



The Castle Genie

NEWSLETTER OF THE GENEALOGY CLUB

Passaic County Historical Society, Lambert Castle, Valley Road, Paterson, New Jersey 07503

OLDEST HOUSE IN PASSAIC, NJ TORN DOWN WITH NO REGARD TO ITS AGE

From the Passaic Daily News dated March 25, 1924

Copied from the William Winfield Scott (Passaic Historian) Scrapbook Collection
Passaic County Historical Society, Paterson, NJ.

Submitted by George Van Riper

I learned today that the "Squire" Van Riper stone house facing River Drive, had been demolished to make way for the extension of Palmer Street in the same rabid, rapid way that the old parsonage of the "Old First Reformed Church," near the corner of Prospect Street and River Drive (built about 1723) was slashed to pieces and carted, no one knows where, last year, without the saving of even a splinter or what is worse, without a photograph or picture of any kind of the house which sheltered the noted soldiers of Revolution fame – Generals Heard and Irvine – who accompanied Washington on his famous retreat.

After that war, one of Washington's Bodyguards lived in this house several years and made the mantle which was in the parlor

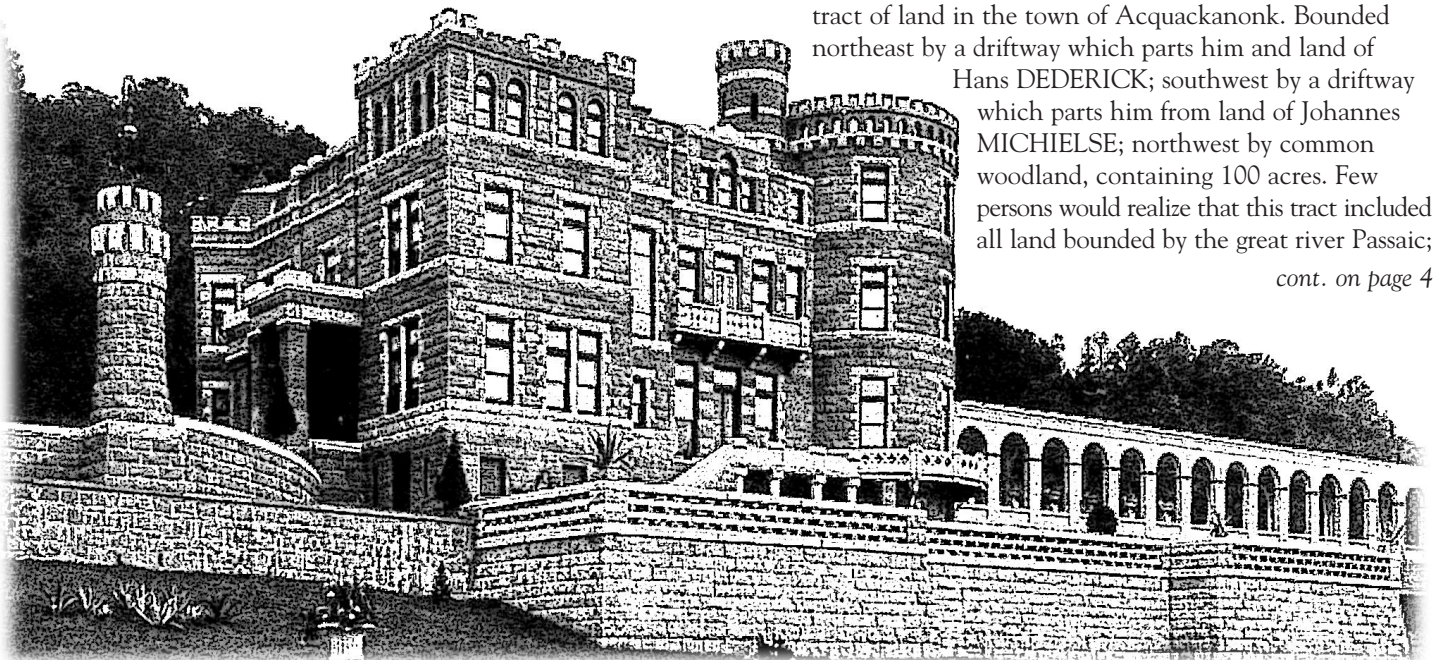
and the sash in the front door. How fortunate it would have been had those two articles been preserved or a photograph taken of the bedroom occupied by these Generals. Failure to do this was evidence of lack of sentiment and disregard for old things.

OLDEST STRUCTURE IN THE CITY

This "Squire" Van Riper house had been looked upon as the oldest structure in the city, and was supposed to have been erected by the progenitor of that family about the year 1698. The land under and surrounding it had as the first owner Cornelius MICHIELSE (or VREELAND, the name subsequently adopted by that family) who by deed of October 30, 1695, and in consideration of 100 pounds, conveyed to Thomas JURIANSE, a tract of land in the town of Acquackanonk. Bounded northeast by a driftway which parts him and land of

Hans DEDERICK; southwest by a driftway which parts him from land of Johannes MICHIELSE; northwest by common woodland, containing 100 acres. Few persons would realize that this tract included all land bounded by the great river Passaic;

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Welcome to the Fifteenth Anniversary Issue of "The Castle Genie!"

Club News

The Passaic County Historical Society Genealogy Club holds meetings 10:00 a.m. at Lambert Castle Museum on the second Saturday of the month, September through May (unless otherwise specified). Meeting dates and programs (where available) are as follows.

Saturday, December 11th, 2004:
Annual Holiday Brunch and Silent Auction.
Location to be announced.

Saturday, January 8th, 2005 – Program to be announced

Saturday, February 12th, 2005 – Program to be announced

Saturday, March 12th, 2005 – Program to be announced

Saturday, April 9th, 2005 – Program to be announced

Saturday, May 14th, 2005 – Program to be announced

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – for the PCHS's Elizabeth Ann Beam Memorial Research Library. No formal library experience is necessary, and training will be provided. Volunteers are needed to assist patrons, answer queries, shelve books, and work on special projects during the library's normal hours of operation;

- Every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00
- The Second and Fourth Saturday's of the month between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00.

A broad volunteer base may someday help us to achieve our goal of expanding our library hours of operation. Volunteerism can be both enjoyable and rewarding and I've found from my own experience, it serves as a way of "giving something back." Can you help a few hours per week or per month as your schedule permits?

Please contact Mrs. Ruth Bauer, Library Volunteer Chair, at (201) 652-5004 email birdladyruth@aol.com We look forward to working with you!

NEW BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE PASSAIC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"Baptisms and Memberships of the West Milford Presbyterian Church 1819 – 1911," compiled by Vincent Struble and indexed by Maryjane Proctor. 8-1/2 x 11", spiral bound, 50+ pages, complete with Everypage Index encompassing over 150 unique surnames. \$8.00

"The Castle Genie – Volumes One through Five, 1989-1995" Compiled and indexed by Maryjane Proctor. A complete set of the first five years of the publication of "The Castle Genie" beginning in with our very first issue, Vol. 1 No. 1, published 1989. 8-1/2 x 11", spiral bound, 160+ pages. Articles arranged and indexed according to subject matter. \$10.00

"The Castle Genie – Volumes Six through Ten, 1995-2000" Compiled and indexed by Maryjane Proctor. A complete set of the second five years of the publication of "The Castle Genie," picking up where the first five years left off. 8-1/2 x 11", spiral bound, 260+ pages. Articles arranged and indexed according to subject matter. \$10.00

These new books, along with our other genealogical/historical publications, are available for purchase at our Museum Store at Lambert Castle. Publications are also available mail order. Please call the Society at 973-247-0085 for shipping costs or additional information.

DEACCESSIONED BOOKS AVAILABLE IN THE MUSEUM STORE

In an ongoing effort, our Librarian and Library Committee have been sorting and evaluating the Society's books since they returned to Lambert Castle from our temporary offices and other off-site storage facilities. The large majority books have been cataloged and shelved for use by library patrons. Those books in need of rebinding were identified, and one lot has already been shipped, rebound, and returned by the binding company.

Thus far, a small quantity of books determined to be duplicates or triplicates have been deaccessioned and are available for sale in the Museum Store. They are:

"Recollections," by Charles A. Shriner. Limited printing, numbered copies. \$30. per copy

"Lineage Book – National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution." Various volumes and various years ranging from 1896 – 1937. \$28. per copy

We anticipate additional deaccessioned books will be added the Museum Store in the near future. Please call the Society at 973-247-0085 for shipping costs or additional information.

Anyone with material or photographs of a genealogical or historical nature to share is encouraged to contact me at: mj13@optonline.net

~Maryjane Proctor, ~ Editor, "The Castle Genie."

17th Annual Holiday House Boutique at Lambert Castle

Passaic County Historical Society is pleased to host our 17th Annual Holiday House Boutique at Lambert Castle. Our premier fundraiser for the year, the show opens with "Preview Night" on Friday November 12th runs through December 5th, 2004. Hours are:

Wednesday through Friday – 10:00 am – 9:00 pm
 Saturday and Sunday – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Closed Monday, Tuesday, and Thanksgiving Day.

On behalf of the Board, Staff, and Membership, I wish to extend our grateful thanks to those listed here who generously supported the Society by way of an advertisement in our Holiday House Ad Journal:

Barnert Hospital, Paterson, NJ
 Belmont Chemicals, Inc., Clifton, NJ
 Cortina Ristorante, Paterson, NJ
 Joseph Damato Paperstock Corp., Paterson, NJ
 Ellison Street Check Cashing, Paterson, NJ
 Ferraioli, Wielkotz, Cerullo, and Cuva CPAs, Pompton Lakes, NJ
 General Carbon Corp., Paterson, NJ
 Ken Gorski Dental, Wayne, NJ
 Jersey Mortgage Company, Cranford, NJ
 Catholina Lambert Descendants – Max, Kate, and Sophie
 Laurel Grove Cemetery, Totowa, NJ
 Lockwood Family
 Libby's, Paterson, NJ
 Many Clever Hands, Westfield, NJ

Market Basket, Wyckoff, NJ
 My Sister's Gourmet Deli and Bake Shoppe, West Paterson, NJ
 New Life Chimney Sweeps, Inc
 North Jersey Federal Credit Union
 Oil City Petroleum, Clifton, NJ
 Passaic County Historical Society Genealogy Club, Paterson, NJ
 Punctual Plumber, Pompton Lakes, NJ
 Spiegelberger Family
 Svendsen & Company Real Estate, Clifton, NJ
 Teamsters Local Union 11, North Haledon, NJ
 Toshiba America Consumer Products, LLC, Wayne, NJ
 Ultimate Aire Systems, Wayne, NJ
 Valley National Bank
 Wayne Dinettes, Wayne, NJ
 Zozzaro Industries, Clifton, NJ

and our sincere appreciation to those who supported our Ad Journal through Boosters:

Wilma J. Colella	Phil Jaeger
Dorothy and George Decker	Marlene and Adam Piasecki
Echo Glen Preschool	Joanne R. Polner
June R. Fiduccia	Maryjane Proctor
Mrs. Edith M. Floyd	Ms. Marie Stefanelli
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Geiger	Wortendyke Barn Museum
W. Jerome Hatch	Annita and Walter Zalenski
Robert Hazekamp	

Out Of The Mailbag

Rockville, Maryland member Mary Hempton writes us with wonderful news that she has discovered family members were profiled in the article titled "Old Orchard Farm." She writes in part:

"I was thrilled when I received the new issue of The Castle Genie (V14-N3&4) and found the article "The Old Orchard Farm, Preakness, New Jersey 1905." Louiza (Louisa) Hall's parents, John Minns and Sally Gannett, were my great grandparents! I look forward to visiting the Castle sometime this year. Keep up the good work."

Mary E. HEMPTON, Rockville, MD.
 Email: merner@comcat.net

Also a member hailing from Rockville, Maryland our many-time "Genie" contributor Mr. Bill Serchak writes us on difficulties researchers often encounter when tracing their genealogies. Bill also has submitted a most interesting article titled "On Naming Names" which has been published in this issue. He writes in part:

"The first (part of the article) will introduce (my) grandfather Andrew, and the second (part) goes into detail about how difficult it often is for family historians to find their ancestor's

name in their searches on the Internet or in public records because of misspellings, "corruption" of the surname, or some times complete changes or translations from a foreign surname to an English equivalent. We've all seen these things, and the article may help "newbies" in the business of searching records, censuses, city directories, etc to be prepared to deal with the problem. That was my point in writing the article.

"I have completed four additional articles with pictures and will forward them after these first two are published. I'm interested in feedback from the membership and any comments and suggestions are always welcome. My plan is to write one or two per month in a roughly reverse chronological order paralleling my research timeline and going from Passaic to Ellis Island to Czarna Gora. Eventually, they will serve as chapters in the Jezierczak Family History that I'm writing for my family and friends."

Bill Serchak, Rockville, Maryland.
 Email: weschak@erols.com

Oldest House in Passaic *cont. from page 1*

Brook Avenue; Van Houten Avenue and High Street. The surname "THOMASON" was the original family name of the VAN RIPER tribe which became very numerous in this vicinity. Our Thomas was the eldest son of one Juriaen (pronounced yoo-re-awn) THOMASSE (Uriah, son of Thomas) who left his old country home in Rupen, North Jutland and sailed from Holland in T'bonte Koe, (the "Spotted Cow") with 87 other passengers in April, 1663, landing at New York. He took up his residence in the town of Bergen, now Jersey City, where he raised a family of twelve children. Thomas came here about 1698 and erected this house where in six children were added to the five sons born in Jersey City. He conducted farming, brewing and fruit growing, shipping quantities of his produce, timber, liquor (and fruit to New York and Albany. He was energetic, enterprising and progressive, both in secular and religious affairs, serving as tax collector in 1695 and 1698, and was one of the three commissioners to settle the disputed boundary line between Acquackanonk and Newark. He was a deacon in 1700 and 1705, and elder in 1710 and 1724 of what is now the "Old First" Reformed church. He in the meantime was investing in more land, becoming the owner of about three hundred acres stretching along the southwesterly side of Sip Lane, (now Van Houten Avenue) which was laid over Sip's land from the river back to High Avenue, Clifton. He made a map showing fourteen plots of from seven to forty-four acres each, a dozen of which he sold at a big profit making him rich not only in land, but in real English money. He died at the height of his busy career in 1727 sincerely honored by the community, which felt that his death was a public loss. For thirty years after his death, his executors continued his business and then decided to sell as it

appears from New York Mirror of March 14, 1767. "To be sold in Aquenouka upon Passaic River, four miles from Second River in The Eastern division of New Jersey a plantation that formerly belonged to Herman ZURIANSE, deceased, containing 200 acres of good land, 130 of which is cleared and in good fence. (Note by the writer – This was the land from the river to Reid Avenue) and 70 acres good wood land, scattered. There is on said plantation a good stone dwelling house (the same now destroyed-Scott) 45 foot wide, two stories high, with a kitchen adjoining to the same, brew house with a brewing kettle that will hold six barrels, and all the utensils belonging to a brew house; also a large barrack near it, and barns. The house fronts the river where there is a good landing, an orchard of 220 apple trees (extending from Spring to High Street-Scott.), and forty-five young trees ready to be set out, besides other small ones in the nursery, twenty-five peach trees and thirty-nine pear trees, with five acres of excellent mowing ground. There are likewise two other lots of woodland two miles from the river, each containing forty acres and another lot near them of seven acres. All the lots have exceedingly fine growing timber upon them. Esquire of Abraham and Jacob VAN REIPEN executors, living upon the premises, who will agree for the same on reasonable terms, the title being indisputable."

A THRIFTY THOMAS

That Thomas was thrifty is shown by the following. After an enumeration in figures of his family expenses, he thus wrote:

"It is conceived that £14 13s. 4d, as above estimated, will be adequate to furnish all the boys with leather for breeches, a vest for Derck, a coat and vest for Jack, calico for long and short

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The "Squire" Van Ripper House, 502 River Drive, Passaic, Passaic Co., New Jersey

Oldest House in Passaic *cont. from page 4*

gowns for all the girls, stripe linen and stripe linsey for short gowns and petticoats for the said girls, and a tammy quilt for Judith for defraying of which £14 13s. 4d., 220 pair of mittens at 16d. per pair will be needed that will require 44 pounds of wool and will take 44 days work for two girls to spin, and I'll pay for that or hire equivalent in the knitting. If the girls will do the remainder of the service.

"I must pursue the following maxims invariably for the present year. I must fabricate 220 pairs of mittens, and, for the present and future year, if I live, I must supply my boy's with leather for winter breeches; about £3. 8s. will be sufficient to furnish them all – 24 pounds of gray skin at 2s. per pound, and 2s. 6d. for dressing and freight of each skin, supposed to consist of eight skins, tho I think summac red or short grey will be most profitable to buy as the hair is almost nothing, which is not so when the skin is fully coated.

"In the next place I must buy my leather and heels, and spin my shoe thread, and have all my shoes made up in the house, for I find If I even hire 'em made out, find my leather the shoemaker gains, in all probability a profit of 3s. on the leather of a mans pair of shoes, waste in cutting excepted, for which I should think 4d. a large allowance, and the scraps of sole leather may be converted into lists and an eye may be seen to the cutting and the thread may be had from the family labour. And when I am shoeing my family it is requisite to supply each individual with two pair, to prevent shoes being worn too green.

And as a farther advantage in purchasing my leather, I can at all times take care that it be of good quality, and by having it made up together arid in my house will avoid, the Joss of time in running after the same; and I should get one of the boys instructed so as to mend shoes to save money and prevent loss of time. The shoemaker should be obliged to do his day's work or pay for his board.

"In the next place I should hire my taylor and Tayloress in the house, and oblige my girls to assist in the service, for by this means my diet and female service will become a part of the Taylor's bill; besides, their day's wages, as far as I can discern, are not proportionate to the sum in gross they ask for their service, and having the clothes made at home and together there may be an oversight of the cloth and cut, and the loss of time in going to have clothes taken, measure for and tried on.

"The best time of hiring I think is such seasons of the year when the weather is not so cold as to need a fire.

"In the next place it will be requisite to consult a blacksmith to know what allowance he will make for iron and steel.

"Daniel Harcourt informs me that mittens sell for 3s" and stockings for 7s., York money, at Albany, without any regard to the colour, and many of 'em ordinary too-but wampum will not sell since the reduction of Oswego, before that It was in great demand, equal it not superior to silver in value, and there were 60 or 70 wampum shops in Albany."

HISTORY SINCE 1815

After the death of John, his son Gerrit became owner who in 1815, for \$2000 conveyed the house and twenty-six acres to his son Cornelius who by his will made in 1861, devised this house

and about twelve acres of land to his granddaughter Christianna RYERSON. Upon her death, the same descended to her only child Christianna, the wife of Andrew Z. TERHUNE. She died in estate whereupon this house descended to her three sons: Frank C., Howard, and Cornelius A. The last two on October II last conveyed the house and plot in Palmer Street, fifty by 240 feet for \$10,000. Occupancy for two and a quarter centuries by those of Van Riper blood is a most remarkable record well worth remembering, and I am writing this in hope that some day this information may be of assistance in placing a marker on the location of the house.

One of John's sons, Richard was one of Washington's spies during the Revolutionary War and among his daring exploits was that of a trip to York City, then in the possession of the British, disguised as a farmer. February 28, 1781 Colonel Robinson, of the enemy army before whom Richard was taken, reported that he "had come only on the scheme of trade and affects total ignorance of public matters." Richard returned to his home and on March 4 reported to Washington then in camp at Pompton. Richard was made a captain in Colonel Thomas's Battalion of Detached Militia. He died in 1820 and was buried in the graveyard of the Old First Reformed Church, now Armory Park. Today, not only are his services unknown and his praises unsung, but his grave has become obliterated and nothing but what the writer has discovered and written will remain as a reminder a faithful patriot.

John's Grandson was for twenty-eight years superintendent of the Old First Reformed Sunday School and the only layman appointed a Master in Chancery, because of his integrity and knowledge of the law, he having served as judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

~ end of article ~

(Editors Note: I am both pleased and thankful to report that William W. Scott's statement in the first paragraph of this article, "I learned today that the "Squire" Van Riper stone house facing River Drive had been demolished...without a photograph or picture of any kind of the house..., has been disproven."

This fall, I was in the Society's library re-shelving photographs that had been gathered from the collections earlier in the year for an upcoming publication. Genealogist George Van Riper just happened to be researching in the library that day, and I called him over to show him a picture of a Van Riper house that I was about ready to put away. We examined the photo and noted the back of the photograph stated "The Van Riper House, 502 River Drive, Passaic (Passaic County), New Jersey." We determined this was the very same house that Scott reported as demolished without a photograph or picture of any kind. Unfortunately, the Van Riper House is gone the name of Progress, but we are indeed thankful that at least one photograph does in fact exist to document this historic revolutionary-era home.
~Maryjane Proctor~)

HISTORY OF THE BARBOUR FLAX SPINNING COMPANY PATERSON, NEW JERSEY

Taken from "The Co-Operator," Newspaper of the Barbour Mills -V1 N3, June 22, 1918

The parent establishment of this Company, that of William BARBOUR & Sons, is in Lisburn, Ireland, where their mills have been running since 1785. In 1864, when the duty was taken from Flax Machinery, the house of William Barbour & Sons determined to establish branch works in Paterson. The manufacture of Shoe Threads and Linen Thread, where are largely used in various leather manufactures, was begun on a liberal scale in mills called "Passaic Flax Thread Works," driven by water power and employing 450 hands. This mill was also known as "Passaic Mill No. 2" and was formerly run by John COLT, for the weaving of fine sheetings and cotton duck. The mill is known at present as "Barbour Flax Spinning Co., Spruce Street Mill."

An extensive department was established for the spooling of Linen Threads, imported in a bundle. A manufactory known as "Arkwright Mills" was also started for the manufacture of Flax Twines and the coarser grades of goods. The business steadily increased from 1864 to 1872 when the foundations of the Grand Street Mill were laid and additional machinery was ordered from Ireland, but the revenue oppression of 1872 checked the enterprise. In 1877, the erection of this mill proceeded. It was originally 50 feet front on Grand Street by 250 feet deep, and four stories

high. It was one of the finest mills in this section of the country at that time and it had scarcely been stocked with machinery and occupied before plans were laid to increase the floor space and, in 1878 the building was enlarged to 50 by 400 feet.

In February 1879, the Spruce Street Mill was destroyed by fire. It was at once rebuilt, an imitation in all respects of the Grand Street Mill.

In the year 1881, the present Barbour Flax Spinning Co., A.H. Hart Mill, was constructed and was then known as the Granite Mill, from the stone used in its construction.

In 1889, a third addition to the Grand Street Mill was made, making its present size 500 feet. Since this time, numerous buildings have been added, the principal ones being the 1903 building, facing on Grand Street, and the new storehouse, on the corner of Dale Avenue and Grand Street, which was built one year later.

The Grand Street Mill still has on its staff several actively engaged employees whose term of service dates back to the early constructive period. We give herewith the names of a few of our real "old timers":

NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYED	LENGTH OF SERVICE
Bart LYNCH	Foreman - Printing Dept	1865	53 years
Michael FARNON	Dryer	1870	48 years
Alex. GRAHAM	Wood Turning Foremen	1873	45 years
Robert McCLEAN	Foreman - Granite Mch. Shop	1875	43 years
Maggie HOPPER	Patent Twister	1878	40 years
Stewart YOUNG	Chief Engineer	1878	40 years
Rosie BURNS	Dry Spinner	1880	38 years
John STEVENS	Foreman - Flax Store	1880	38 years
Wm. DONNELLY	Foreman - Yarn Reeling	1880	38 years

EXCERPTS FROM "THE CO-OPERATOR" NEWSPAPER OF THE BARBOUR MILLS, PATERSON, NJ

"The Co-Operator" was a news journal published by and for the employees of the Barbour Mills, Paterson, New Jersey. Departmental "reporters" covered the latest news, giving us a sense of the life and times about the mill. "The Co-Operator" reported on a variety of topics that included births, marriages, military service, athletic events, local gossip, and even accidents occurring at the mill.

The Elizabeth Ann Beam Memorial Library at the PCHS contains a small collection of "The Co-Operator" newspapers. Following is a sampling of some of the events reported.

Issue Number One - May 25th, 1918

LIBERTY LOAN SUBSCRIPTIONS POURING IN

You have to hand it to the South End Wet Spinning Room for practical patriotism, but it must be said that every department has done its best, being another instance of the excellent patriotic spirit shown by the Barbour men and women ever since the beginning of the war.

Alex GROSS, the payroll clerk, and Miss Blanche FRANCHI, of the office, "did their bit" to bring up the record by making a call on all department in the interest of the Third Liberty Loan. Several thousands of Dollars were raised this way.

The company has subscribed \$250,000 toward the Third Loan.

BARBOUR'S SOCIAL AND ATHLETIC CLUB NOTES

On May 1st the club moved to its new quarters at the corner of Main and Slater Streets. The new rooms are a decided improvement over the old, having a pool room, a shuffleboard, all necessary conveniences for the members, and a reading room. There are now forty active members in the club, not including those in the Army and Navy.

The present officers are: Thomas DEVLIN, president; Harry RHEIL, vice-president; Gerard DEVLIN, treasurer; Harvey SCOTT, financial secretary; Thomas MATTHEWS, recording secretary. President Devlin reports that a special committee is

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making arrangements for a picnic to be held at Baum's Park on Decoration Day, and like all the club's other affairs, we know it will be a success.

PETE BOUMA SAFE IN FRANCE

When Pete (BOUMA) was last heard from, April 3, he was well and apparently having the time of his life. The ex-Barbour man is serving with the Medical Detachment of the 24th Engineers. A part of Pete's letter follows:

"Arrived safe at an American camp somewhere in France after a trip across and a ride in a box car. Spent three nights in a French barracks one hundred and seven years old, said to have been built in the time of Napoleon. Just now I am located in a perfectly good American camp and sleep in a regular bunk, and, Oh! Boy! How this boy does sleep and eat – they can't give me enough. Feel as though I could push say twelve trucks of rove at one time. Spent two and one half hours at a brook washing clothes yesterday, Sunday. Wish they would make olive drab underclothes or get a washing machine, because, believe me boys, this soap and brush method, is hard work for a fellow.

"Please have some one write me and tell me who is winning the war. We get darn few American papers here, and what we do get have only one page each. Well, so long everyone."

Pete's address is c.o. Medical Department, 24th Engineers, A.E.F, France. Now before you forget it, write him a letter.

PERSONAL ITEMS

Charles MATEER, of the dry yard, is the proud father of a baby girl, and is receiving the congratulations of his fellow workers.

John LEAGREE and Tommy MATTHEWS received an awful jolt when they discovered in the "Morning Call" that the District Draft Board had put them in class 1-A, and they instantly saw visions of leaving their happy homes to go and fight the Huns. However, this was found to be a mistake and joy was restored to them when the local board assured them that they were in class 4.

ODDS AND ENDS

George HOLMBERG, of the Granite Machine Shop, who is with the Engineers at Camp Dix, was in town the other day, and said he never felt better in his life.

Everyone in the mill was deeply sorrowed to hear of the death of Joseph MC VEIGH, who was killed in an accident to his ship off the French coast. Before he enlisted in the Navy, McVeigh was employed in the Twisting Department and was a popular man throughout the mill. He was also a member of the Barbour Social and Athletic Club.

EMPLOYEES GROCERY STORE KEEPS DOWN THE HIGH COST OF LIVING

Billy McILWAINE, the "boss" of the store, reports that more and more employees are taking advantage of the store as a means of keeping down living expenses. The sales average \$1,000 a week. The stock is being enlarged constantly, and buyers have the satisfaction of knowing that they are getting everything at cost.

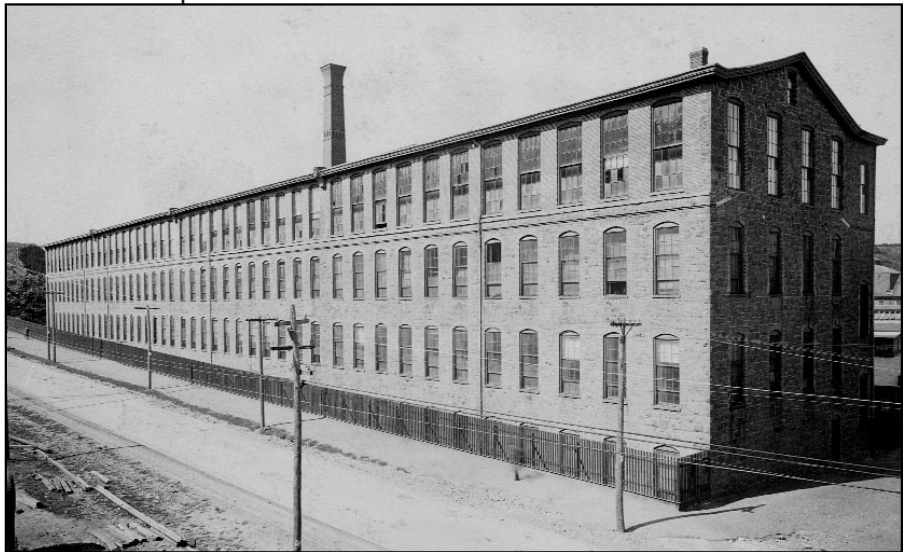
Issue Number Two – June 8th, 1918

NEW MASTER MECHANIC AT GRAND STREET MILL

"The Co-Operator" extends the glad hand to Malcolm WALLACE, our new master mechanic. Judging from his name, we have no doubt that some of his ancestors fought with Bonnie Charlie. Mr. Wallace was born and raised in Lakeview, N.J., so he is no stranger to this section of the country.

BUSINESS IS BOOMING IN THE STORE

Billy McILWAINE said that he is ready to put up bundles during the afternoon for those who will give their orders to the foreman in the morning or leave them at the store at noon time. Then, when you call after five o'clock, you won't have to wait until your groceries are put up. No one can accuse Billy of not being accommodating.



Barbour's Mill, Paterson, NJ in an undated photo. Photo: PCHS Collections

BARBOUR-ISMS

Uncle Sam has called one of our guards, Hugh KILPATRICK. His place is taken by Harry MILLER.

The engagement of our payroll clerk, Alex. C. GROSS has been announced.

John RICE, once a foreman in this mill and now at Blue Mountain, Alabama, is the proud father of an eight-pound baby girl. Congratulations, John

Harry KENNEDY, who was employed here before he took a position in the New York Office, went away with the last bunch of boys to Camp Dix. During the past few months, Harry was with the Council of National Defense, at Washington.

John DEVANNEY spent Decoration Day at Staten Island.

Charley SPIES is back again on the job after a serious illness.

Gerald DEVLIN, of the hacksetters' department, has arrived safely at Camp Hancock, and like all the rest of the boys, he says "It's all the life." The Kaiser will shiver when Gerald get on his trail.

Sadie DALZELL, now Mrs. Julius ERCHINGER, forelady of the spooling department, has been wearing a broad smile of late. Upon inquiring the reason, we find that her husband has just arrived home safely from his fourth trip across the big pond.

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Philip RYAN, of the Dry Yard, is receiving the condolences of his friends upon the death of his wife, who passed away after a few days sickness.

Mrs. J. BUSH and Mrs. Catherine KELLEY, of the Balling Room, would like to receive work from their husbands, hearing of their safe arrival on the other side.

James BRIODY, an oiler in the Ring Twisting Room, was presented with a silver wrist watch by the twisters and doffers on his departure for Camp Dix on May 27th. This is the second oiler to join the colors from this department within the last three months, Mike MURPHY having joined the Navy.

James RAFFERTY, foreman of the hackling department, died of typhoid Sunday, May 26th, at his home on Taylor Street, after an illness of about two weeks. Mr. Rafferty was the father of the well known Rafferty brothers, James and John, who won national fame as runners. James is well known to people in the mill because of the fact that he was assistant to Evan RILEY in the gate house a good many years.

Mr. Rafferty's fatal illness – typhoid fever – was the first that made him take to his bed. He was buried from St. John's church, with a high requiem mass.

It is regrettable that Mr. Rafferty stopped work just one day before the group insurance plan became effective. His last day here was May 14, and at noon, May 15, everyone in the plant, who had been here six months, was insured.

Bill BROWNLEE, our star motor mechanic, is in a happy mood these days. Reason: on Sunday, May 2, his wife presented him with a fine baby boy. This is Bill's first male descendant, and we hope the baby grows up to be as fine a man as his father.

Luke BOYD, our former master mechanic, is in a very serious condition, and is not expected to live very much longer.

HART THROBS

Sergeant NIVENS on his recent furlough gave a very interesting talk at the Armory to the officers and "non-coms" of Company B of the Paterson Home Guards. "The Co-Operator" hears he is in line for a commission. We wish you luck, sergeant!

We had still another military caller – Private HINES from Camp Div.

Superintendent DALE reports that the group insurance plan was splendidly received, and that expressions of praise were heard from different quarters.

Tommy REID was in the Cambrai "scrap" with the engineer corps – probably the first Patersonian to be in the fighting line.

GRANITE SPARKS

Henry NEWBURGER, formerly of the Granite Machine shop, has joined in the Merchant Marine. He is taking a course of instruction and will shortly ship as an engineer.

Superintendent Howard D. TRACY assumed his duties at the Granite on June 3. He succeeds Mr. WEBSTER.

BARBOUR'S SOCIAL AND ATHLETIC CLUB NOTES

The club's annual Picnic at Baum's Park on Decoration Day was a decided success. On account of the disagreeable weather, the races were not held, but the affair was not lacking in excitement, for President DEVLIN captured a pickpocket, who had relieved a young lady of seventy dollars while she was dancing. Tommy sees to it that everyone has a good time and a square deal at any affairs in the club conducts.

ON NAMING NAMES

William Serchak

A man from Poland visiting America goes to an optometrist for an eye examination. The optometrist shows the Polish gentlemen a card with the letters:

C Z W X N Q S T A C Z

"Can you read this?" the optometrists asks.

"Read it!?" the Pole replies, "I know the guy!"

This bit of humor gives me a perfect lead-in to a second article in the Jezierczak Family History that I'm writing. With a name like Serchak, I find that many people either can't pronounce or spell the name correctly. (Even after two years at Michigan Tech, the Registrar had my name spelled 'Sherchak' on my transcript!)

So it's a common situation that every Family Historian has to deal with – that if you are researching an unusual surname, it has a 'two-edged sword' aspect – being unusual or difficult to spell (as compared with Smith, Jones, Brown, etc.). You can more easily find records and documents pertinent to that specific family using internet search engines or in written docu-

ments such as city directories, census records, civil & church indexes, etc. On the other hand, you have to be prepared to find that name misspelled or even subject to a kind of evolution especially if the bearer's ancestor immigrated here from another area of the world.

The evolution of my family name, then, is the subject of this article "On Naming Names"...Bill

I have an interesting letter in my files from the Instytut Języka Polskiego (Polish Language Institute) in Krakow, Poland. It is in reply to my query to the Institute concerning the origin of my family name-JEZIERCZAK. It reads as follows:

Krakow February 2, 1997

Dear Mr. Serchak,

In reply to your letter of January 6, 1997 concerning the origin of your ancestors, I explain you, as follows:

Your ancestors came, in fact, from the territory that, in times of partition of Poland, belonged to the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Till nowadays in the region of Trybsz, a part of the population is of Slovak nationality and speaks Slovak.

cont. on page 9

However, the surname *Jezierczak* is of Polish origin. This is a pet form of a personal name *Jeziorko* or a name of an inhabitant of a village called *Jeziorko*.

The nickname *Jeziorko* has been very well known in the *Nowy Sacz* province since the 17 century. The base of this nickname, namely *Jezioro*, already in the 16 century.

Today, there are in Poland 39 people bearing *Jezierczak* as their surname (in the *Nowy Sacz* province there are 28 of them).

The conviction that the surname *Jezierczak* was of Russian origin is a misconception. The phonetic structure of this surname doesn't allow it. The appellative base, from which the surname *Jezierczak* came, namely *jezioro* 'lake', sounds in Russian *ozero* and in Slovak *jazero*. Therefore, all records of the surname *Jeziorkak*, quoted by you, speak in advocacy of Polish origin of this family name.

Sincerely,

Signed /Janina Szymowa M.A./

Quite early in my research of our family name – **SERCHAK** – it became obvious that our name had evolved over the years with different spellings and in other languages. Many foreign names are changed following immigration to another country. Some names are changed or become 'corrupted' due to the difficulty of pronouncing the original name in the new country. Whole books have been written about the origin of surnames and their evolution. This evolution has resulted in different spellings and sometimes in completely new and unrelated surnames.

Following intensive research at home and visits to Poland and Slovakia in the early 1990's, I found a large number of variants of my family name in church & civil records, on gravestones, and even in government census documents. In Poland today, the descendants of my grandfather's siblings spell the family name as **JEZIERCZAK** on correspondence and on recent gravestones. As it was pointed out in the letter above, the root



“SERCHAK” Family Monument at Saint Mary’s Assumption Cemetery, Saddle Brook, NJ

of the name is derived from the Polish word *jezioro* that translates as 'lake'. The suffix *-czak* is a common ending for many Polish surnames. Together the words *jezioro* and *czak* translate as 'man from the lake' according to another source.

Another complication in researching my family name is that the vital records found in St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church in Trybsz, Poland, where my grandfather Andrew and his ancestors were baptized, were written in several different languages over the years. Some early records were in Slovak as the church was in the Slovak-speaking part of Austria-Hungary. For another period of time, the records were kept in Latin, then in Hungarian, and presently they are written in Polish. Since the alphabets in these four languages are somewhat different, the family name was spelled differently over the years.

After grandfather Andrew, his older brother, Jacob, and his youngest sister, Anna, arrived in America their family name continued to change independently of each other. For example, a few years ago I met a second cousin in the Carbondale, Pennsylvania region who introduced himself as Jack Zerchak. He said it was very strange to hear me introduce myself as Bill Serchak, yet his grandfather, Jacob, and my grandfather, Andrew, were brothers!

Finally, a sampling of some of the variations in the spelling of grandfather's surname in America will illustrate the frequently puzzling task of finding our ancestor's name in official documents.

DATE/DOCUMENT	GRANDFATHER'S NAME
1892 Passenger Manifest-SS Trave	Andro Jezrscsak
1905 New Jersey State Census	Andrew Cyrchak
1910 Passaic, NJ City Directory	Andrew Yezircak
1910 13th Census of the United States	Andrew Syarchak
1912 Declaration of Intention – US Citizenship	Andro Yezorcak
1920 14th Census of the United States	Andrew Yezerchak
1924 Deed – 31 Mahar Ave., Passaic, NJ	Andrew Yezercak
1940 Alien Registration Form – INS	Andrew Yezerchak
1944 Death Certificate – NJ Vital Statistics	Andrew Jezercak
1944 Herald News Obituary	Andrew Sherchak
1944 Gravestone – St Mary's Cemetery	Andrew Yezerchak

(Editors Note: To learn more about Bill Serchak's quest for genealogical information, you may wish to read his articles previously published in "The Castle Genie"

"A Visit of Czarna Gora" (V9 – N3)

"Return to Czarna Gora" (V10 – N1)

"Andrzej Michal Jezierczak, the Grandfather I Hardly Knew" (V10 – N4)

~ Maryjane Proctor ~)

POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

Pompton Lakes, Passaic County, New Jersey

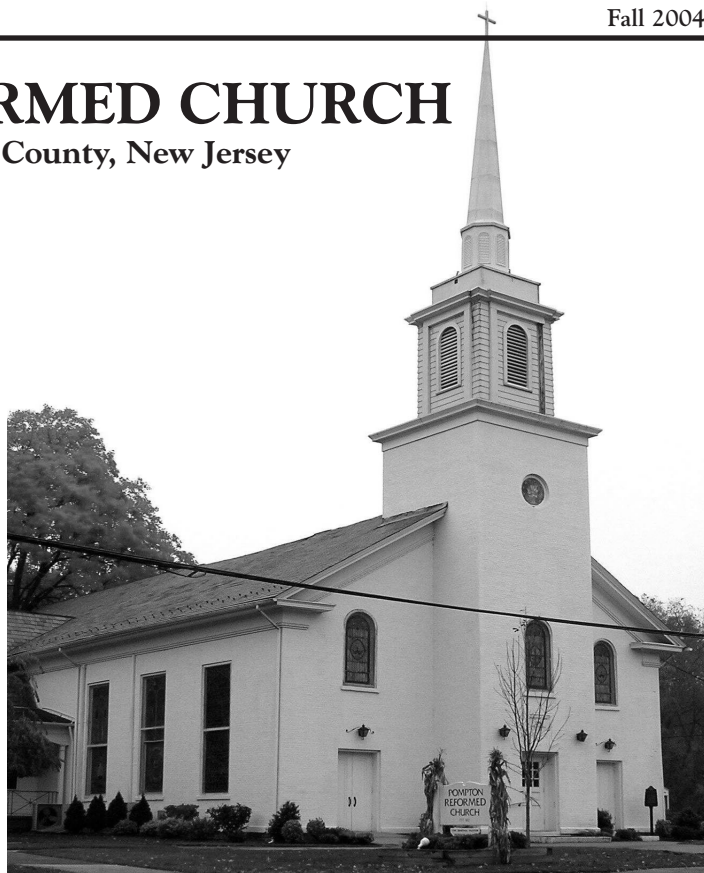
The Pompton Reformed Church is the oldest existing church in Pompton Lakes. Founded in 1812, its first meeting of organizers was held on February 20th of that year. The church was built and dedicated in 1814 on land donated by Martin RYERSON, owner of the Pompton Ironworks. Noted author Albert Payson TERHUNE (1872-1942) was a long time member of the congregation.

On a plaque placed by the Garret A. Hobart Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Paterson NJ in 1926, inscribed are names of those known soldiers of the American Revolution buried in the cemetery adjoining the church:

John BEAM, David BOARD, James BOARD, Capt. Joseph BOARD, Robert COLFAX, David D. HENNION, Capt. John P. MEAD, Major Adrian POST, Garret POST, Capt. Martin G. RYERSON.

The Pompton Reformed Church, located at 59 Hamburg Turnpike, was declared a local historic landmark in 2001.

The marriages occurring at Pompton Reformed as listed below were copied by John D. Quackenbush, Jr. in 1967 and are part of Passaic County Historical Society collections. Items in parentheses have been added to the original date. Successive marriage listings will appear in future issue of "The Castle Genie".



Pompton Reformed Church Marriages 1816-1864

DATE	GROOM	BRIDE
1816 Jan 01	VAN HOUTEN, Cornelius	LENDERS, Mary
1816 Jan 02	SCHOFIELD, John	SANFORD, Nancy
1816 Jan 02	BOARD, David	MEED, Rebecca
1816 Jan 06	DOTY, Henry	LYONS, Polly
1816 Jan 25	SYTHOFF, Lambert	POST, Polly
1816 Jun 01	FRELAND, Garret	MERRIAN, Polly
1816 Jun 12	BEAM, Peter M.	HENNION, Fanny
1816 Jun 12	BALDWIN, James	COLFAX, Eliza
1816 Aug 10	JACOBUS, Cornelius	CONSELYEA, Caty
1816 Oct 16	STRONG, Samuel	LEVIN, Caty
1816 Nov 02	JACOBUS, Abram	FREDERICKS, Catharine
1817 Jan 01	VAN WAGONER, Abram	JACOBUS, Eve
1817 Feb 12	ACKERMAN, John A.	POST, Hester
1817 Feb 20	HENNION, John	SISCO, widow
1817 Feb 20	HAULENBECK, Issac	BLAUVELT, Bridget
1817 Apr 01	WIMING, Richard	DRUMMOND, Mary
1817 May 22	TERHUNE, Richard M.	SICKLES, Mary
1817 May 24	FOOTE, Henry	BEAM, Elenor
1817 May 26	STORMS, Peter	LYONS, Nechy
1817 May 29	VAN NESS, Peter	HAULENBECK, Betsy
1817 Sep 06	FREDERICKS, Peter	EKERT, Peggy
1817 Sep 06	FRELAND, James	VAN NESS, Sophia
1817 Nov 15	TITUS, Isaac	LAZERE, Hester
1818 Jan 31	VAN RIPER, John	TICE, Caty
1818 Mar 21	FRELAND, Abram	TOMEN, Elizabeth
1818 Apr 11	TAYLOR, Richard	FREDERICKS, Mary
1818 May 30	MANDEVILLE, Paul	EKERT, Hannah
1818 June 13	ZELIFF, John	VAN NESS, Jane
1818 June 27	SMITH, John R.	CANOUSE, Catharine
1818 July 4	BEATY, George	SLOTE, Rachel
1818 July 27	COOK, Henry I.	BERRY, Elizabeth
1818 Oct 29	SISCO, Henry	BLACK, Eliza
1818 Oct 31	GARRITSON, Hassam	BALLARD, Eunice
1818 Dec 24	GARRISON, Peter	BEAM, Rebecca

DATE	GROOM	BRIDE
1819 Jan 1	CARMAN, Peter	SISCO, Elenor
1819 Jan 2	HENNION, Tunis	BUSCH, Betsy* *Widow
1819 Jan 11	PIATT, Daniel	SLINGERLAND, Eliza
1819 Jan 28	TICE, Peter	ROMAINE, Elizabeth
1819 Jan 28	BROWN, Henry	ROMAINE, Catharine
1819 Feb 11	HENNION, David	PIATT, Maria
1819 Feb 27	FRELIN, Henry	HENNION, Elenor
1819 May 29	VAN NESS, Simon	WILLIS, Charlotte
1819 June 12	DREW, John	DOWLIN, Polly
1819 July 17	HUYLER, Stephen	VAN DINE, Sophia
1819 July 31	DEBOW, Paul	VAN NESS, Margaret
1819 Nov 18	OCKERMAN, William I.	BERTOLPH, Rachel
1819 Dec 21	SMITH, Gray	SISCO, Elizabeth
1820 Jan 8	FOX, David	STORMS, Catharine
1820 Jan 29	JENNINGS, James	DUTCHER, Eliza
1820 Jan 30	SYNDEL, Christopher	YOUND, Elizabeth
1820 May 14	POOL, Giles	MILLER, Margaret
1820 June 10	MEAD, Peter Cutis	BLAIR, Jane
1820 July 30	LARERE, John	DRAKE, Jane
1820 Aug 26	DEVERIN, Francis	BROSS, Margaret
1820 Oct 28	MASSACRE, Henry	VAN RIPER, Sophia
1820 Nov 25	MONROE, Daniel	BROWN, Jane
1820 Dec 25	RYERSON, Isaac	BERTOLPH, Rachel
1820 Dec 25	HAYCOOK, Ichediah	DRUMMOND, Elizabeth
1820 Dec 25	CRANE, Joseph P.	ROMER, Maria
1821 June 9	SMITH, Albert	POST, Nelly
1821 June 11	BERTOLPH, Henry	LINES, Margaret
1821 June 21	VAN BRIKE, Abraham H.	GARRISON, Hannah
1821 July 14	WINTER, Peter	PULIS, Margaret
1821 July 28	HOPPER, Henry	COURTER, Catharine
1821 Aug 11	MORGAN, Daniel	LINES, Ann
1821 Aug 11	WINTER, William	KOUGH, Martha
1821 Sept 20	DAVIS, Charles	DEPUY, Elenor

cont. on page 11

Pompton Reformed Church Marriages 1816-1864

DATE	GROOM	BRIDE	DATE	GROOM	BRIDE
1821 Oct 13	QUACKENBUSH, Abram	STORM, Betsy	1824 Sept 23	VAN HORN, Cornelius	VAN HOUTEN, Ann
1821 Oct 27	SMITH, John	VAN WORT* *Widow	1824 Nov 11	BLAUVELT, Isaac	PATTERSON, Isabella
1821 Dec 1	BEAM, Coonrad	RYERSON, Ann	1824 Nov 27	ACKERMAN, John	HENNION, Susanna
1821 Dec 31	COONRAD, Charles	VAN NESS, Catharine	1824 Nov 27	LINES, Henry	SCHUYLER, Mary
1822 Jan 5	DEMAREST, Cornelius	RYERSON, Ann	1824 Dec 11	MCMICKENS, Andrew	COLFAX, Ann
1822 Jan 14	WILLIAMS, Abraham	COLFAX, Mary	1824 Dec 18	RYERSON, John G.	GARRISON, Eve
1822 Feb 16	STAGG, William R.	JEROME, Catharine	1824 Dec 25	ACKERMAN, Garret I.	WATSON, Elizabeth
1822 Feb 24	ACKERMAN, James	STORMS, Helen	1824 Dec 27	GREEN, Ephriam	RYERSON, Catharine
1822 May 23	LINES, Peter	BEAM, Maria	1825 Jan 20	CLARK, Alexander	ALLEN, Ann
1822 May 26	SMITH, Benjamin	POST, Elizabeth	1825 Jan 20	ACKER, John	VAN VOORHES, Sally
1822 Oct 27	WADE, Benjamin	WELLS, Joanna	1825 Feb 20	KANOUSE, Frederick	YOUNG, Catharine
1822 Nov 23	THOMAS, Thomas	WINTERS, Margaret	1825 Feb 20	HUSK, Andrew	WITTY, Sophia
1822 Nov 23	GREEN, Daniel	THOMPSON, Anny	1825 May 19	BROWN, Jacob	ELLIS, Nelly
1822 Nov 23	FOSTER, James	DOWLIN, Ann	1825 June 18	DOREMUS, Peter C	VAN NESS, Caty
1822 Dec 7	ROMAINE, Albert	FOLLY, Ann	1825 Aug 1	PAYNE, Jason	VALENTINE, Sally
1823 Jan 25	PACKER, Philip	HOUSE, Lavina	1825 Aug 1	UTTER, Russel	MARVINS, Mary
1823 Feb 22	SCHUYLER, Isaac	JONES, Elizabeth	1825 Sept 1	BEAM, Martin Ryerson	KINGSLAND, Johanna
1823 Mar 20	DOYLE, Henry	BROWN, Polly	1825 Sept 5	CORBY, Thomas D.	WHEATON, Lucinda
1823 Mar 20	VAN NESS, Peter	BROWN, Eliza	1825 Dec 3	YOUNG, David	JACOBS, Polly
1823 May 22	TOWNSEND, Charles	VAN WAGONER, Sophronia			<i>to be continued...</i>
1823 June 15	DEBOW, John	BERTOLPH, Elenor			
1823 June 28	WARD, Peter	POST, Rachel E.			
1823 Aug 16	POST, Abram G.	WINTER, Hannah H.			
1823 Aug 21	VAN WINKLE, Abram	MCGOURGY, Ann			
1823 Aug 23	DEMAREST, Cornelius P.	SPEER, Ann			
1823 Oct 16	STEEL, John	ROWE, Clarissa			
1823 Dec 13	HOPPER, Abram	COURTER, Hannah			
1823 Dec 25	STORMS, Albert	KOUGH, Ann			
1824 Jan 8	LINES, John	LINES, Polly			
1824 Jan 31	FOLLY, William	ROMAINE, Sarah			
1824 Feb 21	TERHUNE, Henry	ROMAINE, Maria			
1824 Mar 6	DREW, Ezra	HENNION, Ann			
1824 June 12	SCHUYLER, Peter	HOPPER, Rachel			
1824 June 26	MCMICKENS, John	HOGAN, Nancy* *Widow			
1824 July 20	DEGRAW, Richard	QUACKENBUSH, Helen			
1824 July 31	DEMAREST, Coonrad	HOPPER, Elenor			
1824 Aug 26	ACKERMAN, Thomas	MANDEVILLE, Maria			



Board Monument erected by his descendants at Pompton Reformed Cemetery. "IN LOVING MEMORY OF CORNELIUS BOARD AND HIS WIFE ELIZABETH WHO CAME FROM SUSSEX ENGLAND IN 1730. HE DISCOVERED IRON ORE AT STERLING AND MADE THE FIRST IRON IN NEW YORK STATE IN 1736."

FOLK FINDER

Ruth Braddock

The Folk Finder Column is devoted to helping genealogical researchers locate Northern New Jersey ancestors/descendants. We invite researchers to submit requests for help, inquiries about family names, or queries concerning the exchange of information.

Inquiries may be e-mailed to Ruth BRADDOCK at <folkfinderpcgs@aol.com>. Queries by mail should be sent to : Passaic County Historical Society, Lambert Castle, Attn: Ruth Braddock, "Folk Finder", Valley Road, Paterson, NJ 07503.

If you can help any of our submitters, please contact them directly.

1. BOTANY MILLS: I've been trying to locate employment records for the now defunct Botany Mills. Does anyone have any idea where those records might be archived? Submitted by: William E. **SERCHAK** email: weserchak@erols.com

2. HALL: Searching for information on Ralph **HALL** who reportedly had a copy of a MINNS Bible in 1941. Ralph is the grandson of Louisa (**MINNS**) **HALL** of Preakness (Wayne) NJ. Louisa **MINNS HALL** is the daughter of John **MINNS** and Sally **GANNETT**. John **MINNS** is buried at the Preakness Dutch Reformed Churchyard. Does anyone have any information anything about Ralph **HALL** or the **MINNS** Bible, and is there anyone who is also researching this family? I would gladly share any information I have on this family from Preakness and England. There is a Minns and Hall Streets in the area that I have seen. Submitted by: Mary E. **HEMPTON**, 1380 Kimblewick Road, Rockville, MD 20854 email: merner@comcat.net



Passaic County Historical Society Genealogy Club
 Lambert Castle, Valley Road,
 Paterson, New Jersey 07503



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All members are invited to submit articles for publication in "The Castle Gene." We will try to publish at least a portion of everything we receive, and articles will be printed as space permits. Information is published as received and has not been verified. When information is extracted from another publication, please give proper credit.

Send articles to: Maryjane Proctor, Editor, 210 Church Lane, Wayne, NJ 07470-3323 mj13@optonline.net

For membership information, please call the PCHS at 973-247-0085

PCHS Genealogy Club meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month (September through May).

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