

*Jefferson
Township
Schools*

by
Kathryn Campbell Slasor

Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society

Preface

This compilation of information on the schools of Jefferson Township is the result of a life-long interest in the evolution of education in this local area. Over the past sixty to sixty-five years, the author has been collecting every scrap of information available on three phases of this subject, namely: the very early subscription schools prior to 1834, the one-room schoolhouse era following the Public School Act of 1834, and the once flourishing institution of higher education – the Eldersville Normal School.

This treatise draws on the work of Boyd Crumrine in his attempt to document the subscription schools which once dotted the wilderness landscape, as well as on other historians who supplied some of the stories and data herein contained.

Since her own days as a school student in the Eldersville area of the township, the author maintained a continuous association with the great educator and historian, the late A.D.White. He entrusted her with his own lifetime collection of school records and facts stemming from his thirty- year stint as Supervising Principal of the Jefferson Township School District. Additional material is from the files of the late M.O.Butler, a historian in his own right, who taught 39 years in the Eldersville Schools and served part of this time as Principal. Various other individuals contributed old pictures of classes from the now extinct one-room buildings and from the 35 year existence of the Eldersville Normal School.

The sesquicentennial celebration this year, 2003, of the formation of Jefferson Township, has prompted the effort to carry this project to completion. Every scrap of information available has been incorporated into this treatise on the schools of Jefferson Township, with every possible attempt at accuracy. Sincere apologies are offered where omissions or errors may exist.

The author is deeply indebted, not only to the late A.D.White and M.O.Butler, but to many others, both living and dead, whose keeping and sharing of the records of these township schools and of these priceless pictures of those bygone days, have made this labor of love possible.

Kathryn Campbell Slasor

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*Very
Early*



Schools

Jefferson Township Schools – Away Back When



For a history of the beginnings of schools in Jefferson Township, the following article is probably unsurpassed. It appeared in *The Annual Report and Directory of the Washington County Schools in 1950-51*. It was a special edition of this yearly publication and was entitled, *A Century of Education, 1850 – 1950*. This endeavor was undertaken in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Washington County Teachers' Institute.

This article was the brain child of the very capable County Superintendent of Schools, W.H.Donaldson. In the Foreward, he gave credit to James R. Braden for both the research necessary for its production and the actual writing of the history. Acknowledgements were also made to other contributors, including Jefferson Township's A.D.White and L.R.Sutherland.

The following account is a very abridged edition of the original article which has been edited to include only those parts pertaining to Jefferson Township. (The reader must bear in mind that the early history of Jefferson Township is embedded in that of Cross Creek Township, Jefferson not having been created until 1853.)

The Beginnings of Schools in Jefferson Township

When we seek the beginnings of education in Washington County, we must go back a long way, back to the Scotch-Irish emigrants who crossed the mountains from Eastern Pennsylvania. These emigrants brought with them not only their material possessions, but their ideas of government, religion, and education. Prompted by the wish to obtain at least some education for their children,..and limited always by the scanty means at their command, our fathers built school houses, employed teachers, and sent their children to school as best they could, and the wonder is not that under the circumstances so many sections of the country were poorly supplied with schools, but that education was so general.

We may be fairly certain that no schools existed before 1770 for early historians agree that, aside from scattered pioneer families, no settlements had been made in the county prior to that date. However, after 1770, population increased rapidly in Washington County as emigrants in large numbers moved in to settle on the fertile lands west of the Monongahela. It is doubtful if they found time to establish schools much before the time of the Revolution.

Naturally the pattern of education which these settlers brought with them was that which had prevailed in their former places of residence. For the most part, this pattern was the church school. In fact, from the earliest records of education in America, the churches were foremost in the work of education everywhere. The deeply set religious convictions of our forefathers demanded that a place of worship be established first, and after the church was built, the community school soon followed.

After the Revolutionary War, the elementary schools of the church became "common schools," largely because of mixed population and a strong sense of unity seemed to demand that people establish and support their own system of education apart from the influence of the church. These "common schools" were known as subscription schools.

Subscription schools were started by an enterprising man in the community, who had children to educate. He would call a meeting of his neighbors and a Board of Trustees would be appointed. The trustees were to provide a room or build a schoolhouse, ascertain the number of children to attend, fix the "tuition," and employ teachers. Whatever money was needed was raised by popular subscription, and neither the pay nor the qualifications of the teacher were elaborate. A location would be agreed upon and a committee to make arrangements would be appointed. The day would be announced, and both old and young would look forward to this date with more eagerness than the people of today anticipate Christmas or the Fourth

of July. It was a holiday and also a day of hard work. The families would gather at the appointed place in the morning, traveling on foot, on horseback, or in carts and wagons drawn by oxen or horses. They were dressed for work and brought with them axes, saws, other tools, and rifles. The women brought food and a few cooking utensils.

The materials for the building were the nearby trees of the forest, with some stones and clay from a nearby pit. After the committee had selected the trees and marked them by chipping the bark, some of the men would fell the trees and cut the logs to the desired length, and others would drive the oxen and horses which pulled the logs to the building site.

The men selected to do the building would notch the ends of the logs and lay them up to make walls. When a height of six or seven feet was reached, only the end walls were laid higher to form the gables. A long straight pole called the ridge pole was laid between the peaks of the two ends, and other poles or rafters were placed to support the roof. Straight grained chestnut trees had been selected and cut into three-foot lengths to be split into shingles or clapboards. These were laid in overlapping layers on the rafters and weighted down with poles and stones, as nails were too scarce and expensive to be used in a schoolhouse. The fireplace, which was usually five or six feet wide and four feet high, was made from stones, sticks, and wet clay, as was also the chimney. There was no ceiling, and the floor was wet clay packed down and hardened. This made a satisfactory floor when it was dry, but when the rain leaked through the roof or when the pupils tracked snow inside, it became a mud puddle. The spaces between the logs were filled or chinked with pieces of stone and clay. Slabs for a crude door were split from logs and fastened together by wooden pegs.

The furniture of the school consisted of crude split log benches and a split log slab fastened to the walls to make a kind of sloping desk. The teacher's desk was a crude affair made with split logs with a sloping top on which he could prepare copies for the writing lessons.

While the men were working, the women prepared a feast, which was served at noon. The food usually consisted of several varieties of game the men had shot, such as deer, bear, elk, buffalo, wild turkey, squirrel, and wild pigeon. In addition to the game, there were beef, pork, potatoes, corn bread, hominy, maple syrup, pies, cakes, and such fruits as might be in season. For beverages, there would be sassafras tea, apple cider, apple jack, home-made wines, and whiskey.

After dinner there would be shooting matches, wrestling, and square dancing. The meeting would break up in time for the people to reach home before dark, as travel by night was difficult and dangerous.

These primitive schools continued to serve the community during the first quarter of the 19th century. Those who were able to pay tuition paid, and those who were unable to pay were allowed to attend free. The salary of the teacher, about twelve dollars a month, became the responsibility of more prominent citizens, who collected such contributions as the other patrons were willing or able to give. In West Finley Township, the teachers were sometimes paid in rye, which they, in turn, sold to the distillers.

The requirements of the schoolmaster were that he could read, write, or cipher as far as the double rule of three. Many of these teachers, who were frequently barely removed from illiteracy, were men to whom manual occupations did not appeal and whose backgrounds or habits prevented them from securing clerical positions. Many of them were itinerant schoolmasters without families or fixed residence, keeping school wherever opportunity offered. The schoolmaster, except in the church schools, had no assured social position. He was unrecognized and unwelcomed by men of affairs in business or practical circles.

Of the early teachers in Washington County, one was said to be a tyrant; another could not write; another could not cipher beyond the double rule of three; another gave his pupils whiskey for a Christmas treat; another was barred out and entered the school only by climbing down the chimney or by donning woman's apparel. On the other hand, some of the teachers were remembered as being outstanding. One "wrote a beautiful hand," another was a "fine mathematician," or "a good classical scholar." Some of these teachers went on to other professions, for teaching was a "stepping stone" to the professions. Many of the outstanding teachers became ministers, doctors, or lawyers. The written article which the teacher circulated for subscription was his only test of scholarship. There was scarcely any attempt at teaching as it is understood now. Each pupil came to the teacher in his order and said his lesson, since there was no attempt at classification. Blackboards, charts, maps, and globes were unknown.

The branches taught were spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and the Old and New Testaments. The textbooks of the school were not uniform as the pupils brought whatever books were in their homes. School supplies came from whatever materials were available. Most of the arithmetic was mental arithmetic. Promotion took place when the student was qualified to study a more difficult reader. Often the teacher had the only book, from which he would read aloud while the student wrote what he heard.

Writing was done with pens made of goose quills, and every teacher had to be an expert in making and mending such quills. The goose quill furnished the material from which the master made the pens for the scholars. The ink was homemade from maple bark, sumac, and white oak, and occasionally,

there appeared an ink made from what was called "ink powder," but it was regarded as an outside "material," not to be trusted, as it would fade. The paper used in olden times was unruled. It was ruled by a homemade ruler, so called, and a pencil manufactured impromptu from a bar of lead. Ciphering on the slate was done with a pencil obtained from the nearest soapstone. The soapstone was chiseled into pencils, with the famous "Barlow Knife."

The earliest subscription schools known to have been established in Washington County were in Cross Creek Township, Mt. Pleasant Township, and Smith Township, according to Boyd Crumrine's HISTORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY. Cross Creek Township had a school in 1782 or 1783, and there was a school held on a farm in Mt. Pleasant Township during the winter of 1783 and 1784. In Smith Township, William Lorie, a surveyor and a soldier, taught school in 1785. The period from 1790 to 1834 saw the establishment of subscription schools in every township then in existence.

Joseph Patterson was the teacher of the first school in Cross Creek Township in 1782 or 1783. About the same time, Robert McCreedy taught at Wilson's Flat. Soon afterward, six other schools were established in Cross Creek Township.

The earliest school in Mount Pleasant Township, was taught by one Daniel Johnston, part Indian, in the year 1795. The next school house was built about the year 1797 near where Mt. Prospect Church now stands. A widow with two daughters moved into the building and taught in it for some time. During the autumn of that year, an old gentleman named Reynolds, from Cross Creek, called to pay his respects to the lady teacher. The school was dismissed for the occasion. In a few weeks, the teacher's name was changed to Mrs. Reynolds, and she moved to Cross Creek. Soon after, the house was burned by an incendiary and then replaced by a new building. Three other schools existed prior to 1800, and there is a record of schools being held until the adoption of the school law in 1834.

It would be a mistake to assume that a system of education in Pennsylvania began with the Free School Act of 1834. Historians estimate that before this Act was passed, there were more than four thousand school houses in the state, built by volunteer contributions in their respective neighborhoods. So uniform and republican in principle were these schools, that in 1834, it required only a legislative act to systematize and unify what had been adopted as an educational policy by thousands of communities all over the state.

The Very Early Schools

by

Kathryn Campbell Slasor

Upon the passage of the Public School Act in 1834, District Schools were established, taking the place of most of the old Subscription Schools. These Subscription Schools were limited in scope, as they were supported by a few individuals who had children they wished to educate. These parents "subscribed" to a fund to pay for a teacher. Classes were sometimes held in log homes which provided limited and primitive facilities.

Many more school houses were in existence prior to the Act of 1834 than are probably accounted for by the historians of today. But after this Act, small one-room buildings began to spring up over the countryside, and were built at strategic spots so that all pupils could walk to the nearest building.

Most teachers also used this same means of transportation. Occasionally a horse would be seen plodding along the country road, with a teacher riding side-saddle. Sometimes the horse would be pulling a sled, when the father of a big family decided that the snow on this day was just too deep for little ones to walk such a distance. Most of these schools were located in rural areas, and were named for the farms on which they were built. Examples in Jefferson Township are, Melvin, Cole, Lee, Miller, Gardner, and Hanlin. Other later schools were named for their locations such as Penobscot, Bertha Mine, Shintown and Eldersville.

In Boyd Crumrine's *History of Washington County*, an accounting is given of many of these very early schools. Since Jefferson Township was a part of Cross Creek, one must examine what is written about both of these townships to obtain a full listing.

The following paragraphs are from Crumrine's book.

A Mrs. Laird, in 1795 or 1796, taught a school in her own house on what was then known as the Robb farm, now owned by the estate of John Lee. There was a Mr. Creighton who, about that time, followed teaching. A school was taught in 1811 in an old log cabin in the Miller district, and situated on the waters of Cross Creek, down on the bottom by the creek, on the site of the log house afterwards built by Frederick Cline, now standing there unoccupied. The teachers were: John Neager, Richard Freeborn, and Andrew McCullough. Later a school was taught on the McCrea Hill, the property now owned by George Cunningham.

The first frame school building was built in the township in 1813, on the west side of a branch of Cross Creek, upon land now owned by Hampton Walker, but then the property of Mrs. Jane Smith, a widow. This house remained in use until the enactment of the school law in 1834, and in the first year of its occupancy (1813), Mr. Israel Bebout, at present a resident of Cross Creek Township, was a student within its walls. Among the teachers in this school were Andrew McCullough, who taught three years, Elder McDermott, who taught two years, and Cornelius Barber, who also was an instructor for two years. This was a large and very successful school, and was attended by the Bebouts, Walkers, Grahams, and Van Ordstrands.

Andrew McColloch was considered a successful teacher in his day. In the year 1835, he held the office of supervisor and constable, and about 1836 he removed with his family to Tuscararas County, Ohio, where he resided until his death, about 1860. There was also a Mr. Scott taught at that house, and a Miss Ann McDermott.

There was an old school-house near the above building, on the Walker farm, within a few rods of where once stood an old saw-mill. Mr. Joseph Smith taught in this house. He afterwards became an elder of Cross Creek congregation. This building was abandoned in 1810 or 1811.

James Campbell, son of Lancelot Campbell, of Smith Township, taught several terms in Lee School House, beginning in 1820. He was considered a good teacher, but teaching and study brought him to an early grave.

Among the first terms taught by ex-Superintendent Douthett, of Allegheny County, was at the same place. The Hon. Robert Curry, of the Nebraska State Normal School, taught his first term in Jefferson Township.

(This concludes the excerpts from Crumrine.)

By studying old records, it would seem that a school that antedated Lee, in that district, was known as Oak Hall. But records are incomplete, and at this date, no one is alive who remembers.

One early school, about which this writer has been told, was the old log building that the mother of Elza Scott, Susanna Steen Scott, (born 1834) could barely recall having seen when she was a child. (Elza Scott was Jefferson Township's greatest and best-known historian.) This was apparently a very old building, and was in ruins at the time mentioned.

"It was over in the woods there," his mother had told him. She had pointed to a spot just off what is now known as Scott Hollow Road, near the Orenchuk farms. (Elza's mother, according to A.D. White's old records, taught one month at School #1, Miller School, in Jefferson Township and was paid \$10.82 on June 16, 1855.)

This may be the early school in which Jacob Boles once taught. Jacob is known to have been a teacher in the township, but nothing is recorded of the name or location of the building in which he taught. He lived on what later became the Jackson-Lloyd home on the hill above Kidds Mill. This old log school on Scott Hollow Road would certainly have been within walking distance for Mr. Boles. After the Public School Act of 1834, Melvin School was #2 in existence. This school also would have been only a short distance from the Jacob Boles homestead. Since Jacob was born in 1808, he probably taught several years before the building of Melvin School house, so this old log house may have been where he once served as schoolmaster. It is a known fact that he was a well respected person during his lifetime and was reputed to have been an excellent teacher. He was the second son of pioneer Cornelius Boles of Eldersville. His mother was Nancy Buxton Boles.

In the article in this book on the Eldersville School, an account is given concerning pioneer Robert McCready's having sent some of his grandchildren to the Eldersville School. Little has been written about the actual building in which these classes were held. However, in an article concerning the 75th Anniversary of the Public School Act which affair was held at Eldersville in 1909, there is an interesting, brief account of education in the village in the early days. One of the speakers at the

above mentioned anniversary was a former teacher at Eldersville, W.W.Knight, then 92 years of age. As a boy of seven he came to the village in 1825 and attended the school of that day. He states that the first building was log and was succeeded by three others, including the one standing then in 1909. (The one standing then would have been the one room frame building erected in 1888.) The 1909 newspaper article examined by this writer, which gave the account of this celebration, was badly deteriorated so that part of the paragraph on Mr. Knight's speech was missing. However, it could be deciphered enough to see that he was discussing one of the schools at Eldersville which he attended as a child. In his address he said, " ...the building was entirely of stone, the fireplace extending the full width of the building."

Unfortunately, nothing else has been preserved for us concerning these very early schools of Jefferson Township.

ELDERSVILLE

School Exhibition,

Thursday Evening, March 17th, 1887.

PROGRAM:

MUSIC.....	PRAYER.....	Music
SALUTATORY.....		Robert Stevenson
DECLAMATION.....		Emma Cosgrove
DECLAMATION.....		Aggie Stevenson
DECLAMATION.....		Sadie Tucker
DRAMA—Appearances are Deceitful.		
MUSIC.		
DECLAMATION.....		Eugene Robertson
DECLAMATION.....		Nannie Walker
SONG.....		Clara Love
DECLAMATION.....		Anna Stevenson
DRAMA—A Deep too Much.		
MUSIC.		
DECLAMATION.....		Etta Love
DECLAMATION.....		Etta Stevenson
SONG.....		Lily Smith
HISTORY.....		Anna Criss
MUSIC.		
DECLAMATION.....		Ina Noah
ESSAY.....		Maggie Sterrett
DECLAMATION.....		Jennie Stevenson
DRAMA—Persecuted Dutchman.		
RECITATION—Months of the Year.		
DECLAMATION.....		Nickolas Criss and Emma Cosgrove
SONG.....		Robert Stevenson and Eugene Robertson
DECLAMATION.....		Bessie Noah
SONG.....		Minnie Robertson
DRAMA—Hans Von Smash.		
MUSIC.		
DECLAMATION.....		Halle Criss
DECLAMATION.....		Dora Martin
DECLAMATION.....		Lida Stevenson
DIALOGUE.....		Honesty the best Policy
DRAMA—Gumtown Woman's Association.		
MUSIC.		
DECLAMATION.....		Olive Virtue
DECLAMATION.....		Madison Walker
RECITATION.....		Small Boys
SONG.....		Minnie Smith and Etta Love
TABLEAU.		
PROPHECY.....		Zula Stevenson
SONG.....		Lily Smith
VALEDICTORY.....		Will Cosgrove
BENEDICTION.		

Doors open at 7 o'clock. Performances commence at 7:30.

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26, 1834.

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Proclamation.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, the Act of Assembly, approved the 1st of April, 1834, and entitled "An Act to Establish a General System of Education by Common Schools," Provides, "That the City and County of Philadelphia, and every other County in this Commonwealth, shall each form a School Division, and that every Ward, Township, and Borough, within the several School Divisions, shall each form a School District: *Provided*, That any Borough which is, or may be, connected with a Township in the assessment of County Rates and Levies, shall, with the said Township, so long as it remains so connected, form a District; and each of said Districts shall contain a competent number of Common Schools, for the Education of every child within the limits thereof, who shall apply, either in person, or by his or her parents or guardians, or next friend, for admission and instruction."

And whereas, the said Act further directs, "that it shall be the duty of the Sheriff of each County to give notice by Proclamation, to the citizens of each School District, to hold Elections in their respective Townships, Wards and Boroughs, on the

Third Friday of September

next, at the places where they hold their Elections for Supervisors, Town Councils, and Constables, to choose six citizens of each School District, to serve as SCHOOL DIRECTORS of said Districts, respectively; which Elections shall, on the said day, be conducted and held in the same manner as Elections for Supervisors and Constables are by law held and conducted."

Now, Therefore, I, SAMUEL CUNNINGHAM, High Sheriff of the County of Washington, in pursuance of the duty enjoined on me by the above recited Act, do issue this, my Proclamation, giving notice to the citizens of said County, qualified as aforesaid, that an Election will be held on the *Third Friday of September next*, (being the 19th day,) at the places where they hold their Elections for Supervisors, Town Clerks, and Constables, to choose Six Citizens residing therein, to serve as SCHOOL DIRECTORS for said Districts, respectively.

The Electors of Washington District, to meet at the Court House, in the Borough of Washington.

The Electors of Amwell Township, to meet at the house of John Horn.

The Electors of Buffalo Township, to meet at the house of Abraham Williams.

The Electors of Charlotte Township, to meet at the house of Alex. McCall.

The Electors of Canton Township, to meet at the house of John M. Rankin.

The Electors of Cecil Township, to meet at the house of Prudence Oram.

The Electors of Cross Creek Township, to meet at the house of Thomas Patterson, Senior.

The Electors of Donegal Township, to meet at the house of John Irwin.

The Electors of E. Bethlehem Township, to meet at the house of David Dutton.

The Electors of East Finley Township, to meet at the house of Henry Eulow, Esq.

The Electors of Fallowfield Township, to meet at the house of Abraham Fryc.

The Electors of Hanover Township, to meet at the School House, in Florence.

The Electors of Hopewell Township, to meet at the house of John Cary.

The Electors of Morris Township, to meet at the house of Daniel L. Gobie.

The Electors of Mount Pleasant Township, to meet at the house of Joseph McClaskey.

The Electors of Nottingham Township, to meet at Mingo School House.

The Electors of North Strabane Township, to meet at Isaiah Beck's Mill.

The Electors of Pike Run Township, to meet at the house of John Richards.

The Electors of Robinson Township, to meet at the house of James Christy.

The Electors of South Strabane Township, to meet at the house of Susannah Smith.

The Electors of Somerset Township, to meet at the house of Geo. McIlvaine.

The Electors of Smith Township, to meet at the house of James M. Bowland.

The Electors of Peters Township, to meet at the house of John McLony.

The Electors of West Bethlehem Township, to meet at the house of John Meyers.

The Electors of West Finley Township, to meet at the house of John Dougherty, (late John Sutherland.)

Given under my hand, at Washington, this 5th day of August, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, and of the Independence of the United States, the fifty-eighth.

Samuel Cunningham,

August 9, 1834.—6t.

Sheriff.

OUR DISTRICT SCHOOLS

The School House

By A. D. White

In the days of the subscription schools, prior to 1834, many types were pressed into service for use as schools. In his excellent book, "A Century of Education," William Melvin said that if all the buildings used as schools in Smith Township were suddenly re-created, there would be a great variety of architecture, and they would be so numerous that there might not be room for of all them to stand. This statement is somewhat of an exaggeration, of course, but it does point up the great variety of these early school buildings, many of which were only log cabins and not many of which were erected especially for school purposes.

With the passage of the State School Law in 1834, standards for school buildings began to appear, and although there was still some variety in the type of buildings, yet their quality did begin to improve. For one thing, this Law established "districts" within townships, as pointed out in our last article, so that when a school was located in a certain spot, it was likely to remain there for many years of service. Some log buildings were still erected after this time, or log structures, if properly located, still remained in use, but by 1834 sawmills were so numerous in Washington County that there wasn't much excuse for erecting any other than frame buildings, so most of the buildings from that time on were of this type of construction. And since permanency of location existed, the buildings could be built more strongly and larger as well.

A variety of arrangements for the use of the land on which one-room schools were built is found in the old records of neighboring school districts. School boards had the authority to purchase outright the land on which a building was to be located. For many of the old schools, however, a sort of donation of land was often made. Lots for these schools were often not well selected, and an adjoining land-owner might agree to the use of some of his marginal land for school purposes as long as it was actually so used. Under such an arrangement, when abandoned by the school board, the land would revert to the owner. This apparent liberality on the part of the land-owners was not always a sacrifice, for quite often the land "donated" was remote from the farm buildings and of little value as tillable land.

In establishing standards for the erection of the one-room schools, no limits were set either way as to the number of pupils to be accommodated. In those days, with a growing rural population, usually a "district" had a sufficient number of pupils to justify the continued operation of a school year after year. Much later, if the enrollment fell below ten pupils, the school would be temporarily closed and the remaining "scholars" would be transferred to another convenient school.

These school-houses were almost without exception built in a regular rectangular shape, some being as small as 20 by 24 feet, but most being about 24 by 30 or 32 feet. One wall would be built solid, and on this wall, lengthwise of the school-room, would be placed the "blackboard." The door and sometimes the window would be placed in the front end, and in the other two walls would be placed other windows, these always being "single" in the older buildings. At best, natural lighting was poor

from the scarcity of windows, and artificial lighting was never used, except for evening social events held at the school. Mention has often been made of the use of greased paper for windows, but when pane glass came into general use, of course it was used for windows in schools and homes as well.

The early blackboard was, just that--an ordinary pine board, or series of boards, well planed on one side, then painted black after being put in place in front of the school room. At the lower edge of this board was usually a chalk-rail, used for holding the chalk and erasers, although in the earliest schools this accessory was probably lacking. On the same side of the room as the blackboard, was the rostrum, a long narrow platform on which the pupils stood to recite or to "do their sums" at the blackboard. An especially indulgent teacher would sometimes allow a long bench on the rostrum, where classes might sit during recitation periods.

Because of the early heating problems for many years, school would not be in session during the most severe winter weather, and the excessive ventilation which existed in the earliest schools complicated this problem. But as better and tighter buildings were built, and when the pot-bellied stove came into use, the school term was re-arranged so as to hold school during the colder months of the year. Wood was always abundant, and coal usually available, so there was no problem of obtaining fuel. With the use of coal, the coalhouse became a necessary out-building on the school lot, along with coal buckets and pokers and fire shovels and all that went with the primitive heating of those days.

Beyond keeping them reasonably warm in cold weather, (and as cool as possible in hot weather) not much attention was paid to the comfort of pupils. The earliest seating in the "district schools" consisted only of rough benches split out of oak logs and set on crude legs inserted through immense auger holes in each end of the bench. Through a gradual evolution of improvement, the benches became sawed boards, and backs were provided on the benches for greater comfort. These in turn gave way about the middle of the nineteenth century to the commercially produced combination double desk, each desk having in front of it a seat, so that rows of the combination could be set on the floor in the school-room. Still later, single desks of the same combination type came into use, but in many of the older schools the old double desks were used well into the years of the present century, and in some cases until the schools were closed. This use of the double desks permitted pupils to have "seat-mates" in school and if the teacher permitted it, this could be your closest "pal," a really chummy arrangement.

Not many of the old school lots boasted the luxury of a well for drinking water, so this was often carried from a nearby neighbor's well or spring, and while that might appear to the present day student a burdensome chore, yet in the easy life of the one-room school, it was a delightful privilege, usually doled out to selected pupils who could be depended on not to consume too much time in the errand and who also had their school work well enough in hand to merit the privilege. Usually it took two pupils for this tour of duty, since they could carry a bucket of water between them without spilling any. When the bucket was set on the three-cornered shelf in a corner of the room, the pupils were allowed to go to it and by using the common dipper all could quench their thirst. Since germs were then mercifully unknown and

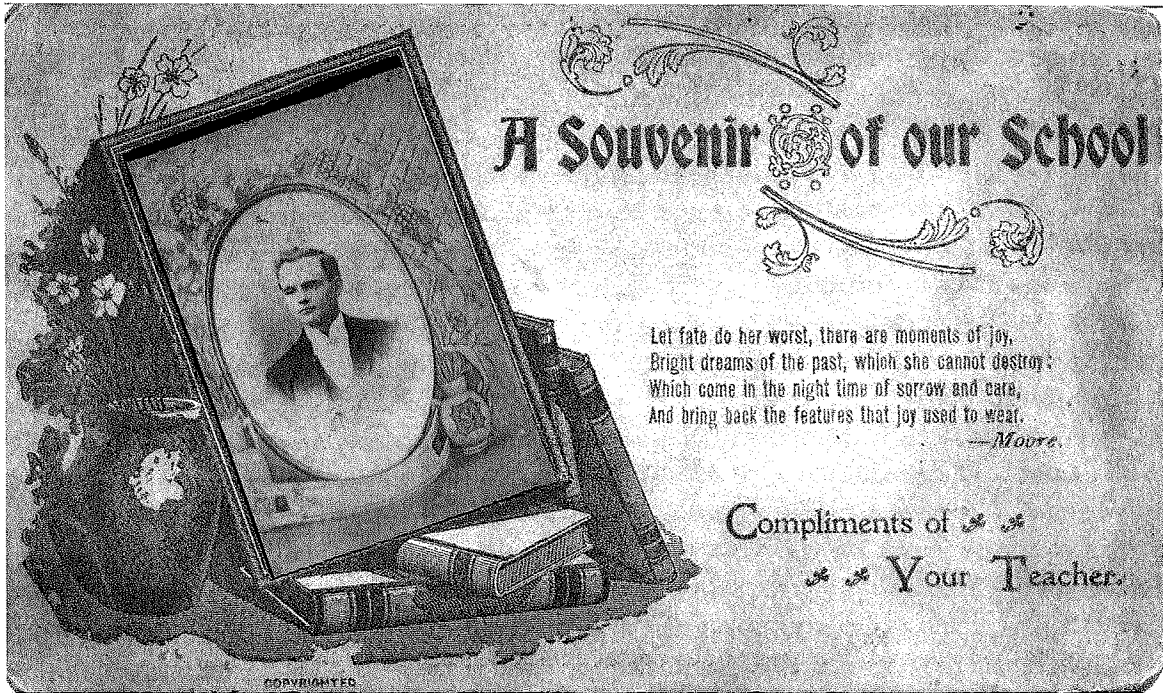
unsuspected, all drank with confidence from this common drinking vessel. Any water not consumed from the dipperful was supposed to be poured back into the bucket to avoid waste of the precious fluid. Oh, for the return of the day when ignorance was bliss!


The outside sanitary arrangements on the early school grounds were also very primitive. Well known to all who have any familiarity with the traditional one-room school were the two small out-houses placed on opposite corners of the school lot and at a respectable distance apart, one for the boys and one for the girls. But I have been told on reliable authority that even these facilities did not exist on the original "district" school lots. Since in these earlier days, good tracts of woodland usually stood near each district school, when the call of nature came, the individual pupil, or small groups, would simply take to the "tall timber" to answer and satisfy the call. Later, of course, toilets of an approved type became a part of the regular school set-up, and were required as a matter of both health and decency.

School-houses were built primarily, of course, for school use, but as time went on these buildings became as well community centers for the social life of the people of the district. Each winter season had its round of oldtime singings, spelling bees, box socials and literary societies and these were always well attended by families from the immediate area. And when traveling was good, such as when a good sledding snow was on the ground, many people would come from adjoining districts, as well, and take an active part in these social affairs.

In conducting the contests of skill in spelling, singing or debating, usually the rivalry between individuals and districts was good-natured and wholesome, but occasionally this rivalry would get out of hand and then trouble or excitement might begin. If a young man happened to bring to one of these affairs a young lady to whom some other young man had recently been paying attentions, when he got ready to leave for home, he might find that his saddle horse had been turned loose, or that the girth of his saddle had been cut, or some other trick had been played on him, so that he would have to walk his girl home, and if the distance was great, this might prove to be quite a chore.

Once in Cross Creek Township, bad blood arose between the residents of the Muddy Lane School District and some young fellows from an adjoining district. So, while the literary society was in progress one night at this school, the door was fastened from the outside, the transom above the door was opened and a live skunk was ejected into the room among the crowd there assembled. Needless to say, society quickly adjourned and all who could do so quickly jammed the windows in frantic efforts to get away from the odorous intruder. Eventually everyone did get to the open air, but it was said in that community for weeks thereafter that Sunday-go-to-meeting clothes could be seen hanging out on clothes lines on every fair day as the people endeavored to remove the objectionable odor from the contaminated garments. Dry cleaning was unknown in that day, so dependence had to be placed on nature to help in the de-odorizing process. Such occasions were, of course, rare and unusual, and so for many years the one-room district school did well its part in educating the youth of the districts and in furnishing wholesome social activities for the people of the area in which they were located.



1897  1898

*"Ah me! those joyous days are gone!
I little dreamt till they had flown,
How fleeting were the hours."*

Presented to Alice Bales

Days Present, Days Absent,

* * * * *

ELDERSVILLE SCHOOL,
Jefferson Township, Washington Co., Pa.

* Pupils *

Elsie Boles,	Anna Scott,
Lida Stephenson,	Nettie Cooper,
Anna Thorley,	Eliza Murchland,
Mary Cooper,	Fannie Thorley,
Mary Schary,	Mary Tucker,
Annie Dinit,	Abbie Flenning,
Bertha Murchland,	Alice Boles,
Alwilda Cooper,	Alma Glass,
Mary Thorley,	May Robeson,
Reta Fleming,	Gertrude Murchland,
Gladus Murchland,	Hattie Schary,
Maud Gillespie,	Eva Cunningham,
Albert Boles,	Harry Gillespie,
David Sintou,	Russell Thorley,
Wylie Anderson,	James Schary,
John Schary,	Thane Robeson,
John Anderson,	Charlie Anderson,
Clyde Robeson,	Delno Lynn.
Everett Gillespie,	

* Directors *

LEWIS IRWIN,	J. E. STEWART,	R. C. SMITH,
J. S. McCLURG,	J. J. WELLS,	W. T. CRISS.
FRANK R. HALL, Co. Supt.		
O. V. SMITH, Teacher.		

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One-Room



Schools

The following two pages are a copy of a newspaper article published in 1909, following the 75th anniversary celebration of the Public School Act of 1834. The event described was held in Eldersville, and includes some important data on persons and events of those early 75 years. Because of this historical value, it was decided to include it here, despite the very poor quality of the copy and the missing lines where the newspaper had been folded.

THE ELDERSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL CELEBRATES SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

The celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Eldersville public school on Monday, September 6th, and the reunion of teachers, pupils and friends in connection therewith, was one of the most joyous and interesting events that has been held in this part of the county for many years. It was a success in every particular, and the attendance is conservatively estimated at six hundred.

As early as nine o'clock in the morning the crowd commenced to gather, and within two hours the grounds surrounding the M. P. church were filled with a joyous people—most of whom had either taught or attended school in this old historic house of learning; others who had known the school most of their lives and who had been friends of these teachers and pupils. Many of them had come a great distance, but a clasp of the hand with some childhood friend, or the recollection of some scene from the early days, amply repaid them for the coming.

The honor guests were W. W. Knight and Miss Margaret Jane Moore, the oldest of the surviving teachers in the Eldersville school. Mr. Knight is now in his 92d year, while Miss Moore is but a few years his junior. Mr. Knight lives in Eldersville, where he was postmaster for nine years, retiring only about four years ago. Miss Moore lives within a couple of miles of the village. No two of the many persons present entered into a fuller enjoyment of the day than did this aged couple.

At noon a sumptuous luncheon was served in the Cooper grove. Here there were no honor guests; all shared alike in the abundance of good things which the good people of that hospitable village had prepared and served. The 600 persons had partaken to

his heart for the people who had heeded his cry for a school when other townships turned a deaf ear. However, he assured the audience, that they did not do it without due deliberation, and that if there had been another applicant he would not likely have secured it. His success during the first term is attested to by the fact that he was called back for another term; and Mr. Stevenson says those were the happiest days of his life—the two years spent as teacher in the Eldersville public school.

Samuel Amspoker, attorney, of Washington, was one of the Eldersville (then Wardsville) boys. He received his early schooling there and taught the term of 1877-1878. He began his remarks by recalling the murder of the man from whom they used to buy candy—John Alingham, which occurred in 1872. Mr. Amspoker also made some interesting remarks on present-day education, and in closing urged the necessity for a local historian for his old home town.

Dr. J. E. Scott, of New Hope, Pa., who taught in Eldersville 23 years ago, said that he had come almost 500 miles to attend this reunion and that he felt amply repaid. He noted many changes since his time here, and recalled many incidents of the earlier days.

Then came an address by W. W. Knight, which was indeed a treat to all. Speaking through an experience of almost 92 years, his words showing an almost perfect familiarity with the English language and his remarks a deep and unimpaired intellect, his address was wonderfully interesting and impressive. Mr. Knight was born in Hopewell township, near West Middletown, coming with his father to Eldersville in 1835. Being of school age he attended school under Prof.

- 1807-1808—Oscar Smith.
- 1808-1809—Nannie Gillespie Meneely.
- 1809-1900—N. R. Criss.
- 1900-1901—Clara McCausland.
- 1901-1902—Lillian Murchland.
- 1902-1903—Lillian Murchland.
- 1903-1904—Edith McNelly.
- 1904-1905—Lillian Murchland.
- 1905-1906—Eliza Murchland.
- 1906-1907—Mary Schary.
- 1907-1908—Mary Schary (died); term finished by S. V. Kimberland.
- 1908-1909—S. V. Kimberland.
- 1909-1910—Pearl Cassidy.

Books were kept in which all present were requested to register. The following persons did so:

TEACHERS REGISTERED

- S. W. Criss, Steubenville, Ohio.
- W. W. Knight, Eldersville, Ohio.
- H. V. Gardner, Wellsburg, Ohio.
- Esther Porter Duncan, Burgettstown.
- H. L. Donovan, Dennison, Ohio.
- Mrs. H. Loretta Lawton, Hopedale, Ohio.
- N. R. Criss, Pittsburg, Pa.
- Harmine Wright Ranson, Hollidays Cove.
- Pearl Cassidy, Hanlin Station.
- Cynthia Hanlin Sutherland, Avella.
- Dr. J. E. Scott, New Hope, Pa.
- Margaret Jane Moore, Hanlin, R. D. 1.
- William E. Fulton, Pittsburg, Pa.
- S. V. Kimberland, Burgettstown.
- Samuel Amspoker, Washington, Pa.
- R. P. Stevenson, Burgettstown.
- W. A. Cosgrove, Vanderbilt, Pa.
- Alice E. Black, Hanlin Station.
- Nannie Gillespie Meneely, Hanlin.
- Lillian Murchland, Hanlin.
- Mary Melvin Stephenson, Eldersville.

PUPILS REGISTERED

- W. Earl Allen, Rennerdale.
- Louella Richey, Burgettstown.
- Mary A. Allen, Rennerdale.
- Hattie Brock, Hanlin.
- Emma Cosgrove McGrew, McDonald.
- Ira Noah Gardner, Mingo Junction, Ohio.
- Alice L. Dowden, Burgettstown.
- James A. Scott, Hanlin, R. D. 2.
- Marie Davidson, Hanlin.
- Eva Kidd, Hanlin.
- Georgetta E. Stewart, Wilkinsburg.
- Hattie Cartmer, Hanlin.
- Viola Truax, Hanlin.
- Willetta Boles, Avella.
- Olive Gillespie Reese, Wellsburg, W. Va.
- Ella Gillespie, Wellsburg.
- Maggie Gillespie Boyd, Wellsburg.
- Emma Murchland, Hanlin.
- Frances M. Smith, Hanlin.
- Mrs. Belle Walker Hallock, Lancaster, O.
- Mrs. Minnie Meeker, Lancaster, O.
- Florence Hanlin Johnston, Colliers.
- J. Elliott Stewart, Hanlin, R. D. 2.
- James Stewart, 130 Suburban Ave., Pch.
- Agnes Stevenson, Hanlin.
- Joseph R. McClurg, Monaca.
- Althea Lazear, Colliers, W. Va.
- Rita Stephenson Rolston, Hanlin.
- Bertha Murchland, Colliers.
- Lulu Murchland, Colliers.
- McClelland T. Boles, Wilmerding.
- Gladys Murchland, Colliers.
- John A. Boles, Avella, R. D. 2.
- Margaret Jester Walker, Hanlin.
- Lizzie Jester Marsh, Colliers.
- Mary E. Walker, Hanlin.
- J. W. Boles, Avella.

The lunch was served on pit while the guests were seated on comfortable benches erected in the grove for the occasion. A long table, which was beautifully decorated with cut flowers, held the eatables until served to the guests. The grove was an ideal spot for the occasion, and Mr. Cooper did everything in his power to make it convenient and pleasant.

After luncheon the people assembled in the church, where a pleasing program was carried out. The church was very handsomely decorated with flowers, potted plants, flags, bunting, pictures of former teachers, school classes, etc.

S. W. Criss, of Steubenville, Ohio, a native of Eldersville and a former pupil and teacher in the school, presided over the meeting in a most acceptable manner. He made an interesting address, noting some of the many changes that had occurred and telling of some of his experiences both as pupil and teacher.

Mr. Criss then introduced Henry J. Cooper, one of the best-known residents of Jefferson township, and a man who was known and respected by every pupil and teacher at the reunion. Mr. Cooper was born in Allegheny county, but came to Eldersville when but a small boy, and he had many interesting things to tell of his early school days. We failed to get the name of his first teacher, but there are just two other persons living now who attended school during that term. They are Mr. Thorley, of Eldersville, and John I. Cosgrove, of Pittsburg.

Then came an address by R. P. Stevenson, of Burgettstown, who certainly is a favorite with Eldersville people, judging from the enthusiastic reception accorded him on his appearance on the platform and the hearty applause which followed his remarks. Prof. Stevenson was introduced as the man who had it one time effectually chastised the residing officer—then a pupil. Mr. Stevenson gave an interesting talk, making no apology for the thrashing given Mr. Criss. He said he had his first teaching in Eldersville; that was the term of 1872-1873, and that he always had a warm spot in

building was entirely of stone, the fireplace extending the full width of the building. Here he studied the United States spelling book, from which he also learned his first reading lesson, which he quoted from memory:

"My son, do no ill. Go not in the way of bad men, for bad men go to the pit."

As showing further his excellent memory, Mr. Knight recited quite a lengthy poem which he gave at a school-closing entertainment 80 years ago. Mr. Knight taught in the Eldersville school in 1857-1858 and again in 1875-1876. It was then a subscription school, with a term of three months, and his wages were \$18 per month. The old log house built in 1834 has been succeeded by three different buildings. Mr. Knight closed his address with an earnest plea for the younger generation to improve their present opportunities.

N. R. Criss, a prominent attorney at the Pittsburg bar, made the closing address. He also was a teacher as well as a pupil, but his remarks dealt chiefly with the days when he attended school. He recalled each term of his school, relating interesting incidents of the different teachers and pupils.

Thus ended one of the most pleasing celebrations of its kind in the history of the township, if not in the history of the county. And to the people of Eldersville is due the greatest praise for its success.

The list of teachers from the organization of the school in 1834 is not complete, but we give it as fully as the records will permit:

- 1834-1835—John W. Cowen.
- 1835-1836—Margaret J. Moore.
- 1836-1837—William Wilson.
- 1837-1838—W. W. Knight.
- 1838-1839—R. P. Hughes.
- 1839-1860—Loretta Scott Lawton.
- 1860-1861—J. F. Marquis.
- 1861-1862—Mary Raybuck.
- 1864-1865—Mary Melvin.
- 1868-1869—J. C. Wright.
- 1869-1870—Annie Belle Devore.
- 1870-1871—Emma Kidd Jones.
- 1871-1872—Harmine Wright Ralston.
- 1872-1873—R. P. Stevenson.
- 1873-1874—R. P. Stevenson.
- 1874-1875—W. E. Fulton.
- 1875-1876—W. W. Knight.
- 1876-1877—J. E. Scott.
- 1877-1878—Samuel Amspoker.
- 1878-1879—J. P. Wells.
- 1879-1880—J. P. Wells.
- 1880-1881—J. E. Scott.
- 1881-1882—Esther Porter Duncan.
- 1882-1883—Kate Hanlin Mercer.
- 1883-1884—Stewart W. Criss.
- 1884-1885—Stewart Criss.
- 1885-1886—Van B. Baker, D. A. Hindman.
- 1887-1888—E. M. Standish.
- 1888-1889—H. L. Donovan.
- 1889-1890—M. Baker.
- 1890-1891—H. L. Donovan.
- 1891-1892—W. A. Cosgrove.
- 1892-1893—W. A. Cosgrove.
- 1893-1894—J. V. Sutherland.
- 1894-1895—Annie Criss.
- 1895-1896—Verne Gardner.
- 1896-1897—Oscar Smith.

- Bessie Stroud Criss, Hanlin.
- Florence Robertson, Hanlin.
- Mrs. M. G. Baxton, Avella, R. D. 2.
- R. W. Criss, Punxsutawney.
- G. A. Wright, Colliers, W. Va.
- Lillie Scott, Steubenville, O.
- Mary Scott, Steubenville, O.
- Ruth Donovan, Dennison, O.
- James Martin, Burgettstown, W. Va.
- Nannie Jackson, Burgettstown.
- Anna Scott Criss, Pittsburg.
- J. R. Stephenson, Burgettstown, R. D. 5.
- A. P. Walker, Hollidays Cove, W. Va.
- R. Clark Smith, Hanlin.
- Mrs. A. P. Walker, Hollidays Cove.
- Alex. Martin, Hanlin.
- William Robertson, Hanlin.
- Willie Truax, Hanlin.
- George Groves, Colliers.
- Charles L. Criss, Pittsburg.
- Frank M. Barber, Hanlin.
- George Cartmer, Hanlin, R. D. 2.
- John I. Courner, N. C. Junction, W. Va.
- Frank Ferguson, Hollidays Cove, W. Va.
- E. Ferguson, Toronto, Ohio.
- Anna Stephenson Dimit, E. Liverpool, O.
- Etta Stephenson Weaver, Oakdale.
- Mrs. W. W. Elliott, Avella.
- Mrs. C. Ferguson, Hollidays Cove.
- Fannie Smith Hood, Monaca.
- Minnie Smith Weigel, Monaca.
- Mary Weaver, Oakdale.
- Nellie McCleary Robertson, Mingo Junction, Ohio.
- Martha Sanders Fowler, Wellsburg.
- E. R. Criss, New Kensington.
- Fred McGrew, McDonald.
- M. F. Hanlin, Hanlin.
- Hallie B. Criss Taylor, Midway.
- Nannie Wright, Hanlin.
- Irene Rutledge, Pittsburg.
- Sarah Rutledge Bryant, Pittsburg.
- Mrs. Minnie Weigman Pettibon, Hanlin.
- John W. Crippen, Hanlin, R. D. 2.
- Mrs. Alex. Hanlin, Irondale, Ohio.
- C. L. Jester, Hanlin.
- J. E. Smith, Burgettstown.
- Robert Kidd, Hanlin, R. D.
- Alveta Johnston, Hanlin.
- Mary Cosgrove Criss, Steubenville, O.
- Alex. Smith, Hanlin.
- R. McCready Wright, Hanlin.
- Jennie L. Newell, Hanlin.
- Mrs. George Boles, Avella.
- Adah Boles, Avella.
- Isaac Cartmer.
- Mrs. Stella Barber, Hanlin.
- George Marsh, Colliers.
- John I. Cosgrove, Pittsburg.
- Mabel Smith, Burgettstown.

ELDERSVILLE—Roy M. Thorley, Frances Thorley, Jesse Dimit, Sarah J. Tucker, Lenore Moore, Georgeann Walker, Elsie Sanders, Anna Carpenter, Martha Gillespie, Earnest Gillespie, Willa Criss, Mary Belle Tucker, Clarence Boles, Henry C. Cooper, John Schary, James Schary, Susie White, Mary M. Criss, Sara Walker, Evalyn F. Cunningham, Mrs. M. W. Schary, Nancy Walker, Etta Love McClain, John R. McClain, Viola Boles, Anna R. Irwin, Hattie Schary, Mrs. Maud Shrader, Jean Irwin, Jennie Criss, Clarence Dean Ward, Thomas Schary, Clyde H. Walker, Everett Griffith, Jefferson Griffith, Norris Stroud, Albert Boles, Raymond Kidd, Edwin Smith, Arthur Robertson, Thelma Knox, Nannie D. Cooper, Milda Cooper, Mrs. Rachel Stephenson.

VISITORS REGISTERED

- Mrs. J. C. Fleming, Burgettstown.
- J. C. Fleming, Burgettstown.
- Orn M. Studa, South Burgettstown.
- Gladys V. Allen, Kennerdale.
- C. C. McGrew, McDonald.
- Bessie Johnston, Colliers.
- Frank Engel, Steubenville.
- Florence T. Strain, Colliers.
- Clifford Richer, Burgettstown.
- Arthur Richey, Burgettstown.
- Mrs. E. C. McGregor, Burgettstown.
- Mrs. T. V. Lee, Burgettstown.
- Eleanor M. Scott, Hanlin.
- Estelle Mayfield, Indianapolis, Ind.
- Martha Sanders, Follansbee, W. Va.
- Erie Cunningham, Burgettstown.
- G. C. Melvin, Hanlin.
- Etta K. Meneely, Hanlin.
- Albert Sanders, Follansbee.
- Fannie Miller, Colliers.
- Fin Gardner, Mingo Junction, Ohio.
- S. E. Gillespie, Hanlin.
- Venia Gillespie, Hanlin, R. D. 2.
- John Marsh, Collier.
- Nannie Martin, Colliers.
- T. R. Strain, Hanlin.
- Mabel Cunningham, Hanlin.
- Nannie Marsh, Colliers.
- Margaret Marsh, Colliers.
- Martha Marsh, Colliers.
- Harry Marsh, Colliers.
- Elizabeth Walker, Hanlin.
- W. E. Steen, Hanlin.
- Ethelyn L. Scott, Hanlin.
- Laura Scott, Hanlin.
- Blanche Scott, Hanlin.
- Bliza A. Cassidy, Burgettstown.
- A. M. Cassidy, Burgettstown.
- Bertha Martin, Hanlin.
- F. E. McClurg, Hanlin.
- Elenor Crippen, Hanlin.
- Nannie Walker, Hanlin.
- Lizzie B. Wilkes, Hanlin.

(Continued on Second Page)

ELDERSVILLE DIAMOND JUBILEE

(Continued from First Page)

Elsie D. McGough, Burgettstown.
M. Besse Elliott, Avella.
Lizzie Murchland, McDonald.
O. S. Curry, Hanlin.
F. H. Ferguson, Burgettstown.
Flora Pyle, Dinsmore.
Mary Stevenson, Hanlin.
Lenore Cochran, Midway.
Bertha Jackson, Burgettstown.
Edna McMillan, Murdocksville.
Miss Kate Wright, Avella.
Mrs. David Barnes, Avella.
M. A. Gillespie.
W. G. Cramer, Burgettstown.
Mrs. Mary Bloomingstock, Washington,
Pa., R. D. No. 3.
T. V. Lee, Burgettstown.
Margaret Curry, Hanlin.
Mrs. O. S. Curry, Haglin.
O. G. Truax.
Fred Cassidy, Hanlin.
Mrs. Ida Davidson, Hanlin.
Harry Davidson, Hanlin.
Alice Perrin, Avella.
Delcie Perrin, Avella.
W. S. Gay, New York.
Mrs. Elice Foster, Hanlin, R. D. No. 2.
Miss Bessie Buchanan, Avella.
Mrs. Chas. L. Criss, 3001 Chartiers Ave.,
Pittsburg.
Alice McGrew, McDonald.
Ester Cosgrove, Vanderbilt.
Olive Duncan, Burgettstown.
Mrs. Lottie F. McCabe, Burgettstown.
Emma Creswell, Colliers, W. Va.
Grace McCorkle, Burgettstown.
Ethel Barber, Hanlin.
Bess Gilliland, Burgettstown.
Mrs. Frank McClurg, Hanlin.
Mrs. Bob Irwin, Hanlin.
Faye Sutherland, Avella.
Lena Lyons, New Cumberland, W. Va.
Mrs. Will Jackson, Hanlin.
T. A. Pettibon, Hanlin.
Floy Close, Burgettstown.
Loretta Patterson, Steubenville, O.
Mrs. Robert Patterson, Wellsburg, W. Va.
Robert Patterson, Wellsburg, W. Va.
Wilbur Patterson, Wellsburg, W. Va.
John Brown, Colliers, W. Va.
Willard Strain, Wellsburg, W. Va.
Ross Strain, Wellsburg, W. Va.
Robert Hemphill, Colliers, W. Va.
Woodward Patterson, Wellsburg, W. Va.
Harry Hall, Colliers, W. Va.
Floyd Campbell, Colliers, W. Va.
Howard Saunders, Follansbee, W. Va.
Raymond Brown, Colliers, W. Va.
W. A. Barnes, Penobscot.
John Scott, Penobscot.
Dean Sutherland, Penobscot.
H. Scott, Penobscot.
Zelma Amspoker, Colliers, W. Va.
Fred Stephenson, Burgettstown.
O. H. Berdine, Hanlin.
Ralph Dimit, E. Liverpool.
Florence E. Fulton, Burgettstown.
Blanche Miller, Burgettstown.
May Miller, Burgettstown.
J. E. Campbell, Avella.
Rhoda Elliott, Avella.
Leila B. Miller, Burgettstown.
Wilbur Dimit, E. Liverpool, O.
Richard Criss.
W. K. Truax, Hanlin.
J. A. Perrin, Avella.
W. M. Rea, Bulger.
A. R. McClurg, Candor, Pa.
W. S. Kilston, Hanlin.
J. F. McCarrell, Dinsmore.
Mrs. Margaret Wilson, Independence.
Mrs. S. V. Kimberland, Burgettstown.
Mary Wright, Hanlin, R. D. No. 3.
Margaret R. Scott, Hanlin, R. D. No. 2.
Chris. H. Weigman, Hanlin, R. D. No. 2.
Elva Cox, Hanlin.
Virginia Cox, Hanlin.
James Cox, Hanlin.
Elza Scott, Hanlin.
Mrs. Charlie Cox, Hanlin.
May Porter, Burgettstown.
Ora Cassidy, Burgettstown.
W. A. Strain, Colliers, W. Va.
Mrs. W. A. Strain, Colliers, W. Va.
Mrs. B. M. Wheeler, Hanlin.
Jess H. Wheeler, Hanlin.

SOME TOWNSHIP TEACHERS



Earl Forney



Pearl Cassidy Melvin



Myrtle Sutherland Lantz

Miller School

by
Kathryn Campbell Siasor

Along an isolated country lane, in a rustic pastoral setting, about half way between the Miller Mansion and the Pine Grove Gristmill, sat a small, sturdy wood schoolhouse.

Even though in 1834 it had been built astraddle the farm boundary of George Miller and William Pettibone, it was named Miller School.



At that time, the present township of Jefferson was a part of Cross Creek, and thereby a part of its school district. This changed on June 16, 1853, when Jefferson Township was carved out of the larger Cross Creek Township to become its own entity. Miller School, which had been School No. 11 in Cross Creek, became School No. 1 in Jefferson.

In 1869, the Miller building was deeded to the school district by both Miller and Pettibone. When the school closed in 1921, the building was purchased from the school district by T.A. Miller and immediately moved a few feet to rest entirely on Miller land. It was then used for farm purposes.

The first teacher in the newly created Miller district in 1853 was Miss Margaret Jane Moore, a quaint little lady who eventually spent over fifty years in the profession. A woman who could and did throughout her life make her own map

syrup, cut fence posts for her garden, grub the pesky bushes from her yard, and dig her own coal, Margaret Jane taught a 3-month term that year for \$15 a month.



Margaret Jane Moore

Records state that beginning August 8, 1853, Margaret Jane had a roster of 33 boys and 31 girls in her class that term.

Not many records are in existence on the early history of Miller School. The years have come and gone and the names of teachers and pupils of those early days are gone too, from memory.

In his "History of Miller School," the late A.D. White wrote, "Over the years, we can be sure that the children from the nearby farms - the Millers and the Pettibones, the Sutherlands and the Cunninghams, the Wells' and the Klines, the Buxtons and the Gillespies, and at least some of the Scotts, their heirs and successors, ad infinitum, were among the pupils of this school."

When Margaret Jane Moore taught for three months in 1853, was the year that Jefferson Township became a separate district from Cross Creek Township on June 16. Just four days earlier, a meeting was called for this purpose and presided over by Mr. George Miller. Directors for the new school district were elected. Among them were David Jack, William Pettibone and Charles Scott.

The next teacher at Miller School was John W. Sutton. He taught terms beginning in December, 1853, and in March, 1854. For the summer term, beginning May 3, 1854, Adeline Cassidy was chosen teacher at a salary of \$12.50 per month.

James McCorkle taught in the 1880's and John Hindman in 1890-91.



Miller School 1890 - 91

Front row: Mary Martin (Yoders), Edna Sutherland (McGahan), Bertha Miller (Hindman).

Middle row: Ben Martin, Charles Sutherland, Lawrence Pettibon, Alvin Barnes, Bill Sutherland, John Martin, Ash Martin, _____, Orrin Miller.

Back row: Zela Woods, Lizzy Martin, Anna Sutherland (Irwin), John Hindman - teacher, Tom Martin, Creighton Pettibon, _____ Martin

In 1891-92, William Cosgrove, of a local Jefferson Township family, was the teacher. It was his habit, so it was told, to sit on the teacher's platform with his feet perched high on the desk before him. Once, while in this position, he lost his balance, fell off his chair and landed flat on the floor. The pupils tried but could not suppress their laughter. Mr. Cosgrove got to his feet and told them, "Go ahead and laugh, for I know it was funny."

After these came: Mary Sanders Latimer, 1897-98; Alice Wells Hawk, 1898-99; William P. Wilson, 1899-1901; Harry G. Noah, 1901-02; Nettie Cooper Brown, 1902-03; Margaret Curry, 1903-04; May McElhaney, 1904-05; Alvin Barnes, 1905-06.

Daisy Tilton, 1906-07; Orpha Buxton Morrow, 1907-09; Laura Neil, 1909-10; Gould Moore, 1910-11; Roza Dussere, 1911-12; Myrtle Sutherland Lantz, 1912-13; Fred Cassidy, 1914-15; Iva Miller Anderson, 1915-16; Hazel Sutherland Pettibon, 1918-19; Grace Barnhouse Glover, 1920-21. The school was closed at the end of this last term.

At one time, probably before the turn of the century, Samuel S. Campbell, of Independence Township, traveled from school to school in Jefferson Township and taught singing.



1. John Scott, 2. Earl Miller, 3. Miss McElhaney, 4. "Floss" Wells, 5. Dean Sutherland, 6. Austin Barnes, 7. Daisy Scott
8. Harold Scott, 9. Glen Sutherland, 10. Mabel Cunningham, 11. Hazel Sutherland, 12. Eleanor Scott, 13. Leland Sutherland
14. Iva Miller, 15. Ernest Bilderback, 16. Hazel Scott, 17. Faye Sutherland, 18. Alden Miller, 19. Myrtle Sutherland

A number of pupils who had reached the status of being in the upper grades, went on for a teaching certificate and returned later to her role on the other side of the desk. Sometimes when a newly trained teacher returned, having come from a large family, she would find a younger sibling occupying a seat where she herself once sat a few years earlier.

One example of this occurred in the Sutherland family. Myrtle, the oldest of this family, returned as Miss Sutherland, to find Esther, the youngest of the brood, as her pupil. One day she called on the little girl to ask her a question.

"Esther," she addressed her pupil.

Much to the amusement of the other children, she answered, "Whaddya want, Myrtle?"

Esther Sutherland Gordon recalls vividly her days at Miller School. The pot belly stove in the center of the room, the slates for figuring, the dunce stool in the corner, the water bucket and dipper from which everyone drank, the bench for reciting lessons, all are clear in her mind as if it were yesterday instead of ninety years ago.

The late Florence Buxton Ertle, known to her family as Aunt Po, often recalled incidents from her school days at Millers. For instance, there was the Christmas in

1911 when the entertainment for which the pupils had worked so hard, was cancelled. Every pupil in the school was absent with the 9-day measles!

When the doors closed at Miller School that Spring of 1921, the consensus of opinion was that never again would any of these simple country school chums be together. But short-sighted folks of little vision for the future could not foresee the possibilities within reach when a little exertion is employed. Brothers Albert and Delvin Miller, fifth generation descendants from the pioneer settlers, had a vision. They would take down Miller School board by board, move it from the isolated niche in its pastoral setting, insulate it, wire it for electricity, paint and renovate it, and rebuild it in a more accessible spot.

The project was begun in 1964. With the removal of the last board, the brothers placed a small fieldstone to mark the spot where once stood this revered country school. The building became the nucleus around which the preservation of history was the central focus. Meadowcroft Village was born.

In the summer of 1966, forty-five years after classmates had said good-bye, a joyful reunion was planned. About sixty pupils and teachers reminisced together of happy childhood days.

Another twenty-two years passed and the Miller brothers hosted what would be the last reunion ever. It was on October 8, 1988, that approximately fifteen remaining school mates gathered together in the old school. Only two teachers remained at that time. They were Hazel Sutherland Pettibon and Grace Barnhouse Glover, the latter having taught the final year of classes, the 1920-21 term. Both have since passed away, but not until each had reached her late nineties.

Another of these beloved teachers was William P. Wilson, who taught at Miller School from 1899 to 1901.



At the calling of the roll for this special school day, he remarked, "Before we have another reunion at Miller's, many will have answered to the Roll Call up yonder." William Patterson Wilson was among them.

Early education in this one-room institution of learning was unsurpassed, due chiefly to the high quality of educators who walked through its doors. Only time can reveal the results of their dedication demonstrated in the little wood building that stood for 87 years by the side of the lane that ran from Miller's Mansion to old Kidd's Mill.

MILLER SCHOOL

written by **June Campbell Grossman**
for the Miller School Reunion, October 9, 1988

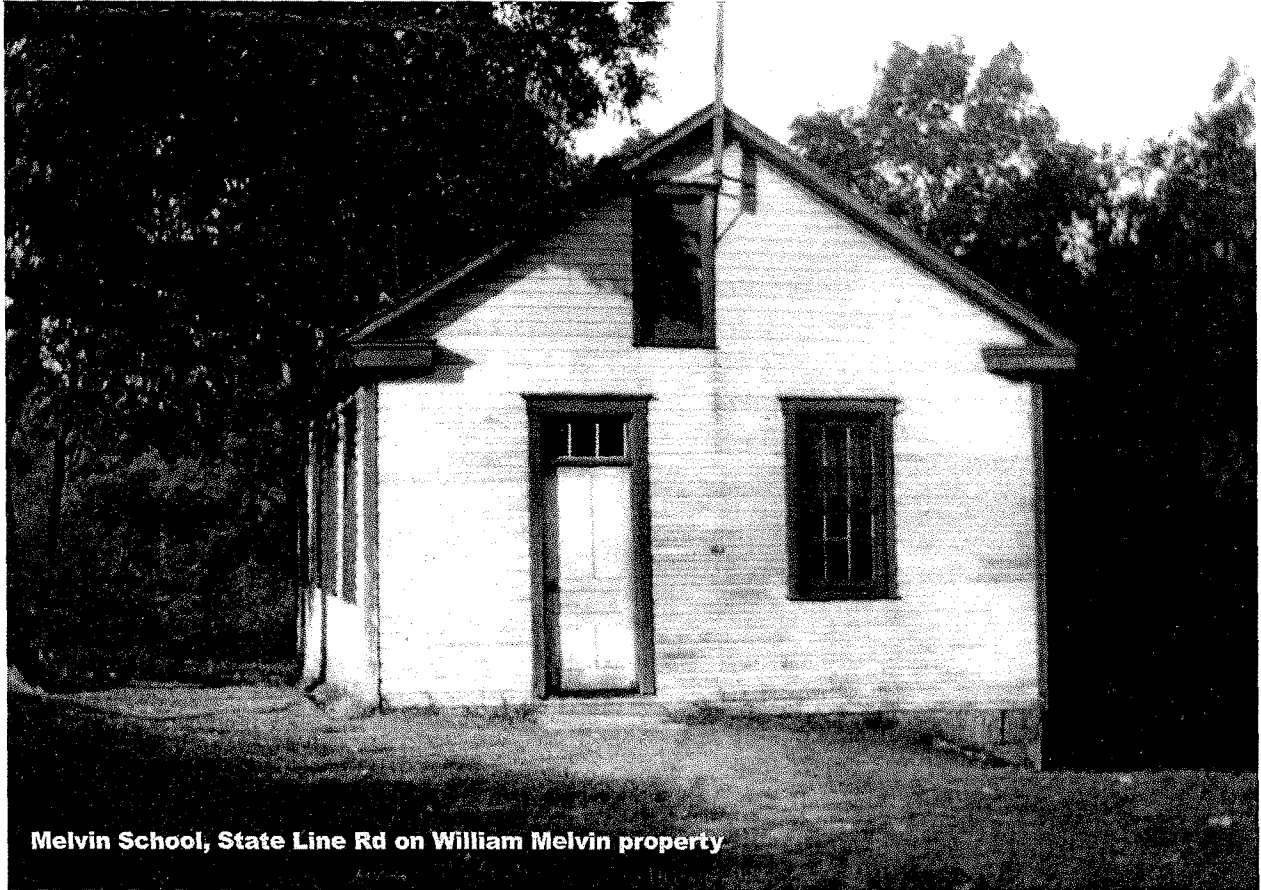
**Once upon a time, they say a country road was born
In what was Cross Creek Township, before Jefferson was formed.
How it ran from Miller's Mansion, can be dimly seen there still
Past Pettibon's and Cunningham's, and on to Old Kidd's Mill.
Along that dusty roadway, far from clamor, rush or roar,
They built a little schoolhouse, back in 1834.
Were you to journey there today, where the pasture meets the wood,
A single stone now marks the spot, where once the schoolhouse stood.
But, oh, it served for many years, the nearby countryside,
And drew the children to its doors, from very far and wide.
And you who gather here today, once learned the Golden Rule,
As country lads and lassies, in the one-room Miller's School.
But one day you left the schoolhouse, and you struck out on your own,
To make your fortune in the world, to go the road alone.
You planned to meet your pals again, to share the old time fun.
But they closed the doors forever, back in 1921.**

**So look around and take it in, and store it all away.
So you will not forget one thing, you loved of yesterday.
The sledrides in the winter, and the summer games of tag,
The lunches in tin buckets, the bean shooters in your bag,
The knife you used for whittling, the paper wads you made,
The old cast iron pot-bellied stove - will the memories never fade?
The spring at which you filled each day, the faithful wooden pail,
The bench and recitations, you'd so many times bewail,
The slate on which your lessons, you laboriously scrawled,
The errors in your spelling. How the teacher was appalled!
The literary hour and the poems you must recite,
The gloomy days of winter with no artificial light,
The bell which called you in from play, the old blackboard and chalk,
The precepts and the principles, that were your solid rock.**

**Sixty-seven years have passed, since Miller's closed its door;
Yet you return to share again, your school day joys once more.
So put them with your treasures - lock them safely in your heart.
The time draws near, when, from your pals forever you must part.
Remember those who've gone ahead, whose names are on this slate.
Perhaps upon some sun-kissed hill, their youthful spirits wait,
To share some grand reunion, just around the Glory Bend,
Where you'll be young forever, and where schooldays never end.
So live again those golden days, when friendship was the rule,
The days that will not be again - the days at Miller School.**

Melvin School

By
Kathryn Campbell Slasor



Melvin School, State Line Rd on William Melvin property

"A Spelling Bee was held at Melvin School." Thus read an item in the LOCAL NEWS column in the Burgettstown newspaper in February, 1893.

School pupils of the present day are probably unaware of what comprises a spelling bee. The dictionary says that a "bee" is a gathering for work or amusement, so called from the combined labor of the bees of a hive.

Thus when the participants stand up and choose sides, they work together for a common cause, as do the bees. None want to "go to the foot of the line," or, in some cases, return to their seats. This was a "fun" way of learning to spell, and also of working together.

Most of the country schools of a hundred years ago held spelling bees on a regular basis. Those still living today chuckle as they remember when they "spelled down" an opponent.

Very few records have been preserved of the old one room Melvin School. Established as School No.2 in Jefferson Township, it was no doubt built shortly after 1834, as were the others that came into existence after that Public School Law was passed.

The Melvin family were among the early settlers of Jefferson Township. When a school was to be built, it was usually named for the farm or land on which it was built. The Melvin School was located in the southwestern portion of the township where, shortly before, Charles Scott had erected a gristmill. This later became Kidd's Mill, by which name the area is yet known.

The school site cannot be seen from any existing road. Possibly at one time, a country road ran beside it. And if one stands at a certain spot on what was then Irish Ridge, and gazes westward down into the valley, imagination might tell one that, "Melvin School was down there!"

No teachers are living today who taught at Melvin, but a few are dearly remembered. Many were from local families whose descendants still have ties here. And stories of, "When I was in school, " even if that were seven decades ago, are favorite tales to be passed on to the next generation.

It is believed by this writer that not only are all of the Melvin School teachers gone, but also the pupils have all passed away. Since Melvin closed its doors forever in 1922, anyone living today must be more than 85 years of age to have attended its classes.

Iris Campbell, who was this writer's Aunt, carried many memories of the Melvin School area with her all of her long life. Iris was the youngest of five children of the Earl Campbell family. She was four years old when the family moved from Avella to the boarding house at Kidd's Mill. The year was 1914.

The family had packed all of their belongings in the horse-drawn road wagon and headed through an all-day rain to their new home far down the Scott's Run Valley. Iris cried all the way!

The valley was pretty well deserted at this time, compared to the hustle and bustle that abounded there for the past three quarters of a century. The grinding of the gristmill had stopped possibly five years before. The working girls from Pittsburgh no longer came to the mill area to vacation for the summer. The Bancroft Post Office had closed. The Pine Grove Presbyterian Church had been abandoned and the timbers carried away. The only activity left seemed to take place at Melvin School, where for the last eighty years, dedicated teachers and eager pupils continued year after year wrestling with the ABC's and the Three R's.

Little Iris grew into a model Melvin School pupil. She loved school and the other pupils, as well as the teachers. One special friend was Victoria Luce, who owned a pony. Victoria often rode the pony to school, and would occasionally allow Iris to ride him.

One day the pony died. The next day, Victoria came to school riding a cow. She calmly tied the cow to the same post where she had always tied her pony, and went in for classes as usual. Victoria and her brother, Francis, moved to California in 1921. Iris never saw her best pal again.

Iris always said that it was at Melvin where she learned to write. Teacher Pearl Cassidy was a stickler for penmanship. Every letter must be perfect, or the work did not pass. This strictness paid off, as Iris worked all of her life in an office, where penmanship was extremely important.

Clyde Melvin lived atop the hill on Irish Ridge. He taught not only regular classes, but doubled as a music teacher, specializing in voice. He conducted singing classes, not only at Melvin, but served as an itinerant teacher, visiting all the other schools in the area.

His family was the first to own that new-fangled contraption known as a radio. Since these backwoods children had never seen nor heard of such a contrivance, Mr. Melvin decided to treat them, one at a time, to a session at the radio. Each day during the lunch hour, he would place one of his pupils on his horse behind him and take him home with him to hear the radio. This routine continued until each pupil in the class had witnessed this amazing invention.

"You never knew what grade you were in," Iris recalled. "Where everyone is in the same room, one lesson just slides into another. One day I asked Mr. Melvin what grade I was in. He paused, thought for a moment, and answered, 'I guess you are about in sixth or seventh.' I took seventh," Iris giggled, as she recalled these days of so many years ago.

"I liked to play baseball," she reflected. "But I couldn't hit," she continued. "But could catch!"

"Sometimes Tom Clark would bring his big bobsled," she remembered. "There was lots of snow on winter days. We would all pile on and go flying down the old road that went through the woods. We would get wet and have to sit all day in our wet arctics. Half the time the stove did not work, so could not get our clothes dry. There was always someone sick or had a cold. "

When Iris finished seventh grade, the family moved to Penobscot, where she transferred to Turney School.

A teacher at Melvin School in early days was Lulu McCarty, who later married Vess (Sylvester) McClurg. This family lived in the Kidd's Mill area.

One day as Miss McCarty was riding her horse to school, she encountered the cross hog owned by the Thorley family. This bad-tempered animal did not threaten the teacher, but viciously attacked her horse, who was injured so badly he had to be put to death.

Myrtle Sutherland remembered how cold the winters were when she was a young teacher. Her home was high on the hill near Bethel Church. Her destination was Melvin school. Her transportation on these frigid winter days was a horse and sleigh.

Her mother realized how cold Myrtle would be by the time she reached the school. So before Myrtle left the comforts of a warm house on a cold morning, her mother heated some bricks in the fireplace, wrapped them securely and placed them in the sleigh at Myrtle's feet. Dian Foster Sutherland was a wonderful mother!

A well-loved teacher at Melvin was Iva Miller, who began her teaching career at this one-room country school at age eighteen. One of her pupils that first term was this writer's father, Harry Campbell, age thirteen. As did a large percentage of teachers of that day, Miss Iva Miller had received her education at the Eldersville Normal School.

Ethelyn Scott, another delightful young lady of the community, also endeared herself to the pupils of Melvin School.

Melvin School class of 1918-1919
Ethlyn Scott, teacher



Her first year there was 1918, the year of the “Flu” epidemic. In her own words, her memories are, “I taught three months and came down with the Flu, which killed so many and almost killed me. I was in bed with it when the Armistice was signed. The School Board held the school for me until the first of the year, but I did not sit up in bed until January, and was not able to finish.”

Another clear memory she carried with her throughout her long life was of the disastrous flood of 1912. It was the day before school was to start when the waters arose and took everything down the streams, such as bridges, houses and roads. The bridge that Ethelyn was to cross was in the Shades of Death, that deep valley between two high hills.

Her father started out before her, and soon found that the bridge was gone and that the road was washed out. Some of the neighbors owned an old horse that was blind. He had wandered out to the waterfall where Ethelyn had spent many childhood days admiring the beautiful Trillium and the Trailing Arbutus that grew in abundance there. The old horse was standing on top of the waterfall, as if some sixth sense had kept him from going over. Her father took her to school by some other way.

When the matter of rebuilding the road came up, her father George Scott said, “Don’t put it down by the hollow again, as it will probably get washed out again.” He donated the south end of his field to put it on higher ground. And so it is to this day.

Nothing remains of Melvin School. Only a shallow depression in the ground on a lonely wooded hillside tells the extremely infrequent passerby that life was once there in abundance. The shouts of the children on a bobsled are gone, and the Spelling Bees are no more. Melvin School has come to the end of the line. There is no one left to remember.

MELVIN SCHOOL, DISTRICT NO. 2

Jefferson Twp., Washington Co., Pa.

April 1, 1920



Teacher, PEARL ETHLEEN CASSIDY

School Board

President, John L. Scott

Secretary, F. M. Barber

Treasurer, W. K. Truax

PUPILS

Mary Campbell

Margaret Campbell

Iris Campbell

Victoria Luce

Irene Comin

Lillian Comin

Francis Luce

Harlan Cassidy

Emile Robert

Eugene Malbos

Thomas Clark

Daine Comin

Everett Comin

A Farewell Message

Meetings and greetings and partings—
They come to us one and all,
They come to the man, they come to the
maid,
They come to the children small.
The meetings and greetings we hail with
joy,
But partings make sad the way;
So we put off farewells as long as we can,
And good-byes we dread to say.
But "good-bye" just means "God bless you."
And that's what I'm saying to you,—
God bless you, my boy, God bless you, my
girl,
And guide you in all that you do.
May the lessons you've learned in your
school days here
Be such that shall help you to grow
To manhood and womanhood brave and
strong
To meet all life's storms as they blow.
By the best of success may your efforts be
crowned,
Rich blessings be yours to the end;
And each day, I pray you, wherever you are
Remember your teacher and friend.

Eldersville School

By Kathryn Campbell Slasor

An item in the LOCAL NEWS column in an undated Burgettstown newspaper reads: "The new school in Eldersville opened October 23, 1888." Since this is referred to as the "new" school, apparently there preceded it, an "old" one. This "old" one was, no doubt, one which must have served the greater Eldersville area from the very early days of the village until the erection of the one constructed in 1888.

In his book, *The Criss Family*, Nicholas Rittenhouse Criss states that he was 18 years old in 1891 and "attended the Eldersville ungraded school up to this time. It was a one-room school with forty to fifty pupils ranging in age from six to twenty."

This would lead one to believe that he attended both the old and the new schools, probably being in attendance from about the age of six, in 1879, until his acknowledgement of being in school until 1891. Unfortunately, for history's sake, N.R.Criss did not further elaborate on these early Eldersville school houses.

There is, however, a very authentic account of the quality of education which was available in this little school of Eldersville from earliest of times – regardless of what physical plant housed the teaching process. In the book *The Robert McCready Family* compiled by Robert J. McCready, M.D. in 1931, is an account which should make Jefferson Township proud of its early educational system. The first Robert McCready was, of course, one of the township's pioneer settlers. He was an educated man – a scholar of highest quality – thus able to determine what was or was not a good school system. Following his service in the Revolutionary War, and his permanent settlement in what would be the Jefferson Township area, he is known to have taught in a number of places in the region surrounding his log house. These locations included Wells Fort, just over the state line and owned by the eminent Greybeard Wells, the Cross Creek Presbyterian Church, and even in his own home where, it is written, he held classes.

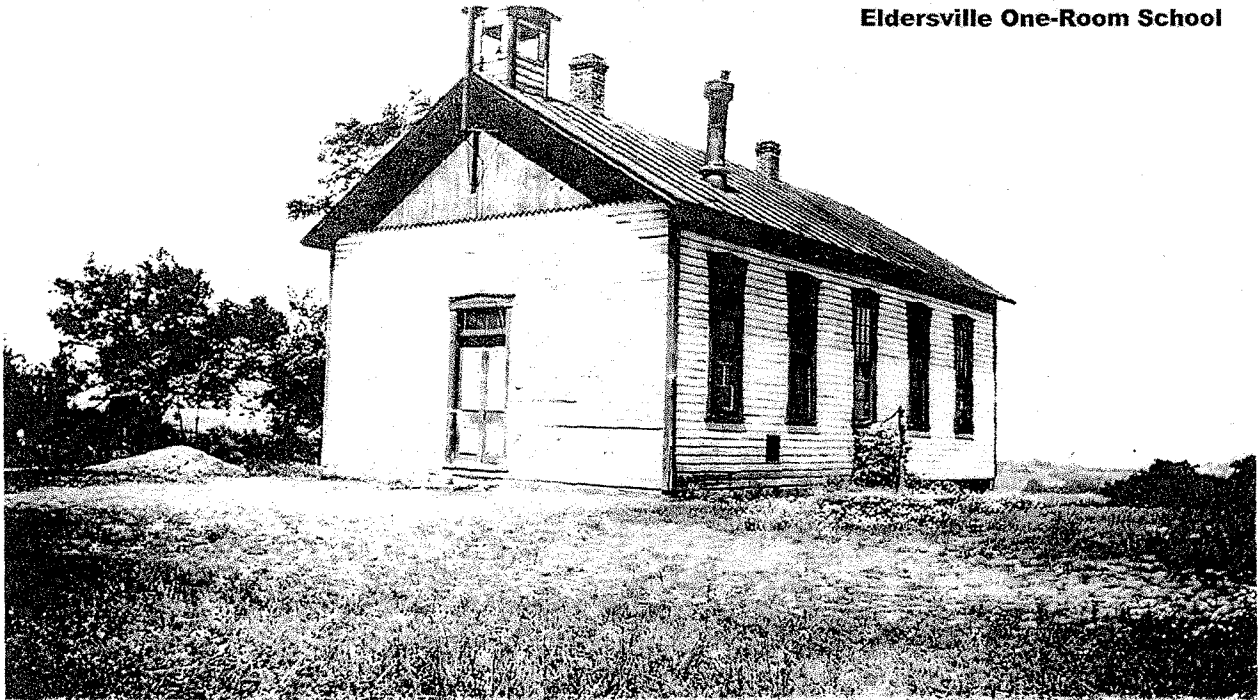
In the McCready history noted above, the following quote demonstrates the high regard that this prominent scholar of the early days had for the school system at Eldersville. It reads, in part, as follows.

(The writer is referring to Robert McCready's grandchildren by his son, Joseph.)

" The children of the McCreadys attended Alderlick save as some of them from time to time were taken by their grandfather, the first Robert, to his home for the better scholastic advantage of the Eldersville neighborhood. Robert McCready's farm was near the village of Eldersville where a very good public school was maintained from the passage of the Pennsylvania Public School Law of 1834. The late Dr. Robert McCready of Sewickley, a great horseman who, in his earliest practice, rode horseback, used to recall his delight in his own first such ownership, a white pony, the gift of his grandfather, on which he rode to school from his grandfather's house when he had gone there in the early forties because of a lack of a good available school near his own home in Columbiana County, Ohio. Dr. Joseph A. McCready, still hale, hearty, and jovial and in active practice at the age of 83, lived with William McCready, his great uncle, on the Eldersville farm for several years while attending the Eldersville School."

No picture has surfaced of this "first" Eldersville School which was attended by Robert McCready's grandchildren and by N.R.Criss during his first four or five years of schooling. The one room "new" building, stated above as having opened in 1888, is believed to be the building pictured below, used as the Eldersville Normal School during the summers until 1915, and as an elementary school until 1930-31 when the later, brick building was constructed.

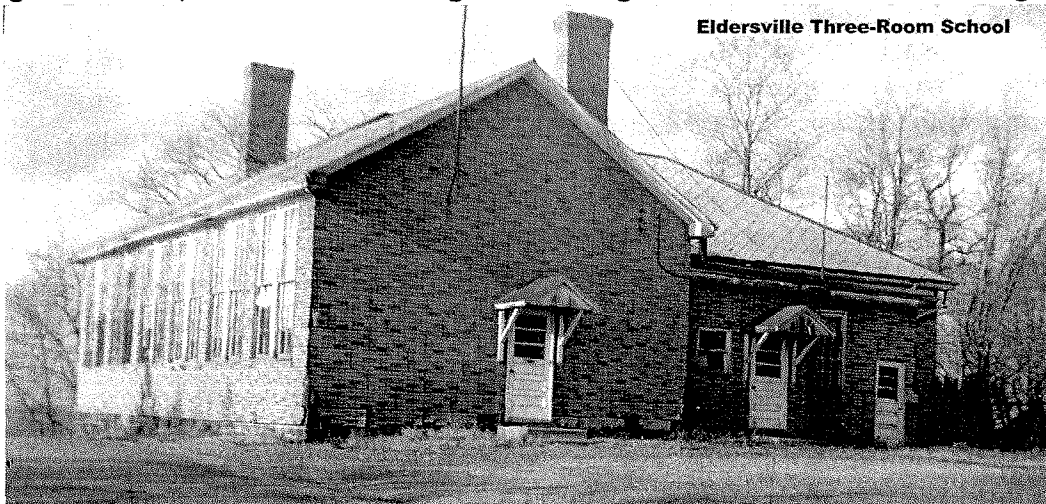
Eldersville One-Room School



This "new" building stood in line with the Methodist Church, and faced down Spring Alley toward Eldersville Road. The "old" building probably sat in the same general area since it is so marked on Caldwell's 1876 Map.

With the location of the Shintown Mine near Eldersville, and the influx of population resulting therefrom, the frame building was enlarged to a three-room building.

Eldersville Three-Room School



The additional two room construction took place in 1919. Further increases in enrollment created the necessity for holding classes for several years in the lower room of the IOOF Hall in Eldersville. Then, for two years just prior to the erection of the brick building in 1930-31, classes were held also in two company-owned buildings in the Shintown Camp.

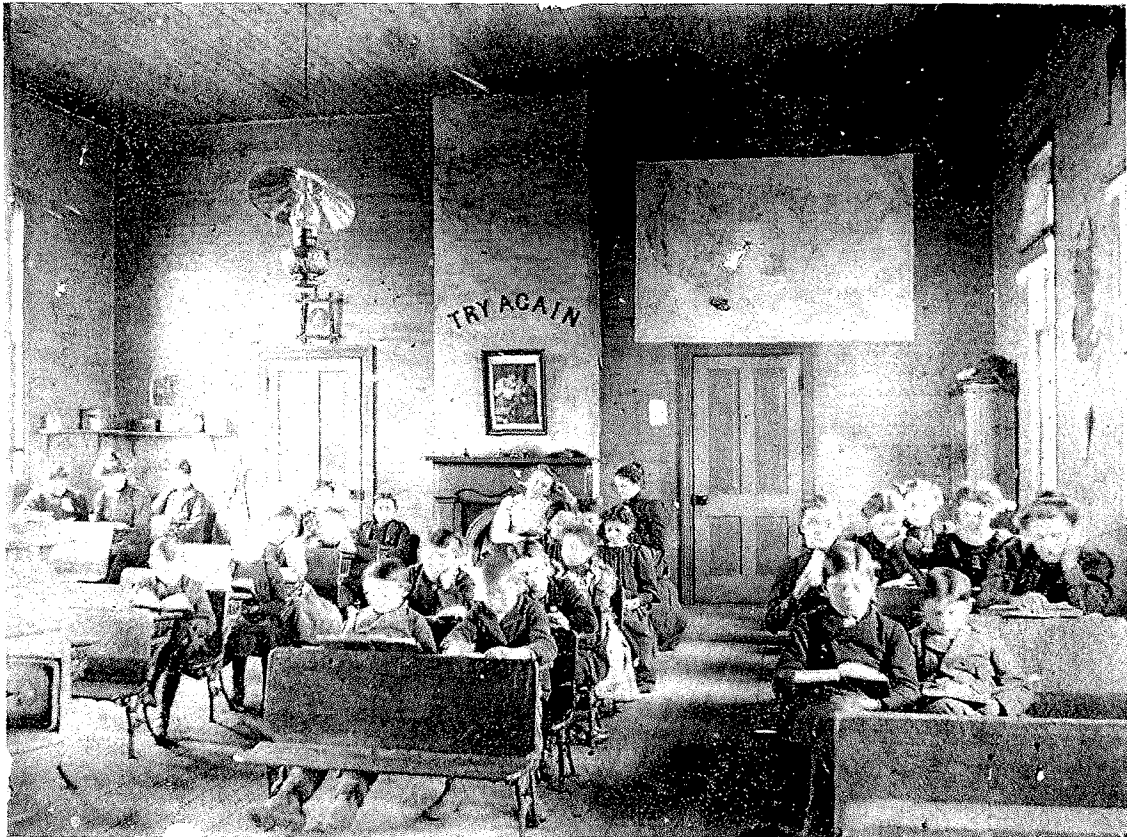
Early in 1930, when the School Board of Jefferson Township decided to erect the new brick building at Eldersville, the purpose was to complete the consolidation of all one-room schools of the township. A plot of ground fronting on Washington Street was purchased from the John N. Walker estate, and there, in September, 1930, was begun the erection of the brick 4-room Eldersville Grade School. It was completed and first occupied by a class on March 17, 1931.



Marion O. Butler was the first teacher in this school. Within a few days, the other rooms were occupied and the temporary locations abandoned. Following this, for the next several years, school was held in the old frame building and also in the new brick building, making an eight-room organization at the Eldersville School.

Further decline in enrollment enabled the school board to abandon the frame building. However, since the four-room new brick building did not provide quite enough space for the entire student body, one of the buildings that housed half of the students at Turney was torn down and moved to the Eldersville location. This arrangement totaled five rooms in which classes were held, and very comfortably so.

The little frame annex not only served its purpose as an extra classroom, but also played an important role in the defense of our country. When the dangers of World War II came closer to home, an Observation Post was set up in this annex. A Civil Defense Corp was organized and citizens took turns at manning the Post. Around the clock they watched for airplanes and reported any flying object that passed overhead until the danger was over.



Eldersville School in 1899 – Nicholas Rittenhouse Criss, Teacher



*Eldersville Grade School
Class of 1894 - 1895*

1 - Charles Gillespie 2 - Nan Cooper Walker
3 - Anna R. Criss - Teacher





Eldersville School (Date unknown)

First row: Robert Sanders and ___ Jester.

Second row: ___? ___, ___? ___, Clarence Boles, Willis Ridgeway, Thomas Schary, Merle Irwin, Lulu Davidson, Jean Irwin.

Third row: Eva Kidd Irwin, Viola Truax Cassidy, Georganna Walker Truax, Eliza Murchland - teacher, Edwin Smith, Paul Stewart and Raymond Kidd.



Eldersville Grade School – March 27, 1909



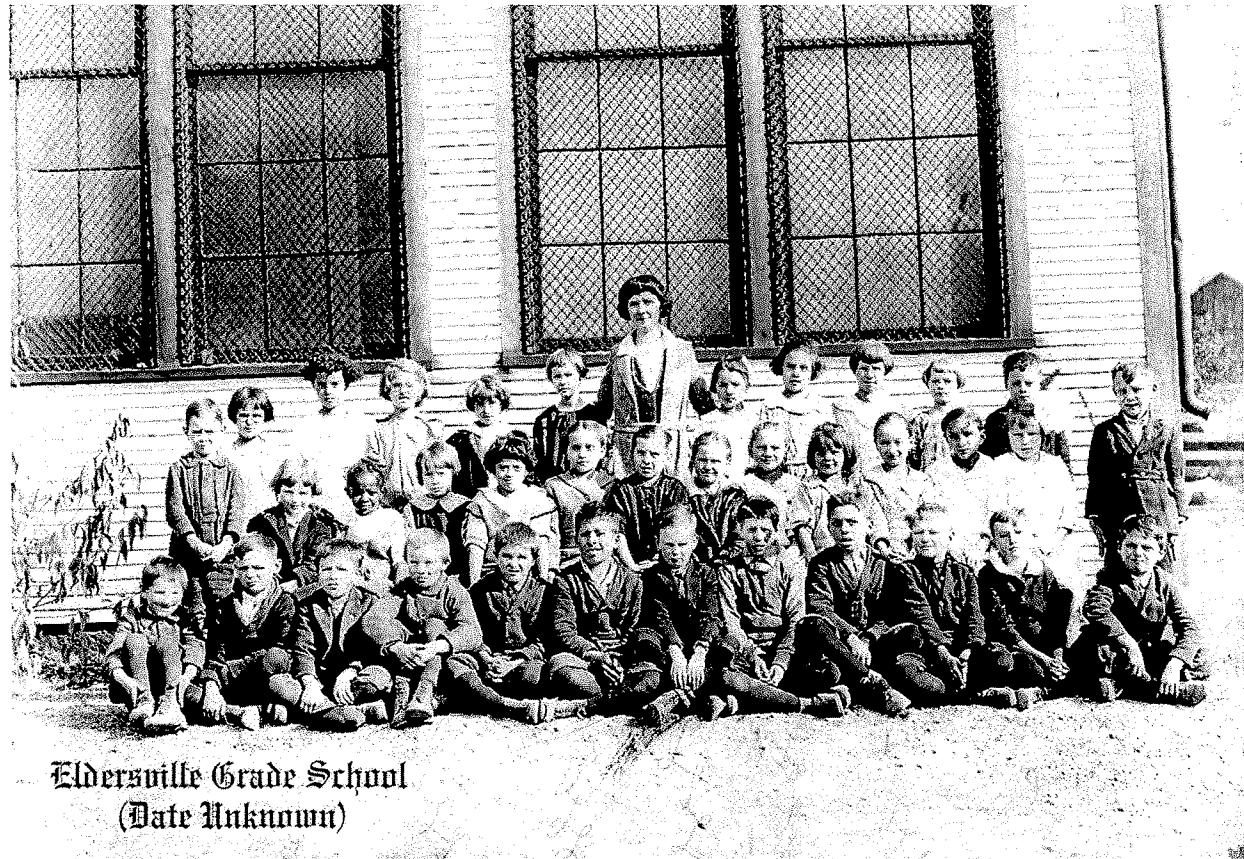
Eldersville Grade School (circa 1935)

Seated: Vernon Wiegmann, Leona Dellenbaugh, Mary Sultie, Betty Petrel, Eugene Martin, Alvin Patterson, (unknown) Gene Karch, George Brown, Ernie Haspel.

2nd row: John Rutich, James Bailish, Hazel McGinnis, Agnes Ratkovich, Dorothy Allen, Rose Hutkai, Juanita Petrel, Anna Korody, Niko Patrino, Ruth Pettibon - Teacher.

3rd row: Alfred Bennett, Lillie Johnson, (unknown), Mary Chilinsky, Helen Rollage, Thelma Brown, Mildred Bertovich, Margaret Resnik.

4th row: John Yandrick, John Wasik, Ruth Brown, Mildred Wagner, Margaret Anderson, Wesley Allen, James McGinnis.





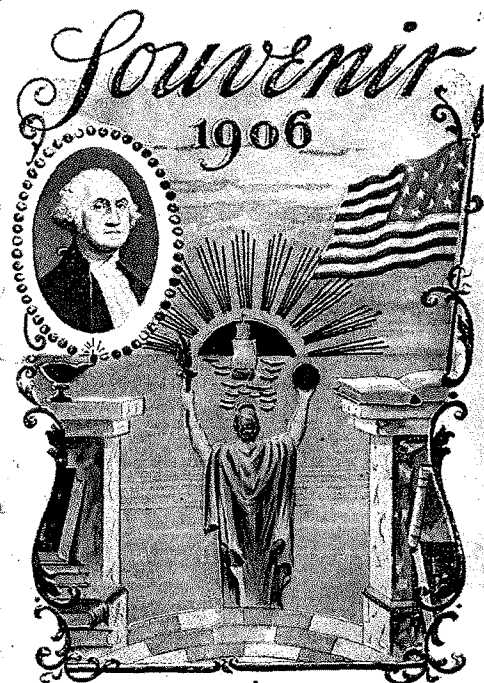
Eldersville School Class of 1910 - Photo taken October 26, 1910

Robert Sanders (Holding Slate)

1st row L to R: George Jester, Elmer Jester, Nancy Jester, Earl Davidson, Jean Irwin (Lewis), Leroy Davidson, (Unknown), Clarence Boles.

2nd row L to R: Martha Gillespie, Georgeanna Walker (Truax), Eva Kidd (Irwin), Frances Smith, (Unknown), Viola Truax (Cassidy), Marie Davidson (Philips), Anna Anderson.

3rd row L to R: Ernest A. Gillespie, Merle Irwin, Raymond Kidd, Paul Stewart, Edwin Smith, Thomas Schary, James Davidson, Willis Ridgway, (Unknown).



**ELDERSVILLE
PUBLIC SCHOOL**

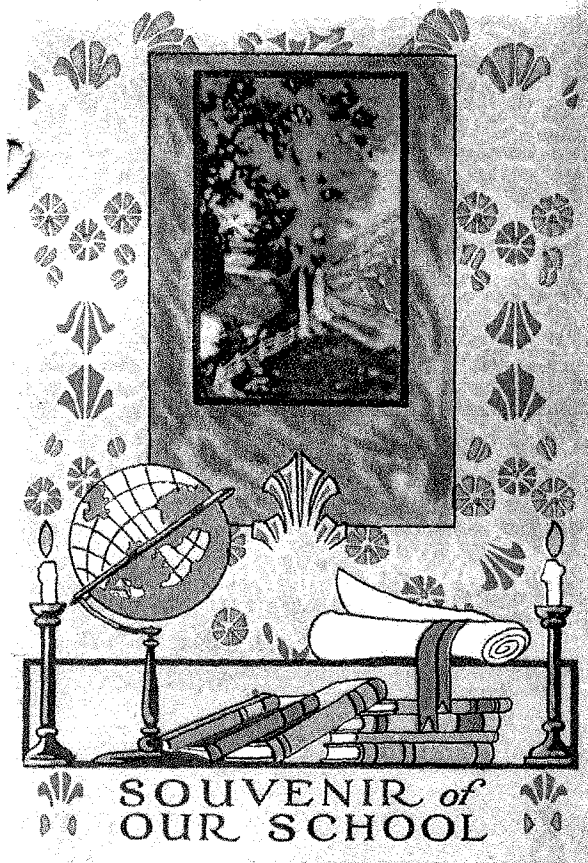
Jefferson District

ELIZA M. MURCHLAND, Teacher
Sept. 4, 1905—March 30, 1906.

Pupils

Evalyn Cunningham	Hattie Schary
Maud Gillespie	Alwilda Cooper
Mary Walker	Lida Freshwaters
Hazel Lloyd	Frances Smith
Willa Criss	Ruth Donovan
Martha Davidson	Marie Davidson
Eva Kidd	Anna Anderson
Georgeanna Walker	Nola Walker
Onilee Beninger	Nellie McGowan
Martha Gillespie	Cora McGowan
Rebecca Wilkinson	John Schary
Charlie Anderson	John Anderson
Dellmo Lynn	Frank Boles
Clyde Walker	Norris Stroud
Raymond Kidd	Edwin Smith
Thomas Schary	James Davidson
Cecil Lloyd	Willie McGowan
Johnnie McGowan	Jefferson Griffith
Earnest Gillespie	David Criss
	Emet Newman

J. W. Mercer, Director



"LEST WE FORGET"
 OUR
 SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
 THIS
 SOUVENIR
 WITH
 BEST WISHES
 IS PRESENTED TO YOU BY
 YOUR
 TEACHER.

Eldersville School
 Washington County, Penna.

1915-1916

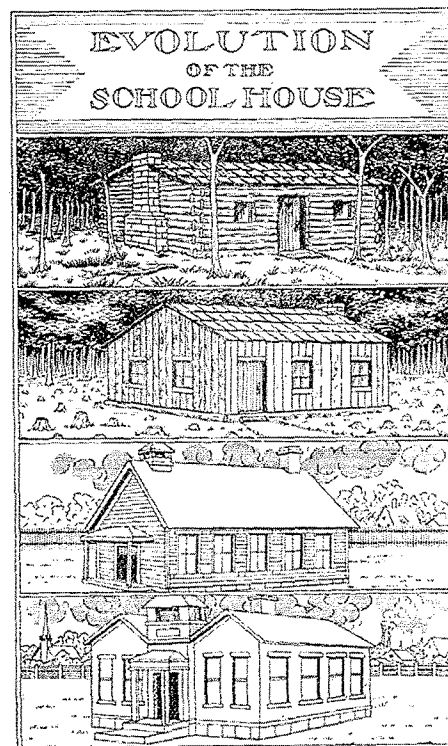
M. M. TODD, Teacher

PUPILS

Mary Helen Burris	Ethel Jean Irwin
Althea May Benninger	Nannie Martha Jester
Ruth Benninger	Esther Luella Gillespie
Lulu Belle Davidson	Mary Margret Sanders
Clarence Gourley Boles	George Allen Jester
Joseph Willis Ridgeway	Robert Casper Swaney
Robert Byron Sanders	Kenneth Dimit Irwin
Robert Merle Irwin	Earl Davidson
John Wargo	Harry Davidson
Elmer Edward Jester	Edward Corbon
Clifford Gillespie	

SCHOOL OFFICERS

B. M. Wheeler, Pres.	J. S. Johnston, Sec.
J. S. Sutherland, V. Pres.	J. H. Murchland
W. K. Truax, Treasurer	
Prof. L. R. Crumrine, Co. Supt.	



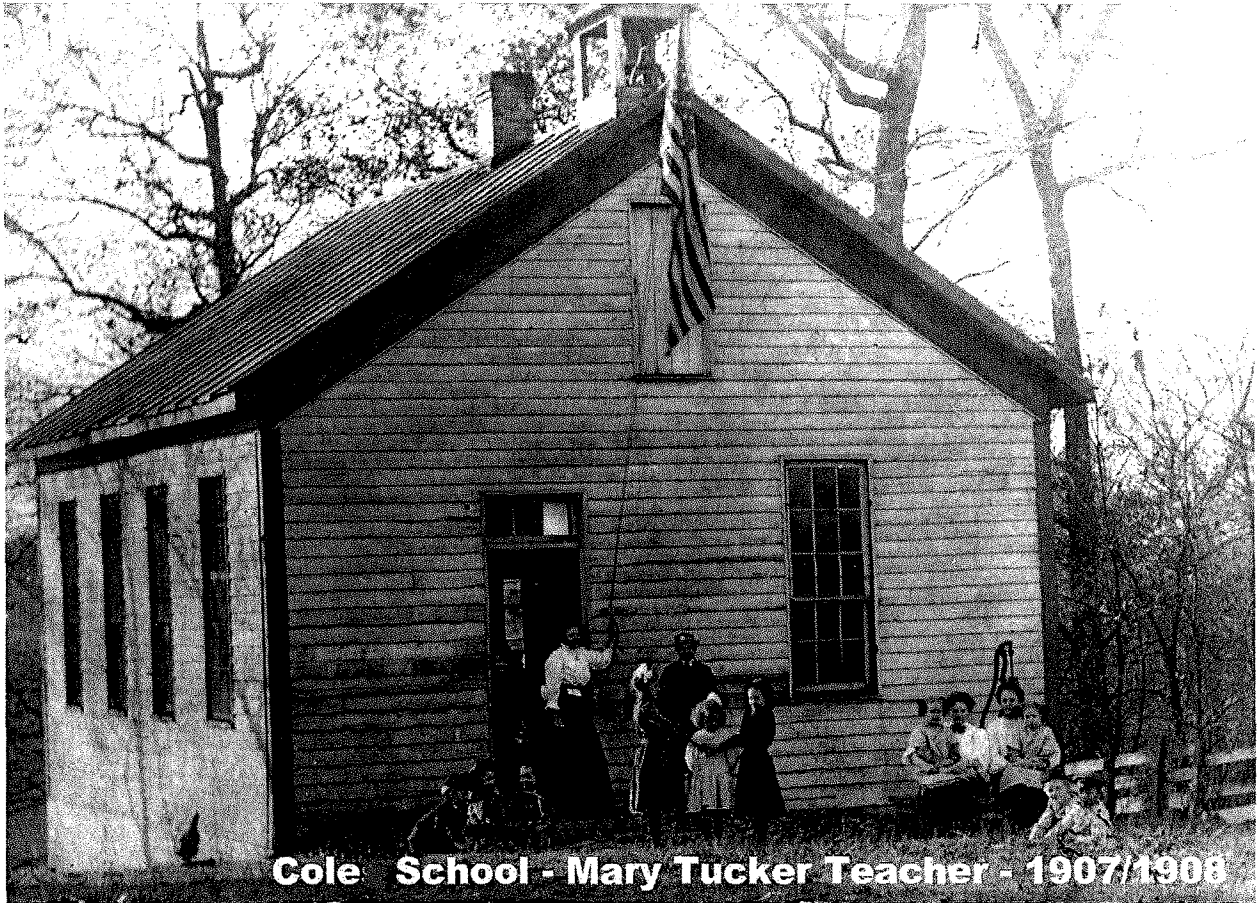
COLE SCHOOL

by
Kathryn Campbell Slasor

**"True worth is in being, not seeming,
In doing each day that goes by
Some little good, not just dreaming
Of great things to do by and by. "**

The nostalgic reminiscences of the late Alvin Pettibon tell the story of Cole School. Alvin, who died March 1, 1984, at the age of 83, was a typical student at Cole. He always claimed that he learned much from the catchy little quotations that were taught as part of the lessons in country schools of the past century. Alvin told his story in his own words as follows:

"I started to school the first of September in 1906 in a one-room frame building situated on a one-acre lot, facing the dirt road. On the left was the Lyle Manson farm, at the rear, the Henry Cooper farm, and on the right, the Metcalf heirs.



Miss Lizzie Martin was my first teacher, for one year only. Then I had Mary Tucker for two consecutive years. That's when things got rolling! She was rather

loud, had a large smile that was very deceiving. She drove an old mule hitched to a two-wheeled cart, for which she, her father, and some of the students erected what we called the mule shed. She decided each day who was to feed and water the mule, and it was usually me.

One outstanding memory stays with me. One day, using a heavy rubber band, I had killed some flies that came in through the windows and door, as there were no screens. She saw me, and declared a recess of ten minutes for me to conduct the funeral for my dead flies! I never forgave her for that and told her so at the Pettibon reunion years later.

My next teacher was Madeline Seabright, who got started badly, especially with one Merle Johnston. He was later expelled but had caused enough trouble to get Miss Seabright fired. She was replaced by an elderly lady named Eva Noble, who finished the term and taught the next year. She was a good teacher, very refined, well educated, and boarded with the Lyle Mansons.

Next was the one I deemed the teacher of all times, Roza Dussere. She, to me, was special in every way, good looking, kind, young - we all loved her dearly, therefore, she had nothing but pleasantness for all.

Another quotation Miss Dussere taught us is: "Look for goodness, look for gladness, you will find them all the while. If you bring a smiling visage to the glass, you'll meet a smile." What good advice to a ten-year-old boy! I've used these as mottos all my life.

The next teacher was Pearl Cassidy. She was equally as good as Miss Dussere. That was the year I graduated from eighth grade, took the exam at Eldersville, then to Cross Creek High.

I'm remembering the names of some of my schoolmates: Ethelyn Scott, Nila Drake, John Drake, Bessie McCarty, Delia McCarty, Arthur Pettibon, Bertram Wheeler, Elva Givens, John, Dave and Fannie Clark, Linda Martin, Gladys McClurg, Carl, Bertha and Hazel Bell, Linda and Angeline Kraeer, Frances and Edward Wheeler, Norman Rosenquest, Creed Givens, Viva and Dale Wiegmann, Ethel Russell, Bill Strobe, George Meneely, Ina Pettibon, and "one Merle Johnston".

Of course there were no such things as radios, electricity or telephones, no cars. You walked, mostly. And you made your own music. Believe it or not, we had a three-piece band. John Clark played the guitar, and Norman Rosenquest and I played the harmonica. Mouth organs, we called them. When we needed accompaniment, John Clark would always oblige. We sang "America" every morning, then repeated "The Lord's Prayer".

Clyde Melvin held singings a couple times each year. We had spelling bees and pie socials for the whole countryside. We bought the bell and tower that called us to class with the cash we raised. There was the old pot belly stove to be fired and slacked down each day. We carried water from the pump outside and used the two Chic Sales in back of the building, one marked "Boys" and one marked "Girls". We cleaned erasers daily, played, "Button, Button, Who's got the Button?" and "Fox and Geese" in the winter time. We built snow forts and dug tunnels into the drifts on the dirt road which was sometimes impassable most of the winter, and really muddy in the spring.

We all remember the sweet apple tree, the persimmon trees, the trips to Shades of Death to wash the sheep and Sunday School at good old Bethel Church. Who could ask for and get anything to equal such wonderful memories? Now, at eighty years of age, with some broken bones and operations behind me, a lot of fun and happiness all along the way, including sixty years of wedded bliss, try to match this!"

Alvin grew to manhood, and left Cole School area to earn a livelihood. Many times throughout the years, he returned for family visits, to picnic with his friends, or to sing in the church choir one more time. But always, he carried his memories with him. They are still precious today to those who knew him and loved him.

No teachers are living today who taught at Cole School, but it is known that the following persons taught at least one term there: H.O.Snyder, Clara Taggart, Cyrus Black, Earl Forney, Ann Bailey, Percy Walker, Boyd Black, and Cyril Davidson.



Cole School pupils 1907-08 - Mary Tucker teacher
First Row left: Alvin Pettibon; Second Row: Second from left: Viva Wiegmann; Second Row far right: Arthur Pettibon ;Back Row center: Mary Tucker, Teacher; Back Row second from right: Nila Drake

Cole School, known as school No. 4, was among the first half dozen one-room institutions of learning in Jefferson Township to open for public instruction under the School Law of 1834. Its doors closed forever 96 years later in 1930. And since nearly three-quarters of a century have elapsed since that "last day of school", no earthly memory can span these years.

Perhaps only a mere dozen "pupils" remain today who received their basics at Cole School. Although the Cole family and name have disappeared from the local

scene, as long as even one pupil is alive, the name, "Cole", will live. These few are now senior residents and have nothing but sweet memories to share.

Nick Bertovich recalls the day back in the late 1920s that his father was cutting pit posts on their farm joining Bethel Church. Nick, his brother, Tom, and sister, Mildred, were running and playing in the hillside bramble bushes nearby. Barefooted, and without a care in the world, they suddenly stopped wide-eyed in their tracks. They had just found themselves face to face with a stranger crawling through the brush on his hands and knees!

This man was Alvin D. White, newly appointed principal of the country schools. Mr. White was scouring the countryside for children who had never been enrolled.

"Mr. Bertovich!" Nick recalls Mr. White's first words. "These kids gotta go to School!"

Nick was already eight years old. Mildred and Tom were a little younger.

Mr. Bertovich conversed with Mr. White in broken English, promising to take the children and a little neighbor girl, Annie Luketich, to Avella to vaccinate them. This he did, with the horse and buggy. He stopped at Scouvar's store and bought lunch buckets for each of them. Mr. White signed them up and the first of September, the children began their daily treks on foot. From Bethel Ridge, through the Pastor farm, the Forney place, and up the long hill they trudged. Mr. Bertovich introduced them to Miss Ruth Pettibon, who amazed them by driving a car.

The children could not converse with the teacher at first, as they spoke only Croatian. This language barrier disappeared and they learned quickly. Meanwhile, during noon and recess, the children would huddle together to chatter in their own language.

Passing into second grade created more hurdles for Nick, Tom and Mildred and neighbor, Annie. Second grade may as well have been on the other side of the globe. What a giant step it was to enter the big world of Eldersville! The long walks through the muddy roads and the snowy hills were behind them. A sleek yellow bus would pick them up at their homes. They would leave the wonderful world of Cole School with its primitive facilities behind them forever. It was 1930 - a whole new era.

Helen Wargo Dreyer attended Cole School for eight terms. She started at age eight and already knew how to read. She credits her older siblings for this. Helen's memories include walking across the fields from the McCarrell farm through the berry vines. She recalls that the boys would "chase the girls" and the men teachers would "flirt with them." She said she was so happy to have Miss Pettibon after having "men teachers" for so many years.

When Helen's mother died, her sister, Mary, took care of the flock. She recalls that they always had plenty to eat and did not have to cook and eat rabbits and groundhogs such as the poorer neighbors were forced to do.

Helen remembers that a teacher once told her that her father should place her and her sisters in a Children's Home. She said the girls should not be forced to live in the house with so many boys and no mother. But Helen's father declared, "I will take care of my family!" And he did!

John Resnik was a pupil at Cole for seven years. He has fond memories of the Grimms, the Fergusons, the Drakes, the Fryers, and the Sabo family, as well as of the

teachers. John lived with his family in the old stone house built by Stephen Perrine. His route to Cole School took nearly the same course as that taken by the Bertovich children. He remembers the good neighbors who helped his brothers build a rough set of steps so that the children could more easily climb over the pasture fence on their way to school.

John liked the way he was taught to do mental arithmetic. "We could figure out all kinds of problems in our heads," he recalls. He said the younger pupils would learn the lessons of the older students by watching them at the blackboard. He was glad to learn the English language. "If you were born Yugoslavian and are an American, you should speak American not Yugoslavian," he declares.

Nick Pleska believes that his Cole School education was the best, not only of its day, but of all time. "We learned the life style that we lived in," he concludes. Miss Pettibon was one of the best. I still think about her. If it were possible, I would go back in time and live my Cole School days again. Nothing this world holds could equal them."

Helen Wiegmann Martin was a pupil at Cole in first grade only. Her teacher was M.M. Todd. The only memory she has of him is that he had a wooden leg.

Mr. George McDonnell, the last of the "men teachers" at Cole, wrote a letter a few years ago to his old friend and colleague, A.D. White. Mr. McDonnell quoted himself as being 85 years of age at this time. Mr. White had recently observed his 95th birthday. A part of Mr. McDonnell's letter reads as follows:

"I sure did appreciate your letter. The Cole School roster of the year I was there brought back fond memories of many years ago. I recognized most of the names, picturing each one. They were all good kids. I can't recall a single one who was impudent or indolent. That year (1928-29) for Christmas, the kids gave me sox, ties, cookies, a bottle of home made wine, and a Collie puppy from the two Sabo boys. I am a dog lover, and the puppy was welcome. He grew into the best farm dog we ever had. My dad said he was worth more than a hired man. Hard to believe how far he would go to fetch the cows when told. My one year of teaching was a valuable experience."



George McDonnell - teacher 1928-1929



Paul Wiegmann - often visited the site of Cole School

As the decade of the 1920s was nearing the end, a new word was heard more often when people came together to talk. The word was “consolidation”. It caused quite a stir among teachers and other adults. Those who were teaching in the one-room schools realized that life as they had known it was coming to an end.

With consolidation, the little schools that for many years had dotted Jefferson Township's landscape would soon disappear. No more would the clang of the school bell peal out over the persimmon trees, nor the snowy circles of Fox and Geese melt away with the Spring thaw.

Miss Ruth Pettibon, the last who could claim the honor of being a teacher at Cole School, completed her duties in the Spring of 1930. She rang the bell for the last time and closed the door.



Ruth Pettibon - Last teacher of Cole School

The brambles and thorns would now flourish, where once Miss Tucker housed her old mule. Scraggly trees would put forth yet more scraggly growth, where snow forts and tunnels were once built.

And instead of harmonicas, spelling bees and pie socials, the only sound to disturb the stillness of a fall afternoon at Cole School would be an occasional squall of a disgruntled hawk soaring overhead and darting for his prey.

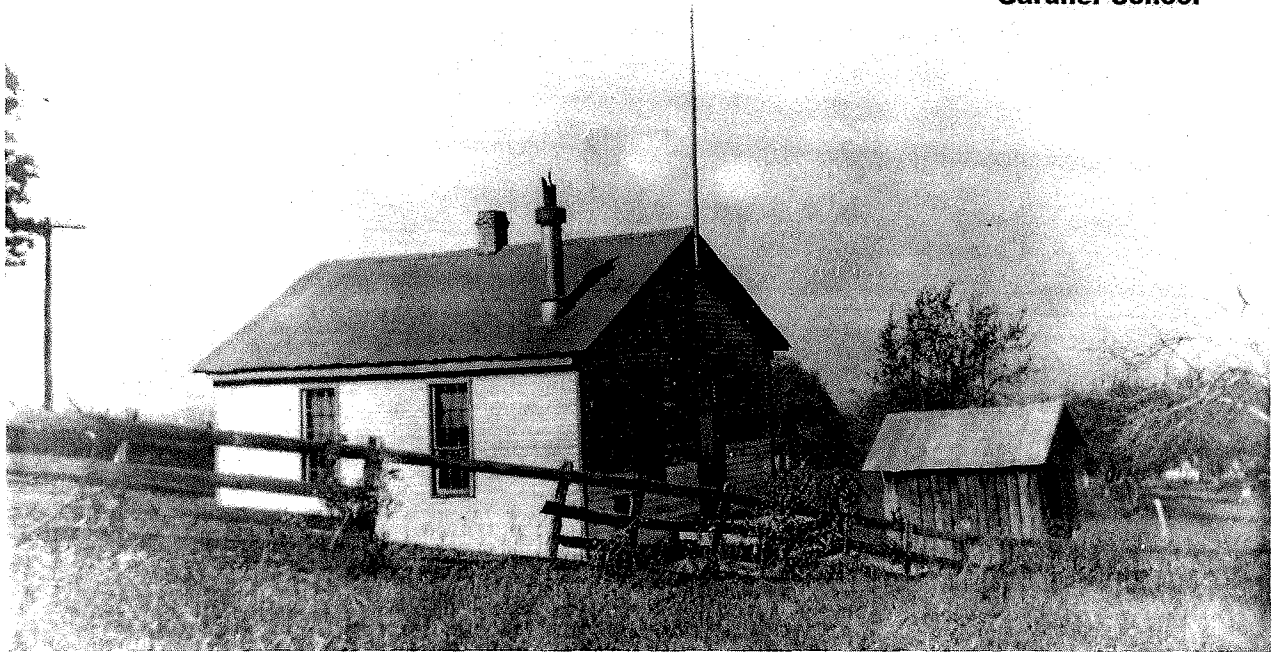
Yet there are still those who remember the days when they were young. Perhaps Nick Pleska said it best. “If only I could go back!”

GARDNER SCHOOL

by
Kathryn Campbell Slasor

Gardner School was No.5 in the Jefferson Township School system. It stood on the Eldersville Road almost across from the Alvie Robertson gas station which later became the produce store for the Robertson Fruit Farm. Gardner School closed in 1922 and was remodeled into a residence.

Gardner School



It is difficult to find persons living today who can state that they remember their days at Gardner School. But a few years ago, two schoolmates who had that distinction, and were "buddies" throughout their lives were asked to recall those very memories. They are James Worstell, now, in 2003, age 97, and Gaylord Martin, 98. Each attended school at Gardners for eight years.

In reviewing those childhood days, each considered them as happy ones, even though their walking distance was a long one, from home to school.

Jim lived in Hanover Township, by the "Creek Lane" crossing of the Panhandle Railroad. He was born in 1906 and came to this area from Canonsburg to live with his Uncle John Haire in 1911. Uncle John raised him, as he had been abandoned when a baby by his mother.

One thought has dominated Jim Worstell's entire life, from a little boy, through manhood, and into old age. "I don't understand why my mother abandoned me." This haunting question has never been answered. Nearly a century of "wondering" has colored his whole life.

Jim was with Uncle John when the flood of 1912 rushed down Harmon Creek Valley and "took the corn field to the Ohio River ."

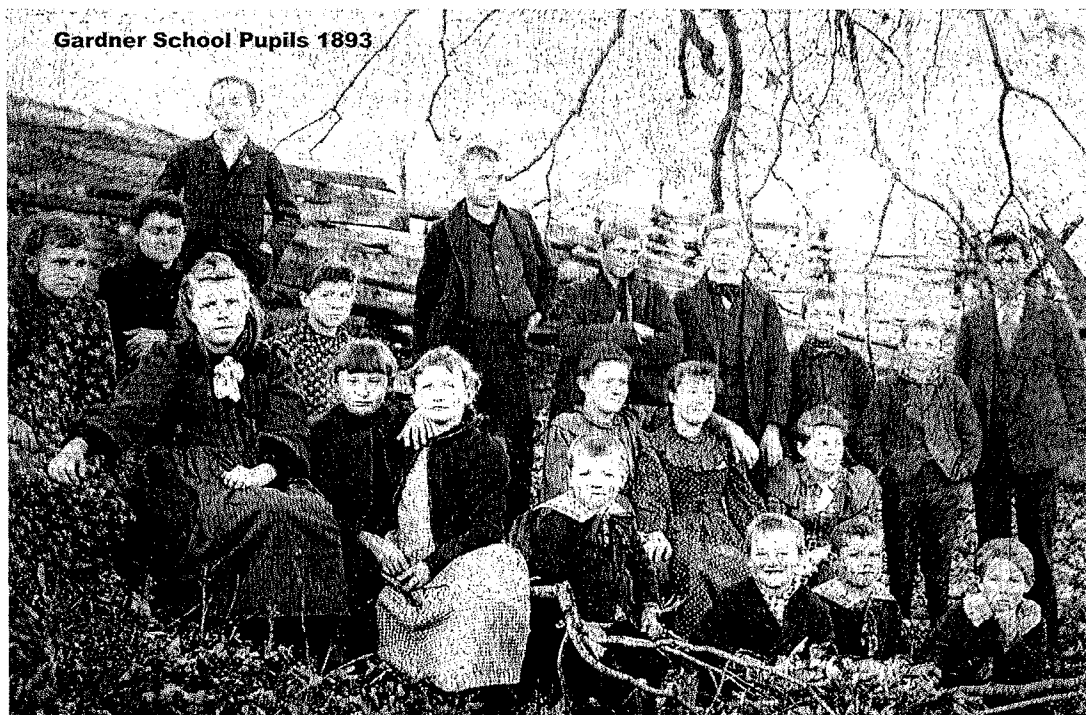
Jim recalled that during his school years, "I never missed a day and was never late. The walk did me good. I had Eliza Murchland for four years and was doing eighth grade when I was in seventh but she did not pass me into eighth." (In his nineties, Jim was still a little upset about that!)

He remembered that the building was very cold. He said that even though they sat around the pot belly stove, the wind blew through the cracks in the floor boards.

Gaylord Martin, in recalling his days at Gardner School was reminded that it was his job to start the fire in the stove every morning. Gaylord and his sisters, Milda and Roxanna, lived in the big brick house known as Greathouse Castle, near Becky Gardner's barn. The girls rode the horse to school, let him loose, and the horse went home by himself.

The "boys" remembered some of their teachers as: Eliza Murchland, Iva Miller, Emma Berry, W.W. Knight, Bessie McCarty, Clyde Melvin, Dorothy Shields, Myrtle Sutherland, and Becky Stillson. Their favorite schoolmates were Judson Gardner, Cree Stroud, Helen and Ilah Robertson, Bob and Murray Martin, Elizabeth and Jim Barkley, Bertha and Byron Sturgis, Tom Clark, Charles and Howard Freshwater, Clarence Boles, Ike and Peg Jackson, Virginia and Charles Myers, Arthur and Florence Robertson, and Murt Murchland.

Both Jim and Gaylord have saved only happy memories. To each of them, their days at Gardner School were some of the best in their lives.



Gardner School Closing Exercises – Date Uncertain. 1880s ?

Valedictory, Lela Gardner. Receiving Prizes: Ella S. Boles; Emma Truax – a doll for attendance; Chap Gardner and Harry Truax – autograph books for spelling; Vernie Gardner – Tennyson's Poems; Emma Truax – a book; Cora Gardner, in behalf of the pupils, gave the teacher a gift.



Gardner School Students circa 1910

**Back row: Gaylord Martin, Florence Robertson, Roxanna Martin, Eliza Murchland--teacher
Milda Martin, Bill Barkley, Cree Stroud
Front row: James Worstell, Ilah Robertson, Elizabeth Barkley, Helen Robertson,
Judson Gardner**

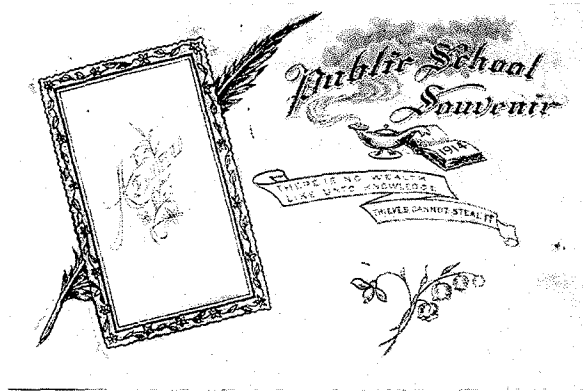


Gardner School Pupils 1914 or 1915

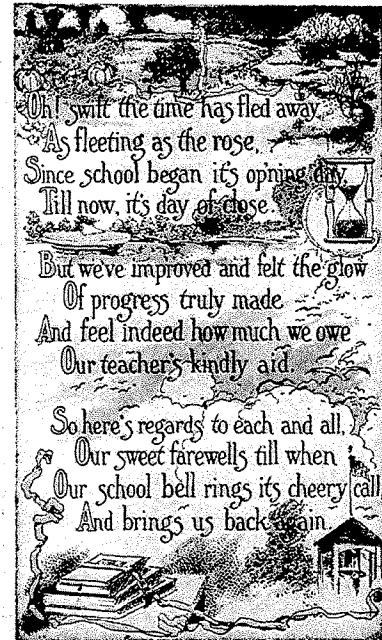
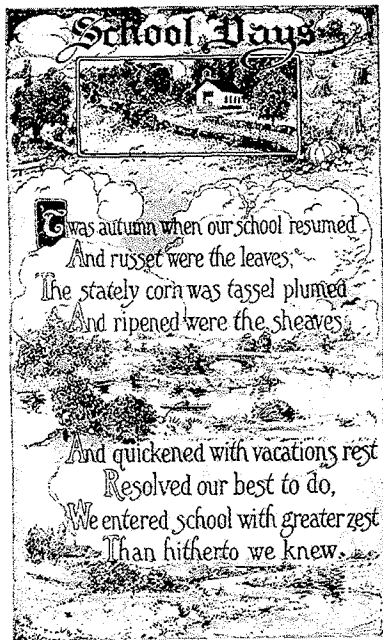
**L to R: Bob Myers, Charles Freshwater, Judson Gardner, Bertha Sturgis,
Howard Freshwater, Eliza Murchland - teacher, Virginia Myers,
Gaylord Martin and Murry Martin.
Front L to R: James Worstell, James Worstell's Sister, Charlie Myers.**

LEE SCHOOL

The Lee Schoolhouse was built on the Robert Lee land near the border of Jefferson and Smith Townships. Although no remnant of the building stands at this date, memories yet remain with the few living today, who once attended school there. It was closed to classes in 1928.



LEES	PUPILS
PUBLIC SCHOOL	Kathrine Bertha Bruner
District No. 5	John Jacob Bruner Marie Elizabeth Bruner
Jefferson Twp., Washington Co., Pa.	Edna Nancy Bruner Alice Vance Bruner
M. M. TODD, Teacher	Lillian Malinda Curry Hugh Montford Lee
Prof. L. R. Crumrine, Co. Supt.	Harry Lester Lee Charles Ren Lee
School Officers	John Lee Foster Raymond Vance Foster
B. M. Wheeler, Pres.	Floyd Leroy Riddle Lawrence Hodge Riddle
F. M. Barber, Sec.	Helen Burgett Riddle Rolla Alonzo Walker
J. F. McClurg, Treas.	Nora Elsie Walker Hazel Ophelia Walker
J. H. Murchland G. L. Sutherland	Grace Isabelle Walker Nancy Elizabeth Walker
	W. Arthur Johnston Helen Leola Johnston
	Lloyd Russell Pyle Lena Fiarella
	Annie Fiarella Louis Cereso
	Bruno Cereso Ida Cereso



The Lee family had been in Cross Creek Country since 1790, when Hugh Lee, came and settled on a tract of land adjoining Cross Creek Village. Some of that land remains in the Lee name yet today.

According to most records, Hugh Lee and his wife, Mary Elliott, came to America from Ireland about five years after the tragic wreck of "The Faithful Steward" in which about forty-four members of the Lee family perished in the violent waters of Delaware Bay.

Since those unbearable days, however, fortune has smiled upon the Lee family and its descendants. They have branched into all parts of the world and have found their places in all walks of life.

The Lee schoolhouse was No.6 in the Jefferson Township system. The Robert Lee land on which it stood was located near present day Langeloth, on the Eldersville Road. It was attended by many of the Lee family members, among them twins Lester and Montford, well known useful citizens of the area.

Mike Rollage, who lives today within sight of the spot where the school stood, remembers that the building had heavy wire mesh over the windows. He wonders if the pupils could all have escaped from the only door, had there been a fire!

Margaret Donati Froats, who was born in 1914, attended first grade at Lee. She recalls that in winter, the pump occasionally froze, and someone was forced to carry drinking water from the Maggs home across the road and through a field. Also, she says, there was never a "snow day" such as is known today. No one ever thought the snow was too deep for the pupils to trudge through.

Virginia Maslyk also remembers her first grade at Lee. Her teacher was Naryen Snyder whose father brought her to school with a horse and buggy. In the winter, he brought her in the sleigh. Miss Snyder was probably the most privileged teacher in the school system!

Mary Dimit Riddile, of Eldersville, was a pupil here, as was her mother, Motlena Walker Dimit a generation before.

Mary remembers a number of her teachers. They include Betty Rathbone, who boarded with Mary's family on the farm, and walked with her to school. Others were M.M. Todd, Bill Stout and Adrien Dussere.



Lee School Pupils 1898 - 1899 - M. E. Curry, teacher

Back row L to R: (5th) John Walker, (6th) Motlena Walker (Dimit), (10th) Bess Walker (Lee), (11th) Harry Noah.
Front row L to R: (2nd) Myrtle Sutherland, (8th) Leland Sutherland.



Lee School pupils - date unknown

**2nd row: 2nd from left - Bessie Walker (Lee)
4th from left - Mary Walker (Dimit)**



Lee School pupils - 1908



Lee School pupils 1910 - Pearl Cassidy teacher

Top row L--R: 1) Raymond Foster, 2) Grace Walker, 3) Marie Brunner, 6) Hazel Walker
 Middle row: 1) Edna Brunner, 2) Elizabeth Walker, 5) Essie Bates, 7) Wilma Dimit, 8) Alice Brunner,
 9) Helen Riddle.
 Front row: 1) Floyd Riddle, 2) Don Dimit, 4) Riddle, 6) Sylvan Brunner.



Lee School pupils 1915 - Hazel Martin teacher

HANLIN SCHOOL

by
Kathryn Campbell Slasor

In his writings on the history of various schools in Jefferson Township and the Cross Creek Valley, A.D. White indicated that Hanlin School was listed as School No.7 in the system. Other sources say that only six schools were numbered as being the "early district schools" to come under the Public School Law of 1834.

Regardless of whether or not Hanlin School was ever assigned a number, those pupils who attended its classes during the "one-room-school" era, rank it among the others both scholastically and in the providing of memories.

This writer believes that the small community of Hanlin did not boast of a school as early as did the others. Even though the 1834 School Act systematized all of the schools, a determining factor in their establishment, growth and continuation as years passed was the extent of the mining industry in each area.

When mines opened and were flourishing, the education of the miners' families demanded additional facilities for the increased population. New schools were built, more teachers were hired, and the standard of living rose.

The date of the beginnings of Hanlin School is not known exactly.



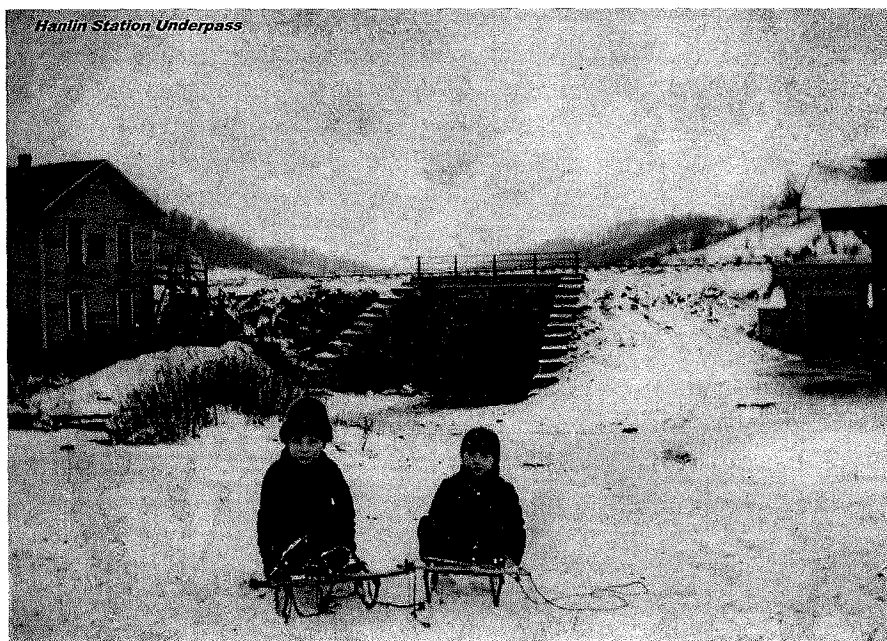
A good guess would be sometime after 1878 when the Keystone Coal Company opened a mine near Hanlin on the James Stewart farm. The village of Hanlin itself dates to about 1865, when the first locomotive came roaring down Harmon Creek Valley, ushering in an opportunity for new business and eventually an accompanying school.

Angeline DiBacco Swartz holds pleasant memories of her school days at Hanlin. She recalls the old wooden sleds that the boys made for an exciting ride down that endless Hanlin Hill. A special day in her memory is the time the pupils looked toward the sky, and a blimp was sailing overhead.

Sadie Butler, Tom Pyles, Mary Sanders and Ann Maskerina were among the teachers at Hanlin. The latter became her favorite. One year at Christmastime, she invited Angeline to ride the train with her to Steubenville for some school supplies. That day Miss Maskerina bought Angeline a pair of "shoe-boots," the likes of which she had never seen.

Angeline remembers one day when Miss Maskerina told one of the boys to bend over. The boy gave her a puzzled look. She repeated her command. The boy obeyed, and quietly Miss Maskerina laid down the paddle and said, "That's okay." This incident illustrates why Angeline remembers her as very kind.

Among the families to whom Hanlin School was a part of childhood days were the Kranaks, Gaffolis, Noahs, DiBaccos, and descendants of the early Hanlins, Crisses, and others. The old road which made its way up the long high hill toward Eldersville has changed its course many years ago. Once upon a time it passed close by the old schoolhouse door, where today weeds and wild bushes abound. But the days when the school bell called happy children from play are over. When the Great Depression hit the country in 1929, it was the beginning of a whole different way of life. It was also the end of an age. That same year, Hanlin School closed its door for the last time.



BERTHA SCHOOL

Although the area is known today only as Bertha, in the beginning the name was Bertha Mines. This is self explanatory, when one recalls the days in the early part of the last century when coal was king.

John Dinsmore, a prominent farmer who lived about three miles east of Hanlin Station along the Panhandle Railroad, demanded that a station be built on his farm. The Hanlin family had demanded one, and this request was granted. Thus two stations were built within close proximity of each other.

For a few years, this area was called Dinsmore, and boasted a general store, a post office and a telegraph office. Homes were built and a settlement developed.

The John H. Jones interests from Pittsburgh brought quite a change in the Dinsmore vicinity. Mr. Jones had two daughters, Jean and Bertha, so when he opened two mines, he named them for his daughters. Thus the Jean and the Bertha Mine came into existence.

They both operated until 1928 as "The Bertha Coal Company." Problems developed with Jean Mine but Bertha continued. As the name, Bertha, became more familiar to the residents, the name, Dinsmore, was gradually abandoned, and it became Bertha Mines. Dinsmore, however, still applied to the station and the tunnel which were no doubt built in the early days of the railroad.

As Bertha Mines grew, it produced children to be educated. Jefferson Township maintained a five room school there until 1936, when the mines closed, and Bertha became a "ghost town. "

Ed Bittner, of Langeloth, attended school at Bertha for his first grade classes. He was the last of his family to start to school and, ironically, his class was the last class at Bertha. He was then required to attend school at Francis Mine, in Smith Township. Others of these "last pupils" were transported by bus to Eldersville.

When interviewed , Ed Bittner said, "Everything is gone now. They took the post office, the store, the school, the station, even the dinkey car and the tracks that were so essential during the war."

There is nothing else to say.



Penobscot School

by

Kathryn Campbell Slasor

One of the township's schools which was put into effect due to rising enrollment was Penobscot School. Its usage was very short lived, but it served its purpose well during the duration of its life.



This was a "portable" building, erected during the summer of 1930. Grace E. Bise taught at Penobscot School for the first half of the 1930-31 term. She was forced to forego teaching the remainder of that term due to illness. Lillian Turner, of Clarksville, completed the term. This was the first year the school was open.

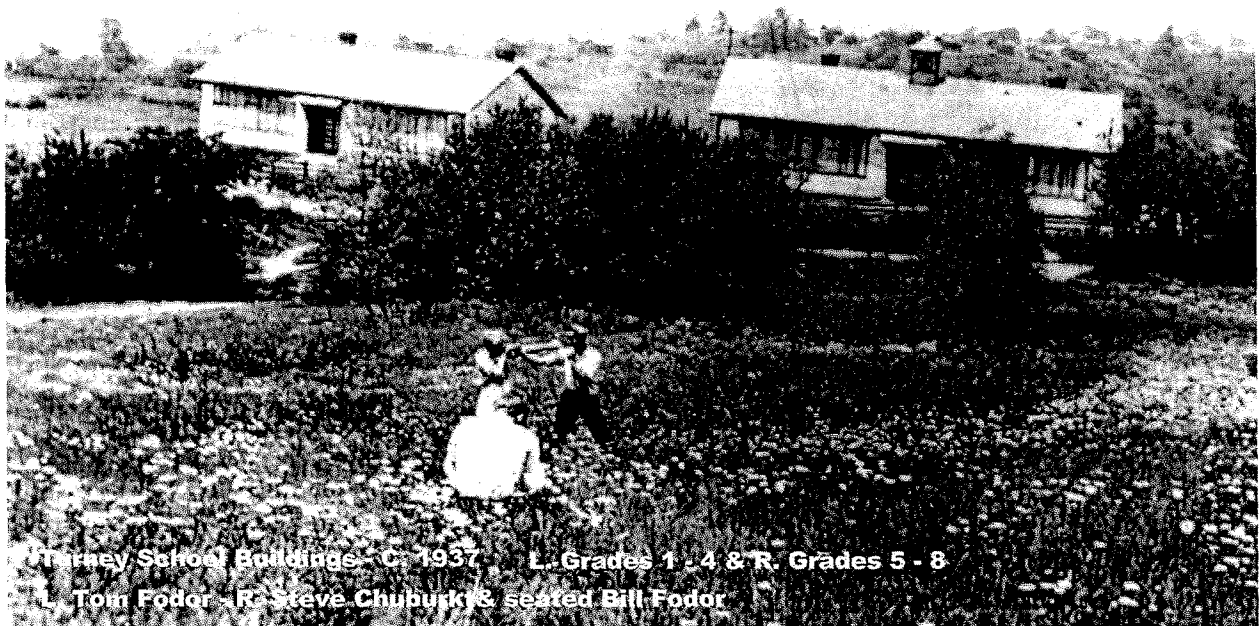
The second year this building was in use, the term 1931-1932, Mrs. Frances Thorley Patterson was the teacher. She was the daughter of William and Laura Jane Thorley, who were prominent residents of Eldersville. Frances was born October 20, 1883. She was a graduate of Slippery Rock State Teachers College and taught at Duff's Business School. Later she went to New York and taught specialized courses for ex-servicemen, returning later to Jefferson Township where she taught the 1931-32 term at Penobscot. One day she became ill and was diagnosed with appendicitis. This developed into pneumonia, from which she never recovered. She passed away February 23, 1935 at the age of 52. Miss Virginia Cox completed that year, and continued to teach there for the 1935-36 term. At the end of that term, Penobscot School was discontinued and the pupils transferred to the Turney School.

Turney School

by
Kathryn Campbell Slasor

(The following excerpts from a story by Dolly Herceg Whitco best illustrate life in Turney School during the days of its operation in Jefferson Township.)

"I started to school in 1939 at Turney. At that time, there were two buildings with two rooms in each building and two grades in each room. There was a huge round coal furnace in each room and a big cloak room with pegs on the walls for hanging coats. The big seventh and eighth grade boys carried in the coal and fixed the fires. There were always hot coals since the fires were always banked at night. I do not know what was done on weekends to keep the fire going, but I never remember coming into a cold classroom. Each cloak room contained a bench, a wash basin, soap, and a bucket of water.



Turney School Buildings - C. 1937 L. Grades 1 - 4 & R. Grades 5 - 8
L. Tom Fodor - R. Steve Chuburki & seated Bill Fodor

The boys and girls toilets were across the road from the school and stood about 50 feet apart. There was an L-shaped front where you came in from the side, and a solid wooden wall across the front.

The teachers whom I remember were: Alvina Tranquil - grades 1 and 2 - later, 1 through 4; Mrs. Rhine, grades 7 and 8; Miss Pettibon, grades 5 and 6. After one of the buildings was torn down, Mrs. G. Lynn Pugh taught grades 5 through 8. She was followed by Neva Bertamini. The substitute teacher, when Miss Tranquill was sick, was Elsie Martin from Avella Heights. And of course, A.D.White was the principal.

The children from Jefferson, Penowa, Penobscot, and Bethel Ridge Road south of the church, all came to Turney School. When one building was torn down, about 1939, the Bethel Ridge kids were sent to Eldersville School and I lost my best friend,

Delores Strauss who was one of those transferred.”

Turney School had opened after Miller had closed at the end of the 1920-21 term. It remained in session until the mid forties. Many years after the building itself had been removed and all but forgotten, Turney School Reunions became a reality. Old classmates gathered at appointed times and renewed old acquaintances and shared stories of their lives since school days. A central figure in these get-togethers was a favorite of nearly all of them, Principal, A.D.White. As years went by, these former students began writing down their thoughts and collecting them together to share with others. The following accounts are excerpts of only four of these precious manuscripts. They are presented at this time because this writer believes that “They say it all”.

#1: written by Anthony J. Zick.

“ My mother and father were very involved in seeing that we were educated and going to school was a must. My Dad never saw any of us graduate, since he was killed in a mining accident in 1930.

Was Turney a good school? Maybe the end product should be noted as regard to the Zick family.

Of the six of us, five went to Avella High School---two were Valedictorians and one a Salutatorian of their respective classes. All have married and have families.

As for me, I married Ann Fodor, a graduate of Turney, and we have six children. Five of them have college diplomas and the sixth is Johnny, who is retarded and staying at Western Center. (He is our Angel.)

Although the elementary education at Turney isn't responsible for every family success or failure, the basics were there on which to build. God, Country, Family, and Turney could be a good motto.”

#2: written by Michael Yurosko.

“I probably have not reached the heights of some of your students, but I have no regrets. I did the best I could; and as the man said, "I may not be much, but I'm all I've got". So I'll leave you with this thought "Contentment is not the fulfillment of what you want but the realization of what you already have.”

#3: written by Josephine Rencheck Smolyak.

“I marvel at the various professions this group of Turney School students have given to America --- I am proud of them for their outstanding tasks of being excellent parents and giving all of us yet another generation of promising people.

You would be surprised how many have educated their children to being doctors, lawyers, instructors, therapists, teachers, principals, priests, religious sisters, authors, heads of business, finance, contractors, security, military personnel. What little I know makes me burst with pride for the basic education we received at Turney School.”

#4: written by Anthony Muzopappa.

“My final two years at Turney were under Mrs. Ryan, who, with her tinted glasses, instilled fear in all. It was difficult to determine at whom her eyes were directed. She approached her work with a seriousness of purpose but under the tough exterior she was really a piece of cake. I got along famously with her.....

I think about the less-fortunate underclothed children who arrived at school of a bitter morning suffering the agonies of frost bite and how the teachers worked over them to restore circulation. I think about those who came to school infested with lice and how the teachers worked over them with coal oil and fine-tooth comb to rid them of the pests only to see them become reinfested in a few days. I think of the candy that was handed out to us each year at Christmas. Only later did it occur to me that someone had to pay for it and it must have been the teachers who provided it from their own meager salaries of \$100.00 a month.

Whenever I visit the site of Turney School a general sadness pervades. Nothing remains. The orchard across the road is gone, the dewberries are gone, the earth has been ravaged and great scars mar the landscape. As I stand there, it is difficult to imagine that ANYTHING ever stood there. But if I close my eyes, the pristine beauty of this rural setting once again lives. I can see the buildings and I can see the children bustling about, squeezing in that last moment of play before returning to the classroom. I can hear the bell calling us in, and enshrined in my memory I can hear the composite voices of these magnificent teachers saying, ‘Attention, class.’ ”



Turney School Grades 7 & 8 – 1936



Turney School Grades 1 & 2 - 1938



Turney School Grades 5 & 6 - 1938-1939

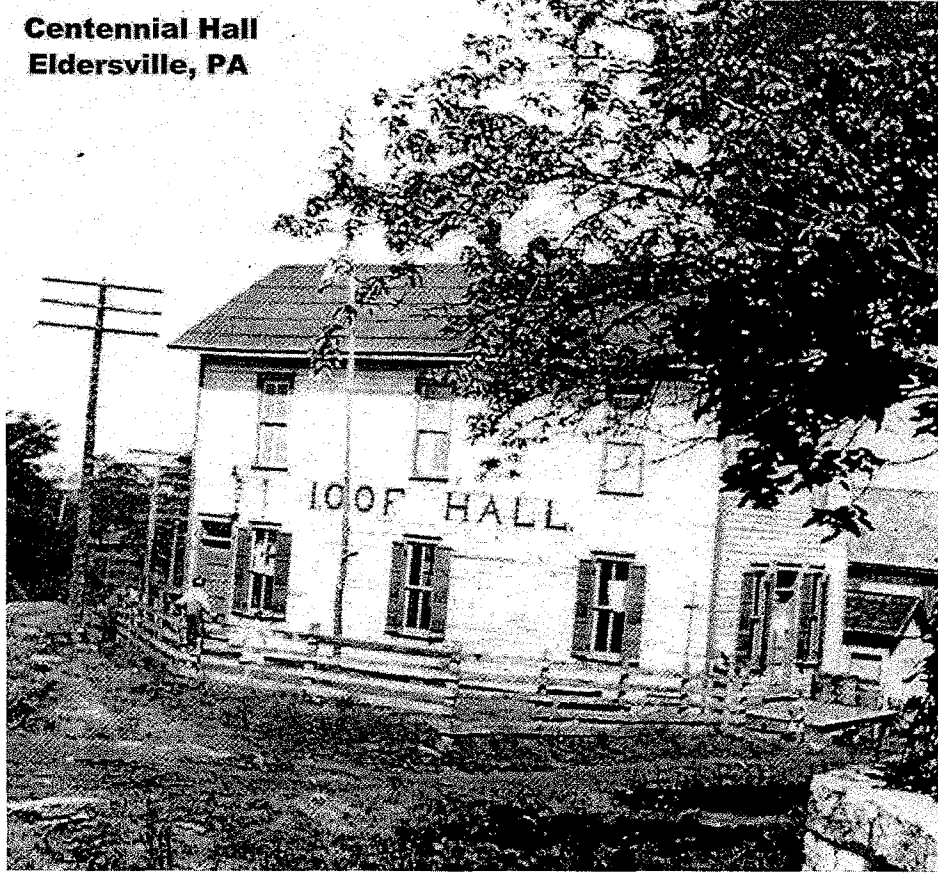


Turney School Grades 7 & 8 - 1938-1939

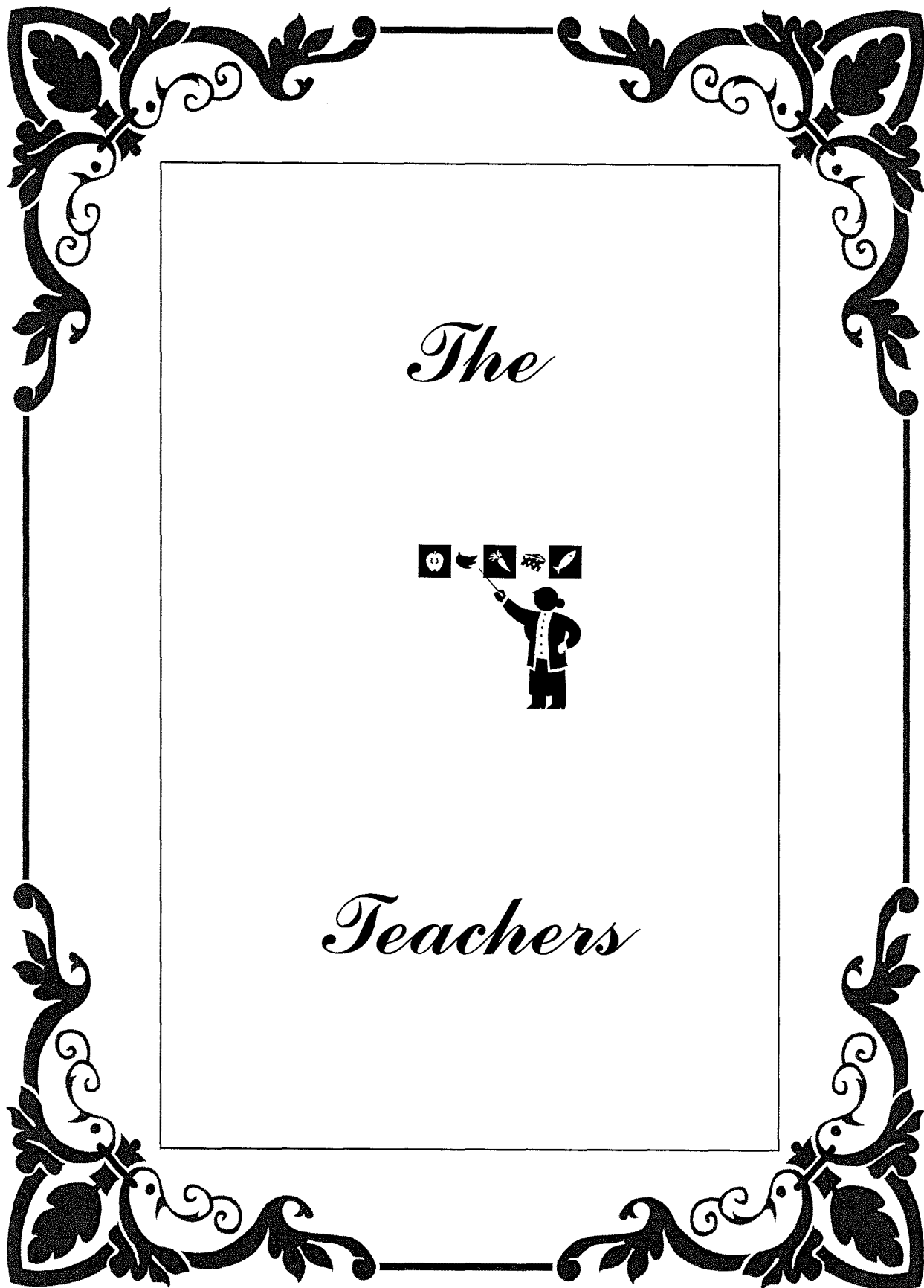


Former Teachers present at the reunion of Turney School in 1968. - Left to right : Warren Malone, Mrs. Mary Stack, Mrs. Helen Moore Cook, Mrs. Neva Bertamini, Miss Eunice Guy, Mrs. Ruth Pettibone LaPosta, Mrs. Dorothy Clawson Hallam and A. D. White.

**Centennial Hall
Eldersville, PA**



In the early 20th century when the mining population boomed, more space was required for students than the regular Jefferson Township schools would accommodate. Thus it was, that for a few years, classes were held in Centennial Hall, top picture, and in two miners' halls in Shintown, pictured from a distance in bottom photo.



The



Teachers

The picture on the following page was probably taken in the 1890s or about the turn of the century. The only identifying mark on it was a hand written note on the back stating that this was "Early Teachers in the local schools". Four of these were named but without locating them on the photo. At a later time, a few of these were identified by other persons. These identifications appear below. If you, or anyone you know, can identify any others, please notify Kathryn Slasor at: 742 Cedar Grove Road, Burgettstown, PA 15021, or phone: 724-947-3983.

- 1. **John Gardner**
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. **Suzanne Melvin**
- 7. **John Melvin**
- 8. _____
- 9. _____
- 10. _____
- 11. _____
- 12. _____
- 13. _____
- 14. _____
- 15. _____
- 16. _____
- 17. _____
- 18. _____
- 19. _____
- 20. _____
- 21. _____
- 22. _____
- 23. _____
- 24. _____
- 25. _____
- 26. **Margaret Jane Moore**
- 27. _____
- 28. _____
- 29. _____

- 30. _____
- 31. _____
- 32. _____
- 33. _____
- 34. _____
- 35. _____
- 36. _____
- 37. _____
- 38. _____
- 39. _____
- 40. _____
- 41. _____
- 42. _____
- 43. _____
- 44. **William Wesley Knight**
- 45. _____
- 46. _____
- 47. _____
- 48. _____
- 49. _____
- 50. _____
- 51. _____
- 52. _____
- 53. _____
- 54. **Greta Melvin McCready**
- 55. _____
- 56. _____
- 57. _____
- 58. _____



Sketches of Some Jefferson Township Teachers

by
Kathryn Campbell Slasor

WILLIAM WESLEY KNIGHT

William Wesley Knight was born in Hopewell Township near West Middletown, the son of Zachariah Knight, who, with Judge McKeever, manufactured hats.

W.W.Knight was born May 28, 1818, in a two-story log cabin, and moved with his father to Eldersville in 1825. Being only seven years of age, he was enrolled in one of the common schools in Jefferson Township. After getting what education he could, he worked as a carpenter during the summer and taught school in the winter. As a carpenter, he had the reputation of being the best fitter and joiner in the area. Some landmarks still standing in the township are part of his handicraft. It was said that he could "cut and frame a building year in and year out without miscutting a joint." He built the house in which he lived, which was owned later by Clyde and Pearl Melvin and then by the Socha family.

For a number of years he taught at Gardner School twenty-six days a month for \$28. At one time, he received as low as \$18 a month. He also taught at Eldersville.

During the administration of President McKinley, Mr. Knight was appointed Postmaster of Eldersville. He served nine years when he was compelled to give up the office owing to his advanced age.



William Wesley Knight on his 90th birthday.

Although he was approaching the century mark, he had always enjoyed the best of health. He often walked to the railroad station at Hanlin from his home in Eldersville. He died at the age of 92 and is buried in the Eldersville Cemetery.

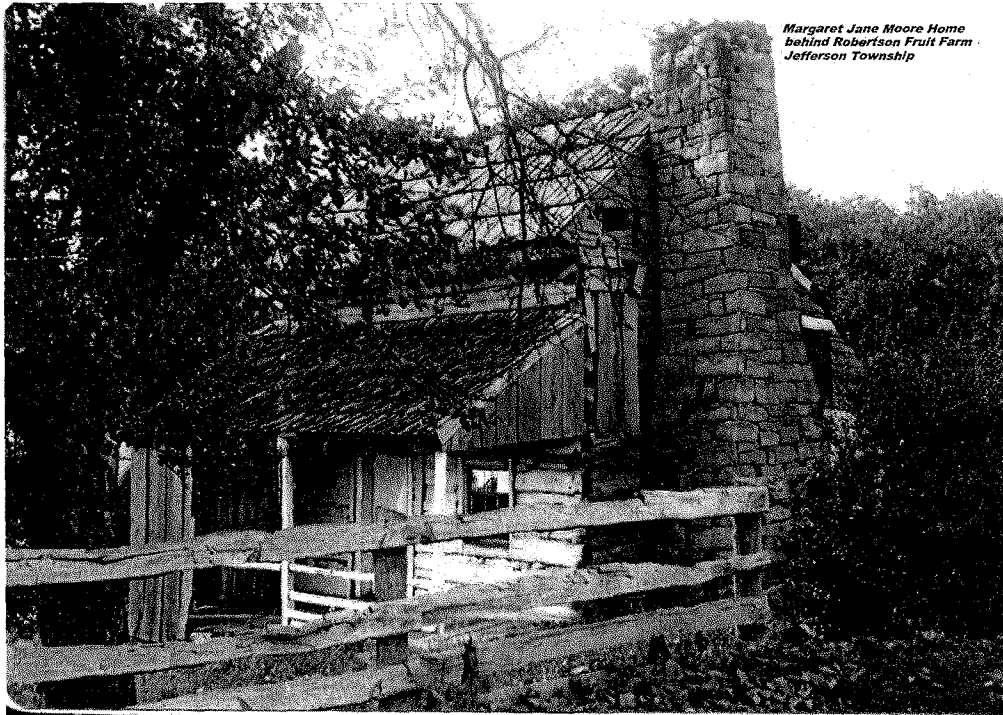
MARGARET JANE MOORE

One of the earliest teachers about whom any records have been preserved is Margaret Jane Moore. Margaret Jane was born May 10, 1823, in Ohio. Her mother died when she was born, and her father, soon afterward. She was raised on her grandfather's farm by her grandparents, the Thomas McCarrells, on Bethel Ridge Road. After the death of her grandparents, she lived with her uncle, Thomas Rusk McCarrell, Jr. In later years, she lived much of the time alone.

She taught at Miller School for three months in 1853. In 1854 she taught at No.2 school, or Melvin, for one and one half months for \$13. She continued teaching in the Eldersville School or in some local area until her service totalled fifty years.

Even though Margaret Jane lived in the Eldersville area, she attended church faithfully and regularly at the Tent Presbyterian Church, across the line in West Virginia. She traveled totally on foot.

She was extremely self-sufficient, making her own garden, raising her own food, making maple sugar, cutting down the brambles, and doing any work that needed done around her quaint little house.



*Margaret Jane Moore Home
behind Robertson Fruit Farm
Jefferson Township*

Margaret Jane Moore was a contemporary of another noted teacher in the Eldersville area, William Wesley Knight. At an advanced age, in 1909, both were honor guests at the Diamond Jubilee, which celebrated the 75th Anniversary in Jefferson Township of the Public School Law of Pennsylvania.

SARAH TUCKER BUTLER

Sarah Jane Tucker was born on June 30, 1876, in the Kings Creek area of Hanover Township. Her great grandfather, John Tucker, crossed the mountains and settled with his family near where the Tucker Church of today still stands.

Her grandfather, Martin Tucker, owned a large tract of land in that area, and made the family's living by raising sheep. After the family moved to Jefferson Township, she attended the Eldersville Normal School. In 1895 she began a teaching career that she followed both as full time and substitute teacher for many years.

Sadie, as she was affectionately known by her countless friends, married Frank Butler in 1910. They had three sons, all of whom became teachers.

As she went from school to school teaching her young charges, she endeared herself to her many pupils. It could be said of her, "Within everyone of us whose life she helped to mold, she preserved a certain sense of dignity, instilling a part of herself. "

Mrs. Butler died December 10, 1968, at the age of 92.

Those persons still living today who were the first grade pupils of Mrs. Butler in the 1930-31 school term, share a common memory of Sadie.

Due to rising enrollment, the Jefferson Township School Directors had been forced to engage two company-owned miners' halls in Shintown to house the first and third grades. Mrs. Butler was assigned to teach Grade 1. In March of 1931, she and Ruth Pettibon, the 3rd grade teacher, were informed that they were to move their pupils on a given day to the three-room building uptown in Eldersville.

The moving day arrived and Mrs. Butler was prepared. Due to her inclination to shepherd her little charges, she brought to school a long, clothesline rope. At the appointed hour, she gave the final instructions: "HOLD ON TO THE ROPE!"

Forming a procession similar to Mother Goose and her ducklings, up the hill they marched, turning left at the top in the direction of their destination. No one got lost. They arrived safely at their new school home. The plan was a total success.

Many of the students of that year have joined Sadie Butler in another world. But those who remain, still remember with pleasure "the day we held on to the rope".



LILLIAN MURCHLAND



Lillian Murchland, daughter of John H. Murchland, Jr., prominent farmer of Jefferson Township, was born January 14, 1877. Lillian grew up to become one of Jefferson Township's best teachers. Her years in the classroom totaled 46 before she died at the age of 65. Not only did she teach at Melvin School in Jefferson Township in 1900-01, but in the Eldersville School for twenty years. Other teaching positions took her to Cecil and McDonald and other areas in Allegheny County.

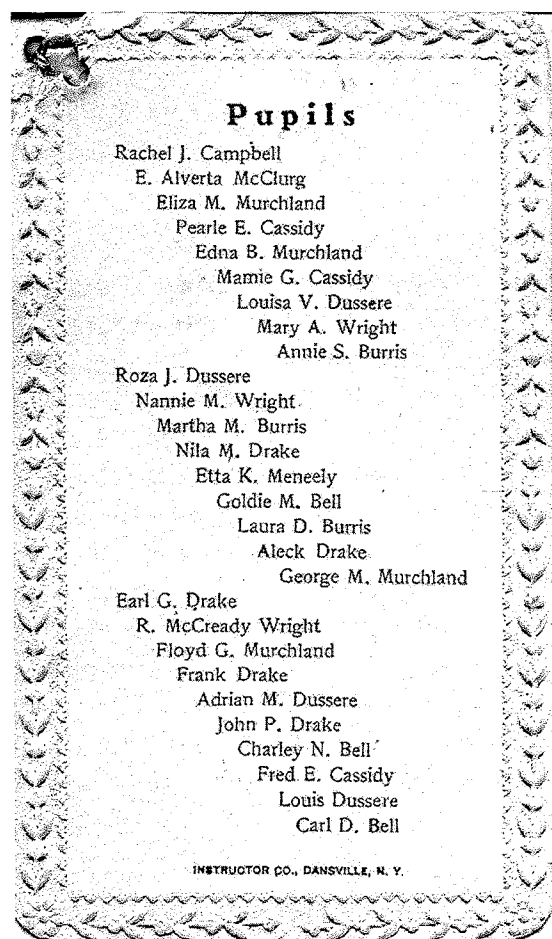
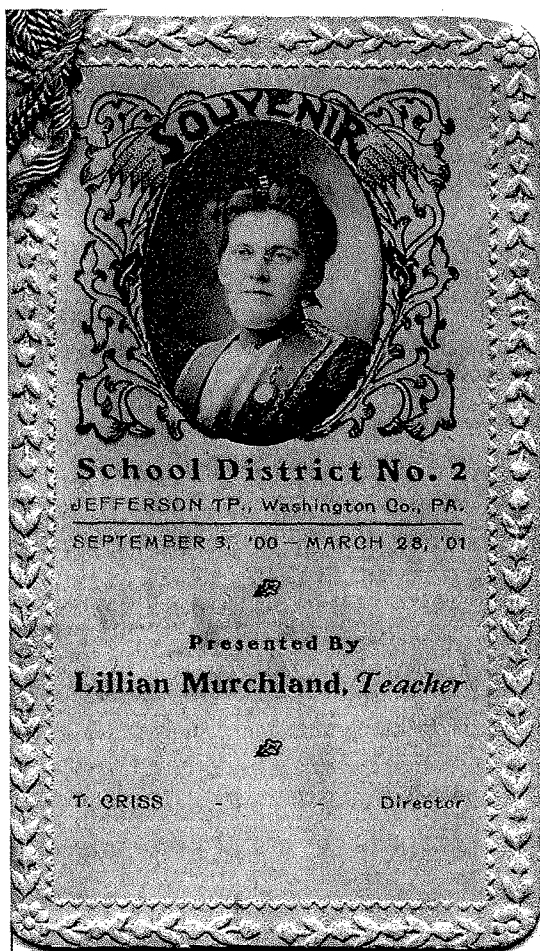
Lillian was educated in the Eldersville Normal School where she later assisted in the teaching. She had among her grade school pupils many who later became teachers themselves. Some of these were: Eliza Murchland, Pearl Cassidy, Roza Dussere, and Fred Cassidy. She was a wonderful teacher and a strict disciplinarian. Her salary in the late 1920's was \$120 per month, eight month term.

Her avid interest in history was displayed her entire life in her role as historian of the Murchland clan, to which she belonged. For many years, she was instrumental in encouraging other descendants to attend the annual family reunions and to assist in compiling a legitimate genealogy and history of the Murchlands in Brooke County, VA. In this endeavor, she constantly researched old records for clues to her family roots.

Lillian was a very private person, never inviting guests or sharing her life with others on a personal level. But the community knew that deep inside of her, she loved her pupils and always operated with their eventual success in life as her ultimate goal. The following true story about her is included here, not only as a note of humor, but to let the reader have another small insight into the private life of Lillian Murchland.

In the Eldersville area, rumor had it that Lillian Murchland was a born “pack-rat”. It was said that she had saved every single paper written by every single student who ever walked through the doors of her classroom. These stacks upon stacks of paper were reputed to be carefully preserved, stored in boxes along all of the walls of the little house she shared with her brother, Floyd.

At the time of her last illness, someone came to Eldersville for Blanche Gardner to go to the Murchland home to see what needed to be done for Lillian. When Blanche returned home from her errand, some of her neighbors were anxiously awaiting her arrival. No sooner had she walked through her back door, than curiosity got the best of one of these ladies in waiting. She simply could not wait to hear about the truth of the old rumor that “Lillian Murchland saves EVERYTHING”. This news-seeker immediately blurted out the question on everyone’s mind: “Blanche, what is really in that house of Lillian’s?” With a perfectly straight face, Blanche, looking her straight in the eye, replied matter-of-factly, “ Everything but a side saddle and a curry comb”.



ELIZA MURCHLAND

A well known teacher in Jefferson Township who taught in a number of schools was Eliza Murchland. Miss Murchland was born in the old boarding house at Kidd's Mill on June 2, 1882. She had a twin brother, George Murchland, who died from blood poisoning when a young man. He was hauling timber at the time and a splinter from a deadly hemlock tree entered his skin, resulting a short time later in his untimely death. Another brother, Harry, died when a small child.

Eliza's Uncle Robert Kidd operated Kidds Mill for many years, walking from his farm in Eldersville daily, or travelling horseback. Her mother, Agnes Kidd Murchland, kept boarders in the big house across Scott's Run from the mill. For possibly twenty years, working girls from Pittsburgh spent vacations there, helping with housework, gardening, and necessary chores, the weekly cost being \$4.

Both Robert and Agnes had worked hard under trying circumstances while still merely children. Their father, David Kidd, had died at a young age leaving six children and his wife to fend for themselves. Life was not easy for this young family.

Having grown up under trying circumstances, Eliza no doubt knew that she needed to learn to care for herself. She prepared for a teaching career by attending the Eldersville Normal School. As a teacher in the Gardner one-room school, she was remembered by some pupils as being very strict. However, she gained the respect of her pupils and continued her work quite successfully. She taught at the Eldersville School in the 1920s.



Eldersville School First and Second grades - 1922

Front row L to R: 3rd- Jim Kennedy, 4th- Thad Orgavan, 6th- John Sultie
Middle row L to R: 8th- Julie Orgavan, 10th- Sabat.
Back row L to R: 1st- Eleanor Kotouch, 3rd- Scott, 4th- Elizabeth Jackson,
5th- Bill Jackson, 7th- Herb Kotouch, 8th- Elsie LaRue
Standing in back is Eliza Murchland, teacher.

At times, a teacher's job was difficult due to working conditions. For a couple of years, while the consolidation move was in progress, Eliza was forced to use the Odd Fellows Hall for a classroom. Fortunately this temporary condition passed for the other teachers at the hall. But not for Eliza Murchland. She had caught cold while attending Teachers Institute at Trinity High School in Washington and died during the Christmas vacation on December 26, 1932. Her place was filled by Dorothy Grimm, who had been teaching the lower grades at Bertha Mine. At the time of her death, Eliza was just fifty years of age.

BERTHA BUXTON BARNES

Bertha Buxton Barnes, a beloved teacher in the Jefferson Township school system for 37 years, was born February 18, 1884. She taught the upper grades in Eldersville for most of her career, with possibly a term or two at Turney. Her salary for the 1929-30 eight month term was \$135 per month.

She was the daughter of Martin Luther Buxton, of Penobscot. Her family was known for its grist-mills along the Barnes Bottom vicinity where the Buxtons and the Barnes families were earlier settlers. About 1907, she married Alvin Barnes, a ministerial student at Adrian College. He died suddenly four years after their marriage, in 1911. It was always said by those who knew her best that she never got over the loss of her beloved husband. When she recovered enough from her grief to make an attempt to go on with her life, she threw all of her energies into her classroom. She was a good disciplinarian, but also a very capable teacher and an understanding friend.

Mrs. Barnes resigned from her life's work on July 1, 1944, and moved from her little house on the edge of Eldersville, to Washington, to live with her sister, Orpha Morrow, also a retired school teacher. (This little house where she had lived during her long and fruitful teaching career was formerly the John Crippen homestead. Today, in 2003, it is still standing and recognized by the local historical society as one of the Sesquicentennial homes standing in Jefferson Township 150 years after the area was struck off from Cross Creek Township to become a separate entity.)

Bertha Barnes died in the Methodist Home for the Aged nine years after leaving the area. She is remembered, by her pupils who still walk the earth, for the soft quality of her voice, and the ease with which she charmed her students into tackling the business of learning.

She entered the Home in Mt. Lebanon voluntarily, because, she said, "This is the ideal place to spend the sunset years of my life. "



EMMA D. RUSBASAN

Miss Emma Rusbasan was born April 24, 1912. While teaching at Turney and at Eldersville, she commuted from her home in Washington. She was friendly, cooperative and eager to please. She worked well with Supervising Principal A.D. White, offering to do more than her share.

At times Mr. White depended on her to help him with extra work. She was probably one of his favorites on the teaching staff, as she was jovial and could talk to him on either a serious or a "fun" level.

On June 30, 1941, Miss Rusbasan wrote to Mr. White as follows. "I promised you that I wouldn't run off, but I did. I just couldn't say "No" when Aunt Wilma asked me to spend the summer with her and Uncle Joe. I am working in a Tea Room in Newark, New Jersey, in the largest department store in the city. The work is easy and the hours are short so I won't be all tired out when school starts. It's a grand experience and I am enjoying myself tremendously. Last Sunday I toured Long Island Sound by boat. Feel free to write me if I can help you in any way. "

Mr. White's reply, July 12, 1941: "You did leave me somewhat in the lurch by running off as you did, and I had a good bawling out ready for you. But time has somewhat dulled my feelings, and if you don't do too awfully bad in the future, possibly I can forgive you. You will remember that there was some historical research planned for the summer. But since I have been so fully occupied with other affairs with three school districts, I guess the above will have to wait, especially since you are not here to participate. I had promised Mr. Elza Scott to assist him with such matters, but so far have failed."

In October, 1941, Miss Rusbasan asked Mr. White for a recommendation for a position in the South Strabane School District. His response: "Miss Rusbasan has been teaching in this district for the past eight years. She is a very capable teacher and does good work in the classroom. She is also very congenial and cooperative in every respect. She is popular with the other teachers and with her pupils. She is punctual in matters of routine and is careful and conscientious in preparation for her teaching."

A year later a post card was in Mr. White's mailbox. It read, "Dear Mr. White, naturally when I'm in a place like this, I am reminded of you. "

The picture on the card was of the Memorial Room in the home of James A. Garfield, Mentor, Ohio.

Emma Rusbasan died at age 63 in 1975.

Any person well enough acquainted with the late A.D.White to have discussed with him his days of superintending the schools of Jefferson Township, know that Emma Rusbasan was one of his pets. He considered her to be one of the best teachers on the staff and one of the most dependable and cooperative people with whom he had to work. This, in itself, tells the story of Emma, for A.D.White was a hard taskmaster and an astute judge of a person's value to education.



DOROTHY GRIMM BUTLER

Dorothy Grimm began her lengthy teaching career at age 18 in a small wooden building that barely held to the edge of Mill Creek, near Georgetown, Pennsylvania. She taught classes during the terms 1927-28 and 1928-29. These were the last classes to occupy the school.

On February 24, 1930, the school's worst fears were realized. The rains came hard and heavy and Mill Creek Grade School was washed from its foundation. The end of an era had come. The 18-year-old Miss Grimm, who had been a teacher to 14-year-old students, decided to follow a whim, and in the company of her Aunt Helen Ryan, by whom she had been raised, she headed for Eldersville in search of another teaching position.

She was given charge of the Bertha Mine School where her salary was \$100 per month. On December 26, 1932, Eldersville lost by death one of its most prominent teachers, Eliza Murchland. Miss Grimm was then transferred to Eldersville, being replaced at Bertha by Martha Lance.

Fortune smiled sweetly on Dorothy Grimm, for this move led her to a ten-year association with the town's most eligible bachelor, Marion Butler. They knew they were "made for each other." They were married in the early 1940's and except for their final illnesses a half century later, Dorothy and Marion "lived happily ever after!"

Dorothy was one of the finest teachers in the Eldersville system. She was a good disciplinarian, but also a very caring and thoughtful person. The following quote is taken from a tribute to Dorothy written several years after her death by one of her former pupils, June Campbell Grossman - Welch, who spent 3rd and 4th grades in Dorothy's classroom in the three-room Eldersville building. It speaks for itself.

"I remember many things about Dorothy and those two years under her care. But one thing stands out foremost in my mind. She taught us to sing. It was the time of the Great Depression and there was not much about which to sing. Yet every morning she led us in singing the old songs she thought we all should know, such as the Stephen Foster classics, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee", and the usual Christmas Carols of the holiday season. But clearest of all, I remember that there was a new song making the Hit Parade for people lucky enough to have a radio to hear it. It was called "Easter Parade". The words were very hard for third and fourth graders, but as she taught us the tune, she also patiently explained the meaning of every passage. In particular, I recall her explanation of "sonnet" - to rhyme with Easter bonnet" - and "You'll find that you're in the Rotogravure". And once we understood, with her beautiful soprano voice leading the way, we were off and running with the new tune. Over sixty years later, whenever I hear that song, I hear her singing it.

Dorothy used her beautiful voice all of her life to keep the community singing. She could be counted on as lead soprano in a mixed quartette at Grange, as director of a children's choir whenever one was needed, and of course, to be in her place at choir practice on Wednesday evening and again on Sunday morning at church for the entire length of her busy life. When she died, the music of the little village of Eldersville died with her."

MARION OLIVER BUTLER



Marion Oliver Butler was born June 15, 1911, in Hollidays Cove, West Virginia, a son of Frank and Sarah Tucker Butler. He was a graduate of California State Normal School and of the University of Pittsburgh. He taught school in Eldersville for 39 years, and had the honor of being the first teacher in the new brick school in the spring of 1931.

He served in the Armed Forces in Northern France from November, 1943, until April, 1946, and was a recipient of the Bronze Star.

Mr. Butler was extremely devoted to his school career and kept running records of his pupils and their achievements. He was one of Jefferson Township's best historians. In particular, he was deeply interested in maintaining records of the township's veterans of all wars. His mother, Sadie Tucker Butler, had no doubt instilled in her son some of her own deep love of the history of the area and the necessity for preserving it that she felt so strongly. Among Marion Butler's greatest contributions to the history of Jefferson Township was his unparalleled collection of every class picture of students in attendance at the Eldersville School during his teaching years. These pictures are now in possession of the Jefferson Township Historical Society.

After retirement, Marion was honored a number of times by both pupils and teachers. The following quote from one of his admirers probably best tells the regard with which he was held. "His life was a life of service, a point of light, one that shone on all of us. His greatest gift to us was the example he set." He died March 30, 1991.

MARY SANDERS HUNTER



Mary Sanders Hunter was a descendant of Cornelius Boles, one of the pioneers of Jefferson Township. She was a local girl, having spent much of her early life in Eldersville.

Miss Sanders was a born first grade teacher. She was capable of taking a roomful of unruly, illiterate six year olds in September, and turning out a class of disciplined seven year olds the following June. Each class could not only read and write by the following summer, but could spell, add, subtract, and follow directions. Perhaps the most amazing part of it all, was that through all of this training, she seldom raised her voice, and NEVER lost her patience.

In many instances, her students came from non-English speaking families, being the children of immigrants from Europe who had come to work in the mines of Jefferson Township in search of a better life. In her dealings with these confused, frightened children, Mary Sanders was totally without discrimination and fair and just in all of her dealings. She was, without doubt, one of the best teachers of first and second graders the state ever certified. Her contribution to the education of the children of Jefferson Township is without parallel.

FRANCES THORLEY PATTERSON

Frances Thorley Patterson was the daughter of William and Laura Jane Thorley, who were prominent residents of Eldersville and vicinity.

Frances was born October 20, 1883. She was a graduate of Slippery Rock State Teachers College and taught at Duff's Business School. Later she went to New York and taught specilized courses for ex-servicemen.

She returned to Jefferson Township and taught the 1931-32 term at the Penobscot School.

One day she became ill and was diagnosed with appendicitis. This developed into pneumonia, from which she never recovered. She passed away February 23, 1935 at the age of 52.

CLYDE and PEARL CASSIDY MELVIN



Pearl Cassidy was the daughter of Robert and Effie Sutherland Cassidy. She was born and raised on what was known as Irish Ridge on the farm of her great-grandfather, John Cassidy. John Cassidy had come to the area when Jefferson Township was a howling wilderness.

On the farm adjoining the Cassidies, lived William and Priscilla Cosgrove Melvin and their three children. Pearl Cassidy's brothers, Harlan and Fred, were possessed of beautiful singing voices and just over the hilltop, the three Melvin youngsters were some of the best singers the country ever produced.

Perhaps the bond of music may have been one of the attractions between the young people, or perhaps they simply fell in love. At any rate, Pearl Cassidy married Clyde Melvin and shared with him a long and very happy life.

Both Pearl and Clyde attended the Eldersville Normal School in pursuit of teaching credentials. At some points in their respective teaching careers, they each taught for a while at Melvin School. This quaint little building stood on the Melvin farm, not far from its Cassidy line fence, so was easily accessible to both teachers.

Both members of this couple were considered to be very good teachers and were loved dearly by their pupils. Clyde became a traveling music teacher for much of the county during his career, and with his brother, Gayle Melviin, and sister, Gretta Melvin McCready, was a lead singer in the Eldersville Methodist Church Choir all of his life. The home of Pearl and Clyde was always a happy one. They were known as friends of children, even though they, themselves, had none. They are certainly numbered among Jefferson Township's finest educators.

ALVENA TRANQUILL



Alvina Tranquill was one of the most dearly loved teachers of the one room schools. She was born in Penowa, December 18, 1911. Her salary for the 1934-35 term at Turney was \$90 a month. Prior to coming to Turney, she had taught at the Waverly School in Independence Township. Her death on January 26, 1944, at the age of 32 was a harsh blow to her students, who were very fond of this pretty, young teacher who understood their problems. After her death, Sarah Butler completed the term.

VIRGINIA COX



Virginia Cox was born November 3, 1903, a daughter of Charles and Cora Gardner Cox. The Gardners were early settlers in the Jefferson Township area, the family having spent many years in Greathouse Castle, near Eldersville.

Miss Cox taught for 25 years in Jefferson, Cross Creek and Independence Townships. She completed the 1934-35 term in Penobscot after the untimely death of Frances Thorley Patterson. She stayed at Penobscot for the next term. She then taught at Eldersville for a number of years.

Miss Cox, who became Mrs. Earl Wise later in life, died in Florida May 11, 1991 at age 87.

DOROTHY SHIELDS

Dorothy Shields was a teacher at Gardner School. This building still stands on Eldersville Road across from the former Robertson Fruit Farm. (2003)

Miss Shields lived on what was known at that time as the Nick Criss place. (Others who have lived in this house halfway up Hanlin Hill were Boyce and the Orlan Miller family.)

Miss Shields rode her horse from her home to Becky Gardner's barn. There the horse remained till evening when school was out, when she rode him back home again.

The barn where Miss Shields boarded her horse fell victim to arsonists many years ago. It had been such a "happy" barn, where country dances had been held for the entire neighborhood for many years.

In contrast, the building where school had been kept since 1834, lives on, and has been the home of the Groves family for three decades or more. Gardner School closed in 1922. Gaylord Martin, who was born in 1905, recalls that "Dorothy Shields was my first teacher."

MAYME SCHARY

Mayme Schary was a popular young school teacher in Eldersville. She was the daughter of Mert and Margaret Ravenscraft Schary. Mert Schary had been born in County Galway, Ireland. He came to Jefferson Township and married Margaret September 22,1880.

As the year 1907 turned to 1908, a social was held in the town hall. Since Mayme was in good health and had recently attended the Teachers Institute in Washington, she went to the social. Even though she had contracted a cold that settled in her lungs, she was not considered seriously ill.

She came home from the social at about 11:30 that night, then became worse as the night went on. Dr. Mercer was called. He came and remained all night, but nothing could be done. Mayme died at 7:30 the next morning from an acute attack of pneumonia.

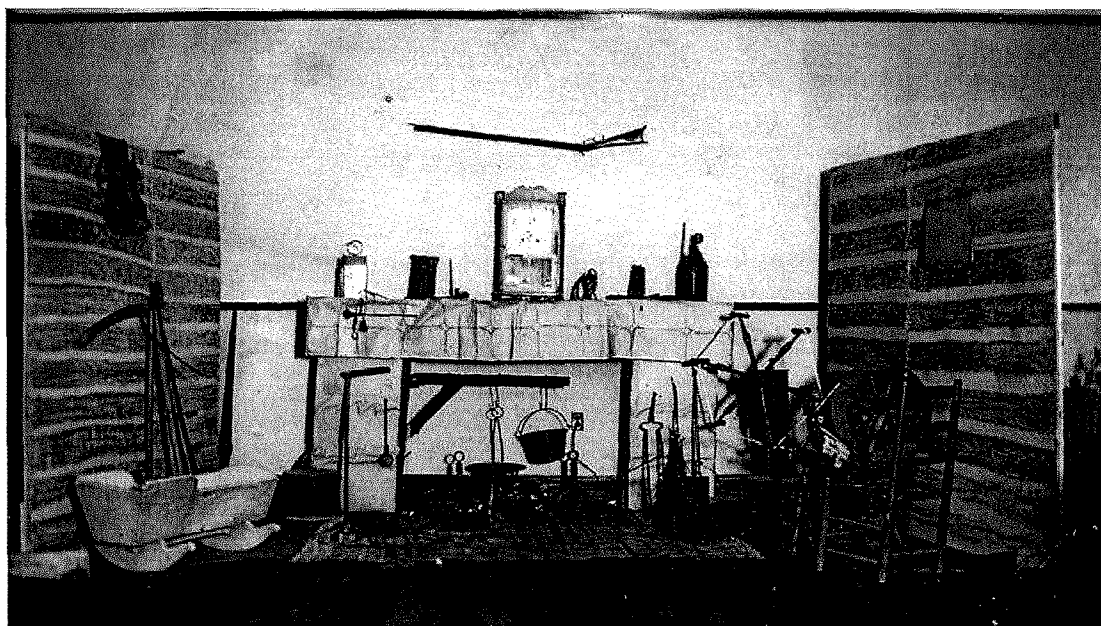
Her pupils gathered at the school that morning, then all returned home extremely saddened. They attended her funeral services in a body. Mayme's death shattered the village of Eldersville. She was only twenty-five years old.

ELSIE MAGGS

Elsie Maggs was born December 19, 1905. As a teacher she was kind, soft-spoken and considerate of her pupils and their feelings and emotions. Each term, she encouraged them to learn through research and extracurricular activities, which spurred their thirst for knowledge.

One year, in the 1930's, Miss Maggs assisted her students in the construction of a miniature Switzerland in the sandbox placed on a large table in the rear of the fourth grade classroom. This project featured mountains with tiny red-roofed houses and fir trees which pupils placed in appropriate spots. By the end of this "Study of Switzerland", students knew this mountainous and picturesque European country as well as they knew their own back yards!

The 1931-32 term's project was, "Unit on Colonial Life." Aim: To study how the people lived and worked in colonial times; how they built their houses; how they arranged their living rooms; how their homes were heated and lighted; how they secured their food; how they made their clothes, travelled, played, harvested their crops, and much more.



History Project on Colonial homes - 4th - 6th grade

Furnishings by A. D. White

Directed by Elsie Maggs

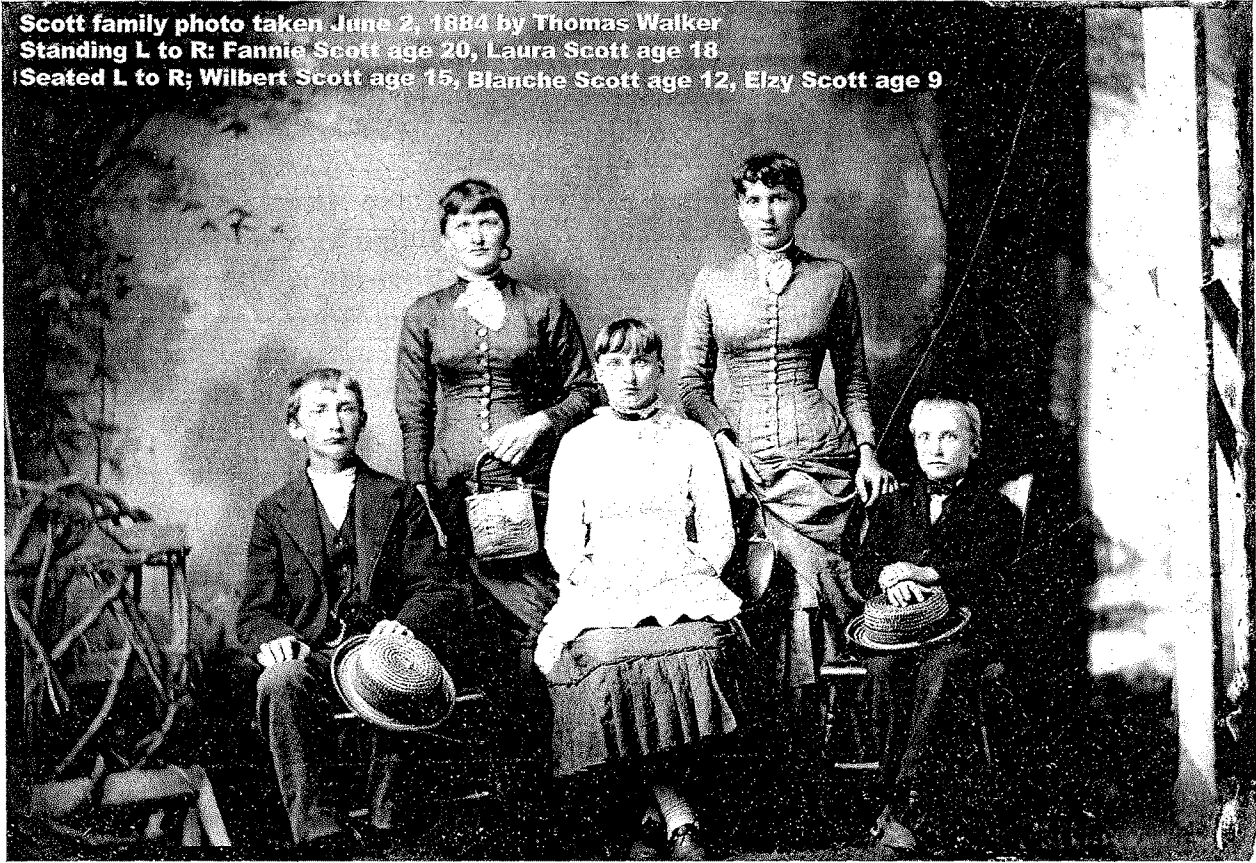
As weeks went by, life in the American colonies became alive, and lessons were learned with little or no effort. Those who sat in her class seven decades ago, were fortunate indeed. Miss Elsie Maggs was a good teacher.

She taught her first classes in Bertha Mine School, then went to Eldersville for several terms. She worked closely with Principal A.D. White in these projects.

Miss Maggs passed away October 25, 1967 at nearly 62 years of age.

The Scott Family

Scott family photo taken June 2, 1884 by Thomas Walker
Standing L to R: Fannie Scott age 20, Laura Scott age 18
Seated L to R; Wilbert Scott age 15, Blanche Scott age 12, Elzy Scott age 9



Pictured above are five children of John Franklin and Susanna Steen Scott of the Scott Hollow Road area of Jefferson Township. A sixth child had died at age seven in 1875. Of these five who grew to adulthood, four were teachers in the Jefferson Township Schools. Fannie, Laura, and Blanche taught in the public school system while Elza, the youngest, was a professor in the Eldersville Normal School. The other young man, Charles Wilbert, was a prominent civil engineer and surveyor of the township his entire life.

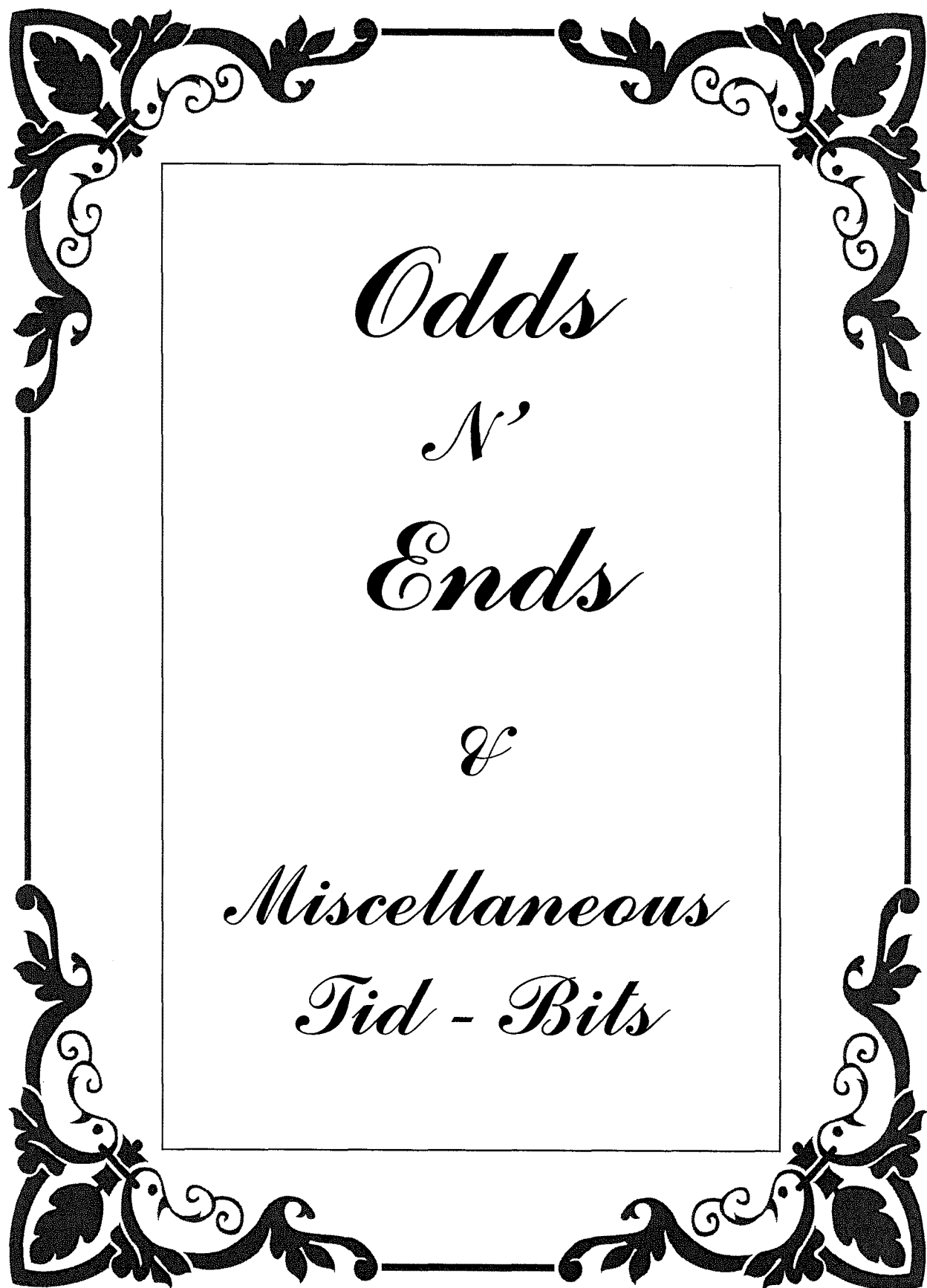
Members of this Scott family were, like their mother, very historically minded. Fannie wrote an extensive early history of the Bethel Methodist Church which provides one of the very few accounts of its beginnings. Elza, considered to be Jefferson Township's greatest historian, was the founder and first president of the Tri State Historical Society for most of its lengthy existence. Prior to World War II, he conducted weekly historical broadcasts on radio in which he related tales of pioneer days.

The mother of this family, Susanna Steen Scott, was educated in the very early schools of the township and was also a graduate of the Paris Academy. Like the four of her children listed above, in her youth, she was also a teacher in the public schools of Jefferson Township.

OTHER TEACHERS OF JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

Sporadic records indicate that the following persons taught school in Jefferson Township. Neither their years of service nor the buildings in which they taught is known.

Jane Allender	Mary Sanders Latimer	Daisy Tilton
Isabella Allsopp	Emma J. Lawson	Lillian Turner
Alvin Barnes	Mabel Christine Liggett	Georganna Walker
Lynda Bean	Gibson Longdon	John Wiley
Roberts Beaumariage	Nancy Mallory	Mrs. J. B. Wiley
Emma Berry	John S. Marquis	Emma J. Wilson
Neva Bertamini	Bess McCarty	William P. Wilson
Boyd Black	Lulu McCarty	Linda Zanotti
Nelle Blaine	James McCorkle	
Hazel Brinton	May McElhaney	
Jane Brown	Marie McGregor	
Jane Pence Brown	Samuel J. Melvin	
Nettie Cooper Brown	Gould Moore	
John M. Caldwell	Helen V. Moore	
Ida M. Campbell	Laura Neil	
Adeline Cassidy	Ida M. Newell	
Amanda Cassidy	Harry G. Noah	
Fred Cassidy	Gladys Pearce	
Helen Moore Cook	Sara M. Pettibon	
Anna R. Criss	Maye Pettit	
N. R. Criss	Mary Pirik	
Grace Cunningham	Alice M. Post	
Margaret Curry	Belle Rankin	
Cyril Davidson	Helen E. Robertson	
Earl S. Davidson	Mae Robertson	
Paul Deliere	James Schary	
Harry L. Donovan	Blanche Scott	
Emily Dunmire	Fannie Scott	
Alice Gibbons	Laura Scott	
Nannie Gillespie	Mabel Smith	
Grace Barnhouse Glover	M. Sprowls	
P. Max Hagar	Mary Stack	
Lillie G. Hanlin	R. P. Stevenson	
Silvia Hannan	Rebecca Buxton Stillson	
Alice Wells Hauk	Annie Sturgis	
John Hindman	Hazel Sutherland	
Ruth Jenkins	Myrtle Sutherland	
J. Arthur Knox	Clara Taggart	



*Odds
'n'
Ends
&
Miscellaneous
Tid - Bits*

**ODDS N' ENDS AND MISCELLANEOUS
TID - BITS**

**Lee School celebrated Washington's Birthday by raising a large flag. - 1909,
Burgettstown Herald.**

**Box Social held at Lee Schoolhouse. Prettiest girl - Edna Smith; most popular
young man - Matthew Johnston, of Cross Creek. - Feb. 1910**

**Report of Lee School, November, 1908. Pearl Cassidy, teacher. 12 boys, 10 girls.
Present every day in October: Milda Martin, Roxanna Martin, Kathryn Brunner,
Hazel Walker, Rolo Walker, Montford Lee, Lester Lee, John Brunner, Charlie Walker,
John Walker.**

Missing one day - Edna Smith, Harry Smith, Philip Walker

**"The excellence of a teacher has nothing at all to do with his background, or the
amount of salary he is paid, or anything else except his own personality and inherent
bent. A good teacher is born, I am convinced, and his presence would make a good
school out of a woodshed." Louise Dickinson Rich, in "We Took to the Woods."**

**An Eldersville School entertainment will be held in Centennial Hall on March 20,
1884. - Burgettstown newspaper**

**HICKORY HOLLOW SCHOOL - 13 enrolled. Teacher - Lela B. Miller.
Perfect attendance for October, 1910: Helen Boyce, Nellie Boyce, Ralph Melvin,
John Melvin, James Bock.**

**FEBRUARY, 1884: The singing class at Lee's school, taught by Prof. Rice, will close
on Monday, February 12. He will have a class in Eldersville school house every
Tuesday night. He will teach a class in German at Lee's school house every
Thursday night. He is an excellent German scholar.**

I JUST TEACH SCHOOL

**I write no poem men's hearts to thrill,
No song I sing to lift men's souls ;
To battle front, no soldiers lead;
In halls of state I boast no skill;
I just teach school.**

**I just teach school. But poet's thrill,
And singer's joy and soldier's fire,
And statesman's power - all - all are mine;
For in this little group where still
I just teach school**

**Are poets, soldiers, statesmen - all
I see them in the speaking eye,
In face aglow with purpose strong,
In straightened bodies, tense and tall,
When I teach school.**

**And they, uplifted, gaze intent
On cherished heights they soon shall reach.
And mine the hands that led them on!
And I inspired - therefore content,
I still teach school.**

Author Unknown

SOME PENNSYLVANIA LEGAL REQUIREMENTS (For the Schools)

At least ten verses from the Holy Bible shall be read, or caused to be read, without comment, at the opening of each and every public school, upon each and every school day by the teacher in charge.

All doors of entrance into any building used for school purposes shall be made to open outward.

All common heating stoves shall be enclosed with a shield or jacket made of galvanized iron, or other suitable material, so constructed and so placed as to protect pupils while at their desks from the direct rays of heat.

The School Annual 1942

**(From an old autograph book) To Lillian Murchland
from Elzie Scott**

**Some may wish you pleasure,
Some may wish you mirth;
But I shall wish you happiness
And a home beyond this earth.**

**According to the Enrollment List for the last year that Cole School was in session,
the following pupils were in that 1929-1930 class:**

**Grade I: Helen Ferguson, Annie Luketich, Nick Bertovich, Tom Bertovich, Mary
Hrutkai, Nick Pleska, Mildred Bertovich.**

Grade II: Tillie Resnik, Dorothy Grimm, Tony Szczur.

Grade III: Lloyd Ferguson, George Pleska, Elizabeth Fotovich, Bessie Szczur.

Grade IV: Elizabeth Wargo, Joe Resnik, Mike Pleska, Addie Grimm.

Grade V: Helen Wargo, Annie Pleska, Dorothy Fotovich, Frank Resnik.

**Grade VI: Steve Sabo, Alex Sabo, Ernest Ferguson, Robert Pyles, George Wargo, Paul
Wargo, Steve Wargo, John Hrutkai.**

**The term 1926-1927, taught by Cyril Davidson, three years earlier, showed more
students and different names. During this year, pupils were enrolled in grades one
through eight, as was usually the case.**

**Family names included: Battles, Cunningham, Ferlict, Grimm, Hallaway, Hrutkai,
Korody, Fotovich, Resnik, Wargo, Wagner, Lamb, Drake, Ferguson, Homa, Pyles, and
Sabo.**

School Directors in Jefferson Township in the year 1891 were:

**A.J. Smith; J.S. McCorkle; John Cassiday; Thomas Pettybone; William Cassiday, and
J.F. McCarrell.**

Schools, 7; teachers, 7; term, 6 months. Wages, \$38 and \$40 per month.

**Teachers: John A. Hindman; John S. Marquis; Harry S. Smith; Will Cosgrove; Harry L.
Donovan; Ida M. Campbell; Lillie G. Hanlin.**

TEACHERS INSTITUTE AT GARDNER SCHOOL

The teachers of Jefferson Township unite in extending a hearty invitation to teachers of surrounding townships and patrons of the school to be present at and take part in, their fifth meeting, to be held at Gardner's School, Saturday, February 24, 1894.

PROGRAMME

**Our Professional Duty, Mr. J.T. McCorkle
Teachers Associations, Prof. R.P. Stevenson
A Chart Drill, Prof. W.A.Kidd
Ethical Education, J.V. Sutherland
Corporal Punishment, Miss Anna Criss
How Prevent the Use of Slang, C.V. Melvin
Language (Primary Grade), Miss Anna B. Stevenson
The Necessary Qualifications of A School Director, Dr. J.W. Mercer
Geography - Aims and Results, Mrs. W.A. Strain
Teaching Composition, Mr. N.R. Criss
Pedagogical Advancement, Miss Fannie Scott
Advantages of Monthly Reviews and Reports, Mr. H.V. Gardner
Programme to be interspersed by music and recitations.**

INSTITUTE AT LEE'S SCHOOLHOUSE

The teachers of Jefferson Township will hold their fifth institute at Lee's school house, January 12, 1895, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

PROGRAM

**Requisites in the Teacher for Good Government, J.T. McCorkle
Personal Habits of the Teacher, W.A. Cosgrove
Difficulties to be met in Children and in Parents, C.V. Melvin
Fractions, Nannie Gillespie
The Cause of Education the Cause of the State, H.C. Anderson
Closing Country Schools, Oscar Smith
School-ales, S.J. Melvin
Query Box in charge of Anna Criss**

JUNE 13, 1894: (Newspaper article)

About 8 o'clock Monday evening the Lee School House, in Jefferson Township was destroyed by fire. As some boys were seen running from the building at a very lively gait, it is assumed by some people they are responsible for the destruction of the building.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1894: (Three months later)

The new school house in Lee's district is completed and is said to be a fine one. It will certainly be a great improvement over the one burned last spring.

SIXTH DISTRICT INSTITUTE

The sixth district institute of Jefferson Township will be held February 2, 1895, at Gardner's schoolhouse, one mile west of Eldersville. Following is the program:

How produce originality in pupils, Miss Anna Criss

Silence in the schoolroom, O.V. Smith

The true education, J.T. McCorkle

The needs of our common schools, W.A. Cosgrove

Amount of study, Miss Ida Porter

Free text books, N.R. Criss

What shall a teacher do at playtime? Miss Nannie Gillespie

Debate. Should corporal punishment be abolished?

Affirmative, N.R. Criss and O.V. Smith.

Negative, J.T. McCorkle and W.A. Cosgrove

All friends of education are cordially invited.

C.V. Melvin, teacher

Teachers in Jefferson Township in the year 1892 were listed as follows: Ida B. Porter, Nora B. Osborne, J.V. Sutherland, William Cosgrove, Nannie Gillespie, Verne Gardner, Annie B. Stevenson.

Teachers in the year 1908 were: Laura E. Neil, Myrtle Sutherland, Mary B. Tucker, S.V. Kimberland, Mabel B. Smith, and Pearl Cassidy.

Attending Teachers' Institute for Jefferson Township on November 26, 1894 were: Annie Criss and Ida Porter, of Hanlin; Oscar Smith, Clyde Melvin and William Cosgrove, Eldersville; J.T. McCorkle, of Cross Creek; Nannie Gillespie, of Pattersons Mills.

School Directors attending Teachers Institute for Jefferson Township on November 27, 1894 were: J.S. McClurg and Robert Cunningham, of Bancroft; J. Elliot Stewart, of Cross Creek; Dr. J.W. Mercer and Tolan Criss, of Eldersville; and W. A. Gillespie, of Pattersons Mills.

**ELDERSVILLE SCHOOL
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
1915-1916
M.M. TODD, Teacher**

PUPILS

**Mary Helen Burris
Althea May Benninger
Ruth Benninger
Lulu Belle Davidson
Clarence Gourley Boles
Joseph Willis Ridgeway
Robert Byron Sanders
Robert Merle Irwin
John Wargo
Elmer Edward Jester**

**Ethel Jean Irwin
Nannie Martha Jester
Esther Luella Gillespie
Mary Margaret Sanders
George Allen Jester
Robert Casper Swaney
Kenneth Dimit Irwin
Earl Davidson
Harry Davidson
Edward Corbin**

SCHOOL OFFICERS

**B.M. Wheeler, Pres.
J.S. Sutherland, V. Pres.**

**J.S. Johnston, Sec.
J.H. Murchland**

**W.K. Truax, Treas.
Prof. L.R. Crumrine, Co. Supt.**

**Wisdom is the olive that springeth from the heart,
bloometh on the tongue and beareth fruit in the actions.**

From the Files of A.D.White

"These District Schools were established and continued in constant use with large enrollments. Good roads soon made possible the consolidation of the rural schools at Eldersville. Turney School opened as Miller closed after the 1920-21 term. This movement began in 1922 with the closing of Melvin School. The others followed in rapid succession. Gardner also closed in 1922; Lee, 1928; Hanlin, 1929; Cole, 1930; Bertha Mine and Penobscot, both in 1936.

During the height of the coal mining development in this township, schools were maintained in the mining areas as follows: A 5-room building at Bertha Mine; a 4-room building at Turney (Located between the mining camps of Jefferson and Penobscot) and a one-room school at Penobscot Mine Camp. With the decline of coal mining in the township, these schools dwindled in number and were finally closed. The few remaining pupils in the Bertha Mine School were transported to Eldersville. Those remaining from the Penowa area were transported to Cross Creek Township."

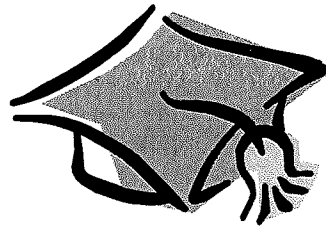


The picture above was taken in 1909 on the front porch of Henry Cooper's house in Eldersville. The occasion was a reunion of the students of the Eldersville Normal School. These were always joyous occasions and the Coopers were reputed to be very genial hosts each year when the time came to look back on old school days.

Eldersville



Normal



School

Eldersville Normal School Reunion 1881 - 1910

<p style="text-align: center;">SOUVENIR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ELDERSVILLE NORMAL 1881 TO 1910</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONTAINING BRIEF HISTORY OF SCHOOL.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LIST OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Principals of Eldersville Normal</p> <p>Samuel Amspoker, 1881-1882 R. P. Stevenson, 1886-1904 Elza Scott, 1905-1910</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ASSISTANTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TO PROF. STEVENSON</p> <p>Everett Noah, Music W. H. Martin, Normal A. G. McCracken, Normal N. R. Criss, Normal Lillian Murchland, Grammar Grade Mabel Reed, Penmanship and Drawing Rev. J. C. Carpenter, Normal William Melvin, Normal Rev. John Sutherland, Normal</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">TO PROF. SCOTT</p> <p>J. F. Grubbs, Normal C. R. Bane, Normal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Officers and Committees On Reunion</p> <p>Elza Scott, Chairman Beatrice McBride, Secretary C. V. Melvin, Treasurer</p> <hr/> <p>CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES:</p> <p>Program - C. V. Melvin Invitations and Badges F. M. Barber. Registration - G. A. Wright Music - C. R. Bane Dinner - Alwilda Cooper Grounds and Decorations James Schary</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Historical</p> <p>The Eldersville Normal School was originated by Samuel Amspoker, Esq., now of the</p>	<p>Washington County Bar, who was principal during the summers of 1881 and 1882. Many of the men and women of the community who are now middle aged people, attended this first Eldersville Normal.</p> <p>Mr. Amspoker had just graduated from the Washington & Jefferson College and through much pluck and energy on his part, secured a very creditable number of students, considering the innovation of a Normal School at this place. His roster contained about 40 names, all from this immediate community.</p> <p>After the close of the 1882 term, there was an interim of three years during which there was no school, and in the summer of 1886 it was revived under the management and principalship of Prof. R. P. Stevenson, who taught nineteen successful and consecutive terms, and during which time there were turned out a great many teachers as well as many others who took up the different professions in life.</p> <p>Prof. Stevenson retired from the school at the end of the 1904 term and was engaged in the insurance and other business at Burgettstown, where he died Sept. 29th, 1909.</p> <p>Prof. Elza Scott, the present principal, took up the work and has conducted it since that time. Prof. Scott received his education at Eldersville Normal and later at California State Normal and Grove City College. Judging from the past, the Eldersville Normal has many years of usefulness yet before it, and looking back over the past, we find that the former students of the school are in almost all professions of life, and scattered over the many states of the Union.</p>	<p>We find that the early schools of Jefferson Township are embodied in those of Cross Creek Township, of which township Jefferson was a part. A school was taught in 1811 in an old log cabin situated on Cross Creek, in what is now the Miller District. The School house was down on the Bottom near the creek where David Barnes now owns. This building was still standing a few years ago. The teachers were John Neager, Richard Freeborn and Andrew McCullough.</p> <p>There was at a somewhat later period, perhaps in 1812, a school on the McCrea Hill.</p> <p>The first frame school building was built in 1813 upon the farm now known as the D. S. Walker farm.</p> <p>The first school buildings erected in Jefferson Township under the new school law were in 1834, in the Melvin district and at Eldersville.</p> <p>The village of Eldersville was laid out in the year 1814 and was originally named Wardsville or Ward's Ward. There was a tavern in the village run by Thomas Elder, and it was through his influence that the name of the town was changed to Eldersville.</p> <p>Eldersville is an ideal place for a school, being in the midst of a good community, high and healthy situation, conveniently located as to railroads, telephone lines, etc. The community is such that a school here has none of the bad influences to contend with that are met in many of our larger towns.</p>
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List of Students - 1881 - 1910

Anderson, Harry, Youngstown, O.
Allender, Stella (Medara), Thurston, Neb.
Anderson, Laura (Lee), Crosscreek.
Ackleson, Ida (McPeak), Burgettstown.
Ackleson, Maude, Burgettstown.
Anderson, Elizabeth (McNall), McDonald.
Allen, W. P., Avalon, Pa.
Adam, Ida, McDonald.
Adam, Martha, Midway.
Allison, Milton, Ingram.
Ahrns, Ada, Hanlin Station.
Abercrombie, Kate, Coal Center.
Anderson, Joseph H., Pittsburg.
Andrews, Mabel McMinn.
Adams, Scott, Rennerdale.
Anderson, Sara, Youngstown, O.
Boles, Louella (Ritchey), Burgettstown.
Bole's, Alice (Dowden), Burgettstown.
Brown, Jessie, Avella.
Brownlee, Isa (Stockdale), Dnnns Station.
Brabson, Sylvia (Walley), Pittsburg.
Bailey, Etta, Pittsburg, 20th Ward.
Brown, Anna (Irwin), Avella.
Brown, Clyde, McDonald.
Bell, Norman, Midway.
Barber, Floyd, Hanlin Station.
Buxton, Bertha (Barnes), Avella.
Buxton, Orpha (Morrow), Claysville.
Barnes, Austin, Avella.
Barnes, Alvin, Avella.
Barber, Ethel, Hanlin Station.
Barber, Rosco M., Bridgeville.
Barber, William M., Midway.
Barber, Frank M., Hanlin Station.
Boles, Ella S. (Walker), Eldersville.
Boles, Susie (White), Wilmerding.
Buxton, Rebecca (Stillson), Youngstown, O.
Brunner, Selma, Hanlin Station.
Brown, Ray, Avella.
Bartlett, Florence, Caldwell, O.
Boles, Thomas E., Chicago, Ill.
Baker, Dean.
Baker, Marcellus.
Boles, Frank, Midway.
Cosgrove, Emma (McGrew), McDonald.
Cooke, Clare, Burgettstown.
Chambers, Ella (Herron), Scio, O.
Cartmer, Hattie, Hanlin Station.
Criss, Robert, Punxsutawny.
Cain, Anna, Florence.
Cox, Carrie, Imperial.
Craig, Ralph, Shippingport.
Cochran, Lenore, Midway.
Criss, Willa, Pittsburg, North Side.
Chapman, Mamie, Burgettstown.
Cunningham, Effie, Burgettstown.

Cassidy, Pearle, Hanlin Station.
Crumm, Sylvia, Amityville, Long Island, N.Y.
Campbell, Ida (Pier), Marietta, O.
Curry, Bertha, Hanlin Station.
Curry, Margaret, Hanlin Station.
Curry, Elva, Hanlin Station.
Cooper, Awilda, Eldersville.
Criss, S. W., Steubenville, O.
Criss, Mary, Eldersville.
Curry, Harriet (Culley), Florence.
Curry, Mae, Hanlin Station.
Carpenter, Lizzie (Smith), Hanlin Station.
Carothers, Ed., San Jose, California.
Carman, Ernest, Wellsburg, W. Va.
Carman, Clair, Ingram.
Chapman, Clara, Burgettstown.
Campbell, Mary, Pittsburg.
Combs, Maggie (Roberts), Terre Haute, Ind.
Cole, Emma, Burgettstown.
Criss, N. R., Pittsburg.
Cassidy, Ora, Burgettstown.
Creswell, Aletha (Lazear), Hanlin Station.
Criss, Hallie (Taylor), Midway.
Curry, Ethel, Hanlin Station.
Curry, Lou, Pittsburg.
Cooper, Nettie (Brown), McDonald.
Cassidy, Herman, Hanlin Station.
Carothers, M. H., Pittsburg.
Curry, Willie, Kittanning.
Carothers, Mary (McConaghy), New Concord, O.
Cosgrove, Mary (Criss), Steubenville, O.
Cosgrove, William, Vanderbilt.
Cowan, Alberta, Wilkinsburg.
Cowan, Roberta, Wilkinsburg.
Cox, Alma, Burgettstown.
Campbell, Ida (Mecham), Duquesne.
Carnahan, Willa (Lee), Burgettstown.
Carter, Mary (Strain), Colliers, W. Va.
Campbell, Jennie (Smith), Hanlin Station.
Carter, Ina (Smith), Greenville.
Cowan, Ada, Wilkinsburg.
Cooper, Mary, Eldersville.
Close, Jessie (Malone), Pittsburg.
Carman, Cora (Allen), Avella.
Cowan, Ada Margaret, Wilkinsburg.
Cowan, Anna (Blackledge), New Brighton.
Donovan, Retta (Cunningham), Hanlin Sta.
Daugherty, Flora, Washington.
Dowden, Ada (McGregor), Burgettstown.
Dimit, Anna (Irwin), Eldersville.
Dowden, Jessie (Reed), Crafton.
Donovan, Harry L., Dennison, O.
Dimit, J. F., East Liverpool, O.
DeWitte, Blanche, Midway.
Dickson, Etta, Butler.
Dally, Drucilla (Kuder), Canonsburg.

Dally, Charlotte, Carnot.
Dornan, Nellie, Hanlin Station.
Dornan, Jessie (Meneely), Hanlin Station.
Dussere, Louise (Robert), Donora.
Dussere, Rose, Hanlin Station.
Dussere, Adrien, Hanlin Station.
Deyarman, Mabel, Mt. Pleasant, O.
Emery, Bessie (Dague), Westland.
Emery, Nellie (Murray), Newell, W. Va.
Elliott, Anna, Colliers, W. Va.
Evans, Bessie, Burgettstown.
Fulton, Lida, Hanlin Station.
Fulton, Edna, Langdon, Alberta, Canada.
Fulton, Chalmers, Youngstown, O.
Fulton, Sadie (Wilson), Rea.
Foley, Michael, Denver, Col.
Foley, Nora, Denver, Col.
Foley, Mary, Denver, Col.
Finley, Mary.
Freshwater, Lawrence, Colliers, W. Va.
Farrar, Dorothy, Burgettstown.
Fulton, Roy, Langdon, Alberta, Canada.
Finigan, Kate, Hanlin Station.
Freshwater, Lida, Hanlin Station.
Farner, Albert, Rea.
Fullerton, Blanche, Burgettstown.
Fuller, Viola, Burgettstown.
Freshwater, Francis, Colliers, W. Va.
Freshwater, Ernest, Colliers, W. Va.
Fleming, Abbie, Adrian, Mich.
Fleming, Rita, Adrian, Mich.
Geary, Kate (Woods), McDonald.
Griffith, Allie (Sprague), Breckinridge, Okla.
Gillespie, Nannie (Meneely), Hanlin Station.
Graham, L. F., Burgettstown.
Graham, Charles, Burgettstown.
Graham, Corwin, Washington.
Gardner, Ed., Eldersville.
Gardner, Chap, Eldersville.
Gardner, H. V., Wellsville, O.
Gillespie, Bertha (Martin), Hanlin Station.
Gillespie, Mary, Hookstown.
Gillespie, Viola (Boles), Carnegie.
Glass, Alma, Wellsburg, W. Va.
Gardner, Walter, Hanlin Station.
Gillespie, Winifred, Hanlin Station.
Gillespie, Vena, Hanlin Station.
Glass, Clara, McDonald.
Gillespie, Aubrey, Kings City, California.
Gardner, Leila (Moore), Eldersville.
Gillespie, Olive (Reese), Wellsburg, W. Va.
Gardner, Bernice, Murdocksville.
Griffith, Cora, Breckinridge, Okla.
Gillespie, Maude (Schrader), Monessen.
Hemphill, Robert, Burgettstown.
Harper, Janet (Gayman), Washington.
Hanlin, Lillie (Hunter), Rea.

Headington, Mary, Avella.
Harper, Sara (Howe), Ingram.
Hays, Robert R., Hickory.
Hindman, Ed., Chester.
Howell, Julietta, Colliers, W. Va.
Hemphill, Ned, Colliers, W. Va.
Herd, Anna, Midway.
Hensler, Anna (Mechling), Colliers, W. Va.
Herron, Fred, Paris.
Herron, Rhody, New Cumberland, W. Va.
House, Ada.
Irwin, Bert, Eldersville.
Irwin, L. M., Avella.
Jenkins, John O., Tylerdale.
Jeffreys, Ethel, Washington.
Jackson, Dallas, Midway.
Johnston, Bessie, Colliers, W. Va.
Johnston, Anna, Follansbee, W. Va.
Johnston, Maggie, Hopedale, O.
Jones, Olive, New Cumberland, W. Va.
Jackson, Clare, Burgettstown.
Johnston, Jeannette (McCullough), Florence.
Jackson, Margaret (Walker), Eldersville.
Kimberland, S. V., Burgettstown.
Knaak, Mary, McDonald.
Karns, Eva, McDonald.
Kraeer, Louie, Bulger.
King, Bessie (Strouse), Murdocksville.
King, Jamie, Bulger.
King, Willie, Bulger.
Liggett, Mabelle C., Bridgeton, N. J.
Lee, Cora (Doudle), Independence.
Leith, Lillian, Dinsmore.
Leith, Eliza, Dinsmore.
Leith, Mary, Dinsmore.
Liggett, Harriet, Independence.
Lanz, Carrie, Wellsburg, W. Va.
Lester, Sadie, Midway.
Lester, Della, Midway.
Lynn, Delmo, Allegheny.
Morrison, Mae (Pauley), Brownsville.
Moore, W. L., Canonsburg.
Marquis, Mary (Stewart), Washington.
Moore, Nettie, Crafton.
Mercer, James, Washington.
Moore, Mamie, Crafton.
Moore, Charles, Crafton.
Miller, Mina, McDonald.
Melvin, Margretta, Hanlin Station.
Melvin, G. C., Hanlin Station.
Melvin, C. V., Hanlin Station.
Murchland, Lillian, Hanlin Station.
Murchland, Eliza, Hanlin Station.
Moore, Mary, Burgettstown.
Marquis, Ella, Burgettstown.
Marquis, L. V. Aspinwall.
Miller, Bertha, Pittsburg.



R. P. Stevenson



Samuel Amspoker



Elza Scott

Miller, Orrin, Avella.
 Miller, Alden, Avella.
 Martin, Lizzie, Wellsburg, W.Va.
 Martin, Birdie, Pittsburg.
 Miller, Lena B., Burgettstown.
 Martin, William, Knoxville.
 Meneely, Lillie, Avella.
 Moore, Myrtle, McDonald.
 Mitchell, Alberta (Yoders), Clarksville.
 Montgomery, Robert, Chicago, Ill.
 Manson, Ora (Gilbert), Primrose.
 Mercer, Roena (Powell), Mt. Pleasant, O.
 Martin, Lillie, Florence.
 Morrison, Carrie, Rochester.
 Melvin, Grace, Pittsburg.
 Martin, Ashford, Danbury, Iowa.
 Moore, Gould, Hanlin Station.
 Marsh, Margaret, Carnegie.
 Montgomery, Ida (Ferrell), Washington.
 Martin, Belle.
 Magee, Lizzie (Pool), Chester, W. Va.
 McCausland, Geo., Burgettstown.
 McCarrell, Maud (Price), Pittsburg.
 McFadden, Della, Avella.
 McNelly, Sadie (Vance), Burgettstown.
 McNelly, Edith (Johnston), Burgettstown.
 McCorkle, J. H. Pueblo, Colorado.
 McCorkle, Jas. T., Pueblo, Colorado.
 McBride, Beatrice, Burgettstown.
 McKnight, Anna, Paris.
 McCaslin, Bessie, Broken Bow, Neb.
 McCullough, Florence (Eckles).
 McGowan, Arilla.
 McBride, Nancy, Neeleysville, Mo.
 McCready, R. D., Carnegie.
 McCleary, Ellwood, Claysville.
 McCalmont, Joseph, Conoquenessing.
 McClurg, Alvin, Youngstown, O.
 McDonald, Fred, Washington, D. C.
 McCullough, C. J., Crafton.
 McCarty, Bessie, Hanlin Station.
 McConnell, Fannie (Wylie), Pittsburg.
 McCauslin, Clara, Broken Bow, Neb.
 McDonald, Milton, Burgettstown.
 McAlister, Mary (Hourree), Ridgebury, N. Y.
 McNary, Georgiana (Taylor), Burgettstown.
 McCullough, Florence (Muller), Oblong, Ill.
 McCracken, Geo. A., Florence.
 McDonald, W. C., Burgettstown.
 McCarrell, Charles, Florence.
 McCorkle, Margaret (McClurg), Hanlin Sta.
 McCorkle, Chauncey, Canonsburg.
 McCorkle, Dora M., Burgettstown.
 McBride, Eleanor, Neeleysville, Mo.
 McBride, Harry, Neeleysville, Mo.
 McClurg, Anna, Eldersville.
 McCracken, Rena (Saxton), Burgettstown.

McCracken, Edna, Burgettstown.
McCracken, Bessie, Burgettstown.
McCracken, A. G., Pittsburg.
McCleary, Winifred, Claysville.
McCullough, Anna (McKinney), Dinsmore.
McCullough, Vena (Cain), Florence.
McCleary, Nellie (Robertson), Mingo Jct., O.
McConnell, Leonard, Burgettstown.
McConnell, Dan, Burgettstown.
McGough, Lee, Bergholz, O.
McAlister, John, Washington.
McAlister, James, Washington.
McMillen, Edna, Murdocksville.
McClure, Anna Patterson, Fairchance.
McCalmont, Samuel, Burgettstown.
Noah, Harry G., Burgettstown.
Noah, Effie (Welch), Burgettstown.
Nicholls, Lizzie (Scott), Burgettstown.
Noah, Ina L. (Gardner), Mingo Jct., O.
Oglevee, Nellie, Hanlin Station.
Oglevee, DeWitte, Hanlin Station.
Osburn, Cora (Sutherland), Burgettstown.
Osburn, Nora, Burgettstown.
Pfeiffer, King.
Porter, May, Burgettstown.
Patterson, Estella (Gilbert), Carnegie.
Pettibon, Jennie, Burgettstown.
Pyle, Flora, Burgettstown.
Pyle, Lillian (Graham), Burgettstown.
Pyle, Jesse, Greensburg.
Patterson, Jennie, Pittsburg, 20th Ward.
Patterson, Kate (Fleming), Cincinnati.
Pyle, W. S., Derry.
Plotts, Harry I., Florence.
Proudfit, Ethel, Butler.
Pettibon, Sara, Burgettstown.
Pettibon, Laura, Burgettstown.
Porter, Ed, Denver, Colorado.
Pyle, Anna, Burgettstown.
Pees, Carrie, Eighty Four.
Pyle, J. M., Burgettstown.
Pettibon, Creighton, Hanlin Station.
Paxton, Cornie, California.
Paxton, Harry, California.
Painter, Chester, Avella.
Purdy, Ada, Pittsburg, N. S.
Purdy, Lida (Vineyard), Albany, Oregon.
Porter, Ida, Bridgeville.
Proudfit, William, Burgettstown.
Perrin, Alice, Avella.
Patterson, Lena, West Middletown.
Pence, Jane, Avella.
Perrin, Pearl (Lowry), Washington.
Pelley, Henry.
Pelley, Annie (Arter).
Quinn, Anna, Ashland, Ohio.
Reed, Jennie, Burgettstown.

Rodgers, Harry.
Rodgers, Lou (Bates), Rea.
Russell, Leida, Hanlin Station.
Russell, Lizzie (Ciark), Burgettstown.
Reed, Blanche (Ritchie), Lawrenceville, Ill.
Ringler, Bessie, Burgettstown.
Robertson, L. Z., Colliers, W. Va.
Robertson, James, North Girard.
Reed, Willard, Eighty Four.
Ritchie, Leonard, Colliers, W. Va.
Richmond, Anna (Shirley), Wilkinsburg.
Rush, Viola.
Stephenson, Fred, Hanlin Station.
Stephenson, Zula (Norris), Steubenville, O.
Scott, Mona, Pittsburg.
Scott, Maude (Carter), Claysville.
Scott, Grace, Claysville.
Stewart, Dora (Lyle), Chester, W. Va.
Simpson, Mae (Lynch), Clendenning, W. Va.
Strain, Clara, Toronto, O.
Stewart, Callie (Anderson), Steubenville, O.
Scott, Will C., Steubenville, O.
Stephenson, Minnie (Wilson), Hanlin Sta.
Scott, Essa L. (Kuhns), Wilkinsburg.
Stephenson, James, Burgettstown.
Stewart, Leman, Hanlin Station.
Stephenson, Nannie (Jackson), Burgettstown.
Smith, Harry, Greenville.
Smith, R. C., Eldersville.
Smith, Dora (Bowers), Fremont, Texas.
Shields, Mary (Richardson), Steubenville, O.
Strain, Leon, Chicago, Ill.
Stewart, Oscar, Tulsa, Okla.
Snodgrass, Blanche (Baker), Hickory.
Sharp, Alice (Crawford), Midway.
Scott, Mina (Hunter), Turtle Creek.
Scott, Craig, Colliers, W. Va.
Stephenson, Mollie (Lynn), N. S. Pittsburg.
Stewart, John, Uhrichsville, O.
Studa, Clara (Scott), Burgettstown.
Stewart, Robert A., Wilkinsburg.
Stewart, Hettie (Bryan), New Cumberland, W. Va.
**Stephenson, Nettie (Fulton), Langdon,
 Alberta, Canada.**
Stephenson, Ratie (Ralston), Hanlin Station.
Steen, Etta (Stewart), Wilkinsburg,
Scott, Fannie, Hanlin Station.
Stevenson, Robert M., Billings, Montana.
Sutherland, Emma (Barnes), Avella.
Sutherland, Effie (Cassidy), Hanlin Station.
Smith, Mabel, Burgettstown.
Sanders, Belva (Mannon), Dunn's Station.
Secrist, Jennie (Zogg), Wellsburg, W. Va.
Strain, Mary (Burdette), Uhrichsville, O.
Schary, Mae, Pittsburg.
Simpson, Minnie, Burgettstown.
Smiley, Eva (Galbraith), Romeo, Col.

Simpson, Okie (Walker), Follansbee, W. Va.
 Scott, Anna (Criss), Pittsburg.
 Scott, Elza, Hanlin Station.
 Stephenson, Ada (McEwen), McDonald.
 Sanders, Martha (Fowler), Wellsburg, W.Va.
 Sturgeon, Margaret (Hunter), McDonald.
 Stephenson, Virginia (Smith), Pittsburg.
 Stephenson, Lida, Canonsburg.
 Stroud, Jennie(Criss), Eldersville.
 Sutherland, Anna(Irwin), Eldersville.
 Stephenson, Agnes, Hanlin Station,
 Smith, Mary(Russell), Burgettstown.
 Stephenson, Oliver, Chicago, Ill.
 Stephenson, Anna(Dimit), East Liverpool,0.
 Sanders, Letitia, Follansbee, W.Va.
 Scott, Mary (Bell), Florence.
 Silvers, Mary(Stievenart), Carnegie.
 Sanders, Lulu, Follansbee, W.Va.
 Schary, John, Eldersville.
 Schary, James, Eldersville.
 Sanders, Alberta(Lake), Follansbee, W. Va.
 Stephenson, Mary, Hanlin Station.
 Sutherland, Myrtle, Hanlin Station.
 Scott, John, Hanlin Station.
 Thompson, Elizabeth, Colliers, W. Va.
 Tuten, James, Tulsa, Okla.
 Tucker, Sadie, Eldersville.
 Tilton, Charles, West Middletown.
 Thorley, Anna(Carpenter), Williamsport.
 Thorley, Lola, Hanlin Station.
 Thomas, Rachel, Colliers, W. Va.
 Trimble, Anna(Gardner), Eldersville.
 Taylor, Effie(Briefer), Arlington, N. J.
 Thorley, Mary(Allen), Rennerdale.
 Truax, Ida, Hanlin Station.
 Tucker, Jennie, Boulder, Colorado.
 Tucker, Mary, Eldersville.
 Tucker, Bessie, Fort Collins, Colorado.
 Thompson, Christine, Colliers, W. Va.
 Tuten, Maude, Tulsa, Okla.
 Thorley, Fannie, Eldersville.
 Vance, Mae, Burgettstown.
 Vance, Nellie, Burgettstown.
 Weaver, Mary.
 Wheeler, B. M., Hanlin Station.
 Wheeler, Paul, Colliers. W.Va.
 Wright, Geo. A., Colliers, W.Va.
 Wright, Jean, Moundsville, W.Va.
 Wells, Alice, Pittsburg.
 Wilson, W. P., Washington.
 Westlake, E. F., Washington.
 Wright, Mazie(Freit), McDonald.
 Walker, Nan, Eldersville.
 Wright, Mary, Hanlin Station.
 Wright, Beatrice, McDonald.
 Walker, Clifford, Hollidays Cove, W.Va.
 Wheeler, Birdie(Perrine), Wilkinsburg.

Wilson, Hannah(McKee), Pittsburg, 20 Ward.
 Ward, Brady, New Cumberland, W.Va.
 Wright, Ina(Myers), Dennison, 0.
 Wirt, Lillie, Hanlin Station.
 Wirt, Kizzie, Hanlin Station.
 Weaver, Clara(Campbell), Colliers, W.Va.
 Woodrow, Mary, Burgettstown,
 Walker, Manie, Hanlin Station.
 Ward, Dean.
 Weaver, Lida.
 Walker, Mary, Eldersville.

DECEASED STUDENTS

Abercrombie, Jennie
 Barber, Leona(Jarvis)
 Cosgrove, Fred
 Campbell, Emma
 Criss, Anna
 Cassidy, Mamie
 Danley, Stark
 Danley, Ward
 Drake, Frank
 Fulton, A. W.
 Gillespie, Eva(Criss)
 Gault, Percy
 Mercer, Louella
 Martin, Dora(McMurray)
 Marquis, Lizzie(Lyle)
 Manson, Reed
 Morrison, Linnie
 McCracken, Margaret
 McMechen, Lulu
 McCalmont, Jennie(Fulton)
 McCalmont, Lulu
 McCarrell, John M.
 McCracken, Sallie
 Robertson, Eugene
 Sutherland, John
 Stewart, Sadie(McQuiston)
 Scott, Jessie(Anderson)
 Smith, Oscar
 Scott, Anna
 Scott, Anna Mary
 Sanders, Mary(Latimer)
 Simpson, Anna
 Schary, Mary
 Hanlin, Kate
 Hanlin, Tracy
 Headington, Eliza
 Hunter, Margaret
 Johnston, Anna(Harrah)
 Jackson, Charles D.
 Jackson, Harry
 Love, Clara
 Noah, Everett
 Pyle, Minnie
 Porter, Laura
 Purdy, Hettie

800 AT REUNION OF ELDERSVILLE NORMAL 1881 - 1910

At the reunion of the students and teachers of the Eldersville Normal School, Friday, July 15, 1910, held in Cooper's Grove near Eldersville, over 800 people turned out in honor of the occasion. The forenoon was given over entirely to the meeting of old friends and former classmates. In the afternoon several addresses were made.

Early in the morning, people began to arrive at the grove on the H. C. Cooper property in the village near the old school building where the normal school has been held for years. Long before noon, the grove was filled with humanity. At noon, dinner was served picnic style. The hospitality of the Eldersville folk was shown when the dinner was spread, the outlay containing everything that goes to make up a good picnic dinner. Much of the provision was left over and lunch was served in the evening. Many of the persons present remained in the grove for a festival which was held by the members of the Bethel M. P. Church, the proceeds to be used for the benefit of the new church being erected to replace the one destroyed by fire last winter.

After dinner had been served and the devotional exercises conducted by the Rev. T. W. Calhouer, Dr. Megahan, of Eldersville, made the address of welcome. In this, Mr. Megahan gave a short history of the founding of the school and showed what benefit was derived from it. He also told of how the citizens of the village looked forward to the opening of the school and how the homes welcomed the students. His address was timely and to the point. It was well received by a captive audience.

The Rev. Chalmers Fulton of Youngstown, Ohio, and a former student of the school, made the response to this address. The response was followed by an address by Attorney Samuel Amspoker of Washington who taught at the school two terms, 1881 and 1882, three years previous to the time Mr. Stevenson organized the school.

The Rev. W. R. Thompson of Frankfort, president of the Frankfort Academy, made an address in which he showed the value of the Normal School. He also advised the citizens of the community to give their best support to the school inasmuch as the children of the neighborhood can be kept at home and under home influence. He also showed the good that can come from such a school as the Eldersville Normal and made a plea for its upbuilding.

Following this address, E. F. Westlake, principal of the Fifth Ward School, Washington, and a member of the class of 1899 of the Normal School, made a proposition to the students and the citizens present, to erect a new building in Eldersville which can be called a home for the normal school, this building to be a monument to the late R. P. Stevenson, who founded the school and who taught it for 19 consecutive years. In this address, Mr. Westlake stated that the school board of Jefferson Township should act in conjunction with the students in obtaining a new school building. The building would be used by the township during the winter months and by the Normal during the summer. It was suggested that the students give at least a dollar each and as much more as they saw fit.

Speaking on the needs of a permanent home for the Normal School, Attorney N. R. Criss of the Pittsburg bar, and a former teacher and student in the school, made a short address. Following this, Elza Scott, the present principal of the school, named a committee to further plans of raising the money with which to erect the building as a monument to Mr. Stevenson. Persons named were: W. P. Wilson, of Washington; C. V. Melvin, Hanlin Station; E. F. Westlake of Washington; Dr. Geo. McCracken, Florence; and F. M. Barber of Burgettstown. This committee expects to arrange a meeting soon to confer with the school directors for the carrying out of this plan.

Despite the fact that the weather was ideal and the large crowd apparently enjoyed the day to its fullest extent, there was present a feeling that something was lacking to make the reunion complete. This feeling was caused by the death of the man who was known and held in the highest esteem by every person who attended the normal school during the first 20 years of its existence, R. P. Stevenson. Every speaker talked feelingly of the man who led this school for years and of the work that he started which has resulted in much good. In honor of his memory, the 800 persons present gave the Chautauqua salute.

Excellent music was furnished throughout the day by the Avella Cornet Band of 24 pieces under the leadership of Edward McCreary. The band, which is considered one of the best in the county, played popular music and was loudly applauded. Effie Brieser, formerly of Eldersville, sang several vocal solos which were well received. Upon the entrances to the town from all directions, banners were strung bearing the word "WELCOME". Following the afternoon exercises, students visited their former rooming places in groups. They went from place to place, recalling the many happy days spent therein. Several classes also held informal reunions on the grounds. The class of 1899 had badges with the year, etc., and had a picture taken during the day. More than 30 members of this class attended the reunion. Each student was given a badge of the old normal school, bearing its colors, blue and gold. A small booklet containing the names of the students with their addresses and also a history of the school was given to each student.

A vote of thanks was extended to Henry Cooper who kindly offered the use of his grove for the occasion. The reunion was brought to a close by a short address by Elza Scott, expressing his confidence in the old normal school and extending his thanks to all those who had assisted in making the reunion a success.

The foundation for the normal school which has been in existence in Eldersville for a quarter of a century, was laid by Attorney Samuel Amspoker of Washington, Pennsylvania. Mr. Amspoker was a student at W. & J. College and owing to the fact that he had been brought up in the Eldersville region and attended the common schools of this section during his early life, he came here in the spring of 1881 to secure students for a normal class. Mr. Amspoker was then working his way through college and made an appeal for students for his normal school. The residents of the Eldersville region responded to his appeal and as a result, the first class of this well established school was taught in what is known as "Centennial Hall" in the year 1881. After the year 1882, no school was taught until the year 1886. On an April morning in the spring of 1886, R. P. Stevenson of Burgettstown, now deceased, who was known as one of the best instructors in the county, began the re-organization of

the normal school which had been started in 1881. He began the search for pupils and made a house-to-house canvass. In this manner, he secured sufficient enrollment to open up the old school again. In speaking of his experience some years ago, Mr. Stevenson had stated that the first place he visited was at the homes of Frank Porter, the Hanlins, Stevensons, Crisses, Cosgroves and others. That afternoon he went to the region of Bethel Church among the Scotts, Melvins, Steens, Magees and others and in this way secured many names whereby he re-established the Eldersville Normal School which has continued to prosper for the past twenty-five years.

The Eldersville Normal, though moderately small, is well located in the quiet little village of Eldersville. The town has a high altitude and is dry. The school is away from the objectionable influences of the larger towns and from this fact alone, it has made the school popular.

For nineteen years, Mr. Stevenson continued to teach in this school every summer and part of the time he taught in the country and town schools during the winter term. In the year 1905, he decided to take a rest and secured Elza Scott, then assistant principal in the public schools of Burgettstown, to take charge of the Eldersville Normal. Mr. Scott, that year, was assisted by J. F. Grubbs, then principal of the Burgettstown schools. He is now teaching in the State of Oregon. Mr. Scott has been in charge of the school since 1905. Since the first year, Mr. Scott has been assisted in the work by C. R. Bane, who for the past three years was principal of the Morris Township High School at Prosperity. He was last week elected principal of the Claysville schools.

During the nineteen years Mr. Stevenson was in charge of the school, he was assisted by W. C. Martin, N. R. Criss, A. G. McCracken, Hallie B. Criss (now Mrs. A.A. Taylor of Midway), Mabel Reed, H. G. Noah, C. V. Melvin and G. A. McCracken.

During the quarter of a century of the existence of this school, more than 500 students have attended.

A Reunion of the Eldersville Normal

A Reunion of the ELDERSVILLE NORMAL SCHOOL, celebrating the Twenty-fifth anniversary, will be held at Eldersville, Pa., on FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1910. This also includes Teachers and Students of the Normal School of 1881-1882.

You are requested to bring a well-filled basket, as one of the features will be an out-door dinner.

Each person receiving a card will make special effort to notify others whom they think would care to attend.

EVERYBODY INVITED. Come one, come all.



Eldersville Normal School
1897





Eldersville Normal School - Circa 1900

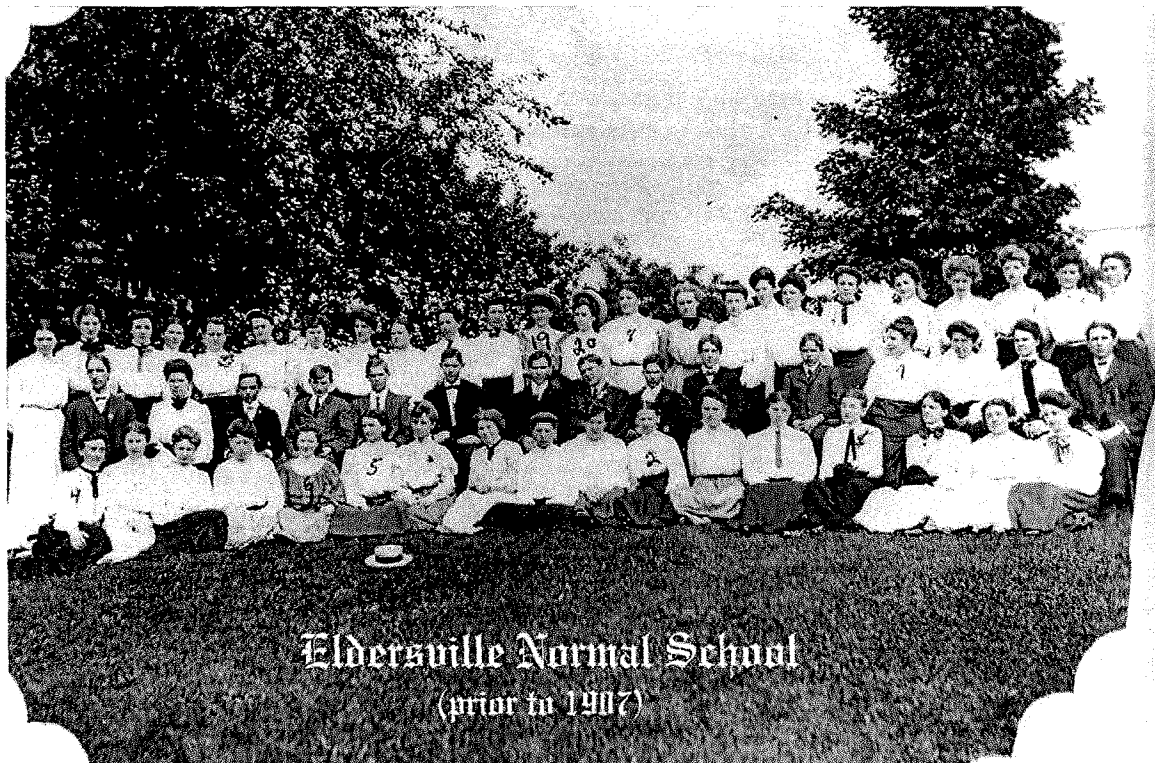
Rear standing left to right: Greta Melvin, Anne Sutherland Irwin, Chap Gardner, Anne Brown Irwin, Lillian Murchland and unknown woman.

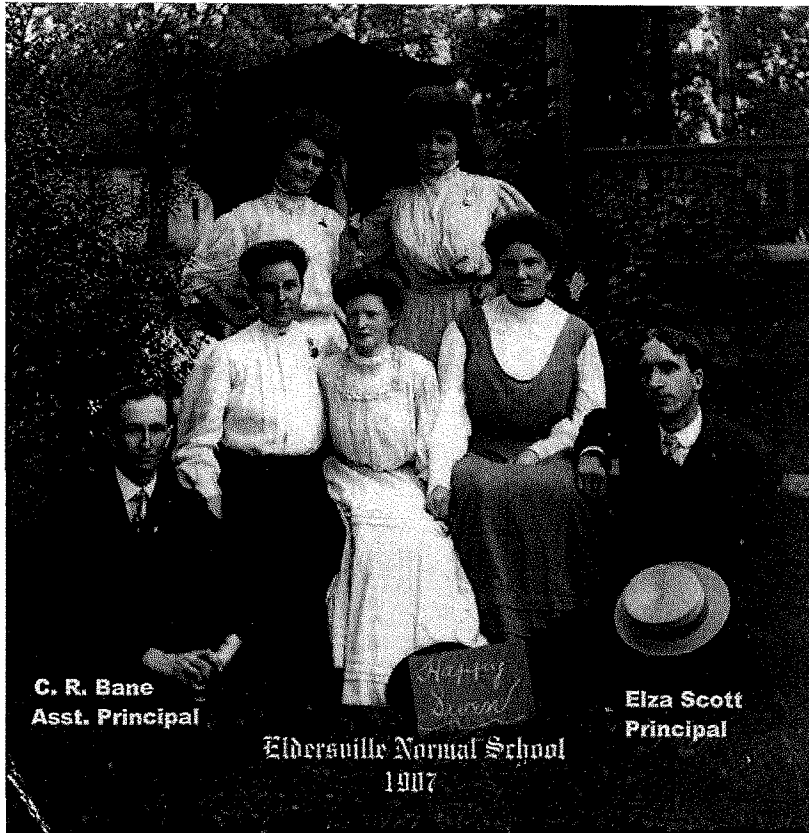
Middle row: Winifred McCleary, Bill Wilson (teacher, Miller School 1899-1901), Mary Sanders Latimer (teacher, Miller School 1897-1898) and Anne McClurg Swearingen

Front row: Clyde Melvin, Ed Westlake, unknown man and R. P. Stephenson



1st. row- Minnie Simpson, Stella Patterson, (?), (?), Beatrice McBride, Ida Campbell, Edna McMillen, Ada Ahms, Mary Thorley Mamie Schary, Eliza Murchland.
 2nd row: Kate Finnigan, (?), (?), Adrian Duessere, (?), Alvin Barnes, W. A. Barnes, Gillespie, (?), (?), Professor Grubbs
 3rd row: Eliza Scott, Mary Tucker Potts, (?), Flo Pyle, _Lerth, Orpha Buxton, Lerth, (?), Ida Freshwater, Mary Strain, Anna Hensler May Porter, Fanny Thorley, (?), (?), (?).
 4th row: Ida Truax Cheesebrough, Sylvia Cummon, Bertha Buxton Barnes, Awilda Cooper Campbell, Nellie Vance Kharas, Rose Dussere, Bertha Curry, Edna Fulton, Elva Curry, Ora Cassidy Carlisle.





C. R. Bane
Asst. Principal

Elza Scott
Principal

Eldersville Normal School
1907



Class of 1907

BARBER, ETHEL.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
CAMPBELL, IDA.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
CASBIDY, PEARLE.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
CHAPMAN, MAMIE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
CUNNINGHAM, EFFIE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
DORNAN, NELLIE.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
DORNAN, JESSIE.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
FULTON, EDNA.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
FRESHWATER, LIDA.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
FINNEGAN, KATE.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
JOHNSTON, BESSIE.....	Colliers, W. Va.
KING, JAMIE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
LEITH, ELIZABETH.....	Dinsmore, Pa.
LEITH, MARY.....	Dinsmore, Pa.
LANZ, CARRIE.....	Wellsburg, W. Va.
LEGGETT, MARIET.....	Avella, Pa.
McMILLAN, EDNA.....	Murdocksville, Pa.
MILLER, MINA.....	McDonald, Pa.
MENEELY, LILLIE.....	Avella, Pa.
McALISTER, JOHN.....	Avella, Pa.
McALISTER, JAMES.....	Avella, Pa.
MOORE, MARY.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
OGLEVEE, NELLIE.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
OGLEVEE, DAVID.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
PETTIBON, JENNIE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
PATTERSON, LENA.....	Rea, Pa.
PYLE, ELORA.....	Dinsmore, Pa.
PENCE, JANE.....	Avella, Pa.
SCHEARY, MARY.....	Eldersville, Pa.
STEPHENSON, MARY.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
SCHEARY, JOHN.....	Eldersville, Pa.
SUTHERLAND, MYRTLE.....	Hanlin Sta., Pa.
THORLEY, FRANCES.....	Eldersville, Pa.
TUCKER, MARY.....	Eldersville, Pa.
VANCE, NELLIE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.

On examination for certificates by the County Superintendent the last two years the class made the highest percentage in the county. Every effort will be made the coming term to maintain this high standard.



1908



ELZA SCOTT

23d Annual Session
Eldersville Normal School
Eldersville, Pa.



C. R. BANE

APRIL 27 -- JUNE 24



THE Twenty-third Annual Session of the Eldersville Normal School will open April 27th, 1908, closing June 24th; with an examination by the County Superintendent. The school will be conducted on the same general plan that has stood the test for twenty-two consecutive years.

No labor will be spared to make this the most successful term in the school's history. While all the branches taught in the public schools will receive careful attention, special stress will be laid on the following: Algebra and Civics, Theory and practical methods in teaching, Manuscript work and weekly reviews.

The grammar grade will be for the benefit of those not expecting to take the examination and not carrying more than five branches.

A forenoon class will be organized for the benefit of younger pupils provided a sufficient number desire to attend.



Students are urged to be present, if possible, at the opening of the term, as better work can be done both by the class and teachers when all start together.

No reduction in tuition will be given only where a greater portion of the term has been missed.

INSTRUCTORS

Elza Scott, Principal

C. R. Bane, Assistant

(Graduate of Grove City College and experienced in Normal and High School work.)

TUITION

Normal	\$9.00
Grammar Grade	5.00

BOARDING

May be procured in private families at very reasonable rates.

Also rooms for self-boarders.

For further information address

ELZA SCOTT,

Houston, Pa.





Front Row: Nellie Oglevee, Mary Walker, Edna McMillan, Mable Smith, Willa Criss, Bessie McCarty, Nellie Dornan, Prof. C. R. Bane
 Second Row: Prof. Eliza Scott, Lottie Dally, Etta Dixon, Mary Moore, Frances Thorley, Bessie Evans, Dee Dalley, Bertha Curry, Mamie Chapman, Verna Cain
 Third Row: Elizabeth ____, Flora Pyle, Ina Cochran, Blanche ____, Janie King, Anna ____, Eleanor McBride, ____, McBride, Anna ____, Lyda ____, Sanders, Lily Meneely, Mary ____, Jennie Pettibon, Myrtle Sutherland, Alice ____, James McAllester, Reed Manson
 Fourth Row: James Schary, ____, Jackson, Pearl Cassidy, Roscoe Barber, Ina Patterson, Lena Miller, Effie Cunningham, Nellie Vance



FRONT ROW: Leona Donovan, Myrtle Moore, Mark Kovak, Ida Adams, Thomas Thorley, Lillian Meneely

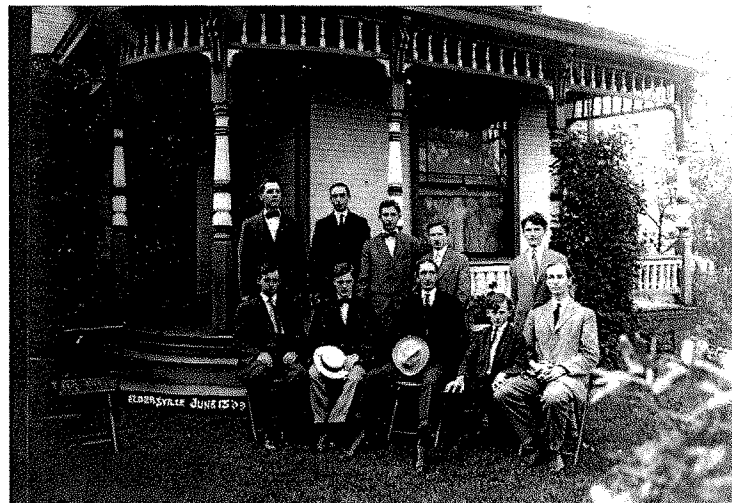
Anne Elliott, Ford Stephenson, Eliza Murchland, Pearl Cassidy.

SECOND ROW: Elza Scott-Prin., Mabel Smith, Christian Thompson, Nellie Vance, Mamie Walker, Eva Cain, Effie Cunningham, Ralph Craig, C. R. Bane- Asst. Prin.

THIRD ROW: Bessie Evans, Elva Carns, Barbara McBride, Lila Welch, Anna Hood, Martha Adams, Lenora Cochran, Mary Stevenson, Alice Perrin, Ethel Barber, Mary Weedron, Myrtle Sutherland, Juloretta Howell, Nellie Dornan, James Schary.

FOURTH ROW; Ella Dixon, Mary Moore, Lillian Leith, Linda Russell, Carrie Cox, Bertha Curry, Jennie Pettibone, Rosa Dussere, Anna Cain, Elva Pyle, Elizabeth Scott, Morris Bell, William Proudfit

BACK ROW: Adrian Dussere, James McAllister, Ned Hemphill.





1- James Schary 8- Gould Moore 15- 22- Mabel Andrews McFadden 29- Lillian Lerth 37-
 2- Viola Full 9- Francis Freshwater 16- Mary Walker Osburn 23- 30- Ann Cain
 3- Manie Walker Anderson 10- 17- W. Elza Scott 24- 31- Blanche Fullerton 38- Eliza Murchland
 4- Bessie McCarty 11- C. R. Bane 18- Fannie Thorley Patterson 25- Nellie Vance Kharis 32- Rosie Dussure
 5- 12- 19- 26- Nellie Dornan 33- 34-
 6- 13- Flo Pyles 20- Vena Cain 27- Selma Brunner McBride 35- Pearl Cassidy Melvin
 7- 14- Liza Heath 21- 28- Mary Moore Anderson 36- Effie Cunningham



1 - James Schary 4 - Flo Pyle
 2 - Pearl Cassidy 5 - Mary Walker
 3 - Myrtle Sutherland 6 - Eliza Murchland
 ELDERSVILLE 1910





Front row l - R: Clyde Walker, Samuel Neal, Clare Jackson, Harry McConnell, Fred Cassidy, John P. McNelly, Louis Duessere and Paul Stewart.

Second row: Elza Scott-Principal, Mary Conrad, Lillian Leith, Mabel Andrews, Sallie Lyons, Sara Mae Brown, Lela Miller, Mary Forney, Miss Donley and Florence Wolfe.

Third Row: Sylvia Bowers, Anna Cain, Annabelle Denny, William Proudfit, Mrs. Thomas Strain, Lawrence Bable, Margaret Emler, Bertha Barnes, Mrs. Vena Cain and Nellie Boyce.

Fourth row: (unknown), Bessie LaRue, Janet Denny, Elizabeth Johnson, Mary Croner, Dorothy Shields, Iva Miller and Lulu McCarty.



Eldersville Normal School

(date unknown)





THE
Ninth Annual Session
 OF THE
ELDERSVILLE
Normal and High School

Will begin April 16, 1894,
 And close June 22^d with an Examination
 by the County Superintendent.

The Normal Department will include instruction in all the Common School Branches, and Methods of Teaching, with careful attention to Manuscript Work.

The High School Department is designed especially for those who wish a more advanced course of study than that of the Normal Department, and will include instruction in Psychology, Higher Arithmetic, Algebra, Civil Government, General History, Book-keeping, &c.

It is designed to make Penmanship a leading feature of the school, in both departments.
A LESSON IN PENMANSHIP EVERY DAY.

In teaching Penmanship the aim will be not only to thoroughly teach the Art of Writing, but at the same time to develop a plan of teaching Penmanship practical to the Common Schools.

TUITION.

Normal, including Penmanship,	-	\$ 9 00
High School, " "	-	10 00
Book-keeping,	-	7 00
Penmanship (40 lessons)	-	2 00

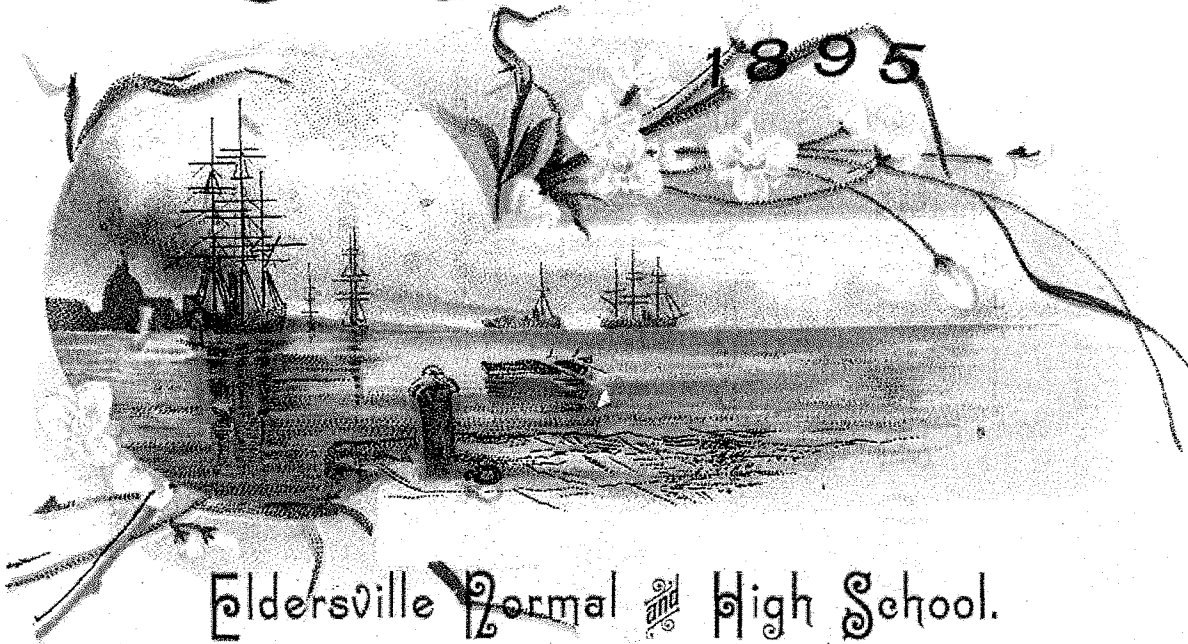
INSTRUCTORS

R. P. STEVENSON,
 Normal, High School and Book-keeping.
A. G. McCracken,
 Penmanship.

For further information address,
R. P. STEVENSON,
 South Burgettstown, Pa.

July 10

10th Annual Session.



Eldersville Normal and High School.

C-301 ENTERPRISE CALL PR NT., BURGETTSTOWN, PA

APRIL 15--JUNE 21.

—THE—
10th Annual Session

—OF THE—
ELDERSVILLE
NORMAL AND HIGH SCHOOL

Will begin April 15, 1895, and close June 21, with an Examination by the County Superintendent.

• •
The Normal Department

Will include instruction in all the Common School Branches, Methods of Teaching, Psychology, &c.

The High School Department

Is intended for those not sufficiently advanced to undertake all of the Teachers' Course.

Manuscript Work

Will receive special attention; and no labor will be spared to make this the most successful term in the history of the school.

Additional Instructors will be employed as needed.

Tuition.

High School,	\$ 4.00
Normal,	7.00
Bookkeeping and Commercial Arithmetic,	5.00

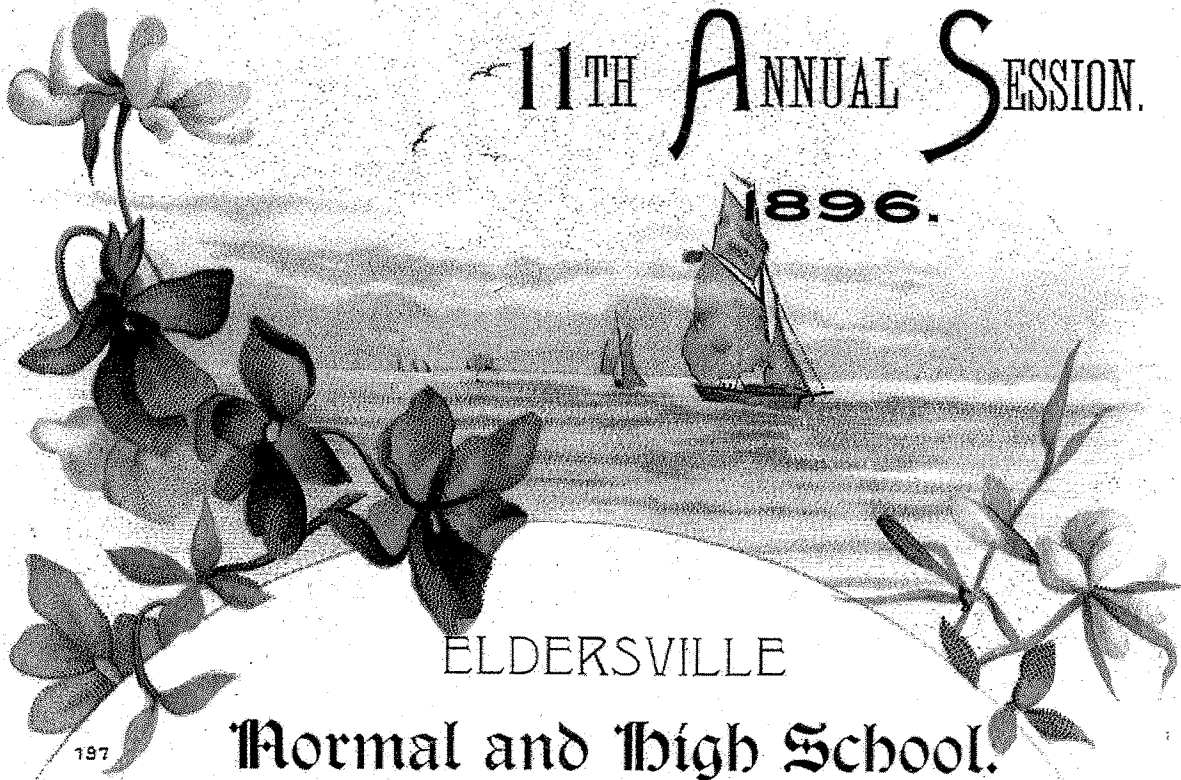
Boarding

May be procured in private families at very reasonable rates. Also rooms for self boarders.

For further information address

R. P. STEVENSON,

SOUTH BURGETTSTOWN, PA.



THE ENTERPRISE PRINT.

April 20--June 26.

THE
11th Annual Session

OF THE
ELDERSVILLE

NORMAL AND HIGH SCHOOL

Will begin April 20, 1896, and close June 26, with an Examination by the County Superintendent.

The Normal Department

Will include instruction in all the Common School Branches, Methods of Teaching, Psychology, &c.

The High School Department

Is intended for those not sufficiently advanced to undertake all of the Teachers' Course.

Manuscript Work

Will receive special attention; and no labor will be spared to make this the most successful term in the history of the school.

Additional Instructors will be employed as needed.

Tuition.

High School.	\$ 4.00
Normal,	7.00
Bookkeeping and Commercial Arithmetic,	5.00

Boarding

May be procured in private families at very reasonable rates. Also rooms for self-boarders.

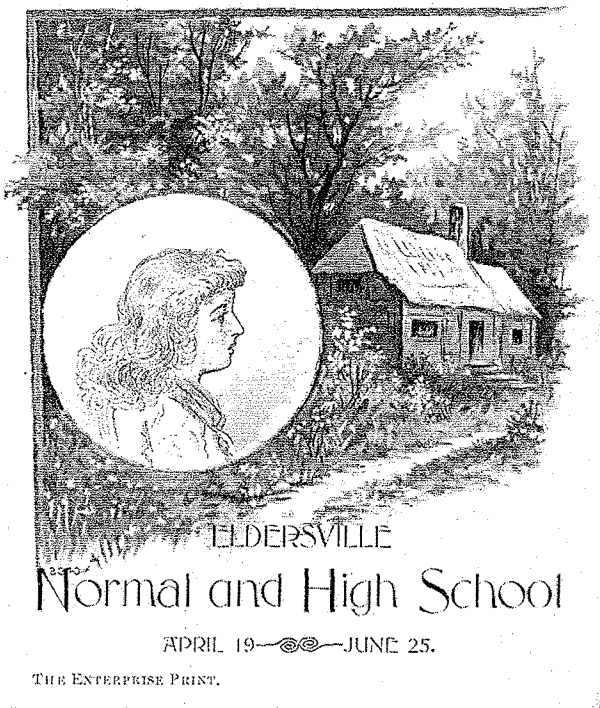
For further information address

R. P. STEVENSON,

SOUTH BURGETTSTOWN, PA.

12th ANNUAL SESSION

1897.



... THE

12th Annual Session

... OF THE ...

ELDERSVILLE

NORMAL AND HIGH SCHOOL

Will begin April 19, 1897, and close June 25, with an Examination by the County Superintendent.

○ ○ ○

The Normal Department

Will include instruction in all the Common School Branches, Methods of Teaching, Psychology, &c.

The High School Department

Is intended for those not sufficiently advanced to take all of the Teachers' Course.

Manuscript Work

Will receive special attention; and no labor will be spared to make this the most successful term in the history of the school.

Additional instructors will be employed as needed.

Tuition.

High School,	\$ 4.00
Normal,	7.00
Bookkeeping and Commercial Arithmetic,	5.00

Boarding

May be procured in private families at very reasonable rates. Also rooms for self-boarders.

For further information address

R. P. STEVENSON.

SOUTH BURGESS TOWN, PA.

APRIL 15, 1901 JUNE 20.



ELDERSVILLE
NORMAL SCHOOL.

SIXTEENTH
ANNUAL SESSION.

TEACHERS:
R. P. STEVENSON,
E. C. NOAH,
MABEL B. REED.

cates. Instruction in all the common school studies and in **Methods, Vocal Music and Drawing.**

A thorough study, by daily recitation, of the principles of music and drawing, with special reference to methods.

Tuition, \$8.50.



Penmanship.

This department will be in charge of Miss Mabel B. Reed. The course will consist of a series of thirty-two lessons—four lessons each week for eight consecutive weeks, thus giving more instruction than is generally given in a business college.

Tuition, \$3.00.



Academic.

Classes will be arranged in this department to meet the wishes of students.

Tuition Special.

THE Sixteenth Annual Session of the Eldersville Normal School will begin April 15 and close June 20 with an examination by F. R. Hall, county superintendent.

Drawing and Penmanship will be taught by Miss Mabel B. Reed, a graduate of Zanerian Art College, of Columbus, Ohio. Drawing without additional cost to students.



High School.

For those who do not expect to teach, or who are not sufficiently advanced for the Teachers' Course.

Tuition, \$6.00 and \$4.00.



Teachers' Normal.

For teachers and those who expect to take the examination for teachers' certifi-

Lecturers.

PROF. F. R. HALL, County Superintendent, Washington, Pa.

REV. J. C. CARPENTER, Eldersville, Pa.

DR. L. C. BOTKIN, Burgettstown, Pa.

REV. A. W. CALDWELL, Burgettstown, Pa.

REV. A. F. ALEXANDER, Florence, Pa.



Boarding at very reasonable rates in private families, or rooms for self-boarders.

For further information address

R. P. STEVENSON,
BURGETTSTOWN, PA.



ELDERSVILLE NORMAL SCHOOL



ELZA SCOTT, Principal

THE Twenty-seventh Consecutive Annual Session of the Eldersville Normal School will open May 6, 1912, closing June 21st, with an examination by the County Superintendent.

All the common school branches, including Algebra, Civics, Theory and Pennsylvania History, will be taught.

Manuscript work and weekly reviews will be a special feature.

The grammar grade will be for the benefit of those not expecting to take the examination and not carrying more than five branches.

A forenoon class will be organized for younger pupils, providing a sufficient number desire to attend.

Students are urged to be present, if possible, at the opening of the term, as better work can be done both by the class and teachers when all start together.

The following books will be used in Theory and Methods: For Provisional—"Two Centuries of Pennsylvania History," Sharpless; "The Teacher and the School," Colgrove. For Professional—"McMurray's How to Study," in addition to the above.

Applicants for Professional Certificates are required to pass an examination in any two of the following subjects: Music, English Literature, Physical Geography, General History, Plane Geometry.

EXAMINATION DATES

Permanent..... June 13-14
Professional..... June 20
Provisional..... June 21

TUITION

Normal.....per week, \$2.00; per term, \$10.00
Other Grades.....per term, \$3.00
Additional charges for the additional Professional and Permanent branches.

BOARDING

May be procured in private families at reasonable rates. Also rooms for self-boarders.

For further information address

ELZA SCOTT, COLLIERS, W. VA.

SPECIAL--All students who want any of the books in Theory will please notify me before the opening of the term.

Class of 1911

ANDREWS, MABEL.....	Cliff Mine, Pa.
BRUNNER, ZELMA.....	Hanlin, Pa.
BURKETT, WILLIAM.....	Midway, Pa.
CRONER, MARY.....	Midway, Pa.
CASSIDY, FRED.....	Hanlin, Pa.
CUNNINGHAM, EFFIE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
COX, CARRIE.....	Imperial, Pa.
CAIN, VENA.....	Florence, Pa.
CASSIDY, PEARL.....	Hanlin, Pa.
COOK, ALBERT.....	Bulger, Pa.
COCHRAN, LENORE.....	Midway, Pa.
CURRY, BERTHA.....	Hanlin, Pa.
CAIN, ANNA.....	Florence, Pa.
DUSSERE, ROZA.....	Hanlin, Pa.
DAVIDSON, CORA.....	Midway, Pa.
DONALDSON, HOWARD.....	Bulger, Pa.
EVANS, BESSIE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
GLASS, CLARA.....	McDonald, Pa.
HEMPHILL, NED.....	Wellsburg, W. Va.
HERD, ANNA.....	Midway, Pa.
JACKSON, CLARE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
KARNS, EVA.....	McDonald, Pa.
LASH, BYRON.....	Bealsville, Pa.
LEITH, ELIZABETH.....	Dinsmore, Pa.
LEITH, LILLIAN.....	Dinsmore, Pa.
MCCUNE, OELLA.....	Bealsville, Pa.
MILLER, LELLA.....	Florence, Pa.
MCCARTY, BESSIE.....	Hanlin, Pa.
MATCHETT, EMMA.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
MENEELY, LILLIE.....	Avella, Pa.
MOORE, MARY.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
OLIVER, ELIZABETH.....	McDonald, Pa.
PERRIN, HOBART.....	Avella, Pa.
PERRIN, ALICE.....	Avella, Pa.
PYLE, FLORA.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
PROUDFIT, WILLIAM.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
REED, JENNIE.....	Burgettstown, Pa.
SCOTT, ETHELYN.....	Hanlin, Pa.
SCHARY, JAMES.....	Eldersville, Pa.
SIBBELS, DORTHA.....	Hanlin, Pa.
SUTHERLAND, MYRTLE.....	Hanlin, Pa.
STEVENSON, MARY.....	Hanlin, Pa.
SCOTT, OLIVE.....	Bulger, Pa.
THOMPSON, CHRISTINE.....	Colliers, W. Va.
VANCE, NELLIE.....	Cross Creek, Pa.



ELZA SCOTT, Principal

THE Twenty-eighth Consecutive Annual Session of the Eldersville Normal School will open May 5th, 1913, closing June 25th, with an examination by the County Superintendent.

All the common school branches, including Algebra, Civics, Theory and Pennsylvania History, will be taught.

Manuscript work and weekly reviews will be a special feature.

The grammar grade, will be for the benefit of those not taking the examination and not carrying more than five branches.

A forenoon class will be organized for younger pupils, providing a sufficient number desire to attend.

Students are urged to be present, if possible, at the opening of the term, as better work can be done both by the class and teachers when all start together.

The following books will be used in Theory and Methods: For Provisional—"Two Centuries of Pennsylvania History," Sharpless; "The Teacher and the School," Colgrove. For Professional—"Seeley's New School Management," in addition to the above.

Applicants for Professional Certificates are required to pass an examination in any two of the following subjects: Music, English Literature, Physical Geography, General History, Plane Geometry, Botany and Drawing.



F. H. DAUBENSPECK, Ass't

EXAMINATION DATES

Permanent..... June 12-13
 Professional..... June 20-21
 Provisional..... June 25

TUITION

Normal..... per week, 2.50, per term \$10.00
 Other Grades..... per term, \$5.00
 Additional charges for Professional and Permanent branches

BOARDING

May be procured in private families at reasonable rates. Also rooms for self-boarders

For further information address
 ELZA SCOTT, Hanlin Station, Pa.

SPECIAL—All students who want any of the books in Theory will please notify me before the opening of the term.

Class of 1912

ANDREWS, MABEL..... Enlow, Pa.
 BROWN, MAE..... Avella, Pa.
 BURNS, BERTHA..... Burgettstown, Pa.
 BOYCE, NELLIE..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 BECK, ROY..... Bulger, Pa.
 COCHRAN LENORE..... Midway, Pa.
 CAIN, ANNA..... Florence, Pa.
 CONRAD, MARY..... Burgettstown, Pa.
 CRONER, MARY..... Midway, Pa.
 CALN VENA..... Florence, Pa.
 CASSIDY, FRED..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 CLEMENS, L. P..... Burgettstown, Pa.
 DUSSERE, ROZA..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 DENNY, ANNABEL..... Rea, Pa.
 DONLEY, MAMIE..... West Alexander, Pa.
 DONALDSON, HOWARD..... Bulger, Pa.
 DUSSERE, LOUIS..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 EVANS, BESSIE..... Burgettstown, Pa.
 EMLER, MARGARET..... Burgettstown, Pa.
 FORNEY, MARY..... Rea, Pa.
 FORNEY, E H..... Rea, Pa.
 HOGAN, MARY..... Oakdale, Pa.
 JACKSON, CLARE..... Burgettstown, Pa.
 KARNs, EVA..... McDonald, Pa.
 MOORE MARY..... Burgettstown, Pa.
 MENEELY, LILLIE..... Avella, Pa.
 McCARTY, BESSIE..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 MILLER, LELA..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 McCARTY, LULU..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 McCONNELL, HARRY..... Avella, Pa.
 NEAL, SAMUEL..... Bulger, Pa.
 OLIVER, ELIZABETH..... McDonald, Pa.
 PERRIN, ALICE..... Avella, Pa.
 PERRIN, HOBART..... Avella, Pa.
 SCOTT, OLIVE..... Midway, Pa.
 SUTHERLAND, MYRTLE..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 SHIELDS, DORTHA..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 SCOTT ETHELYN..... Hanlin Station, Pa.
 TRUAX, BESSIE..... Hanlin Station, Pa.

THE Twenty-ninth Consecutive Annual Session of the ELDERSVILLE NORMAL SCHOOL will open MAY 11th, 1914, closing June 26th with an examination by the County Superintendent.

All the common school branches, including Algebra, Civics, Theory and Pennsylvania History, will be taught.

Manuscript Work and Weekly Reviews will be a special feature.

The Grammar Grade will be for the benefit of those not taking the examination and not carrying more than five branches.

A forenoon class will be organized for younger pupils, providing a sufficient number desire to attend.

Students are urged to be present, if possible, at the opening of the term, as better work can be done both by the class and teachers when all start together.

The following books will be used in Theory and Methods: For Provisional—Morris' "History of Pennsylvania," "Seeley's New School Management." For Professional—Gaerber's "Current Educational Activities" and Colgrove's "The Teacher and the School," in addition to those for provisional.

Applicants for Professional Certificates are required to pass an examination in any two of the following subjects: Music, English Literature, Physical Geography, General History, Plane Geometry, Botany and Drawing.

EXAMINATION DATES

Permanent.....June 11-12
 Professional.....July 2-3
 Provisional.....June 26

TUITION

Normal.....per week \$2.50, per term \$10.00
 Other Grades.....per term \$5.00
 Additional Charges for Professional and Permanent branches

BOARDING

May be procured in private families at reasonable rates. Also rooms for self-boarders.

For further information address
 ELZA SCOTT, Colliers, W. Va.

SPECIAL—All students who want any of the books in Theory will please notify me before the opening

Class of 1913

Andrews, Mabel.....Enlow, Pa.
 Brown, Mae.....Avella, Pa.
 Boyce, Nellie.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 Barnes, Bertha.....Avella, Pa.
 Bowers, Sylvia.....Cross Creek, Pa.
 Babel, Lawrence.....Bulger, Pa.
 Cochran, Lenore.....Midway, Pa.
 Cain, Vena.....Florence, Pa.
 Cain, Anna.....Florence, Pa.
 Croner, Mary.....Midway, Pa.
 Conrad, Mary.....Burgettstown, Pa.
 Cook, Ruth.....McDonald, Pa.
 Cassidy, Fred.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 Donley, Mamie.....West Alexander, Pa.
 Denny, Annabel.....Rea, Pa.
 Denny, Janet.....Rea, Pa.
 Dussere, Adrian.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 Dussere, Louis.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 Emler, Margaret.....Burgettstown, Pa.
 Forney, Mary.....Rea, Pa.
 Johnson, Elizabeth.....Rea, Pa.
 Jackson, Clare.....Burgettstown, Pa.
 La Rue, Bessie.....Avella, Pa.
 Lyons, Sara.....Florence, Pa.
 Leith, Lillian.....Dinmore, Pa.
 Miller, Lela.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 McCarty, Lulu.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 McConnell, Harry.....Avella, Pa.
 McNally, John.....Cross Creek, Pa.
 Miller, Iva.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 Neal, Samuel.....Bulger, Pa.
 Proudfit, William.....Burgettstown, Pa.
 Pletincks, Dolly.....McDonald, Pa.
 Shields, Dortha.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 Strain, Irene.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 Smiley, Lena.....Burgettstown, Pa.
 Stewart, Paul.....Eldersville, Pa.
 Swarts, Roy.....Hanlin Station, Pa.
 Walker, Clyde.....Eldersville, Pa.

Our best record was made last year, only three failing to get certificates—seven getting professionals.

Notes