The Axfords Of C ford, New Jersey

A Genealogy Beginning in 1725

COMPILED BY WILLIAM CLINTON ARMSTRONG BLAIRSTOWN, N. J.

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OTHER GENEALOGICAL WORKS BY WILLIAM C. ARMSTRONG

The Nathan Armstrong Record The Lundy Family Capt. John Kirkpatrick Genealogy The Hunt Households of Sussex County, N. J. The Kerr Clan of New Jersey



THE OLD IRON FOUNDRY OPERATED BY THE SHIPPENS AT OXFORD



ABRAHAM AXFORD'S HOUSE At Pequest, near Oxford Furnace, New Jersey. Erected in 1783. Now owned and occupied by Enos Hoagland. His grandmother was an Oxford.



CAPT. JOHN AXFORD'S HOUSE as it was when occupied by the family



CAPT. JOHN AXFORD'S HOUSE At Oxford, New Jersey. Erected Before 1782.



SAMUEL OXFORD'S HOUSE Between Pequest and Oxford Furnace, New Jersey

John Axford and Anna Beach A Genealogy

John Axford married Anna Beach. Neither the place nor the date of their marriage has been ascertained; but there is some reason to suppose that they were married in Bucks County, Pa., prior to the year 1725. They finally settled in what is now Warren County, N. J. In April, 1725, they were living in Bucks County, Pa. John Axford at that time entered into an agreement with Sarah Stevenson, widow, of the same place. He rented from her for a period of one year a tract of 800 acres, situated in the province of New Sarah was a daughter of Gov. Jennings Jersev. This agreement was witnessed of New Jersey. by Benjamin Field. Herman Van Sandt and Isaac Pennington, and is recorded at Trenton in Liber X of Deeds in the office of the Secretary of State.

It is thought that this plantation was near Trenton; and it is probable that John and Anna lived thereon about five years.

The next glimpse we get of John Axford is as picturesque as can well be imagined. He has decided to be a renter no longer; he has decided to take up land and own a plantation; on it he will build a cabin and settle down.

The first step for him is to select his land. The northwestern part of New Jersey, drained by the Musconetcong and Pequest Rivers, is almost an unbroken wilderness. He travels northward through Hunterdon County afoot to spy out the land and enters what is now Warren County. But he does not venture on this hazardous excursion alone; he is accompanied by a friend, George Green of Amwell Township, who is also seeking new land to buy.

When they reached the top of the mountain, they saw a valley spread out before them; their view was obstructed by the dense undergrowth so they climbed a tree to secure a better view of the valley beyond and thus make a wise choice of homesteads.

This was the place for them; Mr. Axford took up land in what is now Oxford Township; Mr. Green located farther up stream in what is now the southern part of Hope township.

John Axford bought and paid for a tract of 1600 acres; this became the old Axford homestead; he built his cabin near the large spring where Charles Scranton lived later.

A hamlet grew up near his dwelling. It was named Axford in his honor. The members of the Axford family have always retained the capital A at the beginning of their surname. But they were not able to compel their neighbors to pronounce the name correctly. Careless neighbors through slovenly pronunciation gradually changed the pronunciation into Oxford. So today, we have Oxford postoffice, Oxford township and Oxford furnace. Two guesses have been made as to why the sound of A was changed to that of O. Some think Ox is a little more easily pronounced than Ax. Be this as it may. the change was perhaps hastened by the fact that there was a university in England bearing the name of Oxford, a name familiar in America in colonial times. Oxford in Warren County, N. J., was not named for the University; that story is a myth. In later years the name Oxford began to creep by mistake into letters and even into wills. In a codicil to a will under date of October 4, 1795, Martha Oxford is mentioned when from the context we know that Martha Axford was meant.

Etymologically the origin of the surname is clear; as Axminster means the minster or church on the river Ax, so Axford means the ford over the river Ax.

We have stated that John Axford took up 1600 acres; soon after, according to tradition, he became even more ambitious and endeavored to secure a much larger tract of rich land stretching along both sides of Pohatcong Creek from Washington to Broadway; of this he had a survey made and filed his claim with a statement of metes and bounds at Burlington, in the office of the West Jersey Company; but for some reason the claim was not properly recorded and the property never came into his possession.

We quote from Snell's History, a passage written by Mr. W. H. Shaw, in which Mr. Shaw describes the coming of the Axford family to Warren County and gives us a glimpse of the conditions of life in those pioneer days: "These old pioneers, John Axford and George Green, on their first exploring journey, came far out into the wilderness; night coming on, they built a circle of fires within which they made a bed of a few boughs; and after partaking of a most frugal meal, they committed themselves to the embrace of Morpheus, with their knapsacks for a pillow and the starlit canopy of heaven for a cov-With the morning's dawn the pioneers ering. arose from their slumbers, partook of their scanty fare, and began looking around for the best place to erect a cabin; a short distance up the Pequest river on its south side was the one decided upon. This was to be Axford's mansion; there he built his pioneer cabin or log-house.

"In the meantime, the hardy old pioneer moved his family into the forest. Here they were isolated from the world. Marked trees were the only means by which they could find their way out of the forest, or back to their cabin home. A year passed by; a little clearing in the forest was made, the virgin soil produced а. crop, and the pioneer had a voke of oxen, a cow, a pig, and a faithful dog. The trusty old rifle, with the unerring aim of the pioneer, brought down the bear and antlered roe. which furnished meat for the family. A year or two more and the clearing was enlarged, a rude barn built, the cabin somewhat improved, and an air of prosperity seemed to manifest itself on all sides. In a few years, broad acres were spread out to the sun and rain, and the virgin soil brought forth abundantly. Twenty five years and we see a grown-up family, a modern frame or stone house and numerous outbuildings, a well-stocked farm and the work done by improved machinery. Such were the humble beginnings of the Axfords. and such the natural result of honest industry."

John and Anna Axford were members of the Religious Society of Friends, and belonged to the Hardwick Meeting. They are buried in the Quaker graveyard on the bank of the Pequest River in Allamuchy Township. John, in his will, dated 1772, left forty shillings to build a wall around the burial ground. The will mentions four sons, Abraham, Samuel, Jonathan and John. The homestead was bequeathed to John, husband of Abigail Hunt.

John and Anna Beach Axford had five children, four sons and one daughter. Each of these children married and left descendants. Their relative ages are not vouched for:

I. Abraham Axford, who died in 1792; he married Sarah Beavers.

II. Samuel Axford, who died in 1811; his will was dated March 12, 1805, and was probated Dec. 23, 1811; he married Sarah DeCow.

III. Jonathan Axford, who died 1806; he married Lydia ——.

IV. John Axford II, who was born Nov. 20, Old Style, 1735, and died Jan. 7, 1809, in the house where he was born. His will was dated June 22, 1808, and was probated March 15, 1809. He married Abigail Hunt.

V. Martha Axford, who was living in 1801; she had been a widow since 1785. She was born at Oxford and there spent her entire life. She married Joseph William Shippen, who had come from Philadelphia to oversee the iron mines.

Each of the four sons spent his life on his own farm near Oxford, Warren County, N. J.

JOHN AXFORD'S LETTER

About Shackleton's money to Mr. Thomas Anderson, living in Newton, Sussex County.

Thomas Anderson was a young lawyer at Maidenhead near Trenton; he settled at Newton about 1764; he served on the Committee of Safety, and was acting clerk of Sussex County, 1770-1777, and afterward Surrogate for twenty-two years.

Oxford, Feb. 28, 1767.

Sir:

I spoke with you last November Cort conerning that money which you are to get for my brother and me from Richard Shackleton, and promised you a handsome fee when you got it; which you told me you had judgment for before that Cort against Mr. Darby.

And I expect against May Cort you will have the money ready for us which I shall come for; and if you Do not proceed according to Law and get the money, I shall take some other method if there is no law to get it; for our patience is wore out and will not wate no longer without we can not get any Remedy.

Therefore if yo'll do well for us and yourself please get the money ready or show us a fair prospect of getting it; and your compliance will very much oblige.

Your friend and humble servint

The temporary strain on neighborly friendship as implied in this letter seems to have been happily relieved for a short time afterward Richard Shackleton signed John Axford's will as a witness. The will was dated March 17, 1767; the witnesses were Thomas Van Horne, Rd. Shackleton, John Thomson and John Jewell. Probate was granted at Burlington, N. J., Jan. 1, 1772; the will is recorded in Liber 15 of Wills. His sons, John and Abraham, are appointed executors.

The testator does not mention his wife Anna, hence presumably deceased; nor his daughter Martha, who had married well-off, and who was presiding over her own household near by; the omission does not indicate estrangement for those were the days when all daughters came off minus.

Abraham had married and was keeping house on his own farm; the will directed the mortgage on Abraham's farm to be paid, and also gave him a patch of meadow land, thirty rods square, called six acres, on the east side of the Large Ditch.

The original plantation was then divided into three parts. To John was given the Upper End of the Tract; the metes and bounds of this old-home portion are set forth very minutely, with many corners and bearings zigzaging across evidently to preserve cleared fields intact by following natural features. This zigzag line could not have been copied from an older document: so it had been necessary to secure the services of a surveyor to locate the partition line before the will was written. It is a fair inference that each of the sons knew what land he was to receive, before the will was opened and read after the funeral.

The South End of the Tract was to be di-

vided equally between Samuel and Jonathan, by a single straight line, the Upper Side to be Samuel's. That disposed of the real estate.

The inventory of the personal property amounted to £198, 16 s, 10 d. From this, forty shillings were to be given to the Managers of the Friends Meeting House in Hardwick, toward the building of a stone wall around the Friends' burying ground. Then followed three bequests: £16, 5s to Samuel; £9, 7s to Jonathan, and £22 to Abraham; the precision of these amounts gives some ground for supposing that the testator regarded them as debts which he owed to his sons, and this would indicate that he had all along been dealing with his children in a methodical way financially, than which no better way has ever been found for inculcating thrift: and Quaker thrift is proverbial.

ABRAHAM AXFORD AND SARAH BEAVERS

Abraham Axford, son of John and Anna, married Sarah Beavers; their marriage license was dated June 29, 1762; both were described as of Sussex County, N. J. On April 6, 1761, Abraham, while yet unmarried, had bought a farm adjoining his father's plantation. He bought it of Samuel Wells, and he placed on it a mortgage for £80. John Axford, the pioneer, in his will probated 1772, directed his estate to pay that mortgage and accrued interest.

On this land Abraham built near the Pequest River a house which bears his initials and the date 1780; the farm is now owned by Enos B. Hoagland, a descendant. The title to the farm passed in 1792 to Abraham's son John; in 1805, the said John and wife Lydia conveyed the land to his widowed mother, Sarah.

No complete list of Abraham's children has been found; John and Robert are named in Abraham's will; Sarah and Ann are mentioned in the will of their uncle, Samuel Axford, probated 1811. Combining with these into one list other names secured from various sources, a method more or less hazardous, a family of nine children is presented, whose relative ages are not vouched for:

I. Miss — Axford, a daughter, who became the second wife of Rev. Asa Dunham, who was pastor at Oxford and Mt. Bethel, from 1787 to 1797.

II. William Axford, said to have died unmarried. III. Joanna Axford, who became the first wife of Samuel Van Syckle, Sr., and had two children: Abraham Van Syckle and Samuel Van Syckle, Jr., the latter of whom was born 1803-12-31, and who married in 1825, at Belvidere, N. J., Mary DeCue; this Mary was born 1801-6-10, and was a daughter of John and Jane Thatcher DeCue.

IV. Isabella Axford, who became the second wife of Samuel Van Syckle, Sr.

V. Ann Axford, called Nancy, who in 1806, married Isaac Morgan and had five children: Sarah, Benjamin, Eliza, Abraham, and Mary Ann.

VI. Sarah Axford, who died unmarried in 1819; she made her home with her sister, Ann Axford Morgan, whose five children she names in her will.

VII. Robert Axford, born Nov. 9, 1780, died April 2, 1820, married his first cousin, Martha Axford. (See below.)

VIII. John A. Axford married Lydia Cooper. (See below.)

IX. Abraham Axford, Jr., born 1806, married Pennina Swayze. (See below.)

Robert Axford, son of Abraham, married Martha Axford on Jan. 4, 1807. They were first cousins. Martha was born July 23, 1778, and died Feb. 27, 1855, daughter of John Axford II and his wife, Abigail Hunt. They dwelt at Oxford and have tombstones in the Hazen cemetery. Their family Bible is in the possession of Enos B. Hoagland, a descendant. Four daughters, no son: I. Nancy K. Axford, born July 14, 1809, died Feb. 11, 1860; she married Levi Mackey.

II. Sarah J. Axford, born Aug. 12, 1811, died 1880, married Daniel Osmun, who was born 1808, and died 1890; they dwelt at Washington, N. J., and had Mary, Robert, Irvin, and Martha.

III. Abigail Hunt Axford, born Aug. 9, 1815, died unmarried May 25, 1836.

IV. Martha G. Axford, born Feb. 24, 1819, died March 9, 1851; she became the first wife of Paul Trimmer Fairclo.

Nancy K. Axford on Feb. 19, 1829, married Levi Mackey, born Nov. 16, 1805, son of William and Hannah Hendershot Mackey; William was born 1767, and died 1848; Hannah was born 1773, and died March 2, 1847.

Nine children:

I. Rebecca Kinney Mackey married Theodore Hoagland.

II. Elizabeth A. Mackey married Marshall Titman and had one child, Georgianna, who died young.

III. Sarah A. Mackey married Jason W. Dernberger.

IV. Edward Hunt Mackey married Clara Louise Smith.

V. William B. Mackey died unmarried.

VI. Martha Ann Mackey married William Prall.

VII. Levi D. Mackey died unmarried.

VIII. Mary Mackey married James Wykoff.

IX. Josephine Mackey married sine prole Charles Linaberry.

Rebecca K. Mackey married Theodore Hoag-

land. They had six children: Edward Mackey; Ella, born 1855, died 1919, (wife of Rev. Wesley Martin, born 1852, died 1921); Levi Watson married Ann Albertson); Emily, died unmarried; Enos, and Mary. Enos Hoagland married Elizabeth Rhinehart and had Helen (Mrs. James Fleming).

Sarah A. Mackey married Jacob Warren Dernberger; four children: Camilla May, Horace B., Aleine, and Mary J. (Mrs. Robert W. Forsyth.)

Edward H. Mackey married Clara Louise Smith; four children: Levi Clyde (Sheriff of Warren County), Crede Ella, Mabel, and Louis.

Martha Ann Mackey married William Prall; two children: Camilla Prall who married Albert Kendig of Los Angeles, Calif.; and Mayme Prall, who married George Russell of Rocky Ford, Colo., and has Mariam and Elizabeth.

Mary Mackey married James Wykoff; they dwell at Oxford, N. J., and have three children: Edna (Mrs. Theodore K. Bennett), William, who married Fannie Meyers, and Mary.

John A. Axford on Jan. 7, 1799, married Lydia Cooper of Mendham, N. J. Their son Robert was born 1800, and died 1873; he married Marie Jane Wilson of New Stone, N. J., who was born 1809 and died 1879. Robert and Marie had six children, four of whom reached maturity: Lydia, Jacob, Robert, Jr., and Andrew W., who was born Oct. 28, 1845. Andrew W. Axford removed from Hackettstown, N. J., to Naughtright, in 1868; he was a blacksmith and veterinarian; on Aug. 27, 1870, he married Catherine Slater; their only child was Dr. William Homer Axford of Bayonne, who married Ethel Beers Murphy.

Abraham Axford, Jr., married Pernina Swayze; they removed to Oakland County, Mich., in 1831. Six children:

I. Robert Axford married Murilla Thompson and had George, Mark, Lee and Cyphers.

II. Marshall Axford married Rachel Josephine Axford, daughter of Abraham Axford and his wife, Margaret Cummings De Cue. They were second cousins once removed; (see Fourth Group, Branch Two.)

III. Ogden S. Axford, born Aug. 2, 1829, in New Jersey, married Diana Sisson.

IV. Homer Axford married Mattie Sykes.

V. Clark Axford married Mary Flumerfelt.

VI. Serepta Axford married A. P. Sykes.

Ogden S. Axford married Diana Sisson who was born 1831; they had Josephine (Mrs. Fred Miller), Grant, Bert, Ella (Mrs. Judson King), and Julia (Mrs. Ezra Chamberlain).

GROUP TWO

SAMUEL AXFORD AND SARAH DE COW

Samuel Axford, son of John and Anna Beach Axford, married Sarah De Cow, daughter of Jacob and Jane (Thatcher) De Cow. They dwelt in Oxford township, Warren County, N. J., in a stone house on Furnace Brook, at the junction of the Furnace and Buttzville roads. Samuel's will is dated March 12, 1805, and was probated at Newton, Dec. 23, 1811; the will names many persons but it fails in some instances to indicate clearly the relationship of such persons to him-He mentions Ann De Cow (Mrs. Hegeself. man), and Sarah De Cow as daughters of Abraham De Cow; also Samuel Axford Boiles as son of John Boiles: and also Joanna as wife of Alex-So far as appears, Samuel and ander Patterson. Sarah had only one child living at the time the will was drawn. John Axford, of whom no further record.

JONATHAN AXFORD AND LYDIA —

Jonathan Axford, son of John and Anna Beach Axford, married Lydia ———. Their homestead was near Oxford Furnace; it was a part of the original plantation. It afterward passed into the possession of David and Aaron Smith. Three sons and one daughter have been assigned to Jonathan and Lydia:

I. John Axford, of whom no further record.

II. Jonathan, Jr.; this is said to have been he who at Newton, N. J., married Penelope Kinney, and had a son, Samuel Axford.

III. Abraham Axford, of whom no further record.

IV. Jane Axford, who on Nov. 24, 1795, married Benjamin Howell and had Jonathan Howell.

The frequent occurrence of the same Christian names makes difficult the identification of individuals.

(Here is a wide field for future research. A certain Jonathan married Ellen Kinney; and a certain Jonathan dwelt at Oxford, N. J., and was known as Doctor Jonathan who married and had four children, who removed to Michigan. See Axfords unplaced.)

JOHN AXFORD II AND ABIGAIL HUNT

John Axford II, son of the pioneers, married Abigail Hunt. They were married on Nov. 23, 1758, at the bride's home near the Yellow Frame Church; this was toward the close of the French and Indian War. Abigail was born April 15, old style, 1738, and died April 26, 1809, having survived her husband less than four months. She was a daughter of Samuel and Abigail (Know!ton) Hunt, and a descendant of Ralph Hunt, the English immigrant, to Newtown, Long Island. Abigail is mentioned in her father's will and was given £30 and a negro girl.

The compiler has been asked how he is related to the Axfords; he is not of Axford descent; he is connected genealogically with the descendants of Group Four, being the great-greatgrandson of Lieut. Richard Hunt, who was a brother of Abigail Hunt; Richard's daughter Sally married George Armstrong; (see Nathan Armstrong Record, and the Lundy Family, and also Hunt Households in Sussex County as published in Numbers 5, 6, 7, and 8 of N. J. Magazine of Genealogy).

John and Abigail dwelt on that part of the original Axford plantation on which the first log cabin was built.

They had nine children:

I. Samuel Axford I, who was born Nov. 22, 1760, and died June 10, 1836; he married Margaret McDonald; their tombstones are in the Mansfield graveyard; (See Branch One).

II. John Axford III, called Captain John,

who was born Dec. 22, 1761, and died May 14, 1843; he married Eleanor Polhemus; (See Branch Two).

III. Joanna Axford, who was born Nov. 16, 1763, and died unmarried, Sept. 2, 1836, buried in the Hazen graveyard.

IV. Abigail Axford was twice married; (1) to Mr. Ayers and (2) to William Parks; the Parks removed to Woodhouse, Ontario; (See Branch Three).

V. Ann Axford, called Nancy, who married sine prole John Kinney, Jr.; they dwelt at Belvidere, N. J.

VI. Abraham Axford, who married Polly McMurtrie; they removed to Ontario, Canada; the land they took up now forms a portion of the charming city of Simcoe. Polly was born Nov. 25, 1771, died Nov. 26, 1836, and was buried in St. John's cemetery. They had five children: Abigail, who became the wife of Maj. Teredol, Amelia, who married Mr. Bell, Martha C., born about 1801, in New Jersey, died June 10, 1870, aged 69 yrs., 6 mos., 22 days, John, who died July 1872, aged 65 yrs., 11 mos., and Sarah; no further record of this household.

VII. Jonathan Axford, who married Lana Pace, and removed to Ontario; (See Branch Four).

VIII. Sarah Axford, who married Thomas Bowlby and removed to Woodhouse, Ontario; (See Branch Five).

IX. Martha Axford, who was born 1778, at Oxford, N. J., died Feb. 27, 1855; she married Robert Axford, her first cousin, son of Abraham and Sarah Beavers Axford; (Turn back to Group One). A paragraph or two from the will of John Axford II (husband of Abigail Hunt) will show how in that day and generation provision was made for the care of widows. In addition to her dower, Abigail was to have the use during her natural life of the dooryard, the garden, the house, the barn and milk house, bed, bedding and furniture for one room, and the use of the negro wench named Isabell; and one-third of the moveable estate. His sons Samuel and John and his son-in-law, John Kinney, Jr., were named as executors.

BRANCH ONE

Samuel Axford I married Margaret McDonald. She was born 1762, and died April 25, 1818. They dwelt in Warren County, N. J.; both have tombstones at Washington. Seven children, all born near Oxford:

I. Hon. Samuel Axford II, born Sept. 22, 1784, died 1848; married Rachel Morgan. In 1808 they removed to South Yarmouth, Canada; in 1822, they returned to the United States and settled in Michigan.

II. Hon. John S. Axford, born 1786, died 1856, married Elizabeth De Cou; they settled in Michigan.

III. Abigail Axford, born Feb. 19, 1792, died Oct. 18, 1855, married Samuel Ramsey, Jr.

IV. Daniel Axford, born July 19, 1794, died Feb. 24, 1881, married Margaret Morgan; Daniel was sheriff of Warren County.

·V. Margaret Axford married Jesse Vliet; dwelt at Roxbury, N. J.

VI. Joanna Axford, born May 23, 1799, married William McDonald. VII. William M. Axford, born 1804, died 1872, married Edna Mackey.

SAMUEL AND RACHEL MORGAN AXFORD

Samuel Axford II, born 1784, died 1848, married Rachel Morgan in New Jersey. Rachel is said to have been a niece of Gen. Daniel Morgan of the Revolutionary War. In 1808, they went to Canada and lived about fourteen years near St. Thomas; then they returned to the United States and settled in Macomb County, Michigan.

This household endured privations and hardships on two frontiers; and concerning the conditions of life on each of these frontiers I intend to speak somewhat at large.

PIONEERING IN CANADA

Little is recalled about their sojourn in Canada; there is one incident, however, which has been handed down with unusual fulness of detail.

Samuel was a man of iron will, of strict integrity, an amiable friend, an obliging neighbor, a kind husband and an affectionate father, what may be called a whole-souled man; but he was not a man to be trifled with as the sequel will show.

During the period of Samuel's sojourn in western Canada, that country was almost an unbroken wilderness with only here and there a log cabin, and with also here and there, or even oftener, a wigwam occupied by Redmen of the forest. The greatest difficulty endured by those early Canadian settlers was that of obtaining covering for the feet and back to protect them from the inclemency of the weather. Dressed deer skins and cloth of all colors, in patches, would adorn the backs of both sexes, while for shoes, it would be of raw material, or of cloth wound around the feet for their protection.

Here follows an account of a rough-and-tumble encounter in Canada in which Samuel Axford was a principal actor, but was not of his seeking. The place was a hamlet named Delaware on the River Thames in Canada; the time was during the winter of 1817. Mr. Axford was living at South Yarmouth. His family needed flour. The nearest grist mill was at Delaware, thirty miles distant. For a vehicle he prepared the crotch of a tree on which he fastened a few bushels of grain and to which he hitched a yoke of oxen. To go and to await the grinding and to return in four days was quick time; often it took longer.

Delaware was a place of some importance as frontier villages go; it had a grist mill; it was the only place from many miles up and down the river where a ferry was kept for crossing; it was a trading post where furs and other peltry were brought in from the surrounding country and exchanged for a few of the luxuries of life, all too few at that period except bad whisky; however, all things considered, there was but little drunkenness. Still another attraction which must not be overlooked was Brigham's Inn, the only one in the town.

Mr. Axford, dressed in buckskin and wearing cow-hide moccasins, left South Yarmouth with his ox team for the mill at Delaware. Unshorn and unshaved he reached his destination. The weather having been cold and blustering, he arrived at Brigham's Inn fatigued and weary. Here was cheer; a blazing fire in a wide fireplace welcomed the guests, warming a motley crowd
as they sat around it, while others were practising at the old fashioned bar which bore a striking resemblance to a mammoth hencoop, guzzling extract of rye.

Mr. Axford, thoroughly chilly, felt the necessity of getting warm, so he stepped up to the fire, stood for a few moments facing it and then turned around with his back to it, several others doing the same.

He saw a man come towards the fire, but suspected nothing. Having stood awhile he placed his hands behind him, grasping one wrist; soon he felt a hot coal of fire drop into the palm of his hand. He shook it out and unconcernedly stood in the same position, mentally calculating that some one intended to insult or abuse him.

He discovered the joker—the individual who had come up to the fire—to be a large athlete nearly double his own size and weight. Altho he had never seen this fellow before, he recognized him readily from the description he had heard as a notorious and quarrelsome fighter who was widely known as the "Bully of Upper Canada."

The bully again dropped another coal in his victim's hand; and it was a second time thrown off; and Mr. Axford, in a manner more expressive than mule power, reached him a left hander, and down went the bully who gathered himself up and came for Mr. Axford again. A general tussel ensued—the bully throwing Axford who would turn his adversary when the bully would rise with him. At every opportunity that presented itself, Axford planted a blow in the side or breast of his adversary; or, whenever the bully would raise his foot to kick, Axford caught it and sent him sprawling uncermoniously on the floor. Of course, Axford received a few reminders in return.

When the fight had lasted about twenty minutes, the bystanders, thinking that the bully would overpower Mr. Axford or injure him, separated them. This exasperated Mr. Axford the more for he was not the stuff to yield until the one or the other cried "Enough."

Finally it was consented that he might try again. At it they went again, the fight lasting some twenty minutes longer, when the bystand ers once more interferred and separated the parties. They took Mr. Axford to a log house near by and determined that the fight should end.

But Axford could not be controlled; he became frantic—jumping and threatening and calling for his brother John (the Hon. John S. Axford) who was then in New Jersey. In the course of an hour or so, he became more considerate and regained a degree of self-control. They kept him a prisoner for a short time, but finally let him go. Crossing the river he went to his sister's who lived about a mile across the river and got her to cut his hair close to the scalp and grease it.

Then he went back to the Inn and immediately renewed the fight with all the vigor possible. This time the bystanders did not interfere. Most of the time the bully, being taller, rained blows on Axford's head, while Axford warded them off as much as possible and then planted heavy blows on the bully's breast or sides. The contest lasted about an hour; at last the bully yielded and cried "Enough."

Mr. Axford was much bruised about the head, but without a black eye; his arms had be-

come so bruised in warding off his adversary's blows as to be almost a complete mass of raw flesh from wrist to shoulder; which disabled him from work for nearly three weeks. His opponent, the bully, was put to bed by the spectators and remained there for six weeks; and never after was he a sound man, dying about a year thereafter.

PIONEERING IN MICHIGAN

One of the outstanding engineering feats of our early national history was the construction of the Erie Canal to furnish cheap transportation both ways between the Great Lakes and the Hudson River. The canal was opened for traffic in the year 1825.

Samuel Axford and his wife Rachel and their nine children then born ranging in age from fourteen years to one year, left Canada and settled in Michigan in the year 1822. That these dates are nearly co-incident is not accidental; there is a real relationship of cause and effect between the two events. The building of the canal had been for some years a topic of nation-wide interest; and this agitation and excitement naturally culminated in the first great rush of English-speaking farmers into the territory of Michigan. The Axfords and their kin went in on that first wave.

For two hundred years Michigan had been a hunter's paradise with the fur trade as the paramount economic factor; trappers never welcome farmers; for, as farmers come in, fur-bearing animals go out. There were not more than 3000 white persons (and many of those were French) in all Michigan when the Axfords went there in 1822. For the next century Michigan was to be one vast timber camp, but as yet not a single cargo of lumber had been shipped eastward.

The Axfords crossed from Canada at Detroit. They went over the river in an open scow propelled by French boatmen, who plied their oars to a monotonous chant.

Detroit was merely a frontier post occupied by United States troops; the officers' residences, the soldiers' barracks, and the store-houses, all built of logs, were enclosed by a palisade fifteen feet high, with loopholes. The few civilian inhabitants were engaged in buying fur from the Indians and trappers and in selling supplies to the endless stream of immigrants who poured into the town each day, only on the next day to vanish westward into the wilderness.

Michigan in those days was trilingual; to get along well at all you had to speak French and talk Indian, and sometimes it would help out if you had a smattering of English.

There were Indians in plenty but they were not especially dangerous; they were persistent and insolent beggars peeping into the cabin window at all hours of the night and day, demanding food, shelter and whisky, especially the last, for which, if it were not forthcoming, they proceeded at once to make a personal search of the premises. The murdering they did was mostly on each other during drunken sprees.

The Indians, of course, brought in furs of many kinds and in large quantities; another article brought to town by them for barter was maple sugar. They had reveled in this sweet from times prehistoric, making it in small thick earthen pots, but when iron kettles came to them the output was enormous. Every spring every Indian who could muster a kettle moved his family into the bush and made sugar as long as the sap ran. The season being over, he strapped a large basket on each side of his pony, loaded up and came to town with two or three hundred pounds of maple sugar. Some Indians made good sugar; that of others was full of twigs and bits of bark and insects.

So much for Detroit and the territory of Michigan; this Axford household now moves forward to its new home.

Samuel followed a corduroy road built by the United States government, extending six miles N 26 W; it was then known as Saginaw road: it is now called Woodward Avenue. At the end of this stood a log hotel; then came a stretch of low-lying swampy road where the wagons sank After wallowing through mud for to the hubs. fifteen miles or more, their hearts were made glad by coming out on the high and drier plains near Royal Oak; here a trail branched off and ran due north to Rochester. A few miles bevond Rochester was the farm which Samuel Axford (husband of Rachel) had chosen for their future home.

It is a fact, strange but true, that the pioneers in a wooded country never occupy the best lands first. Why not? Because the richest soil produces the heaviest timber; the poorer soil produces fewer trees and scrubby. To clear an opening in a dense forest of oak, hickory and other hardwoods growing on fertile ground is a long and wearisome task; it is much easier and quicker to fell and burn the smaller trees which stand on sterile soil. Their most pressing necessity is to get in a grain crop that would ripen before frost; and the most quickly grown field crop was buckwheat.

Sam Axford used to tell about their first buckwheat crop; what hopes they had and how anxiously they watched it. It sprouted and came up fine but it grew very slowly or not at all. "It was," said he, "the shortest buckwheat straw I ever saw; and in my time I have seen some pretty poor buckwheat. When this crop of ours was in bloom, I often watched the bees working on it; the straw was so short that the honey bees had to kneel down to get at the blossoms."

The homestead of Hon. Samuel Axford (husband of Rachel Morgan) was in Shelby, a surveyed township in Macomb County, a tract of nearly 700 acres, one and a half miles by three quarters, in sections six and seven. A portion of it including the dwelling which he erected is now in possession of Oscar Price. Samuel owned other lands; and an examination of land titles shows that he had considerable money, for the period, loaned on mortgages.

Samuel Axford died July 14, 1848; Rachel Morgan, his wife, died June 12, 1852; both are buried in Mt. Vernon cemetery, Macomb County.

Samuel and Rachel Morgan Axford removed from New Jersey late in 1808 or early in 1809, and settled in Canada West near South Yarmouth in what was then known as Long Pointe District, which district was so named from the long narrow peninsula projecting into Lake Erie.

Tradition says that Samuel was impressed into the British service by Gen. Proctor and that he participated in the Battle of the Thames.

Having removed to Michigan he was one of

the signers to a petition for the organization of Macombe County, and he continued to be active in public affairs. He was a delegate to the first State Constitutional Convention, which was held at Detroit, May 11, 1835. He was an Associate Justice of Macombe County, 1836, and a State Representative 1839-1843. He was a Jackson Democrat, and a Presidential Elector for Andrew Jackson in 1834.

In 1840, he deeded 40 acres of land lying in Lapeer County to his son Livingston; also 120 acres of land to his son De Kalb.

He died at Shelby, leaving a reputation for strict integrity and fair dealing. He had attained to affluent circumstances; his real estate was inventoried at \$16,000 and his personal property at \$25,550; a total of \$41,550, no small sum in 1848.

Samuel Axford II, as already stated, was a member of the First State Constitution Convention in 1835. This Convention inaugurated a period of intense political excitement which eventually resulted in the admission of Michigan into the Union. There was a sharp clash of opinion as to where the southern boundary of Michigan should be located; this clash led to the Toledo War.

THE TOLEDO WAR

When Michigan was organized as a territory in 1804, she was promised statehood as soon as she had 60,000 free people. In 1836, she had the required number. But trouble arose over the fixing of the southern boundary; all agreed that the line should begin at the southerly bend of Lake Michigan; the controversy was as to where this line extended eastward should strike Lake Erie, above or below Maumee Bay; that is, above or below Toledo? The land in dispute was an area of 600 square miles. The original source of the trouble was the indefinite and ambiguous language used in earlier acts of Congress.

Ohio had been slow to assert her claim; she had allowed Michigan to exercise authority over the disputed district for many years. Ohio sent a party to survey the line as she wanted it; Michigan mustered her militia, marched them to the scene of contention, fired a volley over the heads of the surveyors, and placed some of the surveyors under arrest but released them soon. Passion ran high.

Andrew Jackson was in the White House. He hurried commissioners to interview the Gov-Jackson urged Michigan to allow Ohio ernors. to do all the mere surveying she wanted to; he urged Ohio to allow Michigan to serve all the writs she wanted to on debtors and criminals. This tided the matter over. In the end Toledo was assigned to Ohio; to Michigan was given in the Upper Peninsula lands fabulously rich in min-This border controversy, happily adjusterals. ed without bloodshed, is known as the Toledo War.

Hon. Samuel Axford II and his wife, Rachel Morgan, of Macombe County, Mich., had thirteen children:

I. Sally Axford, born in New Jersey, March 9, 1808, died June 19, 1876, in Macombe County, Mich.; married William Price.

II. Samuel Axford III, born at Long Point,

Ontario, Canada, Oct. 6, 1809, died at Oxford, Mich., May 17, 1882; married Phoebe Summers.

III. Morgan Axford, born March 24, 1811, married sine prole Rebecca Summers; buried at Mt. Vernon cemetery. Rebecca was a sister of Phoebe Summers (Mrs. Samuel Axford) and a cousin of Gardner Summers who married Eliza Ann Axford.

IV. William Axford, born at Windon, Canada, March 28, 1813, died Sept. 18, 1886, at Clarkston, Mich., buried at Mt. Vernon cemetery; married sine prole Ellen C. Axford.

William was a good business man. In connection with his brother-in-law, John Axford, he opened the first store in the village of Clarkston; he retired as a capitalist and invested his funds in farm mortgages. He was proud and aristocratic, somewhat eccentric, and always dressed in the latest style. And so was his wife Ellen; they were well matched. Oil portraits of them, lifesize, adorn the walls of the Town Hall of Clarkston, Mich.

William held several county offices, was state representative in 1850, and a member of the State Constitutional Convention, 1850.

V. John Axford, born Jan. 26, 1815, died Dec. 22, 1864, at Clarkston, Mich., buried at Holly, Mich.

VI. Charles Axford, born Aug. 23, 1816, died unmarried March, 1837, buried at Mt. Vernon cemetery.

VII. Daniel Axford, born Nov. 6, 1817, soldier in the Mexican War, killed in action, Nov. 7, 1847; his body was not brought back to the United States, but a cenotaph was erected to his memory in the Mt. Vernon cemetery. VIII. Margaret Axford, born Oct. 29, 1819, died Sept. 30, 1861, at New Baltimore; married Cortez P. Hooker; no issue.

IX. Eliza Ann Axford, born March 23, 1821, died July 20, 1873, in Macomb Co., Mich.; married Gardner Summers and had one child, Florence Livingston Summers, who married Mr. St. Johns and dwelt at Utica, Mich., and had May and DeKalb; of these May married Dr. William S. Brownell of Detroit.

X. Ralph Hunt Axford, born June 6, 1823, died June 30, following.

XI. Elias M. Axford, born Oct. 13, 1824, died unmarried Nov. 20, 1861, at Clarkston.

XII. Livingston Axford, born Feb. 23, 1827, died Nov. 17, 1892, at Holly, Mich.; married Violet G. Robertson.

XIII. DeKalb Axford, born April 14, 1829, died in Pontiac, Mich., July 7, 1876, married Lucretia Durkee and had a son who died in boyhood. The youngest four children were born in Macomb County, Michigan.

Sally Axford, born 1806, died 1872, daughter of Samuel and Rachel Morgan Axford, married William Price. Five children:

I. Marie Price married William Galentine of Rochester, Mich., and had William, Jr., (died 1908, in Chicago) who married Mabel Smith and had Sybil.

II. Rachel Price, unmarried.

III. Oscar Price married Nellie Hayes; no issue.

IV. Axford Price married Laura Ann Fosdick and had Corden (died unmarried), William, Oscar and Samuel; the last named son occupies the dwelling erected by Samuel Axford and owns part of the 700-acre homestead.

V. Nelson Price married Charlotte Cox and had Clara (Mrs. Homer Sharp) and Clark (unmarried.)

Samuel Axford III was born in Canada, in 1809, died in 1882, and was buried in Oxford cemetery, son of Samuel and Rachel Morgan Axford. In boyhood he went with his father's family to Michigan in 1822, and dwelt near Oxford. He was state Representative in 1842 and a State Senator, 1851. He married Phoebe Summers and had seven children:

I. Payne Axford married Elizabeth Copeland and had Samuel who married Elizabeth Breasley, lived at Orion, Mich., and had Payne and Helen.

II. Morgan Axford, born at Oxford, Mich., died in Florida, married Edith Green and had Worth, Don, Cass, Roy, Naoma, Edith and Morgan.

III. Elizabeth Axford lived in Detroit, died unmarried.

IV. Sarah Axford died unmarried, 1907, at Detroit.

V. Worth Axford died at Ann Arbor, Mich., married Mary Bishop and had Morgan, Daniel and Grace.

VI. Wright Axford married Adella Meyers and had a son, Fred Axford, who lives in Nebraska.

VII. Rachel Axford died unmarried.

Livingston Axford, born 1827, died 1893, buried at Holly, Mich., son of Samuel and Rachel Morgan Axford, married Violet G. Robertson, who was born in Glasgow, Scotland, Oct. 18, 1831, and came to Michigan in 1837. Livingston was a merchant at New Baltimore, Mich. They had five children:

I. Dr. William L. Axford, born Jan. 14, 1858, died unmarried in Chicago, Jan. 17, 1891, aged 33 years; he was a surgeon of unusual ability; he originated the present practice used in reducing a fractured knee-cap; and he is said to have been the first to reduce such a fracture without leaving the patient a cripple for life.

II. Ellen V. Axford, born July 1, 1859, died June 4, 1921, at Holly, Mich., married Solon H. Wilhelm and had son Dean B., who married Louise Moore.

III. Samuel R. Axford, born Jan. 28, 1864, died Dec. 6, 1871.

IV. John Axford, born July 22, 1866, died June 15, 1911, buried at Caro, Mich.; married and had a son Livingston.

V. Lloyd L. Axford, born Jan. 7, 1871, a lawyer living in Detroit, Mich. He married Helen Nelles and has a son Arthur who married Hazel Stratton, and had a son, Robert Axford.

Lloyd L. Axford, LLD., has practiced law for more than thirty-five years and is an acknowledged authority on the Law of Real Estate; he is a member of the Law Faculty of the University of Detroit; and his lectures on his special subject have been published by the University under the title of "Michigan Conveyancing," a copy of which is found in nearly every Michigan law office.

The Pioneer and Historical Society of Michigan published a series of books relating to their state; volume XIV was issued in 1889. When out of print, a second edition was issued in 1908, to which was added a supplement of ten pages on the Genealogy of the Axford Family, which sketch was written by Lloyd L. Axford and Henry W. Axford, but was based in large part on personal recollections and on material gathered by Elizabeth Axford (Mrs. W. C. Flummerfelt.) Elizabeth was one of the earliest genealogists of the Axford Family.

JOHN S. AND BETSY DE COU AXFORD

John S. Axford, born in New Jersey in 1786, died 1856, son of Samuel and Margaret McDonald Axford, was in 1817, a member of the Mansfield Lodge, F. and A. M., at Washington, N. J. He was a member of the Michigan Constitution Convention, 1835, and a delegate to the Convention of Assent. He married at Pontiac, Mich., Betsy De Cou. Betsy was born in 1788 and died in 1844; she was a daughter of Abram and Mary (Hibler) De Cou. De Cou is a surname of various spellings and of frequent occurrence in the Axford genealogy. Seven children:

I. Daniel Axford, born 1810, who married Catherine Young; they removed to California and had John, Theodore, Thomas Benton, Nancy and Harvey.

II. Samuel D. Axford, born 1812, died 1890, married twice: by his first wife, Deborah Lazilear, he had John (married Rose Brown), and Jacob; by his second wife, Jane M. Tiffany, he had Minnie M., who married Joseph C. Brown and has Chauncey.

III. William R. Axford, born 1816, married and had five children: Mary (Mrs. William Knox), Jane (Mrs. Stout), Elizabeth (Mrs. Bowen), Malina (Mrs. Safford), and William R. of Eureka, Kan.

IV. Mary Ann Axford, born 1818, died 1902, married in 1841, at Washington, Mich., Jacob Hadley, born 1811, died 1899; they had ten children: Charlotte (Mrs. Mortimer Wilcox), Margaret, Jacob, Jr., who married Belle Horn and had Marshall, May and Hubert; Mary, who married sine prole Joseph Young; John, Elias, Marshall, Abigail, Samuel who married Myrtle Harrington; and Belle who married Phillip C. Butts and had Edna.

V. Margaret Axford, born 1820, married 1844, at Washington, Mich., Marshall S. Hadley, born 1818, died 1888, a cousin of Jacob; they had two children: Elizabeth A., who married Albert H. Comstock of Duluth, Mich., and had Marguerite (Mrs. Charles W. Andrews); and Margaret Hadley, who married Charles Burch, P. E. Archbishop of New York.

VI. Harvey Axford, born 1822, unmarried.

VII. Abigail Axford, born 1825, married A. B. Cudworth; no issue.

For the names of John S. Axford's grandchildren, we are indebted to the DE COU Genealogy showing descent from Leuren des COU the Huguenot, compiled by S. Ella DeCOU and John Allen DeCou, 220 pages, 1910; a book richly illustrated and documented.

THE RAMSEYS

Abigail Axford, born 1791, died 1855, married Jan. 8, 1814, Samuel Ramsey, Jr., born Oct. 15, 1784, died Sept. 6, 1855, son of Samuel Ramsey, Sr.; they were Presbyterians; both have tombstones in the Mansfield graveyard. They bought one of the Axford farms in 1843.

They had six children:

I. Margaret Ramsey, born Feb. 16, 1815, married April 14, 1837, Samuel D. Stewart, and had three children: Tempe, William R. and Imla. Of these, Tempe married sine prole Dr. John Robbins. William R. married in 1891 Nancy Grondyke (both buried at Hackettstown, N. J.) and had John, Charles, who married sine prole, and Lewis unmarried; Imla married May, 1871, Mary Hann, and has Alexander T.

II. Nancy D. Ramsey, born June 4, 1816, married John M. Young; (see below).

III. William Ramsey, born March 25, 1818, married Dec. 11, 1850, Frances De Witt, born Sept. 4, 1822, daughter of Moses and Catherine (Brink) De Witt, and had an only child, Abigail, who married (1) James S. Smith and had Frank De Witt Smith, who married Adeline Ivins and lives at Lawrenceville, N. J.; Abbie married (2) Fredric James Bezona and lives in Brooklyn, N. Y.

IV. Amanda Ramsey, who died unmarried in her twenty-first year.

V. Lemuel Ramsey, who died at age of sixteen.

VI. De Witt Ramsey, born March 8, 1831, died March 31, 1860, married Caroline Eveland; (see below).

Nancy D. Ramsey on June 12, 1832, married John M. Young, born 1805, died June 14, 1867; they were farmers and lived between Wiretown and Hackettstown, N. J.

Thirteen children:

I. Daniel Axford, born July 6, 1833, died unmarried Oct. 12, 1889.

II. Samuel Ramsey, born May 14, 1835, married and had Jennie, Nancy, John, Harry and Laura.

III. Emma E., born June 12, 1837, died Aug. 12, 1906, married John Hance on July 17, 1852, and had Nettie, Annie and Laura.

IV. Amanda R., born Sept. 5, 1840, married on April 5, 1870, Charles M. Young, who died March 21, 1897.

V. William H., born June 23, 1844, died August 31, 1903, married on Feb. 8, 1891, Carrie R. Adams, born June 4, 1869, daughter of William and Margaret Kithcart Adams, and had Lulu C., born Oct. 14, 1892, who is now Mrs. Stackhouse of Stanhope.

VI. Jacob R., died unmarried.

VII. De Witt R., born Dec. 21, 1850, married Dec. 24, 1862, Hattie Fleming and had Augustus (deceased) and Bertha.

VIII. Abby R., born March 5, 1853, died Sept. 16, 1888, married Joseph Hart, and had John Y.

IX. Sarah A., born Oct. 4, 1857, married Robert L. Day and had Robert L., Jr., and Sadie, the latter of whom died unmarried.

X. Jennett R., born Dec. 25, 1859, married William Frome and had Minnie, Weston and Jennie.

XI. Lizzie, born Dec. 10, 1861, died in 1863.

XII. Nancy D., born Jan. 5, 1862, died Nov. 28, 1902, married John Minzs on Nov. 16, 1898, sine prole.

XIII. John M. Young, Jr., born May 12, 1866.

DeWitt Ramsey married March 26, 1853, Caroline Eveland, born March 5, 1831, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Eveland. They had three children:

I. Edmon McLaughlin Ramsey, married Anna McPeake, sine prole.

II. Samuel Axford Ramsey, born July 16, 1856, at Andersontown, N. J., married Elmira Snyder (see below).

III. Walter DeWitt Ramsey, born Dec. 7, 1858, died 1906, married Alice Beatty, died 1905, daughter of George W. and Emma Waters Beatty; they had two children: Elmer B. and Carrie. Of these Elmer B. married Irene Dufford and had George B. who married Ruth —, and Carrie who married Thomas Neigh and had Helen, now a student at Elmira College.

Samuel Axford Ramsey married Sept. 5, 1871, Elmira Snyder, born Oct. 18, 1849, died Oct. 30, 1922, daughter of Jacob and Eliza Kinney Snyder. Two children: both born at Washington, N. J.:

I. DeWitt Canfield, born July 31, 1878, married Feb. 17, 1904, Belle E. Scott, born Oct. 25, 1878, daughter of John and Emma Scott; they dwell at Morristown, N. J., and have Willis Scott, born Jan. 9, 1906.

II. William Henry, born Dec. 5, 1881, married (1) on Oct. 19, 1907, Grace E. Nixon, daughter of Joseph and Charlotte (Mitchel) Nixon and had Charlotte N. Ramsey; and (2) Fannie Crocker and has William Crocker Ramsey.

After the death of DeWitt, Caroline married Uzal Canfield and had a son Albert who died sine prole in 1927; Uzal died in 1924. Daniel Axford, son of Samuel and Margaret, married Jan. 11, 1817, Margaret Morgan who was born Sept. 20, 1797, and died Oct. 9, 1866, daughter of Benjamin and _____ (Johnston) Morgan. Daniel was sheriff of Warren County, N. J., 1836-1839.

They had three children:

I. Rachel Morgan Axford, born Aug. 18, 1818, died March 11, 1896; married William Drake.

II. Margaret Axford, born Feb. 3, 1826, died April 19, 1905; married Rev. Richard Van Horne.

III. Nancy Axford, born Sept. 25, 1835, died June 22, 1921; married Isaac S. Dill.

These three sisters and their husbands are buried in one plot in the Union cemetery at Hackettstown, N. J.; their resting place is marked by three prominent monuments.

Those were the days when petty thieving was punished with the whip. From twenty to forty lashes were inflicted according to the sentence pronounced by the judge, and regular fees were provided by law for the constables who performed such service. The culprit's back was stripped bare; his hands were tied above his head one on each side of an upright post, and his feet were strapped to the bottom. Special whipping posts were not often planted; at Newton they used the trunk of one of the Lombard poplars standing on the green; at Belvidere they used a maple tree in the public park facing the court house; at Log Gaol they fastened the prisoner to the post supporting the tavern sign.

In 1880 there were still living in Warren

County, N. J., several aged persons who remembered how a man was punished one winter morning at Paulina. He had been convicted of stealing a pair of shoes and sentenced to receive twenty lashes. The constable had provided himself with four cherry sprouts three feet long. After tying the thief to the post, the constable took one of the whips in his hand and counted the strokes as he gave them-one, two, three, four, fiveand then threw the whip aside, to be scrambled for by the young boys who stood around: then he took another and gave five strokes and thus continued until each whip had been used. The victim's back was sometimes washed with salt and water.

The whipping post was finally abolished by law; and it was during the administration of Sheriff Daniel Axford that whippings were last inflicted.

Rachel Morgan Axford married William Drake who was born Feb. 22, 1828, and died Feb. 14, 1892, son of Samuel and Catherine (Hulshizer) Drake, and grandson of Imla and Temperance (McPherson) Drake. Dwelt near Asbury, Warren Co., N. J.; eight children:

I. Henrietta Axford Drake; she married Josiah Ketchem, a farmer, and had John, Irving, and Elizabeth (Mrs. Earl Carpenter.)

II. Adeline Drake, married James Dufford and had Frank, Annie (Mrs. Wade De Witt), and Elizabeth.

III. Daniel Axford Drake, died aged 14 yrs.

IV. Albert Livingston Drake, born May 3, 1845, married on Nov. 20, 1866, Caroline Vliet, born Oct. 16, 1845, daughter of Nelson Vliet and his wife Caroline Beavers Stinson, and a descendant of Nathan Armstrong, the pioneer. They had Nelson, Caroline and Harry.

V. Margaret Morgan Drake, born Aug. 17, 1847, died March 4, 1908; she married as second wife Sylvanus D. Budd, born June 27, 1835, died Nov. 14, 1900, and had Sarah, Mary and William.

VI. Katherine Drake, born 1849, married Sept., 1869, Jacob D. Flock, a prominent merchant of Hackettstown, N. J., and had Ella Lauretta, Edith May, deceased, and Rachel Drake (Mrs. Scott); of these Ella married Roger Millen and has Bethune.

VII. William Henry Drake, born 1852, died 1913, married Oct. 31, 1876, Adeline Ayers, born Oct. 12, 1859, daughter of John and Margaret (Hance) Ayers; they had one child, John Ayers Drake, born May 25, 1878, who married Mary S. Sanford.

VIII. Rachel Van Horne Drake, married but died childless.

Margaret Axford married Rev. Richard Van Horne, D. D., born Sept. 20, 1819, died Sept. 11, 1903. Four children:

I. Margaretta Van Horne who married twice; (1) a son of Bishop Simpson and had two children who died young; and (2) Eugene Gwendolyn and had children.

II. Daniel Axford Van Horne who married and left children.

III. Charles Van Horne who married Miss Budd and has children.

IV. Richard Van Horne, Jr., born Oct. 28, 1857, and died unmarried Feb. 22, 1882.

Nancy Axford married Isaac S. Dill, born

Feb. 22, 1828, and died Feb. 7, 1891; they had one child, Ella Lauretta, who married James Everitt and had Isaac and Nancy.

Joanna Axford, born at Oxford, N. J., May 23, 1799, daughter of Samuel and Margaret Mc-Donald Axford, married William McDonald and had five children:

I. Philo McDonald married Miss McChestney.

II. Benjamin McDonald by his first wife Eleanor Duncan had Charles S. McDonald who married (1) Phoebe Burt, and (2) Marie McDonald.

III. Theodore McDonald married Elizabeth Jones.

IV. Margaret McDonald married William Jenny and had Joanna, Julia, William, Jr., and De-Kalb; of these William, Jr., married and had Robert (who married Florence Lawrence), William, Harry and Joanna.

V. Anna McDonald died unmarried.

Theodore McDonald married Elizabeth Jones; they dwelt at Ann Arbor and had four children:

I. Ann McDonald, who married Edward B. Gibson and had several children.

II. James M. McDonald married thrice.

III. Flora McDonald (Mrs. Pierce) of Mc-Keesport, Pa.

IV. Deborah McDonald, unmarried.

James M. McDonald by his first wife, Martha Ironton, had one child; by his second wife, Martha McLellan, he had three; by his third wife, Christine Jewell, none. James' children: Martha, Mary, Elizabeth and Margaret.

William M. Axford, born 1804, died 1872,

son of Samuel and Margaret McDonald Axford, removed from Oxford, N. J., to Oakland township, Mich., in 1832; on July 26, 1828, he had married Edna Mackey, daughter of Judge Joseph Mackey. Twelve children:

I. Oscar Axford, born Sept. 2, 1829, died May 19, 1843.

II. Samuel McD. Axford, born Nov. 10, 1831, died Dec. 10, 1873; he was a surgeon of prominence, and mayor of Flint, Mich., 1868; he married Jennie Lamond and had William L., who died unmarried, and Minnie, who married Jefferson T. Wing, dwelt in Detroit and had a son Thurber Wing.

III. Edwin Axford, born 1833, died same year.

IV. Edgar Axford, a twin, born 1833, died same year.

V. Thaddeus Axford, born Nov., 1834, married Nettie ——— and had son Charles who married and raised a family.

VI. Amanda Axford, born July 2, 1837, married Marshall S. Hadley.

VII. Elizabeth Axford, born Sept. 28, 1839, married sine prole W. C. Flumerfelt of Rochester, Mich.

VIII. Amelia Axford, born April 28, 1842, married for her first husband, William Miller, and had Edna Miller who dwelt in Rochester, Mich., and married (2) Claude Stranahan and had William Axford Stranahan.

IX. Melvina Axford, born Aug. 11, 1844, died Oct. 29, 1861.

X. William O. Axford, born Aug. 30, 1846, died March 28, 1883, at Los Angeles, Calif., married Harriet Wood. XI. Joseph Mackey Axford, born Nov. 11, 1848, died March 28, 1904.

XII. Lewis Cass Axford, born April 11, 1852, living at Rochester, Mich., married Aleitha Flumerfelt and had a child who died young.

William O. Axford married Harriet Wood and had two children:

I. Henry W. Axford, born Sept. 19, 1879, lives in Detroit.

II. Joseph Mackey Axford, born Nov. 19, 1880, married and has a child, lives in Hereford, Arizona.

BRANCH TWO

John Axford III married Eleanor Polhemus. John's will is dated March 17, 1841. Eleanor was born April 7, 1767, and died at Oxford, N. J., June 22, 1848, in her 82nd year; she was a daughter of Maj. John Polhemus and his wife Susannah Hart, and a granddaughter of John Hart, the Signer of the Declaration of Independence, and his wife. Deborah Scudder. John Axford III is sometimes mentiond as Captain John. They dwelt at Oxford, N. J., in the old stone house which is said to have been built by his grandfather. John Axford I; both have tombstones standing in the old Mansfield graveyard near Washington, N. J. Eleanor's grave is cared for by the Peggy Warne Chapter, D. A. R., They had fourteen children, two of whom died young and are not listed here:

I. John Axford IV, called Long John, was born Feb. 1, 1787, and died Sept. 18, 1865; he married (1) Sarah De Cue, and (2) Charity Johnson. II. Samuel Axford died unmarried.

III. Charles Axford; some say he married Ellen Jones, others say he married Eva Flumerfelt; he had a daughter Ellen who married De-Camp Cummins of Stillwater, N. J.

IV. Thomas Axford died young.

V. Abraham Axford, born 1795, died January, 1854, married Margaret Cummings De Cue.

VI. Edward Montgomery Axford, born August 20, 1807, died Dec. 14, 1879; married Mary A. Whiting.

VII. Abigail Axford married William Hart; they dwelt in Tompkins Co., N. Y.; they had Edward, Imogen (Mrs. Hallet) and Susan (Mrs. Lamberton.)

VIII. Susannah Axford, unmarried.

IX. Sally Boalsbee Axford married William Albertson and removed to Oakland Co., Mich.; they had Ellen Catherine (Mrs. Adams) of Chesaning, Mich., and Susan (Mrs. Jacob) of Flint, Mich.

X. Martha Ann Axford (called Patty) married William Van Buskirk Vliet and removed to Oakland Co., Mich., probably near Evart and Clarkston; of their fourteen children, the names of four only have been ascertained: Elizabeth Catherine (Mrs. Dresser); Van Rennselaer; Nathan; and Thomas Whitfield.

XI. Rebecca Axford, no further record.

XII. Eleanor C. Axford, died Nov. 15, 1887, married her cousin, William Axford, son of Samuel; they settled in Oakland Co., Mich.; no children.

Major John Polhemus, son of Hendrick Polhemus, made a splendid record of service in the Revolutionary War. At his own expense he recruited a company of 86 men and mortgaged his farm to buy guns for them. He fought at Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine and Germantown; he suffered at Valley Forge, fought at Monmouth; he was taken prisoner and confined in the old Sugar House in New York City; and when peace came, he returned home, poor in purse and broken in health.

What an exhaustless fund of anecdotes and reminiscences must his daughter Eleanor have heard from her father's lips.

It is hoped that it will not be out of place to record here an anecdote that has drifted down from mouth to mouth across the generations concerning Capt. John Axford and his wife, Eleanor Polhemus. It was in 1787; John, aged 22, and Eleanor, aged 16, had fallen in love with each Eleanor's parents, in order to delay the other. marriage, sent her to boarding school at Borden-John lost no time in making his way to town. Bordentown and persuading her to run away with him. They were married and he brought his bride back to the ancestral stone house which his grandfather had built in Oxford. A letter written by a great grandchild is here quoted: "My mother told me that when she was a child she used to visit her grandparents Axford; and that her grandmother Eleanor would sometimes speak of her distinguished ancestors, and then grandfather John would say, 'Now that will do, Nellie; remember you married a thief; for didn't I steal you from school'?"

John Axford IV was born in 1787 and died in 1865; he was familiarly known as "Long John" to distinguish him from a shorter-built kinsman. Old men in the community used to relate the following incident about Long John as they heard it told in their boyhood.

Long John was a witness in an assault and battery suit and gave damaging testimony against the defendant. The defendant's counsel, the once noted Ned Halstead, a saucy little lawyer, demanded again and again that the witness should show exactly how the defendant had mistreated the plaintiff. Axford, a powerful man, was not at all daunted at this. He grabbed the little ruffled-shirted lawyer and shook him till his teeth chattered.

The Court ordered Long John to be committed to jail, but his friends carried him out and crowned him a hero.

John Axford, "Long John", was twice married.

His first wife whom he married in 1810 was Sarah De Cou, born Oct. 4, 1790, daughter of John and Jane Thatcher De Cou. Sarah bore him seven children, four of whom died unmarried; namely, John D., Abraham, Ross and Samuel T., who was born 1812 and died at Independance, Mich., Aug. 20, 1890. John's second wife was Charity Johnson who was born Feb. 1, 1800, and died July 11, 1890. Charity had four children.

John's seven children not already listed were:

I. Caroline Axford married Jacob Smith. (See below.)

II. Mary Ann Axford married John Quincy Taylor. (See below.) III. Sarah DeCue Axford, born 1824, died 1891, married in 1854, at Hackettstown, N. J. Joseph Madah Rusling, son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah (Hunter) Rusling; and had three children: Sarah Josephine; Jennie who married E. Eugene Brown and had Eugene R.; and William Axford.

Sarah Josephine Rusling married in 1879 at Hackettstown, N. J., James B. DeCue, 1831-1897, son of Jacob and Juliette Ann (Brady) De Cue, and grandson of John and Jane Thatcher De Cue; they had one child Juliette B.

IV. Mercy Axford, born Aug. 6, 1829, died Aug. 28, 1868, married John Brown of Detroit, Mich., and had John, George, Edna (Mrs. Samuel Whisler), Victoria deceased, Lizzie (Mrs. Henry Shaffer), Catherine (Mrs. John Cousins), William and Arnot.

V. Edna Axford, born May 29, 1837, died Dec. 12, 1869, married as first wife, Ephraim Kline, born 1830, died 1877; they had Ralph who died unmarried; Clara Edith who married George A. Cady and died 1927; Ella now deceased, who married Jesse Ayrault; and Jennie, who died unmarried.

VI. Ann Axford married William Taylor. (See below.)

VII. William J. Axford married Ellen Summers, dwelt at Rochester, Mich., and had George who married May Buchanan.

Caroline Axford married Jacob Smith; they had eight children:

I. Sally who married Mr. Pettie.

II. Garret who lives at Scranton, Pa.

III. Eliza.

IV. Samuel Axford.

V. Peter Axford, who died in 1929, and was buried at Newark, N. J.

VI. John Axford, who married Mary Catherine Cramer and has Cramer Smith of Pontiac, Mich., and Harriet (Mrs. Roy Wilson.)

VII. William.

VIII. Caroline, who married as second wife Ephraim Kline; they had two children: Lulu (died unmarried at age of 22 years), Bernice, who married (1) sine prole Dr. Frank Summers, and (2) Charles Henry Brown by whom two children: Jack who died unmarried in 1929, and Charles Bennett Brown.

Caroline Smith (eighth child, Mrs. Ephraim Kline) was the last child to be born in the old stone house near Oxford Furnace; her mother died when she was very young and she lived for some years with her great aunt, Sally Axford Albertson; when she was about ten years old, her father with the three children, Peter, John and Caroline, removed to Michigan and settled at Clarkston. Peter later returned to the east. Caroline, after her marriage lived in Pontiac, Rochester, and later in Detroit. She is now (1930) 85 years of age.

Mary Ann Axford married John Quincy Taylor, a cousin of William. They had seven children:

I. Ruth Ann Taylor, who married Mr. Bennett and had Viola (Mrs. Howard), and Harry deceased.

II. William Taylor died at age of six weeks.

III. Austin J. Taylor, who died 1927, leaving three daughters: __Nora (Mrs. Miller), Clara (Mrs. Farnhum), and Alla (Mrs. Bonney.) IV. Duane Taylor married Emma Benjamin, and has Ella, John and Lunette.

V. Viola Taylor, who married Mr. Smith, and has Madeleine, Thad and Axford.

VI. Ellen Taylor died in 1878; she had married G. Emerson Cranford.

VII. J. Axford Taylor married Elizabeth Cranford and had three children: Bernice who married Frederick E. Hayes of Detroit and has Frederick E., Jr., and Clarence Taylor; Clarence Cranford, and Howard who died in 1888.

Ann Axford, daughter of Long John, married William Taylor, dwelt in Oakland Township, Mich., and had six children:

I. Charles V. Taylor married Margaret Wilson; they dwelt at Pontiac, Mich., and had Wilson, Morrison and Anna.

II. Harvey J. Taylor married May Anderson; dwelt at Rochester, Mich., and had S. Verne, Jesse and Harold.

III. William Taylor married ——.

IV. Charlotte Taylor married Joseph Case.

V. Ella (called Nell) Taylor, married Ed. Sutton; they dwell at Armada, Mich., and have Charles and Hattie.

VI. Alice Taylor.

Charlotte Taylor married Joseph Case; they dwelt between Oxford and Orion, Mich. Three children:

I. Charles Case married Georgia Mason; they dwell at Rochester, Mich., and have two children.

II. Homer Case married Miss Knapp; they dwell at Rochester, and have one child.

III. Jay Case lives in Montana.

Abraham Axford, fifth child of John Axford III, married Margaret Cummings De Cue, daughter of John and Jane (Thatcher) De Cue. Margaret was born May 3, 1799, and died April 6, 1858. They have tombstones in the old cemetery at Washington, N. J. Ten children:

I. Mark John Axford, born Sept. 19, 1822, died Dec. 13, 1891; married Mary W. Pierson.

II. Calvin Brainerd Axford, born 1824, died 1888; married Stella Slingerland.

III. Susan Hart Axford married Amos S. Mattison.

IV. Mariah Axford married John Green.

V. William Henry Axford. born Oct. 25, 1830, died June 14, 1894, married Margaret A. Sharp, born April 1, 1831, died Oct. 27, 1911, daughter of Jacob Sharp; their son William lives in Morristown.

VI. Charlotte Axford married Cyrus C. Currier, and has a son Francis living in Maplewood, N. J.

VII. Harriet Louise Axford married William Martin; they dwelt in Newark, N. J., and had three daughters: Maxy Axford, Mrs. C. Dell Ellis and Mrs. Frances M. Lehlbach.

VIII. Rachel Morgan Axford married Marshall Axford, son of Abraham Axford and his wife, Pernina Swayze; they were second cousins once removed; the name of both fathers was Abraham; Rachel and Marshall had two children. (See Group One.)

IX. Alexander Axford married Rose A. Rogers.

X. Sarah Ann Axford married Henry R. Manners. Mark John Axford married Mary White Pierson, daughter of Charles and Ann (Pickle) Pierson. Of their ten children, four died in infancy; the surviving children were:

I. Laura Beulah Axford, born Sept. 27, 1848, at Scranton, Pa., died in Providence, R. I., married Adoniram J. Wood.

II. Ellen C. Axford, born Jan. 22, 1854, married Irving Minn.

III. Margaret E. Axford, born March 17, 1856, died 1928, married Benjamin Wood and had Jean Wood (Mrs. F. Gifford.)

IV. Ruth Pierson Axford, born April 28, 1858, died Feb. 19, 1882.

V. Eugene Henry Axford, born June 28, 1861, died April 6, 1895.

VI. William John Axford, born March 5, 1864, at Oxford, N. J., married Mary L. Carling.

Laura Beulah Axford married Adoniram Judson Wood of Swanzy, Mass. They had four children, of whom Viola and Addie died unmarried:

I. Axford Judson Wood, of Washington, N. J.

II. Charles G. Wood.

After the death of Adoniram, Laura married Myron Lewis.

Charles G. Wood married and dwells in Buffalo, N. Y. Four children:

I. Addie Wood married James Mason Tilney of Plainfield, N. J., and has two children: Janet and Albert.

II. Luther E. Wood married Jean R. Ramsdell and has Jean and Sally. III. Kenneth A. Wood married Emily White and has Joan, Kenneth A., Jr., and Emily.

IV. Alton F. Wood married Mildred Lee and has Fraser and Charles H.

William John Axford married Oct. 12, 1887, Mary Lillie Carling, daughter of Peter C. Carling, and his wife, Barbara C. Lillie. They dwell at Washington, N. J. Six children:

I. Ruth Axford married Charles Cozzen and has Charles, Jr.

II. Roy Axford married Agnes Phillips and has William P. and James.

III. Julia Axford married Milton K. Thorp and has William Axford.

IV. Nina Axford married Lester Miller and has Julia.

V. Elizabeth Axford married Hugh Murray.

VI. Rosemary Axford.

Calvin Brainard Axford was twice married. By his second wife, Elizabeth Ayers, he had no children; Elizabeth afterward became the wife of John Lanning. For his first wife Calvin married Sarah Slingerland, born Oct. 17, 1822, died March 26, 1879. Calvin and Sarah had a son, Luther M., who married and had a son, F. W. Axford, who married and has a daughter Dorothy who is a student in the Women's College at New Brunswick.

Susan Hart Axford married Amos S. Mattison; they had four children:

I. Orvin, died unmarried.

II. William Axford, died 1924, married and left a son, Eben.

III. Ida, resides in Hachettstown.

IV. Cyrus Currier married and had two daughters: Susan Elizabeth, who married Edward Rudolphy and had a son, Edward, Jr.,; and Janette who married Arthur Bowes and had a daughter, Sally Ann.

Edward Montgomery Axford married in 1826, Mary A. Whiting, who was born April 29, 1809, and died Dec. 26, 1878; they dwelt at Danby, near Ithaca, N. Y. Two of their children have tombstones in the Denton burying ground: Harriet, born 1831, died March 23, 1833; and Abigail, born 1838, died 1839. Three of their daughters left no children: Libbie (Mrs. Robertson), Susan (Mrs. William Puffer), and Ella unmarried. Their other children were:

I. Delia Axford who married Hiram Seymour, dwelt in a suburb of Corning, N. Y., and had Elbert B. and Frank of Rochester, N. Y.

II. Charles Axford married and had one son; they removed to Michigan.

III. John Wesley Axford, born Feb. 2, 1842, died Nov. 13, 1875, married Anna A. McCabe.

IV. Maria A. Axford, married Mahlon Mandeville.

V. Lewis Curtis Axford, married Cornelia C. Johnson and had two children: Montgomery R., born May 13, 1876, who married Myrtle B. Brokaw; and Maude E.

VI. Frank Seymour Axford, removed to New York City.

John Wesley Axford married on May 1, 1869, Anna Agnes McCabe, born May 4, 1848, died Feb. 17, 1817; they had two children: Jennie, born March 1, 1870, died July 16, 1870; and Katherine Adelia, born April 1, 1871, who on June 17, 1901, married George Arthur Shields and had two children: Dorothy Axford, born Sept. 25, 1908, and Eleanor Irene, who died an infant.

Maria A. Axford married Mahlon Mandeville and had four children, of whom Jennie and Max died in infancy; the others were E. Antoinette and Arthur, who married and had three children.

E. Antoinette Mandeville married Charles F. Murray; they reside at Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, and have four children:

I. Eleanor Welles Murray who married J. Rech Guckes and has Eleanor Murray.

II. Charles Edward Murray, who married Alice McKay and has Dorothy, Gordon Edward and Donald.

III. Marion Page Murray who married Carl H. W. Ingraham and has Helen Lewis.

IV. Jean Guthrie Murray, who married Harold C. Habinger.

BRANCH THREE

Abigail Axford, daughter of John Axford II and Abigail Hunt, was twice married; by her first husband, Mr. Ayres, she had a daughter, Elizabeth Ayers (Mrs. McCollum); she had six children by her second husband, William Parks; they removed to Canada and settled in Woodhouse, Norfolk County.

I. Abigail Parks married Mr. Williams.

- II. John Parks married Elizabeth Griswold.
- III. William Parks married Louisa House.
- IV. Joseph Parks is said to have married.
- V. Samuel Parks married Ann McGary.
- VI. Mary Ann Parks married a VanNorman.

Jonathan Axford, seventh child of John and Abigail Hunt Axford, married Lana Pace in New Jersey; after the birth of several children, they removed to Canada and settled in Windham township, Norfolk County, seven miles from Simcoe.

In the old Windham cemetery at Simcoe, Ontario, there is a grave with a marker reading, "Lana, wife of Jonathan Axford, died April 7, 1852, aged 77 years," which would make her birth year 1775; and an unmarked grave beside hers is pointed out as that of Jonathan.

Six children of Jonathan and Lana:

I. Samuel Axford, born in Sussex County, N. J., Dec. 25, 1800, died in Ontario, Canada, Sept. 11, 1851; married Lavinia Boughner.

II. William Axford, born in N. J., 1802, died, aged 84 years, in Owasso, Mich., at his son Hiram's; buried in Oakville cemetery; married Sally ———.

III. Lydia Axford, born 1805, died 1890; married John Boughner.

IV. John Axford, born in New Jersey, 1806, died in Norfolk County, Ontario, July, 1872; married Betsy Boughner.

V. Mary Ann Axford, died young.

VI. Betsy Axford married James Hunter.

SAMUEL AND LAVINIA BOUGHNER AXFORD

Samuel Axford, 1800-1851, son of Jonathan and Lana Pace Axford, married on May 18, 1825, Lavinia Boughner, who was born May 2, 1805, died March 21, 1865, daughter of Matthias and Sarah (Misner) Boughner. Eight children:

I. Sarah Ann, born 1826, died 1851, married Richard Wood and had Emily.

II. Israel, born 1828, died 1907, married Amy Shaw.

III. George, born 1830, married Cordelia Wilson.

IV. Amy, born 1833, died unmarried.

V. Huldah, born 1836, married Alexander Henderson, and had Amaretta, Mary, Lena and Ada.

VI. Wellington, born 1839, died 1912, married Catherine Fonger.

VII. Robert, born 1842, married Jennie Force, and had Robert (killed in World War), and Byron of Elkhart, Ind.

VIII. John, born 1845, died 1923, married Jane Lampman, and had Lavinia Louise (Mrs. George Adams) of Hamilton, Ont.

Samuel Axford, husband of Lavinia, was of sandy complexion with reddish hair which his brothers did not have.

Some German immigrants, Dertenger by name, settled some distance from Samuel and Lavinia. They did not understand English; they had brought to America plenty of German silver coin. The people around coveted this and cheated them right and left. Samuel befriended them, did their writing, and advised them as to the value of their money. In time Samuel died and his son Israel ran the farm. Mr. Dertenger and his son came there buying horses; and the old man said to Israel, "I told my son that your father had been honest with us when we came to this country; and I know that you will be honest." The old
man had remembered Samuel's kindness and honesty after many years.

Canada is accustomed to scraps between the French and the British; to these London pays little attention; but in 1837 there was a scrap on between British and British; London sat up at once and took notice.

William Mackenzie tried to raise recruits and capture Toronto; of course he failed, but the whole country became much excited. The militia was called out. The discontents assembled at a village twenty miles from Samuel Axford's home at Delhi. Captain Samuel Axford marched his men toward the enemy who dispersed at his Samuel had left his wife and chilapproach. dren at home, in immense forests, with sparse settlements. His wife. Lavinia Boughner, naturally became anxious as night came on; finally, taking her young children, she made her way about two miles to what is now known as the Brantford road. There she waited until nearly midnight before the returning soldiers came along. Timidly she spoke to them as they passed and asked if they knew Samuel Axford. "Yes," came the reply, "we know him, and he's a man and a white man. too."

Four Boughner brothers lived in Sussex County, N. J., during the Revolutionary War. They favored British supremacy. After the war they removed to Canada. Their names were Henry, John, Matthias and Martin. Matthias was the grandfather of Lavinia Boughner, wife of Capt. Samuel Axford of Delhi, Ontario.

When the Boughners started on the long journey into the wilderness, they invited their friends and relatives in Jersey to follow them and said to them, "As soon as we cross into Canada, we will chip the trees so that you can easily follow our trail and find us."

Israel Axford married Amy Shaw, born 1833, died 1912; they had three children: Alberta, who married Albert Smith, lives at Delhi, Ont., and has Erland, Amy May, Estella and Herbert; of these, Estella married Richard Lyness of Fergus, Ont., and has Luella, Milton, Vera, Aline, Wilhelmina, Edna, and Max; Herbert married Mary Dalton and has Burton, Marion and Clara.

George Axford married Cordelia Wilson; they have three children: Albert, deceased; Addison of King Lake, Ont., and Phoebe (Mrs. Walter Ashton) of Aylmer, Ont.

Wellington Axford, born Jan. 13, 1839, died Set. 14, 1912, married May 15, 1867, Catherine Fonger, born March 31, 1845, died Nov., 1908. They were married at Waterford, Ont. Seven children:

I. Dr. Montressor, born May 16, 1868, died April 5, 1922.

II. Rev. Alton Israel, born Nov. 27, 1871, died April 14, 1911, married Agatha Farley and had Kate.

III. James Leslie, born Oct. 24, 1874, married May 27, 1908, Jennie Carter; dwelt at Brantford, Ont., and had Phyllis and Arthur.

IV. Sarah Ann, born July 21, 1877, married April 27, 1904, Thomas Weatherston; dwells at Buffalo, N. Y., and had Catherine, Alice and Margaret.

V. Alice May, born Aug. 12, 1879, died 1923,; married sine prole Frank Livesy. VI. Welby Edson, born Aug. 10, 1889, died May 24, 1918; married sine prole Louise Langman.

VII. Arthur, died young.

Dr. Montressor Axford married Aug. 31, 1889, Alma Chambers, born May 26, 1872; dwelt in Buffalo, N. Y., and had three children:

Viola Lyle, Howard Montressor (married Ella Fischer), and George Leslie.

Viola Lyle Axford, born Sept. 5, 1892, married Aug. 10, 1913, William Douglas Marshall, born March 29, 1886; dwell at Morristown, N. J., and have two children: Alma Lyle, born July 12, 1914, and Mary Elizabeth, born July 3, 1919.

William Axford married Sally (probably Taylor) in 1834, at Windham, in Norfolk County, Ontario, who was born in 1815, died 1849, buried at Delhi. In 1864, William with his family removed to Sheawassee Co., Mich., and settled near Burton. In 1855, he married for his second wife Miss Misener; after her death he lived with his son Hiram at Owasso. He became a Christian at the age of eighteen and joined the Methodist church; he was an honest and upright citizen. He visited Israel Axford at Delhi and is remembered as a kindly and handsome man with dark curly hair, a fair skin and a face to be remembered.

William's children were Jonathan, Caleb, Lana, Lydia (Mrs. Matly), Hiram and Harvey.

Lydia Axford married John Boughner and had seven children:

I. Catherine (Mrs. Peter Bauslaugh.)

II. Walker married Sophia Kellam.

III. Ann Aliza (Mrs. Ed. Messecar.)

IV. Matthias married Emily Wilson.

V. Sarah Ann (Mrs. Walter Boughner.)

VI. Mary Lavina (Mrs. Albion Wilson) of Simcoe, Ont.

VII. Huldah Emmeline (Mrs. James Adams.)

John and Betsy Boughner Axford of Walsingham township, Ont., had seven children: Sarah Ann (Mrs. Elim Fonger); Peter; Wesley of Langton, Ont.; William who married Catherine Boughner; Miller who married Mary Ann Wright; Mary Ann; and James Edgar who married a Powell.

Betsy Axford married James Hunter and had Walter, Samuel, David, Lana and Eleanor; they dwell near Long Point, Ont.

BRANCH FIVE

Sarah Axford, born at Oxford, N. Y., daughter of John Axford II and Abigail Hunt, married Thomas Bowlby about 1788. Their eldest child was born in New Jersey. In 1796 or 97 they removed to Woodhouse, Ontario, where they built their log cabin in 1797. Thomas became a his Pioneer pioneer magistrate. Owens in Sketches devotes a chapter to the Thomas Bowlby, the Pioneer, and gives the chapter this heading, "The Old Woodhouse Squire Who Kissed the Bride."

Every one knows in a general way who a United Empire Loyalist was: He was one who during the Revolution stood for the unity of the British Empire as symbolized by the Crown. The Canadian government invited those loyalists who still remained in the United States to settle in Canada; and it took three great steps to make their coming easy.

In 1784 Canada bought 3,000,000 acres from the Indians and was thus able to offer clear land In 1791 Upper Canada was set apart as titles. a separate Province and the English-speaking settlers were relieved from the distasteful and irritating laws and customs of the French at Quebec. In 1792 the vacant lands of the Crown were ordered to be surveyed into tracts of 200 acres each and offered to settlers on easy terms; the usual charge was six pence an acre, which was \$25 for 200 acres, barely enough to cover the cost of the survey and of making out the deed. During the next six years 4,000 households poured in and took up homesteads. Many from Warren and Sussex counties, N. J., struck the trail; among whom were William Lundy and his brother Samuel, John Willson, John Silverthorn, and families bearing the surnames of Schooley, Havens, Doan, Corwin, Culver, Pettit, and Boughner. Many Warren County genealogies lead early to the Niagara peninsula.

Thomas Bowlby was near the end of the procession; the only disadvantage being that he had to go farther west to find choice land. It is not unlikely that he and William Parks visited the relatives of their wives near Niagara Falls on their way to their new homes in Woodhouse.

Thomas and Sarah Axford Bowlby had seven children, three of whom died young, Richard, Woolster and Abraham; the other children were:

I. Axford Bowlby, born in New Jersey about 1794, died Feb. 10, 1842, in his 53rd year; married Hannah Beemer, settled at Port Dover, Ontario. and had Lewis, Hiram, Sarah Ann, and Helen, who was born 1834, died 1851.

II. Thomas Bowlby, Jr., born 1801, married Harriet Lymburner, and had Sarah.

III. Martha Ann Bowlby, born 1803, married Andrew Dobbie and had Thomas and Andrew.

IV. John Alexander Bowlby, born 1808, died 1881, married Rachel Ann Birdsall and had Alexander, Thomas, Brandford, Sarah, Martha Ann, Francis Almena, Annie Marie, Emma and Phebe. Brandford inherited the old homestead.

We now go back to Oxford, N. J., and take up the story. A young man named Thomas Bowlby was seeking employment and adventure. He fell in with John Axford (husband of Abigail Hunt) and worked for him a while. He made love to John's daughter Sarah and married her.

After the birth of a son, this newly-formed household decided to remove to Canada. Mr. Axford was well-to-do, and to his daughter he gave a great wagon, a span of horses, a cow, and a young slave girl named Dinah. He gave her also a housekeeping outfit that was considered elaborate in those days, and a considerable sum of money for investment in the new country.

The Bowlbys start for their new home; the husband occupies the driver's seat and the wife and their son are sheltered by a screen.

The cow is tied to the rear end of the wagon and furnishes the party with milk during the long and tedious journey; the jolting of the wagon churned the milk and gave a fresh supply of butter and buttermilk each day.

This is the pioneer Bowlby outfit that came to a halt where the old Bowlby homestead is located in the second concession of Woodhouse. There they built their log cabin in 1797, having secured a government grant for 400 acres. The original deed with its massive pendent seal is still preserved and bears the date October 24, 1798. Woodhouse is in Norfolk County not far from Long Point, which is on the north shore of Lake Erie.

A word or two as to the after fate of their faithful attendants, the cow and Dinah. The poor cow trudged that painful journey only to meet a horrible death in the Canadian forest. She browsed in the woods and generally came home at night; but one night she failed to put in an appearance, and the family supposed she had wandered away. After several days' search, her body was found in the woods; her tail had caught fast to the branch of a tree and the poor creature had died of thirst and starvation.

Dinah was the first person of her race to enter Norfolk County; she was an expert cook and a neat housekeeper; the sight of a hair in the butter would destroy her appetite for a week. In after years Dinah wanted to marry; and, there being no one of her color near, she came back to New Jersey and married. After the death of her husband in New Jersey she went back to the Bowlby family in Canada. Subsequently she married a white tavern-keeper; but she always declared that her first husband was the better man.

Here is another incident of frontier life. One morning Squire Thomas Bowlby found a wolf in his sheep pen, and shot at it but failed to kill it. In its efforts to escape, its tail accidentally whisked through between the logs, and quick as a flash, the Squire caught hold of it, and called for his wife. When Mrs. Bowlby arrived, she seized the wolf's tail and clung to it while her husband went inside and killed the thieving marauder with a club.

The following incident is taken from a volume written by Egbert A. Owen, entitled "Pioneer Sketches of Long Point Settlement"; to Mr. Owen's book I gladly acknowledge my indebtedness for other material also:

Thomas Bowlby was one of Norfolk County's pioneer Freemasons. During the War of 1812, when the American General McArthur invaded Canada, it was his policy to burn every grist mill his troops could reach; he burned many, but he spared the mill at Vittoria. He spared it because he was a Freemason. Mr. Bowlby met the invaders on the hill as they approached the mill, and with a flag of truce in his hand he asked an interview with the American General. An appeal was made in behalf of the wives, mothers and children of brother Masons, the source of whose bread supply would be cut off by the destruction of the mill; this appeal fell on attentive ears and the mill was spared from the torch.

GROUP FIVE

Martha Axford, daughter of the pioneers, John and Anna, was born at Oxford Furnace, N. J.; and there she married, lived and died.

She married Joseph William Shippen, who was born at Germantown, Pa., Oct. 17, 1737, and died at Oxford Furnace, N. J. His birth is recorded in the minutes of the First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. Romance came early to the cabin of the Axfords. Martha's husband was a scion of the wealthy and exceedingly aristocratic family of that name in Philadelphia.

Edward Shippen purchased the iron mines at Oxford and sent his son, Joseph William, there to superintend operations. This son met Martha Axford and fell in love with her; the attachment was reciprocated. The course of true love did not run smooth. The Shippens were opposed to the marriage and they never became entirely reconciled even when there was an interesting family of grandchildren. There was gossip aplenty at the time; and years later there was prolonged litigation; the final result was that the owners of the Oxford Iron Mines paid annuities to the Axford-Shippen heirs for half a century.

As a young man Joseph William Shippen had moved in the exclusive social circles of Philadelphia; he had been a member of the Fish Club, an organization of young men of the highest standing, that gave annually a series of fashionable entertainments. He might have picked an heiress but instead of doing so, he chose for his life mate the daughter of a pioneer.

A few words now concerning the Shippen Family:

John Shippen, the earliest known ancestor, was born about 1565; he married Dorothy Budwort; they dwelt in Yorkshire, England, and died there. Their son William, born 1600, died 1681, married Mary Nunes. Edward Shippen, born 1639, son of William, came to Boston, Mass., in 1668, where he married Lydia Lybrand, a wealthy-Quakeress. Having suffered severely in Boston for their religious faith, they removed to Pennsylvania, where Edward was appointed the first Mayor of Philadelphia by William Penn.

Their son, Joseph, born 1678, married Abigail Gross and had two sons:

I. Edward Shippen, born 1703, whose son Edward, Jr., had a daughter, Peggy, who was the reigning belle of the city, and who in 1779, became the second wife of Benedict Arnold; you remember that it was their baby boy that Arnold lifted from the cradle and kissed as he left West Point so uncermoniously in order to save his neck by getting within the British lines at New York.

II. William Shippen, born 1712, known as Doctor Shippen, the Elder, was a member of the Continental Congress; he married Susannah Harrison, and had a son, Joseph William, in whom we are interested because he married Martha Axford.

Peggy Shippen, the wife of General Arnold, was first cousin once removed to Joseph William Shippen, Martha Axford's husband.

Four or five books have been published on the genealogy and biography of the Philadelphia Shippens; but a recent brochure by John Greener is the first one to present an outline of the New Jersey branch.

Umbrage on the part of the Shippen family at the fancied misalliance in New Jersey is perfectly understandable; but it was petty and unwise; such things occur in all families, and the world long ago decided that the wise and proper thing to do is to make up and forget it. Their resentment which is now known to antiquarians only has shadowed two generations, whereas the courted alliance a few years later with a Revolutionary General, who is represented on the battle monument at Saratoga by an empty niche, turned unfortunately to water of bitterness that will never sweeten.

Mr. Axford does not mention his daughter in his will but this does not show estrangement; for those were the days when, if there were no will, the eldest son inherited all the real estate; and long after that, a daughter received only a half share to a full share for her brother, and even more to the point Martha's husband was better fixed financially than any of her brothers.

The Shippens in 1762 had purchased at Axford Furnace a tract of 292 acres of mining land. Grandfather Shippen in 1795 had written a will bequeathing this property to Martha's husband; but her husband died before his father, so in 1801, Grandfather Shippen added a codicil to his will and gave the property to his daughter-in-law and his grandchildren, which will and codicil were recorded in the Register's office in Philadelphia. The testator was man enough to provide for his grandchildren; but the language of the will indicates that the old wound still rankled.

Joseph W. and Martha Axford Shippen had seven children, all born at Oxford, N. J.:

I. William Shippen, who married Ann ——.

II. Joseph Shippen, who died unmarried Oct. 14, 1811.

III. John Beach Shippen, born 1774, died Feb. 22, 1824, at Hamburg, N. J., dropping dead while there on a business trip.

IV. Ann Shippen, who married on Sept. 15, 1803, John McMurtrie.

V. Maria Shippen, who on Oct. 5, 1803, mar-

ried Samuel Blair; this Samuel was a son of John Blair and an uncle of John Insley Blair.

Samuel died intestate and on Oct. 18, 1805, letters of administration were granted to his widow Maria in Sussex County.

VI. Susan Shippen, who was born 1784, and died at Blairstown, N. J., April 16, 1856; she married Isaac Crisman.

VII. Abigail Shippen, who was born 1786, and died Oct. 10, 1868, at Easton, Pa.; she married at Bartleyville, N. J., July 4, 1807, James McTeir.

John Beach Shippen married 1809, Mary De Camp; they dwelt at Caldwell, N. J., and had three children: Samuel C.; Lucretia (Mrs. Josiah Counter), and Benjamin D. C., born 1813, died 1897.

Samuel C. Shippen married Emily Ayres and had five children: Mary E. (Mrs. T. C. Haubner), Ithamar A., Charles H., Susan Ann, and Emily Theresa (Mrs. S. P. Stamford).

Benjamin D. C. Shippen married Sarah Mead and had seven children, of whom we name three: Samuel C., born 1836; Lucretia (Mrs. A. H. Pool); and Eveline.

Susan Shippen married Jan. 1, 1806, Isaac Crisman, who was born near Blairstown, N. J., Nov. 28, 1779, died there Aug. 20, 1840, son of Charles Crisman and his wife, Mary Kimball. Charles and Mary were both born in Germany, he on Sept. 9, 1749, and she in 1755; and both died near Blairstown, he on July 30, 1817, and she on Dec. 24, 1823. Charles was a blacksmith and came to America in 1769. Isaac was ordained an elder in 1839.

Isaac and Susan Crisman dwelt near Blairstown, N. J. They had six sons and one daughter:

I. Charles L. Crisman, born Oct. 17, 1806, died Feb. 8, 1879, married in 1834, Sally Ann Hawk, born March 5, 1812, died May 18, 1898.

II. Oscar Crisman, born Nov. 23, 1807, died July 6, 1861, married Sept. 27, 1850, Elizabeth & McMurtrie, born 1825, died June 6, 1886.

III. William H. Crisman married in 1835, Elizabeth Bowlby.

IV. Angeline Crisman, born 1812, married Nov. 6, 1834, Samson G. Howell.

V. Nelson Crisman married Matilda Wildrick.

VI. Morris Crisman, born 1815, died April 5, 1897, aged 81 yrs., 5 mos., 21 days, married in 1843, Elizabeth Howell.

VII. Edgar Crisman, born Nov. 29, 1819, died unmarried April 18, 1908.

Charles L. Crisman married Sally Ann Hawk, both have headstones at Union Brick, where many Crismans are buried. They had seven children:

I. Morris Crisman married Sarah Snover.

II. Riason Crisman died young.

III. Calvin Crisman married Margaret Blazier.

IV. Catherine Crisman married Andrew Hill.

V. Lemuel Crisman married Georgianna Sipley.

VI. Mary Crisman married John R. Logan.

VII. Elizabeth Crisman died when a child.

Mary Crisman married John R. Logan and had three children:

I. Charles Logan.

II. Catherine Logan, who married John Messler and had Laura, who married Walter Jones and has John M. Jones.

III. Elba Logan, who married Albert B. Craig of Blairstown, N. J.

Morris Crisman married in 1843, Elizabeth Howell; they had four children:

I. Cassius Crisman married Abbie Snyder and had two daughters; they dwell at Hope, N. J.

II. J. I. Blair Crisman married Ella Fisher.

III. Emma Crisman married Jacob Beck.

IV. Josephine Crisman married Peter Young.

MR. SHIPPEN'S LETTER

Two slaves near Oxford belonging to different masters had stolen property from Maj. Robert Hoops. They were arrested and taken before Esquire Van Horne who sent them to Sussex Jail in charge of a constable. The penalty might be death by hanging. One of the slaves belonged to Joseph W. Shippen who was naturally anxious to get his slave out of the clutches of the law, so he sent a letter with the constable addressed to Mr. Anderson. When a slave was in jail, it appears that the master had to pay the board bill.

Mr. Shippen's letter is given in full:

Dr Sir, The bearer has a nigro of Ben De Pui's and another of mine, under a commitment to Sussex Gaol, from Mr. Van Horne, for a theft from Mr. Hoops, which can not be tried conveniently unless he was at home; and then, I imagine, we might have them tried by three or four Magistrates, and an end made to the affair without taking their lives.

Pray send me your advice what will be the best way for me to act in the matter; and I will thankfully reward you for it and whatever trouble you may take in obliging me.

One thing more, I beg, that you will please to order such refreshments for him while he is there as you think proper. I will pay it.

I am sick in bed, unable to ride up or I would come myself and consult the matter fully with you.

Know, however, that I will most assuredly reward you to your satisfaction. I cant at present tell you the affair exactly, but will as soon as I can see you. Excuse this very incorrect scrawl as I write in the greatest pain, lying in bed.

I am Dr. Sir

Your ready Friend and very hmble Sevt.

Joseph W. Shippen.

Oxford, 27 June, 1770.

A certain Jonathan Axford dwelt at Oxford, N. J.; he was known as Doctor Jonathan. He married (Ellen Kinney ?) and had four children; all of these children afterward settled in Michigan.

I. John K. Axford married Ann Hersey and dwelt at Orion, Mich.; they had Elizabeth who married Mr. Locke of Saginaw.

II. Jonana Axford married David Cratesley, dwelt in Oakland County, and had Jonathan, William, Margaret, Elmira, Catherine, Jane Priscilla, Josephine and Libbie.

III. William Axford married Sally Hersey; they dwelt in Macomb County, and had at least two sons, Mark and Thomas; the latter died at Disco, Nov. 24, 1875.

IV. Lydia Axford died unmarried.

A certain Jonathan Axford was a native of Warren County, N. J.; he married about 1812, and dwelt at Clarksville, N. J.; his wife died about 1818.

In early days yarn spun from flax was taken to Effie Axford of Oxford to be woven into blankets.

Ellen Axford married as second wife Opdyke Cummins.

John Axford in May, 1732, was named in connection with a will.

James Axford in 1733 was a witness to a will.

Charles Axford, Jr., in 1768 was of Trenton, N. J.; he had the renting of a house.

Margaret Axford in 1781 married David Fick. Charles Shipma had a daughter, Mary, born about 1770, died Oct. 15, 1847, in her 78th year, and was buried in St. Michael's churchyard, Trenton, N. J.,; she married Jacob Benjamin who was born Oct. 29, 1762, and died Sept. 4, 1806.

Samuel V. Axford on Dec. 10, 1848, married Sarah Mann; both were of Independence township, Warren Co., N. J. They had at least two children: William and Elizabeth. William married Lydia White; Elizabeth maried Alonzo Lanning, and had Belle Lanning (Mrs. Shuster), and Alice Lanning (Mrs. Josiah Lewis).

(I am indebted for the data concerning the following household to Dr. G. W. Cummins' History of Warren County:)

Robert Hunt Axford, whose father died during Robert's infancy, was born May 8, 1836, and died January 11, 1873. On Jan. 8, 1863, he married Margaret C. Bowers; of their seven children, four reached maturity: John Clark, born 1865, who married Ida Rhinehart; David Irwin, born 1865; William H., who married Nellie Kinaman and had Jennie; and Sarah E., who married Rev. W. S. Newson. Through the liberality of William J. Axford of Washington, N. J., and of Lloyd L. Axford of Detroit, Mich., we are able to present pictures of three of the old Axford houses.

The picture with the large dormer window is much out of repair; commercialism and railroads have rendered it undesirable for residence purposes. It stands at a short distance from the Oxford railroad station and is known locally as the Scranton house, taking this name from the Scranton family who owned and operated the iron mines but who afterwards settled at a town in Pennsylvania which was renamed Scranton in their honor,

It is of stone; the interior must have been charming; the windows have deep embrasures, and the principal room contains a huge fireplace above which is a beautiful mantel.

According to tradition, it stands on the site of the original log cabin. On this spot lived the pioneers, John and Anna Beach Axford, and in this house lived their son John and his wife, Abigail Hunt, and also their grandson, Capt. John and his wife, Eleanor Polhemus, and after these, their son Long John Axford. Catherine Axford Smith (Mrs. Kline) was born in this house and lived there until she was taken west at the age of ten years; her recollection is that the family was served by colored servants during her child-She says her grandfather, Long John, hood. walked from New Jersey to Michigan prospecting for land, and that one of his descendants has the long rifle that he carried on this long journey through the wilderness.

Antiquarians alert and looking for vestiges of former glory will find a spring-house nearby built of stone, now partly fallen, over the doorway of which is a dressed slab bearing the inscription J. A. 1782. A tiny stream of water clear and cold still trinkles from the ruins; in the days of long ago children who came to get a drink lingered to see the sturdy trout play hide and seek.

The house with the four chimneys is between Oxford Furnace and Pequest; it is only a few rods from Furnace Brook; the site is slightly elevated and gives a beautiful view in all directions. There are five large rooms with low ceilings on the first floor; each room has a large fire-place; one chimney serves two rooms, hence four chimneys.

This was the home of Samuel and Sarah De Cou Axford; it passed to Samuel and Margaret McDonald; and then in turn to their son, Daniel Axford, the Sheriff; at Daniel's death it passed to his daughter, Nancy (Mrs. Isaac Dill) who owned it as late as 1909, when Lloyd Axford of Detroit visited New Jersey. It is now occupied by Philip Pavitch.

The dwelling erected at Shelby, Michigan, by Samuel and Rachel Morgan Axford, is of similar design.

The house with the large pine tree in front is in splendid condition; it is two miles from Oxford Furnace. In the peake of the gable is inscribed A. A. 1783. It was the home of Abraham and Sarah Beavers Axford; it is now owned and occupied by Enos Hoagland whose grandmother was an Axford. The home of Jonathan and Lydia Axford is not pictured; it came later into the possession of David and Isaac Smith.

ADDENDUM GROUP ONE

Here is some information which was received too late for insertion in its proper place under Group One:

Robert Axford (son of John A. and Lydia) married Marie Jane Wilson and had four children who grew up:

I. Lydia, who married a Tunison and had children.

II. Jacob, who married twice: (1) a Townsend and had Charles, and (2) Nellie Smith and had seven children. (See below)

III. Andrew, concerning whom elsewhere.

IV. Robert, Jr., who married a Moot and had two girls: Jennie (Mrs. John Contrell) and Katherine (Mrs. Seaman).

Jacob Axford married Nellie Smith and had seven children:

I. Bella married sine prole Charles Wesley.

II. Còra married Neil Clark and had Anna and Cornelia.

III. Katherine married Matthias McCarthy.

IV. Nellie married Joseph Anderson; she is now a widow with a son and a daughter.

V. Mary married Joseph Hagen and has Gwendolen and Virginia.

VI. Frank Atwood.

VII. Elizabeth married Ralph Cole.