

## CHAPTER III.

## FIRST SETTLERS.

## THE QUAKERS AND PENNSYLVANIA.

**D**URING the civil wars in England two centuries and a-half ago, the extreme Puritan sect of Friends, or Quakers, arose. Their founder was George Fox. Their fundamental principles were "freedom of mind, purity of morals, and universal enfranchisement." They condemned war as a sin, denounced capital punishment, imprisonment for debt, extravagance in living, vanity and idle luxury, falsehood in act and speech, **opposed a paid ministry, and rejected the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper.**

They zealously advocated equal rights for women, and regarded the "universal inner light" in the heart as the guide of men's thoughts and actions.

The Friends shared in the persecution to which all Non-conformists were subjected to in that age of intolerance. Many were cruelly beaten, or set in the stocks or exposed in the pillory. Many were thrust into mad houses, and others condemned to life-long imprisonment. Hoping to find a place of refuge in the new world, some emigrated to New England; but the Puritans, who had gone there to establish their own peculiar faith, feared the influ-

ence of the Friends, restricted their worship, and punished cases of disobedience to their laws with exile and even with death.

One of the ablest leaders of the society there was William Penn, a young man, ardent, brave, wise, deeply religious, with well-trained intellectual powers, gifted in speech, and a courtier in manner. In favor with the king, because of the achievements of his father, Admiral Penn, it is not strange that Charles II should have granted him a province in America. To this province the name of Pennsylvania was given; and here, in the autumn of 1682, Penn landed with a number of English Quakers, at the place where the city of Chester now stands. In this same year he made a treaty with the Indians at Shackamaxon, on the site of Philadelphia. A popular assembly and a Charter of Liberties were granted to the people, and the "Holy Experiment" was thus begun on the banks of the Delaware in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania remained in the hands of the Penn family until their claims were purchased by the Commonwealth, in 1776. Pennsylvania, together with Delaware which Penn had purchased, was originally divided into six counties, Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, and the present counties of the state of Delaware—New Castle, Kent and Sussex.

## THE ORIGINAL CHESTER COUNTY.

The present Lancaster county was a part of Chester county until 1729. In this year, by an act of the Legislature, it was declared that all the





lands within the Province of Pennsylvania lying to the northwest of Octoraro creek and to the westward of a line of marked trees running from the North Branch of the said Octoraro creek, northeasterly to the Schuylkill, be erected into a county, named and from henceforth to be called Lancaster county.

#### FIRST WHITE SETTLERS IN THE PRESENT LANCASTER COUNTY.

The earliest white settlers in what is now Lancaster county were Swiss and German Mennonites, French Huguenots, Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, Welsh Episcopalians and English Quakers.

The Swiss and Germans came as early as 1709, and settled in the Pequea valley, and on the site and in the vicinity of the present city of Lancaster.

The Scotch-Irish, who came on the invitation of the first proprietor, located themselves on the Chickies creek and in Donegal about 1715. The French, from Alsace and Lorraine, occupied lands in the Pequea valley. The Welsh settled in the present Cærnarvon township and on the Welsh mountains. The English Quakers settled in what are now Sadsbury and Salisbury townships.

Before giving an account of these various settlements, it may be well to briefly state the circumstances that led to their establishment here.

#### ORIGIN OF THE MENNONITES IN GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND.

This religious sect was named from Menno Simon. It had its origin in Western Germany, in

the region known as the Palatinate of the Rhine, during the stirring period of the Reformation, and was at first one of the most extreme of the Protestant sects. Its adherents have always been distinguished for simplicity in dress and manners, for their aversion to oaths, to military service and to the use of law in settling difficulties or disputes.

On account of their religion and political faith, the Mennonites suffered persecutions for almost two centuries in the Palatinate and in Switzerland. In the latter country the severity of their persecution was so great as to call for remonstrances from other nations. They were condemned to pull galleys while chained to their seats; they were sold to Barbary pirates; they were imprisoned, beaten and beheaded.

Among those who suffered in Switzerland between 1638 and 1643 were Hans Landis, at Zurich; Hans Miller, Hans Jacob Herr, Rudolph Bachman, Ulrich Miller, Oswald Landis, Fanny Landis, Barbara Neff, Hans Mylin and his two sons. Martin Mylin, one of these sons, was a famous Mennonite preacher and writer, and fled for refuge first to the Palatinate, and afterward to Alsace, where in 1645 he wrote an account of the sufferings of his people. By an edict issued at Schaffhausen in 1650, the Mennonites were forbidden the free exercise of their worship in that canton. A similar decree was issued by the Prince of Neuberg in 1653. These edicts led to a persecution of such severity that many fled from the cantons of Berne, Zurich and Schaffhausen to



Alsace above Strasburg, where they remained some years, and then emigrated to Pennsylvania.

The offense for which these people suffered so grievously was simply their refusal to hear all manner of preaching, they considering it wrong to attend public worship with other religious sects. Thus they incurred the displeasure of other denominations and the wrath of magistrates.

#### SUFFERINGS OF THE PALATINES.

During the series of wars between Louis XIV. and the other monarchs of Europe, in the seventeenth century, the Palatinate of the Rhine was invaded by the armies of France and ravaged with fire and sword—first in 1674, when crops, and houses, and farms, and villages, and towns were destroyed; again in 1688, when hundreds of flourishing villages and no less than forty cities were reduced to ashes.

Among these were Manheim, Heidelberg, Spire, Worms, Oppenheim and Bingen. The order of the Grand Monarque to "desolate the whole land" was most faithfully executed.

In 1693 Heidelberg was again destroyed; and 1,500 men, women and children lost all their possessions, and fled in terror to the fields for safety. The people were induced by the Elector to return and rebuild their city, on the promise that they should be exempt from taxation for thirty years and should be allowed full liberty of worship. The Elector's promise was not kept, and a barbarous

persecution ensued. Many escaped death by means of sudden flight. About 6,000 of these found their way to England, where they were welcomed by a public proclamation issued by Queen Anne in 1708.

#### GERMAN AND SWISS EMIGRATION TO AMERICA.

It was amid sufferings such as these that the Mennonites of the Palatinate and Switzerland resolved to seek a place of safety in America—a place, too, where they could worship as their faith approved. The Swiss canton of Berne had sent out Christopher de Graffenried and Louis Michelle to look for vacant lands in Pennsylvania, Virginia and North Carolina. Prior to this time, in 1706 or 1707, Michelle had been in America, and visited the Indians at Conestoga, while in search of some mineral or ore. The Quaker colony of Pennsylvania had already been founded by William Penn, whose creed provided freedom of religious worship, and here these suffering people were offered an asylum. About the same time—1706—a number of persecuted Swiss Mennonites went to England and made a special arrangement with Penn for lands in his province. In 1708 many Mennonites left Berne and went to London. There they pitched their tents around the city and were supported at the public expense until they could find a way to come to America. Some of these settled in New York, some in Pennsylvania, others in North Carolina. In 1709 many of these who were living in







Strasburg, in Alsace, whither they had fled from the Palatinate, sailed for America. In the same year about 3,000 Mennonites, in order to escape persecution in the Palatinate, found their way to England; and in 1710 they came to New York, some settling in New York City, some in Livingston's Manor, Columbia county, New York, others in Germantown and in the present Lancaster county, Pennsylvania.

#### FIRST MENNONITE SETTLERS OF LANCASTER COUNTY.

In 1709 several Swiss Mennonite families whose ancestors had settled in the Palatinate emigrated to America and settled in what is now Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Public documents and private papers in possession of Abram Mylin and others of West Lampeter township seem to indicate that this first settlement was made near Willow Street, where the Herr's and Mylin's now reside.

In the same year, 1709, Hans Mylin and his sons Martin and John, Hans Herr, John Rudolph Bundely, Martin Kendig, Jacob Miller, Martin Oberholtzer, Michael Oberholtzer, Hans Funk, Wendel Bowman and others selected 10,000 acres on the north side of Pequea creek, in West Lampeter and adjoining townships; and in 1710 they obtained a warrant for this land, which they divided among them in April, 1711. Martin Kendig was granted 1855 acres in the present Strasburg township. The others, together with Christopher Franciscus, were granted tracts in the same region.

In 1712 Amos Strettle was given 3380 acres in the present Strasburg township, and before 1734 he sold this part in small lots to a number of purchasers. Among these were a few English settlers, such as Septimius Robinson and John Musgrove, and some French Huguenots, Daniel Ferree and Isaac Lefevre; but the larger part of those who secured lots were Swiss Mennonites. Among the latter were Henry Shank, Ulrich Brackbill, George Snavely, Christian Musser, John Jacob Hoover, Samuel Hess, Samuel Boyer, Christian Stoner and Henry Zimmerman (or Carpenter).

#### ARRIVAL OF MORE SWISS EMIGRANTS.

A council of the society was held for the purpose of selecting by lot one of the number to go to Europe to bring the families of the settlers to their new home. The lot fell upon Hans Herr, their venerable preacher. But they could ill spare one who stood as a leader among them, and Martin Kendig offered to take his place. All very readily acceded to this. Martin Kendig at once proceeded to Europe, and after the lapse of some months returned with the families together with many new emigrants. Among these were Jacob Miller, Peter Yordea, Hans Tschantz, Henry Funk, John Houser, John Bachman, Jacob Weber, Venerick, Schlegel, Guldin and others. At this time came Hans Herr's five sons—Christian, Emanuel, John, Abraham and another whose name is unknown. Three of Hans Herr's sons settled in what is now







West Lampeter township, and two in Manor township. The Herrs of West Lampeter, Strasburg, Manor and other townships are their descendants.

#### PROGRESS OF THE SETTLEMENT.

The settlement now consisted of thirty families. With the Indian tribes of the vicinity—the Conestogas, Pequeas and Shawanese—they lived on the most friendly terms, mingling with them in hunting and fishing. Their annals speak of the Indians as being “hospitable, respectful and exceedingly civil.”

The little colony improved their lands, planted orchards, and erected dwellings and a meeting and school house, in which religious worship was held on Sunday, and reading and writing were taught during the week. The same rude building served both important purposes for some years. Their first preachers were Hans Herr, Hans Tschantz and Ulrich Brackbill, the last of whom was accidentally killed while driving his team on the road to Philadelphia.

Around these Swiss Mennonites some Germans and French subsequently settled. Among the latter were the Ferrees, the Lefevres and some others, of whom we shall give some account. After the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV., in 1685, the Huguenots were the victims of a systematic and terrible persecution. Some were brutally massacred by troops of dragoons. Many were sent to the galleys. Everything that bigotry could

devise was employed to torture and to destroy these defenceless people. Half a million fled to England, Holland and Germany, carrying their arts and industry with them. Daniel Ferree and his wife Mary, with their sons Daniel, Philip and John, and their daughters Catharine, Mary and Jane, escaped from their home at Lindau, near the Rhine, across the river into Germany, where they remained two years. Accompanying them in their flight was a young man named Isaac Lefevre, whose family had been killed by the soldiers. Daniel Ferree died, and his widow resolved to go to London to see William Penn with a view of making her home in Pennsylvania. Upon arriving in London she asked to be directed to Penn's residence. The gentleman who was about to direct her, at that moment observed Penn's carriage approaching. The carriage was stopped. Penn invited her to a seat in it, and drove her to his home. He treated her with the greatest kindness, gave her a recommendation to his agent in Pennsylvania, and introduced her to Queen Anne, who received her very graciously. The Ferree family remained in London six months, and then embarked for America. After arriving at New York City they moved up the Hudson river to Esopus, where they remained two years, then went to Philadelphia, thence to the Mennonite settlement in the Pequea valley. Queen Anne granted them letters-patent, giving them the rights and privileges of English subjects, with the right to buy and hold land in their new





settlement. Before they left London the queen presented them with a variety of farming implements. These they used in clearing the land upon which they settled. Isaac Lefevre remained as one of the family until they arrived in America, when he married one of the daughters, Catharine Ferree. From this union have descended all the Lefevres in Lancaster county, in other parts of Pennsylvania, and in all parts of the United States. Phillip Ferree, one of the sons, lived for one year with Abraham Dubois, a French farmer at Esopus, and married his daughter Leah at the end of that time, after which he brought her to the Mennonite settlement in the Pequea valley. The Ferrees and Lefevres settled in what is now Paradise township, on a tract of 2,000 acres, which was part of the 10,000 acres Martin Kendig had purchased from Penn's Commissioners. Philip Ferree located on a tract of land on the north side of the Pequea creek, in the present Leacock township.

#### ORIGINAL CONESTOGA TOWNSHIP.

In 1712 all that part of Chester county lying west of Octoraro creek, or west of the present Chester county, and thus including all of the present Lancaster county and that part of Pennsylvania to the northward and westward, was erected into a township called *Conestoga*, named after Conestoga creek, which derived its name from the Conestoga Indians.

#### SETTLEMENT OF CONESTOGA TOWNSHIP.

Settlements had been made among the Indians prior to 1713. In the latter year Christopher

Schlegel, a German from Saxony, took up 1,000 acres on a stream flowing into the Conestoga, but soon transferred his interest to others.

At this place the English Indian agents, John and Edmund Cartlidge, afterward resided. In 1715 Benedictus Venerick, also a German, settled upon a tract near the Palatines. These were joined by some Swiss Mennonites who came in 1715, 1716 and 1717. Among these were Hans Mayer, Hans Kaigy, Christian Hershey, Hans Graaf (who afterwards settled Graaf's Thal), Hans Brubacher, Michael Shank, Henry Bare, Peter Leman, Melchior Breuneman, Henry Funk, Hans Faber, Isaac Kauffman, Melchior Brisman, Michael Miller, Jacob Landis, **Jacob Boehm**, Theodorus Eby, Benedictus Witmer. In 1717 Jacob Greider (or Kreider), Jacob Hostetter, Hans Frantz, Shenk and other Swiss Mennonites settled along the Conestoga.

#### PROMINENT SETTLERS AMONG THE SWISS.

Among the most prominent of these Swiss Mennonite settlers were the well-known brothers, **Francis Neff and Doctor Hans Heinrich Neff**, whose descendants are very numerous in Lancaster and Huntingdon counties, Pennsylvania, and in Virginia. **They had fled from persecution in Switzerland to Alsace**, whence they emigrated to America, and **early settled on a small stream, Neff's Run**, which empties into the West Branch of the Little Conestoga. Here Francis Neff took up a large tract of land. **Hans Heinrich Neff**, famil-





ially called the "Old Doctor," was quite eminent as a physician. Haus Brubacher located in what is now East Hempfield township. His descendants are numerous in this and other townships.

Persecution drove the Kreiders and the Hostetters from their homes in Switzerland to Wurtemberg. From the latter place they came to America, and settled on the north side of Conestoga creek, about two miles south of the site of the present Lancaster city, and there took up 800 acres of land. Jacob Kreider's first home was a tent made of tow cloth. This afforded him and his family temporary shelter until autumn, when he erected a log cabin.

During the winter he was visited regularly by the neighboring Indians, who sought shelter in his cabin and comfort by his fire. They lived on terms of closest friendship with the Kreiders, supplying them with fish and venison, for which they received bread in exchange. Fish were abundant in the Conestoga and in the other streams of Lancaster county. The Indians caught them with nets made of bark, or speared them with a gig made of ash wood. On one occasion when Kreider was visited by his Indian neighbors he looked at his almanac, for the purpose of regulating his clock by its indication of the rising and setting of the sun.

He noticed that the moon would be eclipsed in a few weeks. Turning to his Indian visitors, he told them that on a certain evening a few weeks

hence the moon would hide her face just as the clock would strike a certain hour. They had often observed eclipses, but couldn't understand how their white neighbor should know this before it occurred. At the appointed evening fifty or sixty Indians met at the house, and were utterly amazed to see the moon's face lessen as soon as the clock had struck. One of them then said: "It is the white man's God tells him this, else he would not know it beforehand."

#### ENGLISH SETTLERS AMONG THE GERMANS AND SWISS.

In 1715 some English and Welsh settlers came and located around Smoketown. The names of these were Peter Bellas, Daniel Harman, William Evans and James Smith. In 1716 Richard Carter, an Englishman, took up a tract of land between the Conestoga and Pequea creeks, near the Susquehanna river, and therefore in the present Conestoga township. In the same year other English settlers took up tracts on the south side of the Conestoga—Alexander Bews, Anthony Pretter of East Jersey, and John Gardiner of Philadelphia county. In 1717 Joseph Cloud secured 500 acres near the Pequea.

#### ENGLISH AND SCOTCH-IRISH SETTLERS ON THE OCTORARO.

In 1717 English Quakers and Scotch-Irish Presbyterians settled along the Octoraro creek. Among these were William Grimson (constable of Sadsbury township), the Cooksons, Jervises, Irwins and Mayes. Some years later came the Patter-



sons, Darbys, Leonards, Joneses, Steeles, Mathews, Cowens, Murrays, Millers, Allison, Mitchells and others.

#### SETTLEMENTS DOWN THE CONESTOGA.

Between 1716 and 1719 settlements were made down the Conestoga creek towards the Susquehanna river. Two English Quakers, John Cartlidge and his brother Edmund, and David Jones, a Welshman, took up lands there. Edmund Cartlidge resided in Darby township, Chester county, as early as 1698, and in Philadelphia county in 1711. John Cartlidge was an Indian trader for many years. He was appointed Justice of the Peace in 1718. The public records at West Chester state that he sold liquor "by the small" among his neighbors on the banks of the Conestoga before 1718.

Before 1719 Christian and Joseph Stehman and Sigismund Landart—all Germans—took up land on and near the banks of the Conestoga creek. In 1719 Jenkin Davis, a Welshman, secured a piece of land on a branch of the Conestoga, and George Stewart, a Scotch-Irishman, located near the Susquehanna.

#### FRENCH CANADIAN SETTLERS.

James Le Tort, the French Canadian Indian trader, was granted 100 acres along the Susquehanna. Martin Chartiere, Peter Bizaillon and Le Tort—all French Canadians—had resided among the Indians as traders some years before settle-

ments were made in the present Lancaster county. Martin Chartiere had a trading-post on the site of Washington borough before 1704, and in 1717 he was granted 300 acres. This was transmitted to his son, Peter Chartiere. Peter Bizaillon had a license to trade with the Indians before 1703, and in 1714 he was granted a tract on the Susquehanna at Paxtang or wherever he wished to locate.

#### SWISS SETTLERS AMONG THE FRENCH.

In 1717 and 1718 the French settlement of the Ferrees and the Lefevres was increased by a number of Swiss Mennonites, among whom were the Slaymakers, the Witners, the Lightners, Eshleman, Herr, Hershey, Esbenshade, Baer, Groff, Graaf, Koenig, Keneagy, Denlinger, Beck, Becker, Souder, Ream, Zimmerman and many others. The most notable among these new settlers were Matthias Schleiermacher (afterward Anglicized as Slaymaker) and the Zimmermans. Matthias Schliermacher emigrated from Strasburg, in Germany, to Lancaster county about 1710. He was born and reared in Hesse Cassel. The place he settled in America was known as the London Lands, a tract of 1,000 acres, in what is now Paradise township, the name *Strasburg* having been conferred by Schleiermacher. One of the brothers of the latter was Secretary of Legation from the German Empire to Great Britain, and another was major in the King of Prussia's full regiment.

Henry Zimmerman (or Carpenter) arrived in





Neff, Burkholder, Graaf, Funk, Kendig, Bowman, Herr, Brenneman, Brubaker, Nissley, Buckwalter, Landis, Mayer, Bare, Erisman, Harnish, Snavelly, Good, Eshleman, Hess, Boyer, Leaman, Kauffman, Shultz, Houser, Miller, Zimmerman, Slaymaker, Shenk, Hoover, Newcomer, Longenecker, Musselman, Eby, Stoner, Frantz, Stehman, Ream, Royer, Weaver, Lichty, Herman, Schneider or Snyder, Brandt.

#### CONESTOGA MANOR.

In 1718 the Conestoga Manor—afterward Manor township—was surveyed for the use of the proprietary of the province of Pennsylvania, William Penn and his heirs and assigns forever, by order of the Commissioners of Property, by Jacob Taylor, Surveyor General of the province. The Conestoga Manor embraced all the land between the Susquehanna river and Conestoga creek as far up the river as the land already granted to Peter Chartier, on the site of Washington borough, and thence by a line running east from that river to Conestoga creek. There were two Manors in the original Chester county—Brandywine Manor and Conestoga Manor. The latter was subsequently divided and sold to purchasers, among whom were many whose descendants still occupy the lands on which the original Swiss Mennonites located. The principal English landowners in the Manor were the Wrights, who had 1,500 acres, and John Cartlidge, who had a large tract between one and two miles north-east of the present Safe Harbor. James



Pennsylvania in 1698, and afterward returned to Europe, and brought his family over in 1706, first settling in Germantown, and in 1717 within the limits of the present Lancaster county. His son, Emanuel Zimmerman, born in Switzerland in 1702, was a citizen of great influence in Lancaster county. He died in 1780. His descendants are numerous. Some are called Zimmerman, while others have their name Anglicized as Carpenter. There are also Carpenters of English descent.

#### SURVEYS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTY.

From 1714 to 1718 surveys of land were made in different parts of the present county of Lancaster. In the southern part a survey was made for Alexander Ross, an Englishman, on Little Conowingo creek. In 1717 a survey of 700 acres was made to Edward Sleadwell, an Englishman, on the Octoraro creek, in the present township of Little Britain. A Maryland grant was made in the same township to Mary Graham in 1715.

Large tracts were also granted by Maryland to Emanuel Grubb in 1716 and 1720; and one to Thomas Jacobs in the last-named year, in the same township.

#### GERMAN AND SWISS SETTLERS NATURALIZED.

Among the Swiss and German Mennonites who came before 1718 and who had purchased and held lands before 1729, and who subsequently became naturalized subjects of the King of Great Britain, were such common names as Mylin,

wooded spot. He at once resolved to settle there. After finding his horses he returned to the Pequea settlement, merely to inform his friends of his "find" and of his determination to locate near the spring. To the latter place he then removed with his family, and built a cabin under a large white oak tree, half a mile distant. In the spring of 1718 he took up a large tract of land, and built a house near the cabin. The spot where the original house stood is shown to-day. Here he was often visited by the Indians, who brought baskets and hickory brooms to sell. He had six sons. As some of them grew up he formed a partnership with them, and opened trade with the Indians living at Harris's Ferry, now Harrisburg. The trade consisted of an exchange of blankets and other articles, which he purchased in Philadelphia, for skins, furs, etc. It is said that he spoke the Indian language fluently. The descendants of Hans Graaf are very numerous throughout the county. The name has undergone various changes—Groff, Grove and Graeff being among these.

One of Hans Graaf's sons—Samuel—was called "Graaf der Jaeger" (the hunter). When the magistrates and citizens of Lancaster county met to settle upon the boundaries and names of the townships of the county, June 9, 1729, they named the township in which Graaf lived, *Earl*, in honor of him—the word *Earl* being the English word for Graaf. In 1719 Mr. Wenger, a Swiss, became one of Hans Graaf's neighbors.



Patterson, a Scotch-Irishman and an Indian trader, owned a tract of land about a mile east of Washington borough. This is now in the possession of Jacob B. Shuman. Another Scotch-Irishman, named James Logan, owned a tract a little north of Safe Harbor. 414 acres of this land was granted to Indian Town, and Blue Rock comprised 800 acres. Among the Swiss Mennonite settlers here we readily recognize many familiar names, such as Herr, Kauffman, Witmer, Wissler, Eshleman, Kendig, Stoner, Mayer, Stehman, Newcomer, Bachman, Kilhaver, Miller, Charles, Shank, Hostetter, Stauffer, Landis, Hershey, Oberholtzer, Lintner, Ziegler, Funk and others.

The Shumans settled near the site of Washington borough in 1772. The Manns located a little east of this place about the same time.

#### HANS GRAAF AND HIS SETTLEMENT.

In 1718 Hans Graaf settled Graaf's Thal, or Groff's Dale, in the eastern part of the present West Earl township. Hans Graaf was a very prominent man in the early history of the county. He was born in Switzerland, and was among those who fled from persecution in that country to Alsace. In 1695 or 1696 he emigrated to America. After remaining a short time at Germantown, he came to the Swiss settlement in the Pequea valley. One day his horses strayed away; and while in pursuit of them, in a northerly direction, he discovered a fine spring, in a very thickly

out until 1730. This was done by James Hamilton, Esq., of Philadelphia. Tradition says that an Indian village occupied the site of Lancaster; that a hickory tree stood in the centre of the village, near a spring; that the Indian councils were held under this tree, and that it was from one of these councils that a deputation was sent to confer with William Penn at Shackamaxon in 1683. This Indian nation was called Hickory, and the village was called Hickory Town before Lancaster was laid out.

George Gibson, a tavern keeper, had a hickory tree painted on his sign in 1722. This tavern was in the place now occupied by the First National Bank, on East King street. Another Indian town was situated near the Conestoga, and a poplar tree which stood on its bank was the emblem of that tribe.

#### SQUATTERS WEST OF THE SUSQUEHANNA.

In the meantime some persons, without any legal right, settled on the west side of the Susquehanna river. John Grist, one of these, abused the Indians to such an extent that they complained to the Governor of the province. John Cartlidge, by the Governor's authority, raised a posse comitatus, to destroy the buildings of Grist and his accomplices. Cartlidge, however, simply requested Grist and his party to move from the land. This they refused to do. The Indians then destroyed some of their cattle. Grist went to Philadelphia to make complaint against them, but was lodged in jail,



There are many of his descendants to be found in various parts of the county.

#### SETTLEMENT OF DUNKERS.

After 1718 settlements became very general in the county. In 1719 or 1720 some Germans located along Cocalico creek and in other places. In 1708 the religious sect of the *Dunkers*, or *Tunkers*, or *First Day German Baptists*, was founded in Germany by Alexander Mack, of Shriesheim, and four men and three women from Schwarzenau, who met for religious worship. Like the Quakers and Mennonites, the Dunkers were simple in their dress and habits, and averse to oaths, to military service and the use of law.

Like the Mennonites, they were severely persecuted in Germany, in consequence of which they fled to Holland and to other parts of the continent.

The original society, however, removed to Serustervin, in Friesland, and from there emigrated to America and settled in Pennsylvania. Some of these settled at Germantown; others at Oley and Skippack, near the Schuylkill; and others along the Conestoga and Cocalico creeks, in the present Lancaster county. Among the early settlers along Cocalico creek were Conrad Beissel, Joseph Shaef-fer, Hans Mayer, Heinrich Hoehn and several Landises.

#### SETTLEMENT OF LANCASTER AND VICINITY.

The town of Lancaster might be said to have begun as early as 1721 or 1722, but it was not laid

from which he was released by the Governor's council on condition that he would remove from the land he was illegally occupying. He returned home in August, 1722, and, after gathering in his corn, left the place.

COLONEL FRENCH'S COUNCIL WITH THE INDIANS AT  
CONESTOGA.

Late in April, 1719, the Conestoga Indians, by a letter to Secretary James Logan, informed Governor Patrick Gordon that several of their tribe, while hunting near the Potomac, had been attacked and killed by a party of Virginia Indians, who were on the war path against the Five Nations. Governor Gordon endeavored to quiet their fears, without avail. They addressed a letter to him early in June. He then sent Colonel French to meet them in council at Conestoga. This meeting took place June 28, 1719. Canatowa, the queen of the Conestogas, and Captain Civility, their chief, together with sachems of the Conewagas, the Shawanese and the Delawares, were present; and a treaty was made which re-established peace and friendship with them.



