

THE FIRST LONG TURNPIKE IN THE UNITED STATES.

PART III.

THE PLACES ALONG THE WAY.

WHILE the survey of Mr. Brooke covers the whole distance of the turnpike from Philadelphia to Lancaster and the inns and places of note along the whole way are carefully set out by him, yet I have confined my task solely to Lancaster County. The members of this Society better understand our own county, and feel, no doubt, a keener interest in its history than in that part of the road which lies beyond its border. Then, too, Mr. Julius F. Sachse has written his interesting article on "Wayside Inns on the Lancaster Pike," and what he there narrates refers more particularly to the taverns in Chester and Philadelphia Counties. Whatever has been missed by him, if anything, can be more fittingly supplied by some skilful hand more familiar with those localities than I can possibly be.

In 1806, the first tavern west of the 45th milestone—that is westward of the county line between Chester and Lancaster—belonged to Daniel Buckley. It was, however, kept by David Sterrett. It was known as the "Sign of Mount Vernon." This tavern now enjoys a license and the place is yet called "Mount Vernon." It is at present owned and kept by Henry Skiles.

The next tavern mentioned was that of Maxwell Kennedy. The land upon which it stood was taken up originally by James Kennedy. He built the hotel about 1802. His son, Maxwell Kennedy, first kept it. It was a tavern chiefly for teams and wagons, and was known as the "Sign of the Rising Sun." It is now owned by John M. Kennedy's estate, and it has descended in regular succession to its present owners, although for many years it has not been a house of entertainment. It is situated on the north side of the turnpike, almost adjacent to the Newport Road. The road to the Gap enters the turnpike nearby and on the opposite side between these two taverns.

On the north side, also between Mount Vernon and Rising Sun, was the house and store of Samuel Huston. This house, in later years, belonged to the late B. J. Lechler, and is now owned by Miss Jennie Potts. At a later date, also between these two taverns, and on the north side of the road, to the east of the Huston property, was a tavern kept by Amos Clemson. Clemson's was the meeting place of what was at the time known in that vicinity as the "Gap Gang." It was virtually through the members of this gang that the Christiana Riot arose. They are said to have stolen free negroes and also to have captured escaped slaves and shipped them south, and this caused the colored persons of the vicinity to band together for their own protection. Clemson was arrested and tried at August Sessions, 1857, for stealing a harness. He was convicted and sentenced to two years in the Eastern Penitentiary. Before being taken there, he, while at the Leopard

Hotel, cut his throat, declaring that he was innocent, and that he would sooner die than undergo imprisonment. However, through the efforts of Dr. John L. Atlee and Dr. J. T. Baker, he recovered from his wounds. He afterwards hung himself in the Eastern Penitentiary. He was suave in manner and well-dressed and he was a man of considerable influence among a certain class in that locality.

The next stopping place was Amos Slaymaker's "Sign of John Adams." It was located on the turnpike between the 48th and 49th milestones, at what was called Salisburyville, but which has in recent years been known as Slaymakertown. It was built about 1798. The stages stopped here regularly and exchanged horses, and dinner was served to their passengers. This tavern is referred to in my paper, entitled "The Lancaster Stage Dispatch." The property has long since ceased to be a tavern, and it is now owned and used as a private residence by Mr. Clinton Himes.

West of the 50th milestone, and a short distance west of an intersecting road running by Eckert's Forge, which was called London Lane or Eckert's Forge Road, was located, on the north side of the turnpike, a tavern owned by Samuel Hinkle and known as the "Sign of the White Horse." It was originally log and stone, but it is now weatherboarded and its former appearance is thereby so changed that it looks like a frame structure. This tavern is in what is now known as the Village of Williamstown, and it is at present owned and kept by John I. Kurtz. To the south of this tavern, along the London Lane Road, there yet stands, near the Pennsylvania Railroad, the dwelling house formerly of John M. Slaymaker. It was built in 1802. It has been ever since in the Slaymaker name, being now owned by Dr. Martin Slaymaker, of Philadelphia.

A short distance west of Williamstown, on the north side of the turnpike, stands at present the attractive residence of N. M. Woods. This house was not built when Mr. Brooke made his survey. On October 4, 1838, John Denlinger and wife conveyed the land on which it stands to Rev. John Leaman, and Mr. Leaman erected the house. He first practiced medicine there and afterwards became a clergyman of the Presbyterian Church. Subsequently, he was a professor at Lafayette College. He built the house after the design of certain houses which he saw along the Hudson River while, on his wedding trip. He was the father of Dr. Brainerd Leaman and the grandfather of Dr. Walter J. Leaman. The latter now resides and practices his profession at Leaman Place. On March 25, 1851, Rev. Mr. Leaman and wife sold the property to Nathaniel Ellmaker, late of the Lancaster Bar, who, in turn, on April 1, 1856, conveyed it to Thomas S. Woods, the father of its present owner.

Christian Leaman's tavern, the "Sign of the Indian King," which was the Reynolds tavern mentioned in my former article, was on the south side of the turnpike, about 313 feet west of the bridge which crosses what is yet known as London Run. It was here that Mr. Hiltzheimer stopped when making his visits to Lancaster. It is owned by Henry Leaman's estate, and is at present occupied by Miss Mary Leaman. It is a typical house of the olden time. Mr. Brooke says that, in 1806, it was called the "Sign of the Indian King;" but there is an old sign now hanging in the loft of this house which shows that, in 1813, it was called "The Practical Farmer." I append a photograph of this sign. I do not know whether or not it is the original sign painted over, as that could only be ascertained by removing the paint. This building was not the original Reynolds' tavern. Before the turnpike was constructed, the public road, which is now south of the Paradise Postoffice and joins the turnpike at that point, ran across the turnpike to the east of Dr. Cunning-

ham's house, and thence further east along the line of the road which is north of the houses facing on the turnpike. It passed over the land now occupied by the Pennsylvania railroad, and, crossing the creek, continued until it joined, at or near the turn, that portion of the road which runs north of Dr. Leaman's house. It then continued eastward. The original Reynolds tavern, which was a stone house, was on this road, and that house is still standing and is owned by Mrs. Kate Kreider. When the turnpike was built, Mr. Reynolds erected the house on the turnpike, and moved his tavern to it. About 1834 or 1835, when the railroad was made, Christian Leaman built another tavern some distance to the west, and the old house was then occupied by him as his private residence. At the last named location, Anthony Lechler, George Diller, Newton Worst, and other famous landlords were in charge for many years. A few years ago, it, too, ceased to be a public place.

Passing the Pennsylvania Railroad bridge and moving westward, there rises on the south side of the turnpike the grounds with the mansion called "Oak Hill," now owned by Chief Justice J. Hay Brown. This house is of later origin than the survey. On August 9, 1806, Ulrich Kenegy conveyed to his three sons, Henry, John and David, 139 acres and 77 perches in Strasburg (now Paradise) Township, fronting on the turnpike and adjoining Christian Leaman's land. David died intestate, unmarried and without issue, and on April 18, 1811, John conveyed his interest in the tract to his brother, Henry. On April 1, 1816, Henry and his wife conveyed 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres on the turnpike to Dr. John S. Carpenter, who, between this date and 1819, built the dwelling house. While he occupied it, according to the "Paradise Hornet," Dr. R. T. Haughey and Dr. W. Foreman practiced medicine there. Dr. Carpenter died intestate, leaving to survive him a widow, Massey B. Carpenter, and two children, Salome and John S. Carpenter. The latter was born after his decease. Henry A. Carpenter, his brother and acting administrator, under an order of the Orphans' Court, dated September 28, 1822, sold the property to Francis S. Burrowes, by whom on March 1, 1824, it was conveyed to Henry A. Carpenter. On March 26, 1826, Henry A. Carpenter sold it to Thomas B. Burrowes for life with remainder to his son, Isaac B. Burrowes, and on April 18, 1827, Isaac B. Burrowes conveyed his interest to his father. On October 28, 1837, Thomas B. Burrowes and Ann H., his wife, sold it to John Yeates and Leonard Kimball, in trust, for Redmond Conyngham and Elizabeth Yeates Conyngham, his wife, under a stipulation that, on the death of both, the property should be sold and the proceeds distributed among the heirs. After the death of Redmond Conyngham, as John Yeates and Leonard Kimball were also dead, at the instance of Elizabeth Yeates Conyngham and her children, the Act of March 13, 1847, P. L. 304, was passed, by virtue of which Adam K. Witmer was appointed trustee to sell this land, and on July 6, 1847, in consideration of \$3,760.00, he sold it to Edwin T. Fetter. Mr. Fetter was a schoolmaster, and, while he was the owner, he kept a general school for boys and girls here. However, on May 31, 1850, he and his wife conveyed it to Susan Lavina Wardle, wife of Thomas Wardle, who came from Philadelphia, and she lived on the property until March 20, 1867, when she sold it to Robert S. McIlvaine. On April 1, 1896, the executors of Robert S. McIlvaine sold to the present owner. The house to the west, now also owned by Judge Brown, was built in 1859, by the Paradise Academy Association, on 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land purchased by it on October 16, 1858, from Adam K. Witmer, for the sum of \$400. A school was conducted here until sometime in the sixties, and Horace Yundt, Esq., of Reading, and Dr. Henry Leaman, of Philadelphia, were among the instructors.

In the Village of Paradise, which was called in the survey the Village of Pequea, there yet stands, on the north side of the turnpike, a hotel kept by

Charles E. Danner. When Mr. Brooke made his survey, it was owned and kept by Samuel Lefevre, and it was known as the "Sign of the Ship." Since that time, additions have been made to the building on the west side, and the general locality has been somewhat changed. The toll-gate was then situated a short distance east of this hotel, and the Black Horse Road, which now enters the pike to the east, then came into it close by the toll-gate. I present you a draft of the situation as it appeared at this early time, and I also present you a copy of a water-color sketch of the toll-house and toll-gate, with Miss Babbie Dobson taking toll at the gate, and Isaac Lightner, who lived in that vicinity, about passing through. In the village to the west of the gate, on the south side of the turnpike, was Patrick McGuigan's brick tavern house, known as the "Sign of the Free Mason's Coat of Arms." This property was subsequently the home of the late Adam K. Witmer. It has not had a license for many years. Mr. McGuigan lies buried in Old Leacock Graveyard. We are informed by the inscription on his tomb that he had lived "in the village of Paradise for twenty-two years." Also to the west, on the north side of the turnpike, at its junction with the Gordonville Road, and opposite Denlinger's store, was Hugh Wallace's tavern, the "Sign of the Buck." This property also ceased to be a tavern a great many years ago, and, as some of us well know, was the home of the late Joseph F. Witmer up to the time of his death. It is now owned by Dr. Mott C. Cunningham. All of these places were road houses—taverns, furnishing accommodation to wagons and teams and their accompanying drivers, and were not houses at which the stages stopped. Still farther to the west was David Witmer's brick tavern, the "Sign of the Stage." This was the regular stopping place for stages. The house was built between 1790 and 1800, and it was located on the northeast corner of the turnpike and the road which runs from the Strasburg Road north past the Mennonite Meeting House and on towards the Gordonville Road. It is said that George Washington dined here when he was returning from one of his visits to the west. Prior to that time, David Witmer had built a stone house on the Pequea Creek, halfway between Paradise and Gordonville. This house is still standing, and on it is a tablet, "Built by David and Esther Witmer, in the year of our Lord 1781." Almost opposite this house, an old hemp mill stood. The story is told that Washington expressed a desire to see a hemp mill, which was at that time a novelty, wishing to erect one on his own plantation in Virginia. Unfortunately, the person who operated the mill for his benefit removed some of the bracing, and a plank, coming in contact with the rapidly moving machinery, injured the operator and startled the guest. Because of this unfortunate accident, the President concluded that he had no use for the machine. Before the hotel was a marble upping block on which Lafayette alighted when on his visit to this country in 1825, and from which he was introduced to a crowd of ladies and gentlemen who were awaiting his arrival at Paradise. This block is still preserved in front of the house of the writer, as is also a brass knocker, an eagle, formerly ornamenting the house which David Witmer built for himself along the turnpike about 1807, on the northwest corner of the above-mentioned roads. This latter property is now owned by George W. Park. The tavern building was subsequently used as a store, postoffice and dwelling by Amos L. Witmer, and it was then occupied as a seminary for young ladies, under the supervision of the Rev. Dr. Bryan B. Killikelly, from about January 27, 1855, to the spring of 1863. Subsequently, it was turned into a Soldiers' Orphans' School, which was conducted by Mr. Seymour Preston. While in the ownership of Elam F. Witmer, it was converted into dwellings, and it is thus used at the present time. Jacob M. Eaby is now its owner.

About 500 feet south of what was the Witmer tavern, on the road referred to above as running from the Strasburg Road to the turnpike, stands the Paradise Mennonite Meeting House. It was originally known as David Witmer's Church. David Witmer gave to the church the land now used by it, and the building was erected thereon in 1806. The early minutes of the church contain the following entries:

"I do engage to give land opposite my school house to the Mennonite Society gratis forever, for the purpose of building on it a house of worship for said Society. As witness my hand and seal the 26th day of September, 1806.

"DAVID WITMER."

"Witness Present:

"David Witmer, Jr.

"John Carpenter.

Subscriptions were then solicited in order to raise the funds necessary to build thereon the Meeting House. The following is a copy of the first subscription paper:

"We, the subscribers, promise to pay or cause to be paid the money subscribed by us to the trustees, which shall be appointed after Four Hundred Dollars are subscribed—the trustees shall be appointed by those persons who have subscribed not less than Eight Dollars. The number of trustees shall consist of Five—then the said trustees shall build the above-mentioned house which supposed will cost Eight Hundred Dollars.

Subscribers' Names.

Subscribers' Names.	Paid	\$
David Witmer, Sen.	80.00	80.00
John Carpenter	8.	8.
David Witmer, Jr.	20.	20.
Joel Lightner	20.	20.
Samuel Herr	20.	20.
John Kendrick	8.	8.
Abraham Carpenter	20.	20.
John Kenège	8.	8.
Ulrich Kenège	8.	8.
Peter Miller	20.	20.
Jacob Grower	8.	8.
Jacob Weaver	40.	40.
Henry Criez	8.	8.
Abraham Buckwalter	30.	30.
Peter Andrew	8.	8.
Jacob Eshleman	30.	30.
Jacob Eshleman, Jr.	30.	30.
Jacob Shirtz	6.	6.
Henry Brackbill	30.	30.
Daniel Miller	10.	10.
		<hr/>
		\$412.00

On October 18, 1806, the above subscribers met and appointed Henry Brackbill, Joel Lightner, Samuel Herr, John Kendrick and David Witmer, Jr., trustees "to build the aforesaid house," and at the same time the trustees appointed John Carpenter as secretary. On January 10, 1807, the trustees met and appointed David Witmer, Jr., treasurer, and subsequently he, as such, received additional subscriptions, to wit:

	Paid	\$	10.00
Samuel Lefever			
John Waggoner	"	4.	
Rev. Henry Metzler	"	10.	
Benjamin Groff	"	15.	
William Henderson	"	8.	
Jacob Eby	"	5.	
Abraham Bear	"	20.	
Benjamin Souder	"	4.	
Jacob Souder	"	5.	
Daniel Witmer, Jr.	"	10.	
Jacob Musser	"	8.	
Widow Elizabeth Musser	"	8.	
John Bear, Jr.	"	5.	
Rev. Peter Eby	"	30.	
John Keneg, Jr.	"	8.	
William Espenshade	"	20.	
William Smith	"	4.	
Jacob Denlinger, Jr.	"	8.	
Abraham Witmer	"	10.	
Benjamin Witmer	"	5.	
Ben. Langenecker	"	5.	
Ben. Brackbill, Jr.	"	10.	
Daniel Boeshore	"	4.	
Jacob Ehert	"	12.	
Daniel Witmer	"	4.	
Jacob Denlinger, Sr.	"	8.	
Joseph Horst	"	4.	
John Whisner	"	1.	
Abraham Kendrick	"	4.	
John Sigrist	"	8.	
Peter Espenshade	"	8.	
Abraham Miller	"	5.	
Peter Forney	"	3.	
Jacob Hershey	"	6.	
Paul Trout	"	1.	
Peter Reidenbough	"	2.	
Christian Shirtz	"	5.	
Rev. Christian Hess	"	15.	
John Hurst	"	10.	
Peter Worst	"	5.	
John Rush	"	8.	
Widow Magdalene Rush	"	6.	
Henry Rush	"	8.	
Frank Buckwalter	"	10.	
John Eshleman	"	10.	
Daniel Kreider	"	2.	
John Ash	"	2.	
Abraham Denlinger	"	4.	
Henry Witmer	"	5.	
Peter Root Miller	"	8.	
John Frantz	"	4.	
Jacob Baker	"	6.	
Isaac Trout	"	3.	
Hugh Wallace	"	2.	

Jacob Wenger	Paid	\$ 10.
John Black	"	3.
Arthur Travers	"	2.
Jacob Hartman	"	3.
William Miller	"	3.
Amount subscribed		<hr/> \$28.00

The descendants of many of the above named subscribers are, at this present time, like their forebears, members of this congregation. The old building was supplanted by a new structure in 1847, and this in turn by the present building in 1885.

On January 16, 1807, the trustees, preachers, elders and others met, and it was agreed that David Witmer should make and execute a deed to Jacob Eshleman, Sr., "for the said house and ground it stands on, and to his successors, Elders of the meeting," and thereupon a deed was thus made and delivered by David Witmer and Esther, his wife.

The first preaching held in the building was on February 8, 1807. Rev. Henry Metzler gave an introductory discourse, and the text was read by Jacob Eshleman from the 19th Chapter of St. Luke. Rev. Peter Eby then delivered a sermon adapted to the words of the text.

The school house referred to by Mr. Witmer in his offer of the above land was either a stone building, which yet stands on the Strasburg Road at the foot of the grounds of All Saints' Church, known as Lafayette Hill, or the brick building, since altered, standing on the northeast corner of this road and the road to the turnpike. I do not know when this school house was built. The "Paradise Hornet" was printed from 1821 to 1823, by David Witmer, Sr., and Henry Witmer, his son, in the brick building, and in 1841, the Paradise Seminary was conducted in the stone building, with Enos Stevens, A. B., as principal, and Susan M. Kennedy as assistant. James C. Beckel was teacher of music. The officers of this latter organization were: President, Joel Lightner; Secretary, John Leaman, and Treasurer, Amos L. Witmer. The other members of the Board of Trustees were Redmond Conyngham, John C. Lefever, Henry Witmer, Philip Foster, Nathaniel W. Sample, M. D.; Capt. John Steele, Rev. Joseph Barr, David Musselman, Rev. Edward Y. Buchanan, William Manahan, Jacob Eshleman, Jr., Joseph S. Lefever, and Henry Frantz. During the year 1843, there were in attendance 39 males and 24 females. In the same building, the Paradise Lyceum had a library of 600 volumes, and also philosophical and chemical apparatus, a collection of minerals and plants of Pennsylvania, and a set of globes, surveying instruments, etc.

About an eighth of a mile to the west, the turnpike crosses the Pequea Creek over a stone bridge. This bridge was built about 1794 by a stone-mason whose name was William Wilson. That he was an excellent workman is proven by the condition of the bridge at this day. When he had completed his work, David Witmer, who was the superintendent of this portion of the turnpike, paid him a sum of money in specie. About 1819, a man by the name of John Woodward found a sum of money of the same kind buried, about a foot below the surface of the ground, not far from the bridge. It was supposed that Wilson buried his money at this place, and that, as a high flood, which occurred soon after, disturbed the surface of the ground he was unable to again find it.

There was a stone tavern on the north side of the turnpike, a few perches west of this bridge. This house is in a fine state of preservation, and

is at present owned by and is the dwelling house of Mrs. Mary C. Miller. In 1806, it was kept by Peter Forney, who purchased two tracts of land around about this point from Peter Fisher and Isaac Ferree. The tavern was known as the "Sign of the Spread Eagle." In 1811, it was purchased by Michael Musselman. It ceased to be a tavern many years ago. Rev. Edward Y. Buchanan was elected Rector of All Saints' Episcopal Church, at Paradise, on July 31, 1841, and he and his family moved to this house about that time. From 1835, he had been the Rector of Christ's Church, along the Old Road, and of St. John's Church, at Compass. He lived there until about September 17, 1854, when he resigned his charge to go to Trinity Church, Oxford. On April 1, 1854, the property was bought by his brother, Hon. James Buchanan, from Adam K. Witmer, who had purchased it from the Musselman heirs, for the sum of \$4,000.00. President Buchanan sold it sometime between 1854 and 1866 to Elmina Michael. The date, however, cannot now be ascertained by me, as the deed is not on record and cannot be found, and the recitation in the subsequent deed is incorrect. Mrs. Buchanan was a sister of Stephen J. Foster, the song-writer. She was a musician, and the manuscript of "The Old Folks at Home" was sent to her by her brother for criticism. It was in this house that it was first sung before it was given to the public. Along Pequea Creek a few hundred yards to the south stood, in Colonial days, the gun shop of Joel Ferree, grandson of Mary Ferree. Here, during the Revolutionary war, he made guns for the Continental army. Isaac Ferree, who sold one of the original tracts to Peter Forney, was his son.

What was long known as the "Lightner Place" is located on the north side of the turnpike, in the hollow, about half way between Pequea Creek and Soudersburg. On May 7, 1717, William Penn, as Proprietor and Governor in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, conveyed by patent to Abraham Dubois, of Ulster County, in the Province of New York, a large tract of land "eastward of Conestoga Creek." When Abraham Dubois died, he, by will, dated October 1, 1731, devised "half of the land owned by him at Conestoga" to his daughter, Leah, and her husband, Philip Ferree, for their joint lives, and afterwards to their children. The children subsequently released their interest to their father, Philip Ferree. On July 2, 1752, Philip Ferree and Leah, his wife, conveyed 333 1-3 acres of the same tract to their son, Joel Ferree, gunsmith, and on August 27, 1791, Joel Ferree deeded 95 acres and 57 perches of the same to Adam Lightner. The latter, in 1795, built the house which stands along the turnpike. It may perhaps have been added to or changed since its original construction. When Adam Lightner died, this house and the accompanying land descended to his children, subject to the dower of his widow therein, and, under proceedings in partition, it was accepted by Joel Lightner, his eldest son. Joel, becoming financially embarrassed, on November 13, 1819, made a deed of assignment to Michael Musselman and Nathaniel F. Lightner, for the benefit of his creditors, and these assignees, on April 24, 1822, sold the property to Leah Lightner, Joel's mother. She, on February 24, 1827, made an agreement of conveyance, which was afterwards confirmed by her administrator d. b. n., pursuant to an order of Court, whereby, in consideration of \$2,000 and natural love and affection, the house and land attached was conveyed to Susan Lightner, Joel's wife, during her life, and afterwards to their children in fee. The children who thus inherited the property were Joel L. Lightner and Isaac Lightner. Isaac Lightner died unmarried and intestate, and the whole property then became vested in Joel L. Lightner. Col. Joel L. Lightner, as he was known to most of us, died on February 11, 1889. He was a man of prominence in his neighborhood, and was well known in this city. He served in the directorate of the People's

National Bank from its organization until his death. His executrix, on March 31, 1890, sold the property to Louisa H. Bachman, who is its present owner. The largest tree in this part of the country stands on this land just east of the dwelling house. Tradition says that about eighty years ago some one, returning from a visit to Kentucky or Tennessee, brought home with him a riding whip, which he here planted, and from this developed not only the large tree referred to, but also a number of other large trees in this neighborhood.

Farther west there yet stands, on the south side of the turnpike and at the east end of Soudersburg, a little meeting house, with a graveyard attached, which belongs to the Methodist denomination. Upon it is a tablet marked "M. E. Church. Built, 1802. Rebuilt, 1872." It is the oldest church in this vicinity. It is now rarely used, though services are sometimes conducted in it by supplies from Lancaster. It was called "Gilboa." I suppose few in the vicinity know its original name. This church at one time had a large number of members, and in the adjoining graveyard are stones dating back to 1803. At the rear end of the graveyard colored persons, who were then more numerous in the neighborhood, were interred. Also, in Soudersburg, on the south side of the road, west of the road which runs by the store towards Herr's Mill, there was a tavern owned by Daniel Witmer. It was called the "Sign of the Swan." On November 16, 1872, the license was transferred from Jacob Kramer to D. L. Erb, and the next year lapsed. Since that time, it has been used as a private dwelling. It is at present owned by Samuel Herr. At that period, three brothers kept hostelries along the pike, namely, David Witmer, at Paradise; Daniel Witmer, at Soudersburg, and Abraham Witmer, at the Conestoga bridge.

The next tavern was a brick building, which still stands, on the north side of the turnpike, immediately opposite the point where the trolleys on the Lancaster and Christiana Street Railway pass each other. It is now owned by Amos K. Witmer, and it is used either as a dwelling or tenant house. When the survey was made, it was known as Jacob Kafroth's brick tavern house. On April 3, 1811, he and his wife conveyed it to Richard Ferree, the great grandson of Mary Ferree, and it remained in the name of Richard Ferree until April 2, 1845, when it was conveyed by his executors to David Groff. It was, therefore, commonly known as the "Ferree Tavern." Finally, it came into the ownership of John Gyger, of this city, and later, of David Landis. It continued to be a tavern until after the Civil War.

The next tavern along the road was that of John Buckwalter. It was at what was known in our time as "The Running Pump." It is now a fine stone mansion, and is occupied as a private house by George L. Buckwalter. It was then known as the "Sign of the Sorrel Horse." The proprietor was the grandfather of the present occupant. It has not been a hotel for many years. A little west of this property was the twelfth toll-gate. Whether the toll-house, which burned down a few years ago, was on the turnpike a hundred years ago I cannot say.

Mellinger's Meeting House, one of the predecessors of the present dignified structure, stood, as the new church does now, on the south side of the turnpike, a short distance east of the 60th milestone; but there were then no houses of entertainment between the Buckwalter place and Witmer's Bridge, except what is called in the survey "John Shingle's Tavern, the Sign of the Indian King." This building, or its successor in part, is still standing on the south side of the turnpike, at Bridgeport, a few feet east of Witmer's Bridge, where the old King's Highway joined the turnpike. It was a very old stand, for in 1766 Christopher Franciscus, who afterwards, on May 8, 1772, purchased it at Sheriff's Sale, held a license here. I think the proper name of the owner

in 1806 was George Shindle instead of John Shingle, and that Mr. Brooke made a mistake in the name of the proprietor. The records show that George Shindle, who purchased it on April 28, 1800, sold it on April 1, 1809, to Christian Martin, and that the latter in turn, on April 2, 1826, sold it to David Witmer, Sr. It was owned and kept by Michael S. Metzger, from 1853 to 1895. It lost its license in 1915.

The Abraham Witmer tavern, the "Sign of the Pennsylvania Arms," was probably built by him in 1789, when he purchased the land from William Webb. I do not, however, pretend to assert this with any degree of certainty. There was a stone building on the south side of the King's Highway, as I have already stated in the first part of this article, called "The King's Highway," kept as a tavern, during the Revolutionary war, by Henry Derring. It stood near the ferry, which he also managed. Derring was, in 1794, a Justice of the Peace of District No. 2. This house was in our day owned by the Dunlaps. It was torn down some years ago, and its site was thrown into Conestoga Park. It is certain that the property was never owned by Derring, as the title deeds show that the Trustees of the Pennsylvania Land Company sold to James Webb 200 acres of land of which this was a part. Later, James Webb sold a portion of his tract, and by his will he devised the balance to his son, William Webb. The Webbs were of Quaker ancestry. William Webb served in the House of Representatives in 1790 and 1806. The will of James Webb was contested in the Supreme Court; but, on May 16, 1788, upon a trial, a verdict was rendered sustaining it. The deed from William Webb and wife to Abraham Witmer was for 19 acres and 96 perches, and it included the land on both sides of the road west of the bridge, and, as a consequence, the site of the present hotel and also what must have been occupied by Derring. An old draft, in the possession of Mr. Israel Carpenter, conclusively settles this fact. The property is now owned by Ferdinand Grebe, and it is occupied by James G. Rittenhouse. For a long time, it was owned by Samuel W. Potts, and I think it is safe to say that it has been continuously a licensed house since it was originally built.

At this time, the thirteenth and last toll-gate stood at the top of the hill, almost opposite the entrance to the buildings of "Directors of the Poor and of the House of Employment of the County of Lancaster." The probability is that this gate was abandoned after Witmer's Bridge was purchased by the county and made a free bridge, and that the turnpike company then took possession of and occupied the old house at the bridge which had been used for the collection of Witmer's tolls. It is said that a long time ago a Mr. Hoover was keeper at the gate, and remained there for sixteen years, and that he was preceded by a woman. He was succeeded by William Harkins, who was there for fifteen years. In 1876, Paul Myers was employed by the company, and he, until his death, and his family since, have collected the tolls at this gate.

The 62nd milestone is now a little to the west of the entrance to the Lancaster County Prison. By running the courses westward from the center of the bridge, I have ascertained that it is properly located. The last course in the survey ran from this milestone westward 46.75 perches "to the range of the E. wall of Bryan's house, N. side of the E. end of Lancaster." This distance by measure would be to a point a little east of Ann street, where the street as one approaches the city makes a slight bend to the north. An examination of the titles shows that none of the properties at this point were at that time owned by any one by the name of Bryan. The three lots on the north side of the street at the corner of East King and Ann streets were reclaimed by William Hamilton, under the will of James Hamilton, from Henry Witmer. On Sep-

tember 1, 1808, Hamilton conveyed them to John Moore, and on February 7, 1839, they were sold as the property of John Moore, deceased, to Emanuel C. Reigart. Emanuel C. Reigart and wife, on May 1, 1839, sold them to Dorothea Brien. I do not know how any of the houses in that locality took the name of "Bryan's house." Perhaps some one of that name was then an occupant.

And now, in conclusion, I wish to express the hope that I have been able to amuse and interest you by narrating the history of the turnpike road and by calling your attention at least to some of the places along the way.

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