

battle of Gettysburg. Ramparts were erected and eight cannon planted near the brow of the hill while the southern soldiers were here. These two batteries belonged to Hayes' brigade of Louisiana troops, some of whom guarded the flour then stored in Loucks' Mill and the Codorus Mill farther down the stream.

Webb's Hill, situated in the southern part of Spring Garden Township, two miles from York, has an elevation of 880 feet or 495 feet higher than Centre Square, York. From the summit of this hill the landscape scenery in every direction forms one of the most enchanting views in York County. The eye of the observer takes in a large area of some of the most fertile lands in the state of Pennsylvania. The valleys of the Codorus and Kreutz Creeks lie below in all their beauty and loveliness, and the symmetrically rounded hills of the undulating country to the south and southwest add special interest to the landscape scenery. This fertile region is thickly dotted with comfortable houses and large barns, evidences of the prosperity of the Pennsylvania farmer. The horizon from Webb's Hill is almost a perfect circle, and the view extends across the broad Susquehanna in all its romantic beauty, and covers a large portion of the area of Lancaster and Dauphin counties. Round Top to the northwest in Warrington Township is 1,110 feet high. The summit of the Conewago hills to the north is 800 feet high; Pigeon Hills, 840; the Maryland Line, below Hanover, 820, and Red Lion, nine miles to the southeast is 900 feet high. These, together with Webb's Hill, are the highest points of elevation in York County.

This place is frequently called Shunk's or Shank's Hill, in honor of a family that once owned a portion of the land. Within recent years Webb's Hill and an area of territory southeast has been owned by Jere S. Black, a prominent member of the York County Bar. In 1904 Mr. Black erected a large and commodious residence which Mrs. Black, who was the daughter of Frederick E. Church, the noted landscape artist of New York, has named Rural Felicity. In this delightful retreat, away from the hum of the busy manufacturing city of York, Mr. and Mrs. Black have since resided.

Webb's Hill was named in honor of James Webb, who owned a portion of the hill for many years. Joseph Webb, his father, was an English surveyor who came to this country shortly after the Revolution and was employed in the land office of the United States Government. About 1800 he settled in Peach Bottom, and in 1810 started Palmyra Forge on the site of Castle Fin Forge and Furnace in Lower Chanceford Township. At the time of his death, Joseph Webb bequeathed sixty-nine acres for the use and benefit of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, intended to aid free negroes in America and send them back to Africa.

James Webb came to York about 1823 and for several years was the senior member of the firm of Webb, Davis & Gardner, owners of a furnace and foundry in the western part of York. He resided on the east side of North George Street, next to Mason Alley, until the time of his death. When General Early, with his division of 9,000 men, occupied York from June 28 to June 30, 1863, four cannon were planted near the summit of Webb's Hill for the purpose of protecting that point in case the Federal army approached toward York while the Confederates were in town.

William H. Miller, a prominent farmer of Spring Garden, owns an area of 300 acres below Willow Plains. Bridges. This tract was known as White Oak Plains and is so named in the original land warrants to the property. Upon the rich alluvial soil along this part of the Codorus groves of large white oak trees grew luxuriantly at the time of the first settlement of this region.

Pulpit Rock stands along the banks of the Codorus at the base of White Oak Plains. According to a tradition circulated by the early residents of this vicinity, Pulpit Rock was once occupied by an Indian Queen who addressed Shawanese warriors, her own tribe, after they had been defeated by the Susquehannocks. She urged them to sharpen their battle axes, make spears and Indian darts and with these implements of war, together with bows and arrows, defend their rights and liberties against the other red men who had driven them westward from the banks of the Susquehanna. In and around these favored haunts, George

Miller, the ornithologist of York, and Prof. A. Wanner, city superintendent of schools, have spent many hours in interesting recreation in gathering implements of war and the chase, manufactured by the untutored Indians, who first occupied this region, caught the fish that were found abundantly in the Codorus Creek, and shot the game in the adjoining woods.

The United Evangelical Church, known as Green Hill Evangelical Church, is situated in the southern part of Spring Garden Township. It originated in 1868, first as a Sunday School and prayer meeting in a carpenter's shop on the property of Michael Shellenberger. The same year and the year following, Revs. Rearick, J. C. Smith and J. Bowersox of York, conducted services here. In 1869, Mr. Shellenberger died, and his heirs deeded a tract of land to a committee for a church and cemetery. In 1870, a building was erected at a cost of \$1,300. Rev. Farnsworth was then pastor. The following ministers have served since: J. Manbeck, H. W. Shenberger, J. Snyder, J. Conrad, N. Young, E. S. Brownmiller, D. P. Kline, A. Aurand, W. H. Gross, A. Crouse, C. F. Kephart, S. Rearick, C. W. Finkbinder, C. H. Goodling, H. N. Greninger, M. J. Snyder and L. E. Crumbling. A handsome brick church has recently been erected.

JOHN LANDES, who owned the Landes Mill along the old plank road for a period of thirty years or more, was a prominent citizen of Spring Garden. The mill which he owned had been erected before 1800. Before it came into possession of John Landes, it was owned and operated by his father, Samuel Landes, a representative citizen of York County.

The members of the Landes family, whose lives for nearly two centuries are interwoven with the development of Lancaster and York counties, first came into prominence as the devout followers of Martin Luther, at the time of the Reformation. Their piety, as well as their bravery, earned them enrollment in the ranks of the noted Pietists of that time. The first individual mention of the family is of Hans Landes, a "pious witness of the Divine truth," who, in the latter portion of the sixteenth century, was first arrested and then placed in

irons, and finally, in September, 1614, beheaded, because he refused to curb the expression of his religious convictions. He met his martyrdom at Zurich, Switzerland, in which country others of the family suffered persecution for conscience's sake. Hans Landes (II), minister of a Horgenburg church, was confined in jail at Othenbach and his property confiscated. Felix, his son, died in the Othenbach jail from the effects of the treatment he received there; in 1643 Verena Landes, the sister of Felix, was a victim of harsh treatment and died also for her religion. Finally, about 1660, the entire family was driven to the Palatinate, Zweisburg and Alsace, and its male members retired to its fertile lands as tenant farmers to the German nobility.

At the commencement of the eighteenth century the name Landes began to appear in the annals of the Mennonite Church. In 1717 Felix, Rev. Benjamin and John Landes emigrated to America from Manheim on the Rhine, Germany, the two last named locating in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where, and in the adjoining county of York, many of their descendants still reside. The lineal descendants of Rev. Benjamin Landes were especially numerous and settled within the present confines of Lancaster County. He and his son by the same name purchased a tract of land from the Conestoga Indians, and Benjamin Landes (II) began farming in what is now East Sampeter Township, five miles east of Lancaster city. He had four sons—Benjamin, Abraham, Jacob and Henry. Benjamin Landes (III) moved to Manheim Township in 1751. In 1749 he married Anna, only daughter of John Snavely, and to them were born three sons: John, March 15, 1755; Benjamin (IV), 1756, and Henry, December 5, 1760.

(I) John Landes, the founder of the Ephrata branch of the family, was born in Switzerland in 1696, came to America in 1717, and settled near Ephrata, Lancaster County. From him John Jacob Landes traces his descent in unbroken line.

(II) Jacob Landes was born in 1751.

(III) John Landes married, in 1796, Hannah, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Bolthouse) Fahnestock. She was born in Lancaster County, October 8, 1769, and died January 16, 1844.