

The
Story of
Hanover
New Jersey

1967



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NON-CIRCULATING



THE AUTHOR . . . Edna A. Dixon

Photo taken at the time of the Home and Garden Tour of the Hanover Garden Club, 1955. Costume loaned by Mrs. Roswell N. Hait.

This book is dedicated to the children of this town, who will be the ones to shape its future.

Edna A. Dixon

The Story of Hanover

By Edna A. Dixon and Edward Dixon

Acknowledgments

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the following:

To Mrs. Raymond Reinhardt, who did the typing for me.

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To the many others, who have aided me in many ways, my thanks.

Edna A. Dixon

The Story of Hanover

As one looks about the pleasant countryside it is hard to imagine that this section was once lying beneath the waters of a large lake. This condition was caused by the great glacier of prehistoric times covering the land. It advanced from the northeast, dammed up the Passaic River and formed a lake. After the glacier melted it deposited the soil it carried, forming small irregular hills. Thus was closed the gap at Short Hills through which the river had previously flowed into Newark Bay, and forced it to find its present route by way of Paterson.

Prior to 1700 the territory known as Morris County was inhabited by the Lenni Lenape Indians. Evidences of their presence have been found in the numerous arrowheads, bits of pottery, stone axes, and tomahawks which have been collected from lands lying hereabouts. Not so long ago an old Indian burying ground was discovered when workmen were excavating on the property of Mr. Abraham Steppel across the road from the Hanover Airport.

The whole of the present county of Morris before 1738 was a township called Hanover, and was incorporated in the borders of Hunterdon County. When Morris County was formed the inhabitants clung to the name Hanover, and retained it in connection with several localities. The name was given about 1746 to all this section. This name was in honor of the English sovereigns; The House of Hanover. Morris County was named in honor of Col. Lewis Morris, then governor of New Jersey.

It may be of interest to some to learn that many nearby towns originally had very different names from those they now bear. Roseland was called Centerville, and Livingston had several names for its different sections; such as: Teedtown, Squiertown, Cheapside, Morehousetown. Madison was once South Hanover and Bottle Hill. But Hanover has always remained Hanover.

Hanover Township was established by order of the County Clerk in 1740. It was bounded on the north by the Pequannock River and Montville, on the east was the Passaic River and Montville, on the south Morristown and Chatham, and on the west by Rockaway.

It was one of the largest townships in the county, containing 29,747 acres. It was formed under the name Whippanong. Whippanong, or Whippany, was settled first. The Indian name was spelled Whipene, which means "the place of the arrow." Morristown was called West Hanover, and Whippany East Hanover. There is some confusion in the names. In some records they appear as "new" and then as "West Hanover."

The first settlers in this place came from the overflood pulation of Newark and Elizabeth, arriving about 1710. Some of family names were: Tuttle, Kitchell, Ball, Osborn, Ely, Pruden, Cook, Hopping, Young, Condit, or (Condict) and Douglas. All were people of substantial character and zealous Protestants.

After the King of England had disposed of his ownership of East and West Jersey the proprietors, in 1702 had the state surveyed, blocked out, and offered for sale.

The northern part of which is now East Hanover Township was bought in 1715 by Daniel Cox, a speculator from Burlington. The property had 1250 acres priced at a dollar an acre, and extended from the Whippany River to the Passaic. The line that divided his property from that on the south was called the "Cox Line." A large portion of this line is still standing. It was surveyed in 1715, and runs east from a point on the Whippany River at "Ridgedale Park," along a stone wall more than half a mile; then crosses Ridgedale Ave., south of Peniston Ave. and follows a fence to River Rd. It crosses that road at Merry's Lane, and follows the hedgerow to Bausewein's property.

Cox soon after sold his purchase to one Jonathan Stiles, who in

1735 resold it to Col. Joseph Tuttle.

South of the Cox line the property was bought by John Budd and Rebecca Wheeler. It extended as far as the present Florham Park line.

In the beginning what is now East Hanover Township consisted of two towns viz: Hanover, and Hanover Neck. The dividing line ran roughly from where the power plant was on Ridgedale Ave., to a short distance north of where DeForest Ave. joins River Road. Hanover lay south of this line, and Hanover Neck to the north. This part received its name because it lies in a neck of land between the two rivers. These two villages were separated until the township broke away from Hanover Township in 1928, and became East Hanover Township. Gradually the two towns have merged, and now have one name.

Perhaps it will interest some to recall the names of the first officials in the new township. The following is taken from the minutes of the first meeting of the Town Committee as recorded in the Town Hall.

Town Committee

Alexander Webb, chairman George Tuttle Albert Reinmann

This last was chosen to take the place of Henry DeForest, who was killed by a car before he could take office.

Collector of Taxes and Treasurer
D. Mulford Shipman

Auditor -- Eugene O'Neill Clerk -- Gordon Gould Attorney -- David F. Barkman Recorder -- John A. Keck

At the second meeting of the Town Committee the following special police were appointed:

Ralph Shrader Joseph Porter Norman Smith Thornton Webb William Steckert

The men were to pay a deposit of \$2.50 when they received the badge, and it was returned when they gave it back.

Early Transportation

Transportation in the early days was by water or horseback, as the roads were rude paths made originally by the Indians or by wild animals. Carriages were almost unknown; the only vehicles approaching them being the rough carts used in farming. So the husband or father, if he had a horse, rode one with his wife on the pillion behind the saddle, with perhaps a babe in her arms.

Later, dirt or gravel roads were made. They were very good in a dry summer, except for the dust, but in spring they became a sea of

mud, and wagons often became mired almost to the hubs.

Prior to 1900 this town had 6 or 7 main streets. They were: Ridgedale Avenue (which had no name), River Road then called Mutton Lane because of the many sheep kept. Cedar Street, called Snuff Lane; and Eagle Rock Avenue. This had no name but it is interesting to learn that it was an old Indian trail, made for them by the elk, deer, and other animals that came through to drink. The road from Ridgedale Ave. across the Troy Meadows was Dumpling Lane, now Troy Road. The other roads were: DeForest Ave., Mt. Pleasant Ave., which is a portion of the early "Dover Road" (i.e., a main route from Sussex Co. to Newark), and Hanover Rd., but none had a name then.

Swinefield Bridge was first called Tuttle's Bridge, because a Tuttle owned the property thereabouts, and built it. Later it was called Swinefield Bridge because swine were turned loose in the woods nearby to feed on the acorns. The bridge in Hanover on Mt. Pleasant Ave., was called Cook's Bridge, because Ellis Cook owned

a tavern nearby in what is now the Rowley home.

Some idea may be formed of the means of communication in those days by the stage route advertisements. Here are a few:

April 3rd, 1798, Pruden Alling and Benjamin Green advertised in a Morristown paper the Hanover stage to run from William Parrot's to Paulus Hook (now Jersey City), stopping at Munn's Tavern in Orange, etc.

Morris County Advocate 1843 From Morristown to Newark by way of Whippany, Hanover Orange

Fare to Newark 75 cents

Occupations

Hanover may well be proud of its part in the Revolution. Consisting of about 200 to 400 inhabitants, there were about 36 men who served in the struggle for independence. The Hanover church was used as a hospital for smallpox cases (see my father's account).

This was a self-sufficient community mostly farming. Nearly all the farms were small, but there were a few people who had over a hundred acres; viz: George Petry, James Ball, Calvin Dixon, Joseph Kitchell, and John Kitchell. The owners of large places were called

"Nabobs" by the general public.

The farms produced most of the living, and the village had a blacksmith, shoemaker, weaver, tailor and taverns. Wheat was taken to the grist mill to be ground into flour. There was a mill in Whippany and one in Montville. When it was necessary to buy groceries a trip by horse and wagon to Newark was necessary, and an all day's task it was. The firm Wilkinson and Gaddis was one of the first groceries there.

Incidentally, my grandfather, Timothy W. Dixon, told Mrs. Susan M. Cutter (his granddaughter) that he, at fourteen years, took a load of hay with a yoke of oxen all the way to Newark to sell, walking beside

the team both ways.

Later, about a hundred years ago, a store in each village was established. The one in the southern section (Hanover) was in the building opposite the intersection of River Road and Mt. Pleasant Ave. It was kept by Mr. James Mead at first, and in later years by a succession of merchants. The advent of the supermarket marked the end of the village store.

There was a store at the bend of old Ridgedale Avenue opposite the garage, which was kept by Nathaniel Douglas till his death. Later various ones were in charge. The last one to have it was Eugene Dixon. He managed it till the latter part of the 1800's until it no longer paid.

He and his family moved to East Orange.

The third store was located on the south side of Eagle Rock Avenue, where it joins Ridgedale Avenue. Mr. John Polhemus was one of if not the first proprietor. Later Dan Condit managed it, and lastly Frank Hopping had it.

The country store was a popular gathering place for the men of the neighborhood, especially during the long winter evenings. Politics

were hotly debated and local gossip freely discussed.

These stores carried a variety of goods, from tea to calico. The larger ones in towns had a great variety of interesting items. Some idea of the merchandise advertised will be found from the following:

Newspaper-Palladium Liberty date - 1817

Alum
copperas
Spanish indigo
madder
nutgals
Aqua fortis
blue vitriol
sweet oil

fustic (yellow dyewood)
camwood
sealing wax
liquid blacking
tumeric
varnish

gum copal opodeldoc glouber salts jack cards litharge tenter hooks wood and argol An advertisement in the "New Jersey Journal" Dec. 7, 1781, listed the following to sell:

spotted velvet
spotted jean
callicoes & chintz
linen
apron check
striped holland
sattin

silk handkerchiefs black Barcelona linen handkerchiefs black and white gauze durant flannel cambrick white sarcenet corded dimity persian sewing silk ribands coat buttons twist shoe buckles sleeve buttons Bohea tea pepper sugar pins earthenware

The "Morris County Advocate 1843" lists these for sale:

knives and forks

Cologne water (French & German)
lavender water
Bouquet de Caroline
Orange flower
Bay water
cold cream
Rowland's genuine Macassar oil
bear's oil
Oldridge's Balm of Columbia
Jayne's Hair tonic
Oxmarrow
pomatum (highly perfumed)

rich alpacca
silk warp
colored and blue black
French merinos
stripe merinos
rich deloins
rich silk velvets
taghonas

Old Hipon and other fine teas

Chintz prints and furniture prints wood dyed cassimeres

Advertisement in "Morris County Advocate"
Sale or let at Malapardis
house, garden and a cotton factory.

Dyewood manufactory for sale in Hanover near Whippany.

pot and pearl ashes red precipitate toothache drops verdegris glue Ching's worm lozenges cudbear spices pink root peruvian bark castor oil paregoric windsor soap Anderson's pills toothache drops Ching's worm lozenges pink root paregoric pomatum

A look into some of the early newspapers may prove instructive. In the "Democratic Banner of January 1866" there are many advertisements but no prices quoted, save one: Wool yarn \$1.25 a pound. Also there is an interesting item, viz: Antinervous smoking tobacco "Chingagora." So it would seem there was worry even then over the effect of smoking.

In "The Iran Era" published in Dover on Jan. 4, 1894, the following are to be seen:

W. V. Snyder Co. (Newark) cloaks \$3.98 to \$7.50 jackets 9.98 Black Persian lamb capes \$60.00 China seal capes \$19.50 W. L. Douglas \$3.00 shoe (Newark) Pierson & Co. (Dover)

Men's overcoats now \$5 Business suits now \$8 Young men's suits \$5 P. Lehman & Co. Grocer, Dover Best flour \$4.25 a barrel Hams 10¢ per pound 10 lb. lard pail 75¢ per Pail 6 lb. rolled oats 20¢ " " smoked shoulders 7¢ per Pound 8¢ " salt pork 30¢ " ,, sugar 7 lb @ ,, ,,, 3 lb rice @ 19¢ 17¢ " ,, 3 lb tapioca @ 2 cans condensed milk 20¢

George Richards Co. (Dover) Ladies Muslin Underwear Corset covers 49¢ to 89¢ Night dresses 59¢ to \$1.25 Drawers 49¢ to 89¢

Bath towels 10¢ to 25¢ each Damask towels 50¢ to 85¢

Drawers 49¢ to 89¢

Table Damask - Bleached 58" wide @ 40¢ a yd.

Shirts 69¢ to \$1.25

Unbleached @ 40¢ a yard

P. O. Heagon - Dover Men's rubbers - 50¢ a pair Boys rubbers 30¢ a pair Misses rubbers 25¢ a pair

Heath & Drake - Newark Brussels carpet 67 1/2¢ per yard

Amos H. Van Horn - Newark
Antique Bedroom suits \$12.50
Antique Oak Bedroom suits \$18.00
Antique " " \$22.50
Parlor suits in mahogany finish and plush coverings \$20.00

McGregor & Co. Newark Mens fall suits \$10 to \$15.

"The Jerseyman" Jan. 5, 1900 pub. in Morristown

Amos H. Van Horn, Ltd. Newark Rocking chair \$3.98 Oak Chiffonier - 5 drawers \$5.98

Straus's Park St. Newark Silk Lined suits \$15.00 Womens skirts 89¢ Womens wool vests 29¢

It may interest some to read of the officers for the town of Hanover in 1811. Here is the list.

Moderator - Thomas Osborn
Town Clerk - George D. Brinckerhoff
Assessor - Henry Vail
Collector - William Ball
Freeholders - Daniel Dickerson and Hiram Smith
Surveyors of the Highways - Lemuel Cobb - Thomas Van Winkle
Overseers of the Poor - Benjamin Smith - Jacob Gray

Judge of Election - Jacob Grav Commissioners of Appeal - Davis Vail, Jonathan Ford, Hiram Smith Constables - Oliver Clark, Abraham Cook, Thomas Vail, Daniel P. Crane

Town Committee - Ezekiel Kitchell, William Lee, John Scott, John S. Darcy, Job Tallmadge

Note:

These were more likely to have been the officers for the whole township of Hanover, as it does not seem reasonable that the small village of Hanover would need so many officers.

Manner of Living

Shoes were so valuable in early days that many men and women walked to church barefoot, carrying their shoes under their arms. When near the church the shoes were put on. Nearly everyone large and small went barefoot all summer, indoors and out. In warm weather most respectable farmers attended church in their shirt sleeves.

Looms were in almost every house. On public occasions ladies wore plain neat dresses of home made flannel. The material for party dresses was "fulled" at the mill, while the other was just as it came from the loom. Calico was so dear ordinary people could not afford it. Dyes for the cloth were made from the juice of sumac, beets, walnuts,

chestnut and white oak bark.

Twenty-five pounds of wheat flour would last ordinary people one The food was largely of mush (Indian meal) and rye flour. The women were clothed in homespun of their own industry. It was steady work with them, and this constant spinning gave the name

of "spinster" to the unmarried ones.

Every farmer raised some flax, which, when cured and properly dressed, was spun in different degrees of fineness according to what it was intended. It was then woven and bleached on the grass in the sun.

The tow, or coarser part of the flax, was used for ropes or harness, and a part was spun and woven into coarser cloth for men's wear. The cloth called "linsey woolsey" was made from linen and wool, and used for women's wear. The cloth for men was dyed with a preparation of butternut bark which gave it a peculiar shade of brown. It was considered an honor to appear in homemade apparel. Pins were almost unknown, and thorns were used in their place. The expression "pin money" evidently rose from this fact.

The settlers first obtained their water from springs, or the rivers, which then were crystal clear. As the number of people increased, wells Water was pulled up by means of buckets on the end of a chain or rope that ran over awheel attached on the roof of the well house. As the water was pulled up in one bucket the other descended into the bottom to dip another bucket full.

The most picturesque wells had "sweeps." If the well chain should break the bucket stayed at the bottom, and the householder had to use a "grappling hook" - often borrowed from a neighbor to catch hold and bring the bucket up from the depths.



The first stove in the village was owned by William H. Mulford. It was a Franklin stove that burned small logs of wood. It was named after its inventor, Benjamin Franklin.

Timothy W. Dixon bought the first sewing machine in 1865. It was a Singer, run by cogs, and instead of a belt, a wooden rod went up and down to turn the wheel. It was so hard to run that only a man

could operate it.

Life in those days left little time for leisure. In the home the housewife, spun and wove cloth, churned the cream to make butter, made soap and candles, made bread, and sewed by hand all the clothes for herself, children, and most of those for her husband. Needless to say wardrobes were not extensive in those days.

Soap was made from fats saved during cooking etc. Lye made from wood ashes was added, and a strong soap resulted. It probably caused

many red and chapped hands, but had great cleaning power.

The housewife cooked on a woodburning fireplace and later on a range, winter and summer. She heated the water for washing, and after rubbing the clothes on a rubbing board now practically extinct, scalded the white clothes on the stove, before rinsing and hanging out. What a task that must have been during the winter! That same stove heated the flat irons used to press the clothes when dry.

At first candles, and later kerosene lamps, were used to light the rooms. The adage "Early to bed and early to rise," etc. may have had its origin then. The efficient housewife had her lamps filled, trimmed and shining clean ready to light at dusk. But imagine the scene in a home when dusk approached and the lamps had to be filled and cleaned

before they could be lighted!

A broom, scrub brush, and dust cloth were the means by which the house was kept clean. At first, of course, floors were bare boards with perhaps a few rugs braided of used cloth. Later "rag carpet" covered the floors, except perhaps the best room, where ingrain or axminister lay, when people could afford them. Once a week the carpet in the kitchen was taken up, shaken, the floor scrubbed, and the carpet relaid. A few times during the year the same thing was done to the other rooms when they needed cleaning.

The house was heated with fireplaces until stoves became more common. Then there were two or three coal burning stoves, and a

wood burning one in the kitchen.

The man of the house also was kept busy with the farm. There were 1 to 3 cows, 1 to 3 pigs, 2 or 3 horses, perhaps sheep, and

chickens to feed. The wife often helped with the latter.

Wheat, rye, hay, potatoes and field corn were the chief crops raised. A crop raised then but which is not grown here anymore was buckwheat. This was cultivated by the settlers, ground and formed the basis for the pancakes, which were eaten at nearly every breakfast in winter.

Calvin Green, in his diary, tells of raising broom corn. In 1804 he speaks of making more than \$200 on broom corn. In 1811 he made \$270, and in 1812 raised 4 or 500 brooms. Evidently he made them from his broom corn. In the "Little Red School House" in Florham Park there is a broom making machine stored among the antiques.

A garden of peas, beans, onions, and pumpkins was cared for. The wheat was threshed by hand by means of a flail. This consisted of two short poles connected by a short leather strap. The men would beat out the grain which was ground to make flour. The straw was saved for bedding the animals, or to make mattresses for the beds in the house.

In the fall the potatoes and pumpkins were stored in the cellar to keep for winter. Barrels of apples or pears, as well as cans, and crocks of "preserves" put up by the women were kept in the cellar to use during the winter. Also butter, salt pork, and smoked hams and shoulders were stored there.

Nearly every household had a few trees that bore apples unfit for eating. The fruit was made into cider, later to be turned into vinegar or even whisky, called "Jersey Lightning." Stills were common, and even Dominie Green had one near the Whippany River off of what is now Troy Road. The trees that had those apples were called "Whisky Trees."

Mr. T. W. Dixon, whose property adjoined the present Kitchell Memorial Church on the north, possessed the last of these trees, and wanted to preserve it for sentimental reasons. One summer day, his son, Edward, was haying with his team of horses, when a thunderstorm came up. He took shelter under that tree, but as the storm gathered severity, decided to go to the barn with the horses. He had barely made it, before a bolt of lightning struck the tree. And that was literally the last of the whisky tree.

During the winter the men spent most of their time in the woods. Fortified by a huge breakfast of homemade sausage and buckwheat pancakes the men felled the trees, sawed them in sections, split and brought the wood to the back yard. After it was cut to fit the stoves it was the boys' work to keep the wood box behind the stove filled to the brim. Every household had a wood pile or shed.

In the house the women were likewise busy. There were quilts to be pieced from the material left over from sewing dresses etc. Also worn clothes were cut apart, the good parts cut into 1/2 or 1 inch strips, sewed into a continuous strip, and rolled into balls. When enough had been accumulated they were taken to the weavers to be made into yard wide strips of what was called "rag carpet."

Then there were the mittens and stockings to be knitted. All the girls and women kept the needles clicking. Even the boys knitted when not busy outside.

Perhaps it will interest some to read about one of the "old-fashioned" winters. In the "Life of Calvin Green," (son of Jacob Green) he speaks of the hardest winter. It was 1780, when the snow was so deep one could ride on the banks over the tops of fences with horse and sleigh. The ice was so hard and thick people drove on the ice over to Staten Island with horse and sled.

But life in those days was not just a round of toil. The women attended "quilting bees" where food and gossip were enjoyed together with the quilting. The men, also sometimes enjoyed "husking bees," where many hands made light work of the corn husking.

In winter the young folks would have skating or sledding parties. They generally ended at a friend's house where refreshments were served. Another favorite diversion was the "hay ride, or even the hay sleigh-ride." Snuggled in the hay with plenty of buffalo robes, the young folks would not mind the cold, or the comparatively slow pace of the horses. The riders generally stopped at some place where an old fashioned dance was in progress. They arrived home about midnight.

The big event of winter was "butchering." In December or January, when the weather was cold enough the pigs were killed, dressed, and the meat cut up.

It was the housewife's work to render the lard, make sausage and "head cheese." The latter was made of the meat of the head, hocks, and any other meat left over. All were cooked, chopped fine, seasoned highly, put into a cloth, tied tightly, and allowed to cool. Slices of this concoction were eaten cold.

The family lived on pork about all winter into spring, and had lard and salt pork to last the year. Such was the everyday life of our

countrymen about 100 years ago.

Around 1900 there was a grange chapter organized in this township. (Mrs. J. P. Gegenheimer was the oldest living member in Morris County.) The meetings, in this town, were held upstairs in the building on the east side of River Road where it joins Mt. Pleasant Ave. The building was then used as a blacksmith shop downstairs.

Once a year, in August, the Grangers from surrounding counties met at "Tuttle's Grove" for a picnic. This grove was owned by Mr. George M. Tuttle, and lay on the west bank of the Passaic River off

of Eagle Rock Ave. at the intersection of River Rd.

Early in the morning the wagons started arriving bearing not only Grangers, but other folks from the country around. Often this was the only chance people had to meet and visit with friends or relatives they

had not seen for a year or over.

When noon came, long tables of boards were set up, baskets of food brought out, and the tables loaded with good things. Families and friends sat down together enjoying the food and friendship. The horses were unhitched, tied to trees or the wagons, and given their dinner of oats and hay.

The only dissipation the young folks indulged in was a ride in a row boat on the river. As the stream had many hidden snags and stones, the ride was not as tame as it sounds. Later a Merry-Go-Round was introduced. Gradually the picnic lost its family character,

and finally became what it is now.

It was at the Grangers' Picnic about 1895 when many saw and heard their first phonograph, or gramphone, as it was then called. It was invented by Edison and consisted of a hollow cylinder 3 inches in diameter and about 1/4 inch thick, and 4 or 5 inches long. To hear it ear phones were used and since it was such a curiosity there was a charge of a dime or a nickel.

It was about this same year that the first telephone was installed in this town. And in the early 1900's the first automobile appeared on these roads. Dr. Lane of Caldwell owned one of the first. In those days cars were called "horseless buggies" and looked just that.

They appeared for all the world like a buggy without the horse.

Little did people realize at the time, but the period known as "the good old days" was nearing its end. The automobile brought

a great change in the lives of country people.

For almost exactly 200 years the character of this little urban place had remained unchanged. Then in 1903 the Morristown and Erie railroad was built to connect the Erie railroad at Essex Fells with the Lackawanna in Morristown.

The first locomotive used on this line was one that formerly had been used on the elevated railroad in New York. It was called "The

Dinky" by the townspeople because it was so small.

The road was built to supply the mills in Whippany, and to carry their products to market. For nearly twelve years the line operated at a profit, and then in 1915 the DeCamp Bus line was extended to Morristown. The railroad discontinued its locomotive and passenger car then and substituted a bus with wheels fitted to run on the rails to carry its fares.

The conductor, "Ham Ryerson," was a character. It was said sometimes in the early days of the train he would ride on the cowcatcher waving his hat to shoo the pheasants from the track. One time, while crossing the Whippany lowlands, he spied a snapping turtle. The bus was stopped, Ham got out, donned a pair of stout gloves, and captured the turtle. It was kept in a stout box in the back of the bus till the end of the day when it was taken home to make turtle soup or whatever snapping turtles are made into.

The M and E was known affectionately as the "Toonerville Trolley" by many inhabitants. As more and more people bought cars the line lost so much revenue that the passenger service was discontinued in 1928. About the time the M. and E. discontinued its passenger service Mr. Charles Hand of Whippany began a bus line from Morristown to Caldwell. He continued until it was losing money and then he sold it to Klindt of Caldwell. The line continued until about 1950 when again the automobile put it out of business.

By that time the character of Hanover was distinctly altered. From a truly pastoral village it has gradually become a part of the great metropolitan district surrounding New York.

The following is a part of the diary of a Colonial maid who lived during the troublesome times just prior to, and during the Revolution. It is added to give our young people an insight into the lives of youth in those days.

> Jemima Condict Her Book Being

A transcript of the diary of an
Essex County Maid
during the
Revolutionary
War
Newark, New Jersey
The Carteret Book Club
MCMCCC
Copyright 1930

The manuscript of this book is in the Newark Historical Society

The Historical Background

Pious with a most active conscience, yet prone to frivolity, constantly struggling against the allurements of the world and with alternate surges of remorse and the joy of life. Altogether a very human maid of eighteen, in an environment of eighteenth century puritanism.

Such was Jemima, daughter of Daniel and Ruth Williams Condict, who lived a century and a half ago on the western slope of the "first mountain" about a mile west of Eagle Rock in Essex County, New Jersey. The settlement was, and still is called Pleasantdale. The center was on the east slope of the second mountain at what is now the junction of Eagle Rock Avenue and Pleasant Valley Way, then two county roads, now modern automobile highways.

Her father, a farmer, was a soldier in the Revolution and a deacon

in the Presbyterian Church.

Jemima, the third of nine children, was born August 24, 1754. Her diary commences before she was eighteen, in the spring of 1772. With characteristic thrift it was begun in the unused portion of a school exercise book, eight by six and one half inches in size, covered with home-spun linen, on the outside of which there are still remnants of marbled paper. The paper of the book is of English manufacture and is water-marked with the King's initials, that is, G R for George Rex. As needed, Jemima added leaves a bit smaller in size than the original one.

On Saturday, October 1,1774, we have her first note of the troubles between the colonies and the mother country and she remarks "They say it is about tea."

May 20 Rofe in the morning tho not very early and went to weaving yet not very willingly for tho I Love that yet it likes not me and I am in the Mind that I never fhall be well as Long as I Weave.

Sunday August 18, then Was I up to hear Mr. Green Preach in the forenoon - - - also afternoon. September 13 then Was I up to Hear Mr. Green at the River - -

Sunday May 10th 1773 I went up to hear Mr. Green - - - Sunday September the 5th, Then was I up to Mr. Greens meeting. - -

Saturday October first 1774. It seams we have troublesome times a Coming for there is great Dissturbance a Broad in the earth and they say it is tea that caused it. So then if they will Quarel about such a trisling thing as that What must we expect But war and I think or at least fear it will be.

1774 Monday, or training, I went to CC and worked Perdigus hard all Day for they had roaft meat and Bakt Podins But We got But Little of it! but however I come of and got home about Sunfet and took to my Bed and was Glad when I got there for upon my word Which you may Believe at this Prefent Junkture I was tired anuf But Stop Ive faid enough.

1774 Tuefday went up to Swinefeild, a Number of us to get eat for I Cant fay But a hundred Men all Plaft in the Wildernefs Which was Something of a Pleafeing fight to Behold went down the Same Night to wach with my Poor old Grandfather - - - - - - -

Monday February 5, 1775, Was my Coufins Knockulated (inoculated?) I am apt to think they will repent there Undertaking before they Done with it for I am Shure tis a great venter. - - - -

The following paragraphs from the diary are taken from the "Newark Sunday News" the New Jersey Tercentenary issue of May 24, 1964.

Monday morning Refolved to have my toth out. So Down I went to Dr. C and he got his Cold Iron read. I new hed hurt but I Could not make him Promis he would Not. They fell a laffing at me and Said if I daft not have A toth Drawd I never would be fit to marry. I told them I never (intend) to be if twas as Bad as to have a toth Drawd. But it want Long before I could put my Toth in my pocket and laugh with the Beft of them.

On April 23, 1775 Jemima records a momentous event: Yesterday very early in the morning They Began to fight at Bofton the (British) regulars We hear Shot firft; They killed 30 of our men, a hundred & 50 of the regulars.

Monday, May 1, is a Day of mourning. We have word Come that the (British) fleet is coming into New York & to Day the men of our Town is to have a general meeting to Conclud upon measures Which may be most Proper. I hope the Lord will Give them Wifedom, to Conduct wifely & Prudently in all matters.

On July 23, 1776 Jemima writes: "Did that Distreffing difarder the Bloody flux begin to rage in this Neighborhood." Between this date and New Years Day 1779 she leaves a record of the death of 90 of her friends and relatives more than half being children.

September ye 12, 1777. On friday there was an Alarm; our Militia was Calld; The Regulars come over into elefebeth town Where they had a Brufh with a small Party of our People; Then marched Quietly up to Newark & took all the Cattle they Could. There was five of the Milita at Newark. They killed Samuel Crane & took Zadock & Allen Heady & Samuel Freman Prifoners.

The diary ends in the spring of 1779 just before her marriage to Maj. Aaron Harrison.

In the old burying ground in Orange is a simple stone marker weathered by nearly two hundred years, the words cut into it are barely readable:

In Memory of Jemima wfie of Aaron Harrison who Died Nov. 14, 1779. In the 24 Year of her age.

Some Old Houses

There are undoubtedly other old homes besides the ones following, but it was impossible to obtain enough information concerning them.

The Hults House, Once the Parsonage of Jacob Green

27 Hanover Road

In 1755 ten acres of land were bought from Ellis Cook, and set aside for a parsonage. This was built in 1757, the money for which was raised by lottery. It was a plain structure, in size 26 ft. wide by 40 ft. long with no cellar, or only a part cellar under it at that time. The architecture of the house was of a New England style, influenced no doubt by the fact that Jacob Green was a native of Malden Mass.

Dr. Green never owned the house, since it belonged to the Church. But later, after Dr. Green's death in 1790 it was passed to the next pastor, Calvin White and bought by Rev. Aaron Condit during his pastorate in 1815. The church pastors lived in this building until 1842.

The building passed through different hands until 1930, when Ashbel Green, a great grand son of Jacob Green, bought it and did extensive repairs plus some alterations. A cellar was put under the whole house, a gable was removed on the front, and the house was modernized.

There is a corner cupboard in the living room like one in the American Wing in the Metropolitan Museum in New York. The dining room and living room both have fireplaces, the latter believed to be the original one. On the hearth are marks in the flagstone made by Dominie Green when he used the poker to emphasize some points in his discourse.

The original dark beams and wide boards are preserved, and some locks appear to be the original ones.

Rowley House 174 Mt. Pleasant Ave.

This house dates from about 1750, making it one of the earliest in Hanover. During and after the Revolution it was owned by Mr. Ellis Cook. The tavern was the place where drovers and farmers stopped on their way from Sussex County to the Newark and New York markets.

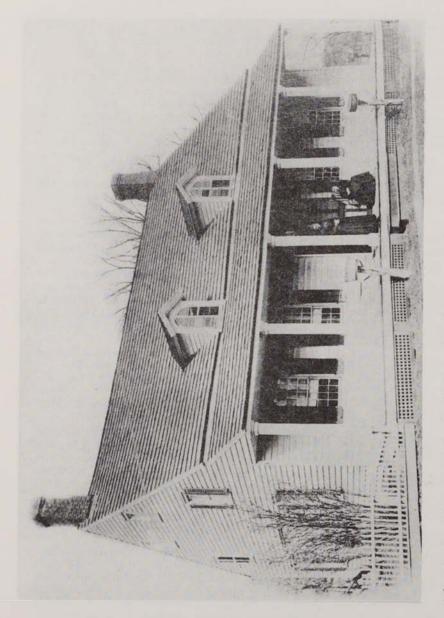
Ashbel Green, in his autobiography speaks of the house as the place to which his father sent him in Revolutionary days to get the news-

paper which was brought from New York by stage.

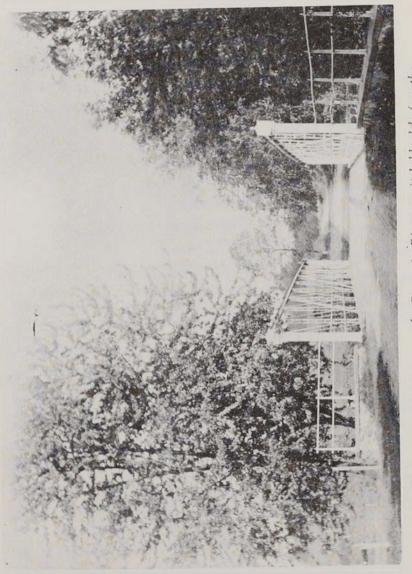
Mr. Cook was Colonel of the Eastern Battalion of Morris County malitia in the army, and to him was entrusted the removal and safe keeping of the early records in the office of the East Jersey Proprieters at Perth Amboy when the state was exposed to invasion. This commission he faithfully executed, returning the records when the danger was past.

Mr. W. Everett Rowley bought the house, with the lot on it in 1925, and has made some additions. He has added three more dormers in front to the two already upstairs, a large screened back porch and a small front porch.

Inside, there are three fireplaces in use in original condition. The floors have the wide boards and the old beams are to be seen in the ceilings.



The Rowley Home, as it looked before the alterations. The photo was loaned by Mrs. Everett Rowley.



The Hanover Bridge over the Passaic River as it lokked before the new one was built. Photo loaned by Mrs. Rowley.

The Joseph Schurger House 632 Ridgedale Ave.

This house of Salt Box style, was built by Appolis Pruden about 200 years ago. It is essentially the same in outward appearance, but the front entrance is not used. It had hand hewed beams, and hand forged hooks and chains. There was a wide hall from front to back, where the meat of hogs, etc., were hung during the winter. There is a large front room, also. The cellar had a dirt floor.

The above information is from Mrs. Edwin Greene, who was born and raised in this house.

The Thornton Scull House 77 Cedar St.

This is also a very old house, preRevolutionary, built by Nathaniel Douglas. He was called Major, although he did not serve in the Revolution; probably was in the malitia.

When doing some remodeling Mr. Scull noticed that the old oak beams were numbered in Roman numerals, probably as an aid in their placement.

A wing with a garage beneath has been added, and also a screened in large front porch.

Mr. D. L. Osborn and family lived there for a long time before moving to Hackensack. During that time there was a room down in the cellar that was used for a kitchen.

The Mial House 38 Hanover Road

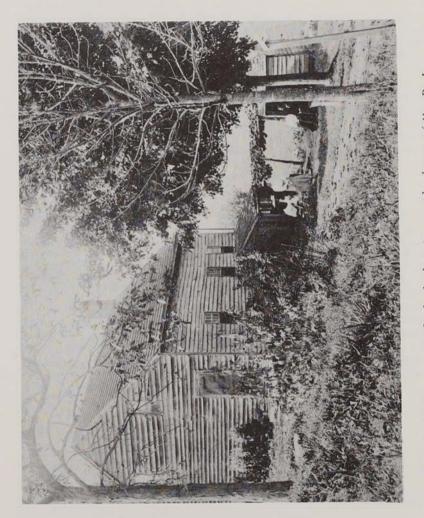
This was originally the Aaron Ball house, started in 1798 and completed in 1800. The gambrel roof is a good example of New Jersey architecture. It originally stood on Mt. Pleasant Ave., nearly opposite the church. About twenty years ago the house was moved from its early foundation over the hill to its present location.

The house was enlarged by the addition of a colonial kitchen, a large screened back porch, and a recreation room down stairs. There are two large fireplaces and large hall at the end. The colonial flavor of the house has been kept with its early American furnishings and rugs.

Home of Mrs. Frederick Williamson 28 Hanover Rd.

This is situated next to the parsonage and was the home of Martha Ball, daughter of Aaron Ball. It was built around 1820, and has retained the original architecture. The old wide floor boards and beams have been preserved, and there is also a "Dutch Oven" connected to the house.

Mrs. Williamson has preserved the colonial atmosphere of the house with its old fashioned furnishings.



The Scull House as it looked when it was the home of Mr. D. L. Osborn. The photo was loaned by Mrs. Susan Cutter.

The Sippel House 691 Ridgedale Ave.

This is one of the oldest homes in town. David Douglas came here in 1740 and built it. Mr. Sippel has modernized it, but the low ceilings, wide boards, and large hall through the center are unchanged.

Mrs. Sippel related how old guns and a powder pouch over 200 years old were found in the walls when the building was remodeled. She also told that she understood a little girl once drowned in a tub in the cellar, and counterfeit bills were once made there.

A family by the name of Tappan lived there about one hundred years ago. (See Edward Dixon's account)

Frohling House 654 Ridgedale Ave.

Adoniram Pruden settled here from Newark around 1749. There were many who moved here about that time because of the increased, cost of property in Newark. This Pruden had large holdings extending nearly from the Whippany River to the Passaic. The house descended to Lewis Pruden, who sold it to Mr. Lee Brown in 1935. He modernized it and added a sun porch on the south. After his death his widow sold it to Mr. Laurens Bisschop. It now belongs to Catherine M. Frohling.

It has three large fireplaces, one of which still has its brick oven where bread, cakes, pies, etc. were baked by the housewife in colonial days.

There is a wide center hall, and in a part of the kitchen a secret panel and hiding place in case of Indian attack.

Some Recollections of Old School Days in Hanover Neck

by Edward Dixon

During the earliest history of Hanover and Hanover Neck there was no building devoted to the education of the youth of those places. There was an academy in Whippany where some of the higher branches of education were taught. The lower branches were taught by the minister of the Parish. From about 1745 to about 1791 the Rev. Jacob Green was the preacher in Hanover and it was he who taught the boys and girls whatever education they received which was not overmuch.

Those pupils who attended Dominie Green's school either walked or rode horseback to the parsonage where the school was held.

Just to illustrate the numerous activities that were necessary for preachers and teachers to obtain their livelihood at this time, this Jacob Green once received a letter addressed:

To the Rev. Jacob Green, Preacher, And the Rev. Jacob Green, teacher, To the Rev. Jacob Green, doctor, And the Rev. Jacob Green, proctor, To the Rev. Jacob Green, miller, And the Rev. Jacob Green distiller.

After the death of Dominie Green his successors continued teaching the parish children until sometime in the early part of 1800 when the villages decided to build a schoolhouse in each neighborhood. The one in Hanover was located directly opposite the church, and the one in Hanover Neck was placed about thirty five yards south of a small stream that once crossed the road on Ridgedale Avenue, south of Cedar Street. The land for the schoolhouse was given by a widow named Mrs. William Douglass. The material for the house was donated by the people of the neighborhood, who also erected the building. The home of the late Robert Henson stands there.

The building was plain and about twenty four by thirty feet. A fireplace that burned big chunks of wood heated the school in cold weather. The desks were arranged facing the wall and the seats at that time were raw slabs with holes bored in the corners and legs fitted in them. The boys sat on one side facing the wall and the girls on the other side the same way, all resting their elbows on the desks since there were no backs to the seats. The classes usually stood up to recite; and geography, writing, spelling, and arithmetic were all the subjects taught until about 1874 when grammar was added.

The teachers, during the early history of the school, came mostly from Massachusetts and Connecticut. They were men and were called Yankee schoolteachers. They received from \$100 to \$150 a year and their board. Some hard stories have been told about the kind of food they got at times, as they had to board around with the families that sent their children to school. Each parent had to pay a tuition fee for each child, and many times at the end of the year the teacher was unable to collect all his salary.

About 1840 Mr. John Kitchell who some time previously had purchased the property of the Widow Douglas erected the building where Mr. Louis Munther once resided (now (1943) no longer standing-Dixon Place Development). Because he was annoyed by the schoolhouse being so near, he moved it to a piece of land he gave on the south corner of his property, where Mr. Kentused to live. The building except for the porch is the same now as it was then, save that about in 1870 it was enlarged a little.

For about seventy years the school was kept in this building which stands across the road from the chapel. When a new school building was erected (now a primary school) the old schoolhouse was abandoned.

My school recollections go back to about 1870 when Mr. John Winans, a bachelor, was my teacher. He arrived at the school about 8:30 and built the fire, unless some of the pupils had already started it. He walked to school often, cutting on his way a stick about one half an inch thick and about three feet long which he laid on his desk on opening school. Before the first hour he generally spotted some boy a little out of order. It was astonishing how quickly he could get to that boy, grab him by the collar, haul him out on the floor and give him a dozen to fifteen cuts with the stick then drop him back into his seat. After that he was generally in good humor the rest of the day. I might add that as all the boys then wore thick woolen pants and high leather boots, not so much damage was done as one might expect. His salary was about \$30.00 a month and he boarded himself.

I only remember two men teachers, the others being young women. Their salary was around \$40.00 a month and they paid about \$2.50 a week board. She was supposed to be at the school at eight o'clock in the morning and build the fire so the school would be warm by nine. Hardly ever did she build the fire, for there were generally several of the boys eager for the job, hoping to find a little favor in her sight. Although her dress was very plain and no make-up used, in the eyes of those unsophisticated lads she was a real Venus. I think she held her own as well as the teachers of these later days although now they have the advantage of silk stockings, high heeled shoes and sport cars!

The pupils numbered about forty, ranging in age from six to eighteen years, and they all walked, some as many as three miles counting both ways. During late Spring and early Fall some children came to school bare-footed while in the late Fall and Winter the boys wore cowhide boots, and when they walked across the floor the whole building shook.

School opened at nine in the morning; at 10:45 there was fifteen minutes recess; between 12:00 and 1:00 was lunch time; at 2:45 another fifteen minute recess was held and at 4:00 school was dismissed.

Once in the morning and once in the afternoon two boys were delegated to go after a pail of water for drinking purposes. The teacher was offered the first drink then the pail was passed first to the girls and then to the boys. One tin dipper served all.

In the cold weather coal was used but in the early fall and late spring considerable wood was burned for heating. This wood was donated. I know my father gave loads of it to the school and the larger boys brought axes and cut it before and after school hours while the smaller boys carried it into the entry and piled it up to season.

Two good stout brooms were furnished and each day after school two of the larger girls swept out the room. Though it was hard and disagreeable job I know of no complaint or refusal on their part.

The tuition at that time (1870) was free, but each parent was required to furnish all text books and supplies for his child's use. Slates and slate-pencils were mostly used instead of pencil and paper. Some pupils came to school without books, but this was overcome by the loan of a book when not in use or by sitting by the side of someone who had them. There were about three grades of books in the several studies; Primary, Intermediate, and High. In geography Rand McNally's were used; in spelling Noah Webster series. I cannot recall the arithmetic, but Sander's first, second, third, fourth and fifth readers were used to teach reading. The last book contained about three hundred pages of the very choicest selections of literature and was a liberal education in itself for those that were able to master it. In writing the Spencerian System was taught, and the blackboard was freely used in almost every recitation.

When the teacher called a class each pupil took his or her place; if it was spelling they all stood in a line, the best speller at the head and the poorest at the foot. To the head pupil the teacher gave some word in the lesson, who first pronounced it and then spelled it. If it was correctly done another word was given to the next and so on down the line. If a word was misspelled the next one was given the same word and so on until it was correctly spelled, the pupil spelling it correctly moving up to the place of the first one to misspell it. The pupil at the head of the line naturally tried to stay there, the others trying to get there, hence considerable rivalry often existed to be head of the class.

The classes in arithmetic were required to demonstrate and explain the problems on the blackboard, each having at least one problem to do. If he failed to do it correctly he had to remain after school until the correct answer was obtained. About one quarter hour a day was devoted to writing in the copy book and on the slate.

When the class for reading was called, they sat on a long bench. The lesson was divided into sections, the teacher calling on the first pupil to read a section that was numbered. He or she arose and read while the teacher listened and criticised. If the reading was not satisfactory it had to be repeated. Often the teacher would read it and require the pupil to listen and then try to do as well. When the pupil finished the next was called upon, and so on down the line.

In geography we went to class without the books and were required to answer the questions and drawmaps on the blackboard from memory.

It can easily be seen that from the time school opened until night the teacher was busy both in mind and body. Not a moment did she have to rest. While hearing classes she would walk up and down the room on alternate sides and make sure that the pupils attended to their various studies, and behaved themselves. Not withstanding all the teacher's vigilance plenty of mischief could be carried on. As I remember my own experiences better I will mention a few. On one occasion for some disobedience the teacher ordered me to sit between two girls. When asked how I liked that I answered, "Fine, I never want to leave", then I reached over and tickled one of the girls on the chin. Although the whole school laughed, the teacher joining in, nevertheless she had me by the ear in a jiffy and escorted me back to my seat none too gently, and I was told to stay after school. Another time I was sitting in the class all sprawled out and my feet resting on another bench when the teacher said sharply, "When you sit in a carriage where do you put your feet?" Trying to be a little smart I answered, "Up on the dashboard". Everyone laughed including the teacher who said, "Eddie is getting to be quite humorous".

As all the pupils sat facing the wall and close together it was difficult for the teacher to see just what was going on. At that time I essayed to be an amateur cartoonist—justa small sized Bud Fisher—and used the slate. When the picture was started and as it progressed there was a stretching of necks and a straining of eyes on all sides to see what it was all about. Suddenly a warning nudge; the teacher was on her way. Quickly the slate was turned over and work started on an unfinished arithmetic problem. It was wonderful how interested everyone was then in solving some problem of their own and the teacher, poor thing, her face would beam with pleasure to see so many studious pupils. When she had gone the slate was again turned and the picture finished.

Often after school was over for the day the teacher went home leaving the girls to dust off the furniture and sweep up and some of the boys stayed to cut wood. As soon as the teacher was out of sight wood chopping ceased and the boys went inside to boss the job and offer unwanted suggestions as to the proper mode of doing the sweeping and cleaning, being careful however to keep out of range of the brooms. On one occasion I tried my hand at the game, and ventured a trifle too far; the broom shot out bristle first and caught me in the face. Needless to add I didn't feel quite so humorous just then and as I groped my way across the road to Kitchell's pond to wash up I heard the laughter of boys and girls.

Even before I ceased attending school I could see a change taking place. First a janitor was hired to tend the fire and do other work and I was the first one engaged, although I did not do all the work, the girls continuing to do the sweeping and dusting. I reached the school about 7:30 in the morning, shook down the grate, emptied the ash box, brought in kindling and started up the fire. Then cleaned up and had everything in order for the start of school. Every couple of weeks the stovepipes had to be cleaned or the school would be filled with smoke. For this service I received the munificent sum of \$5.00 for the season.

Getting the room comfortable was no easy task if the weather was cold. There were holes and cracks in the foundation wall and plenty of knots in the floor had fallen out, while the boards were worn and shrunken till there were some cracks a quarter of an inch in the floor. The windows were loose and shook and rattled when the wind blew as if they had the chills. Ventilation was no problem in those days.

But these changes I mentioned replaced the old order of things. About 1878, by subscriptions of money and donations of labor a new roof and better chimney replaced the old, a new floor was laid over the old

one, the old desks that faced the wall were torn out and new ones of modern make installed facing the teacher as they now do, and the building was painted inside and out. Then it may be said all the old had passed away in the history of this school neighborhood and district, never to return.

But before I take my leave of this subject, I desire briefly to to bear record to some of those who went from that humble and primitive school and served well their God, their Country, and their fellow men.

If we judge them by the teachings of the Bible which says "By their fruits shall ye know them", then I think the verdict will be in this school's favor.

Beginning with the Revoluntionary War the following are the names of those who served: Obadiah Kitchell, as a Captain of Infantry, Caleb Tuttle, William Ball, Samuel Douglass, John Dixon, Daniel Dixon, Jacob Gory, Samuel Merry, Jacob Osborn, Adoniram Pruden, Asa Kitchell, Abram Kitchell (was also a member of the Committee of Safety), Caleb Ball, Noah Beach, Thomas Day, Enoch Beach, Napthali Byram, Phineas Kitchell, Moses Kitchell, Othniel Looker, and W. Timothy Mulford.

Soon after the conclusion of the War, Moses Kitchell and Othniel Looker removed to Cincinatti, Ohio. Moses Kitchell became an attorney there, while Othniel Looker was at one time acting governor of that state.

This list of soldiers was gathered from the oldest members of my family and neighbors and other sources. It may not be complete but I believe it is. It only includes those soldiers who lived in the old school district, known as the north district, whose southern boundry began about two hundred yards north of DeForest Avenue on River Road and extended through Restland Park, to a short distance south of the Power Plant on Ridgedale Avenue. The Passaic and Whippany Rivers constituted the other bounderies. Since the school was not established until about twenty years after the close of the war, these soldiers received their education from the Reverend Jacob Green.

In the first World War with Germany, Louis Griffith, Joseph Warren, Stewart Marsh, Ralph Baird, William Morgan, Robert Haskell, William Haskell, served in various branches of the service; Horace H. Dixon in the Quartermaster Department, Eric E. Dixon in the Air Service Photo Section and Walter Van Ness in the Field Artillery. Walter Van Ness who was killed in France, is buried in Hanover, New Jersey, cemetery and a tree is dedicated to his memory on the grounds of the school he attended. It is a swamp white oak on the north side of the school.

In the field of Medicine: John Ball became one of the foremost physicians of Brooklyn, New York, Edward H. Dixon became a celebrated physician, surgeon, author and editor of the Scalpel in New York City.

Theology is represented by Aaron Kitchell, a Presbyterian minister; Charles Winans and Charles Douglas, Methodist preachers; and Anna D. Walker who wrote religious subjects.

In literature a winner of prize stories was Amanda M. Douglas who became one of the foremost writers of fiction in this country and a President of the Sorosis Society.

In politics those who served in the State Legislature were Aaron Kitchell, Esquire, James Ball, Farrand Kitchell, William Williams, and George Smith, who was also at one time Mayor of Hackettstown, New Jersey.

But the one outstanding name in this school district is Aaron Kitchell, Esquire whose family was one of the earliest settlers in this place; Patriot, Soldier, and Statesman, friend of Washington; whose monument can be seen at the East corner of the church at Hanover. He was one of the commissioners appointed by the Continental Congress to deal with the Tories in this section of this Country; member of Congress for four years, was a United States Senator from 1803 to 1809 and voted for Thomas Jefferson for President.

When we take into consideration that the population of this school district during those years was but little over two hundred persons and the difficulties they had to overcome in order to succeed in life I feel that we can truly be proud of the history of this school, proud of the citizens it educated and proud of the work they did.

Edward Dixon

Written by request of the Committee for Washington's Birthday School Celebration, 1932. Revised in 1943.

The little one room school in the northern part of our township served the educational needs of that section for 71 years. Finally the growth of the town demanded a new school. The new building was put on the knoll back of the "Chapel". It was built in 1911, and has been used ever since. The three room addition on it was completed in 1956.

The large Central School was at first a one story five room building finished in 1930. The second story was added in 1938, and it has had two additions since then.



The old Hanover Neck School



The first day of school, 1890. Miss Mutchler was the teacher. This photo was loaned by Mrs. Susan Cutter.

TOP ROW - Harry Pruden, Lizzie Hicks, Vance Sisco, Ada Dixon Miss Mutchler, Wallace Hendy.

BOTTOM ROW SEATED - Lottie Young, Susan Cutter, Lorena Rickey, Frances Hicks (Little), Sarah Sisco.

Hanover Church

The information for the church history came from the "East Hanover Township News" of August 29, 1940, published by Mrs. Lillian T. Peters and Mrs. Brita R. Hanson. Some is taken from Mrs. W. E. Rowley's notes from "History of Morris County" published by W. W. Munsell & Company.

That for the burying ground was obtained from information secured by the East Hanover Township Civic Association, Inc.

Both of the above publications were loaned me through the kindness of Mrs. Ernest Wild, Sr. $\,$

Consulted article in "The Evangel" February 1945 by Mrs. Robert Lawson.

HANOVER CHURCH

The first church ever organized in this area was in 1718 in Whippany at the place where the old burying ground now stands. (Across the way stood the home of Calvin Howell). The church was a plain wooden structure shingled on the outside, and without a spire. The tract was given by John Richards.

The first pastor was Rev. Nathan Hubbel who was installed by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. He preached in the Presbyterian Church in Westfield as well as this one. The inhabitants of the region here abouts all attended this church on Sunday. Many had to walk six, eight, or even ten miles. It was during Rev. Hubbel's pastorate that Whippany received the name Hanover.

Wagons and carriages were rarely seen hereabouts till after the Revolutionary War. Sometimes, now and then, a family could be seen riding in a cart to the house of worship. Usually they were seated on a bed of straw in a springless vehicle, drawn by a well-broken yoke of oxen. Most of those living at too great a distance to walk, rode on horseback, especially women and children. The father sat in the saddle, holding the reins with the mother in back on a pillion, and the children hanging on as best they could.

There were two services on the Sabbath, one commencing at 10:30 a.m., and the other at 1:30 p.m., with an hours intermission spent in social converse absolutely devoid, of course, of gossip, and in eating a lunch. This last included a liberal supply of aromatic fennel, that the youth of gentler sex might smell sweet.

Notwithstanding the length of the sermons, they constituted the chief and engrossing topic of conversation in the homes of the parishoners.

Rev. John Nutman became pastor in 1730, and remained until Rev. Jacob Green took his place in 1746. It was during his pastorate that a meeting house was built in what was then called Hanover Neck, now Hanover. It stood in back of where the present church stands. The congregation here received their charter in 1785. The church was a one room frame building, unheated except for foot stoves. The floor was unsanded, seats high and uncomfortable.

In 1755 ten acres of land were bought from Ellis Cook, and set apart for a parsonage, which now stands opposite the present manse. At this time another church was built in Parsippany (spelled Percipenny), and Hanover willingly shared with the new church the pews

from the old building and also gave the old reading desk.

Memorandum-

The following was printed in "The Jerseyman", a paper published in Morristown:

"At the time of this writing, 1770, there are three persons, viz:-John Hopping and his wife and William Dixon, who from other chs. joyned with us, have for a considerable time neglected to come to our communion, and behaved in an unbecomming manner, of whome'tis hard to say whether they belong to our ch. or not. To these may be added also Ezekiel Halsey."

As late as 1770 a floor had not been laid in the galleries. Many stories are told of the old footstoves, of which every family had one, and sometimes two, in which corn cobs were burned to glowing coals before starting for church in cold weather. It is said notwithstanding this insufficient way of keeping warm, the attendance was good.

Wood stoves are first mentioned in the parish book in 1824, but it appears they were used sometime before this.

One seat in the church was reserved for "indigent widows", and the second seat in the east end with the post in it "was reserved for the poor." The "fore singing seats be sold to the corristers (choristers) for fore dollars."

During the pastorate of Rev. Aaron Condit begun in 1796, the present Parish House was built as a manse. At this time there was a great increase in the membership of the church. Rev. Condit added 390 and baptised 765 infants. During his pastorate (1816) the first Sunday School was organized. The children memorized verses of the Bible for their lessons, and one child learned and repeated the book of St. Matthew.

In 1835, during Rev. Mandevilles term, the present church was built from timbers of the old building and oak trees cut from the

property.

Rev. James P. Ferguson served as pastor from 1869 to 1909. He was sponsor for three chapels, viz: Calvary at Florham Park, Olivet at West Livingston, and Bethel at Hanover Neck. The interior of the church was much improved during this time, and the parsonage also was remodeled.

During Rev. R. H. M. Augustine's pastorate 1909-1917 the present pipe organ was installed. Room for the choir, and new pulpit chairs were added.

Rev. Edward R. Bernard became pastor in 1917 and stayed till 1924, when Rev. Robert Lawson was installed. During this time there was a rapid growth of population, and the branches of this church viz: Olivet Chapel and Bethel Chapel broke away and formed separate congregations.

The property around the "Meeting House", as the church was called, to be used as a burying ground, was deeded to the Trustees about 1750 by Henry Burnet. His wife, Ruth, was the first person to be buried there.

The ground must have been enclosed by a fence and gates, for in Session Record of June 10, 1805, there is the following notations: "Trustees agreed with Aaron Ball to keep Sand and take care of the doors of the Meeting House, and this year the gates, for which he is to have the use of the burying ground for pasture and \$9.00.

A new fence of pine boards placed longwise was built around the burying ground in 1818, and the next year a committee was appointed to have the church and fence painted white; also to put a railing along the fence.

In April 1839 the Trustees resolved that "we build a stout picket fence in front of the graveyard, and a strong bar fence in front of the church.

In 1871 Charles E. Cook built 3781/2 feet of picket fence for \$333.08. 961 feet of strip fence for \$307.52, 61 hitching posts for \$24.20, setting and trimming 88 posts for \$16.50; digging 88 holes for \$311.44 painting same for \$9.00 and extra work \$12.00; making a total of \$1,013.74.

As the number of people increased and the animals being kept decreased, the necessity for a fence lessened, and gradually the front lost its fence, till the church and cemetery stood as they are now.



The Hanover Church. Note the hitching posts and fence. Photo loaned by Mrs. Everett Rowley.



Picture taken 1935 at the hundred year celebration of the Hanover Church to show old-fashioned dresses. Standing: Mrs. Louis Griffith, Mrs. Glossner from Livingston, Mrs. Wallace Griffith. Sitting: L to R, Mrs. Ernest Wild, Sr., Mrs. William Woodward.

Hanover School to 1884

Mr. Orrin C. Whaites has the original document whereby Ebenezer Sayre, Calvin Ely, Jabez Cook and Caleb Tuttle formed a company, and subscribed eight pounds apiece to be paid to David Young for the purpose of building an academy.

This paper is dated April 1797. It is signed by:

Aaron Condit Henry Merry John Darcy David Bedford Robert Morris Ebenezer Sayre Calvin Elv Calvin Green Jabez Cook William Sayre William Campfield Joseph Smith Samuel Ball, Juner (Jr?) Daniel Camp Solomon Fairchild James Ball Moses Fairchild Zebulon Cook Charles Smith William Camp

George Prosver (200 ft timber in the woods.)

The building erected opposite the church, was a two room affair, called "Hanover Academy."

The information below was gathered from a book containing the minutes of the meetings of the school trustees loaned by Mr. Whaites. In those days the School trustees were the equivalent of our present day Board of Education.

The first meeting was held Nov. 1, 1737 and in 1738 the trustees employed Robert P. Barrows to teach for one quarter for \$50.00.

At another meeting there is an item stating the Hanover School District received Eighty-five dollars for running the school in the year 1840.

Some idea of the costs of things in those days may be obtained by reading the items paid for as listed in the minutes.

In April 1843 Mr. B. Grover was hired to teach at \$12.00 a month and board himself. March 1867 Board for John Wright 1 day \$.25.

As late as 1871 the amount spent by the trustees was only \$380.59 in the year. Some years there might be a deficit from a few-dollars down to a few cents. Indeed, sometimes there was even a few dollars left over.

In 1853 at the October meeting the trustees were empowered to dispose of the old school as they saw fit. Also they were to decide on a plan of a school house and put out the building to the lowest bidder.

At the next meeting Jan. 1854 the trustees reported the expense of building the school house to be \$521.61, and had received subscriptions for it totaling \$442.20, leaving a balance due the trustees of \$79.36, which was drawn from school funds. This was the one room School that stood opposite the church, and was in use till the Cobblestone School was built in 1915. The building was then sold for \$400.00 and moved to Hanover Road. Another story was added, and it now serves as the home of Mr. Max Brueche.

The most expensive item in the accounts (excepting the teacher's salary) was for wood and the cutting of same. Some of the items listed at the April 1856 meeting were:

Lindley Beach for wood	\$5.00
McNinny for cutting 1 cord of wood	1.50
Water pail	.50
Four lights of glass & putting in	.37
One broom	.25
Lock and putting on desk	.38

In 1866 the mode of heating the school was changed to coal. The sum of \$18.71 was the total for the year.

In 1883 the teachers' salaries had risen somewhat for Miss Clara Ball was paid \$342.00 to teach for that year.

The last minutes listed are for October 1884.

Mr. Whaites has a report card of Sarah Courter dated 1859. It is in the form of a little booklet, and the marks are in figures-1 being perfect.

Here is a copy of the report card:

Report card of Sarah F. Courter, signed by Aaron Courter

Weekly School Report

of

Mifs. Sarah F. Courter

at

Hanover Academy

By David H. Pierson A.M. Author of "A system of questions in geography"

New York

Kiggins & Kellog - Publishers No. 123 & 125 William St.

1855

Reading Natural Philosophy Latin Translation Spelling Greek Grammar Chemistry Astronomy Penmanship Greek Syntax Geometry Arithmetic Greek Translation Mental Arithmetic Anatomy German French Algebra Bookkeeping English Grammar Botany Music Geography Drawing Speaking History Latin Grammar Composition Natural History Latin Syntax Attendance Behavior

I may add that Sarah's marks were all 1's. But one may well wonder how the teacher in a one room ungraded school could find time to teach all these subjects.

The Post Office

As has been stated elsewhere, this township originally consisted of two towns: Hanover and Hanover Neck. The postoffice for the former town was held in the what is now the vacant building opposite the intersection of River Road. It was a general store kept by the Mead family for a considerable time, then finally passed to Mr. Orrin C. Whaites, who kept the post office till the new building was opened in June 1957, when he retired.

The post office for Hanover Neck has a different story. The mail first came to Polhemuse's store at the intersection of Eagle Rock Ave. with Ridgedale Ave. People of course, had to walk there for their mail. Since it was quite a distance, and there was a nearer store at the bend of Old Ridgedale Ave., at the beginning of Old Troy Road, the office was transferred there in the late 1800's. The store was kept by Eugene Y. Dixon till he moved to West Orange.

In 1900, or early thereafter, the postoffice was transferred to Whippany, and a Rural Free Delivery from that office was begun. In that way the mail was delivered to everyone's box along the route.

One of the first drivers was a family by the name of Bleeker. It was said he used to take his churn with him in the wagon so that the jouncing over the rough dirt roads would bring the butter. When his wife drove the people all said she read the postals before delivery.

Charles Beaumont delivered the mail for a number of years,

and last one on the route was James Tighe.

By that time, 1951, the population had increased so that the R.F.D. was discontinued and the post office was transferred to Mr. Whaites in Hanover. The people "in the Neck" had their letters then addressed "Hanover, R.F.D." until the new office was built.

The Hanover Store

This store was situated in a building nearly opposite the intersection of River Road. It also held the Post Office till the new building was opened on Ridgedale Ave., at the shopping center.

The names of postmasters as far back as can be learned are as follows:

1818 Josha Perry
1861 James R. Mead
1821 Caleb H. Ely
1909 Harrison D. Mead
1830 Moses Beach
1910 Orrin C. Whaites
1835 James Ely
1955 Anthony J. Pellecchia

Mrs. W. E. Rowley has an old ledger containing accounts dating back to 1750. These are interesting because they give an insight into the life of our founding fathers.



The Hanover Store and Post Office. Photo loaned by Mrs. Rowley.

Here are a few items taken at random just as they	were	writ	ten:
	L.	S.	D.
1 gal. Melass	0	3	5
1 mug of flip	0	1	2
1 qt. of rum	0	1	2
1 nip of Water punch and 1 nip more	0	1	
	0	10	
2 bushels of Wheat @ 5/0 a bu	0	NAIS.	
2 doz buttons @ 1/10 a doz.	100	2	6
2 hanks of lace	0	1	
2 skeins of silk	0	2	6
1 pre of stockings	0	5	9
2 square tin pans			?
2 Pts. porringers	0	7	0
Balck Hannan for washing 1 day	0	0	9
2000, 20000, 2000,			
The following are some of the accounts just as they Front of book Hanover, Morris County Daniel Price Price Day Book.	were	wri	tten
Anough (Anno) Domini 1749.	T	C	D
Page 28	L.	S.	D.
May 7 Wm Dixon, Dr. To 1 gal rum	0	4	6
John Looker To Cheft Lock	0	2	4
Samuel Tuttle To 1 fan 4/6	n:	age t	orn
To a bole of punch	0	0	7
Thomas Ward Dr. To a skein of thread			?
To 1 Quire of Paper	0	0	5
To Ink pott at 7¢	0	0	7
To lik pott at 19			
Daniel Bats Dr. To 2/3 gallen of ?			
To 1 string of beeds 2¢ by your wife	0	0	6
To I string of seeds by by your whe			
Samuel Hutchins of Elizabeth			
Dr. To 3 2/3 yds of ozinbrigs		?	
To 1 fan @ 1/9			
To 1 bible @ 6/6	0	0	7
10 1 51516 @ 0/0			8
Isiah Ball Dr. from his own paper of day before			
To 1 3/4 yd. of white flaniel	0	7	0
To 1 1/2 yd of cambrick	0	4	0
To 1 remnant of calico	0	4	0
To 3 nips of punch	0	1	9
To 1 bole of punch	0	2	6
Stephen Ward Jun. (Jr.) Dr. To			
14 scarlet buttons	0	0	10
17 Scarlet Duttons	U	U	10
Jeremiah Genung Jun. (Jr.) Dr. 2			
by Abraham Drake for a pig	0	39	0
of transmit prancior a big	~	00	v

Tohn Confield Dr. to			
John Canfield Dr. to 6 2/3 yds. Crape @ 3/3 To buttons and have	1 0	9	3
To 2 yds of ozinbrigs	0	3	6
To 1 hank of have for briches (britches)	0	0	6
To 1 Dozn of pipes	0	0	6
To 1 Skein of silk	0	1	0
To 3 2/3 yd of linin @ 6/6	1	2	9
To 3 Skeins of thread	0	0	6
Capt. Nathel Dalglifh Dr. To 3 3/4 yd of fine linin @ 6/6 To 3 yd of tape		?	
To 1 funnel @ 1/9			
by Hannah			
Joseph Kitchell Dr.			
To 1 hatt	0	7	0
To 2/4 yd of ozinbrigs	0	0	10
Jebede Patten Dr. To 1 mug of cyder	0	0	5
Ephm Price Cr. to plowing	0	6	0
Deacon John Ball Cr. to 11 lb of veal	0	1	9
William Johnston Dr.			
To making an alphabet and			
lining your book	0	0	9
Henry Lafey Dr. To 4 lb of Shagg			
@ 10¢ lb 1 doz pipes	0	3	0
Thomas Ward To 0 ada asishais	0	-	
Thomas Ward To 3 yds ozinbrigs To 2 2/3 yd of white Reband	0	5 1	3 2
10 2 2/3 yd of winte Revalid	U	1	4
Stephen Ward Cr.			
To making 1 pr of trowfers	0	1	2
Dr. To 1 of Watts Pfalm books 3/0	0	0	3
To 1 cake of Sope	0	0	1
Cr. To 3 loads of			
Walnut wood			
Luke Carter Cr. To 12 1/2 lb			
6 oz. of butter @ 7	0	7	3
To 15 lbs of Tallow @ 6¢ a lb	0	7	6
John Bigelow Dr.			
1 almanack	0	0	6
Hendrick Tunis Dr.			
To 1 glafs @ 1/10	0	1	0
To 16 eggs Rotten 5¢	0	1	7
To 1 Iron Bale-pale	0	4	0

Deacon Jon Ball Dr. 6 hens paid To your wife Thanking You had not Cr. for them

Ephraim Price Jun (Jr) Dr.	1	8	0
To 2 tickets of the Hanover Lottery if not before	1	U	Ü
Thomas Ward Dr.			
To 2 boles of punch for the arbitrators @ 1/6	0	3	0
To your own and licker	1	0	0
To ye 2 arbitrators and			
Juftifs Dinner	0	3	0
Mathias Hoping Dr.			
To sope fatt a lump by your wife 1/6	0	1	6
To Tin Quart	0	1	9
To Tin pint	0	1 3	6
To 1 Tin puding pan	·	J	
Jacob Green Dr.	0	0	6
To 2/ of Brimstone To of pipes	0	0	3
10 of pipes	Ü		
Nathun Carter to 6 pennsathy of snuff	0	0	6
Warner Looker Dr.			
To a Case bottle you borrowed and broak (sic)	0	2	4
Widow Sarah Ball on acct	0	0	10
To lb of very poor or watery butter	U	0	10
Barnebas Brant Dr.			
To 1 Wigg @ 3 2/6			
To 1 dinner 9			
John Kenney Esq. Dr.			
To 3/4 lb of whale bone	0	8	3
John Canfield To cash 10			
York money	10	16	8
John Stewart Dr. To 1 dram for			
toothacke 4¢			
To the use of my horse to carry your	1.02	2	
sister whom (home)	0	0	10
John Rodley Dr. To a watch	10	0	0
James Nicholson Dr.			
To gole (jail) fees and writing pad			
to Stiles	1	0	3
To 18 days lying in Gole confined	9	0 2	9
To 1 Empty Barreel at Vanduein gole (jail)	U	2	9

Some Well-Known Men of Hanover

Rev. Jacob Green

In 1750 the original church at Hanover was built, and Jacob Green became the pastor there, and of the one in Whippany. He lived in Hanover, and served both churches till 1760, when he became pastor of Hanover alone.

Dr. Green was an extraordinary man, a man of great force of character and a most sincere Christian. He spent one day a week in prayer and fasting. He was a man of affairs as well as preacher. He drew up the wills of his parishioners, their deeds and contracts, settled their estates, acted as their legal advisor, and arbitrated their differences.

To eke out his small salary he became the physician of the villagers and the teacher of their children. He also engaged in milling and distilling. His still was located in the woods along the Whippany river on the south side of Troy Road.

Some wag addressed a letter to him in this way:

To	the	Rev.	Jacob	Green,	Preacher
,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	Teacher
93	,,	,,,	,,,	,,,	Doctor
,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	Proctor
"	,,	,,	,,	,,	Miller
,,	,,	"	"	,,	Distiller

In 1779 as money was so scarce, Rev. Green proposed to take produce in payment for his salary at certain rates for each article. In the Parish meeting assembled Dec. 3, 1779 it was voted that Rev. Green's proposal shall stand, which is as follows:

	L. S. D.
Wheat, per bu. at	0 12 0
Rye, per bu. at	0 8 0
Indian Corn per bu. at	0 6 0
Buckwheat " " "	05 5 0
Good butter per lb. at	0 1 0
Tallow ", ", "	0 1 2
Flax " " "	0 1 2
Wool " ", ",	0 2 8
Pork " " "	0 0 5
Beef " " "	0 0 31/2
Cheese """	0 0 10
Beeswax """	0 2 2
Honey "" "	0 0 10

Taylors, weavers, shoemakers, and other tradesmen, two pence in a shilling more than seven years ago.

Continental Dollars @ 4 each.

Good merchantable chestnut rails per 100 brought	L.	S.	D.
to his house	1	15	0
Black ash rails delivered	1	5	0
White oak " "	0	18	0
Red or black oak "	0	14	0
Pin oak & maple poles delivered	0	12	0
Good white oak posts 5 holes each post	0	0	7

In 1776 Rev. Green was a representative with Silas Condict from Morris County in the Provincial Congress of New Jersey, and became chairman of the committee charged with the duty of preparing a constitution for the infant state.

It has been admitted by historians that Dr. Green was the author of this.

Dr. Green was the father of Ashbel Green, once president of the College of New Jersey, and the grandfather of Robert Stockton Green, one time governor of this state.

Calvin Green Diary Son of Dr. Jacob Green

In connection with the story of Jacob Green Mrs. Rowley obtained the following account of a son of Jacob Green. It speaks for itself.

In 1774 Jacob Green built a school house across the road and started a Latin School. There were eight students viz: Ashbel Green, James Cook, Samuel Beach, Caleb Tuttle, Lent Fairchild, John Hamel, David Young, and William Ely.

In 1791 the house where Mrs. Marietta Griffith lives was raised and finished in the fall. It was once the home of Calvin Green, son of Jacob. In 1798 an academy was built. Paid \$20 worth of grass for a year's schooling.

In 1810 borrowed \$50 to keep son Jacob in college. 1814 borrowed \$200 to keep Jacob in the seminary at New Brunswick and Princeton.

John Merry

No story of this town would be complete without an account of John Merry. He lived in the 90's and was known as a "character." He lived alone in a house built by his grandfather Samuel Merry, a Revolutionary soldier. It stood in the spot where the late Charles Bausewein built his home. The road, "Merry's Lane," is named in memory of him.

He was a tall, dark lanky man, possessing a marked resemblance to Abraham Lincoln. He owned a valuable violin, which he played after a fashion. No party or gathering was complete without him, as his wit, and humorous stories together with music (?) made him the life of the party.

Like Lincoln he was very tough and sinewy. During the Civil War he walked to New York to work in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. It's doubtful that he did it every day, but at least there on Monday and back for Sunday.

There is another story that illustrates his endurance. The hatters from Orange would come up for a picnic or gathering, and of course John was asked there to make some fun. A picnic at Tuttle's Grove was once held, and of course, John was there. One of the men, "feeling his oats," challenged John to a dancing match. Now John had on boots, but he danced till his opponent fell down from exhaustion.

Aaron Kitchell

Perhaps the most illustrious name in the annals of this town is that of Aaron Kitchell. He was born 1744 in the northern end of this township, then called Hanover Neck, on the road that passes the airport, just at the bend of the road before it crosses the first bridge at the beginning of the Troy meadows.

He was one of a family of ten children, so had little opportunity for an education. It could truly be said that he was a self made man, for he educated himself. He borrowed and read every book in the

neighborhood, scarcely allowing himself enough sleep.

As he was a zealous patriot he was one of the earliest volunteers in Morris County. He served through the Revolution, and afterward spent 4 years in the House of Representatives and four in the Senate.

He served his state and country in many ways until he died in 1820.

His house has disappeared long ago.

David Young

Among the names of men of whom this town may be proud that of David Young, the astronomer, stands out. He was born in 1781 at the point of Hook Mountain, Pine Brook, about where the old church stands. He made his home, however, in that part of town once called Hanover Neck.

His ancestors were Scotch, and arrived in Perth Amboy in 1685. He had a sister who married a Pruden. In 1808 he married Mary

Atkins from New Providence, then called Turkey.

When a lad he showed marked mathematical ability. With his few savings he bought books and instruments to help him acquire more knowledge. He used to lie on a large flat rock and study the heavens. The place is now called "Windy Acres," a development on the west side of Ridgedale Avenue near where it joins Eagle Rock Avenue.

In appearance David Young was tall and spare with a natural dignity. He had strong intellectual features with a fine long face. His hair was heavy and dark, and his complexion likewise dark. One woman said he reminded her of pictures of the Duke of Wellington. His manner was deferential and kindly, although often absentminded.

He was a fine gardener and also very fond of pork. His sleek hogs were his pride, and if someone came to call while the pigs were asleep he would not let them near the pen lest the porkers should waken. He also gave the pigs laudanum to make them sleep, as he thought they gained more then.

David Young taught school, but not too successfully. He was a poor disciplinarian, and could not bring himself down to the level of the children.

A Frenchman of learning wrote to ask him to solve a difficult problem that had puzzled the best scholars in their department of Mathematics. Young solved it and set the price of his work at \$50.00.

At an informal discussion in the court of St. James, England, the question arose whether the Star of Bethlehem might not have been a comet. One of the members, an American, said there was a man in the United States who could solve the problem. Young sat up all night working on the question and finally said there was no comet anywhere near at 6 that time. He set a price of \$100.00 for his labors.

David Young prepared the manuscript for the "Farmer's Almanac" published by Benjamin Olds of Newark. This work brought him sufficient means to supply his wants. He also wrote "The Mor-

ristown Ghost," a rare work, as the issue was suppressed in deference to the feelings of the people in that affair.

About 1825 he delivered a lecture on the laws of motion, which was published in a pamphlet, some of which may still be extant.

David Young never owned a home, but rented places in Hanover

Neck. They were: the Caleb Tuttle house, the Timothy Mulford place (now burned down), the John Beach place, the David Tuttle place, and the Elisha Beard (Baird) place.

He died in 1852, and is buried in the Hanover cemetery. He was given the title "Philom," lover of learning. His stone is on the left as you enter the church. The old original stone is in the Pine Brook

cemetery.

David Young's sundial or dial plate is now with the New Jersey Historical Society. It is made of copper, the work of Christopher Collins of 42 Pearl Street, New York. It is engraved by hand of very intricate design, as there is more than a clock face on it. There was a chart of the seasons through the world, a calendar and the time of day.

The greater part of the above information was obtained through the kindness of Mrs. Rowley, who loaned me the "Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society of 1927." It is published by the above named society, and the article is "David Young, Philom, New Jersey Astronomer" by Joseph Fulford Folsom of Newark.

The Story of Rhoda Farrand

The following account was taken from "The Passaic Valley, New Jersey" - by John Whitehead L.L.D.; published by the New Jersey Genealogical Company - 1901.

The following account is through the courtesy of Mrs. Everett Rowley, who copied it for me.

Page 170

Rhoda Farrand, the wife of a soldier in the army, one of the shivering, suffering mass of humanity encamped at Morristown, has been immortalized in song for her patriotic deeds. News came to her from her husband that men of his company, who were mostly "neighbor's sons" from Parsippany and its vicinity, were shoeless and stockingless. She had been left at home with her three children, two daughters and a son, to care for the farm. Their horses had been taken for the use of the army and a pair of young steers was the only means at her hand which she could use to visit her neighbors. The letter from her husband came on Thursday. She immediately ordered her son to yoke up the steers, and seating herself on a chair in a two-wheeled cart, her only vehicle, with her needles in hand and a ball of yarn, she passed round to her neighbors at Hanover, old Boonton, and other places, giving them the letter to read. That was enough. The women all over the neighborhood set to work and naught was heard but the click of the needle. When she returned home at night one pair of stockings was done. The next day she went in another direction and roused the sympathy and patriotism of the women there, and on the second night when she reached her home another pair of stockings was done. In the meantime the two girls left behind had been at work busily doing their share of the merciful deed. The yarn gave out and a cosset, a pet sheep, was killed and its fleece carded and spun and the stockings grew apace. On Sunday good

Parson Green preached to empty seats, the pious women of his parish being too busy doing God's work in another direction to give him the devout attention he always received.

On Monday morning the stockings came pouring in upon Mistress Rhoda, and in her cart, with her son, Nat, driving the steers she went to the camp with one hundred and thirty-eight pairs of woollen stockings "knit up to the knée," and her husband's company every man of them, that day blessed this plucky, patriotic little woman, whose name should ever be remembered. General Washington, hearing the shout raised in Rhoda's honor, rode up to learn the cause of the commotion and when told, raised his hat and thanked Mrs. Farrand for himself and his men.

Hanover Neck

No story of this town would be complete without my father's account of the northern section, called Hanover Neck as it was in his boyhood. It was the inspiration for this history.

SOME OF THE HISTORY OF HANOVER NECK, NEW JERSEY by Edward Dixon at the age of 93

Since I am now, in 1953, the oldest resident, and the last descendant of the first white settlers of this village, Hanover Neck, New Jersey, it has occurred to me that it would be interesting to some of its inhabitants to learn some of the history of this section. This has come down to me from books and other printed sources, and from the oldest residents.

My grandfather, Calvin Dixon, who was born in 1798, and my grandmother, Mathilda Mulford, born in 1799, lived contemporaneously with the first settlers of Hanover Neck, who were the Tuttles, the Kitchells, Balls, Osborns, Prudens, the Douglases, and others. Several of these families here mentioned are my ancestors and relatives. I am sure the information they gave me can be relied upon as correct.

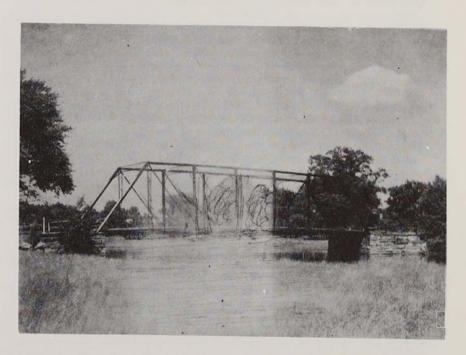
When I first saw the light of day in 1862, Hanover Neck, (as it was then called), was strictly a farming community. I can recall but five families who did not get their living from their farms. Those five were: the store keeper, J. H. Polemus; the tailor, Phineas Tuttle; the village blacksmith, Lyman Pearce, (a very competent workman); the shoemaker, Nicholas Peer; and Francis Osborn, the carpenter.

At the most northern extremity of Ridgedale Avenue the first house was the home of John Beach, situated on the north side of the road, but long since disappeared. He had two sons and two daughters. The son, Timothy, was a natural born story teller and wit. How he used to entertain the men who gathered at Polemus' store for an evening of news and gossip! The daughter, Hannah, married Alexander Hough and settled in Dover. Timothy later moved to Orange.

The next house was owned by James Walker, (now A. Steppel), who came from Bloomfield. The farm was known as the John Fairchild place, and was bought about 1840. The house burned down about 50 years ago, and in repairing the foundation two Indian skeletons were found. When they were uncovered they soon began to crumble, but I saw them. They probably were an Indian and his squaw. They were reburied in another portion of the farm.

The Walker family consisted of three daughters - Emma, Margaret and Anna - and a son, Henry. Emma married a lawyer named McGillen and settled in New York. The other two daughters never married. Anna was a writer for several religious publications and was the author of a book called Mortica's Tenant.

Henry, the son, married Mary Clark, a school teacher, and had three sons and two daughters. Jessica married a Mr. Carpenter and lived near Pittsburgh Pa. Emma married a Mr. Mandeville and lived in Newark. Frederick lived on the home farm and married Frances



The old Swinefield Bridge as it looked before the new one was built.

Striever, a teacher here. Richard's wife was from Newark, and he too lived for a while on the home place. Bert married Cora Kitchell of Hanover. He is the only one of Henry's family now living.

In his old age Henry Walker sold the farm to Mr. A. Steppel, the present owner, and went to live with his son somewhere near the Dela-

ware Water Gap. The farm is now used for a flying field.

Directly across the road was a portion of the estate of Aaron Kitchell Esquire. He was always called the Senator, for he had held that office. He voted for Thomas Jefferson for President, and was an honorary pall bearer at Washington's funeral.

The house in which he died has disappeared long ago. The present house that stands there was built by Exra Pruden, whose wife Phoebe Kitchell, was a granddaughter of Aaron. The property came into possession of Ira H. Condit of Roseland, whose wife also was a granddaughter of Aaron Kitchell. For many years the house has been

occupied by renters. (J. Sippel).

A short distance south was the home of Albert Tappan, who bought the place from Nathaniel Douglas about 1840. His family consisted of (1) Walter, who settled in Philadelphia; (2) David, who went to Jersey City; (3) William who settled in Altoona, Pa.; (4) Theodore, whose last days were spent in Newark. He was a good violinist, and with Henry Mulford, furnished the music for dances and social gatherings. He was a soldier in the War of 1861. There were three daughters in the family; (1) Jane, who married Peter deKolf of Jersey City; (2) Susan, who never married, and Kate (3) who married but left no children. She possessed a fine voice, and sang in many concerts. All three daughters died of tuberculosis. It is one of the three houses now standing that was built before the Revolution. Later it was owned by Lyman Pearce, who died there, and was the home of C. H. Little, lately deceased.

Continuing our journey south we next come to the Pruden Estate. (C. M. Frohling). As far back as 1749 here lived a certain Adoniram Pruden, a Revolutionary soldier. His estate was extensive, situated on both sides of the road, and extending nearly from the Whippany River to the Passaic. At the time of my birth, the estate was owned by John

J. Pruden, who died in the old Pruden home.

His first wife was a daughter of Parley Cole of Pine Brook, by whom he had one son, Winfield Scott, who settled in Florham Park.

His second wife was Susan Irving, a daughter of John Irving, of Jersey City. Their children were: Lewis, who succeeded in the ownership of the farm after the death of parents. The second son, William, became a dentist, practicing in Paterson, who is believed to be at 92, the oldest practicing dentist in the United States.

One son of John Pruden, Harry, died working on the Panama Canal. Other children, Elias Leroy, Elizabeth and Warren settled in Orange.

Lewis sold the homestead to Mr. Lee Brown about 1935. Mr. Brown remodeled the dwelling, and after his death his widow sold the place to Mr. Laurens Bisschop, who occupied the home, later sold and moved to Orange.

A little further south, on the same side of the road, was the home of Elisha Baird. The former occupant was Appolis Pruden, a nephew of John, who sold out and moved to Paterson about 1840. The Baird

family came from the vicinity of Chester or Mendham.

The house is still standing, and is occupied by a Mr. Shurger,

who has several green houses on the place.

Across the road was the neighborhood store kept by John H. Polhemus. It has since been made into a dwelling.

Nearly opposite was the home of David Tuttle, (Windy Acres development). About thirty years ago the house burned down, and another has been built on the site.

David Tuttle, a descendent of Joseph Tuttle, lived on a portion of the original Tuttle purchase. He was a grandson of Caleb Tuttle, a Revolutionary soldier. He married Caroline Van Duyne of Pine Brook. His one son George, married Ella Peer of Fairfield, N. J. They had no children.

A short distance south, on the same side, was the home of Jacob Tuttle, a brother of David. He too, lived on a portion of the old Tuttle purchase. I do not know whom he married, but she was called Hula Tuttle. They had two daughters; Amelia, who married William Bowman of Caldwell and lived in East Orange; and Anna, who married Alfred Gore and also lived in East Orange. Neither have any children.

The Tuttle house burned several years ago, and a high tension

tower stands almost on the spot of the home.

The next house, on the same side, was the home of Lyman Pearce, a son of Andrew Pearce, the village blacksmith. His wife came from New York City, but I do not know her family name. They had one son, Lyman, Jr., who died some years ago. There are no descendents now living. The house is still standing, occupied by Mr. Joseph Miller. *

Just opposite the Pearce home stands the house then owned by Israel B. Condit, a retired school teacher. This house was originally built by Christopher Mulford, who came from East Hampton in 1771 with his brother, Timothy. It antedates the Revolutionary War, but is

greatly altered now.

Israel B. Condit married Rebecca Butler, and had a large family. Their children were; (1) Wallace, a business man in New York City, lived and died on Long Island. (2) Frank settled in Philadelphia, and lost his life in an accident while helping build the Centennial buildings. (3) Selwyn died unmarried. (4) Monroe (Oscar) married Mathilda Dixon, daughter of David Dixon. Their children were Russel, Edith, Monroe, Jr., who settled in Belmar, N. J. (5) Daniel, whose wife's name I don't know adopted a son, and died at Mt. Dora, Fla. (6) Clarence married Ella Littell of Hanover. I do not know their children's names. They lived in Summit, N. J. (7) Emma married James Gillen, a school teacher. They lived and died in Phillipsburg, N.J. (8) Caroline married a Mr. Purdy and settled in Phillipsburg. (9) Mary married a Mr. Peer and lived in Newark, N. J.

On the west side of the road lived John N. Peer, (John Baird place, now empty), the village shoemaker. His wife's name was Frances Ball. They had one daughter who married George Y. Baird. They had a son John who married Clara Hubbard of Whippany. The homestead

is still standing and is occupied.

We will now start at the west end of Cedar Street, which begins at Petry's corner and formerly extended west across the Troy Meadows and ended at Howell's Corner, Troy Hills. It was a road used by those who owned land that became flooded, in order to cart their low meadow hay from Ford's Island and the Troy Meadows. Since the meadows became neglected, and the bridges down, the road is now abandoned from the river westward.

Turning eastward on Cedar Street, the first house was the one built by Timothy Mulford, about 1775 and is now occupied. At my birth it was owned by Thomas McGuire, a retired blacksmith from New York City. His family was (1) Thomas, who lived in New York City. (2) Katie and Mary never married. (3) Susan married Edward Warren. They both died about fifty years ago. (4) Margaret married Edward Riley and settled in East Madison.

Westward a short distance, and opposite, was the home of Henry Mulford, a son of Jason Mulford, a grandson of Timothy. He married Jane Pearce of Fairfield. They had no children, and at his death the property was sold to strangers, and the house is still standing.

Crossing the road and proceeding a short distance was the home of John Mulford, uncle of Henry, a son Jason Mulford, the son of Timothy. He married Clarissa Osborn, a granddaughter of Jacob Osborn. They had two daughters, Hettie, who married William Kitchell, and settled in Orange. Minnie who married George M. Tuttle, and lived and died in this neighborhood.

Returning to Ridgedale Avenue where it makes an Sturn, on the West corner was the home of Nathaniel Douglas, a son of John and grandson of David. His first wife was Elizabeth Miller, daughter of Jacob Miller of Pine Brook. Their children were: (1) John, who married Martha Walker, was a soldier in the Civil War and settled in New Haven, Conn. (2) Edward never married. He too, was a Civil War Veteran. (3) Mary C. married Timothy W. Dixon. (4) Emma married Edward Meeker, and settled in East Orange.

Nathaniel Douglas next married Nancy Ball, daughter of Harvey Ball. They had two children: (1) Franklin married Elizabeth Ball of Elizabeth and settled in Daytona Florida. He was a Captain in the Civil War. They had no children. (2) Helen married Peter deKolf, and settled in East Orange. They had no children. The homestead has

long since disappeared.

* Going south on Ridgedale Avenue, we come to the home of John Kitchell, a son of Farrand Kitchell. He married Sarah Cook of West Orange. They lost one son, Robert, in infancy. His other children were: (1) Aaron, who settled in Texas and died there in 1866. He graduated from Princteon and became a Presbyterian minister, never married. (2) George F. who never married, and (3) Sarah, who never married. At their death, the property went to distant relatives. The house was torn down and the knoll on which it stood was leveled off nearly twenty years ago.

** The next house, going south, on the same side of the road was the home of Timothy W. Dixon. He built the house soon after his marriage to Mary C. Douglas, daughter of Nathaniel Douglas. Their children were: (1) Elizabeth, who married Fred Buchman of Pine Brook. (2) Jesse Fremont who married Emma Reeder of Ohio. He lived and died in this place and has one surviving son, Jesse Fremont, Jr. who lives near Philadelphia. (3) Jane C. who married Charles A. Pierson and settled in Ohio. (4) Edward, who married Alice V. Hennion of Parsippany, and has three children living: (1) Edna, a retired school teacher, (2) Eric E. married Maude Kinsella of London. He was an aerial photographer in World War I, and taught that subject as Chief Petty Officer in the Navy in World War II. He now lives in Summit. (3) Horace H. served in the Transportation service in World War I. He married Hilda A. Grossman of Roseland, has one son, Lee, who lives in Hanover.

*** Opposite the Dixon Home was the home of William Henry Mulford, a son of Christopher. His first wife was Catherine Canfield of Whippany. By this wife he had (1) George O. who settled in Madison. I do not know whom he married, or the names of his children. (2) Araminta married a Mr. Nailor and settled in Vandalia, Illinois. (3) Anna Eliza married Ambrose Kitchell of this place and settled in Brooklyn, N. Y. (4) Susan married John Irving of Jersey City. Had one daughter, Susan who married John Pruden and lived in this place. (5) Alexander died young, but married I don't know whom. Had one daughter, Gussie, who married George Righter and lived in Parsippany.

^{*}Dixon Place Development ***Large rooming house

Further south is the old schoolhouse, which for about 70 years furnished the educational advantages for the younger generation. It

is now a private dwelling where Mrs. Oscar Kent lives.

A short distance from the school is the Kitchell house. As long ago as 1728 a certain Joseph Kitchell came to Hanover Neck. He was the son of Abram Kitchell, who lived in Whippany. He bought a large tract of land just south of the old Cox Line from Rebecca Wheeler and John Budd, speculators living at or near Burlington. The tract, in all contained more than one hundred acres.

Judge Joseph Kitchell married Rachael Bates of Whippany and had six sons, five of whom served in the Revolutionary War. Two of his nephews also served viz: Obidiah, who rose to the rank of Captain, and Samuel, who fought in the battle of Brandywine under Lafayette. The Kitchell family well deserved all the honor that has been bestowed

upon them.

When I first saw the light of day the Kitchell farm was owned by Joseph Kitchell, second. His wife was Maria Ely of Livingston. His children were: (1) Henry, married Frances Gaines of Montville, where they lived and died. They had two children whose names I don't know. (2) Edwin was unmarried and lived home. (3) Ambrose, married Josephine Meeker of Florham Park, where they lived and died. Had one surviving daughter who lives in Morristown. (4) George R. married Sarah Squier of Livingston. They had one son, Harry, who died unmarried. He was for many years a superintendent of Sunday School. George R. and his wife lived on the homestead till he died in 1916. She died two years later and the Kitchell property went into the hands of a number of persons. Many homes have been built upon it, but the homestead is still standing in good condition, and is the home of Mr. B. Goldblatt.

* Traveling south on the east side of the road was the home of Abram Morgan, a veteran of the Civil War. He married Sarah Robinson, a widow, who had two previous marriages. Her first was to Moses Day, by whom she had one daughter, Frances. Next she married Charles Howard and settled in Montville, N. J. At his death she married a Mr. Robinson, by whom she had (1) Amida who went to Orange, married and settled there. (2) Nancy who married a Charles Winans, and had one daughter, Adeline. At his death she married Ruben Cobb and settled at Roseland. Henry, never married, lived home. By Abram Morgan she had a daughter named Eleanor, who married George Smith and lived on the Morgan homestead. Their children were (1) Isabel, married Frank Bates and settled in Whippany. (2) Norman, who went to Orange, married and lived in that city, but now lives in Florida. (3) Sarah, married Archie Prehn and settled in Roseland. (4) Marjorie married Mr. Pell Collins and settled in Livingston, N. J.

** The next house was the home of Joseph Winans. He had one son named Ward, who went to Orange, lived and married there; and two daughters; Amanda, who married William Beach and settled in Roseland; and Agusta, who married George Whitty and settled near Boonton.

Crossing the road, and a little south was an old house in which lived Erastus Kitchell. He had two daughters; Mary who married William Tappan and settled in Altoona, Pa. Ida the other daughter went to Flemington with her father when he sold his property here.

Directly opposite the old Kitchell house where lived and died a hard working, honest Irishman named Dennis Daley. The name of

his wife was Mary McGuire.

*** Between these two houses on the road that leads from Ridgedale Avenue to the East end of Whippany, called the Troy Road, was a house occupied by David Hopping. The farm belonged to the Ward's of Newark

*Geo. Smith place **Monroe Baird burned there ***F. J. Smith

and was a part of the old Kitchell purchase. His family consisted of (1) Sanford, lived and died in Florham Park, married and had a family. (2) Charles O., never married; died at home. (3) Harriet, married James Sims and settled in Boonton. (4) Edward, went to Orange, married and lived there. (5) John H., married Letty Dalley and lived and died in this neighborhood. Louise, married Charles Young of Newark, and both died there. They had two daughters: Charlotte who settled in Newark, and Laurie who settled in East Orange. (7) Miller died in Hanover, married, but left no children. (8) Mary, who married Livingston Peter (see Petry family.)

Crossing the river on the north side was the home of Samuel Hopping. His wife was the daughter of Nathan Fish of Florham Park. His children were (Ella, died young, unmarried). (2) Sumner, married a sister of D. M. Shipman, of Whippany. They lived home, had two daughters, Harriet and Florence. They recently moved to Bedminster, N. J. Next daughter was named Lucy, who died at home, unmarried. The youngest daughter, Jennie, married D. Mulford Shipman. Lived and died in this neighborhood.

* Farther along on the south side of the road in a lane lived Andrew Tappan. He had two children: Edward who died young, and Evenina, who married Samuel Beaumont and settled in Whippany.

** Returning to Ridgedale Avenue and moving south was a house in which lived Charles Smithwon and his wife whose name I do not know. About fifty years ago he sold his property and moved to Madison.

Opposite the Smithson house lived Aaron Ball in a house he built, which still stands. He married Euphenia Young of Montville. They had (1) George, who married a daughter of Albert Zabriskie of Montville, N. J. (2) Clara a school teacher who never married, lived home. (3) Minnie, settled in East Orange, married a Mr. Brown of Livingston. (4) William, married Jennie Tompkins of this place and settled in Newark.

Opposite, on the east side of the road was the house in which lived Stephen Earls. His wife's name was Hannah Decker. They came from Rockaway Valley, near Boonton. The farm was formerly owned by Harvey Hampton who moved to Newark. Mr. and Mrs. Earls had no children. At their deaths the farm went to Elrado Earls, a nephew. The railroad took a portion of the farm, the rest was absorbed by the Restland Cemetery. Ernest Earls who then owned the farm moved to Hanover.

A few rods along the road stood the house in which lived William Delhanty. It has long since disappeared. He had two sons and one daughter, who married a Mr. Faran and settled in Whippany; one son, Peter, died at home. The son William married Delia Means of Whippany. They settled in Madison, N. J.

A short distance from the Delhanty home was the house in which lived Rodger Mulholand. He had one daughter and one son. The daughter Margaret, lived home and never married. The son, William married but I do not know her name. They settled in Madison. John P. Gegenheimer built on the property.

*** James Ball occupied the next house. The several families by that name that lived in this place were descendants of that Edward Ball who came with Robert Treat and founded the city of Newark, in 1666. John Ball and Deacon Samuel Ball were the first Deacons in the church in Hanover. James Ball was elected to the Legislature from this district. In 1875 he sold his farm here and moved to Maryland, near the town of Bel Air.

- * Next house was the home of a widow, Judith McGee. She had one son named William, who married and settled in Newark. I do not know the name of his wife.
- ** We now return to the western end of Eagle Rock Avenue. Travelling east and on the north side of the road was the dwelling of John O. Tuttle. There were three brothers who came from the north of England near the river Tweed, who settled in this section of the country. One brother named Timothy bought land a little west of Morris Plains on the Denville road and settled there. Another named Samuel bought land in Littleton called the Four Corners and settled there. Joseph the third brother, bought all the land in what is called East Hanover consisting of 1250 acres. This land was first sold by the Board of Proprietors to Daniel Cox, who about 1725 sold it to Johnathon Stiles and about 1735 Stiles sold it to Joseph Tuttle.

The house he then built may have been made of logs. It was built on Eagle Rock Avenue and about 100 yards east of River Road. The ground is now occupied by a public Tavern. At my birth the house was of the style of a farm construction and was owned by John O. Tuttle, a descendant of Joseph. He was twice married. The first wife was named Elizabeth Burnett and their children were 1st Willis who married Phoebe Dixon and settled in Newark. 2nd Sarah, married Ransford Kent, and settled in Newark. 4th Emma who married William O. Dixon, and lived in Hanover Neck. The second wife of John O. Tuttle was Elizabeth Canfield. Their children were (1) George, who married Minnie Mulford, a daughter of John Mulford of Hanover Neck and lived in that neighborhood. (2) Edwin settled in Orange and married there. (3) John Henry who settled in Providence, Rhode Island and married there. (4) William never married and lived at home. (5) Mary married Lewis Osborn, a son of Philetus Osborn and settled in Hackensack, N. J.

Farther along on Eagle Rock Ave., was the home of Cornelius Brooks. His wife was Jane Beach. He had one son, Hubbard, who mar-

ried Kate Hubbard of Whippany. He settled in Orange.

*** Reaching the Passaic River, we turn on what is now River Road, and travelling south we come to the house in which lived Benjamin Griffith. He married Phoebe Class. They had a son John, who married Mary McClelland of Roseland and settled in Bloomfield, N. J. His daughter Almira, married John West and they went to East Orange, N. J.

Further along River Road is the Petry home and farm, owned by George Petry. About 1850 he came from Totowa near Paterson and bought the farm owned then by one James Lewis. It is the only home that has continuously been occupied by the same family, for more than one hundred years. He had two sons; (1) Thomas who died young. (2) Livingston, who married Mary Hopping, daughter of David Hopping, and lived on the Petry farm. Their children were (1) Lida, married George M. Tuttle, Jr. and lived in Hanover. (2) Emma married Ray Durham and settled in Hanover. (3) Clara, unmarried and lived home. (4) Frank, married Bessie Van Ness and lived home. (5)Elston,(6) Hazel, lived home.

Farther along River Road is Merry's Lane. At the end was the house built by Samuel Merry, a soldier of the Revolutionary War. At my birth, his grandson, John a batchelor, lived in the house. His physical resemblance to Abraham Lincoln was remarkable, and likewise he possed considerable wit and natural humor. He owned a valuable violin, sent to him by a relative in the West. It had a deep mellow tone. It was "sweetness long drawn out", even when John played it, although his music was hardly of the classical kind. Some years before this there came to town a man by the name of Heath. He established himself

in the flower growing business, hence he was called Posy Heath. He hired John as an assistant. John claimed he worked for twenty nine days on a diet of squash and when John registered objections he received his discharge. This brought forth a song, composed in anger and revenge. Since I heard it so many times I can remember it and repeat it. It was called "Posy Heath".

"Posy Heath"

Chorus: Posy up and Posy down

And Posy all around the town Posy then he takes a "Smile"

And plays with the posies a little while.

1st Verse: Posy then he went to Chatham

And old Howard flew right at him
Said he, "Go home and husk your corn
You're the biggest fool that ever was born"

Posy then he takes a "Smile"

And played with the corn a little while.

Chorus: Posy up and Posy down, etc.

2nd Verse: Oh! he husked his corn and took it to town

And peddled it all 'round and 'round He sold the stocks for a dollar and a half And he come home with a big bull calf

Posy then he takes a "Smile"

And played with the calf a little while.

Chorus: Posy up and Posy down, etc.

3rd Verse: Posy then he went to thrash beans

And then for three days he was not seen

Posy then he takes a "Smile"

And played with the beans a little while.

Chorus: Posy up and Posy down, etc.

4th Verse: Posy then he went around the block

When he got to John Tuttle's he stopped

(to fix a clock)

The clock it run till it struck four And then it never run any more Posy then he takes a "Smile"

And played with the clock a little while.

Chorus: Posy up and Posy down, etc.

*A "Smile" meant a drink of apple whiskey.

The winter of 1903 was cold and severe with plenty of ice and snow. It was noticed that there was no smoke from Merry's chimney and when the neighbors broke in the door, they found John Merry dead in his bed.

* Over the diving stone fence that separates the two properties was the home of John Ketcham. He came from Denville about 1835 and bought a large farm that lay on both sides of the road. He married Joanna Burnet, who lived to be 101 years old. About 1840 some of the family migrated to the West. (1) William, married Julia Osborn, a

^{*}Peter Miele

granddaughter of Jacob Osborn. He settled in West Mill Grove, a short distance south of Sandusky, Ohio. (2) Smith, married Dorcas Condit and went with the Condits when that family moved to Ohio, and founded the town by that name in Ohio. (3) Exra, I do not know whom he married. went to Anemosa, Iowa and settled there. (4) John went to the same place. (5) Maria, married Francis Van Ness and settled in Montville, N. J. (6) J. Harrison, was a school teacher and lived home. (7) Sarah, was a school teacher, lived home. (8) Louisa, lived home. None of these three ever married. (9) James, lived home unmarried.

* Moving along a short distance on the west side of the road was the home of Jacob T. Plume. He was twice married. His first wife was named Beach and by her he had two children. (1) Walter who settled in Orange. (2) Frances, married Sidney Rickey of Sussex, settled in Caldwell. By his second wife, Harriet Beach, his children were: (1) George, I do not know whom he married. Settled in Caldwell. (2) Frank who went west and settled near Chicago, Ill. (3) Harriet, married Leslie Kitchell and settled in Newark, N. J. (4) Anna, married Frank Webber and settled in Oklahoma. (5) Ella, married a Mr. Jacobus and settled in Caldwell. (6) Leslie, settled in Englewood, N. J. I do

not know whom he married.

** Going south on the same side of the road next to the railroad lived the widow of Stephan Griffith. She was the daughter of Daniel Douglas. Her children were: (1) Daniel, who settled in Roseland and married there. I do not recall his wife's name. (2) William, who settled and married in Roseland. (3) Munson, who married a daughter of Linsley Beach, and lived on the homestead farm. Now burned and another house stands there.

The next house was the home of Charles W. Ball, now occupied by Mr. Earl Brunner. His farm was a portion of the old Ball purchase, and is now part of the golf links. His wife's family name was Clement.

They had no children.

Opposite McKinley Ave., was the house where the Winans family lived. It consisted of two brothers, Cyrus and Harvey. One brother was married, which, I don't know. Three children were raised there, two sons and a daughter. (1) Charles, became a Methodist minister. (2) John, a bachelor, became a school teacher. (3) Mary married William Datow of Newark, and died in the home. The house burned down some thirty years ago.

*** The next occupied house was owned by two aged Irishmen, named James and Patrick Hand. They turned their home over to a relative, John Hand, and returned to Ireland. This John Hand's family was: (1) Mary, who married Thomas Ellis, Jr. of Whippany and settled in Orange. (2) Charles, who never married and lived home. (3) James, who also lived home and remained single. (4) Anna, who did not marry and lived home. The house, after being remodeled, is the home of R. G. Durham.

We have now reached the Hanover line, and will return to the east end of Cedar Street, extending from Petry's corner to the Whippany River. The first house on the south side was the home of Daniel Douglas, who married Martha Dixon, a daughter of Daniel Dixon. His children were: (1) John who became a Methodist preacher. Phoebe (2), who married Stephen Griffith and lived in the Griffith home. (3) a daughter, whose name I do not know. (4) Amanda, who became a famous writer of fiction, and a winner of prize novels. Even now her books can be found in some libraries.

**** A short distance west on the opposite side of the road, lived Francis Osborn. He married Sara i Sigler of Fairfield, N. J. Had no children.

^{*}Edw. Dixon *** Ray Durham **N. Logan **** Dan Young

* Crossing the road, to the south side and a short distance west was the house of Philetus Osborn, a brother of Frank. He married Maria Sigler, a sister of Sarah. Both lived and died in the house which is still standing, and is supposed to have been built several years before the Revolutionary War. Their children were: (1) Mary, never married, lived home. (2) Charles died young, unmarried. (3) David Lewis, married Mary Tuttle, a daughter of John O. Tuttle, settled in Hackensack, N. J. and died there, children: Frank and Etta (died).

Continuing, we next come to the house in which lived Henry Pearce, a son of Andrew Pearce. He married Eliza Monroe of Paterson. His home was formerly the home of Jacob Osborn, who came from East Hampton, Long Island, in 1771 with his sister, Mrs. Timothy Mulford. As a ship's carpenter Henry Pearce worked on the Monitor. He told me that when the ship was completed the workmen were invited to go out to test its ability to withstand the sea and the guns when they were fired. He accepted the invitation, and "when the guns were fired it sounded like a plank falling on the deck". The next day the Monitor started on its fourney to Hampton Roads to meet the enemy.

The next house on the same side of the road was the home of Andrew Smith who came from Germany. His children were, (1) Andrew, who settled in Morristown. (2) Henry, who settled in Orange, (3) Frederick who settled in Hackettstown. (4) George, settled in the same town. The names of their wives I do not know. (5) Caroline, married a Mr. Hendy, who deserted her. (6) Christina, who died young unmarried.

** On the north side of Cedar Street and at the junction of Ridgedale Avenue was the home of Calvin Dixon, a son of Lot Dixon and his wife, who was Phoebe Leonard of Rockaway Neck. He married Matilda Mulford a daughter of Timothy Mulford. Their children were (1) Susan, lived home, never married. (2) Timothy W., married Mary C. Douglas (see Doughlas family.) (3) John Smith, settled in East Orange, married Phoebe Williams, of West Orange. (4) Phoebe A. married Willis Tuttle (see Tuttle family), settled in Newark, N. J. (5) David L. married Anna King of Newark and settled in Seaford, Delaware. (6) William O., married Emma Tuttle (see Tuttle family). (7) Edward, died young, never married.

^{*}T. Scull

^{**}Smith

Thinking it may be of interest I append a list of the soldiers that served in the Revolutionary War from Hanover Neck.

Asa Kitchell Obadiah Kitchell (Captain) 12. Othnial Looker 13. 2. Caleb Tuttle Samuel Kitchell* 14. 3. William Ball 15. Abram Kitchell Samuel Douglas 4. Aaron Kitchell 16. John Dixon 5. Jacob Cory 17. 6. Daniel Dixon 18. Caleb Ball Jacob Osborn 7. 19. Enoch Beach Samuel Merry 8. 20. Thomas Day 9. Timoth Mulford 21. Moses Kitchell 10. Christopher Mulford 22. John Kitchell 11. Adoniram Pruden

> * Samuel Kitchell, son of John Kitchell and grandson of Judge Joseph fought in the Battle of Brandywine, under Lafayette.

Also a list of soldiers who served in the Union Army 1861-65.

1. Harry Franklyn Douglas (Captain) 4. Rodney Mulford

George M. Tuttle
 Theodore A. Tappan
 John Douglas

7. Edward Douglas

If the interested reader should take the trouble to go to the southwest corner of the Hanover Church cemetery he will see a low granite monument with this inscription:

> "David Young, Philom (lover of learning) Born January 27, 1781 Died February 13, 1852"

On the reverse side of the stone is the following epitaph: "The American Astronomer.

He lived like Newton, midst yon stars of light, He dies, to see the unobstructed sight The works of God in Nature and in grace, And view his God and Savior face to face.

It is known he never attended any institution of higher learning, and in what way he obtained the knowledge of Astronomy has been a puzzle. All he possessed was a hand held telescope, and with that he studied the sun, moon and stars, and calculated their various movements.

My grandfather, Nathaniel Douglas, kept a store at the northwest corner of Ridgedale Ave. and Cedar St. His daughter, Mary, who later became my mother, waited on David Young when he came into the store. He used to bring a plug to wipe off the neck of the molasses jug when he bought in order to obtain all he paid for. She told me how he used to talk to her on astronomy, a subject of which she knew nothing, but she remembered his telling her how he traced back to the Crucifixion of Christ to settle a controversy as to whether the darkness over the earth, then was caused by an eclipse or was of supernatural origin. His conclusion was that there was no eclipse. He gave lectures on Astronomy to the students of Princeton College and at colleges in Pennsylvania and Central New York. He travelled these distances both ways by foot, even as far away as the Finger Lakes in New York.

My mother told me he was very correct in his speech, and the writings that he left, though meager, testify to his ability as a gifted scholar. One book that he wrote, "The History of The Morristown Ghost," I have read. I think the New Jersey Historical Library at Newark and the Morristown Public Library each has a copy. It is hard to believe there were so many gullible people who lived at that time in this section of the country.

He lies a genius on the lap of earth To fame and to honor unknown.

By Edward Dixon

Hanover, New Jersey

Age 93

Born 1862

Around the Block

-1900-

EDNA DIXON

So many new homes have been built, and so many roads completed since the above date that the character of this town is completely altered from that of the little village where I was born.

Come with me on a trip in memory and visualize how a block of

this town looked at the beginning of this century.

Beginning on Cedar Street (then called Old Troy Road) where it reaches River Road, and traveling west, the first house was that occupied by Rickey. It is now a tavern, but the general appearance of the building is the same.

The next, on the same side, was the home of Edward Warren. There were two sons, Joseph and Stanley. Dan Young and family live

there now.

Further on, opposite was the Osborn house, occupied by Mr. David L. Osborn, his wife, and sister Mary. He had two children, Etta and Frank. The house has been altered somewhat by a large back porch, and a garage with rooms overhead built on the west side. Mr. Osborn was superintendent of Sunday School at the "Chapel" (now Kitchell Church) for a number of years.

Between the Osborn house and the next lay a swamp where the girls and boys used to skate in winter, and red-winged blackbirds

nested in summer.

The next house, on the same side was a large two story and attic dwelling occupied by a family named Monroe. The house remains as it was then but is vacant.

A little further on the same side, was a small place where a German family lived. Several transients lived there till about 30 years ago when Mr. Albert Bataille bought it, and after him, the present occupants, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Reinhardt. The house has been altered by having an enclosed porch put in front, and an addition in back.

Further west, and on the opposite side, was a farm owned by my grandfather's brother, Mr. William O. Dixon. The house is practically the same but the large barn burned down some years ago. Mr. John Smith lives there now. And still further along, on the same side was the home of Eugene Y. Dixon. He was the son of William O. Dixon, and owned a village store which stood close to the road at the bend of Ridgedale Ave. The house is unchanged, but the store has long since disappeared. On the east side of the house stood a very large box elder tree, the only one around. It grew to immense size, and finally was felled by one of the recent hurricanes.

Now let us start south on what is now Ridgedale Ave. The first house stood on a knoll near the main road, west of Dixon Place. It was a large two story house owned originally by "Fad" Kitchell and his sister Sadie. After their death transients lived there, the last being Mr. and Mrs. Louis Munther. After they moved away Mr. Michael Deskovick bought the property, tore down the house, barn and outbuildings, leveled the hill, built a road and many homes upon the land.

Traveling south, up the hill nearly at the top, was the farm owned by my grandfather, Timothy Whitfield Dixon. He was always called

"Whit" by his friends. The house burned down about 30 years ago, and the barn and outbuildings have disappeared also. The farm has grown up into a forest of young trees.

The house was a favorite stop-over for us children on our way home from school, because we were sure of a hand out from our grandmother. She enjoyed the giving as much as we did the receiving.

Across the road stood the large ornate home of Mr. William Henry Mulford. He owned a good sized farm, extending on both sides of the road, which is nearly all built up now. One of the barns in back, that was called the "horse barn" was later used as a fire house, but now has a tavern downstairs and a hall on the upper level. The other barns and buildings have been torn down, but the house remains the same.

Adjoining the Mulford property on the south was the village school. It was a one room building where all grades were taught. The room was heated by a large "pot stove" in the middle. Therefore, on cold days, those near the stove roasted, while the ones far off often shivered. The teacher's desk was on a platform up front, with a black board in There was a vestibule at the entrance near the road, where extra wood or coal for the fire was kept, and the pupils' cloaks and lunches stored. Teaching all the different grades was certainly a challenge to the instructor, but it had some advantages for the children, because the younger ones could learn by listening to the older ones recite. If the class was very large the busy teacher often delegated some of the oldest girls to teach the younger ones. All the children walked to and from school every day. The ones living on River Road used our farm and my grandfather's as a short cut through the fields and woods.

When the two room school in back of Kitchell Church was built in 1911 the one room building (after 71 years of use) was abandoned, and converted into a dwelling. A porch was built on three sides and the large elm trees near the road were taken down. Now the place is but a memory.

Further along on the same side was a large farm belonging to Mr. George R. Kitchell. Mr. Kitchell was a descendant of the Kitchell who first built here. His fields extended from the Whippany River on the west to half way through the woods on the east. They included the lots where Kitchell Church, the shopping center, the Hanover Neck School, the Municipal building and the Central School now stand. The house is essentially the same in appearance except some large trees near by have been taken down.

The original Kitchell house stood on the hill north of the lot where the Central School now stands. After Mr. Kitchell built his new house the old one gradually "fell to decay," but the old barn was still standing when the Central School was built in 1930.

There was a well at the foot of the hill which served the Kitchell family as well as the pupils of the school. Twice a day two of the larger boys were delegated to go get a pail of water for the students' use.

Mr. Kitchell had an only son, Harry, who was engaged to be married to a fine young lady, Helen Cook, who lived in Whippany. One day in fall there had been a shower with considerable wind, but it cleared off in the evening and Harry hitched his horse to the buggy to go call on Miss Cook. He got no further than the foot of the hill, about opposite the fire house, when a big willow tree growing alongside the road fell on him and killed him. It certainly was a strange and tragic end to his romance.

Mr. and Mrs. Kitchell were always very interested in the chapel as the church on Ridgedale Ave. was called. Mr. Kitchell was Superintendent of Sunday School for a time. After their son's death Mr. Kitchell paid off the mortgage on the building, and indeed, he gave the land on which it stands. When the people living in the northern end of town wished to break away from the mother church in Hanover, this church received the name Kitchell Memorial in honor of that family.

After the death of Mr. and Mrs. Kitchell the place was sold to Mr. Barnett Goldblatt. He farmed it for a while and sold the property

across the street. The rest he has built up in houses.

Further along, on the opposite side of the road was the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Smith. The house burned down over 50 years ago, and another has been erected in its place. It is opposite the home of Mr. Gordon Gould.

A short distance on was another house. The owner's name was Smith also or more properly Schmitt. All of us called him "Horse Doctor Smith," to distinguish him from George Smith, but whether he was a veterinarian or not I do not know. In later years different ones rented the place. The last one was Monroe Baird, who met a tragic death when the house burned about twenty odd years ago on New Year's Eve.

There was a small weather beaten house on the south corner of Troy Road where it enters Ridgedale Ave., but I cannot recall who lived there or whether it was inhabitated or not.

On the north corner of Ridgedale Ave., and DeForest (which then had no name) stood the home of Mr. William Hicks, the father of

Charles Hicks, lately deceased.

Going east on DeForest Ave., there were no houses or other buildings on that street till nearly the end, where there is one a short distance from the intersection of River Road. There (on the north side of the street) was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Vreeland. The house has been altered considerably by additions, dormer windows, and a large porch.

Turning north and proceeding along River Road the first building was the home of James and Charles Hand and their sister Annie. After their death, Mr. Raymond Durham bought the house and lot. The building was completely remodeled, and became the home of Dr. John Hopping. He later built the house where Dr. Widrow now lives, and Raymond

Durham, Jr., now lives in the Hand Place.

Just a short ways north was a tiny place situated just north of the road leading up to the Valley View Club House. The house was so old and small I doubt that anyone lived there. I believe George Little bought the building and moved it to his place to be used as a tool shed.

The house stood in the shelter of a huge oak tree that stood till the

hurricane of 1938 felled it.

Further on, on the same side, was a small house near the road that was the first Hand house. The family lived there before moving into the place where Ray Durham now is. It was torn down long ago and only a few foundation stones show where it was. The place is approximately opposite Charles Lane. On the north side of that street there was a large yellow barn, now entirely disappeared.

The next house is the Wesley Ballplace, where Mr. and Mrs. Earl Brunner live. Mr. Ball owned an extensive farm, now mostly converted to a golf links. Opposite the Wesley Ball place was an old tumble down house that had been abandoned some years before. Mr. Wm. F. Barr's

house now stands on the spot.

Down the hill opposite the entrance to McKinley Ave., stood a small house, the home of a Mr. Winans, his sister and her husband, Mr. Datow. In back was a pond where we children used to skate in winter. This place had an unusual arrangement to pull water up from

the well. A large wooden cylinder was placed crosswise in the well house about waist high. The rope holding the bucket was wound around this by means of a crank, when one wished to pull up a bucket of water.

Mr. Datow was a retired sailor, and walked with the characteristic rolling gait. I remember my father having him splice a rope for him. The place burned down many years ago, and a brick building stands in its place.

Further, on the west side of the road, was another pond, in back of which was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Griffith. The house burned down after they moved to Hanover, about 26 years ago. The barn also has disappeared. On the foundation of the house a small bungalow has been built.

On the same side of the road a short distance north is my home. It was originally a Plume house, built by Jacob Plume. Outside of a cement kitchen that was built a long time ago, and shingles instead of siding, the building is the same as when we moved in.

Halfway up the hill on the opposite side stood the Ketcham house. There were two brothers and two sisters. The brothers died close together and not many years after both sisters died in the same way.

The Ketchams did not trust banks, after the panic following the Civil War, so had hidden their money in the house, in their Bible, amongst their clothes, etc. The cash was used for their funeral, but word of a treasure there soon spread. After the house was vacant it was fairly torn apart by people looking for money. The place was bought by Mr. Charles West, who built the house where Mr. Miele now lives.

At the top of the hill there is a lane leading towards the river called Merrys' Lane. This name is in remembrance of John Merry, who used to have a home at the end of the lane. He was a "character" welcome at the neighbors' homes at any time in spite of his aversion to soap and water. He was full of humorous stories, and always ready to play his violin. This was not an unalloyed pleasure to his hearers because his playing was not all music. He lived alone, and as he grew older depended more and more on the kindness of his neighbors. He died all alone during one very cold and snowy winter.

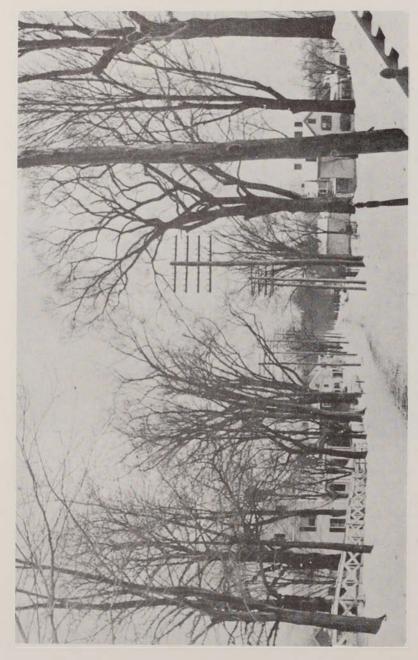
His house was torn down, and the late Charles Bausewein built his home on the spot.

The last house in this block stands a short distance south of where Cedar St. meets River Road. It was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Livingston Petry and their family. The house is practically unchanged from when I first saw it, and is now occupied by one of the sons.

We have now completed our journey around a block in this village in the early part of the century. You can see how many houses have disappeared, but you can not, in your mind's eye, see the spreading fields that lay along the roads, fields that were the nesting places of meadow lark or bob-o-links in the spring, and were spangled with daisies and black-eyed susans in the summer. Nor will you see the tangled hedgerows where in spring the silvery pussy willows grew, the flowers of the shad bush and the dangling catkins of the hazel nut were seen. In fall these hedgerows were gay with the orange berries of bittersweet, and the scarlet foliage of the sumac. Nor will you see the many noble trees that were taken down. These things have vanished forever.



The Ketcham House. It stood on the site of Mr. Peter Mieles home.



Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Hanover, looking east, around 1905. Taken by Mr. O. C. Whaites, loaned through the courtesy of Mrs. Rowley,

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