

APR 19 1985

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1/2 black
after light
before a bridge

BETHEL UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CEMETERY RECORD

white house
green
3rd row
1st block
1/2 way up

R.D. 1
Box 308 A
Enon Valley PA 16120

- daughter of Taylors!

Prepared by: Nell Young Herchenroether
158 Dickson Avenue
Ben Avon
Pittsburgh, PA, 15202
1985

(412) 766-0671 (Henry C. Jr.)
(412) B 281-2211 Community Bldg

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Preface

This record is for both the older section of the Bethel U. P. Church Cemetery and also for the newer part, because many of the stones there show early birth dates. The church sits between the two, and a history of it is included as a separate article.

THE OLD SECTION

Some years ago the older part of the cemetery had been allowed to deteriorate so that it became overgrown, and a number of stones had broken or had fallen over. Dr. George Dixon of Cleveland, Ohio, whose family had come from the area, became interested and paid to have the cemetery fixed up. Today it is kept in good shape. John Smith was hired to do the work in the cemetery and his daughter, Mildred Patterson of Enon Valley, loaned me three pictures which were taken at the time. Two show what the cemetery looked like before he began the work, and the other shows him standing in the cemetery when the work was completed. Dates were printed on the back of the pictures indicating that the work was done in 1938. These pictures are included to show what the cemetery looked like then. It is known that many of the stones were lost and that others were possibly reset in places where they had not been originally. It is well to keep this in mind if anyone is looking for relationships between adjacent stones. Trees and large plants make it difficult to read some of the stones. There is a large crop of poison ivy around the Gailey stones, and smaller amounts elsewhere, which adds to the problem of reading some stones.

The record has been made by working from the east end of the cemetery to the west, and the rows run from south to north. A wooded ravine borders the south and west, and a parking lot is on the north between the cemetery and the road. Ordinarily a record like this would be done by rows, but I found that this was very difficult to do here as the rows are not straight, and the contour of the land is such that what looks like a row from one side of the cemetery, looks entirely different from the other side. Because of this, and because the cemetery is irregular in shape with many gaps between stones, I have decided to use a grid plan such as is used for maps. This will give a rough idea for the placement of any stone.

In 1911 Henry Baldwin made a list of the burials in Bethel Cemetery. He did this for several other cemeteries in the area, but none of them were complete, and nobody seems to know what criteria he used for choosing some stones and leaving out others. Names connected to service in the Revolutionary War or War of 1812 are usually there, and perhaps he chose others because they had early dates, but this is not clear. He gives a date of birth in his list which is obviously figured by taking the date of death and age at death as given on the tombstone. It is possible that this is not accurate. I have checked his list to my own reading and have made one list of those names which he has, but whose stones are no longer there. In some cases his figures do not agree with mine, and I have checked these again carefully. When I felt he was correct, I changed mine to agree with his. In other cases I felt my figures were more accurate, so have included a second list showing those stones which differ from mine. ★

THE NEW SECTION

The church has a record for the new part of the cemetery, which is laid out in Sections and Lots. I copied the information from this book, but the dates there do not usually give the complete date, only the month and year. Then I checked this information to the stones in the cemetery. Sometimes the stone gives only the year, so I have added the month from the record book to give more detailed information. If so, then that part will appear in parentheses to show that it is not on the stone. In other cases lots have been sold but there are no interments. To make the record more complete I have added the names of the owners with a note that there are no burials. A map of the new part of the cemetery appears before the record for that part. Lots in Sections 17 through 21 in the southern part are just being sold and the only burials seem to be in Section 21. Therefore, I did not show all the lots for the other sections, just what lot numbers would be included in that part.

For both sections of the cemetery the stones have been checked and rechecked, but many of the stones are in bad condition, so the dates may not be completely accurate. If there is any letter or number which I had a question about, then it has been underlined. In some cases where I felt it could be one of two choices, then I have put both in: e.g. 1/4 or B/R. In order to save both time and space I have used abbreviations, and these are listed below:

a.	age	h/w	his wife
b.	born	inf/o	infant of
cons/o	consort of	inf/d/o	infant daughter of
d.	died	inf/s/o	infant sone of
d/o	daughter of	s/o	son of
f.s.	footstone	w/o	wife of
F.S.	Family Stone	y m d	years, months, days

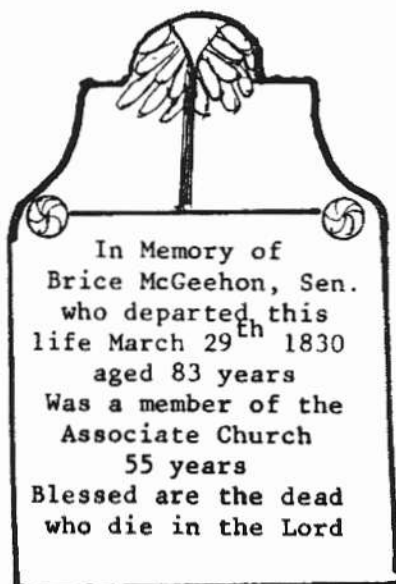
When the record shows a surname followed by more than one given name, this indicates that this is one stone with more than one name on it. If the surname is repeated or it is followed by ditto marks, then these are all separate stones. As in any cemetery the stones vary in the information given. Some give both the dates of birth and death, while others give the date of death with either the age in years, months, and days, or the phrase "in his/her 67th year." For those who may not be familiar with this it should be understood that this means the person has passed the 66th birthday, but has not yeat reached the 67th. This can make the difference of a year in figuring the year of birth.

Below is a reproduction of a stone which I found buried in the ground while I was working in the cemetery. It had fallen over so that the lettering was on the under side, which preserved it in perfect condition. The stone turned out to be for Brice McGeehon, who was a very early settler in the area, so I thought it appropriate to record it in its entirety.

The preparation of this record has taken a great deal of time, and I have tried to make it as accurate as possible. If there are mistakes, I apoligize for them. I hope, though, that it will prove helpful to the church and to those who are interested in locating family members.

Both the Rev. George R. Yates and the Rev. William Gestal, Jr. were interested in this project, and I appreciate the encouragement and help they gave. I especially want to thank Delmar Clark, who is in charge of the current cemetery record. He permitted me to copy all the information from the record book, and also loaned me a copy of the plan for the cemetery. Thanks also to Mildred Patterson who showed me the pictures of the cemetery before and after it had been repaired. Because there were dates on these pictures, I was able to establish when that had been done.

Nell Young Herchenroether



Bethel United Presbyterian Church is one of the oldest churches in Lawrence County. It was organized in 1798 by the Associate Presbytery of Pennsylvania and was known first as Little Beaver Church. It was originally located near Little Beaver River a few miles south of its present location, but was moved to North Beaver Township around 1804. There does not seem to be any record to show why the move was made. It is known that John Lackey donated an acre of land for the church, and that a good spring was on the property, which may have been instrumental in the decision, but perhaps the location was just more convenient for the members of the church. One of the long time residents of the area told me that, as a boy, he had found gravestones near the creek where the church had first been located, indicating that there had been a cemetery there also. As far as is known, there is no record for these burials. A

In 1801 the Associate Presbytery of Pennsylvania was divided and Chartiers Presbytery formed for the area west of the Allegheny Mountains. Most of the Presbytery meetings were held south of the Ohio River, and it was difficult for the members in the northern part to attend the meetings. They were censured by the church for not attending, which led to their petitioning Chartiers Presbytery to form a new Presbytery. In 1808 Chartiers was divided and the Presbytery of Ohio was formed, which included the Bethel Church. The name "Bethel" is used here because this is its present name, but according to the Manual of the U. P. Church, the congregation was known as Little Beaver until 1843 when the name was changed to Bethel. However, the church history includes a list of pledges made in 1826, which uses the name "Bethel." The reason for the change of name is not known, but there were two other churches within a few miles of Bethel, which were also called Little Beaver, so possibly it was becoming confusing.

The Presbyterian Church in America has had many divisions, and people not familiar with these may become confused by the various names. There is a chart available which shows all the separations and unions from the early 1700's to the present, and anyone who is interested in following the changes can find this at any Presbyterian Church, or at a public library. There was a major union in 1858 which merged the Associate Presbyterian Church, of which Bethel was a member, and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church to form the United Presbyterian Church of North America. Just one hundred years later in 1958 this church merged with the Presbyterian Church U. S. A. to form the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. Recently, in the summer of 1983, another merger combined this church with the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. (Southern) to form the Presbyterian Church of the USA. Knowing this background is helpful for anyone looking for Presbyterian records.

Bethel celebrated its Centennial in 1898 during the pastorate of the Rev. John Smith Dice, and a history of the church was written. This has been the basis for other histories done in 1938 for the church's Sesqui-Centennial and in 1976 for the Bi-Centennial of the United States. It is from these histories that much of this information is taken. The area covered by the congregation was large, extending from the Mahoning River to the north, the Beaver River on the east, the Little Beaver River on the south, and the Ohio state line to the west. The first place of worship was just a tent located west of the present building. This was a raised platform for the minister with a few boards overhead for his protection from the weather. The congregation sat on benches. This was replaced by a house of rough logs, 18 by 20 feet, roofed with clapboards, lighted by greased paper windows and heated by a huge fireplace at one end. The first church proper was built of hewed logs, which soon became too small, and an addition was made in 1816 which served the congregation for about 30 years. The original log church was used later for a school and a storehouse for saddles, blankets, etc. The history provides two lists of names which are of interest, and these are listed below:

List of Worshippers in the Log Church

Philip Aughenbaugh and family, came in 1796
 George Aughenbaugh and family
 John Aughenbaugh and family
 Brice McGeehon and family, 1798
 Charles Morrow and family, 1786
 Thomas Morrow and Margaret Morrow
 John Dobbins and family 1801
 Patric Dixon and family, 1803, Soldier of the Revolution
 William B. Dixon and family
 James Elder and family
 Robert Brewster, Sr., and family
 Nathaniel Hamill and family
 Sally Hamill

John Hamill and family
 Smith Hamill and James Hamill
 Mathew Kennedy and family
 William Gilmore
 Thomas Hogg and family, came to America in 1796
 Samuel Hopper and family
 John Hopper and family
 Robert Caldwell and family, noted for his knowledge of Bible
 John Orr and family
 John Leslie and family
 Adam Leslie and family
 Thomas Dungan and family
 Robert Sherer and family
 David Johnston and family, Mrs. Johnston was a granddaughter
 of Brice McGeehon

John McCandless and family

Robert Ramsey and family

* David Ramsey and family

David White and family

Samuel White and family, Mrs. White's name was Leslie and is said to
 have walked most of the way from Philadelphia.

John White and family

Wm. Clark, Sr. and family

David Clark and family

John Witherspoon and family

Robert McGeehon and family

John Smith and family

Wm. Gibson and family

Dr. Robert Smith and wife

Wm. Miller and family

James Miller and family

Mrs. Lydia Wilson and family

Robert Forbes and family

David Forbes and family

Robert Gailey and family

John Gailey and family

Jos. McKelvey and family, carpenter of the first frame church

Hugh McKelvey and family

Oliver Duff and family

James Duff and family

Samuel Magnes and family

Wm. Alexander and family

Andrew Jenkins and family

James Boges and family

Nathaniel White and family

Hugh McCready and family

John McCready and family

"Red" John McCready and family

"Black" John McCready and family

Robert Paden and family, 1796

William Paden and family

James Paden and family

Hugh Paden and family

Henry Paden and family

Paggie McMullen

Jennette Smith

James Wallace

Charles Raney and family

Alexander Wright and wife

Old List of Pledges

We the underwritten subscribers engage to pay in grain the sum annexed to our names for
 posting and railing the grave yard of Bethel congregation, the grain to be paid into Mr.
 Wallace's mill, against the first of April 1827 at which time the work is to be completed in
 workmanlike order.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Wheat Bushels</u>	<u>Corn Bushels</u>	<u>Rye Bushels</u>
James McGeehon	2		
David Imbrie	3		
James Wallace	6		
Charles Raney	4		
William Stevenson	2		
Thomas Hogg	2		
William Alexander	2		
Joseph Gilmore			3
Charles Morrow	2		
Thomas Dungan			3
David Stevenson	2		
John Gilmore		3	
Matthew Kennedy	2		
John Aughenbaugh			3
Hugh McCready	2		
Thomas Hogg, Jr.			3
Samuel McCrady	2		
Nathaniel Hamill	2		
★ Robert Ramsey		3	
John Witherspoon		3	
John Orr	2		
John McCandless	2		
Samuel Kennedy	2		
★ David Ramsey	2		
David Elder			2
John McGeehon	2		
Joseph McKelvey	2		
John Patterson			2
James McKinley	3		
Robert McGeehon	2		
Hugh McKelvey	2		
Benjamin Blackburn	2		
Robert Forbes	\$1.00 to be paid in leather		
William Gilmore			2
John Hamill	2		
Hugh McCready			2

The first frame church building was made in 1837, and much of the timber used in it was used when the present structure was built in 1870. Today's church sits east of the original location of the log church. The old part of the cemetery is west of it, and the newer cemetery to the east. The 1870 church was remodeled in 1904. In 1926 a basement was dug just a little south and west of the church and the building moved onto this foundation. Several additions have been added since then which have increased the size of the sanctuary, added Sunday School rooms, a meeting room, and pastor's study, so the church can now provide for present day needs.

The following ministers have served the Bethel Church.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Name</u>
1800-1804	James Duncan - He served three churches: Mahoning, Darlington, and Bethel. In 1804 he was released by Darlington and Bethel, but continued at Mahoning.
1806-1842	David Imbrie - He served Darlington also.
1844-1852	John W. Marsha - He left to teach at Westminster College, which had just been organized.

8.

1855-1872 Samuel Alexander - He came following his ordination.

1874-1914 John Smith Dice - Ordained and installed at Bethel and served for forty years.
He was elected Pastor Emeritus when he resigned.

1916-1919 Carl E. Person

1919-1924 M. G. Jerrow

1925 Dr. Robert N. Montgomery - Served as supply from April to September

1926-1938 George N. Neill

1939-1942 C. Bradley Watkins

1942-1945 J. Harold McCausland - He left to go to Zelienople for two years.

1945-1947 R. Marshall Wilson

1947-1948 J. Harold McCausland - He came back to Bethel from Zelienople and was there
at the time of the Sesqui-Centennial in 1948.

1949-1954 Willard George

1954-1957 Hugh Rose

1958-1964 J. Harry Fisher

1965-1970 James S. Yount

1972-1973 Dr. David Osborn, Ph. D.

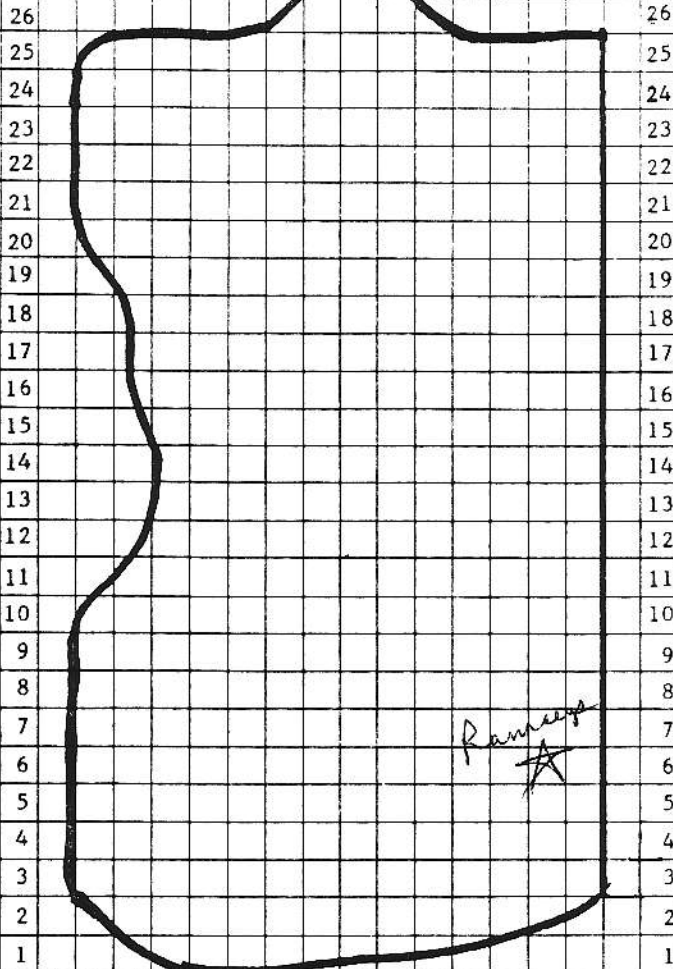
1974-1978 James A. Thomson

1978-1983 George R. Yates

1984- William J. Gestal, Jr.

10

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N



Parking Area

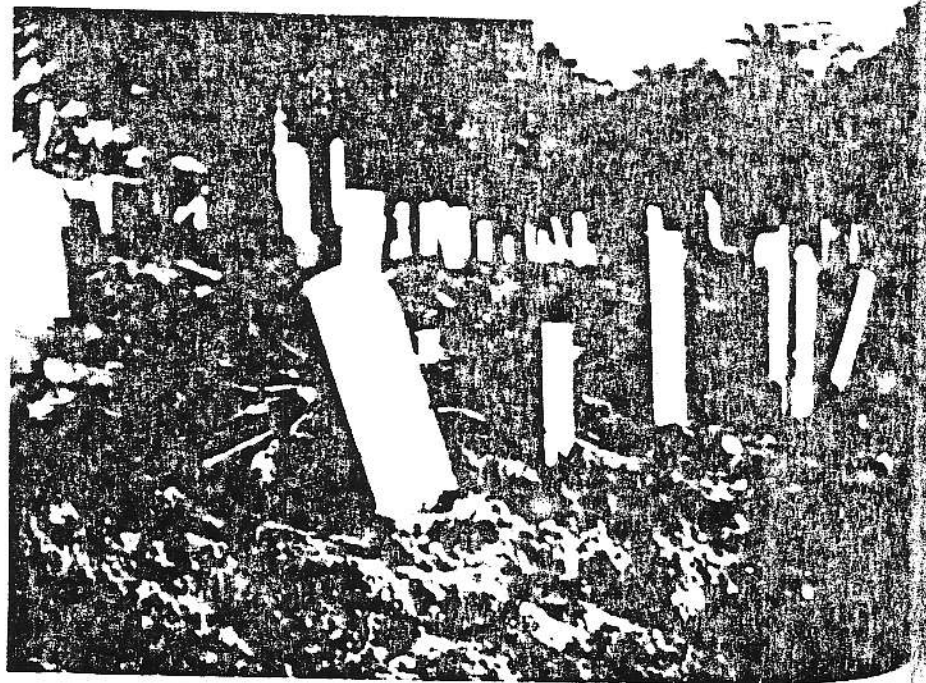
Alt. Rt. 551

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N

CHURCH

12.

5L	KELSO, George f.s.: Pvt. Co. H, 9th Reg. PA Inf. 1861-1863	Feb 16, 1829	Mar 31, 18__	
6A	HUTCHINSON, Jno. b. Co. Dary, Ireland Mary A., w/o Jno. Mary	May 30, 1817 July 3, 1806 1852	Jan 17, 1917 June 18, 1885 1919	f.s. Mother
6B	DOUGLAS, Martha Jane, w/o Rob't. L. DOUGLAS, Sarah A., w/o W.A. W. A.	1852 Dec 17, 1855 1846	1923 Apr 7, 1888 1917	
6D	WILSON, Jesse Mary w/o J.	in his 51st y Dec 11, 1835	Dec 3, 1881 Mar 16, 1873	
6E	GRUBB, Robert M. GRUBB, Olive D. Mary L.	39y 24d 7y 4m 6d 6y 10m 1d	May 15, 1885 May 16, 1877) May 8, 1877)	Children of B.M. & A.B.
6F	GRUBB, Oscar Howard, inf/s/o J.A. & Lena L. " Margaret, w/o I. T. " (possibly Isaac, but stone cannot be read)	Feb 18, 1884 in her 65th y	Dec 30, 1884 Feb 28, 1876	Our Mother
6G	" Nancy F., d/o I.T. & M. GRUBB, John M. Isaac J. Mil. stone: Sergeant of Battery B., 1st Pa. Art. fell	May 17, 1836 25y 10m 21y 5m 20d	Feb 3, 1874 June 13/15, 1859 April 2, 1865	in the Battle of Petersburg, Va.
	GRUBB, Mary A.	23y 5m 8d	Oct 23, 1850	
6H	" Jacob " Sarah, w/o Jacob	68y 4m 8d 74y 7m 10d	Feb 12, 1833 April 10, 1841	
6J	LESLIE, James, s/o T. & H. " Elisa J. " inf/d/o A.N. & E.	6m 1y 7m 18d no date or age	June 18, 18__) Dec. 11, 1832)	Similar "
6L	RAMSEY, Jane, inf/o Robert & Mary	8 weeks	Jan 30 A.D. 1831	
	" Amanda, d/o R. & M.	11m	Sept 18, 1836	
6M	" Robert " Minerva J. " R.S., s/o R. & M.	(buried) 68 y 7m 13d 16y 10m 14d 9y 10m 26d	Aug 14, 1853 July 10, 1854 Mar 18, 1852	
6N	HOGG, Leonard	38y 9m 10d	May 29, 1857	
7J	GWIN, George E., s/o J. & C. " Hannah J., d/o J. & C.	1y 1m 7d 6y	Mar 27, 1867 Sept 29, 1857	
7K	LESLIE, Adam N. Elizabeth, h/w George G.	July 6, 1795 July 12, 1805 Mar 28, 1841	June 8, 1865 Oct 14, 1889 Aug 27, 1863	
8A	McCANCE, John Mary A. w/o J.	31y 1m 5d 76y	April 29, 1888 Mar 25, 1886	
8B	PADEN, _____ w/o Hugh	94y & 6m	Mar 27, 1886	Broken
8C	MILLER, Eva E., d/o Robert J. & Mary J. MILLER, John Sarah h/w Amanda A., d/o John & Sarah Mary E., d/o " "	2 weeks 2d 60y 2m 24d 66y 22y 14d 24y 5m 9d	Sept 28, 1886 Apr 12, 1884 May 31, 1887 May 11, 1883 Nov 10, 1883	Family Stone
8D	GWIN, James Catharine, h/w	1824 1826	1906 1888	
8D	SWISHER, Eva J. Douglas, w/o O. Bert	1876	1901	
8D	DOUGLASS, Nora Velma, d/o R. & M. Robert	Apr 27, 1851	Aug 27, 18__ Oct 7, 1881	



ADDITIONAL NAMES FROM HENRY BALDWIN'S LIST

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BORN/AGE</u>	<u>DIED</u>
GILMOR, Joseph	in 80th y	4 May 1846
HAMILL, Martha	71y	20 Apr 1818
HOGG, William	27y 6m 7d	7 Nov 1859
INEDEK, Mrs. J.	63y	22 Apr 1833
LESLIE, Agness S., w/o William	27y 1m 10d	5 Feb 1853
LACKEY, Jane	in 58th y	1810
McCREADY, Mary, w/o Hugh	1766	22 May 1839
McCANDLESS, Mary	in 77th y	9 Feb 1868
McGEEHON, Sarah	no dates	
MORCHON, Isaac, Jr.	ly (looks like 81)	22 Mar 1828
PATTON, Mary	illegible	
PADEN, Robert	67y	16 Nov 1831
RAINEY, Nancy	in 77th y	29 Feb 1852
ROBINSON, William	in 48th y	10 Apr 1813
Note: Stone for wife Ann spells the name Robison.		
STEVENSON, William	72y	5 Apr 1833
STEVENSON, Agness	59y	8 Aug 1825
Note: Parts of her stone were found and date of death is there, but age not.		
WHITE, Mary	57y 6m 16d	2 May 1859
WITHERSPOON, Mary	13y 8m 28d	16 Apr 1836
WITHERSPOON, William	85y	no dates

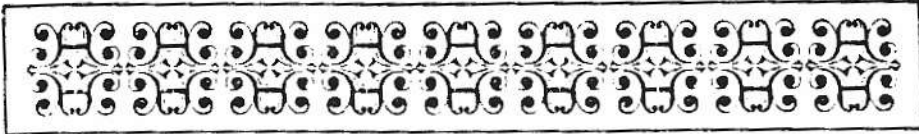
DIFFERENCES OCCURRING IN HENRY BALDWIN'S LIST

ALEXANDER, Jane	39y 6m 21d	11 Oct 1852
AUGHENBAUGH, Esther	74y 5m 17d	1 June 1867
CALVIN, James	36y 11m 13d	13 Aug 1845
DIXON, Elizabeth	79y	17 Dec 1890
DOBBINS, Elizabeth	in 75th y	21 Mar 1868
DOBBINS, John	in 73rd y	6 Aug 1832
DOBBINS, Leonard	in 31st y	12 Mar 1818
DOBBINS, Rachel	10 Feb 1816	Dec 1902
Note: Stone reads - Rachel Dobbins Gilmore		
FORBES, David	63y	20 Jan 1861
GAILLEY, Lydia	17 Dec 1808	20 Sept 1888
HOGG, John, Jr.	49y 4m 18d	5 Mar 1879
KELSO, James	70y 10m 22d	25 Mar 1874
KENNEDY, Margaret w/o Samuel	51y	21 Sept 1838
KENNEDY Samuel	58y	4 Dec 1837
KILGORE, Elizabeth	60y	Sept 1838
KILGORE, Isabell	54y	19 Dec 1852
KILGORE, Robert	81y 7m 14d	28 Dec 1851
LACKEY, John	90y	31 Oct 1824
McCREADY, Elizabeth	in 84th y	28 Aug 188
McELREE, Thomas	19y 7m 3d	26 Sept 1851
McGEEHON, Dungan	68y 10m 21d	9 Feb 1879
McLAUGHLIN, John	66y 9m 28d	13 Oct 1845
MILLER, Thomas	87y 4m 4d	24 July 1898
ORR, Rachel	25y 10m 29d	17 June 1842
ORR, Robert	17y 1m 20d	7 Nov 1840
PATTERSON, Jane	46y	29 Jan 1856
PATTERSON, Mary	55y	25 Dec 1830
★ RAMSEY, Robert	68y 7m 13d	14 Aug 1833
RANEY, Baxter	13 Aug 1837	18 Mar 1897
RANEY, Maggie	13 Jan 1841	26 Aug 1885
ROBINSON, Ann w/o William	71y	22 June 1842
STEWART, Samuel	84y	26 Dec 1887
WHITE, Margaret	74y	28 Apr 1836
WHITE, Samuel	73y 11m 21d	2 Jan 1880

*Mell's 18 5 3
is correct*

W. J. McKnight's 1905

A PIONEER OUTLINE HISTORY OF NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
Embracing the counties of: Tioga, Potter, McKean, Warren, Crawford,
Venango, Forest, Clarion, Elk, Jefferson, Cameron, Butler, Lawrence,
Mercer.



CHAPTER XXII

PIONEER PREACHERS AND CHURCHES IN NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

"Have we not all one Father? Hath not one God created us?"

In 1893 the Rev. Robert Audely Brown, D.D., of New Castle, Pennsylvania, in writing of the United Presbyterian Branch of the Presbyterian Church of one hundred years ago, says,—

"We can only imagine the labors of these men as they worked after the ideal of the Scottish pastorate in the new part of the new world. We cannot doubt their fidelity. But no record, printed or written, remains of their visits from house to house and other kindred pastoral labors.

"More durable, however, than marble, is their influence among the living forces of to-day. To estimate their labors better, let us remember the contemporaneous civil and political events that embarrassed their pastorates.

"The Indian wars had called for soldiers from their communities and congregations up till now. It was only this very year that Wayne's victory ended these wars. Sons, brothers, and fathers were many of them in the field. Fort Pitt was the rendezvous and point of departure of troops gathered from the surrounding counties of Western Pennsylvania. As late as 1791 St. Clair's defeat had brought sorrow to many families and terror to homes in prospect of bloody raids and massacres that might follow in Pennsylvania and Virginia.

"More distracting and injurious to religion than Indian wars was the Whiskey Insurrection, which from 1791 until 1794 filled men's minds, and which was crushed only in the latter year. The three Pennsylvania pastors were located in the very centre of the excitement; armed resistance, fire, and bloodshed, signalized ground only a few miles from where we are now met. The member who represented this district in Congress was an elder in the pastoral charge of Matthew Henderson. This was William Findley, of Westmoreland County, grandfather of the late Dr. William Findley, long connected with Westminster College. Standing on the side of justice, law, and order, as our predecessors necessarily did, it cannot be doubted but that they felt the force of adverse currents where in the various communities in which they lived men rose to the point of insurrection against what was conceived to be a hardship and injustice in having that one industry taxed which brought them money, and that from far-off markets east, reached by rugged mountain

HISTORY OF NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

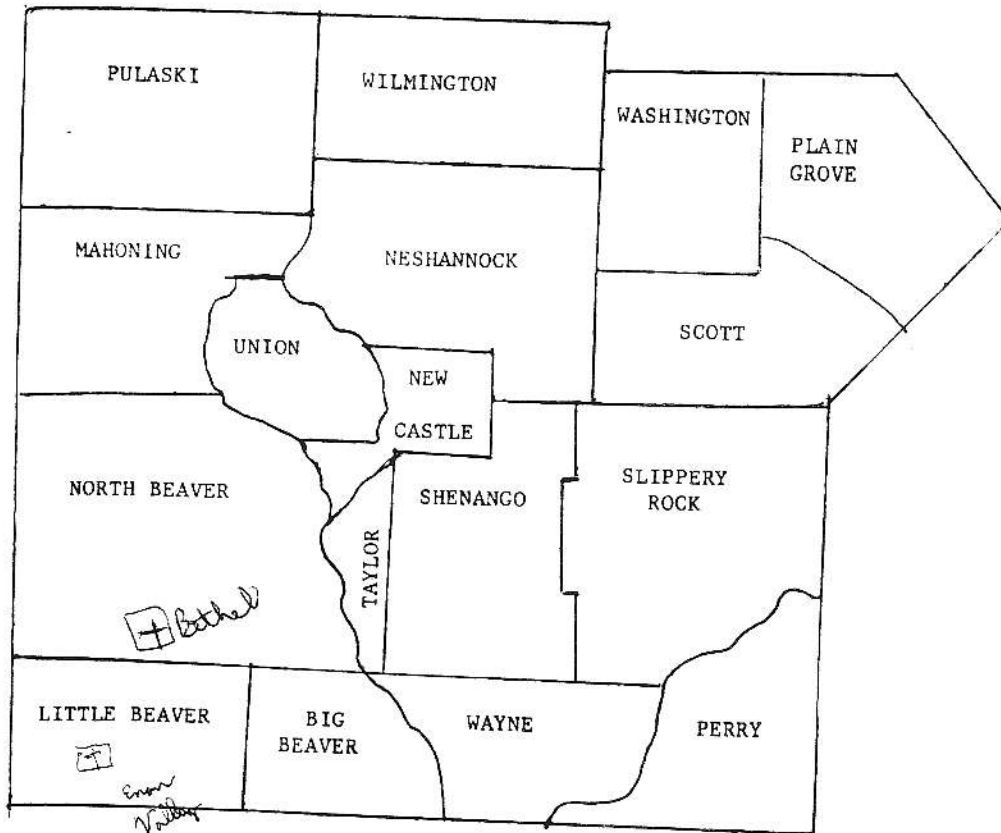
roads or by long and perilous voyage down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans.

" But these pastors found a worse enemy still to counteract their work. Worse than Indian wars, worse than the Whiskey Insurrection, was whiskey itself. Whiskey was the chief manufacture of the West and eminently of the two regions which this Presbytery occupied, and certainly this seems a singular fact. Old Monongahela whiskey in Pennsylvania and Old Bourbon whiskey of Kentucky occupied the very centre of these fields which God had allotted the new Presbytery; and as the Prince of Persia withstood the Angel Michael, in Daniel's vision, so this agency of Satan impeded and impaired the sacred work of the laborers for the gospel. Many of the more well-to-do owners of the farms (nearly all were farmers), were the owners also of stills, and for themselves and less prosperous neighbors turned grain into whiskey, in which more portable form their harvests reached a distant market, and so commanded money. There was hard toiling amid the stumps. The belief that whiskey was 'a good creature of God' infested men's minds. So in practice they were true to principle. What was good for others was certainly good also for themselves. They were consumers as well as producers. The farmer and his boys all drank. The store-keeper kept liquor free for his customers, on the counter. The guest in respectable homes was treated to it universally. The pastor was expected to drink it as a pledge of hospitality on entering a dwelling, and again to drink at his departure. If he made twelve visits in a day he had taken twenty-four drinks. It is a wonder that religion survived. Many members of the church were tipplers; some were often (in common phrase) 'the worse for liquor,' and some were confirmed drunkards and died such. How many of the baptized of the church and the unbaptized and those out of the church were lost, who can tell? But the loss was fearful. It included the loss of souls and bodies and standing. It changed the course of lives, it wasted fortunes. It ruined the individual, and doomed his family and friends to be losers by all the interests they had in him. And it inflicted a burden and a blight on the community and the church. These, indeed, grew, but it was not liquor made them grow, but the wonderful wealth of a new and virgin land rewarding the productive industry of a new people and causing them to grow despite the fearful drain upon their resources. The church has gained even with the curse of the drinking usage its chief enemy. But what it might have achieved but for liquor no man can estimate. Even the ministry, in instances, became victims; more than one wreck caused pain and shame later, and demanded discipline in the form of admonition, warning, suspension, or deposition. But this statement does not apply to the fathers of the Presbytery; and only to a few of those who afterwards became members. It was no wonder some of them were drunkards; it is, on the contrary, a wonder they were not all drunkards. It is a proof of the grace of God and the truth of Christianity that it survived,—an evidence that the

422

church has a living power from God that it grew, though thus weighted down and fettered, until a time came when another principle became ascendant,—namely, that instead of the drinking of an intoxicant being a just use of 'one of God's good creatures,' the making and use of alcoholic poisons as beverages is an essential immorality."

LAWRENCE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



NORTH BEAVER TOWNSHIP

