



# Schaeffer

The Germans delighted in going into elaborate description in adopting surnames. As a result, occupative surnames were more numerous in Germany than in England. In the everyday life of the German, the simplest of trades or occupations were of utmost importance. The meaning of Shafer was one who tended sheep, or a shepherd. Shafer appears to be the shortened, anglicized form of the name with the elimination of the letter 'c' from Schaffer, Schaeffer and Schafer. Nicknames also were popular in Germany, especially for names taken from animals, birds and fish. So in the early German world of nicknames, one might very well have heard the word "Schaff", referring to one who became Shafer properly. In England, Sir Edward Sharpey-Schafer gave prominence to the name as the noted English physiologist. In Germany during the 1800s, Arnold and Wilhelm Schafer were famous German historians. Also during the 19th century, several arms were granted to Schafers who were chevaliers, or knights, in Luxembourg, Switzerland, and thThe Germans delighted in going into elaborate description in adopting surnames. As a result, occupative surnames were more numerous in Germany than in England. In the everyday life of the German, the simplest of trades or occupations were of utmost importance. The meaning of Shafer was one who tended sheep, or a shepherd. Shafer appears t

(From "What's in Your Name?" by Charles Guarino Tulsa Daily World, July 16 1972)

# The Balthasar Schaeffer Family

**From Germany to the Virginias**

Known in Virginia as PALSER SHAVER

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*"Speak to them there, for they hear,  
and spirit with spirit can meet,  
Closer are they than breathing and  
nearer than hands and feet."*

*Tennyson*



## **The Establishment of Pennsylvania-Immigration**

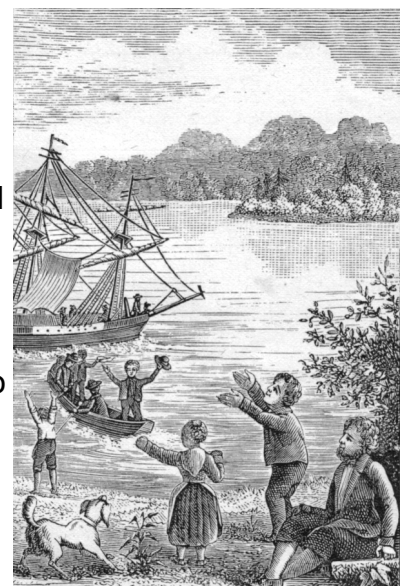
Most of the German immigrants who came to America prior to the American Revolution were from a large region along the Rhine River known as the Rhineland Palatinate. Those that arrived at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, were typically referred to as "*Palatines*." In later years, immigrants from Germany became known "*Dutchmen*," or for those in Pennsylvania, "*Pennsylvania Dutch*" --a corruption of the name of their nationality and language, Duetsch. As early as 1726, German families began to migrate south to Lord Baltimore's Maryland and Western Virginia. By the time of the Revolutionary War, many citizens of German descent were first, second and third-generation Americans. During the Revolutionary War half of the soldiers and full a third of the officers from Pennsylvania --the most populated colony-- were German-Americans.

### **Penn's Woods**

On March 4, 1681 thirty-six year old William Penn received a charter from King Charles II of England that led to a grant of 47 million acres north of the Maryland border and west of the Delaware River. The charter was granted in return for a debt of £16,000 owed the estate of his father, Admiral William Penn, by the Royal Stuart family. Young Penn had joined the Quaker religious movement about 1666 and was one of its most adamant and articulate supporters --publishing forty-two books and pamphlets and being imprisoned four times. Penn had gained the support of Prince James, Duke of York, in his quest for the grant in the British Colony in America, which he saw as a sanctuary for the Quaker "*Society of Friends*" with 80,000 members in England by 1680. In 1682 he drew up a "Frame of Government" for his land in "*Penn's Woods*" that was based on the idea of individual liberty for its citizens. Contrary to English Law, dissent was a uniquely granted civil right and persecution was a crime. Penn's "*Forty laws*" had explicit guarantees of freedom of worship, strict observation of the Sabbath, protection of property, education of children, trial by jury and many other rights we Americans now take for granted. Promotional materials were written and distributed, offering plots of 500 acres of land for £20, an amount within reach of a large percentage of the British population. By 1682 Penn had sold 500,000 acres to the "*First Purchasers*" at half-price, raising the enormous sum of £10,000. By 1685 about 8,000 Quakers from England, Wales and Ireland had immigrated to Pennsylvania. Penn's province became known as a "*Holy Experiment*".

### **Early German Immigrants**

Funds to support the new province were obtained by selling land to immigrants, so Penn undertook a major effort to appeal to thousands of Germans from the Rhineland Palatinate to come to Pennsylvania, with the promise of religious freedom and the opportunity to own their own land. He wanted to populate the land with productive farmers and the towns with skilled artisans. From an earlier journey to Holland and Germany, he had first-hand knowledge of the desperate situations of his fellow Christians as far up the Rhine as Mannheim. The message Penn brought was an answer to prayer to the masses of people along the Rhine who had suffered for centuries from the wars fought by the ruling dukes, princes, emperors and archbishops in their homeland. Penn's pamphlets promised an exciting adventure to all, with a government in which "*the people and governor have a legislative power, so that no law can be made, nor money raised, but by the people's consent.*"



The invitation to join Penn's colony was first taken up by Mennonites gathered near Frankfurt

in 1684. With encouragement from a Mennonite leader who had gone ahead to Pennsylvania, they answered the call for weavers, vintners, coopers and other artisans to come and bring farm implements and a variety of household items with two "*we called Germantown. . . in a very fine and fertile district.*" For those who couldn't afford the journey, work was available to pay their passage. Soon, northwest of the newly established town of Philadelphia, these immigrants established their own town and they were guaranteed at least fifty acres of land after completing their time as indentured servants. To the poor people from the Middle and Lower Rhine, this was an unbelievable opportunity.

Germans that came to Pennsylvania were primarily Protestants. Lutheran and Reformed congregations soon began to construct fine churches in Philadelphia, Germantown and surrounding towns. Members of small religious sects typically met in their homes. Skilled printers and bookbinders produced numerous German language tracts, almanacs, newspapers and the German Bible. By 1701 the Germans were known to be "*prosperous freemen of the province.*"

The "*War of Spanish Succession*", one of Europe's many wars of the time, ended with the "*Peace of Utrecht.*" in 1713. When King Louis XIV's armies passed through the Palatinate they had orders to leave large swathes of destruction. His burning of numerous villages in 1707 led to the first great exodus of thousands of poor Palatines to America. During the reign of Queen Anne of England (1702-1714), she was sympathetic to the plight of the German States and thousands of Palatines responded to the queen's offer of British protection. The immigrants gathered in a large tent city near London, which so appalled both the Germans and English that the queen decided they should move to the British Colonies in America, where they might be of some value to the Empire. By 1714, --when a German Hanoverian became King George I of England-- the majority of German refugees had begun to head directly to Pennsylvania. Detailed immigration records were not kept in the Philadelphia port during these years.

### **Years of the Great Migration**

In the spring of each year, immigrants heading for America began to gather at Rotterdam, a busy seaport located in the large flat delta of the Rhine. To maximize their profits, captains of ships bound for Philadelphia would load as much human cargo as they could get on board. After a typical voyage of six to ten weeks, the new arrivals disembarked to search for land where they could establish their farms, while artisans and shopkeepers sought towns where they could establish their trades. Many were in debt to the Captain and paid their passage by becoming indentured servants for a period of years. The more fortunate ones were met by friends and relatives at the wharves.

By 1727 there was fear among the English-speaking citizenry that the Germans would soon engulf the province. The Philadelphia port authorities began to collect a 40-shilling (£2) head tax on all aliens. Also for the first time, new arrivals had to declare their good faith by an oath of allegiance to the king and the proprietor:

*"We Subscribers, Natives and late Inhabitants of the Palatinate upon the Rhine River & Places adjacent ... will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his present MAJESTY, KING GEORGE THE SECOND, and his Successors, Kings of Great Britain, and will be faithful to the Proprietor of this Province: and will demean ourselves peacefully ... and strictly observe and conform to the Laws of England and of this Province."*

These signed declarations --many of which have been preserved-- contain lists of male passengers over the age of sixteen. This wonderful source of genealogical information has been published as facsimiles of the original script and as transcriptions by German-American scholars.

In 1730 a pastor in Rotterdam, Holland estimated that "*15,000 Reformed confessors of the*

*Palatinate*” had settled in Pennsylvania. Later research indicates that estimate was too low, perhaps sufficing as an absolute minimum. Glowing reports sent to friends and relatives back home elicited a continual flow of landless farmers and rural labors --many of whom were younger sons with no birthright in their respective family-- willing to take the risks of a journey to America. The peak immigration years occurred from 1749 to 1754. During this six year period, no less than seventeen thousand Germans arrived in the port. In 1749, the busiest year, twenty-one ships carrying approximately six thousand “*Palatines*” disembarked at Philadelphia.

In 1751 Benjamin Franklin, concerned that the Germans would never learn the English language, suggested it was time to spread the Pennsylvania Dutch throughout the province where they would have to use English in their transactions. He was concerned that Pennsylvania must “*Anglify*” the Germans before they “*Germanize*” Pennsylvania. In 1755 a bill introduced in the Pennsylvania Council to limit the importation of Palatines was seen by the governor as being inhumane, and after it was passed he vetoed it.

In 1766, before a committee of the British House of Commons, Franklin expressed his feelings regarding the Palatines best when he described them as:

*“A people who brought with them the greatest of all wealth; industry, integrity and character that had been superimposed and developed by years of suffering and persecution.”*

Like many immigrant refugees escaping religious persecution in Europe --such as the Puritans, Quakers, Mennonites and Huguenots-- the Palatines conferred upon their new country blessings which it could not afford to refuse.

**A word about geography.** Before 1871, Germany was not one united country. The area that we now call Germany consisted of numerous kingdoms, duchies, states, electorates, free cities, municipalities, etc. During the Middle Ages, much of central Europe was organized into a loose confederation, which was called the Holy Roman Empire. Borders were constantly changing. By 1860, the largest of the kingdoms was Prussia, which covered about 2/3 of the territory which would become known as the Second German Empire in 1871, which lasted until 1918.

During this period, the vast majority of ships arriving in Philadelphia with Palatine passengers sailed from Rotterdam (80 of 96; 83.3%). Ships from the continent bound for England’s North American colonies at this time were required to visit an English port to register their cargo before crossing the Atlantic. Passage between England and Philadelphia ranged from a minimum of 58 days to a maximum of 89 days. The average voyage for these six ships was 71.83 days – 10 weeks and about 2 days.



## Port of Philadelphia

The Ship Loyal Judith sailed from Rotterdam by way of Cowes England with Hans Jurg "George" Schaffer listed as age 40 and \*Johann Baltzer Schaffer listed as age 28. They landed in Philadelphia September 3, 1742.

After landing in Philadelphia, Baltzer and George made their way to Germantown.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Johann Baltzer Schaffer". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, typical of 18th-century documents.

Baltzer's signature on the Oath of Allegiance to his new country.

He and George are listed in the 1742 Census of Philadelphia.

George and his wife Agnessa remained in Germantown. Agnessa was the daughter of Hans George Binder from Geisingen, Wurttemberg, Germany. She married Hans George at the Evangelisch Church in Hohenasperg, Neckareis, Wurttemberg. On the marriage record-George is noted to be a Hungarian soldier. Agnessa's family landed in Philadelphia on the Ship Francis and Elizabeth on Sept. 21, 1742-just weeks after the Loyal Judith containing Balthasar and Hans George. There was also a Johannes Schaefer (no clue to his relationship) on this ship. According to the Philadelphia census 1749-1774-Johannes also remained in Germantown. There is no information on any family for him.

*According to the Pennsylvania Colonial Archives -2<sup>nd</sup> Series,*

Baltzer obtained a marriage license in 1745.

And his November 1745 marriage was found in the church records.( Zion Lutheran Church) Severe laws were passed in the early days of the Province against clandestine marriages, and an act of the Assembly of 1683 proposed a law for

**"young Men's Marrieing at such an age"**. The issuing of a license was not obligatory, but was intended for those cases where the banns were not published or the marrying in church dispensed with, and as a protection to ministers and others performing the ceremonies. The forms of license issued and bond given (during the Revolutionary era) were as follows:

### THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

"Whereas, Application hath been made to Us by **Baltzer Schaeffer & Margaret Conradt** to be joined together in Matrimony, and there appearing no lawful Let or Impediment by Reason of Precontract, Consanguinity, Affinity, or any just Cause whatsoever, to hinder the said Marriage, These are therefore to license and authorize you to join the said couple in the Bands of Matrimony, and them to pronounce Man and Wife. Given under the lesser Seal of the said Commonwealth, at Philadelphia, the 15th Day of November in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and forty five.

**Anna Margareta Conradt** was the daughter of George Conradt. This family arrived on the Ship Loyal Judith November 25, 1740. They were from Otlingen, Wurttemberg, Germany. They settled in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and were members of the Brickerville Congregation-Elizabeth Township

*\*Lancaster County is 60+ miles from Germantown. Baltzer may have known this family while in Germany.*



## First German Reformed Lutheran Church History

**“The wilderness and the solitary places shall be glad for them and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose”**

Pastor John Jacob Hock-Church dedication June 20, 1736

Congregation of German, Swiss and French settlers was formed about 1729. Log Church 1736-Stone building 1753-Brick church 1854.

With the purchases of a hickory grove-now East Orange Street in Lancaster-construction of the log church was completed in 1736 and dedicated by Pastor John Jacob Hock on Pentecost Sunday-it was the first church structure in the city of Lancaster.

In 1746, Michael Schlatter came to the log church within a few weeks of his arrival in America. Preaching here many times, administering communion and baptizing children.

The third annual meeting of the COETUS gathered here in 1749, the first of 17 meetings held in Lancaster. In December of 1749, Rev. Ludwig Vock, “an aged man” arrived in Philadelphia.

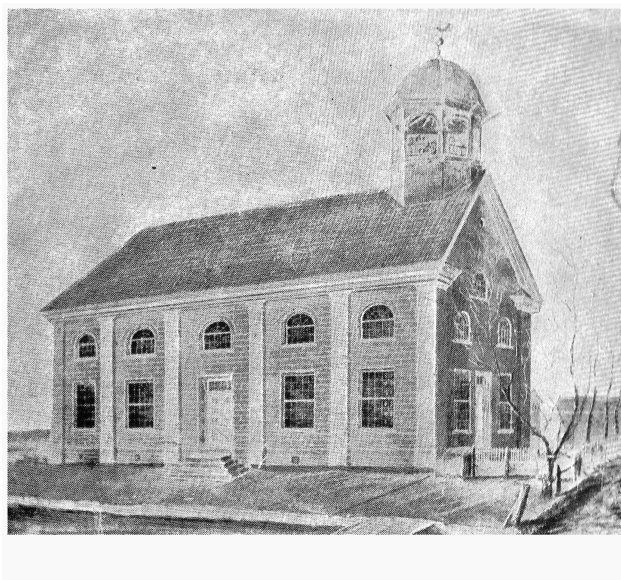
In January, he began his ministry in Lancaster. The minutes of a congregational meeting held January 28, 1750-deciding on payment for pastoral services-such as marriages etc and other pastoral duties –

signed by 20 men-one being **Baltzer Schaeffer. (Palser’s father)**

In 1750, the log church was too small-so in 1752 the building was sold and moved across the street where it was used as a private residence until it was destroyed by fire. It was during the charge of Phillip Wm. Otterbein that the stone church was built. Otterbein was pastor from 1752-1758. It is believed that the Stone Church was dedicated in 1754.

The large oval communion table and chancel furniture are currently a part of the historical display. The engraved locks forged by Peter Keffer of the Stone Church are in use even today.

In 1872, the Lancaster County Circuit gave permission for a change of name to the First Reformed Congregation of the City of Lancaster from the German Reformed. Two daughter congregations were formed due to a disagreement over the use of German or English, St. Paul’s Reformed Church in 1850 and St. John’s German Reformed Church in 1870. Today these congregations have merged to form Church of the Apostles, UCC.





# First German Reformed Church of Lancaster

**Baltzer Schaefer** born June 1716 (approx. year)-Germany-CAME OVER ON LOYAL JUDITH 1742

Buried-December 19,1781

Wills-1785-Baltzer Shaffer, wife-Anna Margaret Schaefer.

Anna Margaret Schaefer-born 1726 in Germany Buried-July 19, 1798 at age 71 years and 9 months.

Children:

- 1.) Catherine 1748
- 2.) Johann Frederick 1749
- 3.) Maria Elizabeth 1753
- 4.) Ann Margaret 1754
- 5.) John George 1756

**6.) Balthasar (PALSER) born 3/14/1759-Baptized 4/16/1759-Confirmed: Easter Sunday 1775-last church record for him here.**

7.) Phillip born 1762-died at age 13-buried August 3, 177

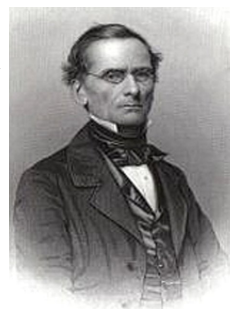
8.) John Phillip born 1766.

## John Phillip Schaeffer-Brother of Palser

From the Lancaster County Historical Society Journal, Volt XIX

**John Phillip Schaeffer**-was a merchant and manufacturer. Advertisement in the Intelligencer Centennial 1794-1894.June 3, 1795,Phillip Schaeffer at the **sign of the mill-saw** in Queen Street, North of the Lancaster Court House has for sale a general assortment of iron mongery,cutlery,saddlery, brass wares, painters-colours, and window glass of all sizes. Schaeffer carries on his nail manufactory as usual."

June 24, 1797, Schaeffer and Badecker inform their friends and the public **that** they have erected a chocolate manufactory in Queen Street where they carry on the said business in a regular and extensive manner." Whether these advertisements failed to catch the trade of the public or whether a larger city offered greater inducements in the way of business is not known but in 1799, Mr. Schaeffer removed to Baltimore, Maryland where he died of yellow fever on September 18, 1800. Widow Elizabeth and family of 2 sons and 3 daughters returned to Lancaster. His youngest son, **Emmanuel** born 1793 was raised by his wife's parents-the Millers. He later became a prominent business man an associate judge in Lancaster.



## Borough of Lancaster

**Lancaster County 1748-1768** The principal town of the county was the Borough of Lancaster, located in the center of the region on Conestoga Creek.

The Borough benefited from its strategic location on the "*Old Philadelphia Pike*" leading to Wright's Ferry. This wagon road, originally laid out in 1733, led west from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River and continued south through Maryland into Virginia. In 1746, there were about 300 houses in town with an estimated population of 1,500. In 1748, the Lutheran minister, Rev. Frederick Handschuh, reported there were "*about 400 houses, with more still being built on account of the good livelihood . . . people still come here, so that in a few years it must probably become a large and populous city.*" In 1752, a committee of the Pennsylvania Assembly reported there were "*311 taxable in the fine Town of Lancaster, a town not much more than twenty years old.*"

From 1756 to 1763 the citizens of Lancaster County prospered from trade contracted for the

British during the French and Indian War. In 1757, Governor Denny and the Indian Chiefs of the Six Nations held an important meeting in Lancaster. In 1759, an official census lists 474 heads of families and a population of 2,840. By 1760, Lancaster, with a population of about 2,900, had grown to become the largest inland town in America. It retained that honor for fifty years, until being replaced by Pittsburgh, the gateway to the Ohio River Valley. Also, Philadelphia was the most populated city in America, a distinction it retained throughout the Eighteenth Century.

The two major ethnic groups in town were the British and the Germans. There are numerous examples of attempts - many successful, some failures -

of the citizens of Lancaster to deal with differences in their cultural backgrounds. The British expected the German immigrants to conform with the English language and culture, to imitate the "*Engellanders*," as the Germans called them. Most of the Germans, called "*Dutchmen*" by the British, refused to relinquish any more of their

language and culture than absolutely necessary. Their church services were conducted in German and their children were instructed in the German language. However, since this was a British colony, all tax lists, election notices, deeds and court proceedings were required to be recorded in English.

In 1752, Samuel Holland and his assistant Heinrich Miller, using a press and

type rented from Benjamin Franklin, began publishing a bi-weekly paper, the bilingual "*Lancasterische Zeitung &*

*Lancaster Gazette*" Its format was parallel columns printed in German and English. The Gazette provided "*Foreign Advices*" and "*Home News*" of the American mainland and the West Indies. Items of commercial interest included advertisements by merchants in Philadelphia which kept the readers current on the prices of goods and services. Prior to the establishment of this paper, Franklin's bilingual publication, "*Hoch-Teutsche und Englishche Zeitung*," was the source of news for Lancaster.

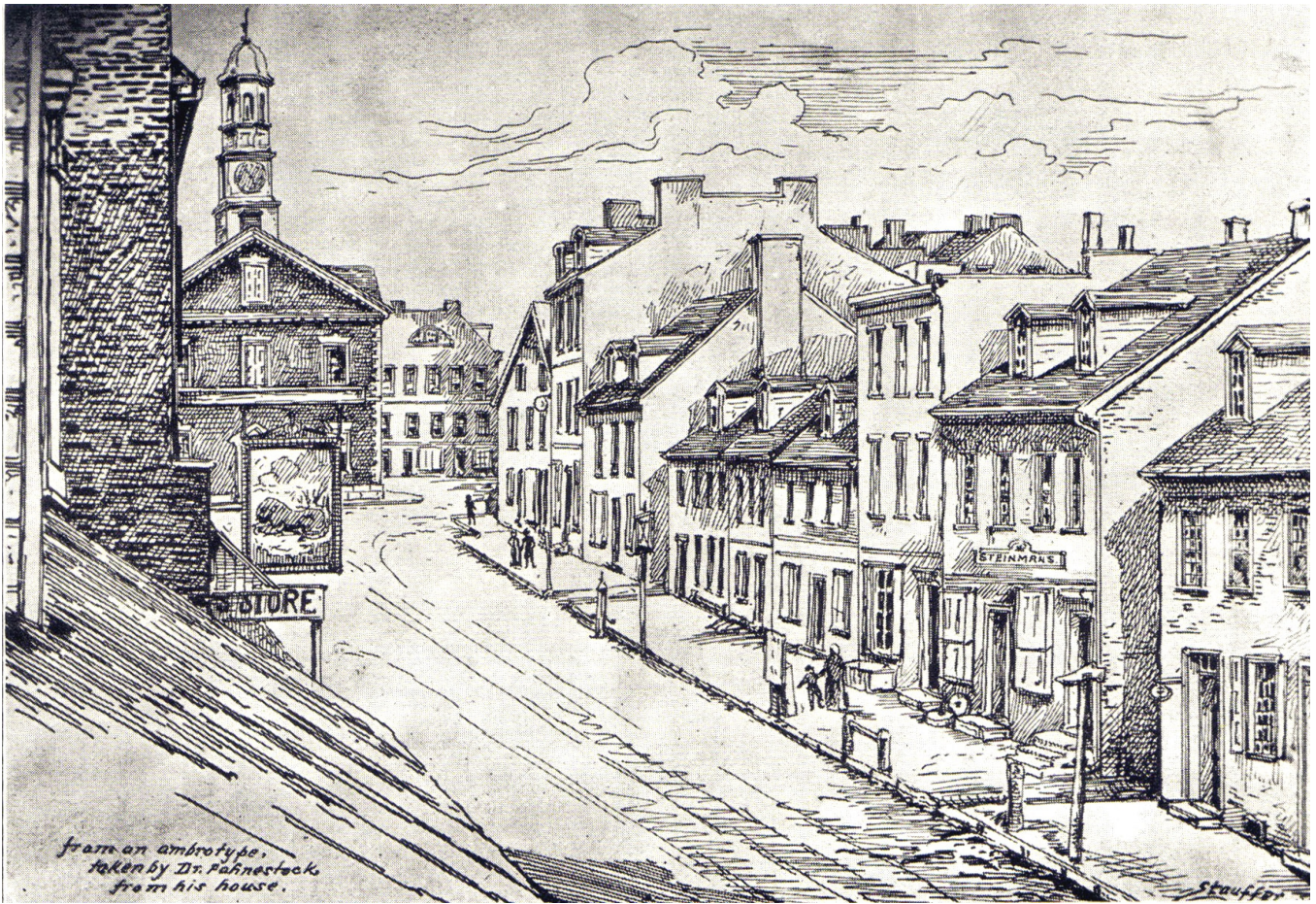
Education was a common issue of importance to all citizens of Lancaster. Throughout the colonial period the church schools constituted the basic agencies for education in the town. The German congregations were the first to support elementary schools. In 1750, the **Reformed Church** opened a schoolhouse and the enrollment grew throughout the decade. In 1762, with money raised by a public lottery, they constructed a larger building. By 1765 eighty children were receiving instruction. The Lutherans were equally dedicated to education. Opened in 1747, their school had ninety students by 1762. The Moravian Church also had a school during this period.

The English congregations had a smaller membership and was less able to support schoolmasters. They established no schools during this period. Some of the British parents, English and Irish, chose to send their children to the German schools. Elementary reading, writing and spelling were taught in both the German in English languages. They taught an ABC book, the books of the Bible and the catechism.

Moral values were impressed on the scholars through a study of religious works, prayer and hymns. External examiners from the hierarchy of the churches visited the schools and tested the students. In 1767, the Rev. Henry Muhlenberg reported "*a fine group of children who were well-instructed in spelling, reading, writing and singing.*"







**Palser's father-Balthasar I, a merchant and Nailsmith  
in the town of Lancaster, died in 1781.**

DEED H154 Michael Fortiney of Lancaster Borough (Butcher) and wife Anna Margaret released to Balsor Shaffer of Lancaster Borough, west side of Queen Street. Lancaster County, PA Deed Books 1729-1770.

And from the above notes - John Phillip (youngest of the family) had inherited the shop on Queen Street

### **German Settlers in the Shenandoah Valley**

German --and German-speaking Swiss-- immigrants became the first settlers west of the Blue Ridge Mountains in 1726, when they crossed the Potomac River a few miles upstream from the mouth of the Shenandoah River and settled the community of Mechlenburg --now the town of Shepherdstown, WV. Most of the early settlers in the valley were of German and Scotch-Irish descent. They established towns along the river and on their farms they raised crops of rye, oats, corn and wheat. Many of the German herdsmen raised cattle for markets as far away as Philadelphia. Quakers established a colony on the Opequon River near Winchester. The valley was large enough and fertile enough for Lutheran, German Reformed, Quaker, Mennonite, Dunkard, and Presbyterian congregations to worship in a land free of the persecution they had suffered in their native countries. It was reported in 1760 that about



20,000 settlers, though lacking many conveniences of the time, were living there *"in a common state of sociability."*

Soon after the end of the French and Indian War, many more Pennsylvanians moved south to Frederick County, Maryland and the large and sparsely settled Virginia frontier in and around the Shenandoah Valley. They were encouraged by the Proclamation of 1763, in which King George III set aside the vast region west of the Allegheny Mountains for the native Indians, leaving the *"Great Valley of Virginia"* --its popular name? open for more settlement.

*\*NOTE-During this early settlement of the Valley-there were Shaver families that settled in Shenandoah County and in the central area of Rockingham County. After researching these families I found them to be no relation to Palser*

## **Baltzer Shaffer-Revolutionary War Soldier**

### **OATHS OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA IN THE TOWN OF LANCASTER-Published Archives of Pennsylvania**

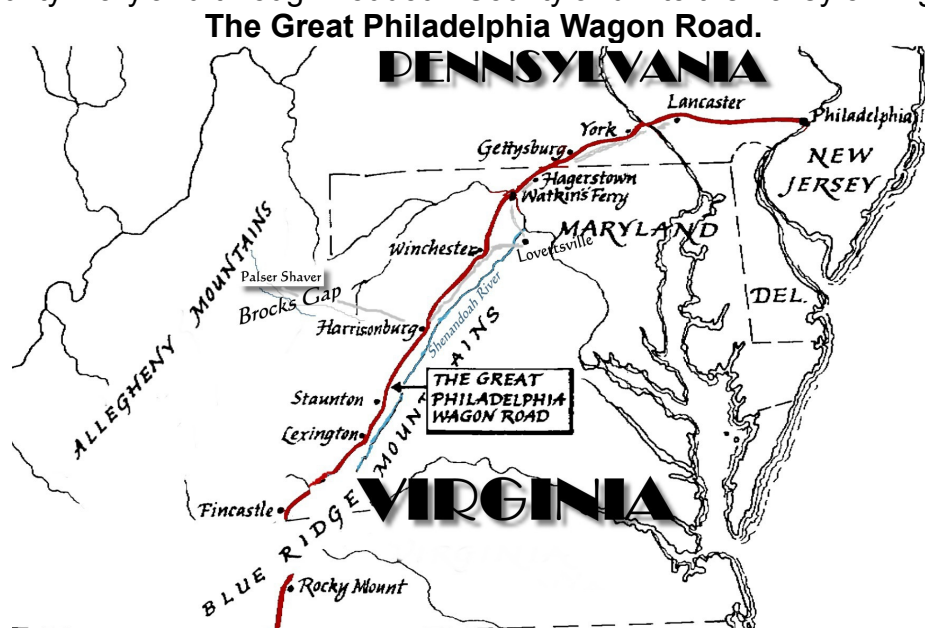
April 6, 1778-**Baltzar** Shaffer and Frederick Shaffer (*brother*)

#### **O' SHENANDOAH**

As the Germans spread through York and Adams County, Pennsylvania and into Maryland, land became scarce---especially for the younger sons and daughters who didn't inherit the family farm, or if they shared the farm-after a couple of splits, it was becoming too small to be profitable. Thus, when Virginia land speculators like Joist Hite and James Patton offered Valley lands, families moved en masse.

By the end of the Revolutionary War, Lancaster County was growing in population causing land to be more at a premium and increasing in prices. Land in the Shenandoah Valley was available and ready for settlement with the Indian populations driven further west.

The major route for the Germans was from Pennsylvania to previous German settlements in Frederick County Maryland-through Loudoun County and into the Valley of Virginia following

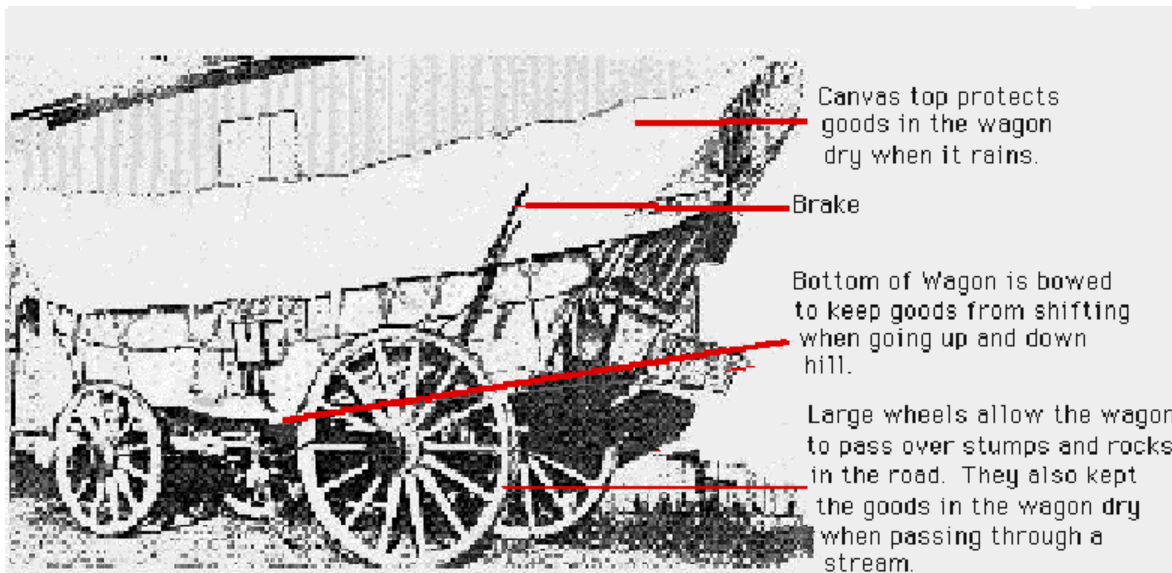


# Balthasar Schaeffer

This is where we find our ancestor-better known to us in the anglicized version as **PALSER SHAVER....**

**\*NOTE**-Names...Balthasar was the name of one of the three Wise Men in the Bible who brought gifts to the baby Jesus. It has never been a common given name in the English-speaking world. Variants: Balthazar, Baldassare, Baltasar. Balthasar was a popular boy's name in Germany during the 1700's. As the German families migrated to the predominantly English New World-their names were becoming anglicized. Balthasar-short form "Balser" was misunderstood by record keepers in Virginia to be Palser and Schaeffer became Shaffer and finally Shaver.

Around 1779, Palser married Catherine--and started a family. In 1781 Palser's father had died and with the ending of the war, it was time for him to set out on his own. Land was scarce and expensive in Pennsylvania, but more land in the Shenandoah was now open for settlement and Palser saw many go down the Wagon Road heading for Virginia. So, Along with his pregnant wife and their daughter, they packed all their belongings in a Conestoga wagon and headed for the Shenandoah.



**The Conestoga Wagon**

They stopped in the German settlement in Loudoun County, VA long enough for Catherine to give birth to their first son, Abraham. It may have been in Loudoun, that Palser heard about the available land in the area known then as “Little Germany”-the western edge of the Brocks Gap area of Rockingham County. Several settlers on their way from Pennsylvania had also made the stop at the German settlement of Lovettsville before migrating to Brocks Gap.

In 1730 following the opening for settlement of the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, many Pennsylvania Dutch went there to establish home and communities. This valley was only a few miles west of the site of present day Lovettsville. A year or so later, 65 or more families came into and settled in the area which now surrounds Whether these people came directly from Pennsylvania or by way of the Shenandoah Valley is not known. What the founders called their new settlement is also not known. However, very shortly “outsiders” began calling it “The German Settlement,” the and name stuck for about 100 years.

Palser and his young family arrived in the Brocks Gap area (already inhabited by many German immigrants) of Rockingham County, VA around 1783.

The Brocks Gap area was still known as “Little Germany” during the 1860’s.

The “Pennsylvania Dutch” dialect-a combination of German and English was still spoken by the elders of this area as late as the 1960’s according to the Pennsylvania German Historical Society.



Picture provided by Pat Ritchie

# **Palser Shaver**

## **EARLY RECORDS IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, VA**

**1785 Road Record:** Conrad Humble, Jacob Custer, Jr. and Paul Kester and Wm Fitzwater were appointed to view for a road from Fitzwater's to Palser Shaver's via Doves and the first surveyor of this precinct was George Dove.

May 1, 1801 **Tithe List** upper Brocks Gap: Feaster, Ruble, Whetzel, Palser Shaver.

### **PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX FOR ROCKINGHAM COUNTY 1787:**

Palser Shaver=3 horses, 6 cattle (only Shaver in Brocks Gap)

According to the book, Virginia Valley Records-the Militia "Voucher" List for 1788 shows him with one tithable and 3 horses. He was the only Shaver in the Brocks Gap area of the county. *A tithable was a taxable person and the military companies were made up of local residents who were capable of armed service when needed.*

1788 Daniel Baker tithable next to Palser.

Jacob May (son of James May?) born 1820-1898 -married Sarah Davis. He lived on the Palser Shaver place. A small cemetery was located on the place between the house and road. Early Shavers are buried there.

### **Land Grant:**

DATE 9 July 1799. NOTE Location: Rockingham County. NOTE Description: 150 acres on the main head of North Shenandoah River in Brocks Gap. NOTE Source: Land Office Grants No. 42, 1798-1799, p. 441 (Reel 108). NOTE Part of the index to the recorded copies of grants issued by the Virginia Land Office. *The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.*

**Catherine Shaver** (daughter of Palser) married Martin Whetzel II in Rockingham County on October 13, 1800. Minister-Ferdinand Lair performed the ceremony. Bondsman: George Dove.

April 23, 1808 - Henry Feaster located 125 acres adjoining Palser Shaver on Cold Spring River . Sold it to Jacob Lantz 1809.

**1795 Road Survey** -the Whetzel River between Feaster and Shaver's and Shaver's field and house.

**Road Record:** 1785 Palser Shaver on "Whetzel Run" marked the termination of a new road along up from Wm. Fitzwater. 1788 Viewers: Conrad Humble, Wm Fitzwater, Paul Kester, Sr. Jacob Custard, Jr. and Surveyor George Dove.

### **1831 The death of PALSER SHAVER-**

1837: Settlement of the Estate of Palser Shaver-

Heirs of Palser: Daniel and Mary Heavener, Martin Wetzel and Catherine (daughter of Palser)- Frederick and Regina (daughter) Shoemaker,

Samuel and Susannah Price-widow Catherine. Abraham, Peter Raderbaugh and wife Mary Molly (daughter), Isaac, George and Palser, Jr.

Sources: deeds, Diary of Elder John Kline-Church of the Brethren minister.\*

## Palser and Catherine Shaver

### Children:

I.) **Catherine Shaver**-around 1780-married Martin Whetzel Oct. 12, 1800 –minister Ferdinand Lair, Bondsman-George Dove-died 1873? Martin was the son of Henry Whetzel and was born around 1780.

**Children of Catherine and Martin:** 1. Jacob, 2. Sarah Hannah Whetzel 1806-1890 married in 1828 Sellestine Whitmar-a minister in the church of the Swiss Brethren and set up his ministry in Lost River, Hardy Cty, WVA-he is mentioned frequently in the diary of Elder John Kline-he was buried in Hardy Cty, WVA,

3. Elizabeth 1809, 4. Mary Catharine 1811, 5. Phoebe ?, 6. Susannah 1817, 7. Jackson 1824 8. Balser born 1826-married Sarah Dove 3/28/1848 in Rockingham County. In the 1850 Rockingham Cty Census-they have 1 son. The parents: Martin and Catharine are living with them. Balser is listed as a farmer with \$400.00 real estate.

II.) **Abraham Shaver**-born in Loudoun County around 1783-1858-wife-Barbara Kepner

### Children of Abraham and Barbara:

1. "Mary" Elizabeth born 1811 married Emanuel Smith in 1836 Emanuel was a farmer and schoolteacher.-he was the son of Lorenzo Frederick Smith. Emanuel was born in 1810.

Children of "Mary" Elizabeth and Emanuel Smith:

Lorenzo Frederick II born 1838. He lived on Shenandoah Mtn. above Bennetts Run.

Jackson born 1837- Death: 1893 in Peru, Hardy Co, W Virginia

Note: Jackson Smith bought 207 acres of land on Nov 9, 1891 from Charles F Nazelrod. The land was located on the South Fork area in W Virginia. Lydia and Jackson moved across the mountain from the Bennett's Run Area. Jackson was a farmer.

Susanna born 1842

Hiram Joel born 1844 Death: 6 SEP 1898 in Fulton Co, Illinois

Zachariah born 1846

Louisa born 1847

Paul born 1849 Death: 18 APR 1937 in Rockingham Co, Virginia

Elizabeth born 1851

Solomon Perry born 1855 married Mary Ann Ritchie of Fulks Run.

Emanuel was in the Civil War with sons Jackson, Hiram Joel, and Lorenzo II.

Emanuel enlisted June 21, 1861 at Luray, VA, and 4 days later, Lorenzo Frederick enlisted.

Emanuel became a member of Boonton's Light Artillery and was assigned to Stonewall

Jackson's army at Winchester during the fall of 1861. Jackson's army was pressed hard-

Emanuel's health broke-infect 1/3 of Jackson's command was out of service due to illness

that fall. Emanuel Company B 7th Calvary-CSA) was sent home to Bennett's Run where he lived until his death in 1880.

2. Isaac Shaver-born 1814-married Malinda Smith July 30, 1836 moved to Grant Cty, WVA after 1860.

3. Rebecca Shaver-born around 1820.

Married Jacob S. Ritchey in Brocks Gap on

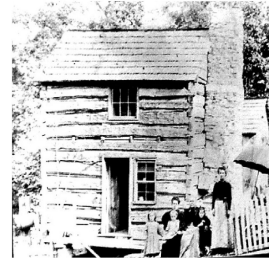
March 25, 1815. Moved to Pennsylvania.

Died before 1900-Blue Knob, Pennsylvania. No children.

4. Sarah Shaver-born 1823 married James L. May and died 1878.

Children of Sarah and James May:

Rebecca May born 1844 and Hannah May born 1846, Elias born 1848.





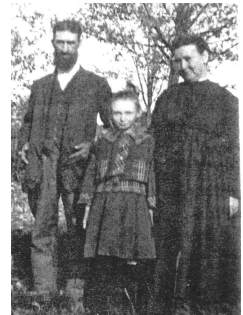
5. Abraham Shaver II born 1825 married Dolly D. Turner 1848- ceremony performed by Elder John Kline. 1850 they were living in the Dry River area of Fulks Run. Abraham served in the army of the Confederacy-Co I-33rd VA Infantry "the Stonewall Brigade"

Children: Samuel- born 1852,

Benjamin (married Catherine Lantz Caplinger 1856), Silas born 1862, Mary-born 1865, Lewis born 1867.

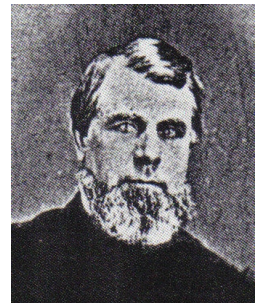
6. Catharine Shaver born 1827 married Joseph Siever lived in Fulks Run Children: Julia, Silas, and Annie.

7. Mary Magdaline (Modeline) Shaver born 1829-single-son Ambrose born 1849-Angeline born 1850.



Silas Shaver

**NOTE: Elder John Kline**, who lived from 1797 to 1864, was a noted Brethren doctor, writer, churchman, farmer, inventor and minister. His diaries, edited and published many years after his death, record his travels of more than 100,000 miles in his ministry to the sick and suffering. Kline's journeys often took him into northern states during the Civil War. Kline, who lived in Virginia, was a vocal opponent of slavery and became the target of Confederate guerrillas. No one was charged or convicted for his murder.



**III.) Isaac Shaver**-around 1784-1828-wife-Mary Hyre.

**Children of Isaac and Mary:**

1. Abraham born 1807 in Rockingham County-married Margaret Malson, lived in Lewis County-(now WVA).Children: 1.) James Ervin born 1834 2.) Marietta born 1835

3.) Lucinda-born 1837 4.) Asa Lee born 1846

2. Jacob born Feb. 28, 1810 in Rockingham County-married Eliza Loyd-died at his home in Braxton Cty-buried in the Shaver Cemetery on his farm.

3. Paulser-born June 10, 1811 in Rockingham Cty-died Dec. 30, 1871 in Braxton County-married Elizabeth Gillespie 1837 and Angeline Westfall #2.Sarah "Sally" born 1/17/1820 married Allen Skidmore.

4. Jesse born July 18, 1816 married Matilda Squires 1818 in Braxton County.

5. Sarah "Sally" born January 7, 1820 in Braxton County-married Allen Skidmore.

**IV.) Jacob Shaver** born 1785 wife Patsy Lamb

**Children of Jacob and Patsy:**

1 .) Samuel-born 1825, 2.) John, 3.) Jonathan D.,4.) Michael-3 daughters names Elizabeth (Hershberger) Sophia,and Mrs . Gordon. source=Rockingham Chancery Court records-George B. Shaver will

**V.) Regina Rachael Shaver**-born 1787 married George Frederick Shoemaker September 8, 1807. Palser Shaver was Bondsman. **Children or Regina and George:** Jonathan, Sarah, Jonas, Julia Ann, Nancy, Susan, Isaac.

**V.) George B. Shaver** born June 27-1790-died June 2, 1873. He lived in the Cherry Grove area of Rockingham County. His will left possessions to his surviving brothers and sisters. George is buried in the Linville Creek Church of the Brethren.Cemetery.

**VI.) Balser Shaver II** born 1792, died 1867-Muster Rolls of Va (entitled to land bounty under the act of Congress 9/28/1850) Militia, fought in War of 1812-moved to Pendelton County, VA "Sweedlin Valley"-across the Shenandoah Mountain from Brocks Gap. In 1816, Balser married Anna Christina Mitchell.

**Children of Balser and Anna:**

1. Alexander M. Shaver-born 1818 in Criders, VA (Brocks Gap area of Rockingham County VA.) Death: July 1877 in Randolph County, Indiana.
2. John Shaver-born Jan. 1822 in Brocks Gap-Death: Apr. 1891 in Randolph Cty, Indiana. Military Service: May 1864-153<sup>rd</sup> Ohio National Guard Infantry, Co. F Camp Dennison, Ohio.
3. Isabella Shaver born 1825 in Criders, VA. In the 1870 Census, she is living with her sister & brother-in-law (James and Elizabeth Iman) in Vermillion Co, Indiana. She is listed as a Domestic Servent-age 48-born in Virginia.
4. Simon Shaver-born 1825 in Criders, VA. Death: Feb. 1880 in Sweedlin Valley, Pendleton Cty, WVA.
5. Ephraim Shaver-born Dec. 1826 in Pendelton Cty, WVA. Death: June 1902 in Randolph Cty, Indiana.

In the 1860 Pendelton County Census-Balser was 68 years old-a farmer and his son, Simon and his family were living with him-his wife had already died.

**VII.) Susannah Shaver** was born about 1796 on Feb. 4, 1830-she married Samuel Price-minister was Jacob Harshbarger. Samuel was the son of David Price-an early settler of Brocks Gap.(they moved to Montanna according to local tradition-another researcher says Susannah was Samuel's 2nd wife and they moved to Seneca County Ohio where his oldest son was-he died between 1858-59. Susannah was still living after 1873 since her Brother George Shaver willed her a share of his property.

**VIII.) Mary "Molise" Shaver** was born between 1800-1805 and died about 1830. About 1824, she married Daniel Hevener-son of George and Eva Hevener. After 6 years of marriage-Mary died leaving 4 infant children. July of 1831, Daniel married Julia Ann Smith-daughter of Frederick Smith in Rockingham. Daniel was in the Rockingham county Tithables in 1820 on the road between Jacob Caplinger and Abraham Feaster and Abraham Shaver. He might have been living with Palser Shaver. He is not found in Rockingham after 1837 possibly moved to Pendelton County. Rockingham County Court Minutes on June 19, 1837-ordered Daniel to be appointed Guardian for his **Children of Molise and Daniel:** William, Susana, Catherine and George by his late wife Mary Shaver Hevener of Palser Shaver deceased. (Palser Shaver's estate was being settled and Daniel's children had to have guardianship for their share of the estate which was settled Sept 5, 1837.) Mary's tombstone: "May bourn 1795 departed her life April 11x1831."

*\*Note-Primitive hand carved tombstones were found on what had been Palser's property in the 1960's by the current owner Mr. Dove. These stones were for Palser and one for his daughter Mary "Molise"...As of this writing -I do not believe the birthdates to be correct for either---I believe the stones (in English) were carved a long time after their deaths and birth dates were estimated.*

**XIX.) Hannah Shaver**-born 1810 married William Philips(a farmer) 1841 in Rockingham County and moved to Iowa-Source Ancestry.com 1880 Census-Clinton Iowa

**Children:** 1.) Hannah E. born 1847 2.) John E. born 1856 3.) Cornelia born 1862



**X.) Mary Molly Shaver** born 1808 married Peter Raderbaugh-Mary Hyer's uncle. Peter purchased Palser's land in 1832 after his death.  
Peter's father= Johan Heinrich Radabaugh born 1725 married Anna Riege-from Barweiler, Germany. Settled -Hampshire County. Mary's Mother=Catherine.

**XII.) Samuel Shaver**-born 1807-married Margaret Pence. They were living in Rockingham County in 1850 and had 10 kids. Buried in Greenmount Brethren Church –row 004.

**Children of Samuel and Margaret:**

Martha Shaver, b. 1834, Rockingham Cty, VA.

John F. Shaver, b. 1836, Rockingham Cty, VA. (Wife: Sophia) died 1891 age 45

Mary E. Shaver, b. 1838, Rockingham Cty, VA.

William Shaver, b. 1842, Rockingham Cty, VA.

Frances Shaver, b. 1844, Rockingham Cty, VA

Luella V. Shaver, b. Rockingham Cty

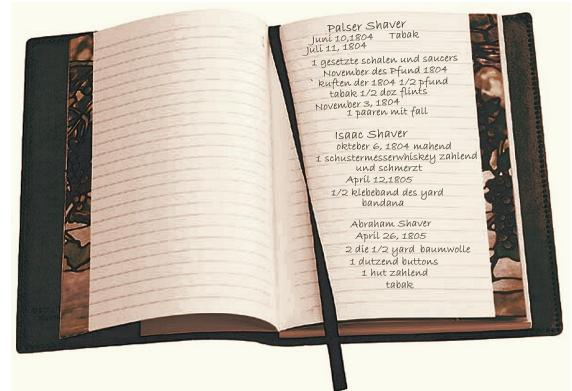
# Michael Baker General Store Accounts

This ledger was written in German and only recently translated.

Payment made in pounds /shillings and pence-English money. Store located at Lairs Run-intersection of 259 and Rt 921---about 7 miles from Shaver's land.

## Palser Shaver

July 11, 1804-1 set cups and saucers  
 June 10, 1804-1 pound tobacco  
 November 1804-1/2 pound tobacco  
 1/2 doz flints  
 November 3, 1804- 3 1/2 pints whiskey  
 January 1805-1 pair spectacles with case  
 3 1/2 pints whiskey  
 April 12, 1805-store bought 1 hide and 1 calf skin  
 June 14, 1811-1 oz indigo



## Isaac Shaver

July 6, 1804 -1/4 tobacco  
 July 10, 1804-Isaac was paid for 3 days reaping  
 He purchased 1/2 pound of tobacco (Abraham, Polly,  
 and Conrad Grumit also paid for 3 days reaping.)  
 July 11, 1804-1 sythe  
 August 1, 1804-1 chunk tobacco  
 August 2, 1804-1 pound of tobacco  
 1 pen knife  
 Isaac was paid for 4 1/2 days mowing  
 October 6, 1804  
 1 Shoemaker knife  
 whiskey and ails  
 November 3, 1804-1 pound of tobacco  
 November 26, 1804-1 pound of tobacco  
 April 12, 1805  
 1 bandana-1 yard tape  
 1/2 pint brandy 1 pint brandy  
 June 3, 1805-1/2 pint wine  
 July 25, 1805-1/2 pound powder

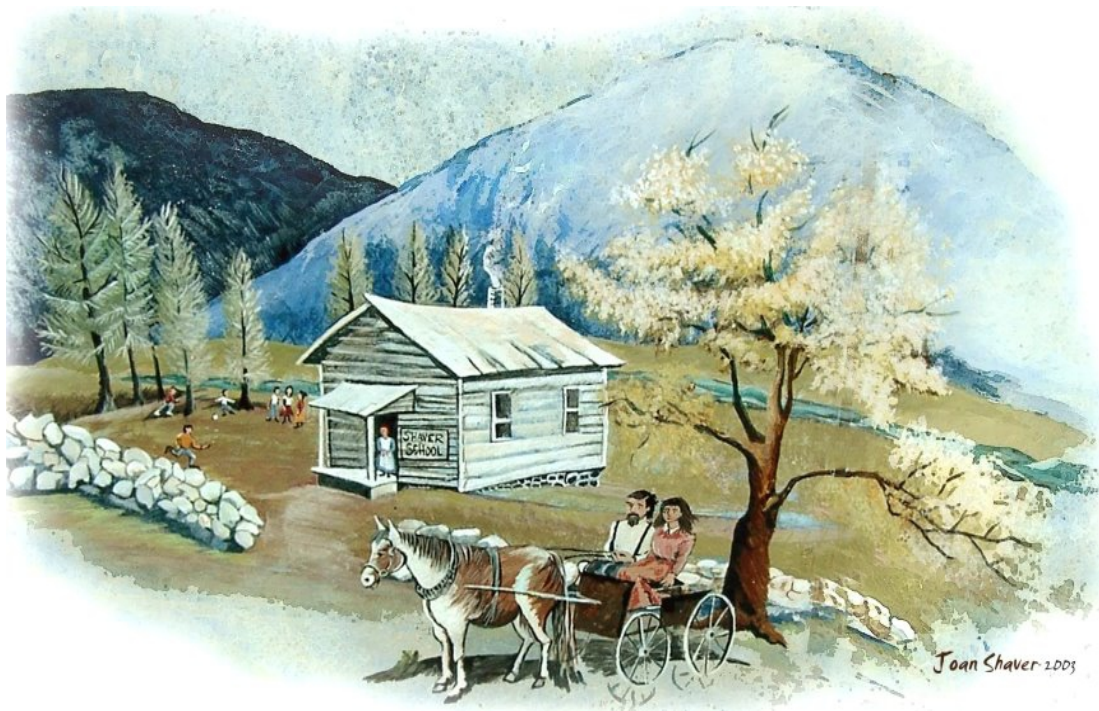
## Abraham Shaver

June 2, 1804-1 pint wine  
 July 10, 1804 Abraham was paid for 3 days reaping  
 Purchased 1/2 pound of tobacco  
 July 27, 1804-1 chunk of tobacco  
 April 26, 1805- 2 1/2 yards cotton  
 2 yards muslen  
 1 dozen buttons August 27, 1805-1 hat

## The Shaver School

The Shaver School was located near the Plains-Linville District line west of Bergton on Shaver Mountain. Presumably the school opened for the 1885-86 school session. Superintendent George Hulvey, in his 1886 account of a visit to the schools of northwest Rockingham County noted-

"We have the pleasure now of following the big river (German River), crossing it sometimes twice in a hundred yards. Not far down the stream is Shaver's school-house, No. 35. There were only seven pupils present here, partly on account of the inclement weather and high water. The same plea can be made for the attendance in several other schools. On entering No. 35, we found them delving into the hidden mysteries of a, b, c and spelling, with Mr. John Brady at the head." The Shaver School served the neighborhood for over fifty years, closing in 1938.







### **MY ANCESTOR-ISAAC SHAVER**

Isaac (son of Palser) married Mary Hyer (daughter of Leonard and Catherine Radabaugh Hyer).

After selling his land in Rockingham County, Isaac, his family and brother in law Christian Hyer, moved in one covered wagon to what is now Braxton County, West Virginia. The country was then sparsely settled, wild game abounded. The gentlemen had come out in the spring of 1816, planted their crops and returned with their families in the fall of 1816.

### **Children of Isaac Shaver and Mary:**

**1. ABRAHAM** born 1807 in Rockingham Cty., Va. Died probably during the 1860's-married Margaret Malson March 14 1834 (Lewis Co., WVA records)

**\*2. JACOB SHAVER** born Feb. 28, 1810 in Rockingham Cty., Va.-died October 16, 1884 at his home on Cedar Creek, Braxton Cty, WVA-married Eliza Loyd June 1, 1834 at Flatwoods, WVA. Jacob and Eliza are buried in the Shaver Cemetery on their farm.

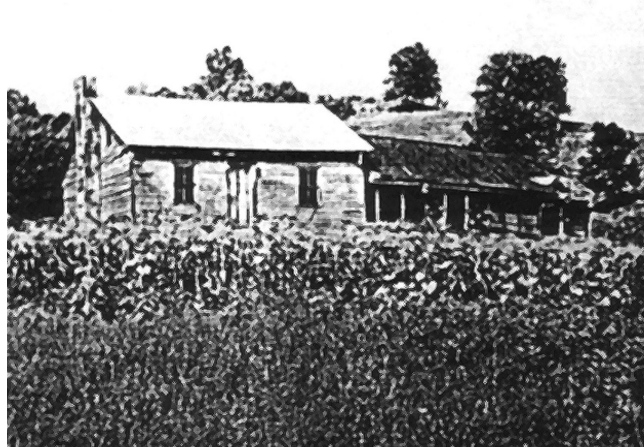
**3. PAULSER** born June 10, 1811 in Rockingham Cty., Va.died December 30, 1871 in Braxton Cty., WVA-married about 1837 to Elizabeth Gillespie who was born about 1818 in Bath Cty., VA.(daughter of John + Comfort (Griffith) Gillespie)  
After Elizabeth's death,Paulser married #2 Angeline Westfall –born about 1837.

**4. CATHERINE** born September 16, 1813 in Rockingham County, VA. Died July 13, 1884 in Braxton Cty, WVA-married Edmund Barker, born about 1813-died July 4, 1871 in Braxton Cty. (Son of James and Cecilia Barker)

**5. JESSE** born July 18, 1816 in Rockingham County, VA-died May 22, 1903, Flatwoods, Braxton CTY, WVA-died May 2, 1892 in Braxton Cty, WVA(daughter of Col. Asa + Sarah (Eastip) Squires.

**6. SARAH "Sally"** born January 7, 1820 in Braxton Cty., WVA (then Lewis Cty., VA) died May 29, 1851 in Braxton Cty, WVA-married on March 4, 1841 in Braxton Cty. To Allen Skidmore-born January 27, 1821-died November 1883(Son of Andrew+ Margaret (Hudkins) Skidmore.

Isaac's Home



**ISAAC SHAVER** died in 1828 and his will is recorded in Lewis County, WVA. It was written on June 21, 1828 and was probated in the October term of court that year. Isaac and his eldest son, Abraham Shaver, signed with their marks. Christian Hyer, another witness, signed his name. In the will, Isaac left all to his wife, Mary, so long as she remained a widow and until all of their children came of age. All six of the children were still at home at that time. Each of the four Sons was to receive a horse and the two Daughters each to receive a cow, a spinning wheel and a bed. The appraisement bill for his estate shows that he owned two horses, two mares, one colt, thirteen hogs, eighteen head of sheep, five cows, two heifers, seven calves, fourteen geese, several tools, one gun and some furniture. Among the buyers at the Estate Sale were Palser Shaver and Palser Shaver, Jr. (Isaac's family from Rockingham County, VA)

Mary Hyer Shaver remained a widow until her death on August 8, 1868 at the age of 87. She lived with her youngest son –Jesse and his family. On March 25 1843 she had made a deed giving her part of the land to Jesse. The deed stated that Mary “would choose to live and stay with her son, Jesse Shaver, that the said Jesse, instead of paying his Mother Mary...binds himself to care for her.” She signed the deed with her X mark..

Isaac and Mary (Hyer) Shaver were both buried in a family cemetery on their property. Their son, Jesse Shaver, retained this property until his death. He gave instructions in his 1903 Will regarding the cemetery stating, “I give and bequeath one eighth of an acre of land including the graveyard where my father and mother and children are buried and same to be exempt from any sale or purchase that may be made on the farm after my decease and I desire the graveyard to be kept enclosed by whosoever may own or occupy my farm.”

This may be the cemetery now known as the Flatwoods Cemetery. Jesse, his wife and some of his children have gravestones there. There are no stones for his children who died in infancy or his parents. An elderly gentleman who lives near by said that an old cemetery had been destroyed and farmed over in recent years.

Sources: Rockingham County, VA Deeds, Hardy County, WV Wills, Randolph County, WV Marriages, Lewis County, WV Deeds & Wills, Braxton County, WV Deaths, Deeds and Wills, WV Heritage Encyclopedia, Vol III.

Isaac and Jacob information from The **Isaac Shaver Family** by Carol Garvin,





## **Jacob Shaver**

Jacob was born in 1810 and married Eliza Lloyd in 1834. They had 16 children.  
Jacob was elected a school trustee for Otter District in 1868 and he served for 6 years.

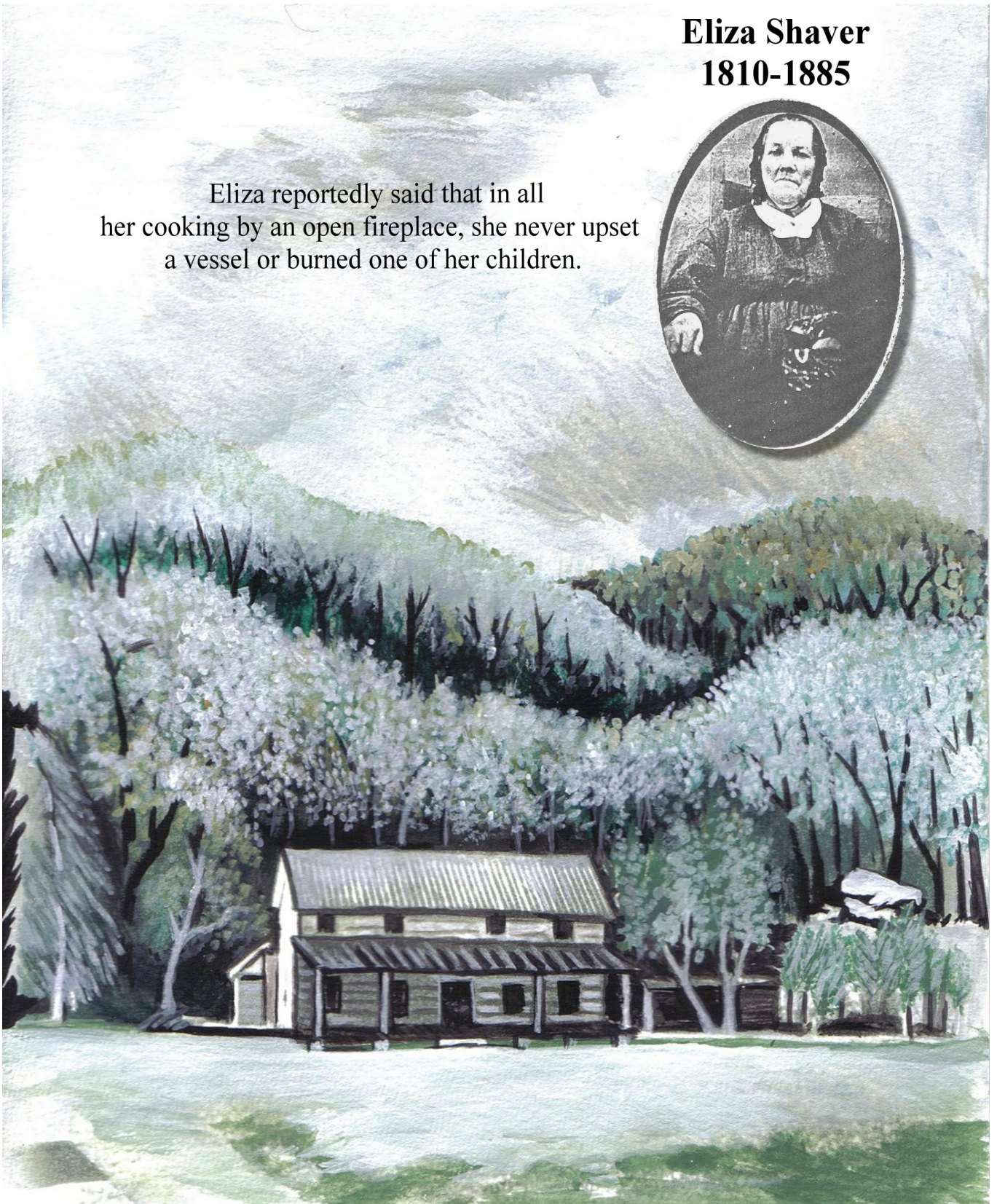
### **Children of Jacob and Eliza:**

Juliann Shaver 1835  
Isaac Loyd Shaver 1836  
Lucretia Shaver 1837  
Havilah Zinn Shaver 1839  
Willis Peterson Shaver 1840  
Manerva Shaver 1841  
Harvey Fletcher Shaver 1843  
Franklin Fisher Shaver 1844  
Morgan Dyer Shaver 1845  
Addison M. Shaver 1847  
Mary Shaver 1849  
Allen Shaver 1850  
Johnson Elliott Shaver 1852  
Indiana Shaver 1853  
Wesley B. Shaver 1855  
Dexter Baxter Shaver 1857



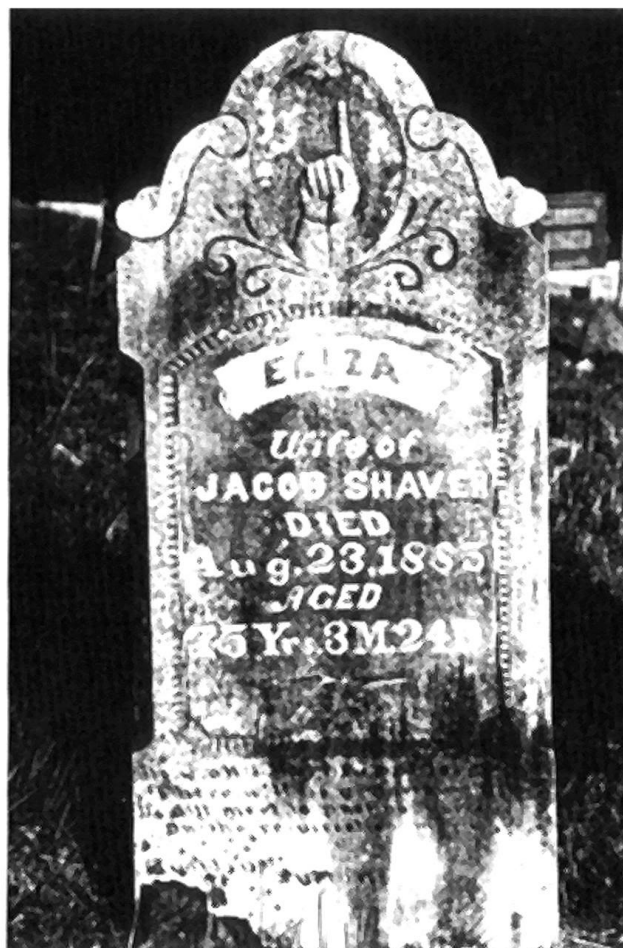
**Eliza Shaver**  
**1810-1885**

Eliza reportedly said that in all her cooking by an open fireplace, she never upset a vessel or burned one of her children.





Jacob and Eliza were buried in the Shaver Cemetery overlooking their home.



# **THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR**

## **THE SHAVER FAMILY**

### **A FAMILY DIVIDED**



In the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, lush mountain landscapes, rolling green farmland, and small towns today appear much as they did a century and a half ago. But despite its natural beauty and seeming tranquility, the valley has seen war and devastation.

It was a region of central importance during the Civil War and the site of a long chain of fierce battles. Throughout the war, Union and Confederate forces fought for control of the Shenandoah Valley, where a total of 325 armed conflicts took place. Residents endured occupation by both armies. The town of Winchester alone changed hands 70 times! The Confederate Army relied on food from Shenandoah farmlands, and the valley also provided a transportation corridor to the North, screened by the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Its strategic importance made the valley the site of major military campaigns. During his Valley Campaign of 1862, still studied for its shrewd use of geography, Stonewall Jackson defeated three Union armies in three months and thereby diverted Union attention from the Confederate capital at Richmond.

Philip Sheridan's 1864 campaign wrought "total war," devastating the valley's agricultural capacity and bringing the war there to an end. The effects of "the Burning" can still be seen on buildings throughout the Shenandoah region.

## **A Short History of the 7th Virginia Cavalry**



The 7th Virginia Cavalry was originally organized by Colonel Angus W.

McDonald, Sr., in the early part of 1861. The regiment spent that year operating in the neighborhood of Harpers Ferry and Romney, West Virginia. However, by the spring of 1862, the 7th Virginia Cavalry, was more frequently called "Ashby's Cavalry" although he had brought only Company A, the Mountain Rangers to it in 1861. The 7th Virginia Cavalry served with Gen. T.J. "Stonewall" Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1862. Here they were very active. In one 28 day period they fought 32 separate actions. Jackson called Ashby one of the finest partisan officers of the war.

**Lorenzo Frederic Smith II** (son of Emanuel Smith & Mary Shaver) enlisted June 1861 with the 14<sup>th</sup> Company-7<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry. Captured in Shenandoah Cty-the following day went to Baltimore by rail. Sent to the Chesapeake Bay by steamer and held at Fort Delaware. Exchanged at Aikens Landing in 1862-later assigned to Company C, 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry.

Lorenzo moved on top of the Shenandoah Mountain in 1868-he built a log cabin where he and his wife Mary Catherine Dove settled with their 8 children. Lorenzo served as constable of Brocks Gap Township in 1870. He died in August of 1880 at the age of only 42. He is buried in the Smith Cemetery in Bennetts Run.



Lorenzo Smith II

# The Dixie Artillery

## A Brief History of the Battery



John Kaylor Booton, the Dixie Artillery was formed on June 21, 1861 in Page County, Virginia. Due to lack of supplies and horses, the battery did not join Joseph E. Johnston's army until August 30. Within three months of their arrival, Captain Booton was elected to the Virginia State Legislature and turned over the command to the spearhead behind the battery's original formation, William Henry Chapman.

Brigaded initially with the famous Washington (Louisiana) Artillery, the Page County battery was soon in the field, late in the following spring. Under fire first at the Battle of Gaines Mill, the Dixie Artillery received its first true baptism under fire and took their first losses at the Battle of Frazier's Farm on June 30, 1862. Following the Seven Days battles, the Dixie Artillery was brigaded with General Winfield Scott Featherston's Mississippians and continued to serve with them for the duration of the battery's existence.

From Richmond, the Page County battery followed with its brigade, later being exposed to fire again at the Battle of Rappahannock Station on August 23. In command of a section of the battery's guns, Captain Chapman's brother, 1st Lieutenant Samuel Forrer Chapman commanded the battery's three-inch rifle and twelve pound Napoleon in the artillery duel that ensued.

In the days that followed, the battery continued on with the Army of Northern Virginia to the plains of Manassas where the battery was heavily engaged and played a significant role in the repulse of the Federal advance upon the "Stonewall" Jackson's lines in the railroad grade. From Manassas, the Dixie Artillery followed the army again in its move into Maryland but was not engaged in the following battle at Sharpsburg (Antietam) on September 17. In the retreat that followed, the battery was engaged however at action near Boteler's Ford on September 9.

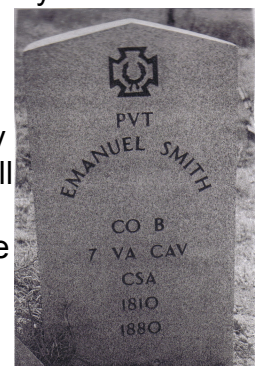
Under permission to recruit new members in Page County, Captain Chapman left the battery for a few days. However, upon his return, the young captain was surprised to find that his Dixie Artillery had been disbanded as a part of the Army of Northern Virginia's artillery reorganization.

While a majority of the men were reassigned to the Purcell Artillery, several others made their way into the ranks of various other units including the 10th, 22nd, 33rd, and 53rd Virginia Infantry, the 6th, 7th, 12th, 14th, 23rd and 39th Battalion Virginia Cavalry.

**Emanuel Smith**-youngest son of Lorenzo Frederick Smith-Husband of Mary Shaver (daughter of Abraham-grand daughter of Palser)

Emanuel "Mann" was large in statue-he enlisted on June 21, 1861 at Luray, VA. This was only 4 days before his son -Lorenzo Frederick entered Confederate Service. Emanuel became a member of Bootons Light Artillery and was assigned to Stonewall Jackson's army at Winchester during the fall of 1861. Jackson's army was pressed hard. Emanuel's health broke-he was over 50 years of age. In fact, 1/3 of Jackson's command were out of service due to illness that fall. Emanuel was sent home to Bennetts Run where he lived until his death in 1880.

Sons (Jackson, Hiram, Joel and Lorenzo II)





## 18<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Virginia Cavalry



18th Cavalry Regiment was organized in December, 1862. Most of its members had served in the 1st Regiment Virginia Partisan Rangers (subsequently the 62nd Regiment Virginia Infantry). The unit was assigned to Imboden's and W.L. Jackson's Brigade and after the participating in the [Gettysburg](#) Campaign, skirmished the Federals in western Virginia. Later it served in the Shenandoah Valley and disbanded during April, 1865. The field officers were Colonel George W. Imboden, Lieutenant Colonel David E. Beall, and Major Alex. Monroe.

Sons of Emanuel Smith-grandson of Mary Shaver Smith

**Hiram J. Smith**-18<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry Regiment

**Jackson**

**Joel**

**Lorenzo II** -7<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry

## 33rd Virginia Infantry-A Brief History of the Regiment



They sprouted in the Shenandoah Valley and adjoining counties, these ten companies that gained undying fame as the 33rd Virginia Infantry Regiment. Single came from counties such as [Page](#), [Rockingham](#), [Frederick](#), Hampshire, and Hardy.

Mostly they were products of the soil and accustomed to the use of firearms. Picking off Yankees was as natural to them as bringing off wild game. And when Virginia declared open season on invading bluecoats, her sons responded swiftly and eagerly.

They were young - one was only 14 - and they were old - one was 62 - and they were fiercely independent. For whatever reasons suited them, or for no reason at all, they deserted in appalling numbers. In the first six months of 1862, a period embracing the Valley Campaign and the Seven Days Battles around Richmond, 158 men took leave without permission. The ranks were full of names that suggested the Scotch-Irish stock that settled the Great Valley of Virginia, and the Germans who migrated into the area from Pennsylvania. There also was a pure Irish strain which was provided by the Sons of Erin who helped construct the Manassas Gap Railroad around New Market. These immigrants composed the colorful "Emerald Guard," or Company E. When there was no enemy in their front, the pugnacious Irishmen remained in battle trim by fighting among themselves.

The regiment was commanded by colonels covering a wide spectrum, from Arthur C. Cummings, a veteran of the Mexican War, through John Neff, the son of a pacifist minister, and Frederick W.M. Holliday, a Winchester lawyer, and down to its last commander, Abraham Spengler, a diminutive carpenter from Hardy County.

The regiment fought with distinction in its first major engagement, at Manassas in 1861, and never wavered in the years that followed.

### Companies of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Infantry

A - Potomac Guards (Hampshire Co.)

B - Toms Brook Guard ([Shenandoah Co.](#))

C - Tenth Legion Minute Men/Shenandoah Riflemen ([Shenandoah Co.](#))

D - Mountain Rangers (Winchester, Frederick Co.)

E - Emerald Guard (Shenandoah Co.)

F - Independent Greys/Hardy Greys (Hardy Co.)

G - Mount Jackson Rifles ([Shenandoah Co.](#))

[H - Page Grays](#) ([Page Co.](#)) I - Rockingham Confederates (Rockingham Co.) K - Shenandoah Riflemen ([Shenandoah Co.](#))

After the Stonewall Brigade, of which the 33rd was part, was annihilated at Spotsylvania Court House, remnants of the regiment were united with survivors of 13 other decimated Virginia units to form William Terry's Brigade.

In this role, members of the 33rd followed their battle standard to the finish. At Appomattox Court House only 15 remained to receive paroles, all that was left of the regiment whose four-year muster roll carried more than 1,300 names.

**Abraham Shaver II** -Company F-son of Abraham -grandson of Palser

**William Shaver**-Company G-Corporal-son of Samuel-grandson of Palser

## **Tenth West Virginia-Volunteer Infantry Regiment**

*From Compendium of the War of the Rebellion by Frederick Dyer*



Organized at Camp Pickens, Canaan, Glenville, Clarksville, Sutton, Philippi and Piedmont March 12 to May 18, 1862. Attached to Cheat Mountain District, Mountain Department, to May, 1862. Railroad District, Mountain Department, to July, 1862. Railroad District, 8th Corps, Middle Department, to September, 1862. Railroad Division, West Virginia, to January, 1863. Milroy's Command, Winchester, Va., 8th Army Corps, to February, 1863. 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 8th Army Corps, to March, 1863. Averell's 4th Separate Brigade, 8th Army Corps, Middle Department, to June, 1863. Averell's 4th Separate Brigade, Dept. West Virginia, to December, 1863. 1st Brigade, 4th Division, West Virginia, to April, 1864. Kelly's Command, Reserve Division, West Virginia, to July, 1864. 1st Brigade, 1st Division; West Virginia, July, 1864. 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, West Virginia, to December, 1864. 3rd Brigade, Independent Division, 24th Army Corps, Army of the James, to June, 1865. 2nd Brigade, Independent Division, 24th Army Corps, to August, 1865. **SERVICE:** At Monterey April, 1862. Assigned to railroad guard duty in Railroad District, District of West Virginia, till January, 1863; at Beverly, Bulltown, Martinsburg, etc. Expedition from Summersville to Addison April 17-21, 1862. Skirmish at Holly River, W. Va., April 17. Mung's Flats June 25. Buckhannon August 30. Sutton September 23. Big Birch October 6. Wardensville December 22. At Winchester, Va., January, 1863. At Beverly May, 1863. Scout to Beverly June 16. Action at Beverly July 2-3. At Martinsburg August, 1863. Averell's Raid through Hardy, Pendleton, Bath, Highland, Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties August 5-31. Rocky Gap near White Sulphur Springs August 26-27. Sutton August 26 (Cos. "G," "I"). Bell's Mills and on Elk River August 27 (Detachment). Bulltown, Braxton County, October 13. Averell's Raid against Lewisburg and the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad November 1-17. Mill Point November 5. Droop Mountain November 6. Hillsboro November 10. At Beverly till May, 1864; scouting Counties of Randolph, TAt Monterey April, 1862. Assigned to railroad guard duty in Railroad District, District of West Virginia, till January, 1863; at Beverly, Bulltown, Martinsburg, etc. Expedition from Summersville to Addison April 17-21, 1862. Skirmish at Holly River, W. Va., April 17. Mung's Flats June 25. Buckhannon August 30. Sutton September 23. Big Birch October 6. Wardensville December 22. At Winchester, Va., January, 1863. At Beverly May, 1863. Scout to Beverly June 16. Action at Beverly July 2-3. At Martinsburg August, 1863. Averell's Raid through Hardy, Pendleton, Bath, Highland, Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties August 5-31. Rocky Gap near White Sulphur Springs August 26-27. Sutton August 26 (Cos. "G," "I"). Bell's Mills and on Elk River August 27

(Detachment). Bulltown, Braxton County, October 13. Averell's Raid against Lewisburg and the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad November 1-17. Mill Point November 5. Droop Mountain November 6. Hillsboro November 10. At Beverly till May, 1864; scouting Counties of Randolph, TAt Monterey April, 1862. Assigned to railroad guard duty in Railroad District, District of West Virginia, till January, 1863; at Beverly, Bulltown, Martinsburg, etc. Expedition from Summersville to Addison April 17-21, 1862. Skirmish at Holly R  
LOSSES: Regiment lost during service 2 Officers and 93 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 2 Officers and 144 Enlisted men by disease. Total 241.

## **22nd Regiment, Virginia Infantry (1st Kanawha Regiment)**



22nd Infantry Regiment, formerly known as the 1st Kanawha Regiment, was organized and accepted into **Confederate** service in July, 1861. Its members were from the counties of Jackson, Craig, Nicholas, Alleghany, Wyoming, and Boone. The 22nd saw action at [Carnifex Ferry](#) and later lost twenty-one percent of the 550 engaged at [Droop Mountain](#). It was assigned to Echols' and Patton's Brigade, participated in the Shenandoah Valley operations, and disbanded during the spring of 1865. The field officers were Colonels George S. Patton and C.Q. Tompkins; Lieutenant Colonels Andrew R. Barbee, William A. Jackson, and John C. McDonald; and Majors Robert A. Bailey and Isaac N. Smith.

**James Ervin Shaver** -Company D-Son of Abraham-Grandson of Isaac and Mary Hyre

## **9th Battalion, Virginia Reserves (2nd Battalion, Valley Reserves)**



Men often enlisted in a company recruited in the counties where they lived though not always. After many battles, companies might be combined because so many men were killed or wounded.

**Samuel Shaver**-Company C-son of Jacob Shaver and Grandson of Palser.





## **Tenth West Virginia**



Harvey Shaver



Willis Shaver



Morgan Shaver

**Sons of Jacob Shaver,  
Great Grandsons of Palser Shaver**





**Pvt. Willis P. Shaver**, Sutton, age 22

Mustered at Sutton May 3, 1862.

Mustered out May 3, 1865.

Willis Shaver enlisted in Co. F of the 10<sup>th</sup> WV Infantry, Union Army, and was mustered in at Sutton, WV on May 3, 1862. He served as a Private in the battles of Wardensville, Beverly, Droop Mountain and Cheat River. He then served in the Artillery one year, then back to his old company until the close of the war. He was at Maryland Heights, Lynchburg, and then transferred to the Shenandoah Valley where he was in battles at Hatcher's Run, Petersburg, and was on duty at Appomattox when Lee surrendered. He was mustered out on May 3, 1865 with an honorable discharge.



**Pvt. Harvey P. Shaver**, Sutton, age 21.

Mustered at Sutton May 3, 1862.

Wounded at Opequonon, Sept. 19, 1864. Mustered out May 3, 1865. Harvey served in the Union Army, Co F, 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment, WV Infantry. He was wounded in the right leg at Opequonon on Sept. 19, 1864 and received a pension of \$6.00 a month beginning in Sept. 1870.



**Pvt. Morgan D. Shaver**, Sutton, 18.

Mustered at Sutton Aug. 25,  
1862. Mustered out May 24, 1865.

Morgan served in Co. F, 10<sup>th</sup> WV Infantry of the Union Army. He enlisted on Aug. 25, 1862 at Sutton. He, with 10-12 others, had determined to enlist for the support of the government and the Confederates were trying to force them into the southern ranks. They stayed in the woods 3 days and nights dodging them, before they made their way to Sutton. Morgan was in the battles of Droop Mountain, Wardensville, Winchester, Snicker's Gap, Ashby's Gap, the Lynchburg Raid which was steady fighting with nothing fit to eat for six days and nights, and then to Richmond and to Appomattox where he witnessed the surrender and secured a chip from the tree under which General Lee stood. He reached home on July 15, 1865. *Sources: The Isaac Shaver Book, Bennetts Run, Shenandoah Valley in the Civil War.*

## UNION OHIO VOLUNTEERS

153rd Regiment, Ohio Infantry (National Guard)

Company F



### OVERVIEW:

Organized at Camp Dennison, Ohio, and mustered in May 10, 1864. Left State for Harper's Ferry, W. Va., May 10. Attached to Railroad Guard, Reserve Division, Dept. of West Virginia. Guard duty at Harper's Ferry and along line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad till June 29. Action at Hammack's Mills, Oldtown, July 3. North Mountain July 3. South Branch Bridge and Patterson's Creek Bridge July 4. Sir John's Run July 6. Green Springs Run August 2. Moved to Camp Chase, Ohio, August 30. Mustered out September 9, 1864.

Regiment lost during service 1 Officer and 2 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 26 Enlisted men by disease. Total 29.

### John Shaver *(son of Balser Shaver-Grandson of Palser Shaver)*

A letter written to his wife Martha, while John was serving in the Civil War.

With the 153<sup>rd</sup> Ohio National Guard Infantry.

Organized at Camp Dennison, Ohio, and mustered in May 10, 1864. Left State for Harper's Ferry, W. Va., May 10. Attached to Railroad Guard, Reserve Division, Dept. of West Virginia. Guard duty at Harper's Ferry and along line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad until June 29. Action at Hammack's Mills, Oldtown, July 3. North Mountain July 3. South Branch Bridge and Patterson's Creek Bridge July 4. Sir John's Run July 6. Green Springs Run August 2. Moved to Camp Chase, Ohio, August 30. Mustered out September 9, 1864. Regiment lost during service 1 Officer and 2 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 26 Enlisted men by disease. Total 29.



WRITING HOME.



Dear Wife, I will now write to you and let you no that I am well I received your letter dated the 30th I will tell you something about our difficultys here which you have hird of the rebels attacked our boys and taken them prisoner forty and only two of Crofs company killed and ? thear was but 15 detaled to go on the scout I was detale to go but I wasn't willing to go and they let me off that was the second time that I was detaled to go ? both times I cared not to Marching over the mountains the company that William Trumbo is in faugt them and wiped them but Billy Scorse and another man were taken prisoner they was out on picket guard and caut them before they could reach the block house they are camped 12 miles from us we hird the canons and we could see the smoke whare they burnt canal boats but they did not visit us they thout it would not be helthy to do so we have a fort and abot two 100 men that is fit for duty they had six or seven 100 they have gone back to Winchester again or gone that way our scout faut on Su I will now write to you and let you no that I am well I received your letter dated the 30th I will tell you something about our difficultys here which you have hird of the rebels attacked our boys and taken them prisoner forty and only two of Crofs company killed and ? thear was but 15 detaled to go on the scout I was detale to go but I wasn't willing to go and they let me off that was the second time that I was detaled to go ? both times I cared not to Marching over the mountains the company that William Trumbo is in faugt them and wiped them but Billy Scorse and another man were taken prisoner they was out on picket guard and caut them before they could reach the block house they are camped 12 miles from us we hird the canons and we could see the smoke whare they burnt canal boats but they did not visit us they thout it would not be helthy to do so we have a fort and abot two 100 men that is fit for duty they had six or seven 100 they have gone back to Winchester again or gone that way our scout faut on Su I will now write to you and let you no that I am well I received your letter dated the 30th I will tell you something about our difficultys here which you have hird of the rebels attacked our boys and taken them prisoner forty and only two of Crofs company killed and ? thear was but 15 detaled to go on the scout I was detale to go I wish you had some of the ? that we have here.

John Shaver, July 11th 1864.

### **MY ANCESTOR PAULSER SHAVER - Third Son of Isaac and Mary**

Born in Rockingham County, Va.- June 1811. He married Elizabeth Gillespie. She died in 1858 and Palser married Angeline Westfall March 24, 1859. They had one child, Roda Jane, born 1860. Palser died in 1871-a widower.

On March 1, 1851-Palser bought 500 acres of land from his sister and brother in law- Catherine and Edmond Barker for \$250.00. The deed shows this land to be located on Westfall Fork of Cedar Creek in Braxton, County-WVA. On March 5, 1867 he divided 496 acres of his land to his children equally.

He specified in the deed that "*he was able to go from house to house and be well cared for.*"

#### **Children of Paulser and Elizabeth:**

1. Rebecca Jane born 1838
2. William Isaac born 1841
3. Matilda Catherine born 1843
4. **Edmund Barker Shaver** born 1845
5. Mary Catherine born 1848
6. Eliza Margaret born 1851
7. Elizabeth born 1854 died 1858
8. Daniel Jacob born 1856

## **MY ANCESTOR-EDMUND BARKER SHAVER**

Son of Paulser and Elizabeth, born September 29, 1845 in Braxton County West Va. and died April 12, 1932. He married Mary Cutlip on December 7, 1865. Mary, a daughter of Elizabeth Jane Jarvis and stepdaughter of Henry Long Cutlip, was born September 6, 1848 and died Feb. 27, 1929.

### **Children of Edmund and Mary Shaver:**

1. Lucy Catherine born 1867-died at 3 months
2. George Luther born July 7, 1869 married Martha Tinnel, they lived in Ridgewood, WV.

Children:

Bessie Mae 1893-1969-Married Millard Hinkle 1914

Grace Lee 1895-1992 Married Arthur Hinkle 1913

Lula Pansy 1898-1940 Married Charles E. Fitzwater 1920

Ira R. -1899-1905

Mary E. 1902-? Possible marriage to Arnett Ward 1928

Goldie Gertrude 1904-1949 Married Charles L. Alderson 1923

Delbert Nelson 1907-1957 Married Gertrude Barnett

Phala L. 1911-1998 Married Thomas H. Kirk

3. Lilly Jane born September 4, 1872

4. **Jesse Lee** born December 1875

5. Hulda Edwinny born September 25, 1878

6. Clark D. born June 12, 1883

7. Flora born 1886

8. Gertrude born 1887

9. Josie born 1890

10. Della born 1893 died 1898

### **George's Daughters**

#### **Bessie-Grace-Lula**

photos of George Shaver Family  
courtesy of Joan Jackson.





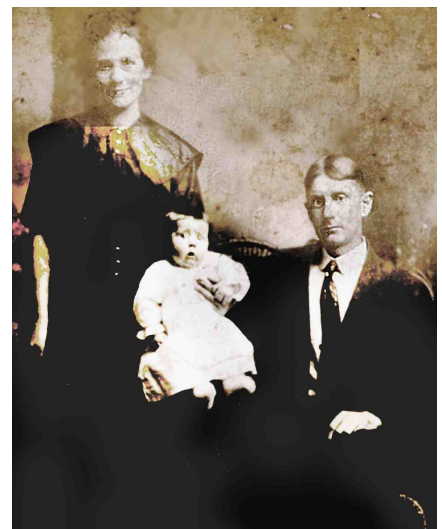
## **The Edmund Shaver Family**

Back row-left to right: Hulda, Flora, Clark, Gertrude, Josie

Front Row-Edmond and Mary, George, Lilly, Jesse Shaver (my Grandfather).



**George and Martha Shaver**



**Clark D. Shaver Family**



## MY ANCESTOR-JESSE LEE SHAVER

Jesse, son of Edmund Shaver, was born in Braxton County, West Virginia in 1875. He married Dora Elizabeth Viola Koon August 15, 1900 in Cowen, WVA.

### Jesse with daughter-Hilda

Jesse was a talented fiddle player and regularly played for barn dances in the area.



### Children of Jesse and Dora:

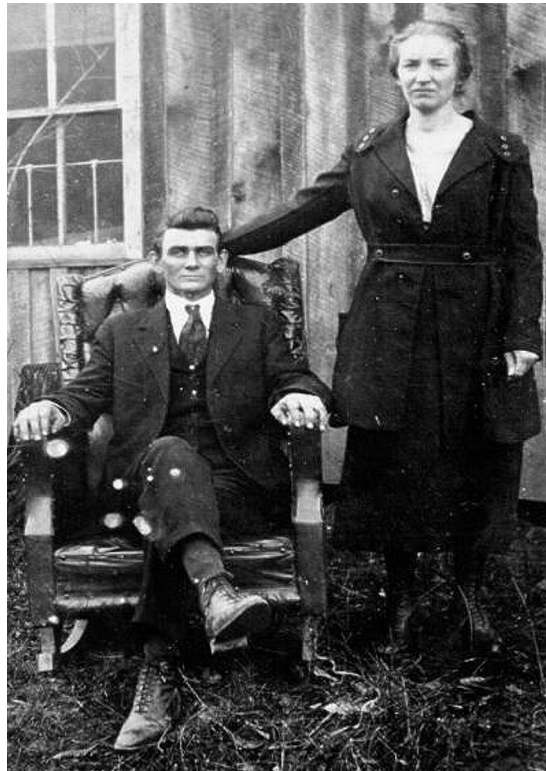
1. Arlie Belle born Feb. 6, 1902 Cowen, WVA married Perry B. Harrison, Had 10 children-died Aug. 29, 1984.
2. Okey Earl born January 19, 1905-Braxton, WVA-died Jan. 21, 1970.
3. Eula Leah born Oct. 9, 1906 Waynesville, WVA married Frances Marco, Had 12 Children-died June 20, 1959.
4. Jesse Ray born June 18, 1909-Flatswood, WVA married Berta Klink. Died April 7, 1981. Occupation: CPA
5. Roy Clark born December 22, 1911-Flatswood, WVA married Bonnie Clements June 22, 1941. Two Children: Joan born July 1949 and Joy born Aug. 1955-died Dec 1955. Roy died Dec 20, 1983. Occupation: Barber, Army-WWII-CCC Camps
6. Russell Edwin born March 29, 1915-Cowen, WVA married ILa Duncan 1941. One son William Russ-born July 1947. Died Jan. 10, 1987.
7. Jerry Dennis born March 4, 1917 -Cowen, WVA married Mae Reed 1941. Sons: Jerry Lee and Ray.
8. Arden Bea born 1919 died at 1 year 9 months
9. Denzel born February 13, 1921 Braxton Cty, WVA married Lou Chick Oct. 8, 1950. One son Michael. Occupation: Radio-Real Estate broker-Army WWII, CCC Camps.
10. Harley Woodrow born Nov. 6, 1924-Gilmer, WVA married Elsie Keller Feb. 10, 1952. Children: Gary and Dianne. Barber, US Gov't-Army WWII -CCC Camps
11. Hilda Imogene born Dec. 10, 1927-Coalton, WVA married George Hepner Dec. 6, 1947... married Donald Johnson Dec 8, 1978. Children: George Steven and Sharon Kay/Occupation: US Govt.

## SHAVER FAMILY Gathering 1952



### 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary-Jesse and Dora

BACK ROW:L>R Russell, Jesse and Dora, Ray,Bonnie (Roy's wife)  
George Hepner (Hilda's husband), Hilda, Harley.  
Front row: ILa(Russell's wife), William Russ (Russell's son)  
Roy, Dan-toddler-Joan (Roy's daughter).



**Arlie Belle** (oldest daughter of Jesse) and Husband Perry Harrison

**Roy Clark Shaver** was the 5<sup>th</sup> son of Jesse and Dora. He was born in a log cabin located on the ridge behind the farm house of his Grandfather Edmund in Flatswood, West Virginia on December 22, 1911.

Roy (left) ,brother Ray in front of one room school



Roy grew up in these West Virginia mountains loving the out doors and music. His learned to play the fiddle from his father who played often at Saturday night square dances. In his late teens, he started to work in the coal mines, but knew this underground work was not for him. In 1930, he headed north with his brother Earl. They worked on the railroad in the

state of New York -then moved to the big city of Chicago, Ill. The first few nights, they stayed at the Salvation Army. Roy worked at odd jobs here, once at a Polish restaurant where he learned to make one of their favorite dishes," potato pancakes".

These were the 1930's and days of the Gangsters in Chicago and Roy lived just around the corner from where the famous gangster-John Dillinger was killed. One night while walking home from the restaurant, two men approached him-mistaking him for someone else and gave him a beating that landed him in the hospital and ended his job at the restaurant. He bought a motorcycle and loved to ride until one night crashing into a hay wagon-which badly injured both knees. After experiencing the big city life, during the summer of 1931, Roy and Earl hitch hiked south to Powhatan County, Va where Jesse had moved his family to take a job as a Foreman of a large farm.

On September 16, 1938, Roy joined the Civilian Conservation Corps that was established by President Roosevelt to provide jobs during the Depression Years.

The camp (SCS-13) was in Crewe, Virginia-a small town located in Nottoway County.

The unit distinguished itself as a forestry camp and fought forest fires in the area. Roy worked as a Barber at the Camp.

Cabin was still standing as of August 1963. Roy with daughter-Joan(left),Judy and Donna Marco (daughters of Eula).





Roy was also pursuing his music. Along with two of his brothers and a friend, they formed a group called the "**Rough Riders**." They played at dances throughout the area and had a morning radio show on WSVS Radio Station in Crewe, Va.



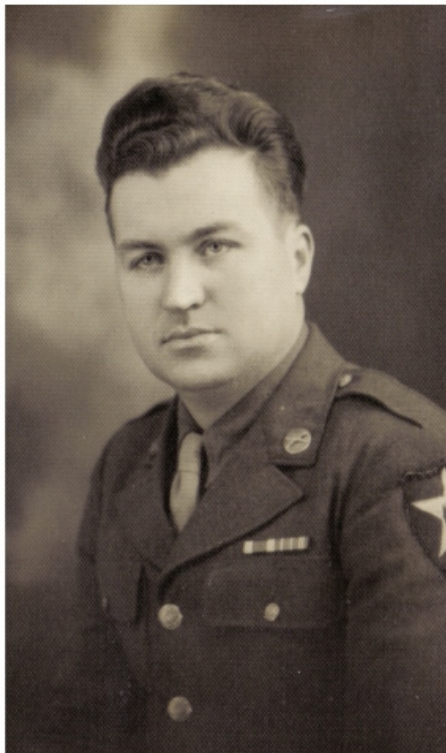




On June 22, 1941, Roy married Bonnie Lee Clements of Crewe, Virginia.

In 1942, Roy went west and found work at Boeing Aircraft in Los Angeles, California. Six months later, Bonnie took a train across country to join her husband. In 1943, the couple returned home. World War II was escalating.

Roy and his brother enlisted in the U.S. Army. Basic training was in Georgia, and Roy suffered a heat stroke 2 weeks before the end, causing him to have to repeat the entire training. After that, the two Shaver brothers were based in Birmingham, England. Roy had been suffering with his knees and just before D-Day June 6, 1944, he was hauled in for surgery, leaving his younger brother Harley to go it alone.





### **Shaver's Barber Shop**

Roy Shaver and Laco Harrison (nephew-Arlie's son) cutting hair. After the War, Roy returned to Crewe. He and Bonnie settled there and bought an older Victorian house close to town. Roy opened a Barber shop in the town. They had two daughters, Joan and 5 years later another daughter, Joy-who would only live 6 months.

The town of Crewe suffered greatly when the Norfolk and Western Railroad was pulled out. In 1965, Roy moved his family to Richmond, Va. And opened a small Barber Shop on the southside of town. He was a well respected citizen of the community and an active member of the Bethany Christian Church in Richmond. He continued to enjoy making music all his life . Roy passed away on December 20, 1983.



**Jerry Dennis Shaver**, 7<sup>th</sup> son of Jesse Lee and Dora Elizabeth Koon Shaver, was born on March 4, 1917 in Cowen WV.

In May, 1930 he moved with his family to Pilkington (Powhatan County), Va. After he completed the seventh grade, Jerry went to work in a local saw mill with his father and one brother. His father was the foreman; he and his brother bundled staves for wooden barrels. They were paid one cent per bundle.

Also during this time, Jerry worked for a local farmer. He milked in the morning and performed other chores for which he earned approximately \$1.00 per week.

In August, 1935 he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Shortly after enlisting, he was sent to New York, New York where he boarded a Troop Ship bound for Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He served there for approximately 2 and ½ years. The Troop Ship traveled through the Panama Canal on the trip to Hawaii. On his return to the U.S., he traveled by ship to Fort McDowell, Ca.

September 8, 1938 he received an honorable discharge at Fort McDowell, Ca.

Jerry and his brother, Russell, purchased a used automobile and drove across the United States back to Virginia.

On July 6, 1939 Jerry enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves in Richmond, Va.

Before joining the Army Reserves, he was employed at Curles Neck Dairy in Varina, Va. While in the Army Reserves, he was employed by Dutch Gap Motor Company which was located in Chester, Va.

On August 12, 1940 Jerry reenlisted in the U. S. Army and first served at Fort Meyers in Virginia.

On September 8, 1941, he married Glada Mae Reed in Richmond, Va.

They had two sons: Jerry Lee Shaver born April 15, 1944. Ray Edward Shaver born August 30, 1947 – deceased September 1953



Shortly after being married, Jerry was shipped to Trinidad in September of 1941 and returned to the United States in April of 1943. He served at various Army bases in the United States and was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant prior to his being honorably discharged from this second tour of duty on June 5, 1945 at Fort Bragg, NC.

From 1945 until 1951 Jerry owned a small farm on Darbytown Road in Richmond, Va. He also worked full time at Richmond Piece and Die Works during this time.

In 1952 he moved his family to a larger farm in Crewe, Va., where he also worked as a mechanic at Bradshaw Buick.





Laco Harrison and Harley



Roy and Jerry

In 1953 he moved his family to Warren, Ohio where he and his brother, Harley, operated a service station owned by another brother, Danny.

In 1954 he moved to Woodstock, Va. There he and Harley owned and operated an Esso Service Station.

In 1955 he moved to Winchester, Va. and opened a 2<sup>nd</sup> Esso Service Station.

In 1956 he closed the service station in Winchester and opened a new one in Roanoke, Va.

In 1958 he closed the Roanoke station and returned to Woodstock, Va.

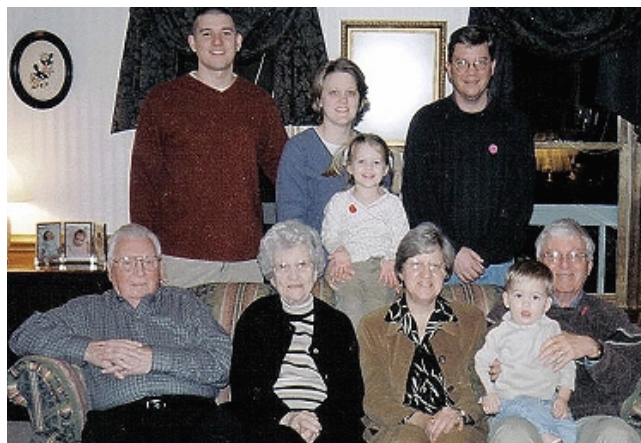
He and Harley continued to operate the Esso Station in Woodstock in addition to opening a pottery. The pottery manufactured cement lawn ornaments.

In 1960 he moved to Richmond, Va., and began his employment with the U.S. Postal Service.

On November 26, 1969 at the age of fifty-two, Jerry received his GED from the State of Virginia.

After having served in numerous positions with the U.S. Postal Service, Jerry retired in 1979 as the Superintendent of the Highland Springs, Va. Post Office.

He and Mae resided in Danville, Virginia until their death.



Back row-Tracy Clatterbuck-Jennifer Shaver Clatterbuck, Jay Shaver  
**Jerry D. Shaver**, Mae Shaver, Barbara Shaver, and Jerry Lee Shaver.  
Clatterbuck Children...Kate and Luke



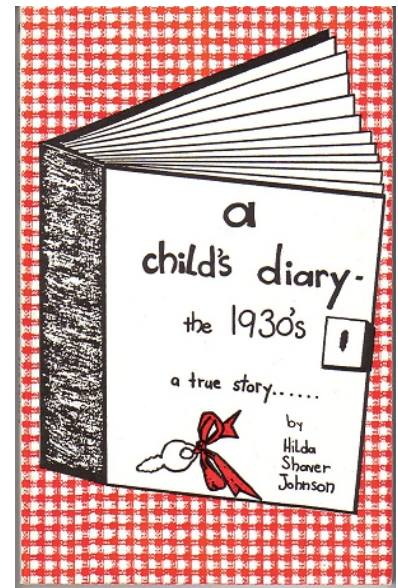
**Hilda Imogene Shaver**, born December 10, 1927 in Coalton, WV, was the youngest child of Jesse and Dora Shaver. She married George Hepner December 6, 1947. They had two children: George Steven and Sharon Kay. Hilda and George later divorced. In 1978, she married Donald Johnson, a retired disabled Navy Veteran.

Hilda worked for the Federal Government in the Internal Revenue department and she spent 35 years in various volunteer organizations. She was the Dispatcher of the Henrico Volunteer Rescue Squad, Secretary and member of the Ladies Auxiliary of West End VRS and Senior Squad, Secretary of Tri-Chapter First Aid Instructors Club, Secretary of Bermuda Baptist Church Secretary of Maud Hurt/Philathea Sunday School Class at Chester Baptist Church, Interpreter for the Deaf at Oakwood Memorial Baptist, Developer and Teacher of a First Aid Class for the Deaf at the Red Cross in Lakeside (the first one in this area).

Hilda was the author of a book published by the Wishing Room in Mechanicsville:

**"A Child's Diary-the 1930's"** a true story about her childhood in West Virginia and Virginia.

Hilda passed away December 7, 2004.





**Family Time was MUSIC Time.  
Roy-Hilda-Harley**



*Danny Shaver*



**SHAVER BROTHERS IN SERVICE**-Sergeant Russell Shaver (left), age 27, stationed at Camp Blanding, Fla. is now somewhere overseas. Jerry Shaver (center), age 25, stationed in Trinidad for some time has recently been promoted to Technical Sergeant. Corporal Dan Shaver (right), age 20, is a member of the Paratroops and stationed in Fort Benning, GA. These 3 brothers are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Shaver of Proffitt.





*WWII-Harley Shaver in France*



*Russell Shaver*





*Ray Shaver-lived in Charlottesville, Virginia*



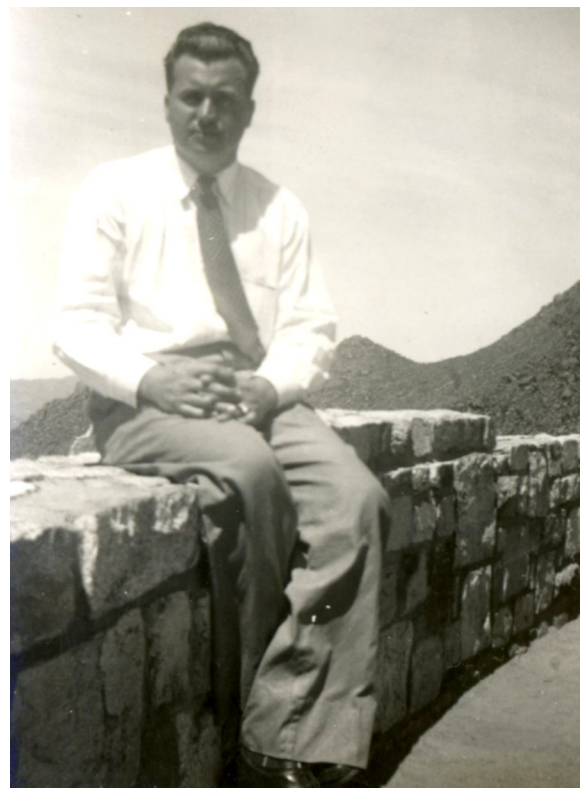
**Russell-Hilda-Roy-Harley-Jerry Lee-Jerry D. Shaver**



*Eula Shaver-Daughter of Jesse*



*Roy Shaver*



*Roy at Skyline Drive-Virginia*



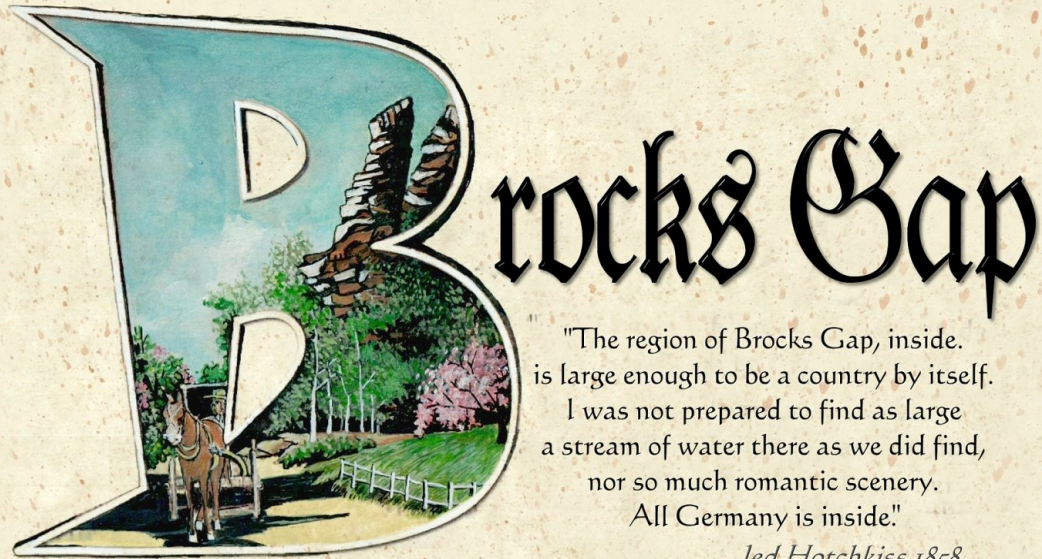








## BROCKS GAP FRAKTUR



"The region of Brocks Gap, inside.  
is large enough to be a country by itself.  
I was not prepared to find as large  
a stream of water there as we did find,  
nor so much romantic scenery.  
All Germany is inside!"

*Jed Hotchkiss 1858*



*Joan K. Shaver 2013*



From the fall of the Roman Empire until the beginning of the Renaissance-the art of hand lettering and illumination depended on Scribes and cloistered monks. European villages from the 16th century had schoolmasters, clergy and notaries who produced examples of decorative writing. These documents were created to record births, baptisms, marriages and to create family registers. Other frakturs were blessings for the home and were made using home made papers, inks, dyes, and quill pens.

The immigration from Europe to America brought this folk art to America. During the 1700 and 1800's, early German settlers developed a distinctive style of art and this is known as Pennsylvania Dutch Fraktur. Fraktur helped German immigrants preserve their rich cultural heritage in a new land. Most fraktur are personal records, such as birth and baptismal certificates. People also made fraktur as a way to express religious beliefs or to help school children with their studies. The fraktur was often decorated with drawings of flowers' birds and hearts.

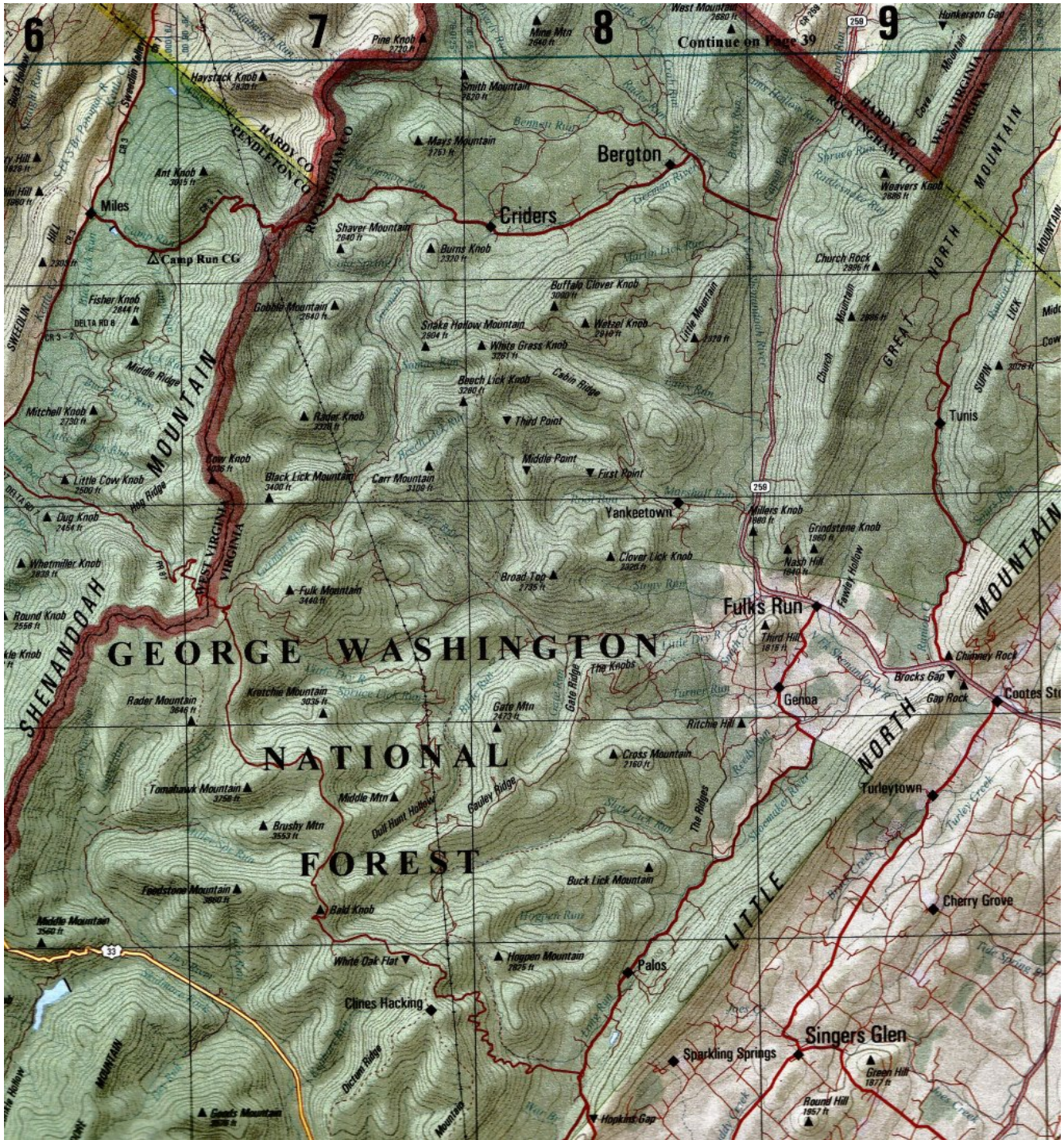
With subtle differences to the fraktur of Pennsylvania-fraktur in Virginia was practiced by the descendants of the early German immigrants that settled in the Shenandoah Valley.

Once German settlements in Virginia emerged from the pioneer existence-country schools were organized.

Along with the three "R's"-German country schools in the Shenandoah Valley stresses "writing". Both a good hand in cursive script and depending on the talents of the teacher-decorative lettering.







MAP of Shaver Country in Rockingham County



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NOTE: Anyone interested in more facts on the German influence in the development of America can contact the  
Pennsylvania German Society, a nonprofit, educational organization founded in 1891 and devoted to the study of  
the Pennsylvania German people and their 300+ years of history in America.

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