

GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL ANNALS
OF
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA

CONTAINING

A GENEALOGICAL RECORD OF REPRESENTATIVE FAMILIES, INCLUDING MANY OF THE
EARLY SETTLERS, AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PROMINENT
CITIZENS, PREPARED FROM DATA OBTAINED FROM
ORIGINAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Illustrated

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Nancy Mettler. They left no descendants. (3) Isaac is mentioned below. (4) Sarah, Mrs. Campbell, lived on the farm now occupied by her son, Isaac Campbell, and died there in 1841, at the age of about forty-four. She reared a family of ten children.

Isaac Kline, son of Isaac (Jr.) and Catharine (Barton) Kline, was born Nov. 2, 1803, and died Oct. 10, 1876. He inherited the farm near the Klinsgrove Church, a tract of 105 acres, upon which he followed farming, and resided there until his death. In 1834 he built the stone residence still standing upon that farm. In politics he was originally an old-line Whig, later becoming a Republican, and he was particularly active in the religious life of the community, being one of the pillars of the Klinsgrove Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was an organizer, and he donated five hundred dollars when the church was erected, in 1867. His family were also Methodists. Mr. Kline married Lucy Ann Forrester, who was born Feb. 16, 1804, and died Jan. 8, 1886. They had three children: (1) Josiah F., born Aug. 29, 1831, married Elizabeth Condon, of Philadelphia, and they lived in that city. They had children: Edmund James, William R., Josiah F. and Henry B., the last named dying young. (2) William F. is mentioned below. (3) James F., born Oct. 20, 1837, died June 5, 1888, at Newark, N. J., and is buried at Danville, Pa. He was a lieutenant in the 3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery during the Civil war, stationed at Fortress Monroe. He and his wife Mary (McGill) had one child, that died in infancy.

William F. Kline attended the schools of the home locality in his early boyhood, and later went to Dickinson Seminary, at Williamsport. He taught school for one term in Upper Augusta township, at what is now known as Mount Pleasant (then Texas) schoolhouse. From early life he was trained to farming, in which he is still interested, having a valuable tract of 150 acres all included within the limits of the borough of Snyderstown. He has made various improvements upon this estate since it came into his possession, and has twice remodeled the house during his ownership. In 1867 Mr. Kline began tanning at Snyderstown, in 1868 putting up the present tannery buildings there, replacing the original buildings of an early tannery. He continued in this business for a period of six years, until the end of 1873. Mr. Kline's substantial success entitles him to a foremost place among the business men of his section, where he is regarded as a man of excellent judgment and ability. In the conduct of borough affairs he has for years been a well known figure. He has been a member of the board of school directors, and served some years as secretary of that body: he was the first chief burgess elected in Snyderstown, held the office for six years in suc-

cession, and later was elected for another two years. The mere record of the positions to which he has been chosen is sufficient evidence of the esteem and popularity he enjoys among his fellow-men. He has been one of the most prominent citizens of Snyderstown since its organization. It is the largest borough in area in the State, though the population is but four hundred. Politically Mr. Kline is a Republican.

In January, 1860, Mr. Kline married Mary Margaret Wolverton, who was born March 13, 1838, and died July 2, 1886, the mother of three children: One that died in infancy; Charles H., also deceased in infancy; and George W., who is located at Eleventh and Wolverton streets, Sunbury. On Feb. 19, 1890, Mr. Kline married (second) Margaret E. Moore, daughter of James R. and Priscilla (Martin) Moore, of Snyderstown, who had the following children: James A., John M., Jane E., Rebecca M., Perry M. and Margaret E. Mr. and Mrs. Kline have no children. Mr. Kline and his family are Methodists, prominent members of the church at Klinsgrove, which Mr. Kline served on the board of trustees continuously from 1866 to 1908, being also secretary of that board. He has long been regarded as one of the pillars of the church, and is highly respected among its membership.

JAMES R. MOORE, the father of Mrs. William F. Kline, was the son of John Moore, who came from New Jersey at an early date and settled in what is now Rush township, where he purchased a farm. He died upon his farm at the age of fifty years and is buried in a grave yard near Deiblers station in Shamokin township. He married Rebecca, daughter of James Moore, and they had these children: John, James R., Rebecca, Mary, Anna, Miriam, Samuel and Hannah.

James R. Moore, father of Mrs. Kline, was born in Rush township Feb. 2, 1805, and died at Olathe, Johnson Co., Kans., July 2, 1885. He was reared upon the home farm and in the year of 1846 went to Morrow county, Ohio, where he followed farming, and remained until 1872, when he went to Olathe, Kans., and there he continued to farm. He married Priscilla, daughter of Atchinson Martin, who died in Kansas. They had these children: James A., John M., Jane E., Rebecca M., Perry M. and Margaret E., now the wife of William F. Kline.

KLASE. The family history in this article on the Klases was contributed by Mr. John Hower Klase, of Snyderstown, who intends to amplify it and complete the records as time and opportunity permit. Early records in his possession show considerable variation in the spelling of the name. The German forms are Kloss, Klesz, Kloesz. The Anglicized spelling John Klase (Johannes

Kloess) appears in the tax record of 1773 for Bethlehem township, Northampton Co., Pa., and the forms Clase, Glase, Glos, Glosz and Kleiss are all found.

On Nov. 22, 1752, one "Johonas Kloss" landed in Philadelphia from the ship "Phoenix," Reuben Houer, captain, from Rotterdam and Cowes. The emigration records of Philadelphia show Klosses here much earlier, as early as 1732, who evidently were of the same family, as they all settled to the north of Philadelphia, where they had land grants surveyed. But this Johonas Kloss is the earliest arrival to whom the family here under consideration can be traced. His family can be very easily traced from the records appearing at Easton, Pa. He lived and died near Bethlehem, and his will, on record at Easton, makes grants to the following nine children (who were to receive £5,000 in money besides lands): Valentine, Philip, John, Jr., Jacob, Catharine, Michael, Elizabeth (married Michael Young), Annie Marie and Christiana. The dates of birth and death of "Johon" Klase are at present not known, but he was still living in the year 1804, when he and his wife Catharine appear as witnesses at the christening of one of Valentine's daughters, Mary Eva, who later married Solomon Fegley, father of George K. Fegley.

Valentine Klase, the eldest son of Johonas and the head of the family located in Northumberland county, Pa., was a resident of Northampton county, near Bethlehem, where he owned a farm of two hundred acres on what is known as the Dry Land. This farm appears on the tax list of Bethlehem township in 1788, and its location is known to the family, the Klase burying ground being on this farm. Valentine Klase married Mary Eva Smiten, who was born Oct. 1, 1766, and died at Snyderstown, Northumberland Co., Pa., on the old homestead, Aug. 2, 1838; she is buried in St. John's Lutheran cemetery near Snyderstown. The children of Valentine and Mary Eva were: Jacob, Abraham, Michael, Valentine, Jr., Henry, Mary Eva and Catharine, all born in Bethlehem township, Northampton county. In the year 1753 Valentine took out a warrant for fifty acres of land in Northampton county. In the year 1778 he entered the service of the Continental army, in Captain Reeser's 4th Company of Militia, from Forks township, Northampton county, Pa., 5th Battalion; ordered to march July 30, 1778 (Pennsylvania Archives, Second Series, Vol. 14, Page 591); for which service he was given a grant of land, which he never took up. Valentine Klase was a farmer up to the time of his death, which occurred some time between April 12th—when he made his will—and May 18th, 1812, when his will was probated at Easton, Pa. After the Indian troubles had been settled in the northern sections of the State and the lands of the last Indian purchase opened for settlement, he joined himself to

others of Northampton county and came to Fort Augusta, or what is now known as Sunbury, Pa., and entered into the purchasing of lands. About eight miles east of Sunbury he purchased 950 acres with an allowance of $\frac{1}{10}$ per cent for roads, making 1,000 acres all told. This land lay north of the old Reading road, at what is known as Stonington, comprising a strip nearly one mile wide running north to the northern boundary of Snyderstown borough, including what are now the lands of John Klase, William Garrow, Jesse Gonsar, Jacob Gonsar, H. A. Pensyl; Charles Snyder, and Jake Klase's farm, and part of the Fox farm. This tract had been surveyed at an earlier date and was known as the Hanover Manor. Same was sold to Lewis Dewart and Jacob Snyder, from whom Valentine Klase purchased. Jacob Snyder erected the first burr mill and saw mill at Snyderstown, located on the site of the present mill owned by Grant Gonsar. The said Jacob Snyder was also the founder of Snyderstown, Pa. [for above see deed of Valentine Klase]. The date of this purchase by Valentine Klase was 1811, as recorded in the recorder's office at Sunbury, Pa. After buying this land he returned to Bethlehem, with the intention of moving here, but meeting with an accident he died. His will bequeathed this land to his widow and children to be held by them as tenants in common, and he appointed his widow, Mary Eva, Jacob, Henry, Abraham, children, and John Smith, brother-in-law, as administrators of his estate, both in Northampton county and Northumberland county. He also stipulated in his will that the land in Northumberland county should not be sold before six years after his death. Some of the family were not suited with the land and requested the sale of same, so on March 19, 1816, four years after the purchase of the land, the Legislature of Pennsylvania passed an act for its special disposal. After this, having been advertised for four weeks in a paper published at Easton, Pa., it was sold to John Smith, one of the administrators, for \$11,067.67. The tract was now parceled out to the following: Jacob, who took the southern part, about 200 acres; Valentine, Jr., central part, 200 acres; John Smith, 200 acres of northern part; Abraham, one half of the western part (joining John Smith), consisting of 200 acres; the balance being sold to different parties. The part that Abraham owned consisted principally of the land bought of Jacob Snyder. Michael, Henry, Eva and Catharine received their share in money. Of this family we have the following record:

Jacob Klase, son of Valentine, Sr., born near Bethlehem, Pa., Jan. 28, 1790, died March 18, 1870, and was buried in St. John's cemetery near Snyderstown, Pa. He cleared the greater part of his land for farming, which he followed throughout his life, and it was also the occupation of his

family. They were noted for their hospitality. He built a stone house at Stonington, which is still standing, in a good state of preservation, and built a sawmill on the stream running past the house. He married Polly Schweitzer and had these children: (1) Mary. (2) Catharine, born in 1817, married Jacob Weaver, and died in 1899. She is buried at Rush Presbyterian church, in Rush township. They lived near Rushtown, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Weaver had the following children: Mary, born in 1834, died in 1889 (buried in Rush Presbyterian cemetery), who married William Cunningham and had Catharine (married S. Bailey and had one child, George E.), G. S. (married Margaret Gulick, and had children, C. Louis, Sarah E., Margaret V. and Dessie Marione; G. S. Cunningham is living on the old homestead, where he is following farming) and Sarah G. (who married Rev. Thomas Kerr and they have one child, Kathren); Elizabeth, who married a Mr. Miller and had children, Frank, Warren, Charles, Jennie and Samuel; Kate, who married a Mr. Bartlet and had one child, Oliver (they live at West Pittston, Pa.); and Harriet, born in 1835, who died in 1909 and is buried in Rush Presbyterian church cemetery. (3) Elizabeth was born at Stonington, Pa., and died at New Media, Pa., aged ninety-two years. (4) Solomon, born at Stonington, Pa., died while living at the farm. (5) Jacob died unmarried. (6) Annie Marie married a Mr. Lamerson and lived at Danville, where she died. There were no children. (7) Leonard died as the result of an accident at the sawmill. He was unmarried. (8) Samuel is living at Catawissa, Pa., now (1911) in his eighty-fourth year. After selling the farm at Stonington he moved to New Media, Pa., where he also owned a farm, which he sold in 1905. (9) Wilhelm, born at Stonington, died unmarried.

Abraham Klase, son of Valentine, Sr., was born in 1792, died in 1850, and is buried in St. John's Lutheran cemetery at Snyderstown. He made use of the western half of the northern part of the land purchased by his father, consisting of that part bought of Jacob Snyder, **whereon was the gristmill and sawmill**, and besides following farming he operated the mill for several years. Meantime he built a house near the mill, and then sold the mill to Samuel Gonsar, whose heirs own the same. He married Elizabeth Smith, and they had the following children: (1) Hannah married George Krieger. (2) Frank Klase died in Shamokin township. (3) Matilda married Samuel Yetter. (4) Catharine married a Mr. Brobet and moved to Iowa. (5) Eliza married Daniel Weaver. (6) **William died in California.** (7) Abraham, born in 1819, died in 1885, and is buried at Shamokin. He married Catharine Miller, born in 1819, died in 1891, buried at Shamokin, and they had the following children: George

Washington, born in 1843, who married Huldah Clark, died in 1908; Amanda, born in 1844, died in 1907; Regina Catharine, born in 1846, married A. G. Goodwill; Thomas Jefferson, born in 1849, married Sue E. Bolich; Martha Clementine, born in 1851, married A. E. Shissler; Franklin Pierce, born in 1853, died in 1854; Mary Elizabeth, born in 1855, died in 1879; Addison Miller, born in 1857, died in 1881; Ida Rebecca, born in 1859, married W. F. Goodwill; James Buchanan, born in 1861, married Mattie Applegate. (8) Solomon P. was born June 28, 1831.

SOLOMON P. KLASE, son of Abraham; born June 28, 1831, in Shamokin township, is now living retired at the borough of Snyderstown. He became familiar with farm work in boyhood, and when eighteen years old commenced to learn the trades of stone mason and stone cutter, which he continued to follow until several years ago, giving up active work in 1900. He had an excellent reputation for first-class workmanship, and among other undertakings intrusted to him may be mentioned the building of St. Edward's Catholic church at Shamokin, of which he had charge as superintendent. Mr. Klase is a veteran of the Civil war, having entered the Union service in 1862 as a member of Company C (largely recruited from the territory about Snyderstown), 131st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, under Capt. Thomas R. Jones. He served as corporal. He completed a nine months' term, during which he took part in the fights at Antietam, Frederickburg and Chancellorsville. He is a member of G. A. R. Post No. 335, at Sunbury. Politically Mr. Klase is a Democrat, and he has taken considerable interest in the welfare of his party and the affairs of the borough, where he has been chosen for the offices of councilman and tax collector. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.

On Nov. 26, 1854, Mr. Klase married Jane Wittington, who was born Jan. 4, 1834, daughter of Jacob Wittington, and died Feb. 19, 1900. His second marriage on May 14, 1901, was to Sarah Evert, daughter of Isaac Tribley. Mr. Klase reared James McBride, who is now a resident of Shamokin.

Henry Klase, son of Valentine, Sr., was born near Bethlehem, Northampton Co., Pa., settled at Snyderstown in 1817, and there conducted a general store, hauling his merchandise from Reading and Philadelphia, by wagon and team. He moved from there to Danville, Pa., where he died. He married Sallie Smith, daughter of John Smith, and had the following children: Jesse; Mary Jane, Mrs. Kesler; Henry; Jacob, and Wellington. Jesse, who now lives at Danville, is one of the committee of ten of the Klase Family Reunion.

Michael Klase, son of Valentine, Sr., was born Sept. 4, 1794, in Bethlehem township, Northampton county. When the other children came to

Northumberland county he concluded to stay at the old home. He married and had three children: Daniel, Joseph and William. He paid a visit to his brethren living in Northumberland county and while on the trip took sick at the home of Jacob Klase, where he died, Feb. 22, 1852. His children lived at Allentown and Bethlehem, where his descendants are still found. Michael Klase is buried in the Klase row in St. John's Lutheran cemetery at Snyderstown.

Catharine Klase, daughter of Valentine, was born in Bethlehem township, Northampton Co., Pa., Sept. 12, 1796, died June 30, 1875, and is buried at St. Jacob's church, near Reed's station, in Northumberland county. She married Felix Lerch, and early in life moved to Mount Carmel, where they engaged in keeping hotel. For a long time this was the only house of public entertainment in Mount Carmel. According to a reference in the Northumberland county history they had an important hotel stand. Located almost midway between Sunbury and Pottsville, and on the original Indian trail leading to Philadelphia, they saw numbers of the red men as they passed the place. Later they conducted a hotel at Paxinos, Pa. Their children were: Susan, who married Amos Vastine; Benjamin, who lived at Stonington, Pa.; Abraham, who lived at Mount Carmel; Sebella, who married Jacob Tribley and lived near Stonington (they were the parents of Rev. D. B. Tribley, minister of the Lutheran Church at Minersville); and William H., the youngest, still living at Mount Carmel, the oldest settler living there to-day, who, though in his eighty-fourth year, conducts a store and is very bright for a man of his years.

Mary Eva Klase, daughter of Valentine, Sr., was born Dec. 20, 1803, died Feb. 13, 1887, and is buried at the Blue church near Paxinos, Pa. On Dec. 7, 1823, she married Solomon Fegley, and they subsequently purchased a farm on what is known at present as the Reading road, three miles west of Paxinos, which they owned for several years. At the end of that time they sold it and purchased a place just north on the Center turnpike. Mr. Fegley followed farming nearly his whole life, in his early years being occupied to some extent in coal mining and railroad building. Mr. and Mrs. Fegley had the following children: Eliza; Valentine; Rosana, Mrs. Sober; Catharine, Mrs. McWilliams; Caroline, who married Willoughby Hass; William; Harriet; Ellen, Mrs. McWilliams; Mary; Eva; George K., living at present at Shamokin, Pa., who is a member of Lincoln Post, G. A. R., has served as sheriff of Northumberland county one term and has been active in politics for a number of years (he at present is treasurer of the Klase Family Reunion); and H. K.

H. K. Fegley, son of Solomon, was born March

15, 1836, and died Aug. 11, 1910. At an early age he went to Sunbury, where he was employed by John W. Fryling in his store. He next engaged in merchandising, which he carried on successfully, and later built a nail mill; in the east end of Sunbury, which prospered also. Mr. Fegley married Mary O'Brien, of Washington, D. C., and their surviving children are: William, who is engaged in electrical operations in Topeka, Kans.; Mrs. J. A. Lamb, living at Sunbury, Pa.; and Mrs. William Colhoun, of Sunbury.

Valentine Klase, Jr., son of Valentine, Sr., was born in Bethlehem township, Northampton Co., Pa., July 13, 1799, and died April 20, 1872; he is buried in St. John's cemetery at Snyderstown. He married Mary Baker, of Milton, Pa., where she was born Feb. 6, 1794, her family being pioneer settlers in that section. Mrs. Klase died Feb. 11, 1884, and is buried in St. John's cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Klase settled on a tract of land one mile south of Snyderstown, same being a part of the purchase of Valentine Klase, Sr. Here in 1817 they erected a log house and barn, which is still standing and in a good state of preservation; it is now owned by Charles Snyder, who at present owns part of this farm, located a short distance south of Snyderstown. They cleared the land of timber and started farming, which was Mr. Klase's occupation until the time of his death. In 1823 he erected a distillery for the manufacture of liquors. In looking over some of his papers we find the price for the distilling of one bushel of rye was twenty-five cents; whiskey sold for forty cents per gallon. Valentine Klase was also engaged in the cutting of timber and its manufacture into lumber. He owned a tract of timber land on Fishing creek, in Columbia county, Pa., the timber for which was sawed up and rafted down the creek to the river, thence to Sunbury, where it was disposed of. He was a progressive man, as is shown by the fact that he was a strong advocate of the free school system. On election day he rode eight miles through eighteen inches of freshly fallen snow to cast his vote for free schools, being the only one to go from Snyderstown. This election carried for free schools by a majority of one, so his efforts were not wasted. About the first school held in Snyderstown was a subscription school held at his house for several winters. Jacob Snyder, the founder of Snyderstown, left a plot of ground for school purposes. Valentine Klase was one of three trustees appointed to hold this land and they filled this trust till there was a regular school board elected by Shamokin township, after which the same was turned over to them. The papers relative to this are still in existence.

On the farm which Valentine Klase owned was what was considered to be a valuable mineral deposit. This was tested for oil in 1869 to a depth of

600 feet, by drillings. In 1887 it was again tested, to a depth of 3,200 feet, for the same purpose, neither test showing any signs of oil. On this farm is found a mineral spring the waters of which may be drunk of freely by man, but the same is death to small animals, as they succumb almost as soon as they touch the water. The compiler has seen as many as a half dozen dead in it at once, some having died apparently just before his coming.

Valentine, Jacob and Henry Klase, along with John Smith and Samuel Hoover, were the founders of St. John's Lutheran Church at Snyder-town, which church was erected jointly by Lutherans and those of the German Reformed faith, in 1821.

All the generation of the sons and daughters of Valentine Klase, Sr., have passed away. They were among the early settlers of Snyder-town and vicinity, living there and raising families who were honest, upright, stalwart men and women. They not only cleared the ground but improved it, fought back the wolves and panthers, and saw all the wild animals depart gradually for thicker forest lands. The record of the children of Valentine Klase, Jr., is as follows:

(1) Catharine Klase, daughter of Valentine, Jr., married Abraham Rimert. They owned and lived on a farm one mile west of Stonington, on the Center turnpike, and were engaged in farming until the time of his death, which occurred very suddenly while he was on a trip to Sunbury. They had the following children: David; Martin; Valentine; Albert; Samuel; Mandis; Mary, who married John Savage and lived in Sunbury; Jane, Mrs. Koons, who lives in Watsontown, Pa.; and Anna, Mrs. Hoff. Abraham and Catharine Rimert are buried at St. John's Lutheran cemetery, Snyder-town.

(2) Eva Klase, daughter of Valentine, Jr., was born at the homestead at Snyder-town and died in Ohio. She married George William Lerch and early in life they moved to Canton, Ohio, where he purchased a farm, which they cultivated until his death. They had eleven children, all of whom were living at the time of the fiftieth anniversary of their parents' wedding, which was celebrated on Feb. 4, 1891.

(3) John Klase, son of Valentine, Jr., was born Oct. 3, 1821, at the homestead in Shamokin township, and died May 12, 1906. He is buried in St. John's Lutheran cemetery, Snyder-town. When John Klase was but sixteen years of age he would drive a four-horse team to Pottsville, Pa., with a load of produce. The trip would take from three to four days. Arriving at Mount Carmel, he would stay over night, stopping with Felix Lerch, his uncle. This hotel being very often crowded, he like others would roll up in sheepskin robes and sleep on the bar-room floor. At this time there

were practically no houses after leaving the Weigh Scales, near Shamokin, till near Pottsville, and he has related how the deer often crossed the road in droves, and toward evening the howl of wild-cats and panthers could be heard. While he was still a boy Mr. Arnold shot a panther that measured nine feet in length, within a half mile of the house, and one morning when sent out to bring in the horses he found a large black bear in the pasture fields; the animal scampered away at his approach. In his early life he began the study of music, in which he excelled considering the limitations of the times, and he taught singing school, was musician for the military company during the battalion days, and led the choir of the Lutheran Church at Snyder-town for forty years. His opportunities for obtaining an education were very meager. After attending subscription school several months during the winter, he had the advantage of one winter at an academy in Bethlehem, Pa. He had charge of his father's lumber interests on Fishing creek in Columbia county, where he manufactured lumber, rafting the same down to Sunbury. Buying a piece of land, which now forms a part of the farm owned by Henry Pensyl, of Stonington, he cleared it and farmed there to the time of his marriage, Nov. 8, 1849, to Margaret Evert, daughter of Solomon and Rachel (Lorman) Evert, of Snyder-town. After marriage he moved on the farm of Mr. Evert, for whom he farmed ten years. Then he and his brother Valentine purchased the John Smith farm, a half mile east of Snyder-town, which they farmed in partnership for a number of years, at the end of which period John Klase bought Valentine's interest and continued to live on the farm till the time of his death. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Snyder-town, having joined the congregation when seventeen years of age, under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Shindel. In 1845 he joined Mount Taber Lodge of Odd Fellows, located at Shamokin, and several years later he and several others succeeded in getting Shamokin Valley Lodge, No. 527, I. O. O. F., organized at Snyder-town, Mr. Klase being one of the charter members. He passed all the chairs, was secretary for twenty years in succession, and helped to build the new Odd Fellows Hall more than fifty years after the organization. John Klase was one of the foremost men of this section in his active years, identified with many phases of the life of the community. He was one of the first school directors to serve in Snyder-town borough, and held several other borough offices. He was not only trusted and respected by his fellow citizens, but he held their affectionate esteem to an unusual degree, old and young alike addressing him familiarly as "uncle." On Nov. 8, 1899, he and his wife Margaret celebrated their fiftieth anniversary of wedded life. The celebration was attended by 227 guests, who partook of dinner. Mr.

and Mrs. Klase were married by R. A. Fisher, and on the occasion of the golden wedding Rev. Mr. Wampole, of Shamokin, Pa., was present and gave a very interesting talk to the guests. Mrs. Klase is now living with her son John. She has reached the age of eighty. John and Margaret Klase had the following children: (1) Sallie J., born Nov. 21, 1852, died Aug. 8, 1897. She married Dr. G. A. Smith, son of Daniel Smith, of Snyder town, and they lived for a short time at Hartleton, Pa., thence moving to Liberty, Tioga Co., Pa., where the Doctor built up a very lucrative practice. He is still living there. Mrs. Smith came home to visit her father in the summer of 1897, while he was sick, and taking sick while there died at his home. She is buried in St. John's Lutheran cemetery at Snyder town. She had three children: Bertha G., who is a graduate of the Mansfield State normal school, and has been teaching for a number of winters very successfully; Arthur A., who graduated from Bucknell University and later studied law, which he is now practicing in Williamsport, where he makes his home (he married Alta Shae); and Leon, who is at home with his father and is attending school. (2) Solomon Ellis, eldest son of John Klase, was born at Snyder town, Nov. 12, 1854, and as a boy worked on his father's farm during the summer months, going to the public school during the winter seasons. When twenty he attended the Elysburg Academy one or two terms, after which he taught public school several terms. When fourteen years of age he joined St. John's Lutheran Church and at once became active in both Sunday school and church work. He has a fine record as superintendent of the Sunday school, which position he has filled for twenty-five years in succession without missing one Sunday in attendance. He married Flora Deibler, daughter of Jonosoe B. Deibler, of Snyder town, and is living at present on the homestead farm of John Klase, where he has erected a house and barn, being half owner of the homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Klase had two children, Mabel, who died at the age of sixteen, and Myrle, who is living at home. (3) John Hower.

JOHN HOWER KLASE, youngest son of John Klase, was born March 6, 1864, at the homestead at Snyder town. As a boy he worked on the farm during the summer months, going to school during the winter terms, until sixteen years of age, when he went to the Missionary Institute at Selinsgrove for one term, thence going to New Berlin for two terms. He then helped to build the Philadelphia & Reading railroad through Snyder town, and in the year 1884 graduated from the Woods Commercial College, Williamsport. Immediately thereafter he started cutting and manufacturing timber for the coal mines, continuing this business alone for five years, when he entered into a copartnership with Luther Cooper and enlarged

the scope of his operations, manufacturing lumber for all general purposes. After cutting and manufacturing timber for two years in the southern part of Northumberland county, Mr. Klase bought out Mr. Cooper's interest and connected himself with S. Bailey, of Danville, Pa., with whom he entered into the manufacture of lumber on an extensive scale in Perry, Juniata, Huntingdon and Franklin counties, in which region he spent five years. In 1897 he took a half interest in the homestead farm, which he and his brother Ellis bought, later on, each having half of the 180 acres. He is living at the present time on the old homestead farm, in the house built by John Smith in the year 1815; it is a stone house, and the walls are as solid as the day they were completed. John Smith, a brother-in-law of Valentine Klase and one of his administrators, lived and died on this farm and raised his family there. He was the progenitor of the Smith descendants now in that community. He and his wife are buried in St. John's cemetery at Snyder town. At his death the farm was purchased by John Klase and Valentine, his brother. John Hower Klase is at present engaged in farming and the raising of market truck, taking special interest in the hybridizing of grains and small fruits, in which line he has had very good results, in the way of producing much hardier species.

On June 12, 1889, Mr. Klase married Elizabeth L. Miller, daughter of Christian and Esther (Reed) Miller, of Paxinos, Pa., and they have had two children, both living: Myrtle May, born April 16, 1890, attended public school till seventeen years of age, taught Hills school one term, and then entered the Bloomsburg State normal school, where she graduated in July, 1910; she is engaged in teaching at the present time. Maud Esther, the younger daughter, born Feb. 27, 1894, attended public school till sixteen years of age and at the present time is attending Bloomsburg State normal school, being a member of the class of 1912.

Mr. Klase is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, and for a number of years was a teacher of the male Bible class in the Lutheran Sunday school. In 1885 he joined Shamokin Valley Lodge, No. 527, I. O. O. F., of Snyder town, which was organized in 1856, and has gone through all the degrees; has represented the lodge at the annual meeting of the grand lodge several times; has been a representative of his lodge to the Odd Fellows' Orphans' Home Association for eight years; has served there on the Property committee three years, and at present is serving as chairman of the board of trustees, taking a particular interest in the welfare of the home. He joined Royal Arcanum Lodge No. 945, at Sunbury, where he continues his membership at the present time. He is also a member of the P. O. S. of A. He was one of the originators of the Klase Family Reunion,

and has been active in the work since its establishment, having been first secretary of same and historian. He has served his fellow citizens as member of the school board and of the town council, as auditor, constable and borough officer. Politically he is a Democrat.

(4) Levina Klase, daughter of Valentine, Jr., was born at the home near Snyderstown; she married Isaac Boughner and they moved early in life to Macon, Mich., where they engaged in farming to the end of their days. They had the following children: Jefferson, George, Clara, Bell and Henryetta, all living in Michigan as far as known.

(5) Hannah Klase, daughter of Valentine, Jr., was born at the homestead farm near Snyderstown. She married Daniel Donbach, and they moved to Ringtown, Schuylkill county, where they resided to the time of her death. Their children were as follows: Catharine, the eldest, married Joseph Klingerman and they moved to Beaver Meadow, where he was an employee of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company; George, a college graduate, for several years was engaged in missionary work in the far West, coming back to Pennsylvania in 1908 and engaging in contracting and building at Shamokin, where he now resides; Laura, youngest daughter of Mrs. Hannah Donbach, is living at present at Ringtown, Pa., taking care of her father, who has become an invalid.

(6) Susan Klase, daughter of Valentine, Jr., was born at the homestead near Snyderstown Dec. 12, 1833. She received a meager education in her youth, attending public school for a few months during the winter. In September, 1855, she married George C. Adams, of Ralpho township, son of Casper Adams. For several years they lived in Snyderstown, until Mr. Adams bought the Adams homestead farm in Ralpho township, Northumberland county, to which they moved in 1863, residing there till the time of Mr. Adams's death. He was an active member of and worker in the German Reformed Church, where he held the office of deacon for a long time, and he is buried at the Blue church near Paxinos. Since his death Mrs. Adams has been living mostly with her son, G. G. Adams, and daughter Mahala. She is a member of the German Reformed Church. Mr. and Mrs. Adams had the following children: Alvin, who met with an accident on the railroad that caused his death; Leannah, who married Francis Barrell and they reside at Reading, Pa.; Mahala, married to Charles Paul, and residing at Paxinos, Pa. (they have one child, Belva, who married Grant Vought, now of Emporium, Pa., and has one child); and General G., youngest son, born in Ralpho township. As a boy General G. Adams worked on the farm during the summer months, attending school in the winter. He married Sadie Miller, daughter of Christian and Esther (Reed) Miller, of Paxinos, and after his marriage purchased a store in

Snyderstown, which he conducted for several years. Selling it he bought the homestead farm, and engaged in farming for several years, then conducting the hotel at Paxinos for three years. He next bought the "Elysburg Hotel," which he enlarged and there he and his wife reside at the present time, conducting the hotel along with their farm. They have one child, George Hatton, who is at home with them.

(7) Sallie Klase, daughter of Valentine, Jr., was born at the homestead at Snyderstown. She married Noah Ware and they lived most of their lives in the northern end of Northumberland county. They had four children: William, who is employed conducting a sawmill in operation near Catawissa, Pa.; Benjamin, who is married and lives near Washingtonville, Pa.; Jefferson, who is married and lives at Three Rivers, Mich.; and Maryann, who married Albert Hill and resides at Milton, Pa. (they have two children).

(8) Valentine Klase, son of Valentine, Jr., was born at the homestead near Snyderstown, in 1830, and died in 1891 at Snyderstown, where he is buried at St. John's Lutheran cemetery. During his early boyhood he worked on the farm during the summer months, attending school a few months in the wintertime. When a young man he learned the blacksmith's trade at Snyderstown. He married Sophia Evert, daughter of Solomon and Rachel (Lorman) Evert. After his marriage he conducted a shop for several years in Elysburg, Pa., after which he and his brother John bought the John Smith farm in partnership, conducting it for several years. Then Valentine disposed of his interest to his brother John and moved on to the Solomon Evert farm, thence to Snyderstown, where he erected a house and blacksmith shop, and continued to reside till the time of his death. He was a member of the German Reformed Church, and a well known man, having served in a number of the borough offices. He and his wife had the following children: Cordelia married George Albert Startzle and they reside in Snyderstown; they have had children, Nora, Maude and Clifford. Allison married Lydia Startzle and they reside in Snyderstown. John Curtis married Catharine Resler, resides in Snyderstown, and has one child, Violet. Rodella married George Gross and they moved to Mount Carmel, Pa., where she died, survived by one child, Alice. The brothers John Curtis and Allison Klase were for a number of years in partnership, conducting a threshing outfit and sawmill. Later Allison sold out his interest to John Curtis, who is conducting same at present.

(9) William H. Klase, son of Valentine, Jr., was born at the homestead near Snyderstown Jan. 3, 1824. Like the rest of the children of the family he was employed on the farm during his younger years, helping to clear the land in the summer time and going to school several months in the

winter. When he became a young man he learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for a number of years at Snyderstown. He married Susan Adams, daughter of Casper Adams, of Ralpho township, Northumberland county, and they resided for a number of years on a farm situated on the Center turnpike, about two miles east of Stonington. In 1861 he moved to a farm a half mile west of Snyderstown, which he bought, and has made his home there ever since. By his first wife he had two children, of whom Maryetta is married to Solomon F. Arnold and resides in Snyderstown (they have one child, Lula, who married John Deibler and has two children, Martin and Robert). After the death of his first wife William H. Klase married Lena Dunkleberger, by which union he had two children: P. C., who is at home with his parents; and Agnes, who married J. G. Quick and has two children living, Leon and Mildred, J. G. being deceased (they live at Snyderstown, Mr. Quick being engaged in contracting and building).

William H. Klase, at the present time of writing in his eighty-eighth year, is in general good health for his age. He is a member of the German Reformed Church, has held numerous borough offices, and is highly respected in the community. At his home some forty members of the family, including his children, grandchildren, sister Mrs. Adams, and other relatives, assembled on Jan. 1, 1910, to celebrate his eighty-sixth birthday, in honor of which he was presented a handsome Morris chair and other gifts. At this time and place the Klase Family Reunion was organized, Solomon F. Arnold being elected president and John H. Klase secretary. The time appointed for the first meeting was July 27, 1910, and Edgewood park, Shamokin, Pa., the place.

KLASE FAMILY REUNION.—The first annual reunion of the Klase family was held at Edgewood park, Shamokin, Pa., on July 27, 1910. The notices and invitations for this affair were sent out to the descendants of Valentine Klase (or Klose), Sr., as at the time there was not a complete record of the children of Johonas Kloss. But since he began the compilation of this record Mr. John H. Klase has been able to learn who his children were, and finds that Jacob, one of them, moved to Milmont, Ohio, in 1851, taking his family, which consisted of sons and daughters. This branch of the family held its second annual reunion at Meadowbrook park, Bascom, Ohio, on Aug. 25, 1910. Mr. John Hower Klase received an invitation to same, as he did also to a reunion of the Hoover family, one of Johonas' daughters being married to Henry Hoover. They lived in Northampton county and are the ancestors of the Hoover family living in Northumberland county. The rest of the family of Johonas cannot at present be located and should this sketch be read by any of

the descendants Mr. Klase desires them to get into communication with him as soon as possible. Invitation to the next annual gathering of the Klase Family Reunion will be extended to the descendants of Johonas Kloss as far as known, every effort being made to include all the relatives.

John Smith, one of the early settlers in Snyderstown, Pa., was a brother-in-law to Valentine Klase, Sr. Mr. Smith settled here in 1811, and Mr. Klase finds from the birth of his oldest daughter that he built the stone house wherein Mr. Klase resides in 1815. So that part of the Klase family very probably came up at the same time about 1811, and settled on the Valentine Klase tract of land.

The meeting at Edgewood park, on July 27, 1910, was attended by about three hundred and fifty, Mr. Klase's register showing 320 names, while there were several families that did not register. The meeting was called to order by President Solomon F. Arnold at 1:30 P. M., and after he had stated the object of the gathering a committee of ten was appointed to serve for one year to complete the organization, viz.: C. F. Lerch, Silas Klase, George K. Fegley, Jesse Klase, Felix Lerch, Mrs. Alice Price, Mrs. Doll. Goodwill, Mrs. Jane Koons, Mrs. Mary Savage and Rev. D. B. Tribbley. These elected Solomon F. Arnold, president, John H. Klase, secretary, George K. Fegley, treasurer, to serve for one year. Rolling Green park, near Sunbury, Pa., and the second Wednesday in August, 1911, were chosen as the next place and time of meeting. After these arrangements had been completed Rev. D. B. Tribbley was introduced and gave a very interesting address treating on the early immigration to America, the faithful honesty and liberality of the early members of the family. The address was well delivered and received with applause. All present enjoyed the occasion.

In writing the sketch of the Klase family, Mr. Klase was hampered very much by want of time, being obliged to do most of it after working all day on the farm, writing generally for an hour in the evening. Where dates of birth and death are not given the same were missing from records he had at this time, and he hopes that all the descendants of the family will cooperate with him by furnishing all available dates and giving him any information at their disposal, so that the family record may be properly completed and preserved for future generations.

JOHN B. CRESSINGER, M. D., who practices in Sunbury, where he has been located throughout his independent professional career, bears a name which has long been associated with professional circles in that borough, where his father has been a dental practitioner for over forty years. The family has been established in Pennsylvania for over a hundred and fifty years, the branch here-