

Old Home Week



OFFICIAL

Program and Souvenir Book

OF

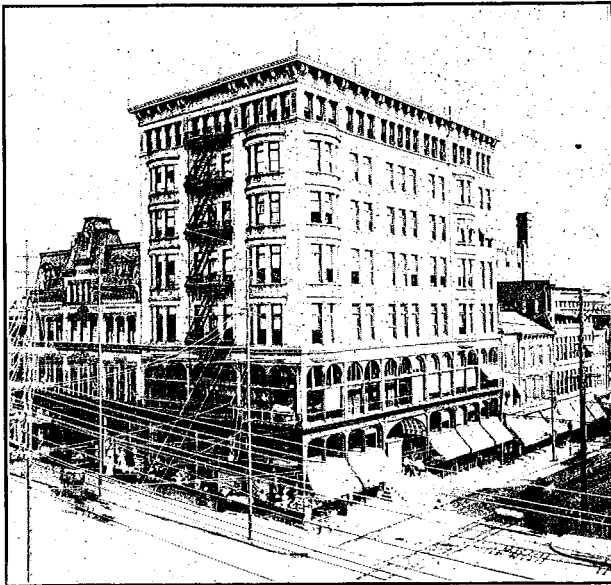
BERNVILLE

Berks County  Pennsylvania

Published by the
PROGRAM COMMITTEE



E. S. Richardson, Chairman Dr. C. P. Kalbach
Ex-Sheriff G. D. Fahrenbach Thos. J. Zerby, Esq.
C. G. Blatt C. M. Richardson



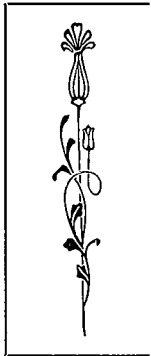
DIVES, POMEROY & STEWART

The Mill and Factory Sale

starting early in August, is always most interesting and quite surprising in its magnitude.

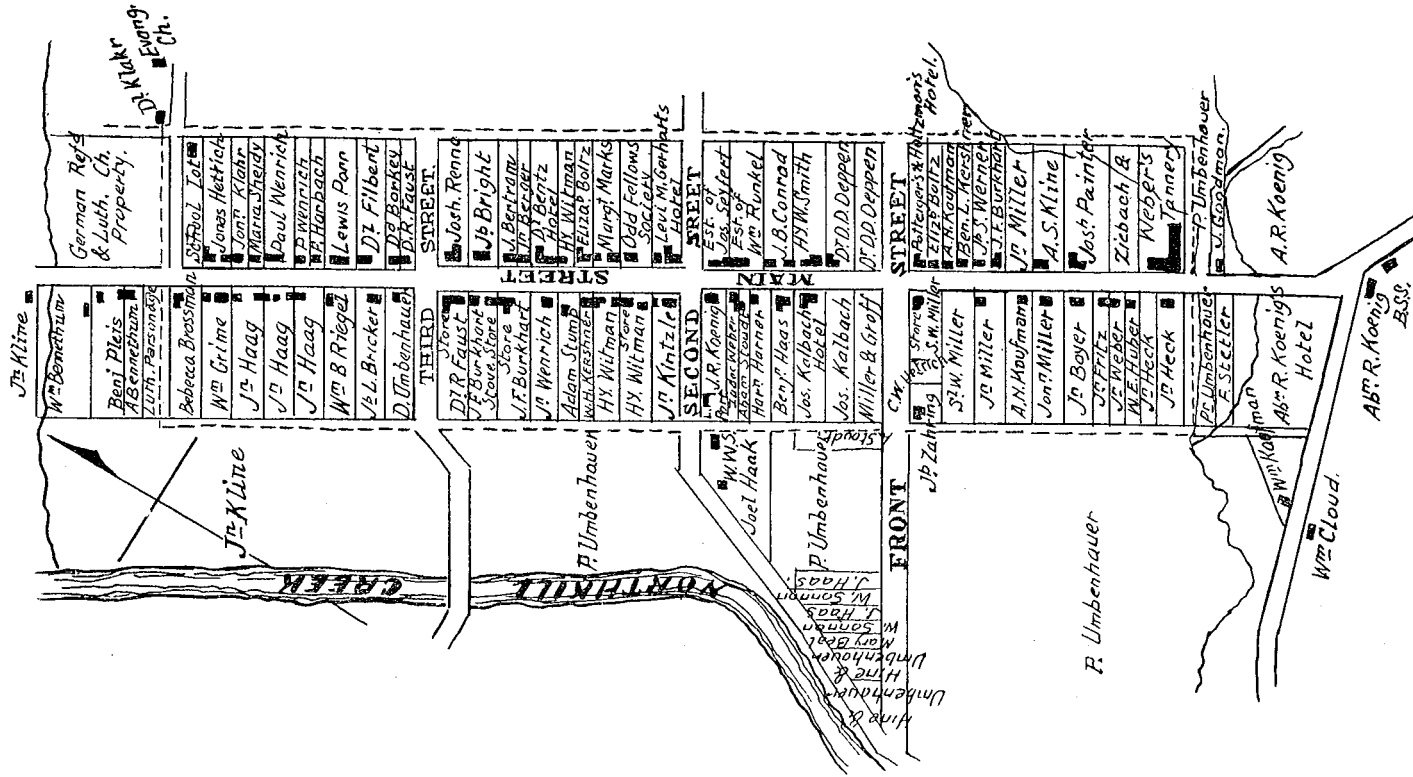
¶ In July and August the mills and factories dispose of the season's surplus stocks and odds and ends, which affords us unusual buying opportunities, and thereby we are enabled to give our patrons the best of values.

READING, PENNSYLVANIA



Dedicated
to the
Friends of Bernville





COPY OF ORIGINAL PLAN OF BERNVILLE
 At the Time of the Incorporation into a Borough, 1851

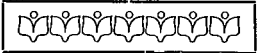


PREFACE



IT IS THE wish of the program committee to hereby briefly explain the object of publishing this souvenir book, and to make acknowledgment to the friends who have kindly aided in its publication.

The committee does not pretend to put this book forward in any way as a complete history of



the borough or institutions of Bernville. In the short time during which the book was gotten up, it was impossible to gather sufficient information for a "history" which would be worthy of the name. However, the committee believes

the reader will agree that the writers of the respective articles have done nobly in the short time that was allotted to them. They confidently present the book with the assurance that since it is the first attempt to chronicle the history of our town, it must also be the best one.

The two main objects of the committees in publishing this souvenir book or program were first, to raise money to defray the expenses of the Old Home Week; and second, to furnish a souvenir book to commemorate the occasion.

The committee undertook its publication in the face of numerous difficulties. In the first place, there were no sources of information to draw from, as no attempt had ever been made before to write a history of the town; and

PREFACE—Continued

in the second place, no one seemed available who would sacrifice the tremendous amount of time necessary for the publication of a book of this kind. To solicit the advertisements, to arrange for the articles, to edit the book, to collect the bills and make all necessary arrangements for printing and distribution, required an enormous amount of work and application.

It is the sincere regret of the writer that he has been unable to obtain sufficient time to edit the book as he might wish to do. He acknowledges and hopes the reader will generously pardon the many shortcomings in arrangement, detail or composition. As the primary object of the book was to raise money, much was sacrificed, both in the attractiveness and interest.

Sincere acknowledgment is made to the following for help given in the publication of the book:

Prof. M. A. Gruber, Rev. Samuel G. Trexler, Prof. H. C. Schweikert, C. K. Whitner & Co., through their advertising agent, Mr. T. W. Davis; The Reading Herald and

The Reading Eagle, through their respective correspondents, D. W. Blatt and D. K. Hoch; Messrs. George W. Huber, Benj. Klahr, John F. Burkhart, William Wiend, Henry S. Umbenhauer, C. G. Blatt, John W. Speicher, Wm. E. Richardson, Wm. V. Stoudt, Walter H. Beyerle, the members of the General Committee, and numerous others.

It was through the offers of help and the interest shown in Old Home Week by the many friends of Bernville that a pleasant task was made out of what would otherwise have been a burdensome one. The writer regrets that he has been unable to do the cause justice. He believes, however, that the book has already accomplished its primary object—that of raising money for the committees. He hopes that it will at least partly accomplish its second object, and serve as a slight reminder of BERNVILLE'S FIRST OLD HOME WEEK and a small source of information of BERNVILLE'S HISTORY.

*Chairman of the
PROGRAM COMMITTEE*

Old Home Week Committees

President—Dr. C. P. Kalbach.

Vice-President—Ex-Sheriff Geo. D. Fahrenbach.

Secretary—Justice-of-the-Peace Thos. J. Zerby.

Treasurer—Mr. C. M. Richardson.

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Decorations and Attractions—C. P. Kalbach, Chairman; Willis L. Bright, W. H. Beyerle, W. E. Richardson, David Rhine, Wm. V. Stoudt, Dr. C. E. Lerch, James Groff, John Hollenbach, C. C. Wagner, Chas. Reeser.

Music—Messrs. S. P. Wilhelm, Chairman; George Kline, Wm. D. Heffelfinger, Hiram Schaeffer, Dr. C. D. Gruber.

Invitation and Information—Justice-of-the-Peace Benj. Klahr, Chairman; H. B. Hetrich, Adam Weber, John F. Burkhart, W. E. Richardson, James Burns, C. P. Kalbach.

Parade—Ex-Sheriff George D. Fahrenbach, Chairman; John Rothermel, John Haag, Henry Luckenbill, Aaron Geiss, Thos. Zerby.

Honorary—Burgess Ephraim Miller, Councilman Peter Blatt, Levi Scharaff, Aaron Geiss, Wm. Wenrich, Frank Stamm, Henry Groff.

Religious Exercises—(Sunday)—Rev. Edwin S. Leinbach, Chairman; Revs. M. A. Good, T. C. Leinbach, D. G. Gerberich, Samuel G. Trexler, Chas. D. Trexler, Messrs. M. K. Manbeck, W. D. Heffelfinger, George Moll, Jacob Sheidy.

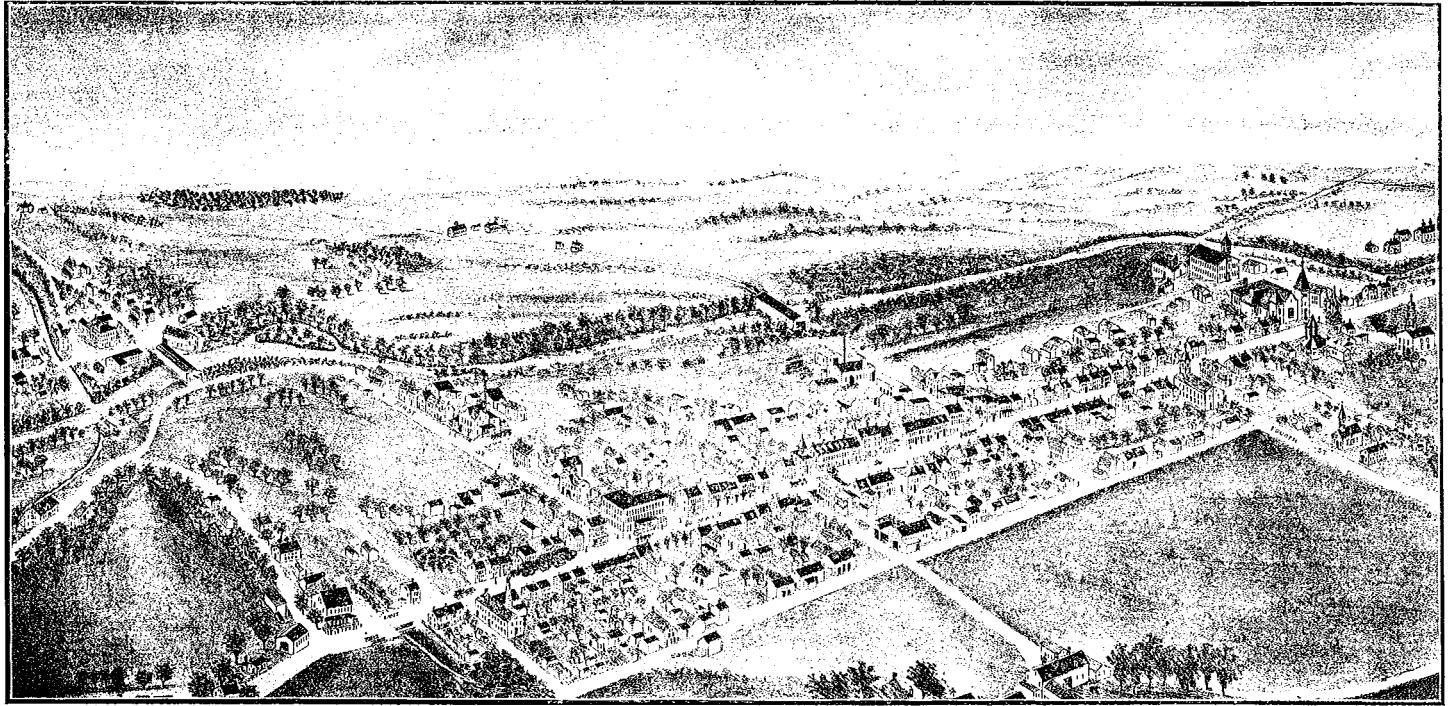
School Day—Prof. Paul Burkhart, Chairman; Profs. M. A. Gruber, F. H. Wagner, S. T. Bordner, E. S. Richardson, Geo. C. Bordner, Richard Moll.

Lodge Day—Messrs. Thos. Zerby, Chairman; C. P. Kalbach, C. M. Richardson, C. G. Blatt.

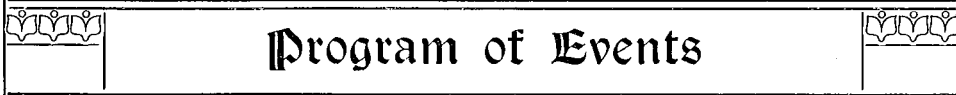
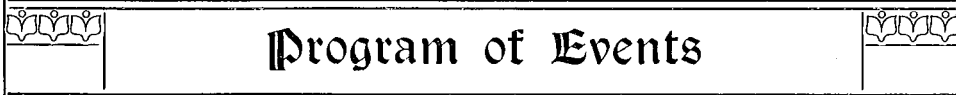
Reading Day—Messrs. J. B. Miller, Chairman; Dr. P. S. Mogel, Lewis Kerschner, Henry Umbenhauer.

Press Agent—E. S. Richardson.

Official Photographer—C. G. Blatt.



BERNVILLE IN 1898

Program of Events



OLD HOME WEEK

BERNVILLE, PA., AUGUST 4TH TO 10TH, 1907

**OPENING
DAY**

Sunday, Aug. 4

Special services in the afternoon in St. Thomas' Union Church.

Special services in the evening in Frieden's Lutheran Church.

Re-union and addresses by former ministers.
(See the special programs for details.)

**CHURCH
DAY**

**SCHOOL
DAY**

Monday, Aug. 5

**Dedicated to
Bernville's
Former Teachers.**

Parade of school children.

Mass-meeting in Umbenhauer's Grove.

Addresses by former teachers and pupils.

Private banquets of the separate classes.

Band concerts by the Minnehaha Band of Womelsdorf; Calvin Reinhold, Leader.

PROGRAM OF EVENTS—Continued

**LODGE
DAY**

Tuesday, Aug. 6 Dedicated to
Bernville's Lodges

Parade of Lodges.

Re-union meetings in the respective lodge halls of the I. O. O. F., the P. O. S. of A. and the Commandery.

Mass-meeting in Umbenhauer's Grove.

Band concerts by the Eureka Band of Brownsville; Jefferson Brossman, Leader.

**READING
DAY**

Wednesday, Aug. 7 Dedicated to
Reading's
"Bernvillites"

Reception of Reading delegations by the committees and band.

Parade in the forenoon.

Mass-meeting in Umbenhauer's Grove in the afternoon.

Speeches by prominent residents of Reading.

Band concerts by the Bernville Band, S. P. Wilhelm, Leader; Ringgold Band of Reading; Philharmonic Band of Reading.

**OLD HOME
DAY**

Thursday, Aug. 8 Dedicated to the
Citizens of
Bernville

Big day of the week.

Parade of committees, lodges, citizens, fire department, business floats, industrial displays, etc.

Monster mass-meeting.

Addresses by prominent men.

Band concerts by the Althouse Band of Shoemakersville; Frank Althouse, Leader.



**FAMILY
RE-UNION DAY**

Friday, Aug. 9 Dedicated to the
"Old Folks"

Private re-unions of families.

Band concerts by the Perseverance Band of Lebanon; John H. Leslie, Leader.

Fireworks.

PROGRAM OF EVENTS—Continued

**PIC-NIC
DAY**

Saturday, Aug. 10

**Dedicated to
the Children**

Grand picnic in the Grove.
General celebration.
Baseball games.
Closing exercises.
Band concerts by the Citizens' Band of Strausstown;
Eli Gerhart, Leader.



For details see the special programs.

Further attractions may be scheduled and changes made in the respective programs after the publication of this book.

All visitors are urged to visit the "Relic" room.
Do not fail to register in the Old Home Week
Register!



Why We Celebrate



BERNVILLE'S Old Home Week Celebration August 4 to 10, 1907, is the outcome of a general desire on the part of the citizens, former residents and friends, to have a great "home-coming" at Bernville. The movement was first started at a banquet held during the Christmas Holidays of 1906, which was



attended by a number of former alumni and a former principal of the Bernville High School. The idea gained ground with exceeding rapidity, and soon outgrew the best wishes of its originators.

The main object of having an Old Home Week is to bring back together the "Old Folks," the "Young Folks"

and former residents. Just as the best asset of a college is its loyal alumni, so the best asset of a town is believed to be its friends and former residents.

To be successful, an Old Home Week need not necessarily be a "big hip-hoorah" celebration and circus with every moment in the week occupied. Those who have come with the expectation of finding such the case, will undoubtedly go home disappointed. An Old Home Week is rather a reunion on a large scale, a gathering of the clans, a returning of the blood to the soil from whence it sprang. Old friends can meet old friends. Broken ties can be renewed. An interest in the history and people of the past can be aroused, and the spirit of good fellowship extended among our people. Pride in the town will be encouraged, and its business interests will be advertised and benefited.

WHY WE CELEBRATE—Continued

To have a successful Old Home Week, Bernville is probably as well fitted as any of our towns. It is conveniently small in size, so that everybody knows everybody else. Its history and associations are older than those of the average town, and few towns have sent out more sons and daughters during the last half century.

The very buildings and plan of the town give an idea of age and refinement. There are no new factories and furnaces, with their clamor and glare, to dispel the idea. There is nothing even so shockingly modern as a railroad to detract by its noise from the usual serenity and peacefulness of the town. Here, above all, should be an ideal place for reminiscing—a place to enjoy a great “home-coming” and forget for a while the cares of the busy, rushing world outside.

A short sketch on the “Bernville of To-day” is what the writer should have liked to include in this souvenir book. But he was disappointed in finding an author. He

does not feel inclined to impose upon the good nature of the reader any further by attempting such a sketch himself. While hastily writing this, in a city which is the exact opposite of Bernville in industry and characteristics, it is difficult to obtain the proper frame of mind.

It is true, as the writer noticed not long ago in a rather complimentary editorial of a neighboring newspaper in reference to Old Home Week, that “Bernville has not heretofore made an unusual amount of noise.” It has rather gone along in true Pennsylvania German fashion, pursuing the even tenor of its ways. Its people, like those in Longfellow’s “Evangeline:”

“Neither locks had they to their doors, nor bars to their windows,
But their dwellings were open as day and the hearts of the owners;
There the richest was poor, and the poorest lived in abundance.”

WHY WE CELEBRATE—Continued

It is due perhaps to these characteristics that its people have grown to love the little town in the Northkill and Tulpehocken valleys. And that is why they have come back again to see the good old hills.

And now, "Lest Auld Acquaintance be Forgot," may old friends meet old friends, welcome and be welcomed,

during this Old Home Week. May the first week in August always stand in the calendars of the years to come as the "Old Home Week at Bernville." And may the friends of Bernville always be filled with the sentiment of the great Pennsylvania-German poet Harbaugh, when he says in his poem called "Heemweh:"

"Ich wees net was die Ursach is—
Wees net, warum ich's dhu:
'N Jedes Jahr mach ich der Weg
Der alte Heemet zu;
Hab weiter nix zu suche dort—
Kee' Erbschaft un kee Gelt;
Un doch treibt mich des Heemgefiel
So shtark wie alle Welt."

E. S. RICHARDSON,
Chairman Program Committee.

New York City, July 2, 1907.

“Sell Schtettel im Nordkill Dahl”

Composed for the occasion of Old Home week, by PROF. M. A. GRUBER,
of Washington, D. C.

'Swar ehner Thomas Umbehacker
Hot g'hehrt fum Union Canahl,
Und messt ab Lotta fun seina Acker
F'r'n Schtettel im Nordkill Dahl.

'Sis naechscht an neinzig Yahr zurick
Wu die Nordkill sich bewegt
Schier an der Tulpehacka Grick,
War sell Schtettel ausgelegt.

Die schoena Lotta lang und breht
Wara all glei ufgenumma,
Und's Schtettel war au' gar net blehd
F'r recht g'schwind ufzukumma.

Als Umbehacker—Schtettel no'
War's f'r a weil gekennt;
Doch BERNVILLE war glei druf ger do,
Und sell is es now genennt.

Wu die Garwerrei ihr "ruins" sin
Bis nuf wu's Schulhaus schteht,
Und zwischa yuscht zweh Alleys drin,
Is Bernville lang und breht.

Doch sin noch "Suburbs" nehwa bei,
Wie in'ra grosso Schtadt;
Die nemmt, of course, noch Bernville ei'
Wann's Bralla eppes batt.

Awwer yuscht fier Schkwaer is Bernville
lang
Der Borough-lein no' zu geh;
Und darch zu kumma mach Trolleys
bang
Der Profitt waer ganz zu gleh.

F'r 'n yeders wehs wer die Zeitung lehst
Dass 'n Riggelweg will Geld;
Und der "Head" fum ehm mit die ann'ra
raced
F'rs reichscht zu sei in der Weld.

Doch darch 'm Union Canahl sei Zeit,
Wie der Towpath war schier wie'n
Schtross,
Sin die Leut hie kumma fun naechscht
und weit,—
F'r die Business dort war gross.

Fun alla Ecka in sellem Welddehl
Sin Fuhra kumma zu hohla
Maschierna, Backaschteh, Ledder, Oehl,
Schtohrsach, Lumber, und Coala.

Am Weisa Schtohrhaus und au' am Roda
Hen die Bauera ihr Wehtza hie g'fahra
Und noch was anner Frucht is geroda
In die guta alta Yahra.

“SELL SCHTETTEL IM NORDKILL DAHL”—Continued

Awwer sellie Zeita sin nimmie meh dort,
Sie sin ganga mit 'm Union Canahl;
Der Riggelweg hot der Canahl mit fort—
Doch 'sis kenner im Nordkill Dahl.

Und die gut alt Kirch, wu'n hunnert Jahr
War gepredigt, gebeht und g'sunga;
Wu alla Dahg, mit Schtimm so klahr,
Die Elf-uhr Bell war gerunga;—

Sellie Kirch is ganga mit ann'ra Sacha
Die f'r Alters wara schoe';
Es war gemeht sie schoenner zu macha,
Und im platz fun ehm sin now zweh.

Au' nimmie naechscht is die Fischerei
Wie sie war als Yahra zurick;
Was war's doch Lushta draus zu sei
Mit Gert und Lein an der Grick!

Awwer Bernville in ihr "Old Home
Week"
Hot gut recht schtolz zu sei;
Mag's Frieda sei oder geht's in der Krieg,
Hot Bernville blentie dabei.

Die Schula sin net leicht zu bieta,
Sell weiss sich mit der Zeit;
Und bessera Leut sin net zu meeta
Wann g'sucht werd lang und weit.

Und draus in der Weld, in ball yeder
Schtaet,
Und au' in ann'ra Laenner,
Wu gutte Arvet recht a'geht,
Sin Bernviller Mae'd und Maenner.

'Smacht gar nix aus in was f'r'n G'schaeft,
Fun Dahglenner nuf zu Parra,
Wu a'gewennt werd Menscha-graeft
Sin Bernviller g'funna warra.

Sin blentie au' in Politicks,
Und dehl in Washington,
Doch war noch kenner so foll Tricks
F'r zu macha Congressman.

Die Leut die die erschta Lotta hen kaufft
Sin awwer nimmie do';
Doch wer wehs ep net 'n mancher laufft
Mit leichter Schritt uns no'.

Und in der "Home Week Jubilee"
Guckt herrlich, luschtig und froh
Zu sehna dass die Lieb bleibt grue'
F'r die alta Sacha do'.

Dann lang leb' Bernville! lang und schoe'
Mag's bleiwa im Nordkill Dahl!
Und mag "Old Home Week" immer
schteh
'N schoe' Gedaechnissmahl

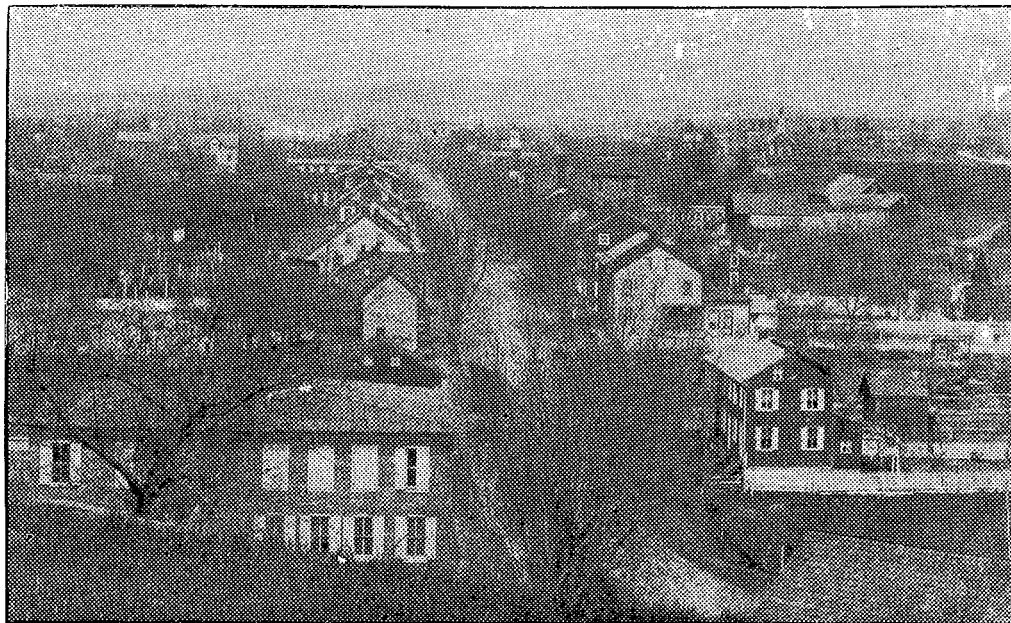
Bernville: An Historical Sketch

The origin and early history of Bernville is shrouded in the obscurity common to many notable places. Authentic records of its early history are but scant indeed. Out of the numerous traditions from the past by far the most interesting is that which tells how John Penn, Conrad Weiser and Stephanus Umbenhauer were associated in a movement for a new county, to be called Tulpehocken, with Bernville as its county seat. This story purports to come from a somewhat mythical Umbenhauer diary, but if such a diary ever existed all trace of it is now lost. This is all the more to be regretted because the early history of the town is so indissolubly connected with the Umbenhauer family. Little more than genealogical tables and legal documents of practically no historical value remain.

The first members of the Umbenhauer family hailed from Berne, Switzerland, the two brothers, Stephanus and Edwin, landing in America on the 10th of January, 1737. They located in the section which now contains Bernville,

the land having been bought by Stephanus from Thomas Penn. This land has been handed down to Umbenhauer heirs until the present generation. Balthaser, or Balzer, as he was more familiarly known, inherited the original estate of 220 acres upon the death of his father, Stephanus, in 1755. He handed it down to his son, Thomas. Since then the land has been successively inherited by Peter and William Umbenhauer, until at present it is owned by Henry, Isaac and Daniel Umbenhauer, the sons of William. The farm at present contains 174 acres.

Of the early inhabitants of our locality hardly more is known than that they were German speaking, and that a considerable number came from the canton of Berne, in Switzerland. These settlers soon were distinguished for qualities which we now call characteristically German-American, a combination of patriotic loyalty to the country of their adoption and a loving memory of their old home. Our cemeteries afford a graphic record of the lives offered in the War for Independence as well as in the late Rebel-



Photograph by C. G. Blatt

BERNVILLE—Looking North on Main Street from Stoudt's Hill

HISTORICAL SKETCH—Continued

lion. The names of many places in the vicinity testify to their fondness for old ties.

For some time the section was known by its old Indian name of Tulpehocken, a name which means the "Land of Turtles," and which is still borne by Tulpehocken Creek and Tulpehocken Township. But when the progressive character of the settlers made closer organization necessary, and new townships had to be formed, they broke away from their native Indian names and turned to those of their former home. Only a year after the arrival of Stephanus Umbenhauer it was deemed expedient to divide Tulpehocken Township, and the eastern part was named "Bern." So rapid was the development of the community in the course of the next fifty years that further division was necessary, Bern Township being divided, with "Upper Bern" as the name for the new section. By 1841 a new township was again formed, parts of Bern and Upper Bern being taken. This was named "Penn," in honor of the original owner of the land. It is in Penn Township that Bernville is situated.

As early as 1819 Thomas Umbenhauer set aside 46 acres to be divided into building lots, 62 in all. With true economic and artistic foresight he chose as a site for the new town a slight elevation near the confluence of the

Tulpehocken and Northkill Creeks. The beauty of the location is still a matter of constant remark. On the 24th of August of the same year the first six lots were bought by Peter Bennethum. Part of this ground was then occupied by a tannery, the one thriving industry of those early days. The new owner built his home nearby, and this was the first house in the new village. It was not until the 22d of January of the following year that the new town received its name, Bernville, in honor of the birthplace of the grandfather of Thomas Umbenhauer. In March of this same year of 1820 twenty-three more lots were sold. It is said that Thomas Umbenhauer, in order to avoid all imputation of unfairness in selling the choicest lots, determined to award them by lot. Numbered tickets were sold at \$30 each and on a certain day drawings were held. In this way the lots were fairly apportioned. Each lot was originally 60 by 260 feet. In addition to the original price of \$30, each lot was subject to a ground rent of \$16 1-3. The purchaser of a lot could pay this in cash or pledge himself to pay one dollar annually for an indefinite period. The latter plan seems to have found considerable favor, for even in our day many lots have still been subject to this ground-rent. The names of the original purchasers are still preserved. Of the twenty-

HISTORICAL SKETCH—Continued

three lots sold in 1820 nineteen were almost immediately improved with houses, and this group may be said to have formed the real nucleus of the new village. An interesting feature of the town plan was the provision for a market square in the center of the town. Along this square all houses were to be set back ten feet further than in the other squares, making the street twenty feet wider than elsewhere. This additional space was never utilized for marketing purposes, but it adds much to the beauty of the town.

So far as is known the first house in what is now the Borough of Bernville was built by Philip Filbert in 1820. It was a two-story log structure, so substantially built that it is not only still standing, but it is in sufficiently good repair to be regularly occupied. The original logs have been weatherboarded, but otherwise it remains very much as it was when first erected. Two years later the first store was built next to the Filbert house, and this building, since put to various uses, also remains substantially the same as it was when built. The first hotel in this section was built by Philip Filbert, and was known as Filbert's Tavern. It is still standing, but is no longer used as an inn. In the town itself the first hotel was built by Samuel Umbenhauer in 1825, long since remodeled and now the

residence of one of our most honored citizens, Dr. John A. Brobst. The second hotel was conducted by Daniel Bentz.

While many thriving trades were carried on in and about the town, no great boom was experienced until the opening of the Union Canal in 1828. This event had been looked forward to, and when the scheme was finally consummated Bernville entered upon an era of unusual prosperity. Prior to the opening of the canal, tanning, under the direction of Peter Bennethum, was about the only important industry. The tanning business has been successfully continued ever since the days of Bennethum until quite recently, when the old tannery was permanently abandoned.

With increased prosperity there was a growing dissatisfaction along about the middle of the last century with certain conditions, especially those of the schools and the roads. After much thought and deliberation the conclusion was reached that the best remedy for all their ills would be the incorporation of the town into a borough. The proposed erection of a school house some distance from the town became the immediate determining factor in the decision. The disapproval of the citizens was voiced in a town meeting, and soon after a charter was applied for.

HISTORICAL SKETCH—Continued



UMBENHAUER FARM

In 1851 the town became a borough, the charter having been granted by the Legislature in that year. More trouble arose when it became necessary to determine the borough limits, because many property owners just outside of the town proper refused to be included within the new grant. The final issue of the affair was that only that part included in the original plan of Thomas Umbenhauer was to consti-

tute the borough. E. B. Filbert was the first Burgess and A. R. Koenig the first Town Clerk.

Bernville was now in the hey-day of its prosperity. Owing to the transportation facilities afforded by the Union Canal, Bernville soon became the business centre of this part of the country. Warehouses were erected and coal and lumber yards established. Farmers from far and near

HISTORICAL SKETCH—Continued

brought their grain and other produce to Bernville for shipment to the markets, and took home with them from our well-equipped stores all the necessaries of life. A number of industries sprang up. First-class brick clay was found, and several brickyards were soon in successful operation. To these yards Bernville owes its many brick houses. A brewery was established, and it is said to have done an excellent local business. A handle works was established in 1868 and very successfully run by Klahr & Son until severe losses by fire caused the business to be relinquished in 1882. Just north of the town, on the Northkill Creek, a foundry was built and operated by Joel Haag. For a number of years Benjamin Klahr carried on the pottery business originally established by Levi Yonson. Owing to the fine water power, both in the Northkill and Tulpehocken, many grist mills were built, most of which have been in continuous operation ever since.

With all this material welfare the social, intellectual and religious life of the community was in full accord. A little log church had been built as early as 1745, but this gave way to a more pretentious structure in 1791. The schools of the borough soon established a reputation for that excellence which they have maintained ever since.

Both the church and school history are more elaborately sketched in another part of this booklet.

It remains for us to speak briefly of the social side of Bernville life at the time when conditions were most flourishing. By far the most important element in the older life of the town were the Battalion Days, held at recurring intervals. The so-called Battalion was a species of military encampment, and no place in all the county was more popular with the soldiers than Bernville. The greatest occasion of the kind was in 1841, when a three-weeks' encampment was opened on Umbenhauer's farm. The camp was in charge of General William H. Keim, and was made up of companies from Berks and nearby counties. Regular military regulations were maintained, and on the day of dress parade many notable persons were present, among them being D. R. Porter, Governor of the State, fourteen members of the State Senate, and the State Secretary and Treasurer.

These battalions were the forerunners of the local militia just prior to the Civil War. There seems to have been an unusually strong military spirit both in the town and the surrounding country. At the first call to arms practically the whole male population enlisted. A military company of boys too young to enlist was organized by Mr.

HISTORICAL SKETCH—Continued

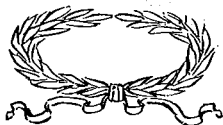
George W. Huber, and was known as the "Bernville Home Guards." Although the boys ranged in age from only 12 to 16, a true military aspect was given by their regular uniforms, their flags and their officers. Huber was Captain, James Conrad was Lieutenant, while John Daniel and a certain Dundore were the Drummers. Billy Boyer carried the flag. The swords and bayonets were made by Ephraim Whitman. On all public occasions these 25 or 30 "Home Guards" turned out and kept the military enthusiasm alive.

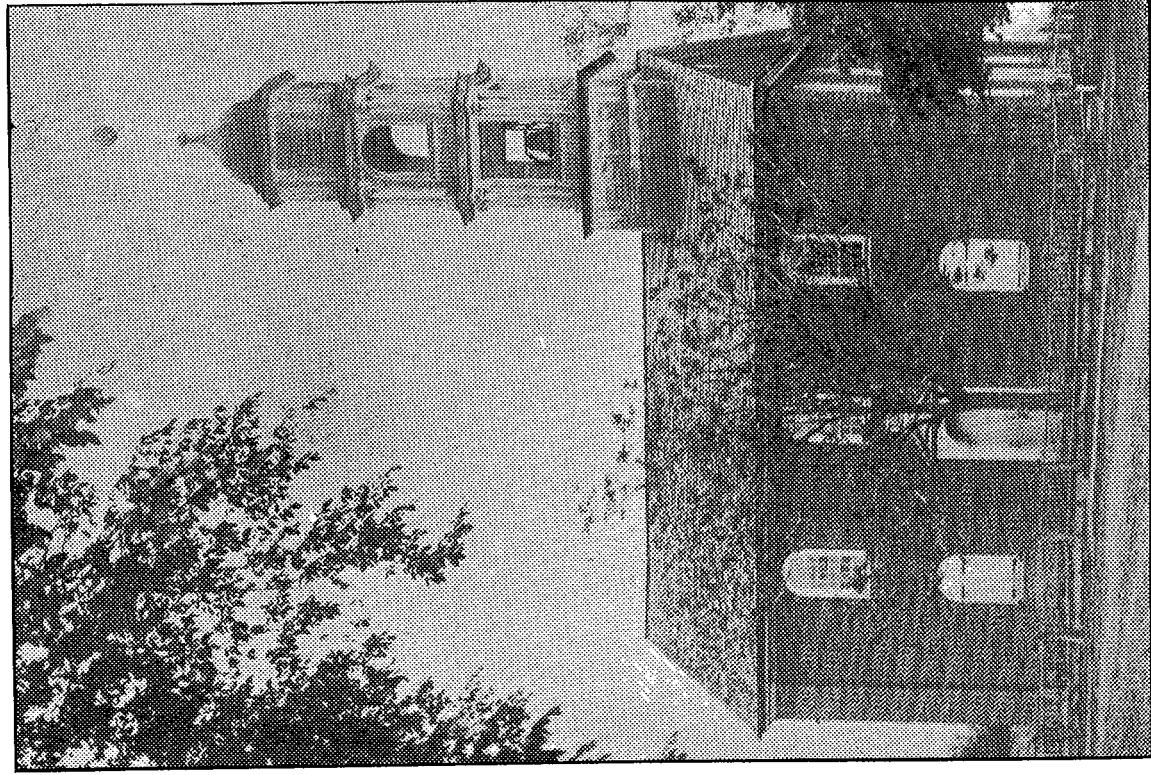
Such was the life in the old days. The general prosperity of the town, its beautiful location, its water power, its means of transportation, all these called forth many optimistic comments as to the future welfare of the community. There seemed to be no reason why Bernville should not grow to be one of the largest and most active towns in the county. But the march of progress throughout the coun-

try at large gave the death-blow to the industries of Bernville. The Union Canal could not compete with the railroads that were stealing all its trade, and it was not long before its activities began to decline, ceasing altogether some twenty-four years ago. With the closing of the canal all business activities ceased in a comparatively short time. The railroads of Bernville—but that is a sad tale better left untold.

It was not our task to chronicle the declining period of our town. On the present occasion we live in the past, and it is the past that we have tried to portray. Let us hope that the enthusiasm of the present occasion will once more light the Torch of Progress, and let us who are its sons see to it that its rays will penetrate with increasing lustre all future generations.

H. C. SCHWEIKERT,
Dept. of English, St. Louis High School, St. Louis, Mo.





OLD NORTHKILL UNION CHURCH
(1791-1906)

Bernville's Churches

At the north end of the town there stands a group of buildings which is an eloquent though mute testimony to the spirit of the early settlers. That group is the churches and the schoolhouse, and they witness most faithfully the alliance between religion and education. This was one of the priceless heritages which the German immigrant brought with him across the waters, and the pioneer along the Northkill was no exception.

To him religion and education were as necessary as the bread he ate and the apparel he wore. Accordingly, as soon as the first settlement appeared there came, too, the church and the schoolhouse.

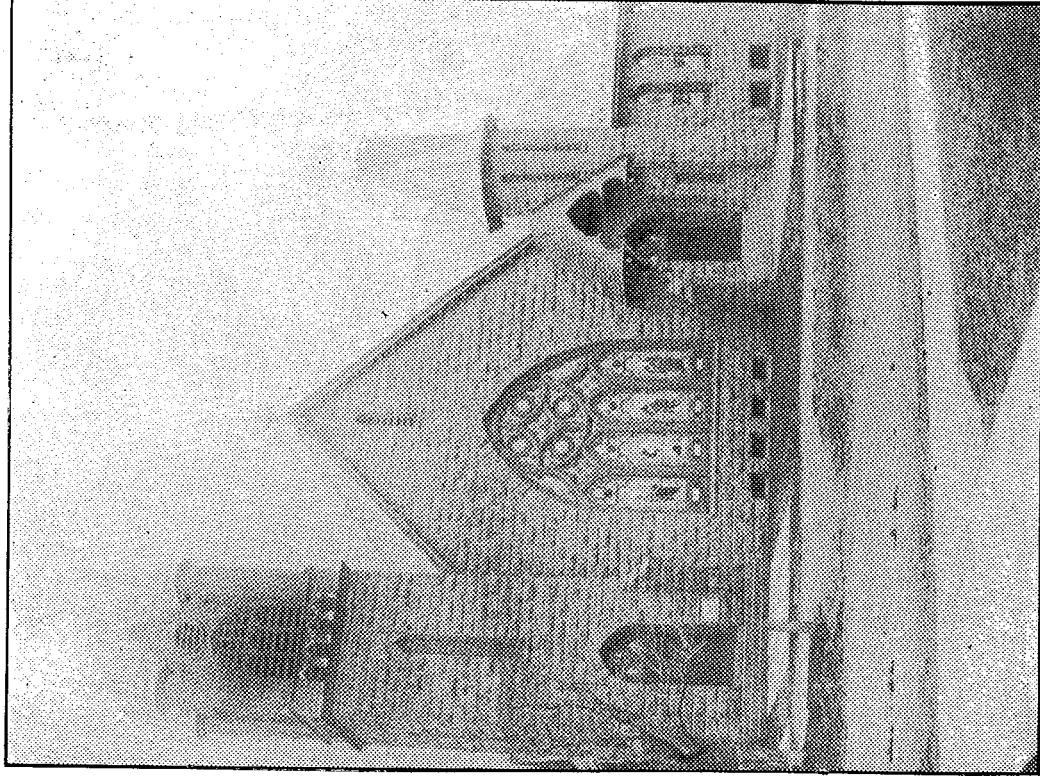
There is still extant a record that on Christmas Day, 1745, a plot of ground was donated for the erection of a church by Gottfried Fidler. Early in the following year a log building, the first home of the Northkill Lutheran Congregation, was erected. This humble building stood

for forty-five years, and saw some of the most interesting of the events in the history of our national life. In her pulpit stood some of the early church's most noted pastors. The patriarch of the Lutheran Church in this country, the Rev. Dr. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, preached there, and the line of her early pastors forms a list of leaders of whom the Northkill congregation may well be proud.

The log church was displaced in 1791 by the brick church, which stood the storms without and within until 1905, when it, too, was razed to the ground.

This was the building which shall live longest in the minds and hearts of the residents of Bernville, and shall always stand most distinctly for the religious life of its people.

Who shall ever forget that almost square colonial building with the steeple at the south end. The distinctive feature of the interior was the high pulpit at the east wall,



FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCH
REV. D. C. GERBERICH, Pastor

BERNVILLE'S CHURCHES—Continued

and the gallery on the other three sides. Down below were the sittings for the women and the older men (the deacons and elders having box stalls)—a separate section for each age and sex. Rarely were these imaginary lines overstepped, and when some "city man" had the boldness to sit with the lady whom he had escorted to the service, one would almost expect to see a deacon gently touch him on the shoulder and advise him to go to his own place. But those days with their joys and their sorrows now have gone—and everyone sits where he chooses.

However strange some of these customs may appear to us now, yet they did not impair the worth of that church, for it had some relation to almost everyone in the town and the surrounding county. At the call of the bell almost every household prepared for its going to the house of worship. One is reminded of that song of Harbaugh,

"Darch Hitz und Kelt,
Darch Staub und Schnee,
Is alles ganga, gros und kla
Bei reich und arma Leit."

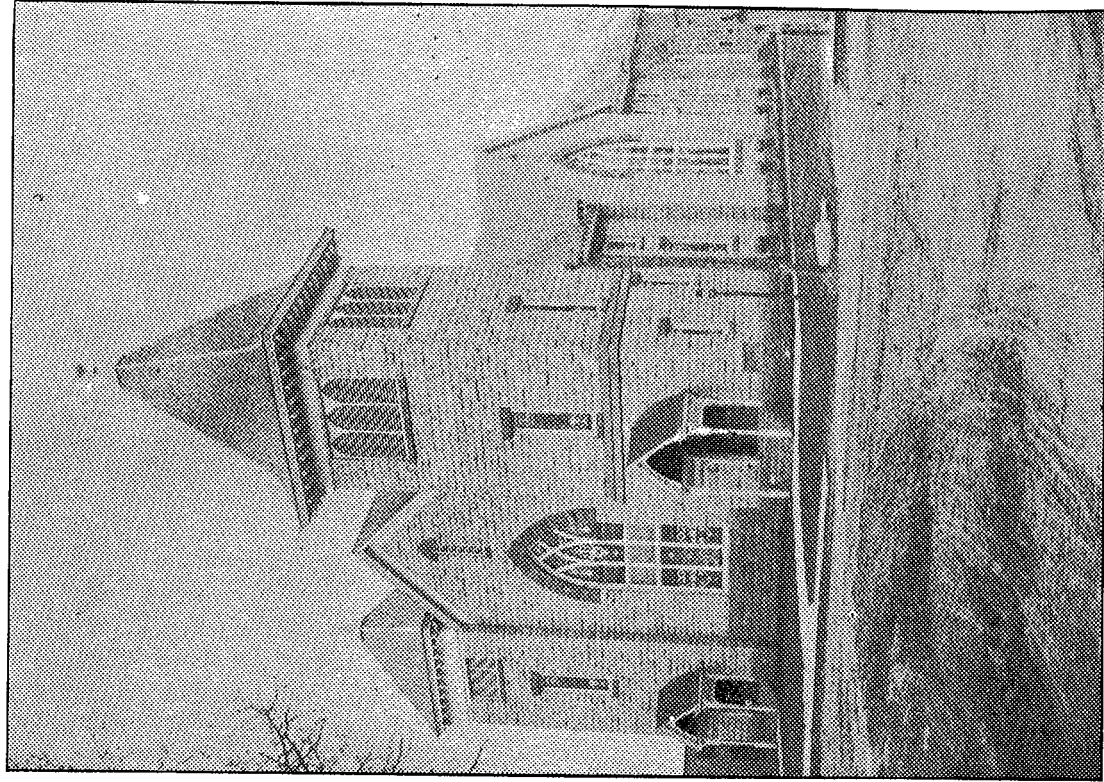
Those who did not go were a small minority. Especially impressive was it to see the farmers, who had worked

early and late during the preceding week, come to church on a hot summer Sunday afternoon and attentively and devoutly taking part in the entire service.

Nor did the ministrations of that church cease with Sunday. Though her doors were closed throughout the week, yet her voice was heard. Who that was brought up within its hearing shall ever forget the eleven o'clock bell. What a welcome sound it was to the toilers in the harvest field. To them it meant the dinner hour. And then to some aged devout father or mother, who were watching the toilers return, it may have been the angelus, bringing to them the thought of the Father above who would soon gather them as sheaves ripe unto the harvest into the eternal home beyond.

When the Reformed congregation was gathered, they, too, used this edifice, and thus for many years it served both denominations.

Perhaps the proudest day in the life of this interesting building was when her sons and daughters gathered to celebrate its one hundredth anniversary in 1891. The two days of special services were none too many to do honor to the event. And those beautiful May days shall linger long in the memory of those who were fortunate enough to participate in the festivities of the occasion.



ST. THOMAS REFORMED AND LUTHERAN CHURCH

Revs. T. C. and E. S. LEINBACH and M. S. GOOD, Pastors

BERNVILLE'S CHURCHES—Continued

But the day came when this second building of the Northkill congregation was to be superseded by two handsomer churches. After much planning and some unfortunate differences two beautiful new buildings arose, one for the use of Frieden's Lutheran Church, and the other for the St. Thomas' Union (Reformed and Lutheran) congregations. Bernville can now boast itself of church buildings that would grace any city congregation.

Frieden's Lutheran congregation is at present without a pastor, but is being supplied by the Rev. D. G. Gerberich. Five former pastors of this congregation are living, the Revs. John Smith, Dr. Hugo Grahn, D. D. Trexler, J. J. Cressman (under whose pastorate the present beautiful church was built), and H. L. Straub. Two of her sons, the Revs. A. M. Weber and G. M. Sheidy, have entered the ministry.

The St. Thomas' Reformed congregation has been served for more than forty years by the Rev. T. C. Leinbach, who is at present assisted in the work by his son, the Rev. E. S. Leinbach. From this congregation a number of young men have entered the ministry, among whom are the Revs. Allen K. Faust, Thomas Fox and Edwin Bright.

The Rev. M. S. Good is the pastor of the St. Thomas' Lutheran congregation, having succeeded the Rev. Wm. Gaby, who was the first pastor.

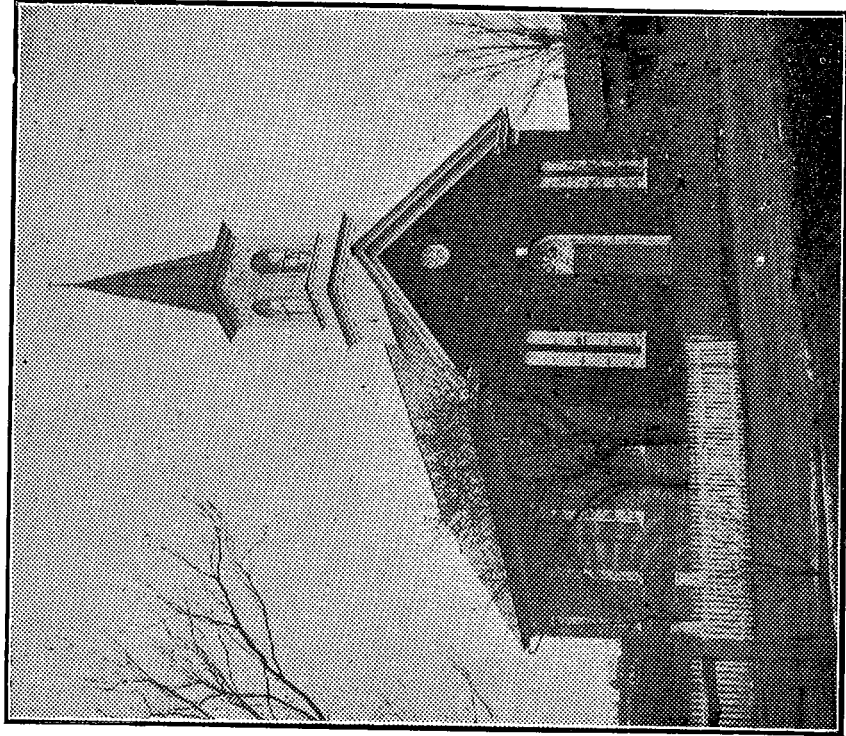
Nor would the history of Bernville's religious life be complete without some mention of the work of the Evangelical Church (Evangelical Association). This was organized and a building was erected in 1850. The growth of the congregation necessitated the erection of the present building in 1872. The congregation at one time numbered seventy-five, but owing to industrial conditions most of them have now removed from Bernville and the church is rarely opened.

Four members of this congregation entered the ministry, two of whom are now in actual service, the Rev. Chas. Daniels and the Rev. C. C. Speicher.

“O, where are kings and empires now
Of old that went and came?
But lo, thy church is praying yet
A thousand years the same.”

SAMUEL GEISS TREXLER,

Pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Messiah,
Brooklyn, N. Y.



SALEM EVANGELICAL CHURCH

The Bernville Schools



“Delightful task! to rear the tender thought,
To teach the young idea how to shoot,
And pour the fresh instruction o’er the mind.”

The Bernville schools begin with the founding of the town, which, in point of time, is midway between the earliest settlements of Tulpehocken and the present time.

Prior to the adoption of the Common or Free School System, which happened a little more than half a century ago, and which is nearly coincident with the establishment of the borough, the schools of Bernville were naturally what are termed “pay schools,” where each pupil was charged a certain fee for instruction, the principal branches then taught being the three R’s—Reading, ’Riting and ’Rithmetic.

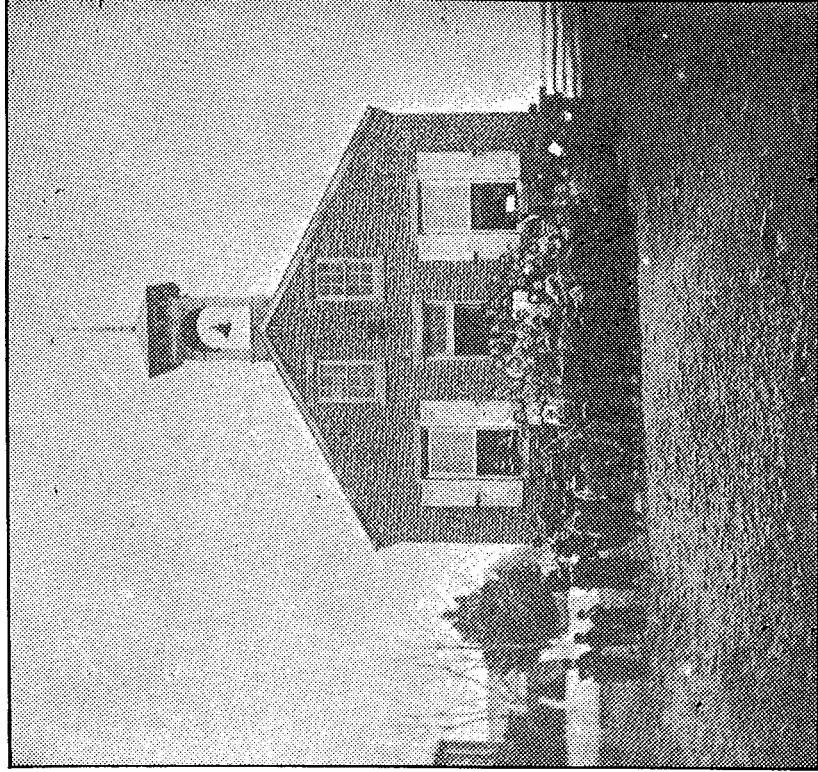
In those days it was the custom of the teacher in many localities to “board round” among the patrons of the

school, and possibly some of the early teachers of Bernville followed that custom.

It appears that the lot on which the school building stands has been used for school purposes since the town had boys and girls old enough to receive instruction, and the first schoolhouse was a low, log structure on the rear portion of the lot.

At that time there was also a schoolhouse outside of the town, near Samuel Mogel’s residence, and the well used by that school is still in existence, while the road passes over the site of the building. In this schoolhouse a man named Deininger taught in the German language, and he is the earliest teacher of that section that tradition has been able to furnish.

The first English teacher in that locality is said to have been Nicholas Krusey, who was among the earliest teachers in the old log building. Others who taught in that



BERVILLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

About 35 Years Ago

[Scholars of the two schools combined. Teachers: Henry Brownmiller, David Foos]

BERNVILLE'S SCHOOLS—Continued

building were Ed. Jones, John Fritz, a Mr. Evans, a Mr. Gillespy and a Mr. Baker.

Some time before the establishment of the borough, a one-roomed brick schoolhouse was erected on the site of the present building. During its construction a school was taught by Sadie Schwartz in the building now occupied by H. B. Hetrich's barber shop. Miss Schwartz had no time-piece, and in order to know the time of day she detailed one or more of her pupils to obtain that knowledge from the hotel.

This appears to have been the beginning of two grades in the Bernville schools. The primary grade occupied the new building and the grammar grade the log building on the rear of the lot, which was replaced some years afterward by a brick structure.

Avery Knapp is said to have been the first teacher in the primary school building.

Among the teachers who gave instruction in these buildings after the establishment of the two grades were William K. Haag, David Engle, Harry and William R. Wiend, Dr. D. E. Klopp, Rev. D. B. Albright, a Miss Dunlap, James T. Stamm, P. S. Mack, John H. Riegel, George

F. Schock, David Foos, Henry H. Brownmiller, Peter Umbenhauer, a Mr. Seifert, Jacob Staudt, Morgan B. Klopp.

The present school building, a two-story, four-roomed brick structure, was erected in 1877. Home talent was employed in its construction, among the carpenters being Jonas Hetrich, Elias Daniels, Solomon Berger and Elias Himmelberger, and among the masons Levi Berger and Henry Luckenbill.

Three grades (Grammar, Secondary and Primary) were established in 1878, and the respective teachers thereof from that time to the end of the school term of 1906-7 were as follows:

Grammar—Rev. George M. Zellers, Michael A. Gruber, Rev. Milton J. Bieber, Rev. Edward F. Ritter, George Bierman, James Long, Theodore Culp, Samuel T. Bordner, Ed. D. Trexler, George C. Bordner, William Schaak, William Pflueger, Frank H. Hartman, H. D. Weiser, Howard Bream, Edgar S. Richardson and Richard Moll.

Secondary—Morgan B. Klopp, Lizzie C. Snyder, Levi G. Stump, Lillie Strominger, Rev. Levi S. Mogel, Alice R. Smeltzer, F. H. Wagner, John G. Dundor, Mrs. Clara M. Griesemer, Frank P. Blatt, Amy Wagner, George C.

BERNVILLE'S SCHOOLS—Continued

Luft, T. Calvin Naftzinger, Margaret Bees, Simon P. Wilhelm and Elizabeth Heydt.

Primary—Henry S. Machemer, Ida Walters, Jennie White, Clara D. Smith, Celesa Daniels (Mrs. A. R. Bright), Annie McGowan, Minnie P. Noecker (Mrs. F. P. Blatt), Mrs. Clara M. Griesemer, Stella Walborn, Clara A. Bordner and Ida E. Beyerle.

The majority of these teachers also taught subscription or select school of 8 to 11 weeks after the expiration of the public school term. The respective school rooms, on such occasions, were granted free of charge.

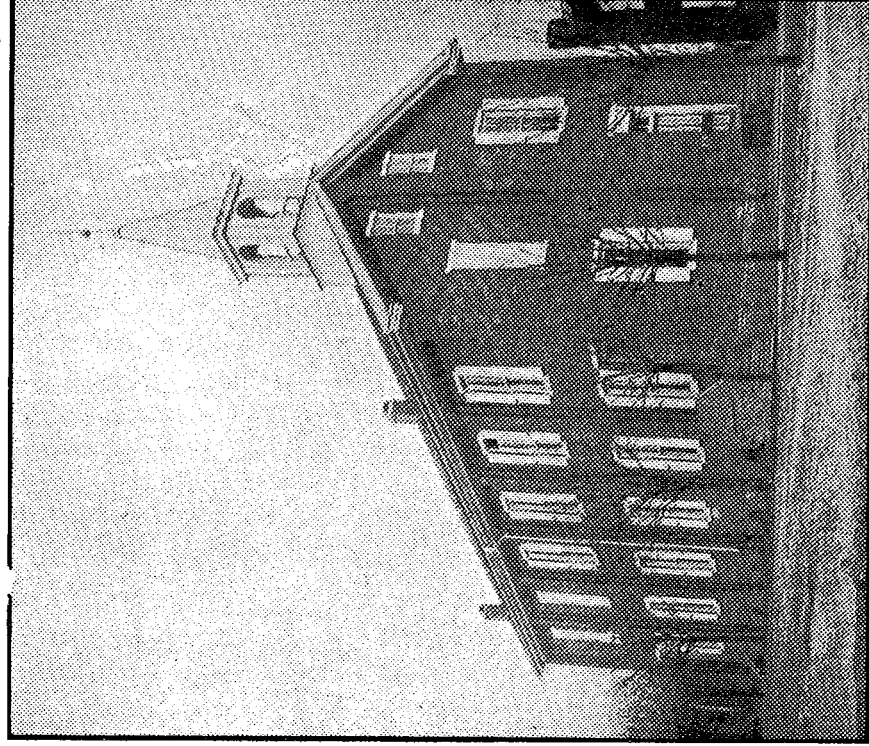
Occasionally, when the teacher who taught during the winter removed from the place or was no longer available, an outside teacher was granted the privilege of teaching subscription school. Among such teachers were John L. Staudt, Mary R. Snyder, Henry Berger and Francis W. Balthaser.

Ten of these teachers had been former pupils of one or more of the grades of the Bernville schools, viz.: Rev. Levi S. Mogel, John G. Dundor, John L. Staudt, Francis W. Balthaser, Frank P. Blatt, George C. Luft, Celesa Daniels, Edgar S. Richardson, Clara A. Bordner and Ida E. Beyerle.

A remarkable fact is the extreme partiality death has shown to the instructors of Bernville's school children during the past thirty years. As far as known, the Grim Reaper has failed to claim any of them for his own.

A few of the older teachers have continued in the service, and the years of their school room work cover two generations of pupils. The majority of them have, however, entered other fields of usefulness—the ministry, law, county, State and national government, and various forms of business, while several of the successful school-ma'ams preferred to have little family schools entirely their own.

Among the members of the School Board who served during the past thirty or more years are the following: Moses Schock, Charles W. Hetrich, Adam Dundor, Joseph B. Conrad, Charles F. Rentschler, Benjamin Klahr, Dr. D. D. Deppen, John S. Wenrich, Jonathan B. Miller, Dr. W. George Beyerle, John H. Hetrich, Frank M. Harbach, Levi Berger, Dr. John A. Brobst, Peter B. Bright, Ephraim Witman, Rev. D. D. Trexler, Edwin Umbenhower, Lewis P. Kershner, Charles M. Richardson, Nathaniel P. Staudt, James H. Hollenbach, Christian Schweikert, Jeremiah Weidner, Milton Pleis, John D. Harbach,



BEERVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING

BERNVILLE'S SCHOOLS—Continued

Dr. George W. Fahrenbach, William J. Harpel, Jacob M. Bordner, William D. Heffelfinger, James F. Talley, John H. Bright, Peter N. Blatt, Jacob Sheidy and James M. Burns.

The services of some of these directors, with an occasional rest as a kind of vacation, extends over more than a quarter of a century.

The citizens of Bernville, as a general rule, elected the most capable men to serve as guardians of their schools, and it is a credit to the borough that politics very seldom turned down the best man.

Reference has been made to the subscription or select schools conducted by the respective teachers for a period of 8 to 11 weeks after the expiration of the public school term. These were a prominent feature during part of Bernville's school history, especially so in case of the grammar grade, which was then a combined Normal and High School.

The palmy days of these select schools were during the times of Zellers, Gruber, Bieber and the Bordners. In addition to pupils from the town, young men and women from neighboring districts attended. Instruction was given

in the common school branches, business forms, the higher mathematics, Latin, German and Greek. A class for teachers was one of the specialties. The writer of this article, as teacher at Bernville, had at one time 18 students in Latin, and during the school term of 1890-91, 40 of his former pupils were teaching in the public schools of Berks county.

These select schools also served to improve the financial side of the teacher, as the smallness of the borough hardly permitted a proper recompense for the grade of teachers desired. On several occasions the income from the tuition of eleven weeks' select school almost equalled the teacher's salary for the entire public school term of six to seven months.

Another benefit from these schools was the tuition accruing to the school fund from outside pupils who saw the advantage of also attending the public schools of the borough.

The schools of Bernville have enjoyed for a long time the reputation of being among the most efficient in the county. The town being a centre of trade during the prosperous times of the Union Canal, the public-spirited

BERNVILLE'S SCHOOLS—Continued

citizens took a deep interest in the welfare of the schools. They saw the advantages of a liberal education and tried to bring about the best results with the means that a town of its size could furnish. When the business interests of the town suffered because of the decadence of the canal, the interest in the schools kept increasing. There were a number of parents who desired that their children should receive a higher development of mind than was obtainable from the routine of the schoolroom then commonly in vogue, and they saw no reason why their town could not have well equipped teachers and proper facilities to that end. Their efforts proved successful to a large degree, and to-day Bernville is proud of the fact that its public schools have been instrumental in laying the foundation for intelligent activity of hundreds of young men and women, and challenges other towns of even greater size to show equal results for the same period of time.

In many States of our great nation, and even in other lands, the pupils of the Bernville schools have proved themselves worthy men and women. In whatever walk of life they are found, energy, perseverance and industry are chief characteristics. They are filling positions of

trust with credit and honor. They are generally successful in the various trades and forms of business, and in theology, law, medicine, teaching and other professions they are doing excellent work. There are not many vocations or callings in which are not found men or women who at one time or another attended the Bernville schools. Even "Uncle Sam" is annually paying them, as employees of the national government, between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

Then, too, it must not be forgotten that a number of the pupils continued their studies in higher institutions of learning, and Bernville has graduates from Muhlenberg, Princeton, Franklin and Marshall and Pennsylvania Colleges, as well as from the Normal Schools at Kutztown and West Chester, not to mention several medical schools and theological seminaries.

It would be a valuable addition to local history if there were prepared a list of the names, with occupation and residence, as men and women, of the many boys and girls who attended the schools of Bernville since the organization of the borough. A similar list of the teachers and directors would also be very interesting. An attempt was made in that direction by the writer, but what seemed to

BERNVILLE'S SCHOOLS—Continued

be a thorough search for the school reports and minutes revealed no whereabouts of any records prior to 1882. It was also learned that the Capitol fire of several years ago destroyed the records in the Department of Public Instruction at Harrisburg.

Under these adverse circumstances the preparation

of such lists would require considerable time and correspondence; but it is hoped that something in that line may yet be accomplished.

M. A. GRUBER,
Washington, D. C.



Bernville's Heroes in the Wars

"Soldier, rest! thy warfare o'er,
Dream of fighting fields no more."—Scott.

VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR STILL LIVING.

- *Lewis P. Kershner,
- *M. K. Manbeck,
- *Ephraim Miller,
- *Albert Heffelfinger,
- *Adam Weber,

(*) Those living within the borough limits.

John Kenney,
Joel S. Stump,
John K. Fidler,
William S. Miller,
Alfred N. Moll,
John H. Machemer,
George D. Fahrenbach,
Christian R. Koenig,
Henry S. Grime,
Daniel S. Kreitz.

BERNVILLE'S HEROES IN THE WARS—Continued

OLD SOLDIERS BURIED IN BERNVILLE
CEMETERIES.

"How sleep the brave, who sink to rest.
By all their country's wishes blest!"—Collins.

From the Revolution:

John M. Geiss (1).
John M. Fox (1).
John P. Haas (1).
John G. Haag (1).
Leonard Gottshall (2).

From the War of 1812:

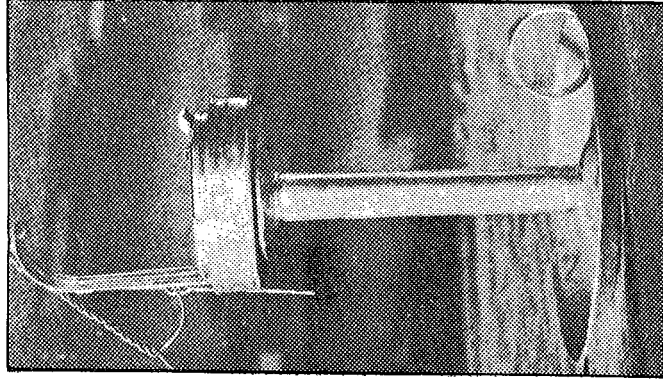
John G. Kreitz (2).
George Knoll (2).
Samuel Strause (2).
Christian Long (2).
Daniel Rishel (2).
John Haag (2).
Philip Wagner (2).
Christian Speicher (2).
John G. Strause (2).
Jacob Riegel (3).

From the Civil War:

John Speicher (2).
Joseph Long (2).
Harrison Haag (2).

Adam Kauffman (2).
Charles Hoppe (2).
Samuel Boyer (2).
Alfred D. Stoudt (2).
Joshua Hollenbach (3).
Dr. W. G. Beyerle (3).
Michael Speicher (3).
Jefferson Haag (2).
Harrison L. Wagner (2).
Jona. L. B. Reber (2).
John Daniels (2).
John F. Stump (2).
William Bennethum (2).
Daniel Livers (2).
Benjamin H. E. Bohn (3).
Edwin H. Kerschner (3).
Frederick Werner (2).
Aaron M. Bright (2).
Cyrus Heffelfinger (2).
Henry R. Lutz (2).
William S. Gibson (2).
Franklin M. Harbach (2).
J. L. Weber (3).
Ephraim Metz (3).
Levi Yonson (3).

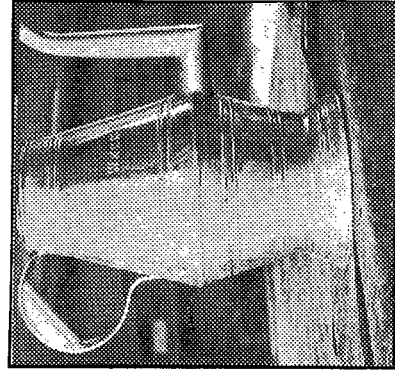
(1) Buried in Old Northkill Church Cemetery.
(2) Buried in Union Cemetery.
(3) Buried in Haag's Cemetery.



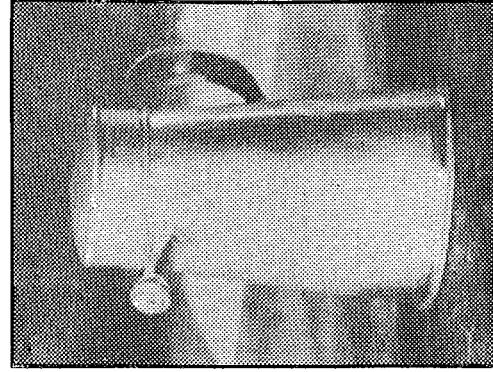
OLD-FASHIONED FAT-LAMP
"Schmutz-Amschel"



JOHN F. BURKHART
The man who has lived longest
in Bernville



OLD HOME WEEK
Tea Pot



OLD-FASHIONED NURSING CAN
"Mam"

Old Inhabitants of the Vicinity of Bernville

The appended list contains the names of a number of persons, most of whom, at the time of the founding of Bernville, lived within a radius of several miles of the place. Some of them were among the first residents of the village, and the descendants of these, as of a number of others on the list, became the subsequent worthy citizens of that beautiful town.

The names and dates of birth and death are those found on the respective tombstones which were erected to their memory in the burial grounds at Bernville and the vicinity.

(Dates given are those of birth and death.)

m. signifies married.

Daniel Babb (1795-1860) m. Sara Gottshall.

Jacob Batteicher (1769-1853) m. Barbara Mountz.

John Batteicher (1795-1858) m. Margaret Haag.

Frederick Bertram (1789-1853).

Peter Bright (1793-1877) m. Maria Magdalena Stamm.

Jacob Bordner (1754-1837) m. Anna Maria Bross.

John Brossman (1768-1830) m. (1) Anna Barbara Heck, (2) Anna Magdalena Fiegel.

John Conrad (1787-1866) m. (1) Maria Salome Groff,

(2) Elizabeth Deppen, (3) Catharine Wenrich.

Jacob Dundore (1784-1828) m. Elizabeth Klopp.

John Ernst (1762-1838) m. Catharine Bayer.

Henry Filbert (1775-1850).

Philip Filbert (1770-1829) m. (1) Catharine Brecht, (2) Barbara Brecht. (Built first house in Bernville.)

Peter Fuchs (now Fox) (1791-1863) m. Catharine Brossman.

John Geiss (1788-1868).

John Michael Geiss (1762-1822) m. Barbara Brecht.

John Nicholas Gottshall (1780-1850) m. Elizabeth Witman.

Leonard Gottshall (1757-1835). Served in Revolution.

Abraham Greim (1760-1836) m. Christiana Geiss.

John Greim (1791-1864) m. Sarah Wertman.

Philip Greim (1793-1874) m. Sarah Class.

Henry Haag (1769-1822).

John Haag (1791-1860).

John Haag (1801-1889) m. Maria Magdalen Derr.

John George Haag (1758-1845).

John Nicholas Haag (1758-1826).

Jacob Haas (1784-1844) m. Elizabeth Meyer.

Philip Heck (1800-1854).

John Haas (1776-1826).

John Michael Henne (1777-1861) m. Catharine Haag.

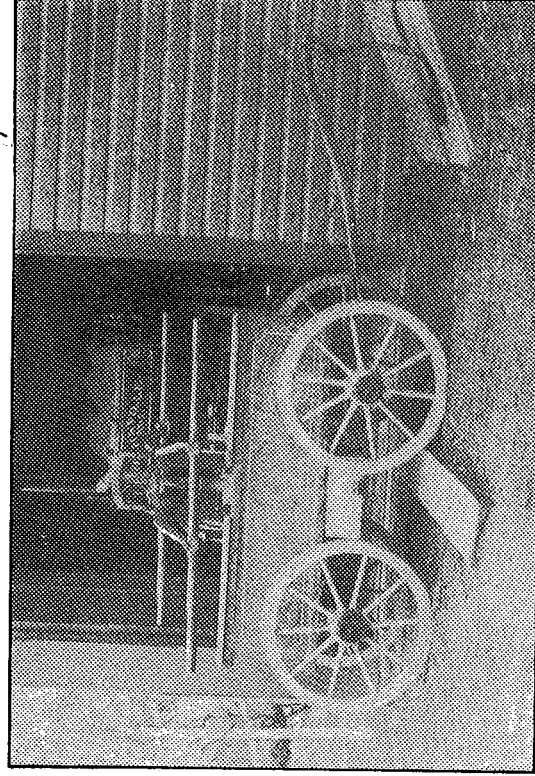
Henry Hettinger (1760-1829) m. Catharine Miller.

Benjamin Kerschner (1801-1837) m. Anna Brossman.

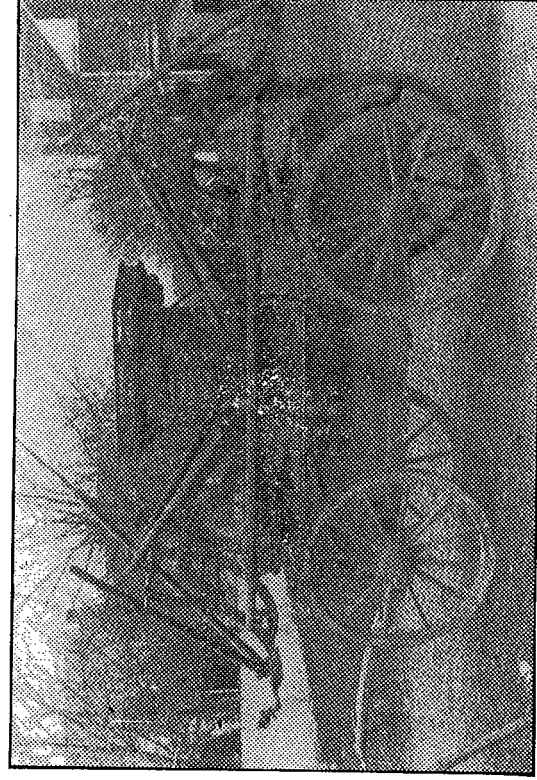
John Klein m. Margaret Dundore.

Philip Klein (1782-1838) m. Mary Elizabeth Stoudt.

John Kalbach (1785-1853) m. Susanna Ruth.



BERNVILLE'S FIRST FIRE ENGINE
"Always Ready"



BERNVILLE'S SECOND FIRE ENGINE

OLD INHABITANTS OF THE VICINITY OF BERNVILLE—Continued

Andrew Kreitzer (1751-1837).
John Miller (1766-1846).
Michael Miller (1777-1830) m. Catharine Batteicher.
Jacob Philips (1780-1851) m. Catharine Wummer.
John Potteiger (1783-1858) m. Catharine Noll.
John Adam Potteiger (1755-1827).
Jacob Riegel (1794-1867) m. Christiana Bohn.
John Daniel Rishel.
Wm. Runkle (1795-1857) m. Elizabeth Rieser.
John Schaeffer (1778-1853) m. Magdalena Richard.
Michael Shedt (now Shade) (1793-1854) m. Catharine
Braun.
Matthias Stoudt (1779-1847) m. Sarah Geiss.
Albrecht Strauss (1760-1832) m. Maria Magdalena
Gaukli.
John Jacob Strauss (1788-1877) m. Sarah Wagner.
John William Strauss (1795-1885) m. Catharine Greim.
Samuel Strauss (1756-1835) m. Catharine Elizabeth
Umbenhauer.
John Stump (1746-1822).
John Thomas Umbenhauer (1762-1832) m. Maria Cath-
arine Stoudt. (Founder of Bernville).
Samuel Umbenhauer (1790-1826) m. Catharine Obold.
George Wagner m. Anna Maria Haas.
John Wagner (1764-1841).
John Wagner m. Anna Magdalena Conrad.
Philip Wagner (1795-1870) m. Elizabeth Miller.
John Weber (1789-1856) m. Elizabeth Umbenhauer.

John Wenrich (1760-1827) m. Susanna Brecht.
Paul Wenrich (1768-1832).
John Adam Wilhelm (1754-1834) m. Maria Christiana
Gruber.

This list does not include the surnames of many well known residents of Bernville and immediate vicinity, of whom a number grew up with the town, while others were residents for several years, and still others who are of more recent arrival.

Among those surnames are the following as recalled to memory by the writer:

Ache, Albright, Auman, Bentz, Berger, Beyerle, Blatt, Boyer, Brobst, Brownmiller, Burkey, Burkhart, Burns, Christ, Cressman, Daniels, Degler, Deppen, Dietrich, Derr, Fahrenbach, Faust, Feit, Focht, Gerhart, Gibson, Grahn, Greenawald, Greth, Griesemer, Groff, Guldin, Haines, Harbach, Harner, Harpel, Heffelfinger, Hetrich, Hine, Hiester, Hollenbach, Hoover, Kaufman, Klahr, Koch, Koenig, Loeb, Luckenbill, Ludwig, Machemer, Manbeck, Mogel, Moll, Moyer, Pleis, Porr, Reber, Reich, Renno, Rentschler, Richardson, Rhine, Rothermel, Rupp, Sando, Schock, Schroeder, Schwartz, Schweigert, Smith, Snavely, Snyder, Speicher, Stamm, Stehly, Talley, Trexler, Weidner, Wengert, Wiend, Witman, Yonson, Zerbe, Ziebach.

Compiled by

M. A. GRUBER,
Washington, D. C.

“Der Alt Fischerman”

Es war 'n alter Fischerman
Ich hab ihn gut gekennt;
Er hot gewohnt net weit eweck
Fun wu die Nordkill endt.

Wann Fischzeit war hot er die Gert
Und oftmohls drei genumma;
Er hot gewisst wu grossa Fish
Sin um der Kork rum g'schwumma.

Er hot gewisst wu schwartza Werm
Zu finna sin f'r "Bait";
Und wann die Box foll Werm war,
War's grad wie frische Wehd.

Sei Grubhack war als reddie g'schtelt,
Dann Ohwets is er naus
Und unnig Wahsum, Dreck und Liesch
Ziegt fetta Werm raus.

Nach Schtaudta oder Kalbach's Damm
Is er frueh Morgets g'schtaert,—
Ep Sun-uff an die Grick zu sei
F'r fischa is fiel werth.

Sin Plaetz gewesst am Tulpehack
Wu Fish, als wenn ferbannt,
Hen yuscht gebissa cert'na Schtun,—
Die Plaetz war er bekannt.

Er hot gewisst wu nei zu schmeisa,
Wie hoch der Kork zu shtella;
Er war die diff'rent Schtun bekannt
Wu Fish net beisa wella.

Wenn eischt die Fish gebissa hen
Hot er no au' Fish g'fanga;
Dehl ann'ra hen als schier nix grickt
Die mit ihm wara ganga.

Er hot ke' fancia Leina g'hatt,
Und au' ke' deira Gerta;
'S hen awwer Leut gemeht er het
Erbattig "Bait" und Wortu.

Er hot 'n langer Fedtler g'hatt,
Und wie 'n Fish war g'fanga
Hot er ihn gut und schoe' eig'fedtlet
Und f'r der naechscht Fish ganga.

'N Hengel Fish mit Hehm zu bringa
War ihm 'n grossie Frehd;
Und wann er's "Pavement" ruf is kumma
War Hengel lang und brehd.

Doch alosemohl hot's Zeita g'hot
Die Fish hen net gebissa;
No is er oft die "Alley" Hehm
Dass mir sei Glick net wissa.

Ins Brossman's Wiss, ans Kenny's Arm,
Und au' am "Island" hinna;
Am Nordkill Fieder, am Foundry Damm,
Und wu die Werwel schpinna;

Ans Kocha und ans Schaeffer's Schliess,
Und wu der Riffel ruehrt;
Wu endlich in die Tulpehack
Die Nordkill sich ferliert;

Am ew'ra und am un'ra Damm,
Am grossa Fieder drunna,
Ans Cunradt's Brick—an all die Plaetz
Hot ihn die Fischzeit g'funna.

'Sis awwer now 'n lehrer Platz
An all die guta Ecku
Wu er gewehnt war Yahra lang
Die Fischgert hie zu schtecka.

Die blotta Blacka an der Grick
Mit Gras sin a'fangs grue';
Der Bullfrog kummt zum Wasser raus
Und setzt sich nehwa hie;

Die Schillgrott schtreckt sich in die hoeh
Und wunnert was is letz;
Die Gert und Lein is nimmie dort,—
Am endt is ihr Geretz.

Der Tod der mit seim Hammergarn
F'r Menscha immer fischt,
Schtellts Garn for'm alta Fischerman
Und hot ihn schoe' ferwischt.

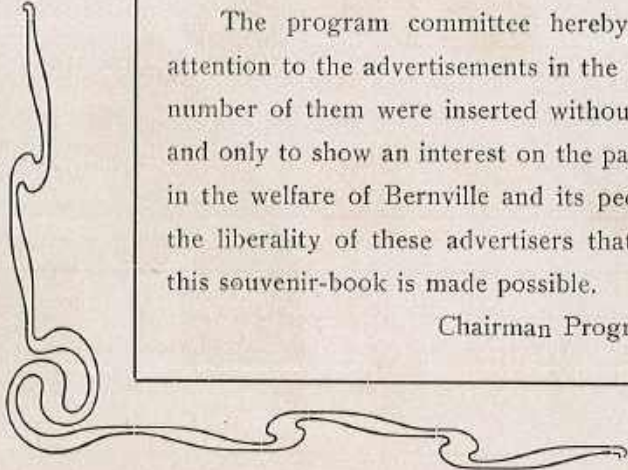
Er hot gezawwelt moechtig hardt
Aus sellem Garn zu kumma;
Der Tod hot awwer annerscht g'meht
Und hot ihn mit genumma.

Der gut alt Fischerman is fort;
Er hot die letscht Lein g'schmissa;
'S lauft Niemand meh wie er als is
Die Tulpehacka Wissa.

[In kind remembrance of John Conrad, for many years the champion fisherman with rod and line of Bernville, Pa., and vicinity. He died in February, 1902, at the good old age of 79 years.]

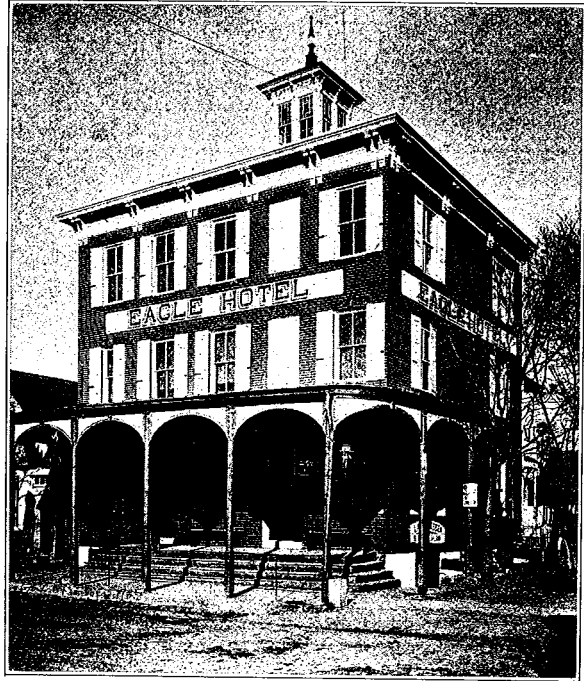
M. A. GRUBER,
Washington, D. C., June, 1902.

Acknowledgment to Advertisers

A decorative flourish consisting of a vertical line that curves into a swirl at the bottom, with a horizontal line extending to the right from the swirl.

The program committee hereby respectfully invite attention to the advertisements in the following pages. A number of them were inserted without thought of return and only to show an interest on the part of the advertisers in the welfare of Bernville and its people. It is through the liberality of these advertisers that the publication of this souvenir-book is made possible.

Chairman Program Committee.



First-Class Accommodations

Steam Heat in every Room

EAGLE HOTEL

JOHN D. SNYDER, Prop'r.

BERNVILLE, PA.

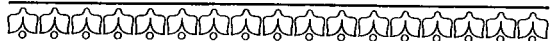


Fine Table Board, Choice Liquors, Excellent Beer

Customers Conveyed to any Desirable Place. Good Stabling and attentive Hostlers. Long Dis. Phone 80-6

FINEST WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS

BOARDING AND STABLING AT REASONABLE RATES



BATHS, STEAM HEAT AND ALL CONVENIENCES



HOTEL REESER

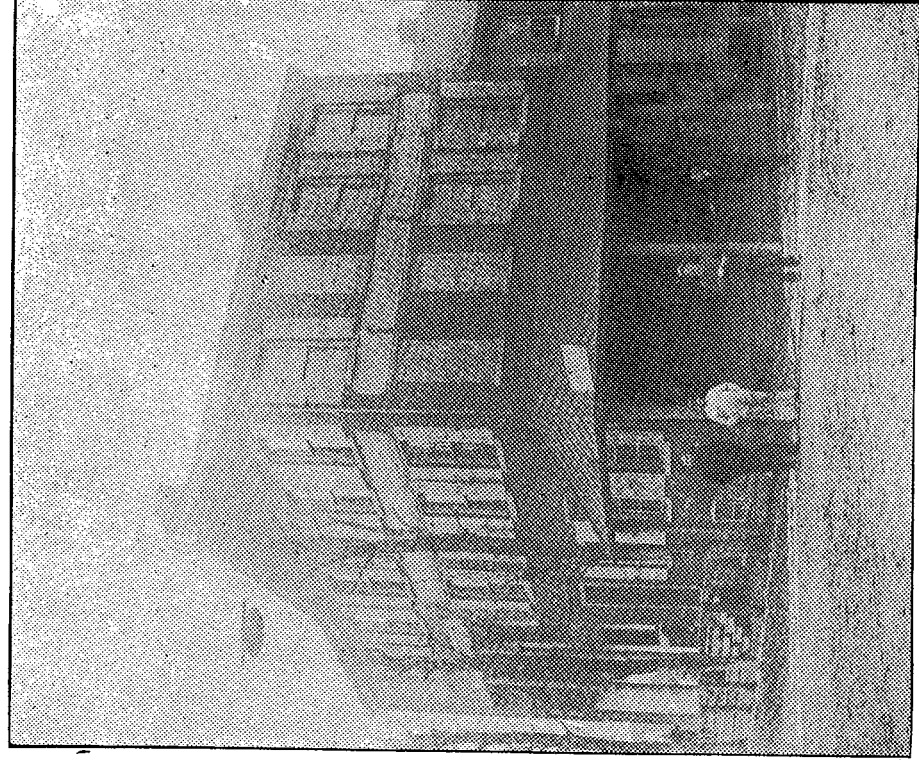
JAMES D. REESER
PROPRIETOR

“Bernville’s New Hotel”



BEST ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TRAVELERS
AND SUMMER BOARDERS

BERNVILLE, PA.



The American House

HOWARD M. DIETRICH
PROPRIETOR

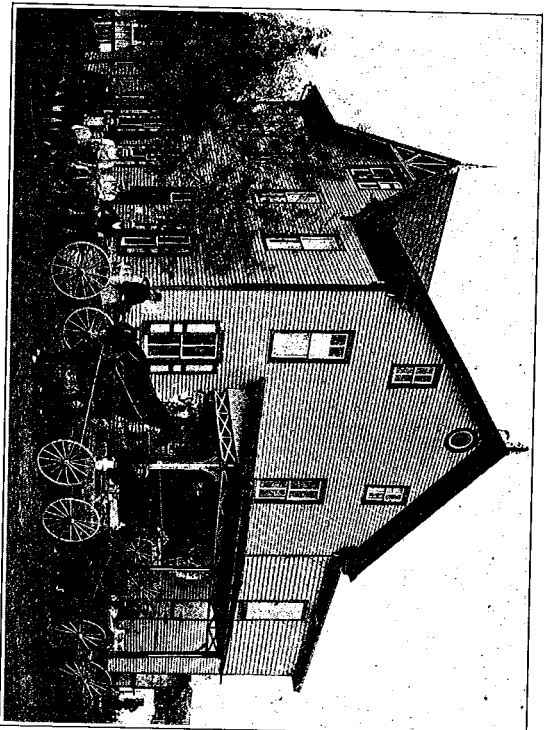
BERNVILLE, PA.

Good, Reliable Accommodations

Fine Meals and Service

Excellent Wines, Liquors and Cigars

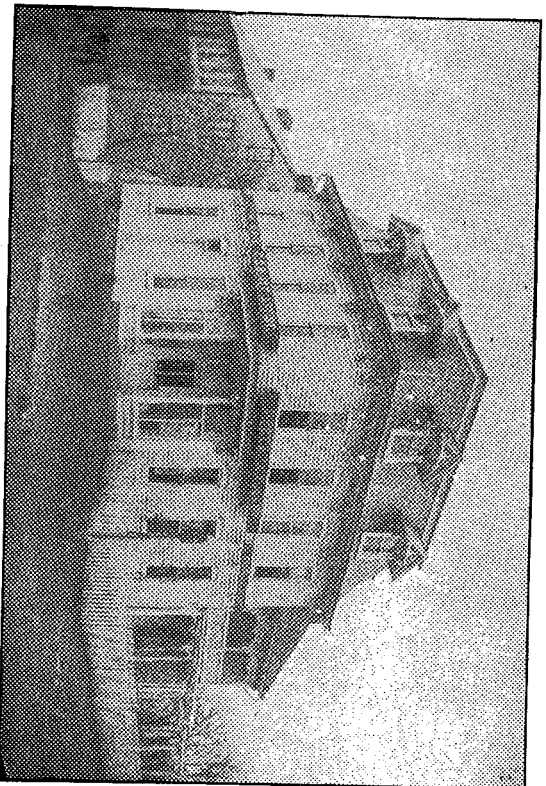
LIVERY ATTACHED



THE BERNVILLE CREAMERY

AHRENS & RICHARDSON

BERNVILLE, PA.




**BLATT'S
PHOTO GALLERY**



The only place for Post Cards of Bernville Views, taken 40 years ago and printed from original negatives. All others are inferior copies and reprints.
BERNVILLE, PA.


WILLIS L. BRIGHT



SHOES


A SPECIALTY

LARGER
STOCK
THAN EVER




HEADQUARTERS FOR

Dry Goods, Notions




Shoes, Boots, Groceries, :: :: :: Wood and
Willow Ware, Glassware and Hardware



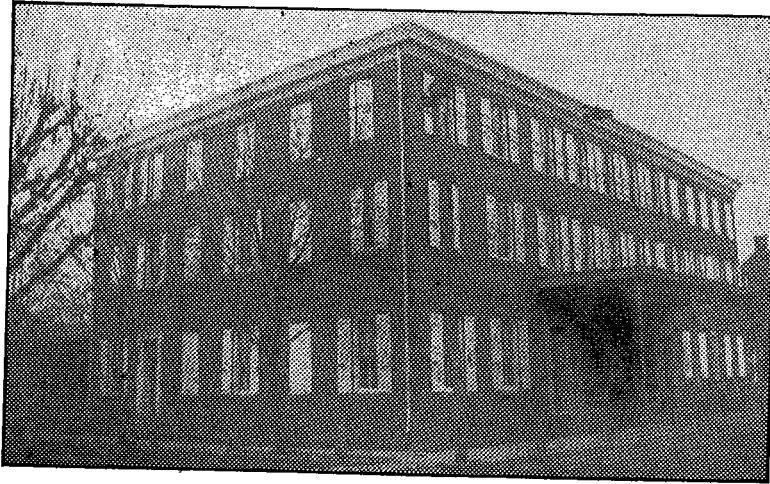
**SAVE
MONEY**

BY HAVING A
TICKET AND
HAVING YOUR
PURCHASES
PUNCHED ::



Congratulations for Old Home Week, Bernville

At BERNVILLE'S MODEL STORE



BERNVILLE'S MODEL STORE

YOU find the largest up-to-date line of DRY GOODS, DRESS GOODS, SILKS, MILLINERY, NOTIONS, SHOES, HARDWARE, QUEENSWARE, WOOD AND WILLOW-WARE, Etc.

**Millinery, Dress Goods, Notions,
Dry Goods, Shoes, and Men's
Furnishings a Specialty.**

SPECIAL EVERY-DAY BARGAINS

Prices the Lowest, Stock the Largest.

Give me a call and be convinced.



Respectfully yours,

JAMES F. TALLEY

N. P. STOUTD
THE BUTCHER

ALWAYS RELIABLE

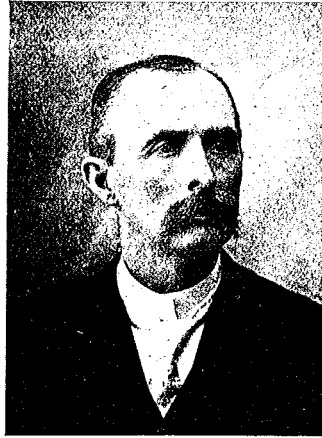
BERNVILLE, PA.

CHAS. P. KALBACH
PHARMACIST

Bernville, Pa.

THOS. C. KALBACH
FUNERAL DIRECTOR and EMBALMER

Bernville, Pa.



J. M. BORDNER
THE BUTCHER

Best Meats Always on Hand

ALSO PROPRIETOR OF

The Old Reliable 'Bus to Robesonia
(RUNS DAILY)

BERNVILLE BUSINESS DIRECTORY

SOUTH BERNVILLE
ROLLER MILLS
BERGER BROS., Proprietors
GRAIN, FLOUR and FEED

M. K. MANBECK
POST CARDS AND STATIONERY
POST OFFICE

LEWIS S. FIDLER,
Prop. ROBESONIA 'BUS
(Two Trips Daily)
GOOD ACCOMMODATION

DAVID F. WOLF
CHEAP SADDLER AND
HARNESSMAKER
RELIABLE WORK

BERNVILLE BAKERY
A. W. WOLF, Proprietor
—
Satisfaction Guaranteed

IRWIN MILLER
ICE CREAM and CONFECTIONERY
—
Kerschner's Ice Cream

PPETER BLATT
FARMERS' BLACKSMITH
Horseshoeing a Specialty

JOHN HOLLENBACH
CONTRACTOR and BUILDER
DEALER IN
LUMBER and MILL WORK

DURABLE HOSIERY MILLS
E. V. R. HIGH, Manager
W. V. R. HIGH, Superintendent

DAVID RHINE
PAINTER and PAPERHANGER
DEALER IN
WALL PAPER

C. C. REESER
THE BAKER
FAMILIES
SUPPLIED WITH
FRESH BREAD, CAKES AND
PRETZELS

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

G. D. FAHRENBACH, M. D.

PHYSICIAN

BERNVILLE, PA.

C. S. REBER, M. D.

PHYSICIAN

WEST READING, PA.

DR. P. S. MOGEL

DENTIST

814 PENN STREET,

READING, PA.

C. EDMUND LERCH, M. D.

PHYSICIAN

BERNVILLE, PA.

H. F. RENTSCHLER, M. D.

PHYSICIAN

228 N. 6th Street,

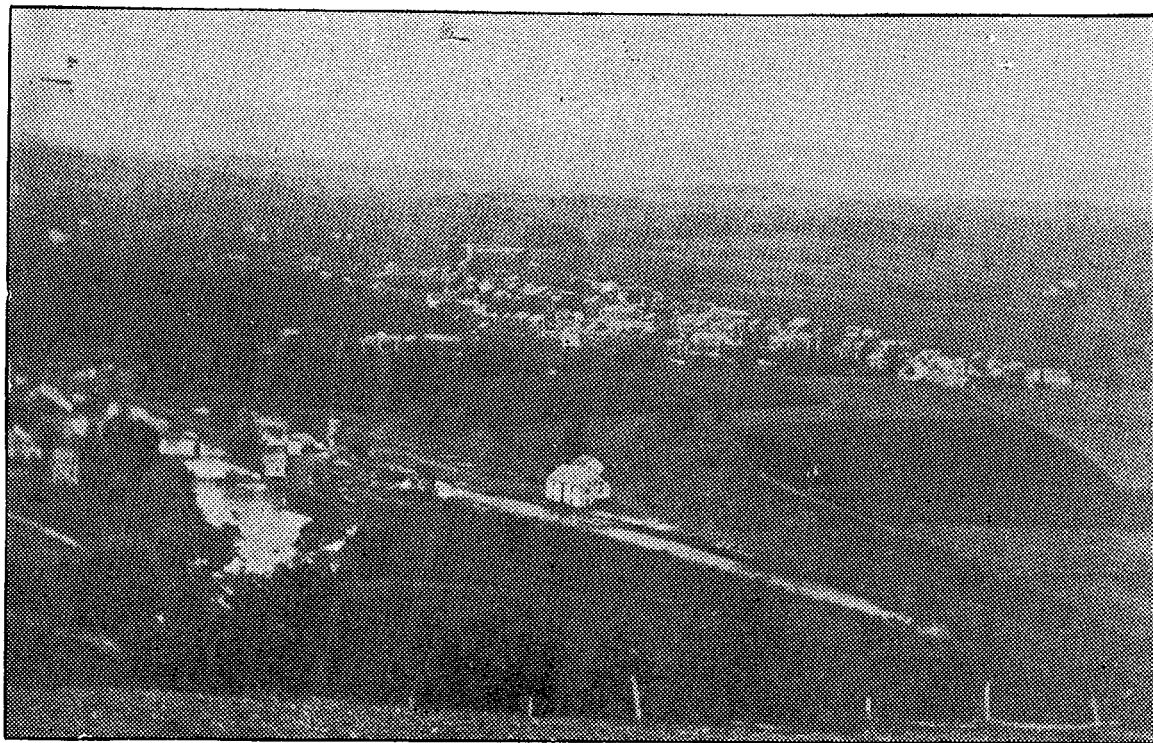
READING, PA.

EDWARD D. TREXLER

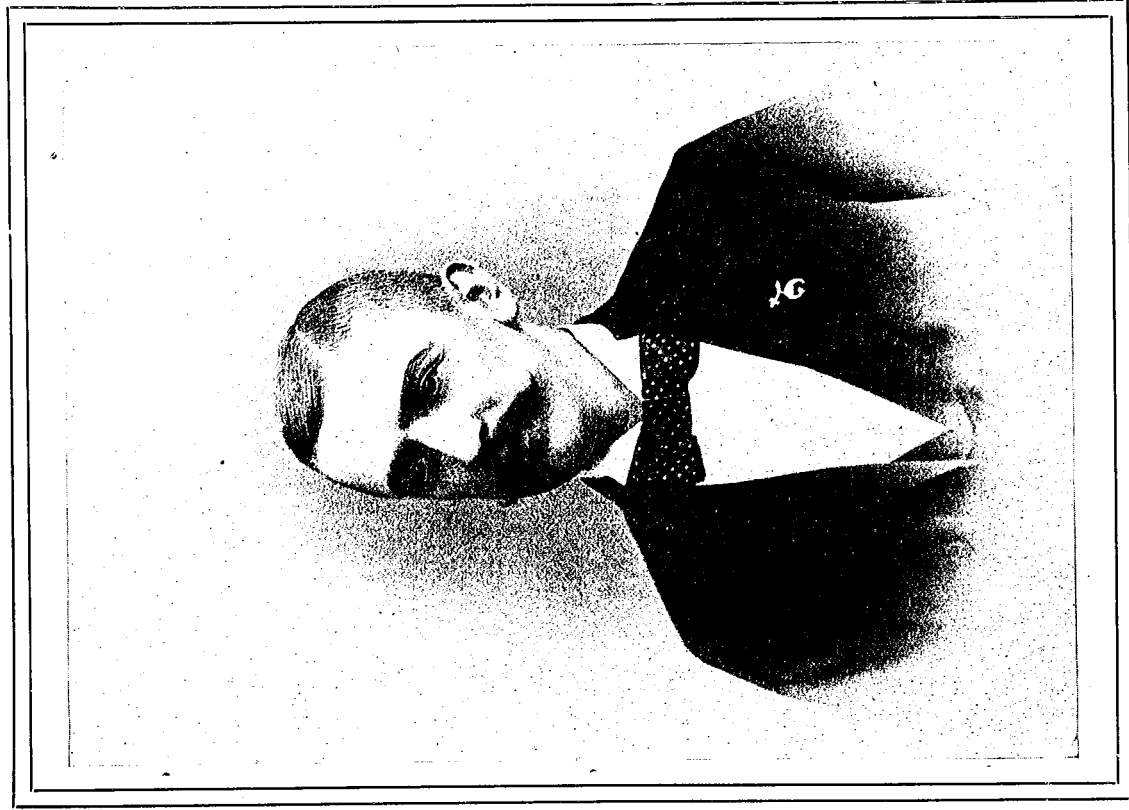
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

29 North 6th Street,

READING, PA.



BERNVILLE FORTY YEARS AGO—From Stump's Hill

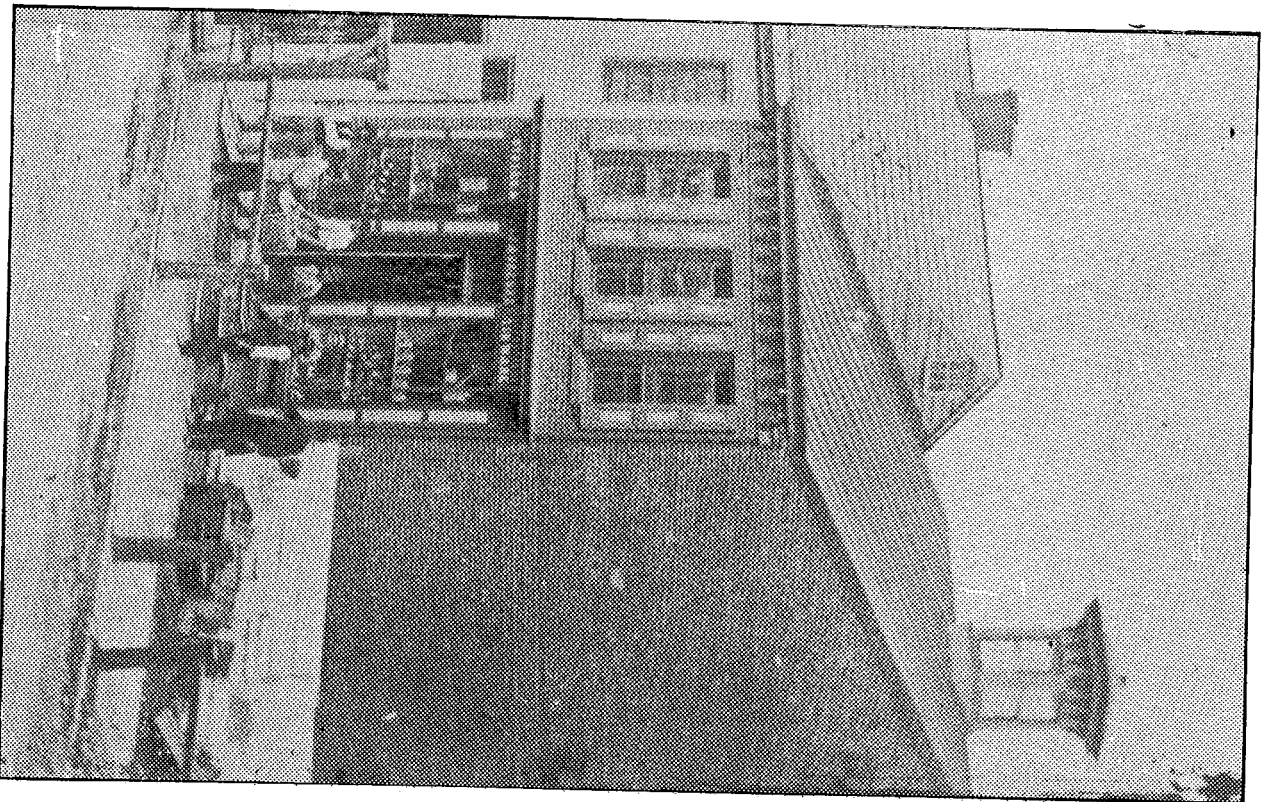


May our friends always possess
health, honor and happiness
As the wish of

J. GEO. HINTZ

Reading's Leading Stationer

756 PENN STREET, READING, PA.



BURKHARDT'S TINSMITH SHOP—About Forty Years Ago

D. A. HEFFNER

J. W. GILBERT

W. M. CROLL

JAS. P. SELLERS

WM. R. FENSTERMACHFR

WM. J. FREDERICK

HEFFNER, GILBERT & CROLL

MERCHANT TAILORS
::: AND CLOTHIERS :::

418-420 Penn St.,

READING, PA.

ESTABLISHED 1865

LEINBACH & BRO.

CLOTHIERS

AND MERCHANT TAILORS

Cor. Penn and 8th Sts.

READING, PA.

J. P. SELLERS & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1844

CLOTHIERS

and MERCHANT TAILORS

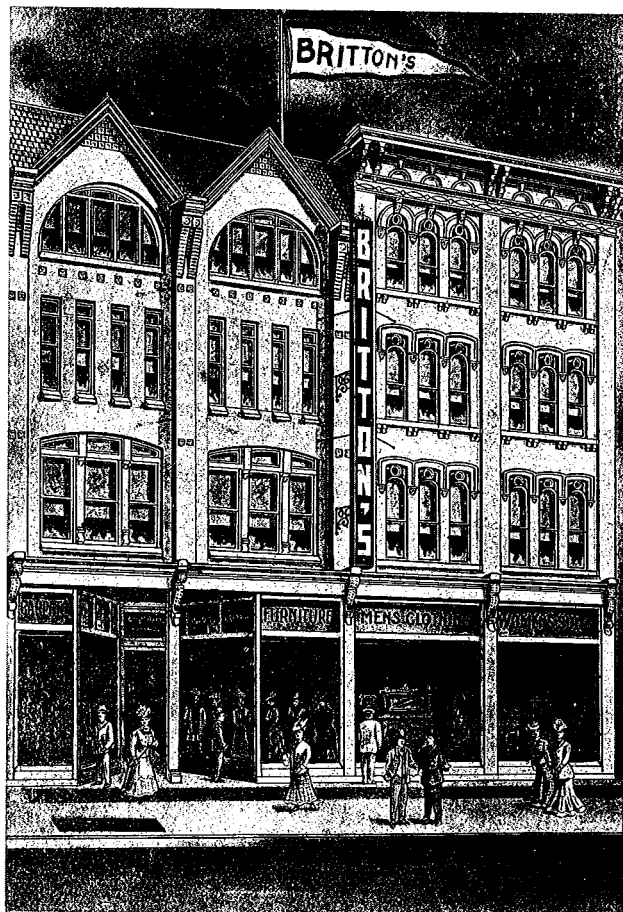
N. E. Cor. 6th and Penn Sts. READING, PA.

Too busy celebrating

*We do not make long speeches,
Neither do we want to take your time,
But we do insist most emphatically
That the BEST line of Clothes in Berks County
are sold here for the least money.*

*You will
think the same
when you come here.*

GET TO KNOW US.
SONDHEIM'S
7th and Penn Streets



THE G. M. BRITTON CO.

Furnish homes complete or in part.
Outer Wearables for Men and Women, Boys and Girls.

400-404 PENN SQUARE, :: :: :: READING, PENNA.

Greeting



We extend our congratulations and best wishes to all those who attend the "Old Home Week" celebration of the borough beautiful, purely pastoral, nestling on the banks of the Tulpehocken and Northkill—Bernville. May her "Old Home Week" prove better, more gratifying than fondest imaginations have pictured.

Home—that word of deepest meaning, immortalized in song by Payne, touches the heart strings and awakens the most sacred emotions.

May the festivities of the week, the family reunions, the meeting of the old friends and neighbors, be fraught with naught but the most comforting pleasures.

THE G. M. BRITTON CO.

TRADING at Britton's it's not necessary for you to pay cash unless you want to. We open charge accounts and arrange for you to pay us small amounts at fixed times.

THE "BEE HIVE"

J. MOULD & CO.
DRY GOODS



Nos. 647-649 PENN STREET
READING, PA.

Always the Best Values and Lowest Prices

Congratulating You



Upon the public spirit and enterprise expressed through your "Home Week Festivities," and, hoping that the occasion may prove most pleasant and beneficial to all, we would continue,

Sincerely yours,

Kline, Eppihimer & Co.

Penn Square, Reading, Pa.

South Fifth St. Schofer

VIENNA
BAKERY



READING, PENNSYLVANIA

Best \$2 Hat in the City

E. F. Anewalt & Co.
HATTERS AND
FURNISHERS



537 PENN STREET, READING, PA.

P. Barbey & Son

BREWERS

Lager Beer

Ale and Porter

READING, PENNSYLVANIA

DRINK

Lauer's Beer

You will find it refreshing, invigorating and sustaining. :: :: :: ::

It is strictly Pure and Wholesome

The Pure Food Commission found it so

Muhlenberg Brewing Company

BREWERS OF

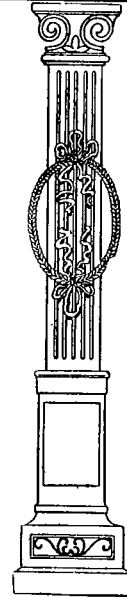
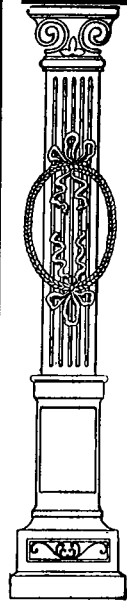
SALVATOR AND MUENCHER

BEER
PORTER, ETC.

Noted for.....

Clean, Healthful, Skillful Brewing

Bernharts, Pa.





The Reading Eagle

542 Penn. Street

Reading, Penna.

HIGH WATER MARK

The Sworn Average Circulation of THE
READING EAGLE for the year 1906 was

19,063 COPIES A DAY

New York Office :

325 Brunswick Building
New York City

WILLIAMS & LAWRENCE, Mgrs.

For any other information desired, please call at or address the Eagle Office.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. RAUCH, Supt.

When You Advertise

It is certainly important to *know* that you get what is promised—what you pay for.

When You Use The Reading Eagle

You get all that is promised. All that you pay for. Advertising in a medium that is unparalleled for covering this section.

Advertising in a newspaper that enters into a large majority of all the homes of Berks County.

Advertising in a newspaper that not only enters these homes, but has become a part of the home circle.

Ninety Per Cent.

of the Eagle circulation is HOME CIRCULATION. The Eagle is *read, enjoyed, believed in*, by every member of the family.

READING EAGLE CO.

542 Penn St., Reading, Pa.



Don't wait until you drop your eye-glasses and break them before you find out about

Shur-On Eye-glasses

Come in and let us show you how comfortable they are and how firmly they hold without pinching.

I. A. DEISHER

EYESIGHT
SPECIALIST



426 PENN ST., READING, PA.

J. O. GLASE & CO.

Carpets and Draperies

No. 408 Penn St., READING, PA.

J. B. MILLER & SONS

Wholesale Grocers

43 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET
READING, PA.



OF COURSE YOU ALL KNOW

SCHLECHTER
THE JEWELER

428 PENN STREET :: :: READING, PA.

Let's you forget when in need of Jewelry, etc.

GO TO

Scheerer's Drug Store

NINTH AND PENN STREETS
READING, PA.

Buy Your COFFEE AND TEA of us

WE GIVE TICKETS

GRAND UNION TEA CO.

C. C. WARFEL, *Agent*

406 PENN STREET

READING, PA.

JOHN H. OBOLD & CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN
BUILDERS' AND SHELF
HARDWARE

IRON, GLASS, PAINTS, OILS, FISHING TACKLE, SPORTING GOODS.
AGENTS FOR BLUE ROCK TARGETS,
OLIVER CHILLED PLOWS.

Third and Penn Sts.

READING, PA.

BRIGHT & COMPANY

Hardware Dealers

STOVES, AGATE WARE, MILL
SUPPLIES, SPORTING GOODS

YOUR BUSINESS IS SOLICITED.

504-506 Penn Street

READING, PA.

STICHTER HARDWARE CO.

(LIMITED)

HARDWARE
IRON AND STEEL

BUILDERS' SUPPLIES, CARRIAGE HARDWARE, TOOLS, Etc.
SPORTING GOODS.

505, 507, 509 Penn St.

READING, PA.

JOHN H. SEIBERT

PROPRIETOR

Reading Engineering Works

ANDREW M. SEIBERT, Manager.

ENGINES, BOILERS, STEAM PUMPS,
FEED WATER HEATERS, FUEL SAVING DEVICES
—————A SPECIALTY.—————

116 to 120 Washington St.

READING, PA.

A. L. RHOADS & CO.

DEALERS IN

Butter, Eggs, Cheese, Lard and
Smoked Meats

333 PENN STREET,

READING, PA.

BONE, EAGLE & CO.

— MANUFACTURING —
CONFECTIONERS

Agents for
Schrafft's Chocolates

READING, PA.

For your COFFEE, TEA, BAKING POWDER,
SPICES, EXTRACTS and FINE GROCERIES,

GO TO THE

Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co.

619-621 Penn St. Reading, Penna.



GIVE YOUR ORDER TO OUR AGENT WHEN HE
MAKES HIS NEXT DELIVERY IN BERNVILLE. . . .

J. K. FAUST

**Contractor
Paving and
Building**

139 W. GREENWICH ST.

READING, PA.

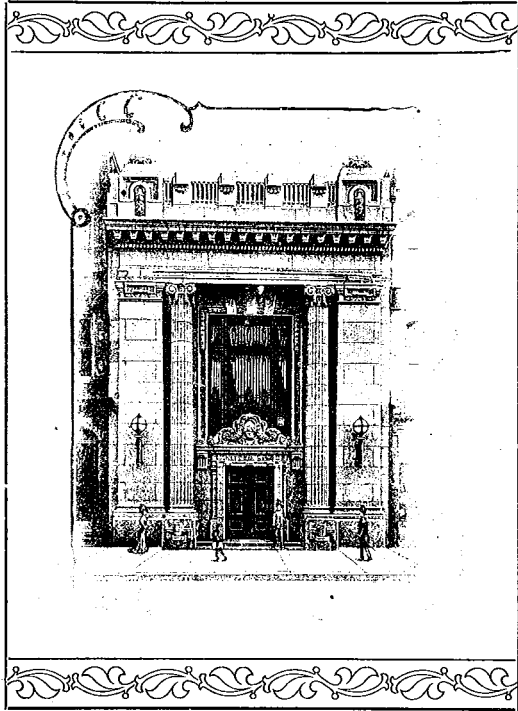
CHARLES T. HECKLER

**Bicycles and
Motor Cycles**



222 Penn St., Reading, Pa.

REPAIRING A SPECIALTY



The Penn National Bank

OF READING



—ITS officers and stockholders—through the medium of this handsome souvenir booklet, extend most cordial greetings to all the residents of Bernville and to all those who participate in the festivities of "Old Home Week." May the reviews of the "Days of Auld Lang Syne" bring much joy, and ever after prove most pleasant memories of an eventful occasion.

We also want to say a few things concerning our bank. We pay you 3 per cent. interest per annum on Certificates of Deposit. Don't attempt to keep your money about the home—a temptation to burglars—thereby probably endangering your life, a possible prey to fire or other calamity. We conduct a Savings Deposit Department, paying 3 per cent. on all savings deposits. Fifty cents starts an account. Start the children right. Safety Deposit Vault Boxes rented to you for \$1.50 per year and up. Insured safety for your valuable papers at a very small cost. One other fact: On volume of business we have passed the million-dollar mark, are after the second million. Why not join us in the effort?

CALVIN D. MOSER, *Cashier.*

DEPOSITS, \$2,855,566.24

Commenced Business June 21, 1886

ASSETS, \$3,996,272.04

The Pennsylvania Trust Company

536 PENN STREET, READING, PA.

GEORGE BROOKE, President
EDWARD BROOKE, Vice-President

H. B. HAGY, Treasurer and Trust Officer
EDWARD H. KNERR, Sec. and Asst. Treas.

2 per cent. interest paid on deposits subject to check on demand. + 3 per cent. interest paid on special deposits for one year. + 3 per cent. interest paid on all deposits of \$1.00 and over in the Savings Dept.

*Acts as Executor, Administrator, Guardian, Trustee, Assignee, etc.
Mortgages, Bonds and Judgments Bought and Sold*

SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES TO RENT

INCOME AND RENTS COLLECTED

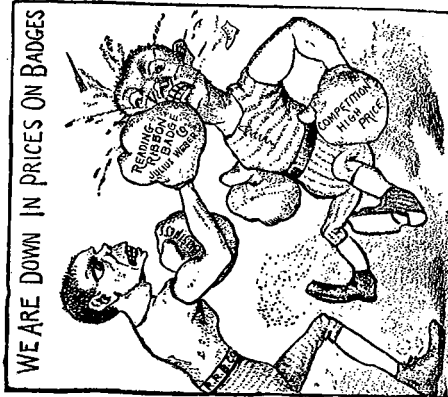
UMBENHAUER & WANNER

REAL ESTATE BROKERS

What we Sell.—Dwellings, Business Properties, Building Lots, Factory Sites, Borough Properties and Farms.
How we Sell.—By Catalog, Newspaper Advertising and Personal Efforts. Careful supervision given to sales.
To whom we Sell.—To all classes of homeseekers and investors.
Where we Sell.—Through the City, County and State.
Farms.—Our list comprises large, medium and small tracts in all parts of the County.
Insurance.—Our Fire Insurance Department is up-to-date. We are in position to write in first-class Stock and Mutual Companies. We write County Insurance largely in the old reliable WINDSOR MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND FIRE INSURANCE CO., which Company originated in Bernville over a half century ago.
Conveyances.—We are fully equipped to draw Deeds, Mortgages, Wills and Examine Titles, all of which are carefully attended to.
Mortgages.—In our nine years of business we have invested in Mortgage Loans over \$3,000,000.00, none of which has been lost to the investor.
Appraisements.—We make a specialty of Appraising.
Rents.—We collect rentals and take charge of properties.
Our Business.—From humble beginnings in 1898 we have reached generous proportions. We make it a point to maintain reputation before we earn the dollar. We solicit the business of the public in general, assuring all that our service shall be of the best.

UMBENHAUER & WANNER

534 Court St., Reading, Pa.



READING
Ribbon Badge Co.

S. E. CORNER
11th and Spruce Sts., Reading, Pa.

WERTZ & FIELD

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Wines and Liquors

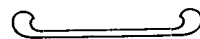


329 PENN STREET
READING, PA.

C. K. AUGÉ & BRO.

Successors to
Geo. L. Kestner & Co.

Wines and Liquors



142 NORTH SIXTH STREET
READING, PA.

LEWIS KERSCHNER

JERRY P. KERSCHNER

Academy of Music Cafe

KERSCHNER BROS., Props.

Long Distance Telephone

READING, PA.

DAVID S. AMMON

EDWIN KERSCHNER

American House

Rates, \$2.00 and \$2.50 per day

READING, PA.

FIRST-CLASS STABLING

REASONABLE TERMS

BERNVILLE'S HEADQUARTERS FARMERS' HOTEL

HAMILTON GODFREY, *Prop.*

Fifth and Washington Sts., opp. Post Office

READING, PA.

Best of Liquors

Meals at All Hours

MANSION HOUSE

GEO. B. SHERMAN
PROPRIETOR

Leading Hotel
Livery Connected

ROBESONIA, PA.

OLD HOME WEEK VISITORS INVITED TO STOP OFF AT THE

AMERICAN HOUSE

D. F. GRUBER, Prop.

MT. PLEASANT, PA.

EAGLE HOTEL

THE NEW LEADING HOTEL

H. D. FORTNA, Prop.

ROBESONIA, PA.

STOP OFF AT THE

Farmers' and Drovers' Hotel

CENTERPORT

JOHN F. RENTSCHLER, Proprietor

BILLY KERSHNER

PALMER HOUSE

17 North Sixth St., Reading, Pa.

KING TROT
PURE RYE

ABSOLUTELY PURE
J.L. BOWMAN & SONS,
332 PENN ST., READING, PA.

CHAS. RENTSCHLER, JR.

*PRESCRIPTION
DRUGGIST*

348 PENN STREET, READING, PA.

A. MORRIS KERSCHNER

MANUFACTURER OF THE

BEST ICE CREAM IN THE CITY

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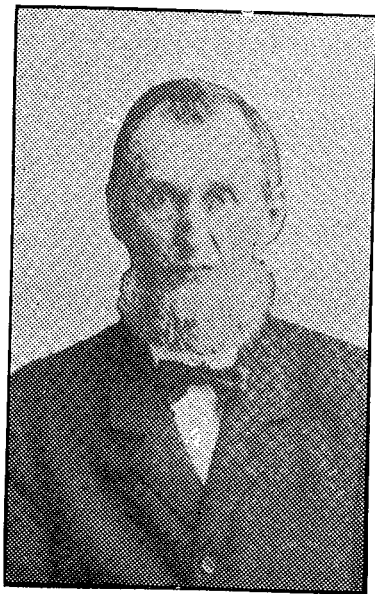
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AND

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SOLD EVERYWHERE

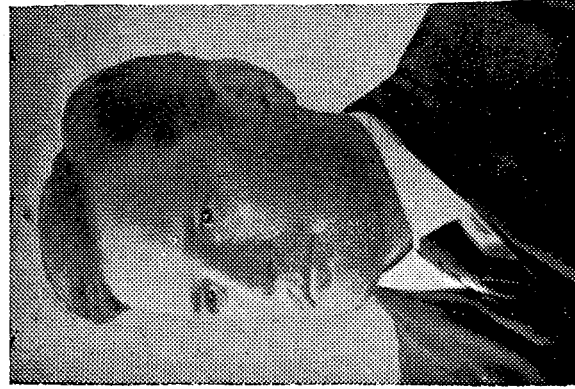


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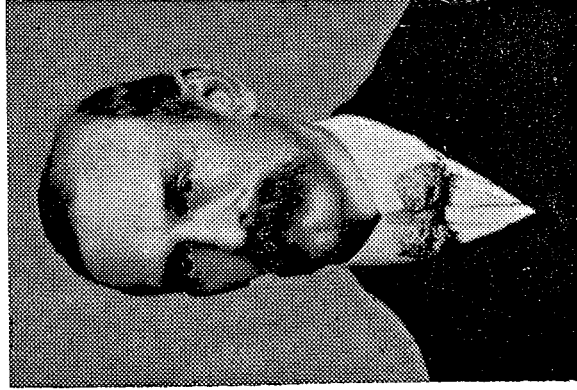
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THE BEST BOTTLED BEER FOR OLD HOME WEEK
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Augustiner Dark Special

A PURE, WHOLESOME HOME BEVERAGE
A Nutritious, Strengthening LIQUID FOOD

BREWED by the originator of the celebrated Monastery Beer, cleanly made from the very best materials. Care, skill and knowledge in every stage of the brewing and bottling, resulting in a properly aged, well ripened, mellow, healthful, palatable beer, the perfection of malt beverages.

ON DRAUGHT IN ALL LEADING HOTELS.



HAVE a supply of Augustiner Dark Special bottled, in your home, during Old Home Week, and it will delight your friends and increase your reputation for hospitality.

Augustiner Dark Special, bottled beer, on account of its purity, flavor and nutritious qualities, is the ideal beer for the family and domestic use at all times.

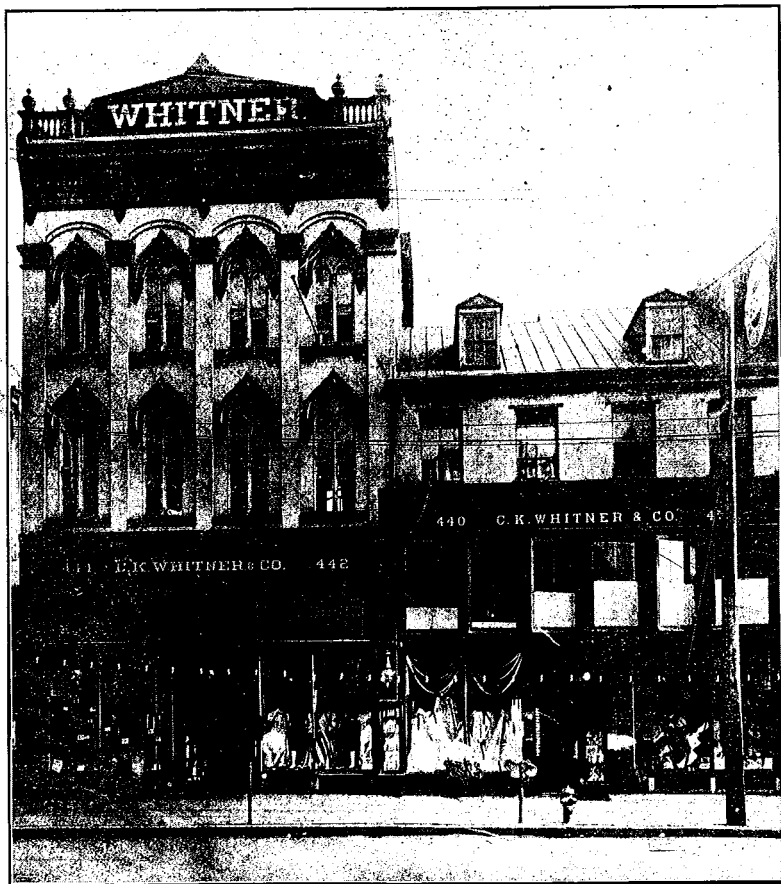
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Brewers of Porter, Beer and Ale

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CLEANLY
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