



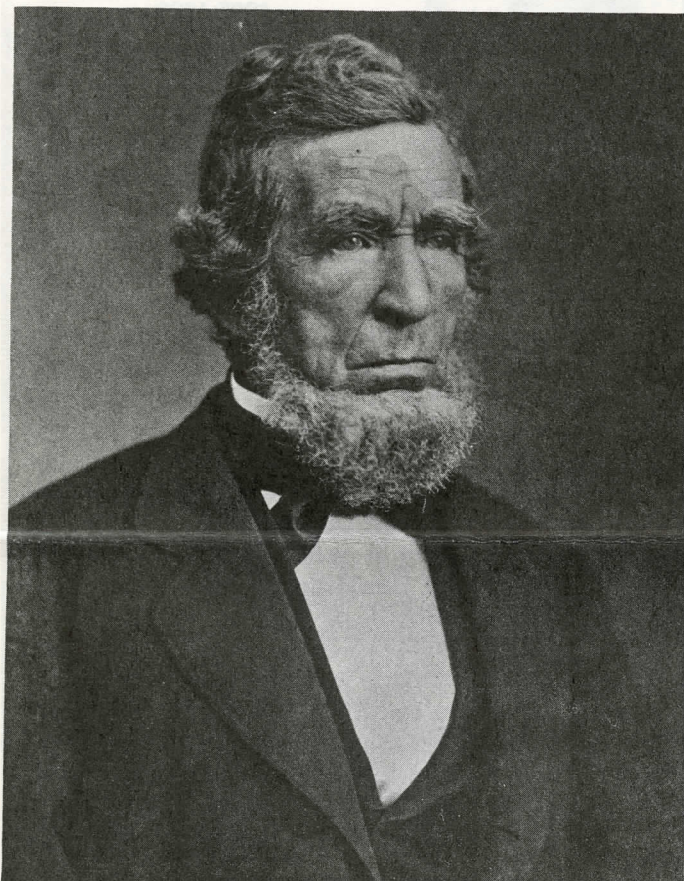
Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

Vol. 17, No. 1

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WINTER 1981

CAPNER FAMILY PAPERS TOPIC OF ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 29



JOHN HALL CAPNER
(1807-1891)

Rev. George F. Kreutler who has been processing the Society's manuscript collection for the past three years, has recently completed an inventory of the Capner Papers, one of the largest and most historically important of the collections preserved by the Hunterdon County Historical Society. He will discuss the papers, consisting of nearly 5,000 items, more than 600 of which are letters between members of the Capner and Hall families who settled here and their friends and relatives in England. This correspondence, dated ca. 1755-1800, covers, obviously, the most important part of our national life and shows the social and economic problems the trials and tribulations as well as the opinions of the "average" man and woman — if such an extraordinary family can be called average.

The correspondence shows what prompted some of the English to come here, and what influenced the course of events that culminated in the Revolution and in the years that followed. There is remarkably little (almost nothing, in fact) about the military aspect, but we can see how the minds of these people worked, how they coped, how they reacted.

Another large portion of this collection concerns Thomas Capner, long a Justice of the Peace in Flemington. Most of this material, however, consists of Court and other legal papers. Its' greatest value will be to genealogists, biographers and social scientists.

The rest of the collection consists of miscellaneous papers not related to the intimate family affairs, but does contain material concerning such people as James Watt, father of steam engineering and a new and interesting side of Thomas Paine.

All in all, a collection well worth intensive study and thorough analysis.

The Rev. Kreutler has processed, sorted, and filed, with an inventory, about 23,000 items in the Society's manuscript collection in the three years he has been working.

He is retired from the active ministry of the Episcopal Church and has had pastorates in New York City, and Union and Dunellen, New Jersey. He is presently residing in Lambertville.

Join us on March 29, at 2 p.m. The meeting place will be the Fellowship Hall of the Flemington Methodist Church. Refreshments will follow the meeting.

CALENDAR

March 29, 1981: ANNUAL MEETING

CAPNER FAMILY PAPERS

Rev. George F. Kreutler

JUNE 28, 1981: SPRING MEETING

DISCOVERING YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Panel of Juniors and Seniors from

Wm. Fernekes' Social Studies class

Hunterdon Central High School

HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

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Membership Report

We extend a warm welcome to the new members of the Hunterdon County Historical Society.

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In Memorium



HUBERT GLASGOW SCHMIDT
1905-1980

Dr. Schmidt, born in Mulberry Grove, Illinois, died there 19 November 1980. Professor emeritus of history at Rutgers University, he returned to Mulberry Grove, upon his retirement in 1975.

Through the efforts of two men, Dean Jacob G. Lipman of Rutgers University and Hiram E. Deats, whose dream it was to produce an agricultural history of Hunterdon County, the Hunterdon County Board of Agriculture in 1938 established a two-year fellowship at Rutgers University. The holder was to do the necessary research for such a history. The work Dr. Schmidt did as recipient of the fellowship, resulted in *Rural Hunterdon An Agricultural History*, published in 1946 by Rutgers University Press.

Other published works by Dr. Schmidt include *Slavery and Attitudes on Slavery in Hunterdon County, New Jersey* in 1941, *Some Hunterdon Place Names* in 1959, *The Press in Hunterdon County* in 1962 and *Agriculture in New Jersey A Three Hundred Year History* published in 1973 and dedicated to Hiram E. Deats. His column, "Historically Speaking" began in the *Hunterdon County Democrat* in the 1930s and appeared until his death.



EARLY SETTLERS OF HUNTERDON COUNTY:

THE VAN FLEET FAMILY

(continued from Vol. 16, No. 1)

5. THOMAS VAN FLEET, who consistently wrote his name "Thomas Van fleet", was the fifth child of Frederick and Mary (Biggs) Van Vliet. He was born 5 February 1729,²⁹ no doubt in Somerset County, New Jersey. On 18 June 1729 he was baptized at the "kerk up de Milsten."²⁹ There were no witnesses to his baptism, and it is not known for whom he was named.

About 1750 Thomas Van Fleet married Margaret Wyckoff. She was born 24 January 1730.⁹⁷ Her parentage is unknown.⁹⁸ Margaret's name appears variously as "Margrietje" and "Grietje" in the records of the Reformed Dutch Church of Readington. When she joined the church, on 18 April 1785, she is recorded as "Margaret Wyckoff the wife of Thomas Van Fleet."⁶⁸

Thomas and Margaret Van Fleet resided in Readington Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey on a farm situated immediately west of his father's, about a mile south west of Centerville.⁵⁰ Thomas owned 228 acres, part of which was purchased on 4 July 1759 from Henry Stoll; another section bought on 1 March 1763 from Adrian and Elizabeth Aten;⁹⁹ and eight acres willed to him by his father.⁴⁵ From the existing tax records from 1778 to 1802, Thomas is assessed on the 228 acres, as well as numerous horses, "horned cattle," hogs and at least one slave.⁶⁴

In addition to maintaining his sizeable farm, Thomas Van Fleet was also a blacksmith. On 17 February 1782 "Thomas Vanfleet of the Township of Reading in the County of Hunterdon. . . Blacksmith" signed a bond promising to pay £102 "hard money" to John Wickoff son of Peter of Tewksbury Township in the County afs^d. Because Thomas failed to honor the bond, the matter was referred to the New Jersey Supreme Court, which ordered the Sheriff, on 15 May 1784, to make an inventory of Thomas' estate. Listed were "3 Beds & Bedding 3 Tables 6 chairs 6 horses 8 cattle 12 sheep [and] 200 Acres of Land".¹⁰⁰

When still a young man, Thomas joined his father and seventy-three others in signing a petition, about 1755-56, assuring Governor Belcher of their support in the French and Indian War.⁶² On 11 May 1768 "Thomas Vanflet" was among the "Justices & Freeholders of the County of Hunterdon" who met at "Isaac Yards in Trenton".¹⁰¹ At the "Town Meeting" for "Readings Town", held 9 March 1773, "Thomas Vanfleet" was selected as one of the "Overseers of the Road."¹⁰² In a Tavern Application of 1798, "Thomas Van fleet" signed as one

of the Overseers of the Poor in Readington Township.¹⁰³ Between July 1777 and October 1784 Thomas was a frequent customer at the Grandin Fulling Mill. In October 1781, he prepared for winter by giving the Mill 20½ yards of "all Wool to be f^d [fulled]". He ordered that it be "dy^d [dyed] lead" and "Made Prater for Grate Coats". He also asked that it be "Not over thick but Good."⁶¹

Thomas and Margaret were the parents of nine children, all of whom were born in Readington Township, over half of them on their 228 acre farm. All of the children lived to maturity, and all but one married. The eldest son, John, who lived to be 93, resided on the same farm his entire life. Margaret Wyckoff Van Fleet died in 1792.⁹⁷ Her husband died in February 1812.⁹⁷ On 3 March 1812, his son, John Van Fleet, and Cornelius Van Horn were appointed the administrators of the estate of "Thomas Van Fleet late of Readingtown". They gave \$9.00 to "Edward Dalla" [Dalley?] for a coffin on 17 April 1812. And on 15 October 1812 they paid \$19.60 to "Catharine Vanfleet. . . for nursing [the] Deceased." Among his effects, inventoried on 3 March 1812, there included:

One Bay Horse \$55.
1 Red Cow \$14.
One pide Stear \$10.
12 Sheep & one Lamb \$42.
One Wood Slay \$3.
One Eight day Clock \$40.
One Dutch family Bible \$50.
Dutch Cubbord \$2.
A Rifle \$12.¹⁰⁴

With the coming of the 1760's, Frederick, junior, apparently was unable to handle his assets prudently, and thus frequently fell into debt. In June 1761 "Fredrick Van Fleet Jun^r of the County of Somerset. . . Yeoman and Fredrick Vanfleet Senior of the County of Hunterdon" borrowed £84 from "Baltis Pickle of the County of Hunterdon." Unable to repay this money, the surviving executor of Baltis brought them before the Inferior Court of Common Pleas of Hunterdon County during the February Term of 1768.⁶⁰ Again with his father as co-signer, "Fredrick Van Vleet Jun^r of South Branch" mortgaged his 274 acre farm in order to pay a loan of £103.13.8 from "Peter Schenk of Millstone. . . Merch^t ", on 11 August 1767.¹⁰⁷ In 1772 "Frederick Van Fleet, jun." and two other Somerset County residents were declared "Insolvent Debtors", and were ordered to appear at the Court-House, at Millstone, on 5 June to give an accounting of their debts.¹¹⁰ As late as March 1784 "Frederick Vanfleet Son [of] Frederick Sen[ior]" appeared in the Court of Justice Ezekiel Cole, of Readington Township, on an admitted debt of £0.10.0 to one John Stiers.⁶⁵

The children of Thomas and Margaret (Wyckoff) Van Fleet:

- i. MARY, born 22 April 1751; died *circa* 1835; never married.
22. ii. MARGARET, born 12 September 1753; married Adrian Hagaman.
23. iii. LEAH, born 20 December 1755; married, (1) Frederick Van Fleet; (2) Bergun Huff.
24. iv. HANNAH, born 4 December 1757; married Joseph Hagaman.
25. v. JUDITH, born 27 April 1760; married Isaac Hall.
26. vi. JOHN, born 19 May 1762; married (1) Elizabeth Waldron; (2) Catharine Emans.
27. vii. WILLIAM, born 3 April 1764; married Agnes Mundy.
28. viii. ELENOR, born 20 May 1766; married Samuel Waldron.
29. ix. ELIZABETH, born 5 July 1768; married Jerome Waldron.

6. FREDERICK VAN FLEET, JUNIOR, the son of Frederick and Mary (Biggs) Van Vliet, was born probably in Somerset County, New Jersey, and baptized in the "kerk up de Milston", in that County, on 11 August 1731.³⁰

Frederick, junior, spent his youth on his father's plantation in Readington Township, Hunterdon County, however, married a girl from Somerset County, where he returned to live. His residence in Somerset, and his frequent use of "Jur", "Junr", etc. has helped to distinguish him from his father and son of the same name.

About 1754 Frederick Van Fleet, junior, married Rebecca Du Bois, the daughter of Abraham and Maria (Larzalere) Du Bois. She, too, was baptized in the "kerk up de Milston", on 9 May 1734.¹⁰⁵ Frederick and Rebecca were given land by her father per his last will and testament made on 22 January 1755.¹⁰⁶ This land was described as being "at South Branch", Somerset County, and contained 274 acres. The land was "bounded Westerly by the s^d. [said] South Branch [of the Raritan River] Southerly [by] land of Johanes Demott and Others Easterly & Northerly by Land of Brogune Huff & Others".¹⁰⁷

The Van Fleets were the parents of two boys, each named for one of their respective grandfathers. The children were baptized in the Readington Reformed Church, which their parents attended until the erection of the Reformed Dutch Church of Neshanic, built not far from their 274 acre farm. In "A list of the Names that have laboured at building the kerk at Neshanneck wich [*sic*] was begun in the year one thousand seven hundred and fiftynine and was finished in December in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy two", the seventh name given was "Frederick Vanfleet".¹⁰⁸ Signing his name as "Fradrick Van fleet", he witnessed the will of John Cock, of the South Branch of the Raritan River, Somerset County, on 29 April 1758.¹⁰⁹

Apparently due to his legal difficulties, and many debts, Frederick's son, Frederick, came into possession of the large Somerset County farm given to his parents by his Grandfather Du Bois. Frederick, junior, seems to have returned to Readington Township, where he resided on a "Lott of Land. . . containing Eight acres more or Less" loaned to him by his father previous to November 1779.⁴⁵ He may have been a widower by this time, and was himself dead sometime after his March 1784 court appearance.

The children of Frederick and Rebecca (Du Bois) Van Fleet:

30. i. ABRAHAM, born 19 July 1755.
31. ii. FREDERICK, baptized 24 October 1756; married Leah Van Fleet.

7. ABRAHAM VAN FLEET, the youngest son of Frederick and Mary (Biggs) Van Vliet, was born *circa* 1733, possibly on his father's "plantation" in Readington Township, Hunterdon County.

Abraham Van Fleet married, about 1767, Ann Low, the daughter of Cornelius and Judith (Mid-dag) Low.¹¹¹ As "Antje" she was baptized on 21 January 1739¹¹² at the Reformed Dutch Church of Readington, in Hunterdon County, where she was probably born. As her older brother, Garret Low, was married to Abraham Van Fleet's younger sister, Rachel Van Fleet,⁴⁵ the couple became the second instance that the two families were united by marriage.

As the youngest boy, Abraham remained on his father's "plantation" to assist in the farming. After his marriage, he apparently continued to reside in his father's household, and as a result, per the will of Frederick Van Vliet, inherited the 216 acre home-stead farm. When taxed on this land in the period of 1779 to 1802, it was recorded that Abraham variously owned as many as seven horses, thirteen "horned cattle", fifteen hogs, one "slay" and one slave.⁶⁴

Abraham was a farmer, and seems to have had little to do with the social or political activity in his area. As "Abraham Vanfleet" he did sign the petition of Abraham Covenhoven in May 1770, when Covenhoven applied for a "Licence to keep Tavern in The house of Daniel Sebring Deceased of the South Branch of [the] Rariton [River] The Noted tavern which was formerly kep[t] by the Abovesaid Sebring."¹¹³ Likewise, "Abraham Vanfleet", (sometimes spelled "Abram"), patronized the Grandin Fulling Mill from 1778 to 1782.⁶¹ And on 11 March 1783, at the "Town Meeting being held in the Town Ship of Reading", Abraham Van Fleet was appointed Overseer of the Roads, having been "Duly Elected by the Majority of Voices".¹¹⁴

Abraham and Ann (Low) Van Fleet were the parents of at least four children. There may have been more, as indicated in Abraham's will, in which he states that "the Moveables that are Left are to be Divided Among four of my Children,"¹¹⁵ whom he

Centerville Vigilant Society.



FOR THE DETECTION —OF— HORSE THIEVES, ETC.

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Bumbury, John
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Cole, C. & A.
Cole, D. N.
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Cole, D. C. Jr.
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Shurts, Joseph
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Sutphin, C. Elmer
Tingley, P. S.
Thompson, John H.
Vail, Edin
Van Arsdale, Peter
Van Doren, Garret
Van Doren, Theodore
Van Doren, Wm. C.
Van Fleet, Jacob
Van Fleet, John E.
Wilson, George
Wyckoff, Rev. B. V. D.

Frederick Van Fleet, Senior's farm was located just west of the village of Centerville. Note Jacob and John E. Van Fleet who appear many years later as members of the Centerville Vigilant Society. Former resident, Mrs. Marvin Saxe recently donated this broadside measuring 9½ by 12 3/4 inches, to the Society's collections.

names. The parents do not seem to have had any of their children baptized, though, in an accounting of the estate of Abraham in February, 1814, it is recorded that he owned "2 Seats in pew at Readington Church", valued at \$4.56.¹¹⁶

On 10 October 1807 "Abraham Van Vliet of the Township of Reading. . . Yeoman being in good Health and of perfect Memory" executed his last will and Testament. His first stipulation was that "my Loving Wife Ann Shall have and enjoy During her Natural life all my Personal Estate and to have the Room We know [*sic*] live in, and to have the Use of the Seller, and Chamber, without being Molested or Disturb[ed]". He ordered his executors, sons John and Abraham, to supply their mother with "Good Pork", beef, rice and wheat, to be "brought Back to her Door, and put in the House Where she wants it." They were also instructed to supply their mother with "Fire Wood brought to her Door and Cut Short ready to her hand." Abraham then left his son John "the Plantation Whereon he now Lives Containing One Hundred and Ninety Acres more or Less." To his son Abraham he left "the Homestead Whereon I Live Containing Two Hundred and three Acres more or Less." His daughters, Sarah and "Tine" were each given £150. Smaller sums were left to his granddaughter Ann, "Daughter of my Daughter Tine", and his grandson, "Abraham Laberteaux". After revoking "all and every other Will or Wills by me heretofore made", he signed it "Abraham Vanfleet", with John Quick, Mary Quick and Edward Wilmot (who drafted the will) signing as witnesses.¹¹⁵

Abraham's will was proven on 19 November 1813, thus placing his date of death at about this time.¹¹⁵

An inventory of his "goods and Chattles" was made on 19 January 1814. Included were numerous farming implements, a cow, household goods, a note against "Peter Laboyteaux", and a note against "Abraham Van Fleet Jun." Also listed was a "Weavers Loom Reeds & Geers warping bar &c." and a "Gun powder horns & shot-bag."¹¹⁵

In the settlement of the estate, the executors paid \$8.00 to "John Schenck Ju^r" for a coffin, and \$4.81 to "D^r Sherwood." On 28 April 1815 the widow was paid \$25.00 "from the Personal property sold,"¹¹⁶ thus placing her date of death after this time. Abraham and Ann were apparently buried in a family plot located on the homestead farm. This burial yard has long since been obiterated, however, a footstone recently located gives the initials "A.V.F.", which could possibly have marked the grave of Ann Van Fleet, or her husband, Abraham Van Fleet.

The children of Abraham and Ann (Low) Van Fleet:

32. i. MARGARET/TINE, born *circa* 1770; married Peter Laberteaux.
33. ii. JOHN, born October 1772; married Susannah Berger.
34. iii. SARAH, born *circa* 1774; married Cornelius Wyck-off.

35. iv. ABRAHAM, born *circa* 1780; married Mary Ten Brook.

8. LEAH VAN FLEET, a younger daughter of Frederick and Mary (Biggs) Van Vliet, was born *circa* 1735, in Readington Township, Hunterdon County.

By her father's will it is known that Leah was "the wife of Jacobes Emans."⁴⁵ As "Jacobas", he was baptized at the Reformed Dutch Church of Readington, on 26 October 1735, the son of Johannes and Teuntje (Van Dyke) Emans.¹¹⁷ Jacobus is Dutch for James, and in later life James Emans consistently wrote his name as such.

Leah Van Fleet and James/Jacobus Emans were married about 1760. They resided in Readington Township on land given to James by his father, "John Emans", per his will dated 3 March 1752.¹¹⁸ The land, which John Emans purchased from Adrian Lane, contained about 150 acres, and was located on the southwest bank of Hollands Brook.¹¹⁹

An early reference to James came on 17 October 1765, when he, and several brothers and sisters, signed for the receipt of £5.14.1 from Dirck Low, who administered the "Estate of Grant=father John Van Dyke Deceased."¹²⁰ As "Jacobus Emmins" and "James Emmins", he was a customer at the Grandin Fulling Mill. On 7 April 1776 the Mill noted that James requested that "a Piece [of] liney [linsey] be Dy^d. [dyed] good hanivor brown if Can or Else lead Couler."⁶¹

James Emans served in the Revolutionary War,¹²¹ and on 4 April 1781 he signed a receipt acknowledging that he received of Joseph Inslee £1.5.0 "for



This footstone, photographed by author Fred Sisser, III, was found not far from the Abraham Van Fleet (c. 1733-1813) homestead. The initials may stand for his or those of his wife, Ann.

Carting four bbl: flour from Pitts[town] to Hackets town."¹²² In May 1781 "James Emans" signed the petition of "Casper Berger of Redington" who was "Desirous to Continue the keeping [of] the Tavern Where he now lives."¹²³ James Emans was appointed the guardian of his nephew, Andrew Emans, son of Andrew Emans, late of "Readingtown", in October 1786, in order to manage the minor's estate "Real and Personal, which stands in Need of due Care."¹²⁴ Among the jurors in the case of Edward Wilmont versus David Cock in March 1780, and the case of Christian Foner versus Henry Swesey in April 1782, there was "James Emans."⁶⁵ At the time that the "Inhabitants of the Township of Readington. . . Meet [*sic*] at the Place Appointed for their Annuel Town Meeting on the second Monday in April 1791", James Emans was chosen one of the surveyors of the high ways.¹¹⁴

When he was eighty years old James Emans disposed of his 150 acre farm by dividing it among his living heirs. On 13 November 1815 "for and in Consideration of the Natural love and affection which he hath and beareth" unto his daughter, Teuntje, James gave her seventy-six acres, or "one equal half part", of his farm. The other half, containing seventy-five acres, was granted, out of "Natural love and affection", to his grandson, Cornelius Low Emans, on the same day.¹¹⁹ This is the last known record of James being alive. As no mention was made of his wife, Leah, it is assumed she was dead by this time.

The children of James and Leah (Van Fleet) Emans:

36. i. JACOBUS/JAMES, JUNIOR, born *circa* 1762; married, perhaps, a Low.
37. ii. TEUNTJE, born *circa* 1768; married Andrew Strimple.

(to be continued)

Fred Sisser, III



NOTES and QUERIES

Address correspondence to Genalogical Committee. Listing of ten lines free to members, non-member rate is 25¢ per line.

COCHRAN, OAKERSON, TODD, VANLANDINGHAM, WILSON: Would like to exchange data on Oakerson and Todd families. John Oakerson m. Elizabeth Todd, went to KY *circa* 1797. Children: John, Jr. m. Sally ——. Isaac, Sarah m. Robert Wilson, Mary m. Jonathan Cochran, William m. Mary Vanlandingham. ADD: Duane Oakerson, RR 2, Winchester, IN 47394.

COOLEY, VANDERBILT, SHUILER/SCHUYLER: Will exch data on these early Hunterdon families. John (4) Vanderbilt, b. 1728, NY; d. ca 1780 Alexandria; m. Agnes ——. had Jacob bp. 1755 Readington, d. prob. 1812 Alexandria; Peter b. 1757; John b. ca 1759; William b. ca 1761, d. ca 1852, Milford, m. Elizabeth Cooley (2/w?); Eleanor; and Cornelius. Seeking info on fam. of John, Jacob, William. Also on fam/o William Shuiler/Schuyler and w. Ester of Tewksbury Twp. ca 1796. ADD: J.M. Rand, 209-07 Whitehall Ter., Queens Village, NY 11427.

HAMLEN: Desire info on Thomas Hamlen b. ca 1700, purchased 250 ac land from West Jersey Proprietors 15 May 1735, appears Bethlehem Twp., Hunterdon Co. ADD: R.N. Hamlin, 6030 Lawndale St., Philadelphia, PA 19111.

HOWELL, REED: William Reed of Trenton, in his will (23 May 1759, 5 June 1762 NJA: 33:347) named "my kinsman David Howell" as one of his executors. How were they related? Will exch info on Howell and allied families (Baker, Burrowes, Burroughs, Clark, Fish, Green, Guild, Hart, Hunt, Moore, Phillips, Prout, Rose, Scudder, Stout, Titus) for the Colonial period. ADD: Effingham P. Humphrey, Jr., 228 Booth La., Haverford, PA 19041.

GRAY, LAMBERTSON, MC KINNEY, PRALL: Anne Arrents Gray and hus Abraham Gray lived Amwell Twp., Hunterdon Co. Need children and marriages. Need par/o Eleanor Lambertson McKinney w/o Abraham McKinney m. 1770. Need info on Isaac Prall, Gray and Lambertson families. ADD: Annabel McKinney Hammer, 501 N. Broadway, Blanchester, OH 45107.

MELICK, VAN NEST: Annie E. Melick of New Germantown, b. ca 1850. Request ANY info. Also, John I. Van Nest. Both were poets in "Our Home Magazine" published 1873. Any info on these people and/or magazine will be greatly appreciated. ADD: Harry M. Cleveland, 178 Berkshire Pl., Irvington, NJ 07111.

HARLE, MARCELLUS, WILSON: Need info on James Harle I of Amwell, served in Amwell militia 1793. His son James II, b. 1803, a school teacher in Lambertville area, m. Lydia Marcellus. His son, James III, b. 1838. Also Wilson family: James H. Wilson b. 1869 in VA, but after moved with parents James and Mary Holcombe Wilson to Amwell. May have originally come from Amwell. HELP! ADD: Katharine Wilson Precek, 7201 Coulson Dr., NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

BILLHEIMER, HODGSON, PROBASCO: Seeking Probasco info. Elizabeth Probasco b. 28 April 1823, d. 8 February 1907, m. James Hodgson, b. 1821, d. 1868, res. Waterloo, Iowa. Their dau Malinda Hodgson m. Christopher/Christian Billheimer ca 1859 Iowa. ADD: Stanley Allen Mettler, P.O. Box 1391, Chelan, WA 98816.

CLOVER, CORBETT/CORBET/CORBIT: Seeking info on John/Johann Peter Clover, of Germany and his fam, settled Hunterdon Co. ca. 1750. Also William Corbett, s/o John Daniel and Mary Todd Corbett. William m. Sarah Clover d/o Johann Peter and Sarah Sharpe/Sharpenstein Clover, may have moved to Mifflin Co., PA. Will exch. ADD: Marilyn Kisner, 19820 Frances St., Corona, CA 91720.

BARKALOW/VAN BARKELO, JOHNSON, STOUT: Wish to corres with others re families named. St. Ledger Stout b. 1775, Amwell Twp., m. 1790/4 Anna Barkalow, d. 1806 Randolph Co., VA. Cornelius Johnson m. Ann Stout; dau Elizabeth m. James Barkalow, b. 1740 Hunterdon, d. 1796 Hampshire Co., VA. ADD: Robert D. Saunders, Jr., 1825 Hamlet Court S., Salem, OR 97302.

THAT EXTRA MILE

The value of checking original sources can never be emphasized often enough. Hiram Deats performed a remarkable feat in compiling his *Marriage Records of Hunterdon County, 1795-1875* from the records of the County Clerk, the ministers and the Justices of the Peace. It is the researcher's responsibility to use the clue Mr. Deats expertly placed at the end of each entry — the name of the person who performed the ceremony. Therefore, in your search, go that extra mile to find the original source, if possible.

Although many of the officials were quite spartan in their comments, others give you the township in which the marriage was performed and some even add the age of the bride and groom and the names of their parents. Mr. Deats records the marriage of Peter Waggoner and Lydia Cook on 27 October 1799 by Rockhill, J.P. In the manuscript collection of the New Jersey State Library, Bureau of Archives and History, West State Street, Trenton, NJ are located many of the old Hunterdon County Justice of the Peace dockets including that of John Rockhill in which he records on pages 60, 64 and 67 the marriages he performed. But what a treasure you will find by going that extra mile.

Be it remembered that on the 27th day of October 1799, I, John Rockhill, one of the Justices of the

Peace. . . have joined Peter Waggoner and Lidia Cook. . . at the house of William Fleming. . . in Alexandria Township in the presence of William Fleming and wife, Elizabeth, Christopher Waggoner, Joseph Potts, William Waggoner, Philip Kase and others, witness.
(p. 60)

. . . on the 9th day of December 1799. . . John Garner, Jr. and Rebecka Reading, both of Kingwood. . . at my house in Bethlehem Township, in the presence of Samuel R. Johnson, Thomas Price Jr., William Hunt, Jonas Chatburn, Joseph Potts, William L. Potts, Mary Cherry and others, witnesses.
(p. 64)

. . . on the 17th day of December 1799. . . Mathias Cummings, late of Sussex County and Hannah Hunter of Kingwood Township, at the house of Betty Hunter (mother of said Hannah) in Kingwood Township in the presence of John Phillips, Andrew Willson, Griffith Jones, Rebecka Phillips, the widow Troy and others, witnesses.
(p. 67)

What have you found by going that extra mile that you would be willing to share with us for the benefit of the researchers of the future?

Phyllis B. D'Autrechy



The old M.E. Church and Capner block on the west side of Flemington's Main Street. A small portion of the Capner-Skinner building may be seen at the extreme right of the picture. The Capner block was razed and replaced by the present Flemington Post Office. Capner Street, formerly a dirt alley, runs between the post office and the Capner-Skinner building.