

Mrs. Bower is a great granddaughter of Matthia Garrison who served in the Revoluntionary War from N.J. He lived in Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, N.J. By occupation he was a farmer. His wife Elizabeth Fortner was born July 13, 1744 - died July 13, 1825, aged 81 years and is buried at Mifflinville PA. Their children were Mary wife of Emanuel Kirdendall - Jacob who married Annie Seeley - Joseph who married Mrs. Annie (Seeley) Garrison Benjamin, Matthias Elizabeth wife of Edmond Freeman and Rachel who married Matthias Fisher.

Benjamin Fortner, Mrs. Eliz (Fortner) Garrison's father was a son of Benjamin Fortner. His wife, Isabelle (Douglass) ~~xxx~~ was a daughter of Lord Archibald Douglass (son of James Douglass) born in 1691, at Bothwell Castel, Scotland and died in 1781, at Glasgow. Her coming to America and subsequent experience before her marriage were very trying. Her father first married Jane Edmunds who bore him the following children, Isabella, James, Sholto, Joseph, Jane and Charles. When he remarried the step mother practically made a servant of Isabella, who finally decided to leave home. She started for America with a lady bound for Philadelphia, but the vessel was captured by pirates, who brought the passengers to Phila. but released only those who could pay ransom. Isabelle was practically sold as a slave, her time being bought by a man from Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, N.J. at that time at Phila on business. He took her to his home, expecting her to work out the sum he had paid. There she met Benjamin Fortner, who fell in love with her and they worked together to accumulate enough money to redeem her. After their marriage they lived for a number of years in Hunterdon County, N.J., where 9 children were born to them - two more children were born after they moved to Sussex county, NJ where both Mr. & Mrs. Fortner died.

ISABELLA DOUGLAS MARRIED BENJAMIN FORTNER LIVED IN KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP SUSSEX COUNTY NEW JERSEY MOVED TO PENNA ABOUT 1794 HAD II CHILDREN AS FOLLOWS ACCORDING TO AGE

JOSEPH ELIZABETH JAMES ABEGAIL MARY LEWIS BENJAMIN SARAH FRANCES ANDREW JONAS

BENJ. FORTNER'S CHILDREN ANNA NAOME JOHN FRANCES MARY ANDREW

JOHN' FORTNER'S CHILDREN JONATHAN HIS CHILDREN ALVERETTA DABNEY ALL I KNOW

BENJ P. AND HIS CHILDREN ARE BURTON WAPLES JOHN B. BRITTIAN ALICE M. SARAH

BURTON WAPLES FORTNER'S CHILDREN JOHN B. ALICE HARRY DIED ROSS AND BURTON

BURTON'S CHILDREN JACK BURTON HAVEN WELLIVER LYDIA RAUCH AND EDNA WELLIVER

JACK'S CHILDREN JACILYN DALE

HAVENW. JOANNNE ELIZABETH STILL BORN THOMAS HAVEN

LYDIA R. DAVIS EARL ELWOOD JR.

EDNA W. FELONE CATHERINE EDNA AND RAMON LEWIS

BURT'S BROTHER'S CHILDREN JOHN SON HARRY SADWALADER FORTNER NO CHILDREN ALICE'S CHILDREN MILDRED AND LOIS ROSS'S CHILDREN BRUCE PAUL DEAD MARY RAY DEAD GRACE DEAD HARRY DEAD

MILDRED HARTMAN'S CHILDREN DON DOROTHY MILDRED MARY LOUISE MILDRED MARRIED CHARLES SHAFFER THEIR CHILDREN JOANNNE JANICE AND KATHY

JOANNE MARRIED MIKE DUBBS ONE SON MIKE DONALD HARTMAN MARRIED TWO DAUGHTER'S LYNN AND DONNA

LOIS RAMSBOTTOM CHILDREN ONE DAUGHTER ANNA DIED ADOPTED TWO CHILDREN BILLY AND LOIS ANN

JOHN B. FORTNER'S CHILDREN

BRUCE MARRIED LAURA DAVIS ONE CHILD HARRIET MARRIED BRIT DAVIS TWO SONS EDITH MARRIED SALLADE ONE SON JOHN BLIND HOWARD MARRIED MARGIARATE BRIGHT ONE DAUGHTER ELIZABETH

MYRTLE NEVER MARRIED ALICE MARRIED OSCAR MILLARD THEIR CHILDREN BENJ OR MILLARD DOCTOR CHILDREN BENJ. JR. JOSEPH BERT PAUL OSCAR AND CHARLOTTE NONE HAD CHILDREN EXCEPT BERT TWO DAUGHTERS PAUL 7 DAUGHTERS AND ONE SON

FANNIE MARRID MIMNICK TWO CHILDREN

MAY OR MARY MARRIED FRANK IKELER ONE SON FRED BURT NEVER MARRIED

Know all men by these presents that we Andrew Fortner and Joseph Garrison of Columbia County in the State of Pennsylvania Yoemen, the said Andrew Fortner being heir and son of Benjamin Fortner, seventh child in order of Benjamin and Isabella Fortner formerly Isabella Douglas, daughter of Archibald Doublas of Scotland and the said Joseph Garrison being son and heir of Elizabeth Garrison, eldest daughter and child of Benjamin Fortner and Isabella his wife, formerly Isabella Douglas, daughter of Douglas of Scotland, have made constituted and appointed and by these presents do make constitute and appoint, and in our place and stead put and depute Clemuel G. Ricketts Esq. of Orangeville, Columbia County and State of Pennsylvania, our true and lawful attorney for us and in our names and for our use to ask, demand, sue for receiver and receive all estate, real, personal and mixed which we in either of us may be entitled to in law or equity or by custom otherwise heirs or representatives of Douglas of Scotland of Shalto Douglas, his son or and any other person or persons in Great Brittain, or to which we or eigher of us may be entitled in any respect of capacity whatever in England of Scotland with power to compromise and release or receipt of a part or the whole and to make and execute all deeds or other wirtings which may become necessary to effect the premises and generally all and every act or acts, thing of things, device in law what ever needful and necessary to be done in and about the premises for us and in our names to do. Execute and perform as fully and amply to all intents and purposes as we might or could do if personally present, and attineirs one or more under him for the purpose aforesaid to make and constitute and again to revoke at pleasure and also to ask, demand, recover and receive all documents papers instruments of title tables of decent, copies of registers and exemplification of deeds or other writings which to such estate may lawfully appertain or which may be requisite to carry into effect the premises.

Hereby ratifying allowing and holding for him effectual all and whatsoever
our said attorney shall lawfully do in and about the premises aforesaid
by virtue hereof. In witness where of we have here into set our hands
and seals the twenty first day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred and thirty six.

Sealed and delivered in presence of us

William Beidleman

Andrew Fortner Seal

Leonard Rupert

Joseph Garrison Seal

Columbia County Seal

Andrew Fortner and Joseph Garrison came before me, Leonard Rupert, one of the associate judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County aforesaid and acknowledged the aforesaid power of attorney to be their act and deed and desired it might be recorded as such according to law. Witness my hand and seal June Twenty First A.D. 1836.

Joseph Ritner

Governor of the said Commonwealth to all to whom these presents shall come.

Know ye that Leonard Rupert, James Donaldson, Esquires whose names are subscribed to the instrument of writing here into annexed were at the time of subscribing the same the former associate judge of the courts of Common Pleas of the County of Columbia and the latter prothonetary of said Court of the said county in the said Commonwealth duly appointed and commissioned and full faith and credit to be given to official acts accordingly given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Harrisburg this Twenty Eighth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Six and of the Commonwealth, the Sixieth.

By the Governor

I. Wallace

Deputy Sec.

Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County Emanuel Kirkendall who in his solemn oath deposes and saith that he deponent was acquainted with Isabella Fortner formerly Isabella Douglas daughter of James Douglas of Scotland. That he first became acquainted with her, Isabella in the state of New Jersey in North America, about fifty-seven years of age since that she was about 16 yr. of age since when she left Scotland, which is about 70 years since and that it was from her lips, deponent learned the fact of her having left Scotland at sixteen years of age and unmarried. When this deponent first became acquainted with her Isabella in New Jersey she was married to a person named Benjamin Fortner by whom she had eleven children named, Elizabeth, Joseph, James, Abigail, Mary, Lewis, Benjamin, Sarah, Frances, Andrew and Jonas.

Deponent saith that Benjamin Fortner said husband of said Isabella has been dead about forty years and that the said Isabella died about one year afterwards leaving issue as follows namely, Elizabeth, Daughter of the said Benjamin and Isabella intermarried with Mathias Garrison and died leaving four sons and three daughters, Jacob, Joseph, Benjamin, Mathias, Mary, Elizabeth and Rachael and further deponent said that Joseph, second child of the said Benj. and Isabella died leaving two sons names not recollected and further saith that James Fortner third child of the said Benj. and Isabella died leaving two sons and four daughters names of said children not remembered and further this deponent saith that Abigail fourth child of Benj. and Isabella Fortner intermarried with William Garrison by whom she had one son William and deponent further said that Mary daughter of Benj. and Isabella Fortner and fifth child was intermarried with Jacob Larne and died leaving issue whose names and residences this deponent does not know and further deponent said that Lewis Fortner sixth child of said Benj. and Isabella Fortner died leaving sons and daughters number and names not recollected by this deponent and this deponent further states that Benj. Fortner son of said Benj. and Isabella a seventh child died about one year since leaving issue six children namely,

Anna, Naoma, John, Frances and Mary and Andrew the said Andrew being the eldest son and deponent further saith that Sarah, daughter of Benj. and Isabella and eight child intermarried with John Mc Oicker's and died leaving issue of whom the deponent hath no knowledge as to numbers names or places of residence and deponent further saith that Frances daughter of the said Benj. and Isabella Fortner and ninth child intermarried with Daniel Smoak by whom she had one son John and daughters number and names and residences not known by this deponent and deponent further saith that Andrew son of said Benj. and Isabella and tenth child died leaving no issue and further deponent saith that Jonas Fortner son of the said Benj. and Isabella and eleventh child in succession is married and now living in Canada in the British Dominions and deponent further saith that he has heard the said Isabella Douglas say that she had two brothers in Scotland and names Charles and Shalto and that she had one sister drowned in Hazel Run, Scotland and deponent further saith that Isabella informed him that she wrote to her father in Scotland when she had but thre children and the messenger in his return infomred her that he had delivered the letter to her father and further deponent saith not.

Sworn and Subscribed

the Twentieth Day of June A.D. 1836 before me
E.A. Jackson

Emanuel Kirkendall

I do hereby cerify that Emanuel Kirkendall who has made and signed the above deposition is a highly respectable citizen and whose declarations and assertions may be relied on as true.

W. A. Jackson

Bert never married

Dolle married Huber - one son

John married Florence - 5 children, Oscar, John other names forgotten

Blanche married Wm. Hicks - 2 daughters

Sarah married Gideon Meyers - one son, Benj.

Isabella's second child, Elizabeth married Mathias Garrison. She had 7 children as follows: Jacob, Joseph, Mary, Benjamine, Mathias, Rachael, Elizabeth

Her third child Mary married Kirkindall. Their children, Joseph, Levi, Cornelia, Leonard, Betsy, Rachael, Katy.

Joseph Children, Katherine, Stephen, Margaret, Carolina, Mahala, Hiram, Manuel.

Archibald Douglas	Born	1691
Married <u>Jane Edmonds</u>		<u>1719</u>
Edmonds Douglas	Born	1720
Shalto	"	1721
Charles	"	1722
James	"	1724
Isabella	"	1726
Joseph	"	1728
Jane	"	1728

Clemuel Ricketts notes in Scotland Lord Archibald Douglas died about 20 years since, 90 yrs. old who had five sons named Archibald Charles, James, Shalto and George. Shalto died about 15 yrs. since at the age of 45 yrs. None but one was ever married and he died without issue. All Nobleman 9 miles from Glasgow exectors to will Sarah Ma Tally and Grace Spentus, single Amtuess, John Granured James Herafall, William Lults the w ill.

Dated 21 day June 1936

1836

Blythwood
is 9 miles
from Glasgow

State of Penna Columbia County

I James Donaldson, Esq. prothonatary of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Columbia afore said do certify that E. A. Jackson, Esq. before whom the foregoing deposition was taken was and still is an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid duly commissioned as such and sworn and to all whose official acts due faith and credit is and ought to be given as well in courts of Justice as lesen here and that the signature E. A. Jackson is the proper handwirting of the said Justice of the Peace in testimony here of and have here to set my hand affixed the seal of the said Court of Danville, the 23rd day of June, A.D. 1836

James Donaldson, Prothy.

The Commonwealth of Penna. and U.S. of America - Luzerne County

On eighth day of April A.D. 1854 personally appeared before me, Benjamin Evans one of the Justices of the Peace in and aforesaid Co. of Luzerne Commonwealth of Pa. Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman of said Co. of Luzerne Commonwealth of Pa. who being 76 years of age of sound mind and of otherwise legally qualified to give evidence and who after being duly sworn according to law, doth depose, and say she the deponent knew Isabella Fortner, wife of Benjamin Fortner, whose maiden name was Isabella Douglas, who was a woman of middle statue. That the said Isabella Fortner said in deponents presence that she came from Scotland when young and that her father resided near Edinburg in Scotland when youn and that it was understood and believed by t family that his name was Archibald Douglas. Said Isabella left home on account of difficulties with a stepmother and lived with an aunt. Came from there to America, landed at Phila, and was sold for her passage on account of having been robbed of her money and clothes. Deponent also says Isabella Fortner lived in the state of N.J. U.S. of America, was married to Benjamin Fortner and had eleven children named as follows: Elizabeth, Joseph, James, Andrew, Mary, Abigal, Frances and Sarah. Deponent also says Isabella Fortner said that she had a brother named James and also a sister who was drowned in Hazel Run.

Isabella Fortner at the time of her death was in charge of her oldest daughter Elizabeth and that she died about the year 1795 or 1796 and from her appearance I should from the best of my knowledge believe her to have been about 70 yrs. of age.

Sworn and
 Before me this
 Eight Day of
 April A.D. 1854

Elizabeth Freeman

X *the mark*

Witness Present at
 signing
 Eliza. V. Pollock

Mifflinville, August 26, 1821

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I will now give you an account which I have received concerning the Scoth legacy. I always understood that my grandmother, Isabella Douglas that was her maiden name was born in Scotland and her father's name was Archibald Douglas. He died and was buried in the city of Glasgow and his land property lays within nine miles of the city of Glasglow. I have been informed that four of his sons lay in the same grave yard, Charles, Shalto, George and Archibald. The four lived and died single men and his son James was a married man and he lived and died in Edinburg but left no heird and his body is buried in the city of Edinburg. I have understood James her brother in his last will and testament willed to Isabella two thousand pounds in mcney. He owned her as his sister and that her father Archibald Douglas land prope to be claimed it by heirship. I have also understood that Charles was a seafaring man and like wise her father Archibald Douglas was married twice and Isabella was a child by the first wife Frances Woods.

Grand Daughter of Isabella Fortner

A little more came to my recollections. I have also understood that Isabella Fortner's Grand Father's name was James

Elizabeth Garrison departed this life July 13, 1825 age 81 yrs.

John Brown departed this life Sept. 24, 1819 age 73 yrs and his mother

Mary wife of Benj. Fortner died Feb. 11, 1825 age 72 yrs.

Benj. Fortner died July 10, 1835 age 80 yrs. Born 1755

Peter Yohe died July 9, 1835 age 72 yrs. 1 month 11 days

It is supposed that Isabella Fortner was 18 yrs. old when Elizabeth Garrison was born. It is supposed that Isabella Fortner was born in 1726.

Naomie Yohe born Sept. 28, 1785 died Nov. 24, 1850, aged 65 yrs. 1 mo. 26 days

John R. Yohe, son of Peter and Naomia Yohe was born Sept. 22, 1822

Mary Ann Yohe, wife of John R. Yohe was born June 10, 1820

Phoebe Yohe second wife of John R. Yohe was born Jan. 2, 1817

John R. Yohe died May 9, 1885

Commonwealth of Pa. U.S. A. Luzerne Co. Pa.

Deposition of witnesses produced, sworn and examined by me the under signed Justice of the Peace in and for the said Co. on the 8th day of April, A.D.

Mathias Garrison aged 76 years or thereabouts of Salem Twp. in the County of Luzerne, Pa. being produced sworn and examined, deposes as follows that he the said Mathias Garrison knew Isabella Fortner wife of Benj. Fortner. That she was a woman of middle stature and that he heard her say that he heard her say that her maiden name was Isabella Douglas. That the said Isabella Fortner was Grandmother of deponent and lived in the same house with him. That he the said Mathias Garrison heard her say she came from Scotland when young and

that her father resided near Edinburg in Scotland and that it was understood and believed in the family that her father's name was James Douglas. That he heard her say she left home on account of her stepmother who wanted her to wash clothes, and lived with an aunt till she started for America and that she landed in Phila. and was sold for her passage on account of having been robbed of her money and clothes while on her way. And deponent says she lived in the state of New Jersey and that she was married to Benj. Fortner and that after her bans were published in the church according to law, her master objected

to the marriage on account of her being a servant and Benj. Fortner redeemed her time after which they were married. And that they had 11 children named as follows: Elizabeth, Joseph, James, Lewis, Benjamin, Jonas, Andrew, Abigail, Frances and Sarah and Mary. And that he heard her say that she had a brother James in Scotland and also had a sister drowned in Hazel Run.

At the time of Isabella Fortner's death she was in the charge of myself and Mother, who was her oldest daughter Elizabeth. She died about the yr. 1795 or 1796 and judging from her appearance I should think her to have been about 70 years of age.

Examination taken
Reduced to writing and
By the witness subscribed and
Sworn to this 8th day of April 1854

Mathias Garrison

Benjamin Evans J. P.

DOUGLAS HEIRSHIP AND TREE

State of Penna. County of Luzerne Before me, R. M. Brundage one of the Justices of the peace in afore said County of afore said personally appeared Emanuel Kirkendall of Mifflin Township Columbia County and State aforesaid who being duly sworn according to law dith depose and say upon his solemn oath that he was acquainted with Benj. Fortner and Isabella his wife in Knowlton Township, Sussex County and State of New Jersey and they were always respected and lived together as man and wife.

They had a family of children whose names were Elizabeth, Joseph, James, Abigal, Lewis, Polly or Mary, Benjamin Sarah, Frances, Andrew and Jonas who deponent believe were born in the order of names aforesaid.

They moved from N.J. to Pennsylvania about the year seventeen hundred and nine four and said deponent lived in the same house with Benjamin Fortner and Isabella Fortner at that time for about two years.

Said deponent saith that during the time he lived with the said Benjamin and Isabella stated to deponent that she came from Scotland when she was sixteen years of age and that her maiden name was Isabella Douglas and that her father was known and called Lord Douglas and said deponent believes she called her father's name Archibald Douglas and that she had a brother Charles, Shalto, and James in Scotland and that she had one sister drowned in Hazel Run. Said Isabella told said deponent she had left home unknown to her parents and spoke of them and of her house. Said Isabella wanted said deponent to go to Scotland and assured him he would receive a large sum of money as her portion from her father or his estate. Said Isabella also wanted some of the children to go on the same errand, but they never did to my knowledge. Said deponent further states he was assured of her being from Scotland by her language in conversation and believed her statements true.

In the year seventeen hundred ninety four said deponent states that said Isak

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HX

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Fortner was than an aged woman. Said deponent states that he is now in the
eighty first year of age. Said deponent states further that said Isabella
told him she had written a letter home at the time she had given birth to
three children but she never received an answer. Said deponent is not certain
whether the said letter was sent by mail or by a man from Scotland who said he
was going there and would be the bearer of the letter sent by Isabella Douglas
Fortner.

Sworn and subscribed before me this twenty ninth January A.D. 1849

Emanuel Kirkendall
Brundage

Evangelical Church Here Century

Today continues the historical sketches of Bloomsburg churches in observance of the Sesquicentennial, with today's story concerning the First Evangelical United Brethren Church.

The origin of First Evangelical United Brethren Church dates back to the early 1860's. In about 1862, a few families from the Salem Church (U. B. C.) outside of Berwick, moved to Bloomsburg. With a few other Evangelicals who already lived in the neighborhood a class was begun.

In the early years the family of Mathias Garrison played an important part. Mathias Garrison, with brothers and brother-in-laws immigrated from the state of New Jersey and settled not far from Berwick. Mathias Garrison purchased a large timber tract about two miles north of the town of Berwick and built a log house in the woods in which he lived with his family. He being a Methodist, found no church of his choice within reach so he opened his house as a preaching place for the circuit riders of the Evangelical Church and of the Methodist Church. Mathias Garrison

and his father, a seventeen child man (from two wives) and had an earnest desire to provide every possible means for the children's educational and religious development. This ambition led him to deed a large tract of land along the public road for a church, a school house and a cemetery.

The Evangelicals built the church, the township school board built the school, and the people of the community began to use the grave-yard as the place of final repose for the remains of their loved ones. (It appears from this sketch that this would be the Salem location, for the Salem church was built about this time and the earliest graves date back to this time.)

Move to Bloomsburg

When the youngest of the Garrison family became of age, the father having been dead a few years previous, the farm was sold. Joseph and his mother, his brother Henry Garrison and family, his brother-in-law Tobias Henry and family with a few others moved to Bloomsburg. These per-

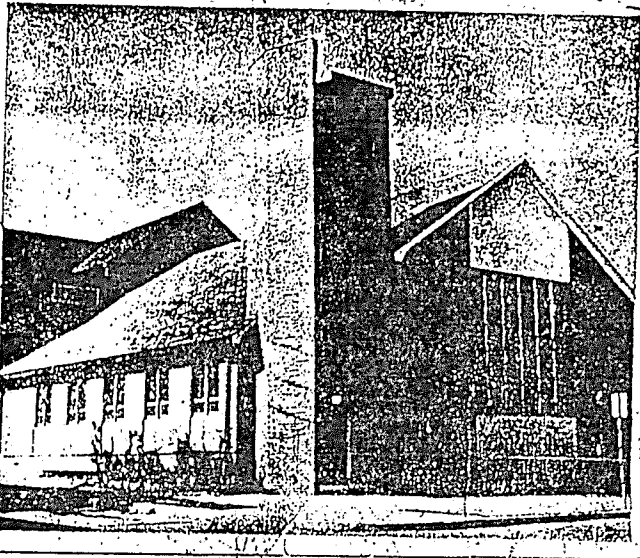
sons, being Evangelicals, united with other Evangelicals in Bloomsburg and began to hold regular services. One of the early preachers to these people in Bloomsburg was the Rev. Morris Walton whose mother was a daughter of Mathias Garrison.

Rev. Walton entered the ministry in the Evangelical Church from Columbia Circuit but died an early death in 1870 at the age of 33.

Services at Bloomsburg were rather sporadic at first because the minister's first obligation was to preach to the churches at Berwick.

In March 1873 a resolution was passed at the annual conference of the Church to the effect that Light Street, Afton, and Bloomsburg be taken from the Columbia Circuit, that Catawissa be added, and that the new station be called the "Bloomsburg Mission." The Rev. R. C. Bower was assigned as the first pastor. The Bloomsburg Church had a class of nine members.

Services at Bloomsburg were first held in a little one room brick school house at Port Noble.



This class was still a part of Columbia Circuit. Sometime later the congregation moved to a one room frame school building in Rabbstown which today is on Eighth street. It is not known how long they worshipped there. Later they moved to the large upper room of the Old Academy on West Third st., and from there to the Welsh Baptist Church on North Iron st. Here they worshipped until the first Evangelical Church was built on Fourth street. This church was dedicated in December of 1880 by Bishop T. Bowerman. For forty-six years the congregation worshipped in this church and grew to the extent that the church building no longer met their needs. Plans were then laid to find a new location. This proved to be the present site of the church at Fifth and Iron streets. The first unit on this new site was dedicated in February 1926 by Bishop M. T. Maze. The church building on Fourth st. was then sold to the Jewish congregation and is presently being used as their Synagogue.

Educational Unit

The first unit built at the Iron and Fifth street site was intended to be the educational plant of the church. It was used both for education and worship until the sanctuary was added in 1961. During these two years the old unit was completely remodelled and a beautiful contemporary sanctuary erected. Membership in the church presently numbers 270.

The Evangelical United Brethren Church is not a "split" from another church. It arose spontaneously as immigrants to the New World felt the need for spiritual regeneration, and an effective means for witnessing to their faith. As a denomination it co-operates with other churches through both the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., and in the World Council of Churches. The local congregation seeks to minister to the needs of the whole man. It is both warm in spirit and out-going in mission.

Rebecca Garrison has a house at Morris County but she is buried at the Berwick Light Street. She was a sister to daughter wife of John Henry.

History of Columbia and Montour Counties, Penna.
Edited by J. H. Battle
A. Warner & Co., Chicago, Ill. (1887)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES:

ISABELLA
DOUGLAS

attended school at Bloomsburg until twenty years of age, when he graduated and entered Col. J. G. Freeze's law office in 1872 as a student. After two years of hard study he was admitted to the bar in September, 1874, and the same month located at Catawissa, where he has since been in practice, and is admitted to the supreme court. Mr. Eyerly was married, November 15, 1877, to Maggie M., daughter of John and Nancy Reitsnyder, and they are the parents of one child, Paul R., born May 15, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Eyerly are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Eyerly owns a house and lot on North Third Street. He is a member of the College society, and is one of the prominent men of his profession, to which he is well adapted.

BENJAMIN P. FORTNER, of the town of Catawissa, was born in Locust Township, Columbia Co., Penn., October 31, 1811, a son of John and Sarah B. Fortner. Natives of Pennsylvania, the Fortner family are of Scotch descent, being the descendants of Lord Archibald Douglas, of Bothwell Castle, Scotland, whose only daughter, Isabella, having a desire to see this continent, prevailed upon her father to consent to her coming to America, in company with a lady friend, which they did, and while on their passage the vessel in which they were seized by a piratical crew of Algiers or the wherewith to support themselves. It happened that a farmer from New Jersey met them, of whom they inquired what they should do, and he replied he would take them home with him, which he did. Isabella Douglas resided with his family and married a man by the name of Fortner, and resided in New Jersey until their death. They had twelve children, one of whom, Jonas, went to Canada during the Revolutionary war with England, as he was prejudiced against the war. The grandfather of Benjamin P. Fortner was born in New Jersey, and at the breaking out of the Revolutionary war he enlisted in the army and served nine campaigns in the army under Gen. Washington; was in the battle of Brandywine; was in camp in Valley Forge all winter, and marched with his regiment on foot from Philadelphia to Yorktown, and was there at the surrender of the British army. He moved to Columbia County near Mifflinville, Penn., and he had three sons and four daughters: George, Andrew, John, Anna, Naomi, Frances and Mercy. He died near Mifflinville, aged sixty-five years. His occupation was a farmer. Our subject's father, John, was born in Sussex County, N. J., and when about fifteen years of age moved with his father to Columbia County, Penn., and after marriage purchased a farm south of Catawissa, where he lived and died in his fifty-ninth year. He was the father of three children, two sons and one daughter, viz.: Benjamin P., Jonathan and Martha B., who died in 1837. Benjamin P. remained with his father until he was eighteen years old, when he engaged with Samuel D. Brobst, of Catawissa, as a salesman, with whom he remained until he was twenty-one years, when he was elected constable, and served in that office two years. On March 5, 1835, he married Mary Davis, daughter of John and Sarah Davis, near Catawissa. In 1836 he and his father-in-law purchased a hotel at that place, which they lived in and kept as a hotel until 1838, at which time they sold the hotel. He then bought and ran two boats on the Schuylkill Canal, hauling coal from Pottsville to Philadelphia. In consequence of the completion of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad boating became poor, and he sold out and bid for and was allotted work grading on the Tioga & Corning Railroad. After finishing, he, in 1840, got work on the Wisconsin Canal, and worked there until the work was abandoned, after which he bought a farm near Catawissa, which he resided on with his family until 1860 (which he yet owns), when he moved to Catawissa, having considerable property there, where he now lives a retired life. He was, while living on his farm, elected justice of the peace, and in 1840 he was elected a member of the Legislature from Columbia County, and served one term. At the commencement of the Rebellion he was appointed by President Lincoln internal revenue assessor for the Thirteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, and served about two years, when he resigned and accepted the appointment of revenue collector for Columbia and Montour Counties, which he held for three years, after which he was re-elected justice of Catawissa, which office he still holds. His wife was the mother of ten children, five of whom are still living, viz.: Burton W., Allen B., Alice M., Millard, John W., and Sadie Myers. Four of her sons were in the army, either as volunteers or enlisted, one of whom died in the service in Camp Mary, near Washington, D. C., named Harrison Fortner. B. P. Fortner's father married Sarah Brooke, whose father lived in Columbia County, Penn.

CLARK F. HARDER, contractor and builder, Catawissa, was born in Columbia County, Penn., September 28, 1841, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Feister) Harder, natives of Pennsylvania. His grandparents were among the first settlers of Catawissa Township, being here before the massacre at Wyoming. His maternal grandfather came direct from Germany to this country, and his paternal grandparents from Switzerland. His grandfather Harder was a blacksmith, which trade he followed a number of years now stands. They both took quite an active part in politics, the former being a Democrat and the latter a Whig. Our subject's father was born in Catawissa Township, and was quite young learned the blacksmith's trade which he carried on a number of years and

*James (father)
Isabelle
son of*

LADY ISABELLE DOUGLAS LEFT LUXURY OF LORD DOUGLAS' HOME AND WAS CAPTURED BY PIRATES HEIRS FORM ORGANIZATION TO CLAIM \$52,000,000 HEIRSHIP.

Descendants of Lord James Douglas through his daughter, Lady Isabelle Douglas, his runaway daughter who came to America, have their interest stimulated by recent efforts and the organization that was formed to take steps to claim the fortune of \$52,000,000, that, under the will of Lord James Douglas, was to be given to the fifth generation of Lord Douglas.

The claiming of the fortune has stirred heirs of Lady Isabelle Douglas for the past half century and some forty years ago a similar effort to claim the fortune was made. At that time Clemuel Ricketts was sent to England to ascertain the state of the fortune and brought an adverse report. From the facts as he reported them, Lord James Douglas, of Bothwell, had followed Bonnie Prince Charlie in his rebellion and his property had been confiscated.

To ascertain just what are the records of the case, the new movement is underway and the big stake being played for has revived the interest of the heirs who now number hundreds.

At the recent meeting at the Y.M.C.A. in Berwick, there were one hundred and fifty of the heirs from throughout this section who were in attendance and several branches of the family that number many descendants, have as yet taken no part in the movement.

ROMANTIC STORY KEENLY WOVEN ABOUT ISABELLE DOUGLAS

A romantic story is woven about Lady Isabelle Douglas. When her father married a second time her step-mother made conditions intolerable in the Lord's home and she decided to leave wealth and the luxuries of her home and run away. She did so and joined a woman sailing for America with destination Philadelphia.

The vessel was captured by pirates, all of the belongings of the passengers stolen and the passengers were taken to Philadelphia and those who could secure the money to buy their release, were given their freedom to their new owners. It was in the early days of the colonies when deals of this kind had a legal as well as a moral obligation.

Lady Isabelle Douglas sold herself to work in the home of a man in Huntington county, New Jersey, when the latter paid the pirates for her release. She was employed in his household working out the amount when she met her future husband, Benjamin Fortner. The wages of the latter joined with her own work, made it possible for her freedom to be purchased, they were married and went to Sussex county to live.

Nine children were born to them and the several lines of descent have each developed into a total of hundreds who are eligible to figure in the heirship if it is ever claimed.

The original will was for a time in Berwick when the grandmother of 'Squire' F.R. Kitchen sent for it and received it from a Texas relative. The will provided that the part of Isabelle Douglas in Lord Douglas' great estate should be placed in trust and divided among the fifth generation.

The mother of 'Squire' F.R. Kitchen and Mrs. Lowry McHenry were members of the fifth generation.

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Mrs. Mary Shober, of Wappawallopen, was another of the descendants of the fifth generation. The will disappeared after the investigations of forty years ago when trace of it was lost after the discouraging report brought from England and Scotland that the heirship could not be claimed.

The Present Duke of Hamilton is the owner of an immense tract in Scotland that is part of the estate which is claimed by the heirs.

The Douglas family has been one famed since the earliest days of Scottish history. Eleven times members of the family married into the royal family of Scotland and once with the royal family of England. In the latter case an ancestor of Lord James Douglas married the sister of King Henry the eighth.

The organization formed by the Douglas heirs consists of A. Bruce Black, of Eloomsburg, president; Miss Gertrude Grimes, of Barwick, vice-president; Mrs. Myron McCaswell, of Eloomsburg, secretary and W. C. Ammerman, Esq., treasurer. Bruce Black has been the most interested and the one leading the investigations and there is every prospect that a fund to be raised will provide for his going to England to take active steps as may be warranted after investigations there.

ent, and Isabella Douglas was bought by him. It was a long drive to his home from Philadelphia, and during the trip Mr. Fortner became impressed with the fact that his purchase was no ordinary person, and upon his arrival at his home, when he was greeted by his son Benjamin, who was a young man, he made a remark, "Ben, I have brought you home a wife." This remark, probably made in jest, proved prophetic, for Ben prevailed upon the mourning Isabella to let him console her, and she became his wife.

In the course of time ten children came to this couple, their names being Lewis, Andrew, James, Benjamin, Jonas, Abigail, Sarah, Elizabeth, Francina and George.

Abigail Fortner married William Garrison, probably some where about 1770, and he it was who was the ancestor of the Garrison family who have been well known in this locality for over one hundred years. William Garrison and Abigail Fortner had only one child, William, who was later known as "Major," and whose remains now lie in the Old School Baptist graveyard in Hopewell. "Major" William Garrison married Osc Roberts, and had five children: John, Ursula, Abigail, Sarah and Naomi. John Garrison married, for his first wife, Johannah Suiphin, and had six children: Ann, William, Peter, Osc, James and Margaret. His second wife was Martha Titus and the result of this union was seven children, named Joseph, John, Charles, Osc, Sarah, Benjamin and Spencer, all born, and have always lived in the western states.

Ursula Garrison married Walter Skillman, and one of her children, William Garrison Skillman, late of Philadelphia, was well known here. Andrew Garrison removed to Minnesota and was murdered. Elizabeth married Samuel French, of Chicago. Abigail married John Sorter. Sarah Garrison married Spencer Stout West and lived all her life at "Hill Top," where George A. West now resides. Of her children, and there were nine, only four are now living, namely: William A., of Blawenburg, George W. of Ocean County, Mrs. Jonathan H. Blackwell of Trenton, and Mrs. A. L. Holcombe of this place.

Naomi Garrison married Robert Phillips and moved to Algonquin, Ill., and had six children. One, Dr. Edward H. Phillips of Cape May, is still living and is well known here.

Peter S. Garrison married Hannah Beggs and lived at Blawenburg on a farm that was part of a tract that belonged to Peter Suiphin, his grandfather, and this farm is still in the possession of his son, John B., who is a practicing physician in New York City. James married a Miss Van Cleve and two of their sons are living. Benjamin of Philadelphia and Wellington of Trenton. Osc Garrison married the late John Van Horn Whittier and lived and died at Blawenburg. Their son, Spencer W., still lives at that place. Margaret married Abner Hageman and had one son, James G., who is now living at Rocky Hill, N. J. She married a second time, Abraham J. Voorhees, and two sons by this marriage are still living, namely: William of Trenton and Charles of Chicago. Hopewell (N. J.) Herald, Dec. 18, 1907.

Signature on title page

Benjamin Fortner

William Garrison

Matthew Garrison of Lowell
William Garrison

Isabella Douglas Fortner
Scotland, 1707
? 1729 F led from father
lived at Phila.
Mered by Mr. Fortner of Sussex Co. Va
? 1731 married Ben Fortner (son)
Had ten children

- 1 Louis
- 2 Andrew
- 3 James
- 4 Benjamin
- 5 Jonas
- 6 Abigail — c1770 — William Garrison
- 7 Sarah — Matthew
- 8 Elizabeth
- 9 Francina
- 10 George

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A ROMANCE IN REAL LIFE

THE DOUGLAS FAMILY

Isabella Douglas
Scotland 1707

In the year 1707, as near as can be told, a daughter was born to Sir Charles and Lady Douglas, in Scotland, who was destined to become the progenitor of one of the old New Jersey families. As this daughter grew toward womanhood she evidently was beset with some of the difficulties that have ever been strewn along the pathway of womankind, for she had a stern father who thought himself best fitted to choose a life partner for his daughter, while she, with the individuality born of the royal blood that flowed through her veins, disdained to marry aught except from love's dictation. She had a lover whom she loved in return, but Sir Charles would have none of him for his daughter, but would give her hand to a man higher in the scale of what he considered to be nobility. Isabella, for this was the name of the daughter, finally resolved that something would have to be done if she was to wed according to her own fancy, and after many conferences with her lover and many sleepless nights it was decided that they take the matter in their own hands, and what better course could they pursue than to go together to the "new world," America, where they could live in happiness and contentment. A night was appointed when a ship bound for America was to be lying off shore, and then Isabella and her lover were to go on board, separately, and join each other when the ship was well under way. Isabella was true to her purpose, but whether her lover was finally too faint-hearted to make the attempt, or whether he mistakenly boarded another ship, was never known, but certain it is that "the course of true love" did not "run smooth," even in those days.

The ship sailed on, the sorrow of Isabella now almost an agony, as she had lost both home and lover; but nothing could change what had been arranged before the beginning of time.

The ocean was infested at that time with bands of pirates, who made a practice of overhauling ships and despoiling the passengers of whatever of value they possessed, and during the passage of this ship it was unfortunate enough to become the prey of one of these bands of outlaws, and Isabella Douglas, who had lost so much that was dear to her, was now to lose everything of value that she had brought with her to remind her of the home she had left behind, and she was left penniless.

As the ship drew near the landing place, Philadelphia, the passengers were asked to pay for their passage, but as they had lost their money, and the fashion was at that time to pay when you disembarked, there was nothing to do but to submit to the laws then in operation, which gave the ship's company the right to sell the passenger's time to the highest bidder, that they might work out the amount of their passage, and those who were passengers on this trip were duly advertised after the custom of the times.

A farmer named Fortner living in Sussex County, New Jersey, was in need of some domestic help, attracted by the notice of the sale of these passengers, went to Philadelphia to be pres-

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