

The old hotel now owned by Gregg Brothers was kept by Caleb Harvey, A. L. Williams, Stephen Earnest 1840 to '45 and Jacob Weltner. We have not any knowledge, who originally carried on the Chess tavern other than at one time, George Rose, the older, had it rented; then it was converted into a cabinet shop, where Abe Elliot and John Brownlee did work for Cyrus Huston. It was in this room where Huston and lawyer T. J. Fox Alden had their headquarters during the long litigation with A. B. Chess, in determining the title to the farm on which the lower part of this city is now built, and which had been willed to Mrs. Chess by her father, Adam Wickerman.

George Rose also kept a tavern and cake and beer stand in the old frame house which stood on what is now Brown's corner, Main and Second streets.

The tavern already mentioned, built by George Trout on Main street, short distance below the Episcopal church, had in its day several landlords, such as George Trout, Joseph Caldwell, A. T. Gregg and John Chessrown. The old City Hotel, which has already been mentioned, was built by Washington Palmer, in 1811, just before he went into the army with Captain James Warne's company. Joseph Hamilton, Henry Wilson, Caleb Harvey and W. H. Miller were landlords in this tavern.

Abram Teeters had a tavern for many years at the corner of Second and Railroad streets. After his death it was kept by his son, Dan Teeters. The house was used for a depot after the building of the railroad, and on the completion of the present depot, the old tavern house was torn away.

The brick house, corner Main and Fourth streets, was erected by James Mercer prior to 1834. He used the corner for a store room, in which he kept the first exclusive shoe store in town. He was drowned at the wharf, mouth of Fourth street, by his horse plunging into the river. After his death the house was used as a tavern by Mrs. Backhouse, Shively Hazelbaker, Abram Fulton, Jas. P. Shepler, T. B. Wilgus and the present landlord, and perhaps others whose names we cannot recall.

residences in the valley, and its design and finish reflects great credit on the owner, architect and builder.

Thomas' son Resin now resides in the town of Bellewood below Monongahela City, although his large landed estate is situated in Fallowfield and Carroll townships. He is one of Washington county's most successful farmers. His wife is a daughter of the late John Eckles, a well-known mechanic in early days. She is a sister of Hamilton Eckles, a well-known river man, whose wife was Lucinda, daughter of the late Samuel Reeves, of Rostraver township, Westmoreland county, who lived and died on the farm now owned by his son Samuel.

One of Thomas Frye's daughters married John Wilson, who resided near the site of the old Horseshoe meeting house and was a wealthy and successful farmer. He is deceased. Another daughter married Noah Jones, of Bentleyville. Rev. O. P. Hargrave's wife is also a daughter; her former husband was Stephen Thomas, long known in his connection with Lock No. 4. Another daughter married Andrew Hazelbaker, now deceased. The remaining members of the family of Thomas Frye we cannot trace.

Nancy, daughter of Abraham Frye, was the wife of the late Noah Speers, who laid out Bellevernon, and whose history in detail will be given in another place.

Samuel, brother of Abraham Frye, occupied the high lands of the Frye family. He built and died in the old frame house that stood near the new one erected by Jackson Frye, and now owned by James Sampson. Samuel married Christina, daughter of Henry Speers, the older. They had several sons and daughters. Isaac moved to Illinois, where he died many years ago. Samuel married Elizabeth, better known as "Aunt Betty," daughter of the late Captain Daniel Van Voorhis by his third wife, and only sister of the late Isaac Van Voorhis. They lived in the old log house which stood near the brick house built by their son Solomon, and on the farm now owned by William Rogers, it being a part of the original Frye homestead.

The first quarterly conference of Cookstown and Bellevernon Station was held in Cookstown, September 7th, 1850. Members present were Rev. Z. H. Costen, P. E.; Rev. J. F. Nessly, preacher in charge; Samuel Hassler, local preacher; exhorter, James Davidson, class leaders, Jesse Jackman, Michael Slotterbeck, William Winters and James Davidson. At this meeting Dr. C. H. Connally, S. McCrory, M. Slotterbeck, John Mullin and Adam Shunk were elected stewards for the circuit; and on the recommendation of the charge at Bellevernon, Mr. James Davidson was licensed to preach the Gospel.

The Second Quarterly Conference of this station was held in Bellevernon, December 21st, 1850, present Rev. Z. H. Coston, P. E.; Rev. J. F. Nessly, preacher in charge; James Davidson, local preacher; John Swearer, exhorter; class-leaders, Thomas Fields, Jesse Jackman, Geo. B. Cook, Anthony Hazelbaker and William Winters. At this meeting in addition to Frederick Shively and Anthony Hazelbaker already acting Van Reeves, Adam Shunk, John Mullin, William Lewis and John Swearer were elected trustees to the new church in Bellevernon. The trustees purchased the lot on Water Street above Strawberry Alley from Wm. Eberheart for \$125, and sold to him the old church for \$300. On the first day of March 1852, Wm. Eberheart, the contractor for the new church, rendered to the trustees his account, viz:—Wm. Eberheart in account with the M. E. Church, of Bellevernon, Dr.—To cash as subscription, \$69; U. Ward amount subscribed, \$10; Hart-ranft subscription, \$5; Phillip Smock, \$2; cash as per subscription, \$80.50; L. M. Speers, \$15; L. M. Speers for J. Beazell, \$5; cash as per subscription, \$13; Thomas Fields' subscription, \$5; Ziba Whiting's reduction on stone, \$4; Methodist Church per bill, \$300; Wm. Eberheart his amount as subscription for self and hands, \$228; Ziba Whiting's order for amount, \$42; cash as per subscription receipts, \$156; total, \$934.50. Cr.—By one lot, \$125; Ziba Whiting building church per contract of Wm. Eberheart, \$775; Uriah Ward amount assumed

February, 1866:—Samuel Reeves, Van Reeves, James Davidson, Robert Davidson, John Watson, Wm. Winters, Milton G. Ebbert, Anthony Hazelbaker, Fred Shibler, John Mullin, Thomas Edwards, J. T. Roley, Chas. Bolse, Davis Shepler, O. H. P. Scott, Adam Shunk, Samuel Sutton, Benjamin Hughes, C. B. Chalfant, Wm. Gaskill, W. H. Jones, W. H. Johnson, John R. Powell, John N. Beazell, Wm. Kyle, J. J. Zimmerman, D. P. Housman, Church Porter, Curtiss Reppert, Amon Bronson. James Davidson has been recording Steward since March 10th, 1865, with the exception of one year. The Rev. James Davidson with John Watson, Davis Shepler, David Fetz and Howard M. Fish, have been in this church as local preachers. The organ was first introduced into the church music in the fall of 1866. From contributions and the proceeds of a concert held by Miss Lizzie Van Voorhis and others, in the old frame Church, sufficient funds were raised to purchase the small organ still in use in the Sabbath School. Lizzie Van Voorhis was the organist until the new organ was placed in the brick church.

In a former article we said that the lot on which the new frame church on Water street was erected had been purchased from William Eberheart. The title we find, however, came through L. M. Speer and Jane, his wife, by deed of conveyance to Van Reeves and others, the then trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church of Bellevernon, dated November 20, 1852, and by deed from Noah Speers and others, the then trustees of said church, dated October 2, 1867, to Robert C. Schmertz. Robert C. Schmertz and Mary Elizabeth, his wife conveyed the same lot and church building, by deed dated December 10, 1868, to John B. Gould and James H. Springer, trustees of the Church of Christ by the name of Christians or Disciples of Christ of Bellevernon. The old Disciple church and lot, corner of Water and Fourth streets, was sold to R. C. Schmertz, and is now numbered among the glass factory buildings. The rapidly increasing population of the town, and a corresponding prosperity of the church, necessitated larger ac-

alternate Lord's day with Fayette City congregation. Meetings were held at different times by such elders as Benedict, Hughes, Walk, Southmaid, Delmont and Rowe, until 1869, when Elder Rowe, having held a successful meeting, it was thought best to organize a separate organization in Bellevernon. A written request being sent to Fayette City congregation and granted, in May, 1870, an organization was effected. John B. Gould, D. B. H. Allen and James M. Springer were chosen elders, and James H. Springer and Thomas Fawcet, deacons; D. B. H. Allen, treasurer, and James M. Springer, clerk. In the Disciple church the pastors are elected by the individual congregation at pleasure. The first regular pastor after the organization was Elder J. B. Cox, who remained a year or two, and was succeeded by Southmaid, Delmont, Pyatt, Streater, Rowe, Chase, Vogel, and Jobes, the present pastor is Elder Brice L. Kershner. In the absence of a pastor the meetings are conducted by the elders, who have the oversight of the church, and preaching is had as the congregation may desire by employing preachers to hold meetings.

THE FIRST SCHOOL IN BELLEVERNON.

The first school in the village of Bellevernon was taught by John Hazelbaker in the kitchen part of the house of the venerable Mary Corwin. This house originally stood on the farm now owned by James Ward, in Rostraver, and was the primitive dwelling of Michael Springer, who emigrated to this country from Stockholm, in Sweden. John Hazelbaker was a brother of the late Jacob Hazelbaker, who lived for many years in the stone house just above town; also of the late George Hazelbaker, of Allen township, Washington county. Schools were also taught by John B. Gould and others in the house now occupied by W. P. Mackey, and in the house owned now by Mrs. Eliza Smock, and in several other houses.

After the common school system was adopted in 1834, the old brick school house on the hill was erected with brick taken

“The first of July, when the fires were out was a carnival season for Bellevernon creditors from the highest to the lowest in the ranks of the year’s workers. Dr. Van Voorhis gathered in his yearly harvest of dues for healing offices; the preachers and school teachers were then paid; old Dr. Jacob Hazelbaker ran down delinquents for his cobling services, on the hob-nailed shoes of the teazers, rendered in the intervals of his veterinary practice; old man Jones who kept the ale-house on the corner of First and Water streets, rubbed out the chalked scores for the nut brown draughts dealt to the toilers during the year, and laid in fresh supplies of refreshment for the summer solstice.

“I taught but two terms in the town. The second school was held in a hall fitted up by Division No. 286, Sons of Temperance, converted long since into a dwelling, and now owned and occupied by Allen K. and Curtiss Reppert, on Main below Third street. William Eberheart and L. M. Speers jointly paid my salary, and they sent as pupils the children of their families and such of their employes as could be admitted with the prescribed limit of attendance. This was truly a mixed school. Boys were reciting Virgil preparatory to admission to Washington college; one bright girl was studying botany, whilst some were in the alphabet. To hear talk about work in the school room now makes me sigh, when I think of those jubilant days of yore. ‘Hope in the prow and pleasure at the helm,’ when the hours of the longest summer day were never tiresome or irksome amid the cheerful group that were always in step with the longest stride of my enthusiasm.

“I had a large school of young ladies older than their teacher, and big boys of equal ages filled the seats around the walls, while scores of six year olds held down the little benches in front of the master’s desk. Professors were unknown in those days. It would have been Professor John Wilson of the Lagrange and Professor John B. Gould of Gould’s Hollow, and Professor Fred Cooper, who used to come on Saturday’s from his school on Maple Creek and drown his school “sorrows in the flowin bole,” as Artemus Ward would say. Cooper

it ran, but in so doing the lamp came in contact with the gas from the liquor, and way went the barrel up and through the roof, setting fire to everything in the loft, and the spilled whiskey pouring on to the open floor passed down in a blaze to the room where the mother and new born babe were in bed. The bed with its living contents was hurriedly taken to the kitchen, and all hands got to work to put out the fire.

The next fire was in 1856, in the cabinet shop of Apollos Speers, where now is the rear part of J. S. Henry, Jr.'s store. The next fire was January 31, 1875, by which the house below Strawberry alley on Main street, occupied by Henry Haler, was consumed, together with the store room in which was the store of Cunningham & Craft, and the second story which was occupied by the Odd Fellows and other orders. The dwelling house in which Rev. A. B. Lowes resided and the dwelling of Jas. H. Lewis, made a narrow escape from being burned. The great fire of the town occurred February 28, 1880, by which was destroyed the saw mill and nearly every building on the square bounded by Main, Third, Water streets and Strawberry alley.

On the night of February 24, 1886, a fire consumed the dwelling and drug store room of Henry Lang, together with what was known as Kyle's row, all situated on State Road near Main street.

The first tavern in town was kept by Billy Hornbeck in the house now owned by A. L. Brown whilst it stood on the corner of Main street and Cherry alley. He was succeeded by Abe Bugher, after he married Mrs. Darr, who kept the first cake shop in town, in the old part of the Lanehart house as it was built by Geo. Hazelbaker, the hatter, who had his hat shop in it at first, but afterwards as the firm of Hazelbaker & Dunlevy, he carried on the making of hats in the house on Water street, near what is now known as the Bull Run bridge. This house was built for John Springer by his father, Daniel Springer, about the year 1830. Geo. Kintner built the house now owned by Mrs. Eliza Smock. Kintner's wife was Polly Everson, sister of Mrs. L. Taggart.

ANDREW DUNLEVY.

In the early days of Bellevernon Andrew Dunlevy and his brother-in-law Geo. Hazelbaker carried on the manufacture of hats in the house at that time known as the Billiter house on Water below Third street. It was truly a manufactory as all the work was done by hand power. They not only made the popular wool hat of that day but also the fine fur hat. The wool hat did a boy an undesirable long service. There seemed to be no wear out to it, as it was the custom at that day to iron over and shape anew the hat whenever it became discolored or presented an unseemly appearance. The fine fur hat was also subjected to a renovating process that made it good as new. This firm was the market for rabbit and mink skins, from which the fine fur hat was manufactured. Caps and mufflers, so called, were made from coon and fox skins with the tails as ornamental appendages.

Andrew Dunlevy was born July 24, 1795, on the farm now owned by his son Jehu in Allen Township, Washington County, Pa. He died July 24, 1879, in the house still standing a few rods distant from the spot where he was born. The farm is situated on the Monongahela river about one mile above Speer's ferry. This farm was the home of his parents. His mother was a Crawford, sister of the wife of Col. Edward Cook well known in the early days of the "Forks" neighborhood. The wife of Andrew Dunlevy was a daughter of the older Wm. Jackman who was father also of the late Jehu and Simeon Jackman well known citizens of Washington County.

Andrew had five sons and two daughters. Joseph died in his youth. Anthony was drowned many years ago in Galveston Bay. William married a Furnier and resides in the west. Crawford married a lady in Brownsville, and has resided for some years near the hot springs, in Arkansas. Barbara married S. T. Williams, well known in former years in this vicinity; they now live in Iowa. The remaining daughter was accidentally burned to death. Jehu resides on the homestead, and is one

of the solid farmers of Allen township. His first wife was a daughter of the late Hugh McKee; his present wife was a Smith from the Youghioghenny valley. Andrew Dunlevy's wife died in 1845.

Andrew by birth and profession was a Presbyterian in religion. At his birth Dr. Ralston had not commenced his ministry at Horseshoe Meeting House, now only known by the rough stones that mark the graves of the early settlers. Dr. James Finley had just closed his earthly labors as pastor of Rehoboth, where Dunlevy's parents were accustomed to worship with his uncle, Col. Cook. Dunlevy was one of the number who organized, about 1840, the Maple Creek Presbyterian Church, and during its existence was a member of the sessions.

In the eldership of that church he was associated with such men as Moss, Baker, McJunkin and Simeon Jackman, all of whom have passed to the beyond. In politics Dunlevy was always a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, and even the Know Nothing allurements of 1854 could not entice him from his inborn Democracy. He always possessed the confidence of his fellow citizens as an upright Christian gentleman. Honest in habit, generous in heart, kind in disposition and devoted to his country and church, he was ranked among those whose place it would be hard to fill. His remains were buried along side those of his wife in the Speer's graveyard, opposite Bellevernon.

HAZELBAKER.

Peter Hazelbaker immigrated to this country from Anspach, in Germany, as an English soldier during the revolution. He was taken prisoner by the American forces, was never exchanged, and at the close of the war he settled in the United States. Shortly after the war Peter married Elizabeth Shively, daughter of Daniel Shively, of Berkely county, Va., now West Virginia.

After their marriage Peter and his wife immigrated to

Washington County, Pa., and settled in an old log house on the farm now owned by one of the heirs of S. A. Chester, in Allen Township. He died in 1800 and his remains are buried in the field just above the present residence of Major Henry Spharr. Peter had six sons, Peter, Daniel, John, Jacob, Abraham and George. John was an old time school teacher. He taught the first school in Bellevernon. The kitchen part of the residence of the late Aunt Polly Corwin on Main street was the schoolhouse. He and Daniel died in the West. Peter died six weeks after the death of his father and was buried in the same graveyard. Abraham died near Brush Creek in Ohio. Jacob was well known in the community. He was a shoemaker by trade and lived many years in the stone house just above Bellevernon now owned by R. C. Schmertz & Co. About 1848 he removed to a farm near Perryopolis where he died. George lived beyond all of his brothers. He was born in Berkely County, West Va., January 18, 1790. His wife was Matilda Dunlevy sister of Andrew Dunlevy. She died in 1853. After his marriage he erected the lower part of the old house on Main street in Bellevernon where now stands the house owned by A. L. Brown and occupied by Abe Lewis. In the old house George and his wife first set up housekeeping and there he carried on the hat business until he and Dunlevy started the shop in the Billiter house. He also resided for a time on the Gould farm, then on the Levi Johnson, then on the Rutan farm opposite Columbia owned now by W. J. Manown. He moved from this farm to the Cooper farm near the mouth of Maple Creek and finally in 1841 he purchased the farm on which he died, in Allen township, from Abia Allen and Robert Stockdale.

His son Andrew married a daughter of Thomas Frye and died about the year 1856 near Lock No. 4. Joseph died at the homestead unmarried. Anthony lived for many years in the house near the mouth of Maple Creek now owned by Charles Baltzee. He carried on the flouring mill which stood between the dwelling and the present bridge. The mill has passed

away. Anthony over thirty years ago moved to Illinois where he died a few years since. Jacob married a Miss Crow and lives in Clarion County. George married a Miss Riggs and lives on part of the homestead and John resides in Allen township not far from Wood's Run.

Matilda married Joseph Wolf and resides in the west. Mary married Jehu Cooper, now deceased. She lives in Illinois. Sarah Ann is the wife of Addison Cummings, of Allen township. Margaret married R. C. Guffey and died in North Bellevernon. George Hazelbaker, the father of this large family, died on the home farm, June 23, 1880. He united with Rehoboth church in his seventy-fifth year and remained in that membership until his death. He was a good citizen, a genial neighbor, and above all a Christian. His remains were interred in Howe Cemetery.

THOMAS WARD AND FREDERICK COOPER.

Thos. Ward built the first house in Bellevernon. In the summer of 1815 he purchased the lot on the corner of Main and Second streets, now owned by Howard McClure and Mrs. Kittle, and built thereon the well known house now moved to the upper end of the lot, and occupied now (1893) by James Haggerty's widow. Before moving into this house Ward resided in the old house that stood near the present home of Wm. Kyle in North Bellevernon.

He was a most skillful mechanic in every art of making in wood. He was born May 23, 1776, but where we cannot say, or just when he came to this vicinity. He lived to a good old age in Bellevernon, and when the decrepitude of age prevented his earning his own living he was kindly taken to the household of his children in Ohio, where some thirty years ago he died. His wife was a daughter of the old Frederick Cooper who settled about 1768 on the farm lately owned by Thomas Redd, and the farm of Robert McKain, both of which now form the site of the flourishing town of Charleroi. This settlement was made after the death of his first wife. On this farm