

"Respecting your forefathers, you are brought to respect yourselves."
--- Burke.

"The deeds of long descended ancestors are but by the grace of imputation ours." --- Unknown.

"A worthy ancestry is a stimulus to a worthy life." --- Ruskin.

The last Newsletter was mis-numbered. Should have been Vol. 5, No. 3.

And here is another - late but Lordy, what a mess we've had! The carpenters pulled out a couple of weeks ago and left everything they did to our complete satisfaction. However, after the first coat of sawdust was removed from everything else in the rest of the house it became obvious that those rooms didn't look nearly as bright and clean as the new rooms and therefore it was necessary to do something about it. So more painting waxing and woodwork washing was called for. And in a very, very weak moment we decided to remove the old finish from some furniture which had survived some 20-odd years of two boys and this was the dumbest thing we've thought up all summer. But presumably it will look better if we ever get it re-finished.

Our new utility room, which is also gorgeous enough and large enough to hold files, desk and type-writer, as well as the usual utilities, is the best room in the whole addition. Nothing goes in there that the editor of this Newsletter doesn't want in there! We also built the man of the house a workshop which is most certainly not to be used for storage, so we kept a small building we call "the shed" which is presumably going to hold everything neither of us wants right now but might later, and we are going to have a garage sale to get rid of everything else. Now

if we can just get the children home to find out whether they want us to continue to keep the shell and rock collections, the high-school annuals and college textbooks, the model planes, games and baseball bats, drums, guitars and 30 years of such other collections! We already know they do and we will.

Just for the sake of curiosity, where do you all keep your 20-year collection of National Geographics your husbands won't let you throw away?

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In the interim, along with the saws, sawdust and saw horses we had to work around, we have written out the lines of Peter, Barbara and David. And about 7-8,000 index cards! Seems like more. The Slusher descendants are legion! Have figured out a numbering system that at the moment seems to work and sent carbons of some of the lines to members we know and have received one set back, for which we are thankful. Much information we didn't have and corrections of some of what we did have. Have decided to include short histories of the earliest in Floyd, Montgomery and Carroll Counties of some of the non-Slusher lines which bisect ours to the extent that there are almost as many of those names as Slushers IF we can get them. Such names as Dickerson, Quesen(in)berry, Sutphin, Helms, Cox, Phlegar, Wade, Harmon, Mabry, Weeks, Weddle, Simmons, Turman, Hylton, Gardner, etc!

So who can tell us who has done work on these families and will give us information about the earliest of their families who came to that section of Va? It should be documented, of course.

If you want carbons of your line as it is written, holler! We'll be glad to send them to you. We've found that there are errors and omissions and they must be corrected before any book is published -- or at least we hope fervently that they can be.

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We had a letter from a man in Texas asking about his line. He said he had two cherry wood moulding planes with initials burned into the side of them like this:

CHR-2

Wrote to him but haven't heard.

This however, suggested that perhaps it would be a very interesting thing for our Bicentennial Reunion in July of 1976, if everyone would bring along anything he has and can carry which belonged to or was made by an early member of our family. We have Joseph Phlegar's cane, for instance. Small pieces of furniture, tools, household articles, Bibles, anything such as these; then, if they're too large to haul around, bring colored pictures of them.

Wouldn't that be interesting?

Who else has an idea for our Bicentennial Reunion meeting? Surely would like to have them. What about starting earlier and having our own short prayer service included in the day's activities? We could have the business meeting later and have more time to visit with those who have to leave to go home earlier than some others.

How 'bout that? And what else?

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Our genealogist, Col. Coulter, is working but hasn't found anything positive that we want -- most especially proof that Christopher was son of Peter, or Eva's maiden name -- but he has at least eliminated certain sources where that proof might have existed and apparently doesn't, which is negative but at this point we feel that is about all that can be done. He is now about to go into Lebanon Co. records and Bucks Co., Pa. records where Christopher, Jr. is thought to have been born. We have found all the easy and obvious things and now must eliminate all other potential sources.

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THE FLOYD PRESS has recently published articles on the early church records of Floyd Co. and has included in their Bicentennial reports of this information, the charter members of the Zion Lutheran Church there. We thought, since one of our Christophers is there as were others of several lines of the family, that it would be a good thing to include this in our permanent records. So here 'tis:

"(Below is a translation and transcription of the first page of the German Register of the Zion Lutheran and Reformed Church. The numbers to the right denote the number of members in the family. All of these became charter members.)

"In the year of our Lord Jesus Christ 1813, the 10th of May.

The undersigned families negotiated themselves under the supervision of the Ev. Luth. Conference of the State of North Carolina, agreeing to let themselves be treated according to the constitution of the same

and to observe said constitution. In the presence of the Traveling Preachers R. J. Miller and J. Scherer.

Johannes C. Meyer, Elder	9
Georg Friedrich Pflieger, Deacon	9
Jacob Ebberle	13
Daniel Welst	5
Christian Ebberle	12
Philip Steichelman	13
Georg Ebberle	13
Abraham Pflieger	11
Henrich Sauer	8
Samuel Reidinger	14
Heinrich Kranck	8
Georg Sauer	10
Michael Pflieger	7
Wilhelm Marchel	6
Jacob Marchel	7
Wilhelm Ruthrauf	2
Petrus Mei(p)el	5
Johannes Waber	3
Johannes Maurer	10
ilhelm Marchel (sen)	1
Jacob Theis	7
Christopher Schlosser	7
Johannes Kitterman	11
Johannes Ruthrauf	4

We figure the Christopher above in this list and the seven members of his family include these children who were not married before 1813, and, of course, his wife Eva.

Caty, Solomon, David, Jacob, Mary Ann, Stephen.

Christopher would have been around 56 years of age; Mary Ann just 10; Stephen about 13; Jacob would have been 15; Solomon just 17; Caty nearly 21 and David 23.

It was probably a very proud day for the whole family.

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Speaking of permanent records: As if we didn't have enough trouble with supposedly authoritative

sources of information about the early generations! Recently we realized neither of us had ever remembered seeing a copy of Bill's birth certificate. Although how he ever got into school and college 5 years in the Army, worked for the Government, etc, and was never asked for his birth certificate boggles the mind. (He says everyone in Floyd knew how old he was and anyone who could breathe was invited to join the Army in 1941, especially if they had just graduated from a Military College with a Commission) Anyway, we ordered his birth certificate from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Richmond, and when it came it was a Zerox copy (no room for blaming it on a typist!) and it plainly stated that he was born on March 6, instead of March 5, which just simply isn't so. His mother was very particular about her children's birthdays and she knew exactly when they were born. So, along with DAR applications supposedly backed up by authoritative documents (i.e., the Peter Slusser papers we nearly never did get straightened out!) there's another supposedly authoritative source which can be viewed with a certain amount of skepticism!

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We saw an article in THE FLOYD PRESS which we thought interesting and we'll pass it along.

The majority of Floyd County, Va. lies within the New River watershed. Apparently one of the Power Companies is about to dam the river in two places, which, if the project is approved will flood parts of that area which it would be nice not to have flooded. The PRESS is quoted as saying "New River is the oldest river on the North American continent, and second in age only to the Nile River. It was in existence before the Appalachian Mountains, and this is given as a

reason for it flowing North and then West into the Ohio River Valley.

"Because it is a survivor of ancient geological times, there are 23 species of plants and animals that exist in the New River eco-system that exist no where else in the world"

A Mrs. Elizabeth McCommon of Floyd is conducting a campaign against the project and has written a song titled "The Ballad of New River".

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Here are some previously unpublished records on the family of Peter S. Harmon, seventh child of Solomon and Elizabeth Slusher Harmon:

[And before we go into that and while we are thinking of it, will somebody please tell us whether the 'Slusher' Harmons spell their name HARMON or HARMAN??? We surely do need to know that and the answer is probably some of both as in the Floyd Telephone book.]

PETER S. HARMON was b. 31 July 1825, Floyd Co., d 29 Apr. 1914, m. (1) 4 Nov. 1847 Sarah Jane Grady, b. 1828, d. 1893; (2) in 1896, at the age of 69, Nancy Jackson. Peter and Sarah are buried in the Goodykoontz Ceme in Floyd. They had 16 children, all born in Floyd Co.

Children:

1. Charles N. Harmon, b. 1843, d. 1922, m. 1900, Floyd Co. Mattie Weeks.
2. Mary Elizabeth Harmon, b. Jan. 1850, d 1859.
3. Joseph Crockett Harmon, b. 1851

m. _____ Greenwood.

4. Harvey Thompson Harmon, b. 12 May 1854, d. 19 Feb. 1914, m. Floyd, Va. 15 Nov. 1877 Emily Bishop, aged 16, dau. of Asa and Elizabeth (Dodd) Bishop. See below.
5. Bearman Church Harmon, b. 1855, m. _____ Muse.
6. Darthula Catherine Harmon, b. 1857, m. Floyd, Va. 27 Dec. 1881 Noah B. Smith, son of Isaac and Naomi Smith.
7. Solomon C. Harmon, b. 2 Dec. 1858 d. 25 Apr. 1951, m. Floyd Co. 15 Sept. 1891 Martha Ann Harmon, dau. George W. and Mary Jane (Radford) Harmon.
8. Simon P. Harmon, b. 26 Jan. 1863, m. Floyd Co. 8 Mar. 1894, Annie Lady Hylton, dau. Henderson and Margaret Hylton
9. Sarah Annie Harmon, b. Oct. 1863 d. 20 Sept. 1870.
10. Isaac Payton Harmon, b. 18 Feb. 1866.
11. Elijah Marion Harmon, b 1867.
12. James Monroe Harmon, b. 1869, m. 30 Nov. 1893, Lizzie Bishop, age 21, dau. Jacob and Lucy Bishop.
13. Virginia Adabell Harmon, b. 1871 m. 2 Feb. 1892, Simon A. Hylton, age 22, son of Harrison and Margaret Hylton.
14. Lewis Hamilton Harmon, b. 1874, m. 1903, Clara E. Taylor, age 18, dau. Iona and Mary Taylor.
15. Noah Harmon, m. Minnie Wade.

16. Sarah C. Harmon, b. 1855, d. 1857, buried Goodykoontz Cem.

HARVEY THOMPSON HARMON, 4th child of Peter and Sarah Jane Grady Harmon was b. 12 May 1853, d. 19 Feb. 1914, m. 1877 Floyd Co. Emily Bishop, b. 10 Jan. 1861, Floyd Co., d. 8 June 1937, dau. of Asa and Elizabeth Dodd Bishop.

Children all b. Floyd Co.

1. Ernest Walter Harmon, b. 10 Apr. 1880, d. 18 Sept. 1951, m. Mary Elizabeth Donald.
2. Charles Harmon
3. Lala Harmon
4. Edgar L. Harmon
5. John B. Harmon
6. Harry Harmon
7. Sallie Opal Harmon, b. 1891, m. 8 Sept. 1912 Luther Smith, age 24, son of Jacob and Elizabeth Smith
8. Minnesota Harmon, b. 1895, m. Floyd Co., 2 Nov. 1913, J. L. Smith, age 27, son of Jacob and Jane Smith.
9. Beulah Harmon, b. 1898, m. Floyd Co. 1919, Harmon B. Shelor, age 25, son of Thomas J. and Emerzetta Shelor.
10. Lawton D. Harmon, m. Media Turman.

Who has more on this family, please.

REMEMBER NEXT YEAR'S REUNION DATE!

July 18, 1976

NATHAN HYLTON, son of Burwell and Mary Ann Slusher Hylton, was b. 24 Nov. 1831, d. 19 Mar. 1911, m. 29 Dec. 1853 Floyd Co. Va. Della (Dicie) Wade, dau. of John and Sarah (Bishop) Wade. Della Wade was b. Floyd Co. in 1835, d. 1880. Nathan Hylton m. (2) Sarah Octavia Graham 2 Dec. 1890, dau. John and Nancy Graham.

Children by his first wife:

Isobell

1. Isobell Hylton, b. 23 July 1856, d. 15 July 1927, m. 1876 Floyd Co. Callihill Dickerson.
2. Thomas F. Hylton, b. 18 Aug. 1857, d. 10 Nov. 1876, single.
3. Luther Callehill Hylton, b. 20 Dec. 1859, d. 1932, m. 6 Apr. 1882 Virginia Texas Dehart, age 16.
4. Sarah Abigail Hylton, b. 5 Apr. 1862, d. 23 June 1949, m. 1882 Amon P. Harmon.
5. Mary Elizabeth Hylton, b. 1 Nov. 1865, d. 9 Apr. 1945, m. 26 Feb. 1903 William Everett Starr.
6. Rowena Hylton, b. 22 Sept. 1868 d. 8 May 1931, m. 15 Mar. 1893 Noah Akers.
7. David F. Hylton, b. 17 May 1871
8. Nancy (Nannie) Hylton, b. 5 Nov. 1874, d. 21 Jan. 1904, m. 1889 James Simmons.

All these children were b. Floyd Co.

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This letter is a little short by necessity this time. Maybe by January we will have gotten a bit better organized. We fervently hope so.