

HISTORY
OF THE
COUNTIES
OF
BERKS AND LEBANON:

CONTAINING A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE INDIANS

Who inhabited this region of country, and the numerous Murders &
Cruelties of the Indians; Welsh, French, German, Irish,
and English settlements, giving a full and accurate description
of the various Blazes placed on the trees, and a full and
correct description of the Principal Towns
and Villages; the Religion; History, with
an account of the Statistical Information,
and notices of the Arts & Education.

EMBELLISHED BY SEVERAL APPROPRIATE ENGRAVINGS.

COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES
BY I. DANIEL RUPP,
AUTHOR OF HIS PAPA EKKELESIA, ETC., ETC.

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Passing into it, the adventurer descends about fifty yards by a rough narrow passage, and then turns to the left at an acute angle with the passage hitherto pursued. After proceeding about thirty yards farther, he enters the great chamber, about fifty feet long, twenty wide, and fifteen to twenty feet high, in a rock of limestone. Near the end of this chamber, opposite to the entrance, is the *altar*, a large mass of Stalactile, which rings under the hammer, and is translucent. Formations of Stalactile are found in other parts of the cave, though none so large as the mass just mentioned."

Population in 1810, 971; 1829, 1,135; 1830, 1,550; 1840, 2,006. Horses 383; horned cattle 911; sheep 800; swine 1,440; bushels of wheat raised 19,715; rye 16,177; corn 17,980; oats 25,125; buckwheat 2,050; potatoes 6,498; tons of hay 1,469; pounds of wool 1,579; flax 2,448. Whole amount of valuation on all articles made taxable for county purposes in 1844, \$519,272; whole amount of county tax \$1,158 54; gross amount of State tax \$734 75.

ROBESON TOWNSHIP.

Robeson township was settled at an early period. Among its first and principal settlers, were the Friends or Quakers.—These were Gaius Dickinson, John Scarlet, and Peter Thomas—all Friends, and who settled when the country was a wilderness.

Little has been preserved of the first settlers, of interest.—Our friend, T. E. Lee, of Exeter, has furnished the following: "Thomas," says Lee, "was in the habit of turning out his cattle to browse upon the bushes, and sending a boy and girl in the evening to collect them; one evening, the dark shades began to spread gloom over the forest, but they did not return. The old man, like the father of Saul, left caring for the cattle, and cared only for the children. He set off in search of them, and proceeding along a path through the thick woods for a distance, he met the children returning, while the wolves and bears were howling around them."

Among the early, or first settlers of this township, may be named, Thomas Ellis, of Wales, William Morris, Mordecai

and Thomas Ellis; John, George, and Thomas Boone, of England; John, William, and Edward Hugh, of Wales; John, James, Joseph, Benjamin, and Samuel Webb, of England.

In 1756, the following persons were assessed as taxables:

Michael Kern, John Scarlet, James Bird, Arnold Sheaffer, Jacob Redcay, Peter Licken, John Griffith, George Sower, Gerhart Dewees, John Howman, David Jarred, Thos. Thomas, Ephraim Jackson, Owen Humphrey, Owen Long, David Thomas, Edward Goff, George Dykes, Enos Ellis, George Donhower, Adam Bedenhower, John Williams, William Northen, Gaius Dickenson, Philip Hoyle, Melchior Swisher, Christian Treat, Henry Reicher, Stephen Doughty, Elias Redcay, John Sheaver, John Evans, George Wendle, Baltzer Schneider, Nicholas Miller, Jones Liken, Conrad Moore, James Thomas, Jenkin Morris, James Cadwallad, Sebastian Harleman, John Philips, William Harvot, John Hollem, Felty Ems, Henry Penaybecker, Felty Haun, Josiah Boone, Michael Miller, Michael Snousser, Christian Ehr Gott, Anthony Bernhard, Daniel Bane, Christian Keiger, Jacob Bechtel, Philip Hart, Michael Kern, Israel Robinson, Benjamin Williams, Samuel Overholtzer, Adam Staut, Jacob Koch, Richard George, Robert Morris, Ellis George, David James, Edward George.

Robeson township is bounded on the north-east by the Schuylkill river, separating it from Exeter township; on the east by Union township and Chester county; on the south by Cærnarvon; on the south-west by Brecknock, and north-west by Cumru. Mean length, six miles and a quarter; breadth, five; containing twenty-one thousand acres of land, of a very ordinary quality, naturally hilly. It is watered by the Allegheny creek, and Hay creek, on both of which, are forges, and several mills. There are two churches in this township, and a Friends meeting house.

Population in 1810, 1,807; 1820, 2,2065; 1830, 1,970; 1840, 1,965; of these there were white males, 971; females 963; colored males 17; females 14. Horses 422; horned cattle 1,304; sheep 830; swine 810; bushels of wheat raised 7,229; rye 14,120; corn 20,691; oats 1,505; buckwheat 1,360; potatoes 9,997; tons of hay 1,270; pounds of wool 1,106; flax 1,621. Whole amount of valuation on all articles made taxa-

ble for county purposes in 1844, \$424,444; whole amount of county tax \$648 88; gross amount of state tax \$470 22.

ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP.

Rockland township was settled at the time those were by which it is bounded, and by a similar class of persons, nine-tenths of whom were Germans. In 1757, the following were its taxables:

John Albrecht, George Angstadt, John Angstadt, Charles Bernhard, Nicholas Blatner, Jacob Boger, Philip Berminger, Nicholas Benninger, John Bot, William Bot, Conrad Bair, Jacob Boral, Casper Bicking, Mathias Beek, Peter Breifogel, Ludwig Brem, Nicholas Clementz, Michael Dressler, Melchior Donner, Henry De Long, William Dabitsch, Jacob Drog, Nicholas Debb, Deobald Drumheller, John Eck, Peter Ernst, → Jacob Ellinger, George Fleck, William Folck, Peter Folck, George Heiner, Christian Henry, Frederick Hersch, Jacob Hoffman, George Hoffman, Peter Luder, Nicholas Jacobi, Michael Kerber, Michael Klein, Peter Klassmoyer, Andreas Krett, Simon Kerber, Jacob Krebs, Jacob Keim, Michael Keim, Peter → Lobach, Henry Long, Nicholas Long, Ludwig Long, Michael Long, John Moll, Henry Mertz, Nicholas Moyer, Geo. Oberdorff, Peter Ruff, sen., Peter Ruff, jr., Lorentz Berig, Casper Rap, Peter Remer, Frederick Reish, Conrad Roth, Casper → Rubbert, Ludwig Rouzanner, Henry Showash, Christian Schumachir, George Schumachir, Frederick Schackler, John Scheurer, George Scheffer, George Seibert, (Seuwert) Frederick Ubrick, Adam Wagner, Adam Wecht, Jacob Ziegemfuss, Henry Mertz, Herman Emrich, George Reif, Jacob Hefner, Peter Kieffer, Michael Jacobi, Peter Anstat, Michael Scheffer, Christian Kolb, Ludwig Bitting.

Rockland is bounded as follows, at present. Some slight alterations in the boundary having been made within a few years. It is bounded on the north by Maxatawny township; on the north-east by Long-swamp; on the east by District; south-east by Pike; on the south by Oley; on the west by Ruscommamor; and north-west by Richmond; mean length five miles; breadth four; containing twelve thousand acres of land;

rather hilly, gravel soil, and indifferently cultivated. With a little care, as to rotation of crops, and the application of vegetable and mineral manures, it might be rendered productive. It is not well watered; still there are several mills, one furnace, and two forges, in this township.

There is some iron ore in this township, from which the furnace is supplied. There is one church in this township, common to the Lutherans and German Reformed.

Population in 1810, 1,026; 1820, 1,131; 1830, 1,342; 822 white males, 825 females, 3 colored males and 5 females. Total, 1,655; horses 252; horned cattle 581; sheep 591; swine 871; bushels of wheat raised 4,380; rye 9,511; corn 8,382; oats 6,387; buckwheat 1,923; potatoes 5,986; tons of hay 653; pounds of wool 1,027; flax 1,710. Whole amount of valuation on all articles made taxable by law for county purposes, for 1844, \$289,907; amount of county tax \$579 81. Whole amount of valuation for state purposes, on all articles made taxable for county purposes, excepting trades, occupations and professions, above \$200, for state purposes, \$265 17; gross amount of state tax, \$312 80.

RUSCOMMANOR TOWNSHIP.

Ruscommamor township, like all the adjacent townships, was beginning to be settled between the years 1732 and 1745. As early as 1749, the following were landholders within this township:

David Foll, Andrew Brenst, John Miller, John Wilkhammer, Adam Shumble, John Williams, Conrad Bruse, Jacob Perteller, Yost Waggoner, Martin Spiegelmeuer, Martin Nerr, Frederick Sprung, Embrich Billiar, Mathias Beck, Peter Rise, Philip Miller, John Fogell, Derick Swath, Derick Long, Mathias Rhole, George Angstad, Peter Crell, John Shous, George Hefner, Casper Burk, John Shamber, Jacob Mickle, Peter Hidleman, Felty Becker, Jacob Libhart, Jacob Simer, Ulrich Becker, Philip Smith, Christian Shoemaker, Jacob Ely, Bastian Garnard, Ber. Fogle, Peter Rise.

It is almost a matter of astonishment that this portion of Berks should have been thus early and densely settled, when it

is considered that the soil is of the most ordinary kind, and the surface hilly. About the year 1760, the number of taxables had almost doubled itself from 1740, to that period.

Ruscommanor is bounded on the north by Richmond, north-east by Rockland, on the east by Oley, south-west by Alsace, and north-west by Maiden creek; contains about ten thousand acres of ordinary, and hilly land; soil gravelly, and very indifferently cultivated—much room for improvement.

There are one or two villages in this township. Pricetown, laid out by Conrad Price nearly seventy years ago; contains twenty-five houses—one store and two taverns. Population 165.

Speachtown, a village with seven houses and twenty-five inhabitants—this place was laid out between thirty and forty years ago, by a certain Boarsmith. There are three or four grist mills in this township.

Population in 1801, 932; 1820, 1,056; 1830, 1,243; 1840, 1,189: horses 88; horned cattle 222; sheep 247; swine 288; bushels of wheat raised 1,502; rye 2,943; corn 2,465; oats 2,958; buckwheat 337; potatoes 2,970; tons of hay 253; pounds of wool 477; flax 458. Whole amount of valuation on all articles made taxable for county purposes in 1844, \$227,528; county tax \$455 05; gross amount of State tax \$258 90.

TULPEHOCKEN TOWNSHIP.

Tulpehocken township was so named after a tribe of Indians called *Turpyhockin*, who inhabited this region of country, whose chief was named Manangy, called the Indian chief on Schuylkill. This region of country is respectively mentioned in the Provincial Record of Pennsylvania. It appears to have been a place of thorough pass, from an Indian village, called Peixtan, on the Susquehanna, to Philadelphia.

We find that in 1707, that one Nicole, French and Indian trader, was apprehended by persons, sent by government at Peixtan, and carried to Philadelphia, via Turpyhocken.—“Martin went again to Peixtan, and brought Nicole where we we lay in concealed, and asking him to drink a dram, he seized

THE GERMAN REFORMED.

It has already been stated, that from 1682, and at different intervening periods, Germans emigrated to North Carolina, New York, and the province of Pennsylvania. From 1708 to 1720 thousands of Germans, to flee from oppression, and to seek a place of security, emigrated from the Palatinate, and other parts of Germany, to England, thence sailed to New York, and afterwards settled at Schenectady, Schoharie, and other parts of New York. In one of these settlements, at a comparatively early period, the German Reformed had a church in *Weisersdorf*. The Revd. Frederick Heger, a Reformed minister preached here in 1720, and the Rev. John Jacob Oehl, a German Reformed minister was, it appears, his successor. The Revds. John Bernhard von Duehren, and William Christian Bockenmeyer, Lutheran ministers, are mentioned by Conrad Weiser, in his *Private Tage Buch*, as having preached in that part of New York, between 1720 and 1724.

A large number of Germans arrived in Philadelphia, between 1715 and 1726, who, in the language of Father Muhlenberg: "Hatten zwar Prediger mit genommen, oder zufaelliger Weise bekommen." With these, they also brought some schoolmasters, of whose services they accepted as teachers for their children, and as readers of sermons for themselves—the two might, at present, be profitably united. Schoolmasters and sermon readers, should not be considered incompatible callings. Unfortunately for the German churches, those illy qualified schoolmasters, after reading sermons a short time, dreamed themselves qualified, assumed the sacred offices, to the non-edification of their hearers. Of this class was one J. C. Wirts, of Zurich.*

The early history of the German Reformed church, for the want of early records, is involved in obscurity. "It would seem," says Professor Nevin, "that the church at Goshenhoppen, in Montgomery county, is entitled to the highest antiquity among the early organizations. There is said to be documentary evidence of its having been in existence from the year 1717. The first pastor, it would seem, was the Rev. Henry

* Wirts, some years afterwards, made application to the Rev. Schlatter, to enable him to obtain, from the mother country, a regular ecclesiastical induction to the ministry.—Schlatter's Journal.

Goetschy, whose labors, however, in the end, included a wide field besides. He preached stately to congregations at Skip-pack, Falconer Swamp, Saucon, Egypt, Maccungi, Moselem, Oley, Bern and Tulpehocken—his circuit comprising a district which is now covered by four counties—Montgomery, Chester, Berks and Lebanon.”

In 1727, a large number of Palatines arrived, among whom was the Rev. George Michael Weis, V. D. M., a native of Stelback, in Neckerthal, Germany. He was a graduate of Heidelberg University—a profound scholar. “He spoke,” says the Rev. Jedediah Andrews, “Latin, as readily as we do our vernacular tongue.” After remaining here a few years, Weis, in company with an elder of the name of Reif, visited Holland, and other parts of Europe, about the year 1730, for the purpose of making collections in aid of the feeble congregations of Pennsylvania. Great interest was taken in their mission. Mr. Weis was received by the Synods of North and South Holland, as well as by smaller judicatories, with the greatest cordiality and regard.”

In 1731, the Rev. Johannes Bartholomaeus Rieger, a native of Oberingelheim, Palatinate, and graduate of Basel and Heidelberg, arrived at Philadelphia. He took charge of a congregation at Seltenrieck's, near New Holland, Lancaster county, and visited the dispersed German Reformed in other parts of the county.

Though the demand for German Reformed ministers was great, we find but the names of Goetschy, Weis, Rieger, Boehm and Dorstius, among them in Pennsylvania, till the year 1740. Still the church abroad, especially the church in Holland, carried the destitute churches here in her heart; an evidence of which appears in the fact, that not long before 1741, she had taken care to forward for their use, one hundred and thirty German Bibles, which were now waiting for distribution in the city of Philadelphia.

“No direct communication, however, was maintained with the distant spiritual plantation. But, in the year 1746, the Lord stirred up the heart of his faithful servant in Switzerland, to feel a more than usual solicitude in behalf of the German Reformed church in America. This was the Rev. Michael Schlatten, of St. Gall.” Having learnt the destitute condition of the churches in this country, relinquished his pastoral charge, and

with a commendable missionary zeal, set out for Amsterdam, with a view of being sent out regularly from that place. The Classis of Amsterdam was regarded as having proper jurisdiction over the German Reformed congregations in America, as well as over the Dutch. To this body, therefore, Mr. Schlatter applied for his commission to visit the destitute American churches. His application was accepted; and he received a formal appointment—embarked for America, June 1st, 1746, and on the 21st of July arrived at Boston. And on the 6th of September, he came to Philadelphia, where the elders of the Reformed Church received him with much tender affection and joy.

“On the 7th Sept.” says Schlatter, in his Journal. “I went to Witpen, 16 miles, to visit the oldest German preacher in this vicinity, the Rev. J. B. Boehm. The venerable man received me in the most friendly manner, and promised, after being made acquainted with my commission and instructions, to assist me heartily in counsel and in deed, which he also did to the extent of his power.”

After visiting the Rev. P. H. Dorstius in Bucks county, and the Rev. G. M. Weis, at Goschenhoppen. Rev. Schlatter and Weis, “went in company over the mountain to Oly, and the following day to Lancaster, on Conestoga, to visit the Rev. Rieger and his church.” Mr. Boehm, having in the mean time gone to Tulpehocken, to collect the two churches together, and preach a sermon preparatory to the communion; the Rev.’s Schlatter and Weis returned to Tulpehocken, where on the 25th Schlatter preached, as he expresses himself, with much divine assistance, and not without a blessing, to a congregation of more than six hundred persons assembled in a wooden building. The congregation listened to the publication of the word of God with much devout attention. The ardent desire for edification, and a regular organization, and the hope of obtaining a stated preacher might have been read in their countenances. They could not conceal the exceeding joy and surprise they felt in seeing three preachers together—a circumstance which had never been witnessed there before. The old and the young shed tears of joy. I can only say, that this was to me, and to my brethern, a day of much refreshment. I thought of the blessed Netherlands, where the company of heralds of the Gospel is numerous, while this extensive country is perishing for

lack of teachers. This large church has never had a regular pastor. Mr. Boehm has administered the communion here annually, twice—travelling eighty miles from Philadelphia, for the purpose. After sermon, with the assistance of Mr. Boehm, I dispensed the holy communion to upwards of a hundred members.

“I afterwards informed them of my commission from the mother country, and made the same proposition to them, which I had made to the churches in Philadelphia and Germantown.—They obligated themselves to support a preacher in the two churches, situated five miles apart, consisting of about five hundred members; promising in money and produce about £50, as will appear by the *Call* forwarded on the 13th of October, to the Rev. Committees of the two Synods, and to the Classis of Amsterdam. I also chose Elders and Deacons, with the approbation of the church, and ordained them.*

The number of regularly ordained German Reformed ministers was small. There were but five, including Schlatter; namely, Mr. Dorstius, who was stationed in Bucks county; Mr. Rieger in the neighborhood of New Holland, Lancaster county; Mr. Weis in the region of Goshenhoppen; Mr. Boehm, now an old man, about 16 miles from Philadelphia. A Mr. Jacob Lischy, it is true, preached at York, but was formerly a leader and ordained teacher, or preacher of the Moravians. He accepted a call from the German Reformed congregation at York, in 1745.

A few years after, Schlatter came, the Rev. Bartholomæus, and two young men, students of theology, arrived—David Marinus and Jonathan Dubois. Messrs. Conrad Templeman, at Swatara, and J. C. Wirts, of Sacany, were on probation, as appears from the minutes of the Coetus, held at Lancaster, Oct. 20, 1749.

The Rev. Bartholomæus took charge of the congregation at Tulpehocken, in 1748. His successors were the Revds. H. W. Stoy in 1752, William Otterbein in 1758, Johannes Waldschmidt in 1765, Johann Jacob Zufall in 1766, William Hendel, sen. in 1769, Andreas Horitz in 1785, Mr. Wagner in 1787, William Hendel, D. D. 1793. Thomas H. Leimbach, the present pastor, in 1826.

* Schlatter's Journal.

The Rev. William Otterbein, whose name is held in veneration by many in this country, was born in Nassau, Dillenberg, Germany, on the sixth day of November, 1726.

A friend, to whom we had applied, furnished the following brief memorial of Otterbein:—

“The time of Otterbein’s arrival is unknown to me. From the records of the congregation at Lancaster, it appears that he became the pastor of that church in 1752. This is the first notice of him that I have found. It is probable that he had then but recently arrived in America; and this probability is strengthened, by the fact that the Rev. Mr. Schlatter returning from his visit to Holland, Germany and Switzerland, in behalf of the Reformed churches in this country, arrived at New York on the 27th of July, 1752, and brought with him six newly ordained ministers, who were destined for the churches of Pennsylvania. [Hallische Nachrichten, p. 502.] As Mr. Otterbein’s name occurs frequently after this time, and not at all before, there is little doubt that he was one of these. In the autumn of 1758, meditating a visit to his native country, and undecided about returning to America, he resigned his charge at Lancaster; but the dangers of the approaching season, and of the war with France, which then prevailed, determined him to defer his voyage, in the hope of an early peace, until the ensuing spring; and to be usefully employed in the interval, he took the charge, temporarily, of two congregations in Tulpehocken. The war continuing, he remained in the same place, and in the fall of 1760, in pursuance of the wishes of the Coetus, he transferred his labors to Fredericktown, in Maryland, which is described as a large but very remote congregation, that could not be reached, like Tulpehocken, by supplies from neighboring churches. Before this time, he had been proposed as successor to Messrs. Rubel and Stoy, in the distracted congregation of Philadelphia, but declined. In 1761 the congregations of Reading and Oley, in Berks county, presented a call for him to the Coetus, which he also declined, on the ground that he could not relinquish a charge he had so recently assumed. Four years later, about the first of November, 1765, he removed to York, Pa., where he labored in the ministry until April, 1770. His long meditated voyage to Europe was now undertaken, and he left his flock to visit his home and his

friends in Germany, with the design, however, to return to his labors here, if God permitted: and agreeably to this purpose he did return, after an absence of about 17 months, and resumed his ministry among the same people, in September, 1771. In April, 1774, he took the pastoral care of the new church in Baltimore. The Reformed congregation in that city, then under the care of the Rev. Christopher Faber,* had been rent by a division in 1770; when a strong party, alleging that the pastor's ministry was cold and unedifying, seceded from the church and built a new house of worship, having for their spiritual guide a young man of piety and talents, of the name of Swope. The Coetus wishing to re-unite the two parties, decreed that both incumbents should withdraw, and their adherents be united under another, who might be acceptable to all. Mr. Faber retired and went to Taneytown, Md. Mr. Swope's party would not suffer him to go. In consequence of this refusal, their opponents called a Mr. Wallauer. Upon the removal of Mr. Swope, the same party called Mr. Otterbein, who accepted their call. He was censured by the Coetus, though informally; but he asserted his right to be governed, in such a case, by his own convictions; and the Coetus ultimately sanctioned the act, and recognized both congregations. The new church seems to have consisted of the more pious portion of the old congregation. Mr. Otterbein was more attentive to internal piety than to external forms, and pursued a course in his ministry, which to many others appeared new and objectionable: and from this cause arose a coolness between his brethren and him, which eventually alienated him, in a measure, from the judicatories of the church. In his person, Mr. Otterbein was portly and dignified; in his manner, urbane, affectionate, and of child-like simplicity. He had been well educated, and, to the close of his life, read Latin authors with as much ease as those in his vernacular tongue. His piety was unfeigned and glowing—his preaching solemn and impressive: but his voice was weak, and his utterance, at least in his old age, somewhat indistinct. The consistory of the church, in Philadelphia, in a letter to the Fathers in Holland, dated February, 1760, even where they indulge in an illiberal insinuation, bear this testimony: 'He is a worthy man, and by reason of his conduct in life, greatly beloved.' He went frequently on jour-

* A different person from the Rev. J. Theob. Faber, of Gosshöppen.

neys to minister to remote and destitute congregations, and his ministrations left every where a grateful impression upon the hearts of his auditors. In the latter part of his life, his judgment failed, and left the goodness of his heart to be sometimes much abused by false pretenders. He died November 17, 1813, aged 88 years."

The early settlers of Alsace township were German Reformed, French Reformed, or Huguenots, Swedes and Germans. The two former classes held Calvinistic tenets; the latter were Lutherans. Tradition has it, that the Huguenots and German Reformed, held religious meetings within a mile or two of Reading, and in conformity with the good custom of their fathers in Europe, conducted their worship in the evening as well as in the day—they cultivated a spirit of genuine piety—they met after night in each other's houses, for social prayer. In this they imitated the example of primitive Christians. For the purpose of public worship they erected a church, more than one hundred and twenty years ago—it was a log building. After some of the Swedish and German Lutherans had settled in Alsace, they asked, and obtained privilege in the same old house—in which both congregations of the neighborhood worshipped, unitedly, till about the year 1751, when the Lutherans broke off, and erected a house of worship in Reading.

The German Reformed also, shortly afterwards, purchased a lot on Seventh street, erected a house on it, in which they worshipped till the old stone church was erected in 1761. The Rev. Michael Schlatter, and Johan Conrad Steyner, repeatedly visited this and other congregations.

They were, it seems, destitute for some time of a regularly settled pastor. At a Coetus, held at Lancaster, April, 1755, it appears from the Protocol, that Adam Coerper, an Elder, represented the interests of the congregation at Reading. At the same Coetus appeared Elders John Loescher and Casper Griefheimer, from Oley, and gave an account of the church of that neighborhood. The Elders united and petitioned for a minister, or supplies. The Revds. Weis, Schlatter, Leydick, Waldsmith and Steyner, were appointed as supplies for Reading and Oley.

The first stated pastor in Reading, was the Rev. John William Boos, who commenced his labors in 1771, who was suc-

ceeded by the Rev. Nebling, 1782; Bernhart Willy, 1784; John William Ingold, 1786; the Rev. Boosagain in 1789; he was then succeeded by the Rev. Philip Rhinehold Pauli, who preached here till 1814, when his son, William Pauli, took charge of this and other congregations connected with the Reading charge. Under his pastoral care, the present church edifice in Reading, was erected in 1832. The present pastor, the Rev. John Conrad Bucher, succeeded Mr. Pauli in 1842. Mr. Bucher was the first who introduced regular English preaching.

The present number of German Reformed churches, some of which are held jointly by them and Lutherans, is between thirty and forty in Berks county. The pastors residing, or preaching in this county, are, as far as we could learn, the following, the Revds. L. C. Herman, Philip Moyer, Mr. Hassinger, Mr. Bossler, A. L. Herman, Mr. Schultz, Charles G. Herman, J. Sasaman Herman, William Pauli, Augustus Pauli, J. C. Bucher, Isaac Miesse, and William Hendel, D. D., at Womelsdorf, without a charge—all of whom preach German, and only one or two preach in English.

With this number of pastors—"if they will pursue the course which the Saviour took, and the apostles pursued, the course which the prophets went, in which the Reformers trod, and which the faithful minister of God in every age has pursued, ignorance, impiety, apathy in matters of religion, selfishness, and all the polluted offspring of the flesh, would soon be banished from the church, and she would, ere long, present that purity and loveliness which the Bride of Christ should exhibit." All who see the present condition of the German Reformed Zion, and pray, "Thy Kingdom Come," must devoutly wish for a more general reformation.

It appears that, besides at the Tulpehocken church, there was none ministering in spiritual things within the present limits of Lebanon county, prior to 1748, except Mr. Conrad Templeman, who, it seems, from the minutes of Coetus, held at Lancaster in October, 1749, had, though he was not regularly ordained, preached at Swatara.

The Rev. J. B. Rieger, as a supply, took charge of a congregation at Shaefferstown, as early as 1754 or 55; at the same time, the Rev. Johannes Waldsmith was stationed at Cocalico. Templeman preached at Lebanon and Swatara, till the year

1760, when through physical inability, he ceased officiating in the church. At a Coetus, held at Philadelphia, October 21 and 22, 1760, it is recorded, in relation to him. "*Templeman is stoek blynd, predikt maer zeer Zeldraum in zyn eygen huis,*" i. e., Templeman is stark blind, he preaches for some time in his own house.* It also appears that there was a vacancy at Tulpehocken, as well as at Swatara, about 1761. The Minutes of that date, state "Tulpehocken und Schwatara, warten mit Schmerzen fuer einen Prediger—gleichfals Reading und Oly."

Templeman was succeeded by the Revd. John Conrad Bucher, in 1768, who was succeeded by the Revd. Runkel in 1780, or 1781. Runkel's successors were the Revd. Loop, Hiester, Kroh, Henry Wagner, the present pastor of the churches at Lebanon, Jonestown, Anville, Millerstown, &c.

At present, there are but three German Reformed ministers stationed, and residing within the limits of Lebanon county. These are the Revd. Leinbach at Tulpehocken, Wagner at Lebanon, and John Gring at Stumptown—and in all, about fifteen congregations, numbering rising of two thousand members.

We shall close this imperfect sketch of the German Reformed church, with biographical notices of the Revds. P. R. Pauli, John Conrad Bucher, and Michael Schlatter.

* It is note-worthy here, that the greater part of the proceedings, reports, &c. of the Coetes of the German Reformed Church were, until towards the close of the eighteenth century, conducted in Dutch or Latin. The extract above, from the Minutes, is Dutch—not German