HISTORICAL SKETCH

Of

Indiana and Armstrong Counties

Pre-historic races—The Mound builders—The Indians—Race history of white pioneers—The Backwoodsmen of the Alleghenies—Irish, German, scotch, English, Welsh and Scotch-Irish elements and the Backwoodsmen's place in our National History—Pennsylvania—William Penn—Territory of Indiana and Armstrong counties under Westmoreland—French and English contest over the Ohio Valley—Early English settlements—Struggle of the Backwoodsmen and the English over the Ohio Valley—Burning of Hannastown—Pioneer settlements in Indiana and Armstrong—The history, growth and development of these counties—Their future.

It is impossible in a work of this kind to allot sufficient space for a complete history of the present territory of these two important counties of western Pennsylvania; yet the publisher has deemed it most essential that some account of the life-story of their different inhabiting races should be given, and that a brief presentation of the salient points of their history should be made before proceeding to record the biographical sketches of their leading citizens.

The historical part of this work has been completed after a vast amount of research and was prosecuted at considerable expense; but all the time and expense is repaid by the fact that it leaves a solid foundation upon which the future historian can build a comprehensive and complete history, as well as suggesting to the student of history some sources of heretofore unknown historical information in regard to these counties and the deeds of their pioneer white settlers.

The history of Indiana and Armstrong counties naturally divides itself into three distinct periods, each of which is characterized by a peculiar inhabiting race, as follows: 1. Aboriginal Period—Mound-builders. 2. Savage Period—Indiana. 3. Civilized Period—White Race.

There is but little known of the ancient history of the North American continent, despite the most exhaustive researches. Nearly three or four centuries ago, when human eyes in the track of the morning sun-rays first beheld the forest shores of America, it was as if a great curtain had rolled away from the western world of waters.

But back of it lay a continent with only the Mound-builder' ruins and the Red men's traditions. No history in volume traced, no record in rock-written inscription, to tell where the one race with a civilization but no history had gone, or the other race with a tradition but no civilization had come. Of the Mound-builders' origin and mysterious fate—first we have supposition, next theory from relics, then speculation and *that is all*.

Came they from Asia when Abram sojourned in the land of Egypt? Came they at a later date across the trackless wilds of inhospitable Siberia, passing over the Behring strait on the ice-bound floor; or did they, in the northern winter land's sickly smile of summer, coast along the chain of the Aleutian islands stretching from Asia to America; or left they fabled Atlantis, when it was sinking in earth-quake throes, to plant them selves westward on the North American shore? No one can tell, Mexican and Indian traditions and relics found in the mounds favor the hypothesis of their migration from Asia by Behring strait or the Aleutian islands, and that they were the ancestors of the Toltecs and Aztecs of Mexico.

The earliest traces of human life found in America indicate an age corresponding with the age of the mammoth and reindeer of Europe. Corresponding with the stone age and the beginning of the bronze age in Europe, was a semi-civilized state of life in America—a race of people who were Mound-builders, and who undoubtedly built all the great mounds in the United States. As to how far back this period extended, none can tell. David Cusick, an educated Indian, in a work entitled "Ancient History of the Six Nations," states an Indiana tradition assigning the Mound-builders back twenty-two centuries before the landing of Columbus. Were they strong in numbers? Undoubtedly, as no traces exist of their possessing domestic animals, it must have taken great numbers of men, long periods, to build the great works whose ruins remain to this day.

These great works were of two kinds: first mounds; second, fortifications. The mounds may be considered in regard to form and use; in form they were round, oblong and pyramidal; as regards use they may be divided into four classes.

Temple Mounds.—The first great class is pyramidal in form; and in the west they are from 50 to 90 feet high and from 300 to 700 feet long, with terraces of steps ascending to their summits, where clear traces and unmistakable signs of former buildings are to be found, indicating the past dwelling of chief or priest.

Altar Mounds.—The second great class in form is round, and found to be from two to four feet high, and five to eight feet across. On the top is always a depression in a layer of hardened clay; and in this depression, ashes, and in these ashes, evidences of burnt sacrifices; while every object found in them is broken and has suffered from fire.

Effigy Mounds.—The third great class in form body forth rude representations of different animals, and north of the Wisconsin river are some representing the human form. Representing animals, they are about two hundred feet long, 4 feet high, and 25 feet wide.

Tomb Mounds.—The fourth great class of mounds in form is round and oblong, their dimensions widely varying in different localities. One close to St. Louis is 40 feet high, and 300 feet long. They are far more abundant than those of the other classes. They are of two kinds: first, interment mounds; and second, battle mounds, where the slain were piled up and earth heaped over them. These mounds in the Ohio Valley are larger, and the bones in them, by an advanced stage of decomposition, show them to be older than the mounds of the Atlantic States. A careful examination of the interment mounds in many places gives unmistakable and indisputable evidence of the practice of cremation rites.

Fortifications.—The second kind of these great works, may be considered in regard to form as circular, square or elliptical; in regard to use, they may be considered as of two classes.

Old Forts.—The first great class existed all over the Mississippi Valley, enclosing from a few yards up to several acres of land. Red Stone Old Fort at what is now Brownsville, Pa., stood on the site of the Mound-builders' old fort. They were of different shapes, and stood on the banks of some water. They were earth structures east of the Mississippi; while west, stone was extensively used in their construction

Fortified Heights.—The second great class in the east are chiefly found in Georgia; where, in one section of the State, all defensible mountains were fortified by this extinct race. Mt. Yond, 4000 feet high, and Stone mountain,, 2360 feet high, were fortified with stone rolled and heaped, and built up into defensive walls.

What tools did they employ in the construction of their great works? Revealed by the plow-share, unearthed from the mound, brought up the half-hidden pit and concealed hiding-place, they are comprised, according to material, of two classes, stone and copper. Of stone, a rude flint chipped in shape of a spade to which a handle was attached was used for digging. Flint spades, axes, tomahawks, chisels, wedges and knives constituted their tools of stone; while as weapons of stone, they had arrow and spear-heads, besides pipes, tubes, pestles, pendants, sinkers and ornaments. Of copper, rudely hammered out, were tools, such as axes, hammers and spoons, weapons and ornaments obtained by working mines on Lake Superior, where a block of copper weighing six tons was discovered some years ago, that they had commenced to take out, with their rude stone and copper tools lying by its side. They used bone and horn to make cups and spoons, clay and shells to make ceramic ware, and wood to make clubs and rude mauls.

Tools and weapons were found in a mound at Marietta, Ohio, on whose top trees were growing thirty years ago, and their age was estimated at eight hundred years. This calculation would give 1050 A.D. as the time when the mound was in existence, whether built earlier or not.

There were found at Moundsville, West Virginia, in the great mound of that place, ivory beads and copper bracelets, and a singular hieroglyphical stone inscribed with characters in the ancient rock alphabet of 16 right and acute angled single strokes used by the Pelasgi and other early Mediterranean nations. Standing on an elevated plain 75 feet above the level of the Ohio river it was connected by low earthen intrenchments with other mounds. They took in a well, walled up with rough stones; and back on a high hill were found the ruins of a stone tower, apparently a watch-tower, built of rough undressed stones laid up without mortar. A similar tower stands on a high Grave creek hill, and one across the Ohio river on a high projecting promontory. The three towers seem to have been built as watch-towers, or sentinel out looks for the numerous mounds dotting this elevated plain. Howe says: “On the Green Bottom in Cabell and Mason counties vestiges of a large city, with traces of laid-out streets running to the Ohio river, covering the space of half mile, were once visible.”

Why left this mighty race this great empire? Did war from the Indian, famine or fever, waste them? Or sought they a southern clime more warm than glows beneath our Northern skies?

None with certainty can tell. Cusick gives us Indian tradition, that the Indians drove them south 2000 years before Columbus came, and that the Mound-builders came from the south; which might have been either Louisiana or Mexico; but there are many things to impair the story. Theory favors, but certainly does not stamp, the conclusion that the Mound-builders were the ancestors of the Aztecs and Toltecs, and obeying a migratory impulse, sweeping forward and southward to the plains of Mexico and Peru, established themselves under the reign of emperor and the rule of inca.

Leaving this country, these mounds may have been the rude model-structures of ideas they developed into those wonderful structures that greeted the greedy eyes of Cortez and Pizarro. The introduction of stone into their mound-structures here must have represented an idea of progress—an experimental mode of a proposed change, whose consummation might have been achieved in the great halls, cities, temples and aqueducts of the Montezumas.

The Mound-builders' age stands as the twilight of American's earliest civilization. On its close fell a night of barbarism, resting all over the land and extending to the coming of Columbus, the dawn of America's latest and the world's brightest civilization.

The Mound-builders in Indiana and Armstrong must have come up the Allegheny river in conformity with the great law that governed the race, in following the rivers and settling in their valleys. All evidence tends to sustain their coming up the Allegheny from the site of Pittsburgh or down that river from Lake Chautauqua, New York, where they had extensive settlements. The absence of forts, the indispensable accompaniment of their established settlements would indicate their intention of but temporary residence, while the bones in their interment mounds would show temporary occupation for many years; no doubt made for hunting the game then wonderfully abundant in the Allegheny Valley. The bones of children in the mounds and the remains of ancient pottery found prove that they brought their families and lived on the river close to their burial mounds while temporarily here.

The early settlers paid but little attention to the Mound-builders' ruins and generally regarded them as the work of the Indians, hence but little trace has been preserved of them. One of the forts and mounds of the Mound-builders was in West Wheatfield Township, and is described in Cauldwell's History of Indiana county as follows: "A few miles north from the river, on the old Sides farm, stand "Fort Hill.' The traditions tell us that it was known as such to George Finley and the early settlers on the river. The soil of the hill is very rich, and till 1817 or 1818, it was nearly all covered with an improved forest. In the early part of the century the outlines of a fort were distinctly marked, being slightly elevated. On the inside were several mounds." In Scott's Gazetteer of 1806 we read the following: "In Wheatfield township, Westmoreland county, Pa., is a remarkable mound, from which several strange specimens of art have been taken. One was stone serpent five inches in diameter, part of the entablature of a column, both rudely carved in the form of diamonds and leaves; and also an earthen urn on the inside of the fort. Beside the articles aforementioned, there were found at an early date, fragments of pottery of a much finer texture than that made by the Indians; stones of peculiar shape, both carved and hollowed, as if intended for utensils for cooking purposes or receptacles. The latter were both large and small.

Smith in his history of Armstrong county, page 254, makes mention of an ancient earth work on Pine creek supposed by some to be work of Mound-builders. On page 288 he gives an account of another fortified work in Cowanshannock township enclosing an acre and a half of land. It was circular in form, had a wall some five feet high, and was surrounded with a trench. Mr. Smith describes (page 313) a military fortification and out-works in Manor township. It was on the left bank of the Allegheny river, and on some of its parapets were growing trees that were over 300 years in age. Numerous relics were found near it, and everything seems to warrant it of pre-historic origin.

That Mound-builders were cremationists is beyond doubt. This is established by the appearance of the bones, which everywhere show the action of fire, as well as by the ashes and charcoal found. Most probably they placed the corpses in a sitting posture, and piled wood around them and fired it. On the remains earth was thrown. The dead were placed in one at a time. When one of their people died, the mound was opened, the corpse was place beside the one last put in, and the fiery process repeated. A careful examination of the bones show no traces of death by violence, and seems to contradict the theory that all the dead in their mounds were slain in great battles.

From a mound, the writer obtained a strange skull out of the top layer of bones. Digging down, we came upon several skulls in the bottom layer, but could not get them out, as they crumbled to pieces in our hands; finally the top of one was secured, and where the sutures meet on top of the Caucasian head, they were prevented in the head by a small bone of about one inch in length by one half inch in width, of a peculiar shape. All the other skulls possessed this same peculiar bone. The top of the skull secured and the others that crumbled, showed the head of the race to have been long and narrow, with low foreheads, and long narrow faces.

The Hon. James C. McGrew and others, in 1834, excavated this mound, and found in it a peculiar shaped stone pipe, and a very peculiar stone relic in the shape of an hour-glass, which was mechanically constructed, neatly dressed, and capable of being used for the purpose of recording time. It might have been captured and placed in the mound for safe keeping by an Indian; as the Mound-builder is supposed to have left Asia when the sun-dial was used, and before the invention and the introduction of the hour-glass. Fragments of ancient pottery have been plowed up close to these mounds, similar in appearance to the ancient ware described in the "Antiquities of the West" and the "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley."

The fate of the Mound-builders of the Allegheny Valley must have been the same as that of their whole race. When the race left the Mississippi Valley, those of the Allegheny Valley forsook their summer hunting-ground here, and added their numbers to swell the migratory columns again in motion toward sunnier regions farther south.

Savage Period: Indians.—Twilight deepens—the Mound-builder is retreating. Night darkens—the Indian is advancing. Whence comes he? One theory credits the Indians as being descendants of the Jews. Succeeding theories blended them with the Carthagenians, traced them to the Phenicians, derived them from the Eqyptians, rendered them of the Grecians, established them of the Romans, gave them origin of the North-men, and made them natives of the soil. The best supported and most plausible theory of their origin is that they are of Mongolian extraction; that while the wave of population in the old world was from east to west, in the new world it was from north to south; that the Indian was the second wave of population from Asia following in the track of the first wave,--the Mound-builder who was then leaving this country and sweeping southward to the plains of Mexico and Peru.

The first fact in favor of the Indians being of Mongolian extraction is that all their traditions state that they came from the North.

The second is the grammatical affinity of all the Indian languages constituting the sixth or American group of languages, which in principle of formation and grammatical construction bears unquestionable resemblance to the Tartar or third group of languages, which is one of the two great language families of the Mongolian race.

The Indian occupation of the United States admits of two theories: first, a peaceable possession; second, a forcible possession. The first is the most likely, as the Mound-builders were a semi-civilized race, and from their great works it is fair to presume as strong in numbers as the Indian invaders. But is fair presumption, that between the inferior-advancing and the superior-retreating races, the clash of mortal conflict would be inevitable. The withdrawal of the Mound-builder from the field of battle after repulsing his Indian foe, to resume his southward journey, would give to the Indian the idea that his enemy had fled; and on this his tradition of conquest, repeated to white prisoners in 1754-55, was undoubtedly founded.

The Indians east of the Mississippi were tall and straight as arrows, with long, coarse, black hair, which they generally kept shaved off, except the salp lock; high check bones and black piercing eyes. Their limbs were supple by exercise and their muscles hardened by constant exposure to the weather.

Their dress was the skins of wild animals, smoked or tanned with the brains of the animals killed. Their wigwams were poles stuck in the ground and bent together at the top, covered with chestnut and birch bark. Their weapons, war-clubs, bows and arrows and stone tomahawks, until they procured iron tomahawks and guns from the white traders. Their boats were log and birch bark canoes.

Their religion was the worship of the Great Spirit, and they believed there was a happy hunting-ground in the spirit-land beyond the mountains of the setting sun, where brave warriors went at death and pursued the chase forever and ever; but which no coward was ever permitted to enter.

Their laws were the customs handed down in the traditions of the old men. An offense against custom was punished by exclusion from society. If the offense was murder, it was punished by the nearest kinsman of the slain. Their legislation was enacted by the grand council called together by the chief of the tribe upon the urgency or necessity of the occasion, where the disposition of all questions rested upon the votes of the whole tribe, and where, commencing with the chief, all had a right to speak.

Each tribe had its head chief or sachem. The succession of this office was sometimes hereditary, even in the elevation of a queen; sometimes was bestowed for ability and bravery upon a warrior of another tribe, if he was living with them and was brave and daring. Each tribe had its medicine man, who, in addition to gathering herbs to effect cures, was its historian, teaching the young braves the traditions of their father, and to count time by the moon—as so many moons ago such a thing happened. Some tribes could only count up to ten, others up to ten thousand. The medicine men and the old men taught the young brave never to forgive an injury or to forget a kindness. They taught him that sternness was a virtue and tears were womanish, and if captured and burning at the stake to let no torture draw a groan or sigh from him but to taunt his enemies, recite his deeds of prowess, and sing his death-song. He was also taught that the great object of life was to distinguish himself in war and to slay his enemies. He was taught to be faithful to any treaty he made; and to use any deceit or practice any treachery upon an enemy was honorable, and that it was no disgrace to kill an enemy wherever found, even if unarmed.

Marriage among the Indians was attended with but little ceremony. An Indian could have several wives at one time if he wished, but seldom had more than one. The husband furnished the meat by hunting, and the wife or squaw raised the corn and id all the work. The husband when at home did not labor, so his limbs would not be stiffened, but would remain supple for war and the chase. The husband could have his wife when he pleased, but on separation the children remained with the wife, and she kept the wigwam and had the privilege to marry again.

The Indian copied after the Mound-builder. He used flint to make his arrow and spearheads, and stone to make his tomahawks, hammers, pestles and ornaments; clay and shells to make his pottery war, but failed to work copper, and had lost all trace of the mines left by the Mound-builders. The stone-grave chamber of the Mound-builder suggested the stonepile grave of the Indian. Stones of memorial constituted the second class of Indian stone heaps. They were thrown up in heaps at the crossing of trails, and on the summit of some mountain, and each Indian that passed added a stone. "Lawson's Carolina," published in 1709, at page 309, makes mention of the Indians in the South piling up these memorial heaps. They were piled up in Asia by the Hindoos, according to "Coleman's Hindoo Mythology," page 271.

The earliest mention we have of memorial stones was when the Children of Israel passed over Jordan, and Joshua pitched twelve stones as a memorial heap in Gilgal, to commemorate Israel's passing over on dry land. Joshua 4:22. And the earliest mention we have of stones piled over the dead is in II Samuel 18:17, when Absalom was cast into a great pit and a great heap of stones laid on him.

Stone circles existed as the third class of the Indians' stone-heaps, being stones piled in a great circle and sometimes placed standing, inside of which the East Virginia Indians gathered and went through a great many ceremonies, according to berkly's History of Virginia, page 164.

The Indians of the United States were divided into eight great families: Algonquin, Iroquois, Catawbas, Cherokees, Uchees, Mobilians, Natches and Dacatahs or Sioux. The great plains, the Rocky mountains and the Pacific coast were in possession of powerful tribes not in the above division. Each family was divided into numerous tribes, and these tribes were generally engaged in bloody wars with each other.

The Lenni Lenape or Delaware Indians came about 1700 into the territory of Indiana and Armstrong counties on account of the game, and were soon followed by the Shawanees from eastern Pennsylvania, where they had settled in 1677 when driven out of Georgia and South Carolina. These two tribes were the tenants at will of the Allegheny Valley, which was under the dominion of the Six Nations of New York, who were called by DeWill Clinton the Romans of America, and whose council resembled the *Wittenagamott* of the Saxons.

The Delawares and Shawanees did not have many villages, were chiefly hunters and a more complete account of them will be found in the description of the French and Indian war and in the individual histories of the two counties.

Cusick gives the following tradition accounting for the scarcity of Indian towns in the Allegheny Valley; The Mound-builders, twenty-two hundred years before Columbus discovered America, lived in a Golden city in the south, under a great emperor. This emperor invaded the Mississippi Valley, and built all its mounds. The Indians, coming from the north, drove him back after terrible fighting and divided the country among themselves, excepting the Monongahela and Allegheny Valleys, over which various tribes waged long and bloody wars. The finally called a grand council, and agreed that no tribe was to inhabit them or build towns on their soil, but that, on account of the wonderful abundance of game, they were to remain a common hunting-ground for all the tribes.

The White Race.—It is not foreign to the history of Indiana and Armstrong counties, and will add much to a right understanding of the great movement by which they were conquered and peopled by the white race, to glance back over the race-history of their English, German, Irish, Welsh and Scotch pioneers; and that wonderful Scotch-Irish people whose advent into the territory of these counties was but a part of the initial step of the winning of the "Great West" by the Backwoodsmen of the Alleghenies.

It is not inappropriate of this substantial section of country to make more intelligible the hastily sketched record of its English-speaking people, to notice, also, the part which they have played in modern history.

The empires of the ancient world were under the domination of a single idea, while the nations of modern times are composed of diverse elements that hold each other in check and prevail together. Religious motives have influenced the political movements of modern history which commenced with the barbarian ascendancy of the fierce north-land German races of Europe when they subverted the Roman Empire and conquered the sea-girt realm of Great Britain.

In the dawn of modern history arose the rival systems of Christianity and Mohammedanism which immediately entered into a great struggle for the mastery of Europe. In the mighty contest which followed the Crescent fell before the Cross and the barbarian conquerors of Rome, who had vanquished the hosts of the Prophet, finally embraced the Christian faith. In the afterward struggle of the barbarians towards civilization, two great leaders loomed up in Charlemagne, the Frankish sovereign, and Alfred the Great of England. The next period in barbarian history was that of Feudalism, a system growing out of the peculiar military institutions of the Teutonic race. In due time came the Crusades, which were followed by the rise of the Free Cities, wherein were born political liberty, and by the establishment of Modern Monarchy.

The overflow of the Germanic people upon the continent of Europe, while it stimulated the Latin nations into vigorous life, yet added nothing to the increase of German territory, nor contributed in the least to the spread of the German language. But "the day when the keels of the low Dutch sea-thieves first grated on the British coast was big with the doom of many nations. These sea-rovers, who won England, to a great extent, displaced the native Briton, and England grew to differ profoundly from the German countries of the mainland." Celtic and Scandinavian elements were introduced into the English blood, and the Norman conquest brought about "the transformation of the old English tongue into the magnificent language which now the common inheritance of so many widespread peoples."

After the alleged Pre-Columbian discoveries of portions of the North American continent, Spain was the first nation to discover, to conquer, and to colonize any portion of this country, but England soon won from her the mastery of the sea and the "sun of Spanish world dominion set as quickly as it had risen." In the colonization of this country Spain had powerful rivals in England, France and Holland.

In the English settlements and conquests of the Atlantic sea-board, southern colonization was commenced by the Cavalier at Jamestown, northern occupation dates to the landing of the Roundhead or Puritan on Plymouth rock, and central settlement was inaugurated by Calvert, the Catholic, at St Mary's, in behalf of religious toleration, and by Penn, the Quaker, at Philadelphia in the interests of universal liberty.

The Puritan swept King Philip and his tribes from the face of the earth and extended New England to the Hudson. The Cavalier crushed Powhattan's thirty-tribe confederation and carried westward his line of settlements in Virginia and the Carolinas to the Blue Ridge mountains; and Penn by treaties secured the peaceable possession of his province to the Susquehanna river.

The Backwoodsmen of the Alleghenies.—At the opening of the eighteenth century the Alleghenies constituted the western boundary of English colonial territory, but in the mountain valleys between the tide-water regions of the south and the Alleghenies, and in the same longitudinal mountain valleys between the Susquehanna river and the Allegheny mountains, arose a wonderful class of people whose arms and whose courage won the great west from the Alleghenies to the Rio Grande nd the Pacific. They will be known in the future as the Backwoodsmen of the Alleghenies, a name applied to them by Roosevelt in his work entitled "The Winning of the West."

The backwoodsmen were American by birth and parentage, and of mixed race, Irish, German, Scotch, English, Welsh and Scotch-Irish. But the dominant strain their blood was the Scotch-Irish, who preachers taught the creed of Knox and Calvin. The English element of this backwoods race was represented by Daniel Boone, and its Cavalier spirit had fitting exemplification in Clarke and Blount, while the German element produced the Whetzels and the Welsh contributed the Morgans.

Of these different elements the Irish possessed all those traits of national character for which they have been distinguished for centuries, and bore well their part in the frontier struggle.

They were warm-hearted, impulsive and generous, and when a settlement was established they were among the first to open taverns, build mills and distilleries and speculate in land. Many of that blood and race have ever since been prominent in military and civil life.

The next distinctive class was the German, who came principally from eastern Pennsylvania, although some of them were from the Rhine provinces and various portions of Germany. G.D. Albert says of them: "They were not so aggressive as the former (Scotch-Irish), and, as a rule, they laid out a life-work devoted to labor. They were a strong body, yet, owing to their detached locations and their characteristics in not meddling in public affairs, the whole controlling of affairs in the first years of our history was monopolized by the Scotch-Irish and the Americans of English descent." Toward the end of the Revolution, however, the German had coalesced with the other elements, and they were prominent in civil as well as military affairs. Sober, economic, plain, honest, religious and firm in discharge of duty, they were reliable soldiers and scouts and industrious and moral citizens. Their progress was slow but sure, and they devoted themselves to agriculture with the best of results.

The Scotch were few in numbers, but were a hardy, moral and fearless people, who preserved amid the Alleghenies the lofty spirit of independence which they inherited from their forefathers in the highlands of Scotland. They were strong-willed, and self-reliant, and were distinguished for intelligence, morality, prudence, patient industry and honest thrift. Brave on the battle-field, sagacious on the march and wise council, they were a valuable element of the frontier population.

The English were principally of Cavalier strain and, in addition to the resolute will and great determination of their race, were noted for a high sense of honor and a lofty spirit of independence, such as was possessed by their ancestors at Runnymede when they wrested from King John the immortal *Magna Charta*. They fought bravely and furnished many leaders.

The Welsh were principally from Virginia, and were the smallest element in numbers, but were always foremost in hours of danger, and the race which gave Morgan and Jefferson to American history can never be disparaged for bravery or intelligence.

Scotch-Irish Element.—It was the largest and most important element of the Allegheny Backwoodsmen. At the beginning of the eighteenth century the Scotch-Irish from the north of Ireland commenced to come to the Colonies, and by 1730 they were fairly swarming across the ocean in two streams; the larger landing in Philadelphia and pushing west of the Susquehanna river, and the smaller landing at Charleston and seeking the Carolina back- country from which they pushed up along the Alleghenies till they met the downward stream from western Pennsylvania, their great breeding-ground and nursery. They stretched a broad belt from north to south, a shield of sinewy men thrust in between the people of the sea-board and the red warriors of the wilderness.

The Scotch-Irish as a race has been ably described by Dr. J. S. MacIntosh, in the following language: "John Knox, under God, made the Scotch and Scotch-Irish and their characteristics—unyielding grit, granite hardness, close-mouthed self-repression, clear, firm speech when the truth is to be told, God-fearing honesty, loyalty to friendship, defiant of death, conscience and knee-bending only to God. Before Knox wrought and enstamped himself, our race had abilities. After him, we have achievements. Before him we have powers; now performances. Before him strugglings; now success. In long years of close historic reading and interested study of national departures and racial trends, I have found many a marked and self-impressing leader who, for some time, has made a nation wax and molded it at will; but then new fires came and a new stamp. But I have not found one single leader has so deeply, pervasively and permanently enstamped himself on a people who, of all folks, stand foremost among the self-asserting races."

Andrew Jackson was of Scotch-Irish descent, and under his lead many of his race served with distinction in the Creek war and the acquisition of west Florida, while numbers of them immortalized themselves at New Orleans, where, clad in hunting shirt and leggings, they fought in the ranks of the frontier companies.

Another Scotch-Irish leader was Houston, who won Texan independence from Mexico and was largely instrumental in urging and securing the annexation of the :Lone Star State" to the American Union.

These frontiersmen in a single generation were welded together into one people—a freedom-loving and bold, defiant race. They differed from the world in dress, in customs and in mode of life. As a class they neigher built towns nor loved to dwell in them.

In the conquest of the west the back woods axe, shapely, well-poised, with long and light head, and the long, small-bore, flintlock, frontier rifle, were the national weapons of the American Backwoodsmen, who have never been excelled in their use. "The Backwoodsman was always clad in the fringed hunting-shirt, or home-spun of buckskin, the most picturesque and distinctively national dress ever worn in America. It was a loose smock or tunic, reaching nearly to the knees, and held in at the waist by a broad belt, from which hung the tomahawk and scalping-knife.

In 1748 Conrad Weiser crossed the Alleghenies as a messenger from the governor of Pennsylvania to the Indians at Logstown. Two years later Christopher Gist, the explorer of the Ohio land company, with his own and several other families made the first settlement west of the Alleghenies. This settlement was destroyed by the French in 1754 and the French and Indian was stopped Backwoodsmen from further settlement until the fall of Ft. Duqesne in 1758. By 1769 the American Backwoodsmen had increased in numbers in the valleys along the Alleghenies, so that they were ready to flood the continent beyond. From 1769 to 1774 they poured in a steady stream into western Pennsylvania and northwestern Virginia despite the king of England's proclamation prohibiting settlement west of the Alleghenies.

In the south during the above named period they pushed across the mountains into Kentucky and under the lead of Boone and into Tennessee where Robertson and Sevier found3ed the "Watauga Commonwealth." They plunged into a great forest region, where between their scattered settlements intervened miles on miles of shadowy, wolf-haunted woodland, in whose tangled depths lurked the hawk-eyed and wolf-hearted Indian.

The Indian was a terrible and cruel foe. On their own ground in the woods they were far more formidable than the best European troops. Although inferior in numbers, they defeated Braddock's grenadiers and Grant's highlanders. The finest drilled veteran troops of the world failed when led against the dark tribesmen of the forest. When on his own ground and any ways near equal in numbers the Indians were never defeated by any enemy except the Backwoodsmen of the Alleghenies, who won their most notable victory over the Indians at the battle of Point Pleasant, or the Great Kanawha in 1774.

Before the Revolution commenced, in 1774, the British Parliament had by the Quebec Act declared the country between the Great Lakes and the Ohio to be part of Canada and had not the Backwoodsmen under Boone and Clarke and other frontier leaders been successful in conquering it we would be cooped up to-day between the sea and the Allegheny mountains, while the Dominion of Canada would now include the greater part of the Mississippi Valley. This act has been entirely overlooked by most American historians, while ignored by others; yet it was intended to have a decided bearing on Colonial affairs, and but for the Revolutionary struggle for Independence it would have been an important event in the history of this country as a part of the Empire of Great Britain. The founding of this great Republic was on the Atlantic shore by the Puritan, the Cavalier, the Patroon, the Catholic, the Quaker and the Huguenot; but its wonderful growth and great increase of territory is due to the Backwoodsmen of the Alleghenies, who passed off the sage of action without ever realizing the importance of magnitude of the work which they accomplished in the building of the United States.

During the Revolutionary was the men of the west for the most part took no share in the actual campaigning against the British and Hessians. Their duty was to conquer and hold the wooded wilderness that stretched westward to the Mississippi; and to lay therein the foundation of many future commonwealths. Yet at a crisis in the great struggle for liberty, at one of the darkest hours for the patriotic cause, it was given to a band of western men to come to the relief of their brethren of the sea-board and to strike a telling and decisive blow for all America. When the tree southern provinces lay crushed and helpless at the feet of Cornwallis, the Holston backwoodsmen suddenly gathered to assail the triumphant conquerer. Crossing the mountains that divided them from the beaten and despairing people of the tide-water region, they killed the ablest lieutenant of the British commander, and at a single stroke undid all that he had done."

The Backwoodsmen , under Campbell, Williams and Shelby, used Indian tactics in capturing the British forces at King's Mountain, and the next year another backwoods leader, in the person of Morgan the "Wagoner General," defeated the daring and dashing Tarleton at the ever memorable battle of the Cowpens.

"The Backwoodsmen were above all things characteristically American; and is fitting that the two greatest and most typical of all American should have been respectively a sharer and an outcome of their work. Washington himself passed the most important years of his youth heading the westward movement of his people; clad in the traditional dress of the backwoodsmen, in tasseled hunting-shirt and fringed leggings, he led them to battle against the French and Indians, and helped to clear the way for the American advance. The only other man who in the American roll of honor stands by the side of Washington, was born when the distinctive work of the pioneers had ended; and yet he was bone of their bone and flesh of their flesh; for from the loins of this gaunt frontier folk sprang mighty Abraham Lincoln."

Another peculiarly distinctive and eminently great Backwoods leader and politician was Andrew Jackson, who was born of Scotch-Irish parents. In 1796 Albert Gallatin describes him as follows: "A tall, lank, uncouth-looking personage, with locks of hair hanging over his face and a cue down his back, tied with an eel skin: his dress singular, his manners and deportment those of a rough backwoodsman."

The famous victory of January 8, 1815, crowned Jackson's fame as a soldier, and made him the typical American hero of the nineteenth century. In 1823 Jackson was elected to the United States Senate, and nominated by the Tennessee Legislature for the presidency. This candidacy, though a matter of surprise, and even merriment, speedily became popular, and in 1828 he was triumphantly elected president over Adams age a campaign of unparalleled bitterness.

During his closing years he was a professed Christian and member of the Presbyterian church. No American of this century has been the subject of such opposite judgments. He was loved and hated with equal vehemence during his life, but at the present distance of time from his career, while opinions still vary as to the merits of his public acts, few of his countrymen will question that he was a warm-hearted, brave, patriotic, honest and sincere man. If his distinguishing qualities were not such as constitute statesmanship, in the highest sense, he at least never pretended to other merit than such as were written to his credit on the page of American history, not attempting to disguise the demerits which were equally legible. The majority of his countrymen accepted and honored him, in spite of all that calumny as well as truth could allege against him. His faults may therefore be truly said to have been those of his time; his magnificent virtues may also, with the same justice, be considered as typical of a state of society which has nearly passed away.

PENNSYLVANIA

Before proceeding to speak of the history of these counties a word in regard to the State of which they are political divisions might not be out of place

Pennsylvania is situated between 39 deg. 43 min. and 42 sec. north latitude, and 2 deg. 17 min. east, and 3 deg. 31 min. west longitude, from Washington. Its mean length is 180.39 miles; mean breadth, 158.05 miles; its greatest length, 302 13-40 miles, and greatest breadth 175 miles and 192 perches.

The latitude of Greenwich is 51 deb. 27min. 39 sec. north, and the latitude of Washington 38 deg. 53.3 min. The longitude of Philadelphia from Greenwich is 75 deg. 18 min. west, and the longitude of Greenwich from Washington is 77 deg. 00.6 min. east.

Topographically Pennsylvania is divided into three parts—a southeastern or sea-board district of scattered hills, a middle belt of mountains and a great western table land or bituminous coal district, which is everywhere deeply seamed by numerous tributaries of the Allegheny, Monongahela and Susquehanna rivers. In the first district is the garden portion of the State. In the Appalachian belt is the great anthracite coal field of the United states while the western district is rich with treasures of oil, iron ore and bituminous coal and the Connellsville coking region, which produces the typical coke of the world. The third district embraces one half of the area of Pennsylvania, being bounded on three sides by State lines and on the east by the last westward ridge of the Alleghenies.

The Allegheny mountains also divide the State into two nearly equal parts which are entirely different in geological formation and surface relief. The western one of these parts, or western Pennsylvania, lies in the Mississippi Valley; while the eastern part, or eastern Pennsylvania is embraced within the area of the Atlantic sea-board.

On this floor was deposited formation after formation of the Paleozoic System until its terminal coal measures were formed just at sea-level, when the second great change in the relative level of sea and land occurred in the surface of Pennsylvania. The land rose into the air in the central and western part, erosion commenced and drainage was established. A th8ird principal change in land and sea-level followed when the eastern borders of the continent arose and carried up in its swell the surface of the eastern part of the State, which had been mostly in the bed of a long salt-water bay. Frost and rain then commenced their work of destruction on these elevated surfaces and drainage carried the soil and rock this loosened on the east to build up New Jersey, Delaware and the tide water region of Maryland and Virginia, while on the west it bore the eroded earth to form Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

The Paleozoic System has been divided into thirteen formations, of which in Indiana and Armstrong counties, numbers I, IV, VII, IX, X and XII are massive sand-rocks; III, V, VIII, XI, are slate formations, II and VI, are principally limestone strata and the XIIIth includes the coal measures.

The coal measures are the highest series of number Xii or the Carboniferous formation, which is three thousand feet in thickness. They are divided into three parts; the first or lower coal series carries coal beds A, B, C or Kittanning (3 feet), D or Lower Freeport (3 feet) E or Upper Freeport (6 feet) and F or Elk Lick (1 foot); the second or barren Measures with coal bed G (1 foot) and the third or upper coal series, with coal beds H or Pittsburgh Bed (6 to 12 feet), I or Limestone coal (2 feet), K (3 feet), and L or Brownsville (6 feet).

By the waters of the calm-flowing Delaware, in 1634, Gustavus Adolphus, “the greatest benefactor of mankind in the line of Swedish kings,” sought to establish a mighty empire in which religious thought should be free and human servitude should never exist.

But to other hands was left the founding of this grand ideal State and upon the weak and feeble New Sweden of the warrior King of Sweden was planted the strong and prosperous Quaker province of William Penn, which is now the powerful and populous Keystone State of the American Union. Prior to Gustavus Adolphus' idea of founding a State on the Delaware, the Dutch West India company and the English of Connecticut had made ineffectual attempts at colonization on the "South River." The first permanent settlement in Pennsylvania was made at Upsal (now Chester0 in 1838, by Swedes and Finns and was under the direction of Oxenstiern. These settler came from Gottenburg, on two vessels named the "Key of Calmar" and the "Griffin." They were sent out by a Swedish West Indian company which was founded by William Usselinex, who had been instrumental in forming the Dutch West India company. Their first governor was Peter Minuet, a former governor of the New Netherlands. In 1655 New Sweden was captured by the Dutch and was New Netherlands until 1664, when it was wrested from the Dutch by the English. In 1673 a Dutch squadron recaptured the country, but one year later gave it up to the English by the treaty of Westminster.

In 1681 the province of Pennsylvania was granted to William Penn in liquidation of a debt of 16,000 pounds which the British government owed to his distinguished father, Admiral Sir William Penn.

The following from Dr. Egle's History of Pennsylvania will throw light upon the naming of the State: "The King affixed his signature on March 4, 1681, naming the province Pennsylvania, for the reasons explained in the subjoined extract from a letter of William Penn to his friend Robert Turner, dated 5th of 1st month, 1681: 'This day my country was confirmed to me under the great seal of England, with large powers and privileges, by the name of Pennsylvania; a name the King would give it in honor of my father. I chose New Wales, being, as this, a pretty hilly country, but Penn being Welsh for a head, as Penmaumoire in Wales, and Penrith in Cumberland, and Penn in Buckinghamshire, highest land in England, called this Pennsylvania, which is, the high or head woodlands, for I proposed, when the Secretary, a Welshman, refused to have it called New Wales, Sylvania, and they added Penn to it, and though I much opposed it, and went to the King to have it struck out and altered, he said it was past, and would take it upon him; nor could twenty guineas move the under-secretary to vary the name, for I fear lest it be looked on as vanity in me, and not as a respect in the King, as it truly was, to my father, whom he often mentioned with praise.'"

William Penn landed in his province in 1682. He founded the city of Philadelphia which afterward became the metropolis of the thirteen colonies and the birthplace of American independence. He established his colony upon the broad principles of Christian charity and constitutional freedom. Penn was proprietor of Pennsylvania until 1893, when the crown assumed the government which it do not restore to him for two years. He then continued as proprietor until his death in 1718, and was succeeded by his sons John, Richard, and Thomas, who were successively proprietors until 1776.

The first governor of Pennsylvania was elected in 1790, and since then Pennsylvania has had a regular succession of governors under the constitutions of 1790, 1838 and 1873.

At the opening of the Revolutionary war the settlers between the Susquehanna and the Hudson owned larger farms than the people of New England, although their farms were less that the plantations of the south. There was a greater diversity of nationalities in Pennsylvania than in any other colony. From the southeast and north and westward were the following elements of population: "First Swedes, next English, then Germans, and lastly New Englanders; while the whole front of this mass, from the west branch of the Susquehanna southward, was Irish, Welsh, Scotch and Scotch-Irish." The spirit of liberty in Pennsylvania was stubborn but not fierce.

During ehe Revolution Pennsylvania bore her part in achieving independence, and since its close the State has increased rapidly in population and wealth until the present time.

The Indian title to the State was liquidated by six successive purchases, made respectively in 1682, 736, 1749, 1758, 1768, and 1784.

The Whiskey insurrection occurred in 1794, in the western counties, where frontier and Indian history will be given under a succeeding topic.

In 1798 the Fries Insurrection occurred in eastern Pennsylvania, and the next year the State capital was removed from Philadelphia to Lancaster, where it remained until 1822, when it was established at Harrisburg.

As early as 1825 Pennsylvania inaugurated a vast and important system of internal improvements in a great canal uniting the eastern and western parts of the State. This canal was the successor of extensive turnpikes, and became the predecessor of her present magnificent system of railways.

In 1834 the State established one of the most progressive and successful free-school systems that has ever been put into successful operation, and to increase its efficiency, in 1854, created the office of county superintendent.

The bloodless "Buckshot War" occurred in 1839, and seven years later Pennsylvania soldiers served in the Mexican War with the same unflinching courage which distinguished them in the War of 1812.

In 1861 Pennsylvania responded nobly to the call of President Lincoln for troops, and Pennsylvania soldiers were the first to reach the National capital. During the war Pennsylvania sent to the Union army 270 regiments, numbering 284,284 men, which included 25,000 militia, which were in service in September, 1862. The decisive battle of the late civil war was the great struggle at Gettysburg, on the soil of Pennsylvania, where Lee's veteran legions suffered their first great defeat. The State suffered three Confederate invasions, in one of which the town of Chambersburg was burned.

In 1865 the Legislature passed the act a\establishing the Soldier's Orphan Schools of Pennsylvania, and under its provisions the State has done handsomely by the orphans of her soldiers who fell during the late civil war. Governor Geary said: "These children (soldiers') are not mere objects of charity or pensioners upon our bounty, but the wards of the Commonwealth, and have just claims, earned by the blood of their fathers, upon its (the State's) support and guardianship." In 1871 there were some labor troubles at Williamsport, and five years later the First Centennial of American Independence was appropriately celebrated in Philadelphia, where for six months the centennial exposition buildings were filled by an immense throng from all parts of the world. The next year was noted for the labor riots of Pittsburgh, and on May 31, 1889, occurred the Johnstown Flood, which filled the whole land with a thrill of horror over the loss of the thousands who were swept down to death by the raging waters of the broken South Fork dam.

Pennsylvania ranks first among the "Iron States" of the Union, and produces more of this metal, and articles manufactured from it, than all the other states and territories together. The State was chiefly agricultural till 1790, when Nicho Allen discovered coal on Broad Mountains. The next year Philip Ginter found coal near Mauch Chunk, and from that time on Pennsylvania has been prominent as a mining and manufacturing Commonwealth. No State has better facilities than our in its abundance of water-power, coal and iron. In addition to coke and iron manufactures, marble, zinc, graphite, copper and nickel mines are worked, and in the western part of the State productive salt wells are operated. In 1859 petroleum came into commercial importance on Oil Creek, and to-day the oil product of the State is above 5,000,000 barrels. In 1883 the great, natural gas reservoirs west of the Alleghenies were tapped, and since then natural gas has been largely used for fuel. The State contains 19 canals and nearly 150 railroads, which are engaged in transporting her products to market.

In 1867 a law was passed for the establishment of 12 normal schools, the most of which are now in operation. Over 30 universities and colleges, ably representing the leading professions are located in the State, while the press, now recognized as a public educator, is in a flourishing condition. The *American Weekly Mercury* was issued in 1719. In 1776 there were 9 papers, in 1880, 620; and now nearly 700 are published in the State.

The old militia system of the State has been replaced by the National Guard of Pennsylvania, which has achieved an enviable record for itself.

The population of Pennsylvania in 1790 was 434,373; in 1800, 602,365; in 1810, 810,091; in 1820, 1,348, 233; in 1840, 1,724,033; in 1850, 2,311,786; in 1860, 2,906, 215; and in 1870, 3,512,951; in 1880, 4,547,096; and in 1890 was over 5,000,000.

We have not deemed it advisable to give in this sketch census statistics of the State beyond those of population, and in place of numerous lists of statistics omitted (which can be found readily in census reports) we give the presidential vote of the State since 1824. This vote has been carefully compiled from reliable sources, and if it has ever been published before we have been unable to find it.

Popular Vote of Pennsylvania at Presidential Elections
From 1824 to 1888.

1824	Republican	Andrew Jackson	36,100
	Coalition	John Q. Adams	5,440
	Republican	William H. Crawford	4,206
	Republican	Henry Clay	1,609
1828	Democrat	Andrew Jackson	101,652
	Nat. Rep.	John Q. Adams	50,848
1832	Democrat	Andrew Jackson	90,983
	Nat. Rep.,	Henry Clay	56,716
	Anti-Masonic	William Wirt	
1836	Democrat	Martin Van Buren	91,475
	Whig	William H. Harrison	87,000
1840	Whig	William H. Harrison	144,021
	Democrat	Martin Van Buren	143,076
	Liberty	James G. Birney	343
1844	Democrat	James K. Polk	167,535

	Whig	Henry Clay	161,203
	Liberty	James G. Birney	3,138
1848	Whig	Zachary Taylor	185,513
	Democrat	Lewis Cass	171,176
	Free Soil	Martin Van Buren	11,263
1852	Democrat	Franklin Pierce	198,513
	Whig	Winfield Scott	179,174
	Free Dem.,	John P. Hale	8,525
1856	Democrat	James Buchanan	230,710
	Republican	John C. Fremont	147,510
	American	Millard Fillmore	82,175
1860	Republican	Abraham Lincoln	208,039
	Democrat	John C. Breckinridge	276,316
	Ind. Dem.	Stephen A. Douglas	16,765
	Cons't. Union	John Bell	12,776
1864	Republican	Abraham Lincoln	296,391
	Democrat	George B. McClellan	276,316
1868	Republican	Ulysses S. Grant	342,280
	Democrat	Horatio Seymour	313,382
1872	Republican	Ulysses S. Grant	349,589
	Dem. & Lib.	Horace Greeley	212,041
	Temperance	James Black	1,630
	Democrat	Charles O'Connor	
1876	Republican	Rutherford B. Hayes	348,122
	Democrat	Samuel J. Tilden	366,158
	Greenback	Peter Cooper	7,187
	Prohibition	Green Clay Smith	1,319
1880	Republican	James A. Garfield	444,704
	Democrat	Winfield S. Hancock	407,428
	Greenback	James B. Weaver	20,668
	Prohibition	Neal Dow	
1884	Republican	James G. Blaine	473,904
	Democrat	Grover Cleveland	392,785
	Greenback	Benjamin F. Butler	16,992
	Prohibition	John P. St. John	15,283
1888	Republican	Benjamin Harrison	526,091
	Democrat	Grover Cleveland	446,633
	Prohibition	Clinton B. Fisk	20,947
	Greenback	Alson J. Streeter	3,873

Pennsylvania needs no eulogium; her past honorable career and present commercial supremacy are sufficient guarantees of her future greatness.

William Penn.—In concluding this brief account of the "Keystone State: we append Lossing's sketch of her founder; "In glorious contrast with the inhumanity of Spaniards, Frenchmen and many Englishmen, stands the record on History's tablet of the kindness and pustice toward the feeble Indian of the founder of Pennsylvania.

"'Thou'lt find,' said the Quaker, 'in me and mine,
But friends and brothers to thee and to thine,
Who abuse no power, and admit no line
'Twixt the red man and the white.'
And bright was the spot where the Quaker came
To leave his hat, his drab, and his name,
That will sweetly sound for the trump of Fame.
Till its final blast shall die.

--HANNAH F. GOULD.

"William Penn was born in the city of London, on the 14th of October, 1644, and was educated at Oxford. His father was the eminent Admiral Penn, a great favorite of royalty. William was remarkable, in early youth, for brilliant talent and unaffected piety. While yet a student he heard one of the new sect of Quakers preach, and, with other students, became deeply impressed with the evangelical truths which they uttered. He, with several others, withdrew from the Established Church, worshipped by themselves, and for non-conformity were expelled from the college. Penn's father sought, in vain, to reclaim him; and when at length, he refused to take off his hat in the presence of the admiral, and even of the king, he was expelled from the parental roof. He was sent to gay France, where he became a polished gentleman after a residence of two years; and on his return he studied law in London until the appearance of the great plague in 1665. He was sent Ireland in 1866, to manage an estate there belonging to his father, but was soon recalled, because he associated with Quakers. Again expelled from his father's house, he became an itinerant Quaker preacher, made many proselytes, suffered revilings and imprisonments ' for conscience' sake,' and at the age of twenty-four years wrote his celebrated work, entitled *No Cross, no Crown,* while in prison because of his nonconformity to the Church of England. He was released in 1670, and soon afterwards became the possessor of the large estates of his father, who died that year. He continued to write and preach in defence of his sect, and went to Holland and Germany, for that purpose in 1677.

"In March, 1681, Penn procured from Charles the Second, a grant of the territory in America which yet bears his name; and two years afterwards he visited the colony which he had established there. He founded Philadelphia—city of brotherly lover—toward the close of the same year; and within twenty-four months afterward, two thousand settlers were planting their homes there. Penn returned to England in 1684, and through his influence with the King, obtained the release of thirteen hundred Quakers, then in prison. Because of his personal friendship toward James, the successor of Charles (who was driven from the throne by the revolution of 1866, and had his place filled by his daughter, Mary, and William, Price of Orange), he was suspected of adherence to the fallen monarch, and was imprisoned, and deprived of his proprietary rights. These were restored to him in 1694; and in 1699 he again visited his American colony. He remained in Pennsylvania until 1701, when he hastened to England to oppose a parliamentary proposition to abolish all proprietary governments in America. He never returned. In 1712 he was prostrated by a paralytic disorder. It terminated his life on the 30th of July, 1718, at eh age of seventy-four years. Penn was greatly beloved by the Indians; and it is worthy of remark that not a drop of Quaker's blood was ever shed by the savages."

Time in his flight has numbered nearly a decade over two hundred years since William Penn set foot on the soil of the present mighty and populous State of Pennsylvania, and the results of his work on the Delaware are truthfully given on the tablet in independence Hall on which is inscribed. "William Penn, born in London, October 14th, 1644, laid the foundation of universal liberty A.D. 1682, in the privileges he then accorded the emigrants to Pennsylvania and thus enabled their descendants to make the colony the Keystone State of the Federal Union in 1789."

Territory of Indiana and Armstrong counties.—This territory is traced back as portions of previous counties until 1682, when the original counties of Pennsylvania were Philadelphia, Chester and Bucks, who boundaries were indefinite. May, 1729, an act was passed erecting the county of Lancaster, to embrace "all and singular the lands within the province of Pennsylvania lying to the northward of Octoraro creek, and to the westward of a line of marked trees running from the north branch of the said Octoraro creek northeasterly to the river Schuylkill;…and the said Octoraro creek, the line of marked trees and the river Schuylkill aforesaid, shall be the boundary line or division between said county and the counties of Chester and Philadelphia."

This the nominal jurisdiction of Lancaster county extended westward to the western limits of the province, including the larger part of the territory which now forms the counties of Indiana and Armstrong.

In 1749 the inhabitants of the western parts of Lancaster county prayed for the formation of a new county front that part of Lancaster; whereupon, on the 27th of January, 1750, it was by the General Assembly enacted, "That all and singular the lands lying within the province of Pennsylvania aforesaid to the westward of Susquehanna, and northward and westward to the county of York, be and are hereby erected into a county named and hereafter to be called Cumberland, bounded northward and westward with the line of the province, eastward partly with the river Susquehanna and partly with the said county of York, and southward in part by the said county of York, and part by the line dividing the said province from that of Maryland."

For more than twenty years, a period covering the campaigns of Washington and Braddock and the planting of the earlier settlements in the valleys of the Allegheny and Monongahela, Cumberland county continued to include the region west of the Laurel Hill range. On March 9, 1771, that region (embracing the present counties of Indiana and Armstrong and contiguous country) passed to jurisdiction of Bedford county, which was erected by the act of that date to include "all and singular the lands lying and being within the boundaries following, that is to say, beginning where the province line crosses the Tuscarora mountain, and running along the summit of that mountain to the Gap near the head of the Path valley; thence with a north line to the Juniata; thence with the Juniata to the mouth of Shaver's creek; thence northeast to the line of Berks county; thence along the Berks county line northwestward to the western bounds of the province; thence southward, according to the several courses of the western boundary of the province, to the southwest corner of the province, and from thence eastward with the southern line of the province to the place of beginning."

The territory of Bedford county west of Laurel Hill became Westmoreland by the passage (February 26, 1773) of an act erecting the last-named county to embrace "All and singular the lands lying within the province of Pennsylvania, and being within the boundaries following, that is to say, beginning in the province line, where the most westerly branch, commonly called the South, or Great Branch of Youghiogheny river crosses the same; then down the easterly side of the said branch and river to the Laurel hill; thence along the ridge of the said hill northeastward, so far as it can be traced, or till it runs into the Allegheny Hill; thence along the ridge dividing the waters of the Susquehanna and the Allegheny rivers to the purchase line at the head of Susquehanna; thence due west to the limits of the province, and by the same to the place of beginning.

This purchase line of Nov. 5, 1768, extended from the site of Cherry Tree, on the east Indiana county line, to the site of Kittanning, in Armstrong County, on the Allegheny river; and thus the larger part of Indiana and the smaller part of Armstrong counties were included in the territory of Westmoreland until the two first-named counties wre established respectively in 1800 and 1803. The portion of Armstrong north of the purchase line belonged to Allegheny and Lycoming counties from 1785 to 1800, and that part of Indiana north of the same line was apart of Lycoming from 1784 to 1803. The detailed history of these county establishments and the purchase line of 1768 will be given in the respective sketches of the two counties, in which will also be included full accounts of the early settlers.

Of the territory of Indiana and Armstron Prof. Leslie says:" The Allegheny and all the head-waters flow through rocks below the coal, in valleys with precipitous sides, seldom exceeding five hundred feet high, supporting a general table-land of the Lower Coal Measures. Borings in the valley beds always reach, at the depth of a few hundred feet, sand-rocks charged with rock oil and salt water, in scant or copious measure.

"In the valley of the Conemaugh and Kiskiminentas, however, the lower coal-beds rise from the water six times, and six times sink beneath it, the upper coal-beds occurring in the hilltops only at Blairsville and Saltsburg."

The climate of these counties is the best of the temporate latitudes. They lie between the isothermal lines of 48 and 50 degrees, and are favored with an annual rain-fall of thirty-six inches.

The fauna and flora of these counties are similar to the fauna and flora of the other counties of western Pennsylvania.

French and English Contest.—Many of the early settlers of these counties had been participants in the struggle of England and France over the Ohio Valley, and all of them were Allegheny Backwoodsmen.

In the ear-of English colonization in what is now the United Staes, the Appalachian mountains stood for many years as a great bar against the westward tide of emigration, and the planting of the line of settlement along the western mountain slopes was a Herculean task. The period of its complete establishment spanned the years of half a centry. The story of many of its founders has been quaintly told by Pritts, Withers, Doddridge, kercheval, McClurg, Day, DeHaas, McDonald and others. The account of some of its divisions and founders has formed the theme of the volumes of MdKnight, Draper, Ivine, Butterfield and Beech. A limited history of its establishment and the struggles over it are topics in the later and more comprehensive efforts of Tripplett in "Conquering the Wilderness;" Kelsey in "Pioneer Heroes," and Mason and Ridparth in "Conquering the Ohio Valley." But none have traced this great frontier line of mighty mountain ridges, or even outlined its full history; whereby some actors and events that should be general remain as local. Its full history and the true part played in it by the Allegheny Backwoodsmen has only within the past five years been secured from State archives and governmental papers, and presented by Roosevelt in "Winning the West" and by some others who have made careful and conscientious research among authentic records, which in many cases were beyond the reach of the early historians.

The movement of population in the Atlantic colonies of His Britannic Majesty George II, was pushing the great frontier line, by settlement, westward to the Appalachian mountains, then called Green and White mountains in New Endlgand, and known as the Allegheny mountains in Pennsylvania and Virginia. In 1750, in New England, the great frontier line extended along the southern coasts of Maine; then sweeping north to Lake Champlain, with a great curve, only included about one-half of Vermont and New Hampshire. With another great curve it came down to the mouth of the Mohawk in New York; next following a straight line down the Hudson river to the Delaware, and with it to the Alleghenies, and with these mountains, with a great curve, it fell away toward the northwest corner of Maryland; here it sent out a narrow tongue of population toward the great lakes via the site of Pittsburgh; with another inward curve from the Maryland corner it swept on to the Kanawba, and thence within 100 miles of the Alleghenies to their base in Alabama, round which it bent, and, seeping with another inward curve, it struck the Atlantic along the Georgia and Florida lines. This great frontier line, with the ins and out, from where it left the coast of Maine until it fell back on the Atlantic seaboard, at Florida, was over 2000 miles in length—over two millions English were enclosed within the limits; a few thousand Spaniards were south of it in Florida. One hundred thousand French were in Canada, and with a feeble line of settlement they stretched along the Mississippi on the west.

Between the French and English were the Indians, principally occupying the east Mississippi Valley. Careful estimates place the fighting strength of these Indians at ten thousand warriors. In New York were the celebrated Six Nations of the Huron-Iroquois family. West of the Alleghenies were the Shawanees, Delawares, Wyandottes, Ottawas, Miamis and several other tribes. Along the southern part of the line were the Creeks, Cherokee, Catawbas and other tribes. On the south were the Seminoles, while in New England were the remnants of several tribes who were in daily communication with the Indians of Canada.

The unreasonable policy pursued by the English officers and some unjust measures enacted on the part of the Colonial authorities, alienated nearly all of the Indians in the Ohio Valley and made them allies of the French.

There were white explorers west of the Allegheny mountain line before 1750, but they came in the character of traders, and not for the purpose of settlement. The French Came from Canda to trace with the Indians for furs. The English were largely Pennsylvanians, who came by the way of the Juniata, and also by Wills Creek, Md. Veech says these traders made their trips before 1740, and Ellis traces them as early as 1732. The Pennsylvania Archives, Vol. II., p. 14, gives a list of Indian traders licensed in 1748 by Pennsylvania, in which occur the names of George Croghan and Hugh Crawford

The French in Canada, by the freezing of the St. Lawrence, were shut up from intercourse with Europe for a large portion of the year. French statesmen formed a grand idea of opening communication between Canada and their settlements on the Mississippi by the way of the lakes and the Illinois river. This scheme would have given them uninterrupted intercourse with Europe, secured all the territory west of the Mississippi and the Illinois, and placed them in possession of nearly all the Indian trade. But instead of establishing this great water-line boundary, and protecting it with a chain of forts, the French were dazzled with the brilliant but rash idea of a line of forts from Lake Erie to the Allegheny, and down the Ohio, virtually making the Appalachian mountains a boundary to Anglo-American power, and hemming the English in to the Atlantic seaboard. "Out of the nettle danger they hoped to pluck the flower safety, but, grasping for a little more, they lost all that they had already."

England would cross this great mountain line boundary to secure the Indian trade and to push commerce to the Mississippi. Sargent answers the question why English settlements were not sooner attempted west of the Alleghenies; the conflicting claims of Virginia and Pennsylvania to the territory prevented English settlement between 1730 and 1750.

The French and the English fur traders were in constant rivalry for the Indian trade. Galissioniere, the governor of Canada, sent in 1748 a command of three hundred men along the Allegheny river to bury leaden plates with inscriptions claiming the country. In 1750 some French troops under Joncaire visited the Ohio country, and captured all the English traders they could find.

In the mean time, on the part of the English, the Ohio company (which had been chartered in 1749), of Virginia, was preparing to take possession of its grant of 600,000 acres from George II. Its objects were to wrest the Indian trade from Pennsylvania and to anticipate France in the possession of the Ohio Valley. The company was to locate its lands between the Monongahela and Kanawha rivers. Christopher Gist was employed to explore the country west of the mountains, while Nemacolin, an Indian, was to mark a road from Wills creek (Cumberland) to the forks of the Ohio (Pittsburgh).

The Ohio company erected a store-house at the mouth of Redstone creek which was called the Hangard, and then commenced a fort at "Forks of the Ohio," which was captured by the French on the 18th of April. The Indian name for the spot was Denudaga. The French first named their fort the Assumption of the Holy Virgin, but changed it to Fort Duquesne in honor of the governor of Canada. As the Ohio company fell back from the disputed territory, a new opponent—the Colony of Virginia—came forward to contest with the French the occupation of their new-won possessions, but the termination of Washington's campaign in the valley of the Youghiogheny, in 1754, left France master of the disputed territory. In this same year occurred the "Delaware Revolt," which was caused by an egregious colonial blunder made on June 19, 1754. Several colonies sent commissioners with presents to the Indians at a trealy held at Albany, New York. The Six Nations agreed not to aid the French, and to assist the English; but the Pennsylvania commissioners secretly bought of the Iroquois tribe all the lands in dispute. Thus the Delawares and Shawanees had their hunting-grounds old out from under their feet, and to aggravate their distress, the Iroquois ordered them to remove. For over two hundred years the Six Nations had ruled the Delawares and Shawanees, and received unquestioning obedience; but now the "nephew" became unruly to their "uncles," they revolted and went over to the French; and English treasure was largely expended and English blood flowed freely to pay for this greedy blunder. The Delaware tribes on the Susquehanna formed a league, with Tadeuskund (King of the Delawares) at its head, hostile to the Six Nations and the English. Thompson (p.77) says the Six Nations, afterward, in their grand council at "Onondago," repudiated the sale, but it was too late to remedy the fault.

The crossing of the Alleghenies was proving to be a very serious matter to the English. The Ohio company had been defeated. Virginia had failed and united expedition of Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina was abandoned. England now proposed to secure what the colonies failed to win, and authorized Lieutenant-Governor Horatio Sharpe, of Maryland, to raise a force from Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina and recapture the "Forks of the Ohio." Sharpe failed in his projected campaign; he acted an important part in the precipitation of the Revolutionary struggle-in connection with Dinwiddle, he was responsible for the royal order of November 12, 1754, settling the comparative rank of provincial and regular officers. This order, so unjust to American officers, aroused their opposition to English authority, and, although hitherto unnoticed, yet was an important cause of the Revolutionary war.

England in 1755, sent Braddock to capture the Ohio Valley, and his dreadful defeat at the battle of the Monongahela is so well known as to need no description here beyond the correction of the error existing in so many histories, that Washington, after Braddock's fall, assumed command of the army and conducted the retreat.

The Destruction of Kittanning.—On September 8, 1756, Gen. John Armstrong surprised and destroyed the Indian town of Kittanning on the Allegheny river, from which Capt. Jacobs and Shingas sent forth many was parties to harass the frontier settlements, but a full account of this will be found in the sketch of Armstrong county.

Forbes' Expedition.—In 1758 Gen. John Forbes, with an army of seven thousand men, was sent by England to regain what Braddock hd lost and to capture Fort Duquesne. Washington urged Forbes to take the old Braddock road, but Col. Bouquest prevailed upon Forbes to cut a new road from Bedford, Pa., through what is now Westmoreland county, to Fort Duquesne. Bouquet led the advance, and in September made his camp on the bank of Loyalhanna creek, where his engineers erected a stockade which he name Fort Ligonier, in honor of Sir John Ligonier, under whom Bouquet served in Europe. On the 11th of September, Bouquet sent Maj. Grant with eight hundred men to reconnoiter. He drew up in order of battle before Fort Duquesne, on September 13th, where he was attacked and his force routed, with the loss of three hundred men. The French and Indians, fourteen hundred strong, marched from Fort Duquesne after defeating Grant, and on the 12th of October made two attacks on Bouquet, at Fort Ligonier, but were repulsed and retreated. The English lost twelve men killed and fifty-five wounded. In November, Forbes arrived with the main division of the army, and Washington was sent forward to open the road to Fort Duquesne, which was cut out past the sites of Hannastown and Murrysville. On November 24th, Gen. Forbes captured Fort Duquesne and the soil of Westmoreland, Indiana and Armstrong counties, and the Ohio Valley passed into the hands of the Anglo-Saon race.

The principal actors in the French and Indian war were the English and French. The subordinate actors were the American colonies and the Indians. The mistake of France in fighting for a mountain-line boundary instead of accepting and establishing a water-line boundary, which resulted in the loss of all her North American territory, was equaled by the error of the English in employing American colonial troops in the war, which drilled them for the Revolutionary war, whereby England lost the most valuable part of her north American territory.

Battle of Bushy Run.—The country was garrisoned by the English from 1758 to 1763. in that year Pontiac led the Indian tribes north of the Ohio against the English forts, from Detroit to Ligonier. Colonel Bouquet was dispatched to the relief of the forts of Western Pennsylvania. He raised the siege of Fort Ligonier, and marched for the relief of Fot Pitt, with a force of five hundred Scotch highlanders and Colonial volunteers. On August 5, 1763, near the site of Harrison city, Westmoreland county, he was drawn into an Indian ambuscade. Darkness saved his army from terrible defeat, and on the next day, by masterly strategy, he drew the Indian force into an ambuscade by a feigned retreat, and ginally routed them with great slaughter. This battle, so nearly lost on the first day by the carelessness, and so brilliantly won on the second day by the masterly generalship of Colonel Henry Bouquet, is classed by Parkman (the historian) as one of the ”decisive battles of the world;” for mightly Pontiac's grand dream of Indian empire was wrecked when his warrior hosts were crushed and scattered at Bushy Run.

With the army of Forbes came the first settlers of Westmoreland county. Many of them located at Fort Ligonier, without any legal right to the soil but that of possession, and were reinforced the next year by quite a number of Forbes' soldiers, who settled by military permit. One of the earliest settlements in the county, after the one at Fort Ligonier, was made by Andrew Byerly in 1759 on Bushy creek, and, ten years later, Westmoreland county settler had pushed north of the Forbes road into the territory of Indiana and Armstrong counties.

Struggle of the Backwoodsmen and English.—By the treaty of 1758, the authorities of Pennsylvania surrendered to the Six Nations all the territory northward and westward of the Allegheny mountains; and Virginia, who also claimed all territory west of the Alleghenies, forbade all settlement. Penal laws were passed by both provinces against hunting and settling west of these mountains, but had no effect to check the tide of settler who came into the Monongahela and Allegheny valleys. Proclamations were issued by the Penns and the Governor of Virginia, and by the King of England; but the Scotch-Irish, Germans and other backwoodsmen paid no attention to Quaker or Cavalier, and gave no heed to even royalty itself. The Pennsylvania authorities sent agents to warn off these settlers, and English soldiers were sent out from Fort Pitt to enforce the King's proclamation; but the Backwoodsmen only retired east of the mountains until the agents and soldiers left, and then returned to their clearings. In this struggle the Backwoodsmen were successful, and in 1768 Pennsylvania purchased a large portion of the land which was offered it for sale as early as 1769. Virginia also claimed this territory as a part of her county of Augusta, which was organized in 1738, and offered much of the present counties of Fayette and Westmoreland for sale. Ofter the same piece of land was sold by both Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the respective claimants for possession were on the verge of coming to bloodshed over their conflicting titles; but this threatened strife between the two provinces was averted by the opening of the Revolution, when the hostile factions harmonized in the common war waged for independence. The struggle over this territory between Pennsylvania and Virginia was finally settled in Baltimore in 1779, when Virginia relinquished all claim to the present territory of Pennsylvania west of the Allegheny mountains.

Revolutionary War.—The rifle shots in “Lexington Common” awoke patriotism in the hearts of the Westmoreland pioneers, whose answer was emphatically given in the Hannastown Declaration of Independence. It was made on the 16th of May, 1775, and in the form of resolutions condemned the system of English tyranny imposed on Massachusetts, and declared that Westmorelanders "would oppose it with their lives and fortunes." The inhabitants of Westmoreland, at this general meeting, also resolved to form themselves into a military body, to consist of several companies, and to be known as the "Association of Westmoreland County." This regiment of Westmoreland Associations was organized under Colonel Proctor, and most of its members afterwards served in different Pennsylvania regiments, and fought in nearly all the battles of the Revolution. Westmorelanders were with Arnold amid the snows of Canada, suffered untold privations at Valley Forge, were with Washington at Trenton and Princeton, won imperishable renown at Saratoga under Arnold and Morgan, fought with Wayne at Stony Point, and were at Yorktown. Six companies were enlisted in Westmoreland county for the Continental army. Their captains were John nelson, William Butler, Stephen Bayard, Joseph Erwin, James Carnahan and Matthew Scott. Seven of the eight companies of the Eighth Pennsylvania were raised in the county. This regiment was organized in July, 1776, to protect the western frontier, but in three months was called to the front, served under Washington and Gates, and in 1778 were sent to Fort Pitt for the defence of the western frontiers. General Arthur St. clair was the leading character of Westmoreland county in the Revolutionary war, while prominent among her many brace sons in that great struggle were Lieutenant John Hardin (afterwards General john Hardin), of Kentucky, Captains Van Swearingen and David Kilgore. Some of those who afterward became pioneers in settling Indiana and Armstrong counties were officers and soldiers from Westmoreland in the Eighth Pennsylvania.

Lochry's Expedition.—In the spring of 1781 General Rogers Clarke proposed to lay waste the Ohio Indian country, and thus protect the frontiers of Pennsylvania and Virginia. The Pennsylvania authorities ordered Colonel Archibald Lochry to raise fifty volunteers in Westmoreland county and join Clark's forces. Lochry collected one hundred and seven men at Carnahan's block-house, eleven miles northwest of Hannastown. He had two companies of rangers, commanded respectively by Captain Thomas Stokely and Captain Samuel Shearer, and one company of horse under Captain Charles Campbell. On July 25, 1781, Colonel Lochry departed to join Clarke at Wheeling (then Fort Henry). Arriving there he found Clarke gone, and, according to orders left by the general proceeded down the Ohio river, but did not overtake him. General Clarke had failed to receive troops from Kentucky, and was compelled to push rapidly down the Ohio, as the men were deserting in considerable numbers. Lochry's force, when it arrived at the mouth of the Kanawha river, was nearly out of provisions and needed ammunition. Lochry sent four men in a boat to overtake Clarke and notify him of their condition. The Indians captured these men, learned from Lochry's letter, which they carried, of his destitute condition, and made preparations to attack him. On the 24th of August Lochry landed at the inlet of a creek on the Ohio river, some nine miles below the mouth of the Muskingum. He was here attacked by the Indians, and a desperate encounter ensued, in which Lochry and forty-two of his men were killed and the remainder of his command taken prisoners. The Indians held these prisoners until 1783, when they were ransomed by the British in Canada and exchanged. But more than half of Lochry's command never returned to Pennsylvania, and Westmoreland county lost over fifty of her bravest sons by that unfortunate expedition.

Crawford's Expedition.—In May, 1782, Colonel William Crawford led an expedition of four hundred and eighty men against the Ohio Indians. In May, 1782, his force was attacked on the Sandusky plains by the Indians and badly defeated. Colonel Crawford was captured and burned at the stake. His men were from what is now Fayette and Washington counties, and his home was near the site of Connellsville, Pa.

Burning of Hannastown.—From 1781 to 1783 was the midnight period in the early history of Westmoreland county. It seems that in the summer of the latter year the British in Canada projected an expedition against Fort Pitt, in which they were joined by a considerable force of Indians and a large number of tories. A report of reinforcements at Fort Pitt deterred them from an attack on that place, and several small bodies were detached from the main force against defenseless points along the western frontiers. One of these detachments, numbering about one hundred, and composed of Tories and Indians, was sent against Hannastown. On Saturday, July 13, 1782, this band arrived at Michael Huffnagle's, about one and one-half miles north of Hannastown, where the settler had gathered on that day to cut Huffnagles's harvest. The Indians were discovered in time for the settler to make good their escape to the fort at Hannastown. Tradition has suggested, but history is silent as to who the leaders of the Tories and Indians were. By the time the renegades and Indians arrived at Hannastown, the court, which was in session that day, and all the inhabitants of the town, were safely within the palisades of the fort. The exasperated enemy set fire to Hannastown, which consisted of about thirty log houses and cabins. All the buildings were burned, except Robert Hanna's and another house, which stood close to the stockade. Within the fort were twenty men, who had only nine guns; without, one hundred savages and Tories, who were well armed. Foiled in their attempt to surprise the place, they invested the stockade, and sent out a part of forty or fifty, who surprised and captured Miller's block-house. Burning the block-house and surrounding cabins, they returned with several prisoners. None of the inmates of the stockade fort were killed or wounded by the desultory fire of the force, expect Margaret Shaw, who lost her life in rescuing a child which was crawling toward the stockade pickets. In the evening the enemy fixed their camp in the Crabtree hollow, where they killed one prisoner and made the others run the gauntlet. During the night thirty men from George's station succeeded in approaching and entering the Hannastown fort. Captain Matthew Jack and David Shaw risked their lives in notifying the settler outside the forts. Towards morning the Indians became apprehensive of their retreat being cut off by forces from Fort Ligonier, and fled. They killed captain Brownlee and several of their captives during their retreat. They crossed the Kiskiminetas near the site of Apollo, and distanced the pursuit of the whites. They took about twenty prisoners, and killed over one hundred head of cattle, with a loss of only two warriors, who were shot at Hannastown. The Indians traded their scalps and prisoners to the British in Canada. The prisoners were afterwards exchanged and returned to Westmoreland county.

Among those who helped defend the Hannastown stockade was Captain Clark, the grandfather of Judge Clark, of Indiana.

Hannastown, where the first English court of justice was established west of the Allegheny mountains, made the first protest against British tyranny, and was really the last battle-field of the Revolution.

Harmar's Defeat.—From 1782 to 1784 the settlers west of Chestnut ridge, in Westmoreland county, planted no crops and were gathered into the frontier forts and block-houses. From 1784 to 1790 was a period of peace in Westmoreland, and many settlers came into the county. In 1790 Gen. Harmar collected on thousand one hundred and thirty-three militia, and marched from the site of Cincinnati toward Miami to punish the Indians for their continued depredations in Ohio. In October he was attacked and badly defeated, with a loss of two hundred men and half his horses. One of his bravest officers was Col. Christopher Truby, of Greensburg.

St. Clair's Defeat.—The next year Gen. St. Clair set out with two thousand men to retrieve Harmar's failure, but at the battle of the Wabash, on November 4, 1791, he suffered a terrible defeat at the hands of the Indians, by which he lost over seven hundred men and his artillery. One company of Westmoreland militia was in his army and fought very creditably in this disastrous battle.

Last Indian Troubles.—The success of the Indians in Ohio emboldened the tribes along the Allegheny river, and the northern part of Westmoreland and Indiana and Armstrong counties were frequently raided by war parties from 1790 to 1795. During this period ranger and militia companies were stationed at the forts and block-houses throughout these counties. In 1792 a party of Cornplanter Indians came into Derry township, Westmoreland county, where they killed Mrs. Mitchell and took her son Charles prisoner. In the same year they captured Massy Harbison, whose captivity and sufferings have so often been related in the histories of the frontier.

Wayne's victory at the battle of the Fallen Timbers forever broke the Indiana power and gave peace to the frontier of western Pennsylvania.

Pioneer Settlements.---Indiana county had been explored in 1766 and in 1769 a settlement was made at the juncture of Conemaugh river and Black Lick creek. Among the first settlers were Fergus, Samuel and Joseph Moorehead and James Kelly, who commenced improvements near the town of Indiana in 1772. The early settlers were principally Scotch-Irish of Presbyterian faith and came from Westmoreland county and the Cumberland valley.

The early pioneers of Armstrong were principally Scotch-Irish and German and came from the same counties of Pennsylvania as the early settlers of Indiana county. Thrifty, moral and economical, they soon cleared out large farms and formed settlements which within the course of a couple of generations became populous and wealthy.

These counties possess an interesting history which will be given in the sketch of each county. Settled by the backwoodsmen of the Alleghanies, their early settler were prominent in the Indian wars of the Colonies and the early years of the Republic, while their descendants fought well in the war of 1812 and the Mexican war and made an enviable record for devotion to the Union and bravery in battle during the late civil war. The pioneer stock of the "Great West," for over three-quarters of a century, has drawn largely on its numbers from the green hills and pleasant valleys of Indiana and Armstrong, and thousands of loving hearts throughout this great republic cherish them fondly as the land of their birth and the home of their fathers.

The growth and development of these counties have been slow by steady and sure. The record of their progress shows that they stand in the front rank of the counties of western Pennsylvania—a rank which they are justly entitled to by their immense material resources; by their educational advantages; by their religious standing, and by an intelligent press, wielding a potent influence for the public weal and contributing to high moral character which these counties have abroad for peace and good order.

Their Future.—In all the features which distinguish a prosperous and progressive country as connected with religion, morality, benevolence, industry and education, Indiana and Armstrong are behind no counties of their size in the Union.

Their vast resources—iron, coal, limestone, timber, soil and climate—have only been brought ot public notice within the last decade. Their great mineral wealth, from present indications, will be developed in a sound and business-like manner, and the new era which is just dawning will lead to the establishment of numerous and varied manufacturing industries, which in time, will make these counties on of the important and favored manufacturing regions of the United State. This development will not be confined to manufactures alone, but will prevail in agriculture, commerce and railroad building, for these counties are but in the infancy of a long career of future prosperity.

In the vote on prohibition, 1889, Indiana gave a majority for prohibition, and Armstrong, in a vote of over seven thousand, only recorded a majority of a little over one hundred against it. In the Whiskey Insurrection of 1791-95, when all western Pennsylvania was more or less engaged in that uprising, we can find no instance of any of the citizens of Indiana or Armstrong counties participating in any of the proceedings of the insurgents. When the United States army, that was sent out to repress it, arrived in the rebellious region, there were no troops stationed in either of these counties.

The Whiskey Insurrection was the first rebellion against the United States. It was confined to Fayette, Washington and Allegheny counties, Pa., and Monogalia and Ohio counties, Va. (now West Virginia). As early as 1785, Graham, the excise collector for Westmoreland county, was driven out of Greensburg, and in June, 1794, John Wells, who was serving in the same capacity, was captured and escorted beyond the county line. William Findley and many other citizens were prominent in this insurrection that died for want of military leaders. Its undeveloped elements of strength were such that Alexander Hamilton said that it endangered the foundations of the newly established republic, and that Washington purposed leading in person against in an army of fifteen thousand men, whose divisions were commanded by his ablest generals of the Revolutionary war. On October 22, 1794, a meeting was held at Greensburg, and resolutions were passed by the citizens present to yield obedience to the laws of the country. The insurgents dispersed before the United States army arrived, and all of the guilty participants were eventually pardoned by the government.

Western Pennsylvania was specially adapted to the production of grain, and there was at that time (1791) nothing produced which was marketable but ginseng, beeswax, snake-root and whiskey. It is true that some trappers on the Laurel Hill could get something for wolf-scalps, which ad to be taken over the mountains or two thousand miles down the rivers. Judge Veach says that while improved land in Westmoreland could be assessed at five dollars per acre, and in Lancaster at fifty dollars per acre, a percentage of taxation might be fair, but a tax of seven cents per gallon on whiskey made on Chartiers was one-fourth its value, while if made on the banks of the Brandywine it was perhaps less than one-eighth its value. William Findley, in a letter to Gov. Mifflin, in November, 1792, says plainly that the injustice of being obliged to pay as much excise out of two shillings, with difficulty procured, as other citizens better situated have to pay out of perhaps three times that sum, much easier obtained, comes home to the understanding of those who cannot comprehend theories.

Under the confederation the appropriation of Pennsylvania for the allowance to the army, under an act of Congress of 1780, remaining unpaid, an effort was made about 1785 to collect some of the fund still remaining unpaid, out of her excise law of 1772. This law met with great opposition, especially west of the Alleghenies, and there is no evidence that the excise was ever paid in that section. The excise tax not being collected, gave occasion to the eastern part of the State to grumble, and in June, 1785, a collector by the name of Graham was sent out. With much trouble he collected some in Fayette county and a little in Westmoreland.

This State ;aw was repealed, and the people scarcely looked for it again, but in 1791 Congress passed a law levying a tax of four pence per gallon on all distilled spirits. The members of western Pennylvanis—Smiley, from Fayette, and Findley, from Westmoreland—stoutly opposed it. This tax let to the Whiskey Insurrection that hass been so muc h discussed and is so little understood.

These counties are wonderfully blessed with fuel for heating and manufacturing purposes in their natural gas and Connellsville coking coal.

In 1865 the soldier was lost in the citizen, and peace, the "gladness-giving queen," reigned supreme throughout the land. After the war the people of Westmoreland county, very soon turned their attention largely to the development of their immense coal beds in the Connellsville coking belt. In 1873 the Southwest Pennsylvania railroad was completed from Greensburg to Scottdale, and from that time until the present the coke industry has increased with wonderful rapidity. The number of coke ovens in the county has increased from a few hundred in 1873, to many thousands in 1890. These ovens produce the typical coke of the world, and now are beginning to light up at night the valleys of Indiana county.

The natural gas wells in Murrysville and Grapeville districts, in Westmoreland county, are conceded by geologists to be the greatest on the globe. These wells have given no sign of failure for over ten years, and supply Pittsburgh and many towns over thirty miles away. The abundance and cheapness of this gas has brought steel, iron and glass works to the county, and has increased three-fold its volume of business. It has bed to a building boom in al the main towns of that county, and let to the founding and growth of Jeannette, "the magical city of glass," that in one year after being laid out numbered two thousand people. If such is the prosperity of the southern border at the present time of Westmoreland county, brought about by the use of natural gas a fuel we need not be surprised, when the wells in the last-named two counties are developed, to see them increase wonderfully in wealth and population.

To write the history of these counties, treating of the living as well as the dead, is a delicate task. To write this history, making a faithful presentation of facts, may not render it acceptable to the extreme enthusiastical, too prone to over-exalt; or the over-critical, too liable to under-estimate. To gather a large portion of the events of this history, from scant records and imperfect sources—is an undertaking of no small degree. While it unavoidably possesses considerable to make it a wearisome task, it also necessarily contains much to render it a work of pleasure to some citizen of these counties, either of which possesses men competent to perform such a work.