded by his grandfather, John Foran who was the first of three generations to operate Foran Foundry and Manufacturing Company in Flemington before it ceased operating in 1958. He came to Flemington in 1893 and purchased the Johnson foundry, enlarging and improving it, employing a number of local men. In time his son, Arthur F. Foran joined the business and later Arthur's son, James, became superintendent.

A Princeton graduate, Class of 1937, James Foran spent several years following graduation in Hollywood under contract to Universal Studios and Warner Brothers. During World War II he served in the Navy with the rank of Lieutenant receiving the Silver Star and a Presidential Citation. He later served as Company Commander with the National Guard 113th Tank Battalion.

Mr. Foran married Mary M. Bullen in 1939 and has two children, two grandchildren and a great grandson.

Patricia Doebler and he were married in 1953 and reside in West Amwell Township.

He is active with Boy Scouts of America and received the Silver Beaver in 1963 and the Silver Antelope in 1980. Mr. Foran served as Assistant Scout Master at International Scout jamborees in Japan in 1971 and Norway in 1975 and was active in seven national jamborees. He is also a past District Chairman of George Washington Council.

Mr. Foran's hobbies are singing, lecturing on reptiles, collecting antique fishing tackle and hunting and fishing. A member of Flemington Rotary for twenty years, he was honored in 1984 as Man of the Year. He founded the Hunterdon Chapter, Ducks Unlimited, founder of the Ernest Schweivert Chapter Trout Unlimited, a life member of the National Rifle Association and a member of the New Jersey State Committee on non-game and endangered species.

Plan to attend the Society's Fall Meeting at the Women's Club on November 22 with guest speaker Jim Foran. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting. Meetings are open to everyone and the public is invited to attend.



**HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER**

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## Acquisitions

*Some Descendants of James Dalrymple*, 1987 (revision). Gift from the author, Thomas F. Hull, West Lafayette, IN.

Map "Plan of the Boroughs of New-Hope, Penna. & Lambertville, N.J." by Rogerson & Murphy, 1850. Gift from Francis Curley, New Hope, PA.

Glass pen tray with view of Main Street in Flemington. Donated by Barbara Gill, Flemington, NJ.

Wooden handled knives and forks (2 each). Donated by Luella Allegar, Clearwater, FL.

Hauptmann trial memorabilia of juror Verna Snyder. Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Perzell, Lambertville, NJ.

James Anderson's cyphering book, 1811, Trenton Academy. Donated by Jerome Potash, Flemington, NJ.

*Farm Costs, Financing & Income*, 1940. Donated by author Charles V. Fouts, Flemington, NJ.

"Marriages and Deaths and Other Vital Statistics as Recorded In *The Home Visitor*, Flemington, New Jersey, 1896" compiled 1987 by Fred Sisser. Donated by the compiler, Bridgewater, NJ.

*Saints and Sinners at Jersey (NC) Settlement: The History of the Jersey Baptist Church*, by Garland A. Hendricks, 1964. Purchased by HCHS.

*Hunterdon Living*, volume VII, 1987 published by the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce. Purchased by HCHS.

*Catholic Diocese of Trenton, 1881-1981, Alive In Good Faith*, Jeanne M. McElwee, Trenton, NJ, 1981. Donated by Fred Sisser, III, Bridgewater, NJ.

*The Barrass Family*, Althea Courtot, 1984. *Additions to the Heath Family of Hunterdon County, New Jersey* compiled by Althea Courtot, 1977. Donated by the Mrs. Courtot, Roselle, NJ.

*Guide To Manuscripts in Eleutherian Mills Historical Society*, John Beverly Riggs, 1978, pp. 167, 168, 169, Manuscript Group #1292, Taylor-Wharton Iron & Steel Co., High Bridge, NJ and Easton, PA, 1742-1950. Donated by Raymond Jachowski, Califon, NJ.

*Hunterdon County Landfill Evaluation & Siting Study*, Rogers, Golden & Halpern, Addendum, 1986. Donated by Roxanne K. Carkhuff, Ringoes, NJ.

Blotters with scenes of Hunterdon County circa 1900, 100+ photographs of assorted sizes, framed portraits of John A. Bullock, Jonathan Higgins, John C. Hopewell, Charles Bartles, five scrap books containing clippings of Hunterdon County National Bank's advertising campaigns beginning May 10, 1939. Donated by First Fidelity Bank, Flemington, NJ.

Twenty-six pieces of Fulper pottery manufactured 1910-1920 in Flemington. Donated by Mrs. George Conover, Cranford, NJ.

Blue and white woven coverlet dated 1837, signed by C(hristian) Van Norwick, Asbury, fancy weaver for Catharine Holcomb<sup>e</sup>. Donated by Mrs. John H. Aherns, descendant of Catharine Holcombe, Jamesburg, NJ.

Photographs, newspaper clippings, manuscript *Reminiscences of Cora Rapp Severs (1846-1936)* as told to her granddaughter, Elsie F. Weller, 1931. Donated by Clinton Historical Museum Village, Clinton, NJ.

*Stauffer, Stover & Allem Family History* by Clinton L. Peterman, 1979. Donated by the author, Nokomis, FL.

Three computer printouts, Name Index & Cross References, Register of Prall Principals, Prall Family Listed by Fathers. Donated by the Prall Family Association, Washington, DC.

Tablecloth, napkins and other textiles including shawls, towels, aprons, woven by Mahlon Smith (1827-1907), grandfather of Hannah M. Smith (1846-1932). Donated by Mrs. Winona Nash, granddaughter of Hannah M. Smith, Trenton, NJ.

Deed dated 1813 transferring 100+ acres in Mansfield Township, Sussex County from William McCullough and his wife Elizabeth of Mansfield, to Philip Dusenbury of Mansfield and Richard Rounsavell of Lebanon Township, Hunterdon County.

Photographic portraits of Richard Rounsavell, VI (1782-1862) and his wife Mary Hassard Rounsavell (1788-1867). Donated by Rev. Charles R. Stires, Amagansett, NY.



# We the People

*"NEW JERSEY, the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution, takes pride in the principles and values enshrined in it and is grateful to the visionary delegates who voted to secure the blessings of liberty."*

Thomas H. Kean  
Governor 1987

Without major opposition Benjamin Franklin maneuvered the 41 delegates present for the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia to sign the Constitution in witness of "the unanimous consent of the states present."

AND SO IT WAS DONE 17 September 1787.

This document born out of months of debate and compromise provided the political framework for uniting the 13 states under one federal system and establishing human freedom within a framework of order. Ratification by nine states was necessary to establish the constitution.

## HUNTERDON – SITE OF NEW JERSEY CONVENTION

Without delay New Jersey's Ratification Convention was set by the New Jersey Legislature meeting in Trenton in late October 200 years ago when it resolved: "...Inhabitants of this State as are entitled to vote for representatives in the General Assembly, to meet in their respective Counties on the fourth Tuesday in November next... to choose three (3) suitable persons to serve as delegates from each County in a State Convention..." Further the Legislature designated "...the second Tuesday in December next, at Trenton, in the County of Hunterdon" as the time and place for the elected delegates to consider ratification of the Constitution.

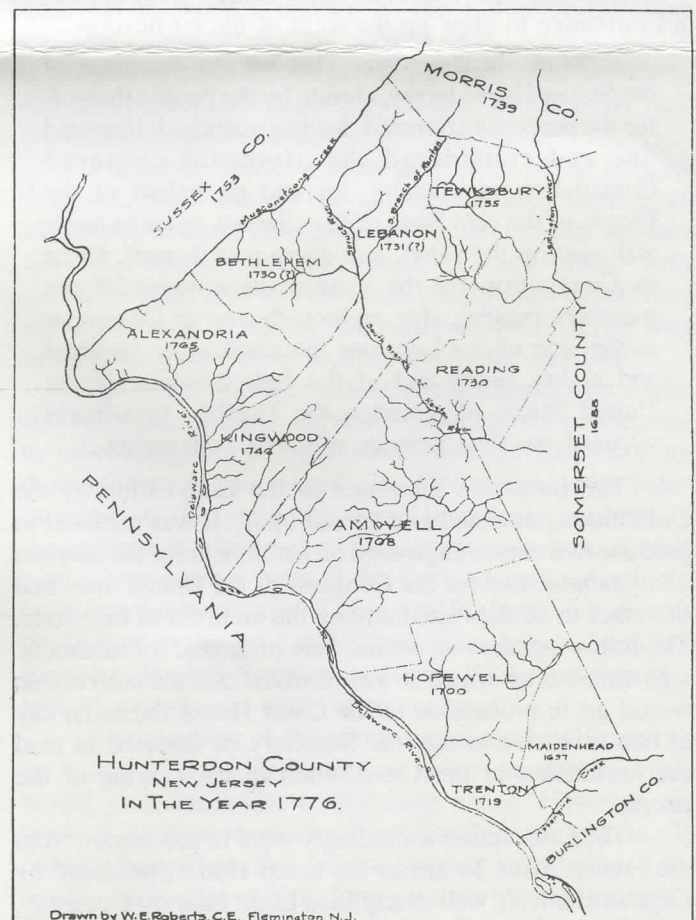
As it existed from 1714 when Hunterdon County was created, the southern boundary was the Assanpink Creek at Trenton. The city had been the County seat of Hunterdon during the Revolutionary War and was removed to Ringoes in 1780. The Court House was on the easterly side of King (now Warren) Street just south of Second (now State) Street. The Court House at Trenton was retained by the County even after a Court House was erected in Flemington in 1791 and was not sold by the County until 1805.

Each county proceeded to elect its three representatives. The people of Hunterdon elected David Brearley who had represented New Jersey when the Constitution was drafted, John Stevens, and Joshua Corshon, as their delegates. Men elected from the thirteen counties comprising New Jersey – Bergen, Essex, Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset, Burlington, Gloucester, Salem, Cape-May, Hunterdon, Morris, Cumberland and Sussex Counties assembled in Trenton on 11 December at Blazing Star Tavern.

Francis Witt had leased the French Arms Tavern from the State Commissioners in 1785 and immediately replaced the tavern sign with his own, calling it Blazing Star Tavern. The lease was made with the stipulation that the New Jersey Legislature would occupy the Long Room and another room for its purposes during Mr. Witt's tenancy. His tavern at the corner of King and Second Streets had a barroom entered from King Street by a door under the high stone steps at the front of the building and inside stairways leading to it. The premises was formerly used by the Continental Congress and the Legislature which had been meeting at the Tavern during 1787 before the Ratification Convention convened.

On Wednesday, 12 December, the delegates elected the Honorable John Stevens President. Samuel Witham Stockton was appointed Secretary and William Rogers doorkeeper. Messers Brearley (Hunterdon), Hardenburgh (Somerset) and Neilson (Middlesex) were appointed a Committee to frame rules for governing the convention and to receive and examine certificates of election of the delegates.

After reading the Act of Legislature authorizing the people, by their delegates, to meet to deliberate upon, and if approved, ratify the Constitution, it was resolved the



The boundaries, including Trenton, remained the same as shown here until Mercer County was formed in 1838.



Constitution be read by sections and every delegate given an opportunity to make his observations on same if he wished. A vote would then be taken to determine if further debate on the section was desired. If the determination was in the negative, then the convention would proceed in a like manner with each section until the entire document was gone through; upon which the general question was taken whether the convention in the name and in behalf of the People of New Jersey would ratify and confirm the said constitution.

The meeting time of the Convention was established as ten o'clock each morning and adjournment was set for three o'clock in the afternoon. Rev. Mr. Armstrong was requested to open the business of the Convention daily with prayers. The doors of the convention were open during their sitting and the convention proceeded to consider and deliberate on the Federal Constitution.

The delegates began actual deliberations on Friday, December 14 and continued through Saturday and Monday. On Tuesday, December 18, after debating the Constitution section by section, the document was re-read in its entirety. As would be expected, several speeches were made on the subject before a vote was taken "Whether this Constitution, in the name and behalf of the People of this State, do ratify and confirm the said Constitution." The resolution was passed *unanimously* in the affirmative. Messers Brearley, Witherspoon, Neilson, Beatty and Hunter were appointed a Committee to draw up the form of the ratification.

"Now Be It Known, That we the delegates of the State of New-Jersey, chosen by the people thereof, for the purposes aforesaid, having maturly deliberated on, and considered the aforesaid proposed Constitution, do hereby, for and on behalf of the People of the said State of New Jersey, agree to ratify and confirm the same, and every part thereof. Done in Convention by the unanimous consent of the members present, this eighteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names..."

The form was presented to the Convention by the Committee, amended and agreed upon. It was resolved to produce two copies engrossed on parchment for the purpose of signatures; one for the Congress of the United Sttes and the other to be deposited among the archives of this State. The following day two copies were presented for members' signatures, after which it was resolved that the convention would go in procession to the Court House the same day at one o'clock and that the Secretary be directed to read the ratification of the Constitution in the hearing of the people.

The Convention accordingly went in procession from the French Arms Tavern to the Court-House, preceded by Captain Hanlon's well-disciplined Light Infantry Company, completely uniformed and accoutered, joined by the Judges of the Supreme and Inferior Courts and other magistrates, the Attorney General and the gentlemen of the town and



The French Arms Inn illustrated in *Celebrating the 150th Anniversary... Constitution*.

vicinity. The proclamation ratifying the new constitution was read by the Secretary amidst acclamations by the people. Fifteen rounds were fired by Captain Hanlon's company, thirteen of these were for the United States of America and a volunteer for each of the states of Delaware and Pennsylvania, they being the only states which, with New Jersey, had ratified the new Federal Constitution.

The procession returned to the Blazing Star and the delegates went into session again, passing a resolution directing the President of the Convention to deliver one copy of the ratification document to the President of the Congress and a duplicate was to be delivered by the Secretary to the Governor of New Jersey. It was further resolved unanimously that the State of New Jersey offer to Congress a district not exceeding ten miles square for the seat of the government of the United States. Several minor reports were read and other business was concluded with passing bills of expenses and resolutions thanking the President, John Stevens and Rev. Armstrong for their attendance and services. The Convention was adjourned Thursday December 20, 1787.

That evening Convention delegates and their invited guests dined together in an atmosphere of joy and satisfaction offering many toasts.

\* \* \*

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Roxanne K. Carkhuff



## ◆ JOSHUA CORSHON, ESQUIRE ◆

Joshua Corshon was one of three men elected from Hunterdon County in November 1787 to serve at a Convention to consider ratification of the new Constitution. He had served his Township, County, and New Jersey in the past. From 1772 through 1789 he held various municipal and County offices, served as Captain in the 3rd Hunterdon County Militia until illness necessitated his resignation in 1776. He was appointed by the Governor to receive Loan Office subscriptions authorized by Congress when it borrowed twenty million dollars to finance the War in 1779 and Mr. Corshon also was a State Assemblyman during the years 1786-1789.

He first appears of record in 1764 when he obtained a license to marry and Tunis Quick, Jr. was surety. Joshua Corshon and Margaret Willson were wed on 19 December 1764 and became the parents of one known daughter, Catherine, who survived to adulthood. She was born circa 1766 and she and John Stevenson were married at the Anglican Church in Ringoes 11 June 1782 by Reverend Frazer. They became parents of only one child, Margaret, who grew to adulthood. Catherine (Corshon) Stevenson died 25 November 1837 at age 71 years 11 months and 22 days. She was buried in a private burying ground now known as the Servis and Quick cemetery, a short distance northwest of Ringoes on the "old Trenton Road." Her husband, John, predeceased her on 12 March 1811 at age 51 years, one month and they are buried side by side.

John and Catherine (Corshon) Stevenson's daughter, Margaret and Samuel Wyckoff were married and had children; Margaret (Stevenson) Wyckoff was born in 1779, died 23 August 1849 age 64 years, 1 month and 5 days. Samuel Wyckoff died 17 October 1827 age 48 years 10 months 21 days. The couple are buried in the Servis and Quick cemetery as are Elizabeth Ann and John Stevenson Wyckoff and Margaret's parents.

Although a Cashion family, residing in neighboring Somerset County bestowed the name Joshua on sons, Joshua Corshon of Amwell Township, Hunterdon County does not appear to be related to them. Rather, it may be he was an only child of Adolphus Corshon and his wife, Sarah. While this is speculation regarding the father of Joshua Corshon, the possibility is noted for anyone inclined to further investigation.

Adolphus Corshon was residing in Amwell Township in October 1747 when his name appears in connection with a public road being laid out. Beginning at Anne Kitchen's and Job Robins's saw mill the two-rod road followed several courses to a boundary line running between Robins and Adolphus Corshon and which road soon joined a four-rod (66 feet wide) from Bethlehem to "Trentown."

Letters of Administration were granted in May 1753 on the estate of Adolphus "Crishan" of Amwell Township in Hunterdon County. His widow, Sarah, and Cornelius Quick of Kingwood Township were Administrators and Andrew Johnson, Amwell Township farmer was bondsman. Although the surname in the estate docket appears as "Crishan" in Court records generated during settlement of Adolphus's affairs it appears as "Corshon." This occurred

during the February 1755 Term in Court of Common Pleas when Sarah Corshon and Cornelius Quick, defendants, appeared to answer Samuel Atkinson's suit for a debt of £400 due on a bond signed by Adolphus Corshon on 3 March 1750.

Appraisers Joseph King, Mansfield Hunt and Andrew Johnson valued Adolphus's real property of 189 acres at £230 and more than £500 in debts and bonds was due his estate. His estate was sizable for the times and he may have been a merchant, as was Joshua, possibly on the same site. Joshua held property in the same area of Amwell as Adolphus, and was in the merchantile business, at times in partnership with Maurice Wurts. When Joshua's name appears in the public records it often was in a capacity as a public official.

His years of public service probably began in 1773 when "Joshua Corshin ovr(overseer) of Swamp Road from Ringgo to Robbins hill" was recorded and he was surety for Constable Alexander Thompson. The following year he was elected Township Clerk, a position he held through 1779.

Throughout the 1770's, in addition to serving as Amwell Township Clerk, Corshon's name and distinctive signature appear on estate dockets usually as bondsman or appraiser. He was granted Letters of Administration on the estate of Philip Peters in 1774 for which Tunis Quick, Jr. was bondsman.

His repeated associations with Quick family prompted study for some familial relationship between the Quicks and Corshon. Tunis Quick, Jr. was bondsman when Joshua Corshon obtained a marriage license. Although no deed is extant, Joshua Corshon acquired the former Dawlis mill property which Tunis Quick had purchased before his death. Cornelius Quick had served as co-administrator of Adolphus's Corshon's estate with his widow, Sarah. Tunis Quick and Joshua were bondsman and administrator for the estate of Philip Peters whose wife was a sister to Tunis.

The eldest son of Tunis Quick, Senior (1698-1773) and his wife, Catherine (1786/7) was Cornelius, possibly the one who died intestate in 1795. Comparison of his signature with that of Cornelius Quick when he signed documents in the estate of Adolphus Corshon would not then be possible. Tunis Quick, Jr. (1731-1811), the second son, was most often associated with Joshua Corshon. Catherine Peters, Mary Higgins and Sarah Johnson were the three daughters of the elder Tunis Quick. Notations on the final accounting of his estate record legacies paid to Catherine Peters, Joshua Higgins and Andries Johnson following the death of Tunis's widow, Catherine, circa 3 January 1787. The writer believes Sarah (Quick) Johnson was probably the wife of Adolphus Corshon who, after his death in 1753, married Andries Johnson for her second husband.

In the years 1772-73 the County office of Coroner was held by Joshua Corshon. He soon became Clerk for Amwell at the Township's annual Town Meeting in March 1774, an office he held until 1779. He came into that office with some past experience, having served temporarily for a few months in 1770, before a successor to Clerk George



Reading was elected. Corshon served three terms as Sheriff of Hunterdon County – in 1780, 1786 and 1788. He was a Justice of the Peace, Clerk of the Board of Freeholders (1783-84) and served three consecutive terms as County Tax Collector (1783-85). He was elected to the State Assembly, his term running from 1786 through 1789 and, of course, was one of three delegates elected to the Ratification Convention in 1787.

Throughout the years, in addition to the numerous public offices Joshua Corshon held, he operated a store in partnership with Maurice Wurts, at Ringoes. The two men owned adjoining property on both sides of the road from the village toward Bethlehem Township, then commonly referred to as "Swamp Road." The business was most likely located on Corshon's land opposite the well-known landmark today, the station for the Black River and Western Railroad.

Joshua Corshon was one of the founding Masons in the first Grand Lodge in New Jersey, formed in December 1786. The first officers elected were Grand Master David Brearley, then Chief Justice of New Jersey, and Grand Treasurer Joshua Corshon, serving his second term as High Sheriff of Hunterdon County.

During the time he was County Tax Collector financial difficulties occurred which continued for Corshon until his death in 1798. During his term, as required by law, he paid all monies he received from the Township Collectors to James Mott, New Jersey's Treasurer. Some of the other Township Collectors had tax arrears but the situation was compounded by the disappearance of John Runk, Amwell's Collector for the years 1782, 1783, and 1784 who had collected money and left the State without accounting to Corshon or making any settlement. John Schenk, elected to replace Runk collected a considerable sum which he refused to pay over to Corshon. In a suit Corshon obtained a judgment against Schenk for £883. However, on appeal this was reversed by the Supreme Court, leaving Hunterdon County responsible to the State for a considerable sum. The Freeholders refused to assume any responsibility, throwing the burden of all tax arrears for Hunterdon County on Corshon.

In a suit instituted by State Treasurer Mott against Joshua Corshon in 1785, and heard before Chief Justice Brearley, a judgment was rendered against Corshon for £3,131.11.6. Subsequently a warrant was issued against the goods and chattles of Joshua Corshon and served by County Coroner John Singer. Corshon later testified all money due on the judgment was paid to Singer and he thought the matter was closed. However, after John Singer died in 1792 (10 December), the matter was raised again by Treasurer Mott and Corshon could not find his receipt for payment made to Singer. The judgment for £3000+ was still considered outstanding and due.

To raise the needed funds, in April 1792 Joshua and his wife, Margaret sold seven parcels of their property, totalling 92+ acres to David Bishop for £760. On part of this land, north of Ringoes on the road to Bethlehem Bishop operated his store from 1792 until his death in 1815. During the next six years money to reduce the debt was raised by

selling off more of Corshon's real and personal property. John Stevenson bought the shop goods and a riding chair, the house and lot where he (Stevenson) lived and the house and lot where Mr. Corshon's family lived. John Hardenburgh, Aaron Woodruff and Titus Quick each bought parcels of Corshon's land.

Joshua Corshon died in January 1798, survived by his wife, Margaret and their only daughter, Catherine. His age at death and place of burial have not been determined. Perhaps he and his wife are buried in the Quick and Servis burying ground in two of the numerous unmarked graves. Letters of Administration for his estate, valued at over £1300, were granted to his son-in-law, John Stevenson. There remained a balance due the State Treasurer on the old judgment which Mr. Stevenson had reduced to £720 by 1801.

#### FAMILY OF JOSHUA CORSHON, ESQUIRE

Child of Joshua and Margaret (Willson) Corshon:

1. Catherine Corshon born December 1766, died 25 November 1837 aged 71 years, 11 months, 22 days and is buried in the Quick and Servis cemetery at Ringoes. She married John Stevenson, son of William and Elizabeth (Throckmorton) Stevenson, born 12 February 1760, died 12 March 1811 at age 51 years, 1 month. He is buried with his wife. They were married 13 June 1782 by the Reverend William Frazer, pastor of St. Andrews Episcopal Church at Ringoes. The couple was survived by one child, Margaret Stevenson.
2. Margaret Stevenson was born 1785, died 23 August 1849 aged 64 years, 1 month, 5 days. She married Samuel Wyckoff, son of Daniel and Ursula (Craig) Wyckoff, born 26 November 1781 at Rocktown where his father operated a tavern, died 17 October 1827. The couple was married 27 October 1804 and had:
3. Elizabeth Wyckoff who married Andrew Dunn
4. John Stevenson Wyckoff who married Sarah Hoff. He was born 1807 and died 18 October 1835 and is buried in the Quick and Servis cemetery
5. Ursula Wyckoff married Elijah Fish
6. Hannah Wyckoff married Judge John Conrad
7. Catharine Wyckoff married Christopher L. Wynkoop
8. Rowland Wyckoff married David Bishop Skillman
9. Daniel C. Wyckoff died 14 July 1893, never having married.
10. Sarah Wyckoff married Dr. Benjamin Snowden

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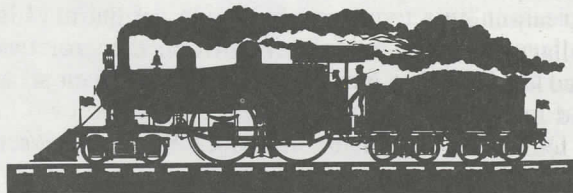
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Roxanne K. Carkhuff

## Book Reviews

*Down Along The Old Bel-Del.* Warren F. Lee, Albuquerque, NM, 1987, 366 pages, photographs, illustrations, index, bibliography. \$35. Available from Hunterdon County Historical Society. May be picked up at Society headquarters or ordered by mail for which add \$1.50 postage.



From the time the first leg of the Road reached Lambertville in 1851 until the last freight ran over the line in 1976 the writer gives an incisive word description of its beginning, operation and demise.

Warren F. Lee, a history professor, was born and brought up in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, received his higher education in Easton and Bethlehem and worked for the Central Railroad of New Jersey. He is remarkably well qualified to write a history of the Belvidere-Delaware Railroad Company and his book is no disappointment. It is a tribute to his diligence in putting together an interesting and informative 366 page story of the "Old Bel-Del" and the communities it served.

To give the reader a better perception of the changes that took place during the life of the Road there is an impressive and rare collection of photographs that includes stations, disaster scenes, maps of track plans, time schedules from 1851 to 1959, registries of engines, exciting views of trains in action and many of the factories long since gone which were once served by the Bel-Del.

The writer includes extensive commentary on events and uses of the railroad not so often thought of in reference to railroading in the past. One example illustrates his thoroughness in this respect. In 1909 to encourage better farming in the state the New Jersey Department of Agriculture worked out a plan to have a special train transport to various parts of the State educational exhibits accompanied by a corps of lecturers. Professor Lee records the visit of such a train to Milford, Frenchtown, Stockton, Lambertville and Ringoes in March 1910. Just one of a host of special uses made of the railroad.

In some parts of the narrative the reading becomes a bit technical and lengthy and an illustration now and then would give the reader a refreshing pause. However, the book is such a treasury of information not previously collected anywhere that anyone seeking knowledge of the northwestern part of New Jersey and its history during the past century and a quarter will find *Down Along The Old Bel-Del* most fruitful and enjoyable reading.

Kenneth V. Myers

### DESCENDANTS OF WEST JERSEY COUNCIL OF PROPRIETORS SOUGHT FOR TERCENTENARY 1988

The Council of Proprietors of West New Jersey was founded in 1688 and remains in existence today. It meets at least one time annually at its office in Burlington and continues to assist others with their title to West Jersey land.

Are you a descendant of a past proprietor of West New Jersey? Are you a descendant of one of the signers of the West New Jersey Concessions? Drop a card in the mail to HCHS - Tercentenary '88, 114 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822 telling us who your ancestor(s) was and give us your name and mailing address. We will keep you advised of celebration plans.

\* \* \*

#### NEW JERSEY RESIDENT PROPRIETORS 1687 THROUGH 1688

William Alberson	Elias Farre	William Peachee
John Antram	Thomas French	John Rambo
James Atkinson	Peter Fretwell	John Reading
Daniel Bacon	Thomas Gardiner	Andrew Robeson
Henry Ballinger	Thomas Gilberthorpe	John Rogers
Thomas Barton	Henry Grubb	William Royden
William Bate	Thomas Harding	Thomas Sharp
William Beard	Richard Heritage	John Shinn
Francis Beswick	Daniel Howell	John Snoden
William Biddle	John Hugg	Mahlon Stacy
John Borton	John Hugg Jr.	Robert Stacy
Benjamin Brame	Joshua Humphries	John Tatham
Thomas Budd	George Hutcheson	Thomas Thackara
William Budd	Thomas Huthchinson	Percivale Towle
John Bunting	John Ithell	Robert Turner
Samuel Bunting	Samuel Jennings	Mathew Watson
Thomas Butcher	John Kay	William Watson
Syman Charles	John Ladd	Christopher Wetherhill
Francis Collins	Freedom Lippincott	Gilbert Wheeler
William Cooper	Isaac Marriott	Daniel Wills Sr.
Nathaniel Cripps	Thomas Mathews	John Wills
John Curtis	John Murfin	Robert Wilson
Woola Dalbo	Robert Murfin	Henry Wood
Francis Davenport	William Myers	Jonathan Wood
John Day	George Nicholson	Joseph Wood
Bernard Devonish	Samuel Oldale	John Woolston
Anthony Elton	Thomas Ollive	Robert Zane
Thomas Farnsworth	John Pancoast	





*The Life and Times of a Country Doctor and Dentist*, J. E. Stout and J. B. Lee Hollingsworth, 1987, published by the Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead, Inc., unpaginated (approximately 40 pages), photographs and illustrations. \$3. May be picked up at Hunterdon County Historical Society or ordered by mail for which add \$1 postage.

The booklet is dedicated to the memory of the late Morris Hampton Leaver, M.D., D.D.S., (1872-1954) who provided medical and dental care in Hunterdon County for over 50 years.

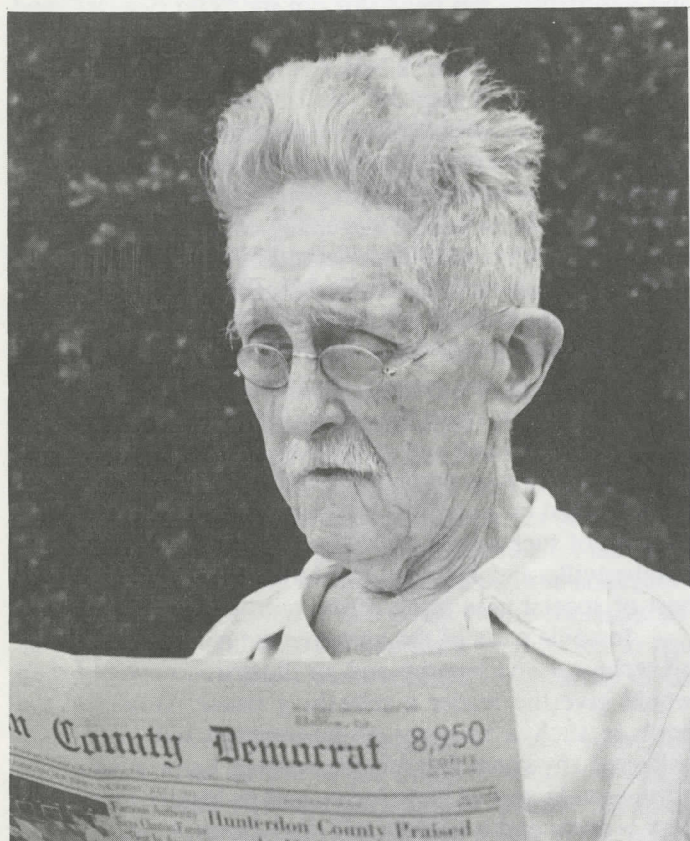
*The Life and Times of a Country Doctor and Dentist* is a pleasant little tome crammed with delightful pictures and diary excerpts reminiscent of another era. One is transported back to a more rural Hunterdon when all work was accomplished on the farmstead.

Dr. Leaver's life is traced from birth, through school days, marriage, farming and eventually medical school and practice. As was the custom in the earlier days of this country, rural physicians not only doctored but farmed too.

Morris Leaver's interests were many and varied including membership in the Pittstown Coronet Band. He helped establish the Franklin Telephone Company and Quakertown Fire Company amongst other civic accomplishments.

Do purchase and read this little booklet. Not only will the tariff benefit the Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead, but you will thoroughly enjoy reading about a way of life that has passed from the Hunterdon scene forever.

Stephanie B. Stevens



Doctor Leaver reads the news about Hunterdon Medical Center opening (1953).

Historical information about Flemington and Raritan Township, maps and photographs are combined in *A Guide To Flemington, New Jersey* so that the readers can go touring. Co-authors Barbara Clayton and Kathleen Whitley have been our guest speakers earlier this year. Their book will be off the presses before Christmas and can be purchased from the Society for \$7. Mail orders please add \$1.50.

"A Portrait of Hunterdon County 1988" a calendar with twelve photographs around Hunterdon County by Peter W. Glasser is \$8 at the Society headquarters or \$10 for mail orders.

One of these new publications might make the perfect Christmas gift for someone on your list. Perhaps one of the Society's recent reprints would ease your shopping dilemma.

*1873 Hunterdon County Atlas* \$41.50 postpaid or *Marriage Records of Hunterdon County, New Jersey 1795-1875*, Volume I, compiled by Hiram E. Deats \$26.50 postpaid may be ordered from the Society, 114 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822.



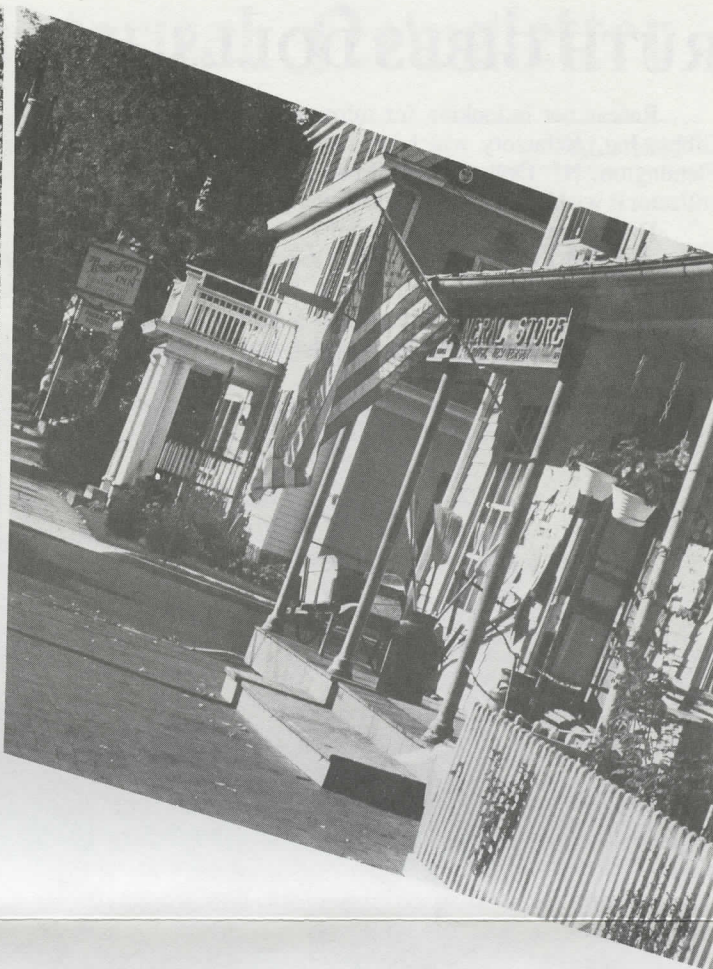
## Membership Report

We welcome the following new members to the Hunterdon County Historical Society.

Barbara Austin, Dayton, OH  
 Donna L. Benz, Flemington, NJ  
 Eleanor Campbell Brady, Eldorado Hills, CA  
 Clyde A. Chamberlin, East Lansing, MI  
 N. Burr Coryell, Santa Barbara, CA  
 Francis M. Curley, New Hope, PA  
 Donna B. Evans, Yardville, NJ  
 Joan S. Guilford, Orange, CA  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wm. J. Kinnamon, Jr., Fredericksburg, VA  
 Helen S. LaRue, Flemington, NJ  
 Susan Magnosi, Lansing, NY  
 Mrs. Betty R. Miller, Grenada, MS  
 Arthur R. Pickell, Tucson, AZ  
 Mrs. Helen M. Poland, Gem, KS  
 Richard Precek, Albuquerque, NM  
 W. Bertram Scarborough, Lafayette, CA  
 James W. Snyder, Modesto, CA  
 Mrs. Lucille Strausser, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Robert H. Tomer, Gloucester, MA  
 Donald C. Wallace, Hampton, NJ

Mrs. Frederick Stothoff  
 Membership Secretary





Two of the twelve photographs in "A Portrait of Hunterdon County 1988" calendar.

## NOTES and QUERIES

Address correspondence to Genealogical Committee. Listings of ten lines free to members, rate per line over ten lines is 25 cents; non-member rate is 25 cents per line.

**WARFORD:** The descendants of John and Polly (Baxter) Warford held their 98th annual reunion on 6 September 1987 at the home of Willard and Janice Warford, 701 Randolph St., Glasgow, MO 65254. For information on the 99th reunion contact Sylva Warford Luker, 3750 W. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80907.

**LAMBERT, WOODWARD:** Des exch with descendants of Josiah Lambert and Joanna Woodward, residents of Hunt. Co. when married in 1766 who later removed to Harrison Co. VA (now WV) and then to Lawrence Co. OH. Chil: Joseph, Anna, Hannah, Mary, Jonathan, Susannah, Richard and Abigail. ADD: Kay Freilich, 395 Kerrwood Dr., Wayne, PA 19087.

**RULOFFSEN/ROELOFSON:** Need confirmation of burial at Oldwick of Laurens & Catherine Ruloffsen 1771 and 1776 and place of residence. Burial of son Roelof 1783 at Naughtright, Morris Co. ADD: H. E. Cornell, 640 N. Murray, Colorado Springs, CO 80915.

**HILL, RUNYON:** Des par/o Hugh Runyon, hus/o Sarah Hill. Both are bur Grandin Presby. Chyd. He d. 7/11/1823, age 85 yrs. She d. 8/31/1839 age 85 yrs. She was d/o Samuel Hill of

Nottingham, Burl. Co. who d. 1785. ADD: Mrs. E. P. Holmes, 3004 Larkspur Run, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

**BARBER, BARCALOW, FISHER, HOPPOCK, HUGHES, RUNK, VANDERBEEK, WELSH:** Seek par/o Ann Runk, b. 24 Apr. 1764, m Hunt. Co. Peter Fisher; par/o Lydia Barber, b. 17 Oct. 1827, d. 21 July 1878 Clinton, NJ, m. James O. Hughes, b. 1 Feb. 1830. Their dau Emma L. Hughes m Morris J. Welsh. Seek par/o Altha (Althea) Barcalow, b. 1762 Middlesex Co; m. Andrew Vanderbeek 2 May 1780; d Somerville 20 July 1841; bur Lamington Presby Chyd. ADD: Barbara Austin, 23 Park Rd., Dayton, OH 45419.

**HARTPENCE:** Do I have your ancestors? Over 1300 descendants plus spouses on computer in preparation for book. Please write and share data. ADD: Esther Heer, 4174 Fairfax Dr., Columbus, OH 43220.

**CHAMBERLAIN, DRAKE, JOHNSON, LUSHER, PERRINE, SHEETS, SMITH, VAN SICKLE:** Des corres/w anyone researching fam/o Joseph Sheets, b ca 1760-1807, m. Charity Smith (1763-1861) Leb. Twp., Hunt. Co. Chil: William (1785-1841) m Abigail Lusher; John (1787/88- ) Warren Co. m. Elizabeth Johnson; Deborah (1790-1877) m. John Chamberlain; Zachariah (17??- ) m. 1) Sarah Van Sickle, 2) Rebecca Smith; Mercy (18??- ) m. 1) John Perrine, 2) James Drake. Wish to exch. ADD: Catherine Sheets, R.R. 5, Box 46, Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577.



## RUTH GIBBS DOLLS

Researcher is looking for information pertaining to Ruth Gibbs, Inc., a factory which produced china dolls in 1946 in Flemington, NJ. Dolls were still being made in the 1950's and collector is wishing to do an article on the history of this little doll.

Dolls were made in sizes from 7 inches to 13 inches. The boxes say Ruth Gibbs Godeys Lady Book Dolls and many were dressed as Little Women, the months, brides, etc. A paper tag indicating their number and name was placed inside the skirt of each doll. Any information, no matter how small, would be greatly appreciated.

Please write Lu Lane, 2124 Brookdale Rd., Toledo, OH 43606 or call 419-536-4145 evenings.



## WASHINGTON BAND OF READINGTON

Tucked between pages 8 and 9 of Volume 3 of Wills located in the Hunterdon County Surrogate's Office is a piece of paper seemingly unrelated to the estate records kept in this volume. This paper is between wills probated 13 December 1815 and 1 January 1816 and neither of the deceased persons' names are on the subscriber's list. The partial will of William Spader is on the reverse but the will was not proven until 29 November 1817. The list is dated 1834. The "X" seems to indicate that the men have paid the amount noted.

This 12½" high piece of paper begins "Articel — a copy of the one written by Wm. Mettler." It continues "We the Subscribers do agree to pay the sums affixed to our own Respective Names for to purchase a Tamber(ean) Symbles & Tryangels and all Instruments not Musical!! And all Musical Instruments as Claronetts etc. to be Purchased by Players (or Musitioners.)"

Signed: Cap<sup>t</sup> David I. Schamp  
John J. Schamp, Lieut.  
Insign David Allegar

### In Remembrance Greetings

My Dear and affectionate friends and fellow officers, Musitioners, and fellow Soldiers !!! of the Washington Band of Readington Belonging to the third Uniform Infantry Company of Hunterdon Brigade of Militia of New Jersey.-

Dated Feb<sup>y</sup> John I. Schamp, Cap<sup>t</sup>  
Anno Domini 1834

David S. Schamp Cap<sup>t</sup> 3rd Infantry Company. John I. Schamp Lieutendant 3rd Uni (form) (Infan) try Company. David Allegar Insign (sic) of Third Uniform Infantry Company. David O. Cole first Sergeant of third Uniform Infantry Company of the first Battalion of

the first Regiment of the Hunterdon Brigade of Malitia (or Military) of New Jersey Commiss<sup>d</sup> by Gen<sup>r</sup> Isaac H. Williamson ca ed The Washington Band of Readington

### Subscribers Names Amount (column one)

Levi Holcomb, Captian of	X	1.00
Benjamin Allegar		.25
James Parkes Major (Now Col.)	X	.50
Isaac G. Farlee Brigadir Gen'l	X	.50
Henry G. Schamp. Maj.	X	.50
David A. Cole	X	1.00
Jacob O. Cole	X	.50
Henry I. Schamp	X	.25
Michael Cole	X	.25
John Hoffman	X	.50
William Mettler	X	1.00
Richard Prost		.50
Nicholas E. Cole	X	.50
Andrew Thompson	X	.50
Charles Todd	X	.50
Elisha Larew	X	.50

John I. Schamp Cap <sup>t</sup>	8.25
appointed March 27th (or	8.25
29th) 1827)	0.00
George Davis Insign	
appointed March 27th (or 29th) 1827)	

### (column two)

David S. Schamp Cap <sup>t</sup>	X	1.00
John I. Schamp Lieut.	X	1.00
Joseph Thompson	X	1.00
David Allegar Insign	X	1.00
John O. Biggs	X	.50
Abraham Biggs	X	.50
John H. Lomerson	X	.25
John Biggs	X	.25
Ezekiel Cole	X	.50
Peter VanSyckel		.25
Iry Schamp	X	.50
William Dayley		.50
Ezekiel J. Cole	X	1.00
George Davis (afterwards Insign)		.50
Jacob Waggoner	X	.12½
George D. Biggs (now Lieut)	X	1.00

9.62½

George D. Biggs, Lieut.  
appointed March 27th (or 29th) 1827

He was (Commissioned) or elected by Major James Park (or Parkes) Major of the 1st Battalion (now Colonel of the Regiment)

Phyllis B. D'Autrechy

