

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

# Salem County Listorical Society

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# TWO FARMERETTES MANAGE A 220-ACRE DAIRY FARM

Miss Jessie Lippincott Colson, of Elmer, R.D., the daughter of Edwin Colson and Hannah Robbins Colson, Harrisonville and the granddaughter of Nathan and Ann Lippincott Robbins, lives on the Colson Farm on the Bridgeton-Camden hard surface road north of Shirley. The grandparents on the paternal side were Benjamin and Sarah Ann Colson.

The Colson farm of 220 acres on the Cumberland Highway is in Upper Pittsgrove, Salem county.

In 1921 the subject of this sketch had seventy Holstein cows on the farm. They were tested and fifty had to be killed. The remainder were sold and a Guernsey herd was purchased. The farm is far famed for its Guernseys. The milk production is under State and Federal supervision.

The father died in 1921 and Miss Jessie has had charge of the dairy since, while her sister, Sarah Ann Colson (now Mrs. Fred Blencowe) acted as house keeper.

The first barn was built centennial year 1876 but was struck by lightning in 1913. In 1914 a large up to date barn 80 X 40 feet was built. It stands far back of the residence on a raise of land which makes it quite a land mark as its pretentious appearance can be seen for a long distance. There were sixty or seventy head in the Guernsey herd.

The father fattened steers and Misses Jessie and Sarah have had thirty or forty horses a season as boarders. Seven horses are used on the farm besides a tractor or a truck.

(continued on page 8)

# **Inside this issue:**

Acquisitions	7
Alexander Annals	10
Annual Appeal	6
Board and Staff	15
Civil War Letter From Camp	12
Collections Spotlight	10
Corporate Sponsors	
Genealogically Speaking	4
George Returns	
Membership Report	
Message from President	2
Old Alloway Glass Factory	14
Open House Tour	13
Robert Gibbon Johnson House	5
Two Farmerettes	Cover, 8
Upcoming Events	3
Volunteers	

The *Quarterly Newsletter* is published by the Salem County Historical Society Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

# Research Library & Museum Hours

Tuesday through Saturday
12 Noon - 4 PM
Admission Fee \$5.00
Free for Members
www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com

Address Correspondence to: Salem County Historical Society 83 Market Street Salem, New Jersey 08079 Tel. (856) 935-5004 Fax: 856-935-0728

Mission Statement: The mission of the Salem County Historical Society is to seek, document, preserve, interpret and perpetuate Salem County's heritage, and to enhance the awareness and appreciation of that heritage, through its research, collections, functions, exhibits, educational programs and publications, for the benefit of future generations and for the betterment of the community.

### On the Cover:

A road market on the Colson farm along the Bridgeton-Camden [Rt. 77] road for the distribution of dairy products during the summer.

Image courtesy of Sean McIlvaine and April

Luciano, Salem County Clerk's Office.

### **CORRECTION**

In the last issue, Volume 56, No. 4, on page 53, the name Robert Crompton should read Robert Compton.

The pagination of this Winter issue should be pages 47-62 inclusive.

We apologize for these inaccuracies.

# ${f F}$ rom the President

It seems as I sit to write my message to you I begin each time with – The Society is undergoing Some Big Changes. Well here we are once again and sure enough, I am here to tell you of Some Big Changes!

Your SCHS Board and I welcomed a new member to our group this year. Dr. Margaret Maxwell-Mood has joined us as Recording Secretary. Maggie and her husband, Gary, live on beautiful Elkington Pond in Quinton where she serves her township as chair of the Planning Board. She is a lifelong resident of the County and has a deep love for the history surrounding her. She brings to the Society exceptional organizational skills and an expertise in finance. Not one to let talents go unused, I have asked Maggie to join the Finance Committee. Welcome Maggie, we are so glad to have you on the Board.

When you visit the Society you will be seeing a few new faces among the staff. Danielle Polonczyk took on the role of Administrative Assistant late last year. Danielle, also a lifelong resident of the County, lives in Elsinboro with her family. She is a recent graduate of Rutgers University with a degree in Art History where she received the Rutgers Excellence in Art History Award in 2011. Danielle has worked with Kim Steiner over the past year as an intern on the Collections Inventory project. When I approached Danielle to ask if she may be interested in a position with the Society, she promised me she is well organized, a team player and highly motivated to succeed. And all is true; Danielle is a great addition to the SCHS team.

The Board ended one year and started the next in the process of seeking out a candidate to serve as Administrator/Curator for the Society. I commend the Search committee; Trudy O'Hare, Harlan Buzby, Ellen Morrissey, Dave Culver, and Brian Duffy, for their hard work and diligence during the process. It is my hope that as you read this newsletter the Society has a new senior staff member in place. We will reach out to you through email and our website to introduce you to our new Administrator/Curator.

The staff members of the Society, Beverly Carr Bradway, Danielle Polonczyk and Kimberly Steiner, Committee chairs, many volunteers and our Board of Trustees deserve special recognition for the support and hard work they provided the Society during the search process. Our programs, projects, daily activities and services to the community never faltered. My deepest thanks to all.

Our roofing project has come to an end with the installation of a new A-frame roof over the back vault and staff room. We have been unable to use the vault for some time due to water damage and mold conditions. Craig Schneeman, VP of Buildings and Grounds, and his committee have done an outstanding job of determining our need, contracting with the most skilled workmen, overseeing the installation of the Alexander Grant House roof and the construction of a new roof and finally, addressing the clean-up of the vault. Our collections are safe and secure for many years to come. Kudos and many thanks to you, Craig, and to your committee.

Mike Cooke, Executive Vice President, and Maggie Vaughan, VP of Development and Membership, have been developing a Marketing Plan in partnership with Rutgers University. The plan, which will build into a campaign, was written and presented by a team of Masters level students as a part of their course work responsibilities. The Board is anxiously awaiting the presentation and roll-out of the campaign which I am sure will result in better visibility in the community and increased membership. Thank you Mike and Maggie for all you have done on the project.

And speaking of membership, you have heard this before from me but it bears repeating. A membership in SCHS provides many opportunities, maybe none as important as the opportunity to volunteer. As a volunteer organization the Society relies on member support to put into motion the programs we bring to the community such as the Open House tour, educational outreach and the preservation of legacies. By being part of these programs you can enhance your own enjoyment of history while bringing it to the awareness of others. Give me a call if you want to learn more about volunteering. The opportunity is here for the taking – join us!

I thank you.

Barbara Smith Duffy, President



# Upcoming Events

# Special Exhibit Through 2012 The Farmer Feeds Them All: Reflections of Salem County Farm Life

Salem County Historical Society Tuesday through Saturday, 12 noon to 4PM

# Sunday, March 11, 2012 @ 1:30 PM **Spring Quarterly Meeting**

"South Jersey and the Civil War, Myths, & Reality" Friends Village, Woodstown, NJ

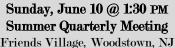
# Thursday, March 22, 2012 **Best Practices Workshop**

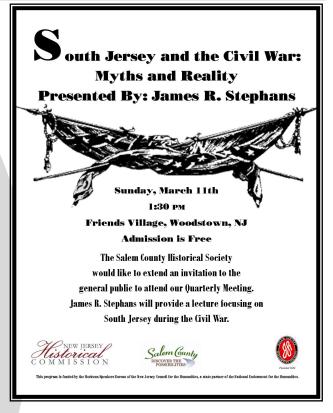
"Collections Care in Practice" Limited Space Available. For more information visit our website and click on the link.

# Saturday, May 5, 2012, 10 AM - 4 PM Salem County Historical Society's " Open House in Fenwick's Colony"

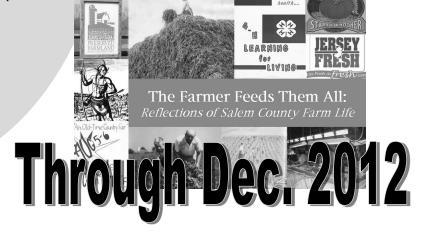
For more information contact the Society or visit our website www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com

> Sunday, June 10 @ 1:30 PM **Summer Quarterly Meeting**









# Best Practices Workshop March 22, 2012

The New Jersey Historic Trust, New Jersey State Museum and New Jersey Historical Commission are pleased to present this 2012 two-part series of regional collections care workshops. Join us in March for the second part of the series, Collections Care in Practice, at the Salem County Historical Society or Thomas Edison National Historical Park.

For more registration information visit our website and click on the link.

# USED BOOK SALE

The society is selling many donated, used, damaged and duplicate books. The first group of books is listed in the enclosed insert and on our website. Watch for additional books that will be listed periodically on our website and for sale in the Society's Library at a future date. Topics include genealogy, history, New Jersey, religion, biography, reference and general fiction.

# Page 4

### Six Cents Reward

Ranaway from the subscriber on the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. a black apprentice boy named **Charles Miles** aged about ten years—any person taking up said boy and returning him to his master shall receive the above reward, but no charges paid, all person are forbidden from harbeuring said boy at their peril.

## THO. F. LAMBSON

Salem Messenger, Salem, NJ, September 16, 1829.

# African American Aspirations

NOTICE---Ran away from the premises of the subscriber, on Thursday, the 9th inst., *COLORED LAD*, named *James Frisby*, aged about 19 years. All persons are forbidden at their peril from harboring said boy.

JESSE BOND

National Standard, Salem, NJ, March 17, 1852.

# 15 Dollars Reward

RAN AWAY from the subscriber, on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> July, a negro servant lad, named *Palmer Gorden*, about 18 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches high, slender made, quick spoken, round faced; clothing unknown. He is supposed to be in the neighbourhood of Sharptown. Whoever secures said servant so that the subscriber gets him again, shall receive the above reward.

### BENJAMIN VANMETER

Pittsgrove township, Salem county, N.J.

All persons are forbid harboring or employing said boy at their peril, as they will be dealt with according to the law. West-Jersey Gazette, Salem, NJ, August 12, 1818.

### **FIVE DOLLARS REWARD**

RANAWAY from the subscriber, in the township of Lower Penn's Neck, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July, a Negro Boy named **Michael Lewis**, aged about 19½ years. He is about five feet in height, heavy set, had on plaid pants, black satinet coat, striped vest, blue and red striped shirt, and Panama hat. Any person returning said boy will receive the above reward. All persons are forbid employing or trusting said boy under the penalty of the law.

JAMES J. REDSTRAKE

National Standard, Salem, NJ, August 8, 1855.

### One Cent Reward

**RANAWAY** from the subscriber on the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, an indented black girl named **Rosana Brown**, aged about 14 years. Took with her clothing of various descriptions. All persons are forbid harboring her on my account. The above reward will be given for the return of said apprentice, but no other charges paid. **WOODNUTT PETIT** 

Freeman's Banner, Salem, NJ, July 16, 1839.

# \$15 REWARD

**RAN** AWAY from the subscriber on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March inst.— A BLACK BOY (servant) named **David Williams**, aged 20 years, about five feet 8 inches high—had on when he went away, a fur hat, not much worn, a dark roundabout and trowsers; took with him a bundle containing a pair of new velvet pantalets and other clothes, which he may change for those he had on. Whoever will take up said boy and secure him in jail, and give information thereof to the subscriber, shall received the above reward.

### REBECCA SUTTON

Said boy is supposed to have gone to the Canal in Delaware.

The Editor of the Delaware Gazette is requested to publish the above, three times; and charge to this office. Salem Messenger, Salem, NJ, March 9, 1825.

# Six Cents Reward

RAN AWAY from the subscriber, in Lower Pennsneck, on the 2d inst. a colored indented APPRENTICE BOY, by the name of Valentine Harvey, about 14 years old; had on when he went away a casinet roundabout, new tow trowsers, a new wool hat, and took other clothes with him. Whoever takes up said runaway, shall have the above reward, but no charges paid. All persons are forbid harboring or hiding said boy at their peril.

# ANDREW TINDALL

Salem Messenger, Salem, NJ, August 31, 1825.

# One Cent Reward

RANAWAY from the subscriber on Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. an indented black boy named **Lewis Rock**, aged about 19 years. Any person returning said Runaway to his master, shall have the above reward but no charges paid.

# SHEPPARD BLACKWOOD

 ${\it Salem Messenger}, \, {\rm Salem}, \, {\rm NJ}, \, {\rm August} \, \, 19, \, 1829.$ 



# RAN AWAY

\$10 REWARD—Ran away from the subscriber, in the township of Lower Penn's Neck, on the fifteenth inst., a negro boy, named **Anthony Lewis**, aged about 18 years. He was five feet four inches in height, heavy set, and had a broad, flat nose. He had on a dark linen sack coat, dark cross barred cotton pants, light crossed barred vest, light felt hat, good coarse shoes, and a muslin shirt.

Any person returning said boy will receive the above reward. All persons are forbid harboring or trusting him under the penalty of the law.

July 18, 1855.

LEVI RIDGWAY

National Standard, Salem, NJ, August 8, 1855.

# \$10 REWARD

RANAWAY from the subscriber, residing in the township of Mannington, on or about the 23d day of June last, an indented black boy, named **Benjamin Rhoads**, aged about 17 years. Had on when he went away, a straw hat, coarse casinet roundabout, tow pantaloons, & coarse shoes. All persons are forbid harboring or trusting said runaway at their peril. The above reward with reasonable charges will be paid to any person returning salild runaway.

# WOODNUTT PETIT

Freeman's Banner, Salem, NJ, July 16, 1839.

# Robert Gibbon Johnson House Bedroom Open for Tours

Written By David Culver

of the "hidden" ne treasures of Salem County is the Robert Gibbon Johnson House. Hidden in plain sight, this Federal townhouse sits next to the Salem County Court House and directly across from the Salem County Historical Society. It was scheduled for destruction in the 1960's to make way for the new Court House, but was saved through the efforts of outraged local historians. Instead of being razed, it was moved out of the way, back from Market Street. It now serves as the office of the County Chamber Salem Commerce, and will soon house the Salem County Visitors Center.

Those of us interested in local history have not had many opportunities the to see architectural treasures within Col. Johnson's elegant house. thanks to an agreement between the Chamber of Commerce, Salem County and the Salem County Historical Society, visitors will be welcomed upstairs. The Society has furnished the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor master bedroom with antiques from our collection which reflect the popular styles during the period immediately after the 1806 construction, and we have opened the room for guided tours. schedule a tour, call (856)935-5004, or stop by the Society's headquarters at 83 Market Street in



Salem.

The Robert Gibbon Johnson House is currently unrestored and somewhat encumbered by modern intrusions, but the underlying beauty can still be seen and appreciated by observant an visitor. One outstanding architectural element in the master bedroom is the mantel. Probably made in the shop of Robert Welford of Philadelphia, it features classical designs executed in cast plaster. Robert Gibbon Johnson's interest in agriculture is expressed in the decoration. The central panel is a classic harvest scene which features a dominant female figure holding a scythe, with cherubs bringing the harvest to her. The adjacent panels have swags of wheat, and the supporting columns are decorated with linear



strings of wheat. It's a Salem County treasure worth seeing.

# **New Bridge Opened**

The new iron bridge over Alloways Creek on the road from Salem to Harmersville was opened to the public last week and Charles Morrison claims to be the first person to drive over it.

Salem Standard & Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, April 11, 1906

Mr. Richard C. Ballinger, of our town, has contracted to build the stone work of the Catholic Church in this place, which is to be completed within sixty days from its commencement.

National Standard, Salem, NJ, March 17, 1852

# **Annual Appeal 2011**

We are very grateful to the many members of our community who responded to this year's annual appeal. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps offset our general operating costs so that we can continue to provide important and innovative resources, programs and exhibitions.

Mr. Forman S. Acton Mrs. Wanda Hofbauer Mr. & Mrs. William E. Saunderlin in memory of Saunderlin ancestors Mr. & Mrs. James N. Acton Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Mike Hopp Mr. & Mrs. Craig Schneeman Mrs. Mary C Arnold Ms. Joann Humphrey Ms. Marie Schuster Mr. Steven Barile Ms. Margaret L. Jacquette Mr. & Mrs. Donald E. Sharp Mr. & Mrs. E. Russell Bassett, Jr. Ms. Margaret Hilliard Johnson in memory of Bernard A. Hilliard Ms. Janet Sheridan in memory of Alice Mrs. Jean B. Bishop Boggs Mr. Edward Keasbey Mr. & Mrs. Arnold G. Bradway Ms. Paula Sinclair Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. Kramme Jr. Mr. Robert Breslin in memory of Sheriff Mr. & Mrs. B. Harold Smick Jr. Norris B. Williams Mrs. Ann Lloyd Ms. Sarah E Alexander Smith Dr. & Mrs. Robert A. Brooks Mr. D. Edward Macturk Ms. Nancy Spangler in memory of Mariana Mr. Ronald E. Magill Mrs. Joan Miller Brown in memory of Wyatt Fogg Spangler Wistar Miller Ms. Jane Maltman in memory of Joseph Mr. Don Spegal Ms. Louise Brown Newell Ray Mrs. Marjory T. Standiford Dr. & Mrs. J. Harlan Buzby in memory of Dr.. Margaret Maxwell-Mood John Stewart Rock Dr. William K. Stoms Mr. John P. McCarthy Chief Master Sqt. & Mrs. William B. Camp in Mr. & Mrs. John D. Streetz Mr. Robert S. McPherson the memory of the Camp Families of Elmer Dr. & Mrs. Harry W. Taylor Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Miller and Salem County Mr. Charles Tisa Mr. and Mrs. John F. Montaigne Jr. in Mr. & Mrs. David S. Campbell Mr. Louis Clifford Van Doren memory of Gerald Montaigne Jr. Mr. & Mrs. John S. Carpenter Jr. Ms. Ellen Morrissey in memory of Ms. Maggie Vaughan Mr. & Mrs. Michael Cooke Bernadette Morrissey Mr. & Mrs. Joel Vittori in memory of Marie Mr. & Mrs. David A. Culver Vittori Ms. Anna Muhlbaier Mr. Brian M. & Mrs. Barbara S. Duffy Mr. John O. Milford in memory of Wayne B. Mrs. Alice W. Waddington Mr. & Mrs. John J. Elk Mulford Mr. & Mrs. Martin Way Mr. Kenneth Estes Mr. Thomas Murray Ms. Jessie A. Weeks in memory of Lydia E. Mr. James M. Eyler Ms. Barbara Nance Mulford Ms. Marion M. Finlaw in memory of Hazel & Ms. Trudy K. O'Hare Mrs. Norman White in memory of Norman Myranna Morris L. White Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence B. Owen Mrs. Dorothy Fisher in memory of G. Baxter Mr. Jonathan E. Wood Mr. Thomas A. Pankok Fisher Mr. Jeffrey Wood Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pappas Dr. & Mrs. Edward T. Fogq Mrs. Harvey Woodlin in memory of John G. Ms. Ruth S. Patrick in memory of Norman L. & Rae H. Schaeffer (my beloved parents) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Frank Patrick Mr. William T. Gallo Jr. Mrs. Carol Woolman Mrs. Marion H. Patrick in memory of C. Dr. Gregory Guderian Allen Patrick Mr. & Mrs. Ron Wohlrab hank You Mrs. Ruthanne Wright Mrs. William Hancock in memory of William Mr. John P. Pedrick C. Hancock Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Powell Sr. Mrs. Elizabeth Yerkes Mrs. Eleanor Young Mr. & Mrs. Charles Harrison Ms. Myra Reimer

Ms. Katherine A. Heverin

# Library Acquisitions

**Browser, Barbara, Battista, Carol**, Carneys Point. Prints and negatives by Daniel Davis photographer. (2011.070)

Buggy, Thomas, Carneys Point, NJ. Book, *The Ogden Family in America*, 1907. (2011.082)

**Chollis, Mary Lou**, Pennsville. Negatives of July 4th, 1950 parade, in envelopes of the business Salem Camera and Supply Shop. (2011.075)

Engle, Gordon, Dennisville, NJ. Exhibit Publication, *The Lenape Territory to Royal Province New Jersey 1600-1750.* The New Jersey Museum, Trenton, 1971. (2011.080)

Glass, Ivy Sutherland, Pilesgrove, NJ. Papers, advertising and books from Kerlin/Fox homestead, Old Kings Highway, Mannington given to donor over the course of thirty years by Marguerite Fox Dolbow, daughter of Genevieve Kerlin Fox and niece of Mary Kerlin. (2011.066)

Gonzalez, Jay, Cherry Hill, NJ. Two books, *The Way They Were: Dressed in 1860-1865. A Photographic Reference.* By Donna J. Abraham. Signed by the author to SCHS. Published by Abraham's Lady, LLC. 2008 and *The Way They Were: Dressed in 1860-1865.* 

A Photographic Reference. Volume 2. By Donna J. Abraham. Published by Abraham's Lady, LLC. 2011 (Education) (2011.061)

**Hepner, Richard**, Salisbury, MD. Book, *The Search for Johannes, A Genealogy of the Hepners Who Settled in South Jersey* by Richard Martin Hepner. (2011.078)

**Horner, Merwin**, Mt. Pleasant, SC. Envelopes mailed to Ayars Machine Company. (2011.081)

Historical Society of Penns Grove, Carneys Point & Oldmans Township courtesy Eleanor C. Zane. Items related to Mary (Mrs. Neil) Miller: African Violet Society of Salem County & Soroptimist International Association of Salem County. (2011.069)

**Owen, Lawrence B., M.D.**, Pilesgrove, NJ. Family Publication, *Update of M.W. Buzby Family News.* Reading Room. (36.034)

Paras, James, Salem, NJ. Program, Tribute to the Firefighters & EMS Personnel of Salem County. Presented by the Salem County Clerk's Office. September 9, 2011 (2011.072) Publication: History of Company F 114th Infantry by the Members of the Company. 1919. (2011.073)

**Pierce, Donald L.**, Salem, NJ. Holiday cards & postcards received by Mr. & Mrs. Clifton (Alice Gould) Mosley. (2011.044)

Saunderlin, William E., Alloway, NJ. DVD made from VHS of footage in the area near North Bend Fire Company. (2012.003)

Waddington, Guy, Pennsville, NJ. United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America No. 542, Salem Collection of NJ. (2011.054) Note: Museum has acquisitioned 80th Anniversary Banner on 7/27/11. (2011.054)

(to be continued)

### **EARTHENWARE JAR EXPLANATION #5**



John S. Carpenter stopped by the Society one afternoon in January and was questioned about earthenware devices that remain in the basement floors of the two Carpenter homes on Kings Highway.

His immediate response was that both his mother and

grandmother used these basement jars to store fresh eggs within a 'gel' solution during the winter when hens did not lay eggs very regularly.

Further investigation calls this 'water glassing eggs' as explained in *The Boston Cooking School Cook Book*, by Fannie Farmer. "Preserve eggs for months with Waterglass. Mix one part Waterglass with ten parts cooled, boiled water and pour into a large, stone crock. Wipe off fresh eggs with a flannel cloth and place in solution (eggs should be covered with 2") Cover crock and store in a cool, dry place."

[Water Glass or "liquid glass" is a sodium silicate and is the common name for sodium metasilicate. Before good refrigeration was common this product was readily available in drug and hardware stores, but nowadays waterglass is difficult to locate.]



# Museum Acquisitions

John Ayers, Salem, NJ. Two wool blankets from Ayers/Powell family of Elsinboro. (2011.071)

**Donald Bradway,** Virginia Beach, VA. Two candlesticks made from Salem Oak. (2011.053)

Mildrid Hicks, Port Charlotte, FL. Lucy Holme painting of French peasant woman. (2011.067)

**Polonczyk Family**, Elsinboro, NJ. cast iron road sign. (2012.006)

(to be continued)

Several attempts have been made, we understand, to set fire to the horse-sheds and Quaker Meeting House at Woodstown. *Schisms*, it seems, are attended with *fiery* consequences—attention Fire Engine.

Salem Messenger & Public Advertiser, Salem, NJ, May 7, 1828.

(continued from cover)



Mr. Colson retired to Woodstown for eleven years but he grew homesick for the farm and moved back, although he had been in the habit of driving to the farm practically every day.

The two girls proved to be good farmers as well as business women. They have had their ups and downs the same as male members of the farming fraternity.

The Colson farm is joined by Albert Coombs on the east, Thomas Newkirk and Howard Ward on the south, Carlton Moore on the west and Charles Richmond and Wesley Hackett on the north. The large old trees around the house give mute testimony to a former generations love for home making.

Miss Jessie attended school at Bacon Academy in Woodstown when Augustus Norris was principal. She boarded in Woodstown which is seven miles from her home. Later she attended Swarthmore College and was graduated in 1888. Two years were spent at the University of Pennsylvania and she graduated in Biology.

After the death of her parents the two daughters, Miss Jessie and Miss Sarah, were joint owners of the farm and had respective departments to manage.

A few years ago an Hexagon road market was built for the distribution of their milk direct to the traveling public. From fifty to seventy five bottles a day were sold during the season it is open. On real warm days over one hundred bottles; also butter milk and ice cold chocolate and rich milk. The milk "bar" or booth was popular with the people who believed in body building as well as the refreshing of the appetite with a rich and tasteful drink.

Miss Jessie was superintendent of the New Jersey Agricultural exhibit at the World's Fair which kept her in Chicago from April to November 1893.

The six sided market presents a very attractive appearance with sandwiches, home made cake and honey on display. It's

under the supervision of the New Jersey American Guernsey Breeders Association and the milk is sold under the American Guernsey Cattle Clubs trade mark. The trade mark is represented by the milk bucket the women on the Island of Guernsey use when milking.

Miss Jessie was born on the farm and her great love for farming and dairying kept her keenly interested along this line and up to the minute in everything pertaining to her line. A small army of men have been engaged as helpers. Through the long years the work has been carried by these spirited and ambitious women. They have two milkings a day and three or more men are needed to attend to the milking. The farm is



not only well stocked with cows and horses but with pigs and chickens. They have raised plenty of wheat and potatoes as well as hay and corn.

They have a water system which is very necessary when there is so much stock to be attended to properly. There is a wind mill, electric lights and Rural Delivery.

They have a good garden, the parents had and they have. As a twig is bent, the tree is inclined. The father taught them to carry on and felt great pride when his youngest daughter, Sarah, not withstanding a handicap of only one hand, purchased a car and learned to drive. Not having had the hand she never missed it and learned to manage a car quite as skillfully as the majority of people. Miss Sarah attended the Academy at Woodstown and Swarthmore college. She was county Committeewoman when women first held that office and was State Committeewoman for the Republicans for several years. In July 1927 she married Fred Blencowe. The Colsons are Friends and Miss Sarah was married by Friends ceremony.

Mr. Colson purchased his farm of the Johnson estate over sixty years ago or before the civil war. He started in the cattle business by buying yearlings or two year olds, and steers which he kept until they

were fat enough to kill. The parents of these two cultured and capable sisters lived to celebrate their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary. They belong to the Friends Meeting at Woodstown.

The Colson girls operated the farm even before their father died and it was left to them with expectation that they continue in the way they have done. These farmerettes sometimes going rounds of the management of the men, to superintend the planting and harvesting wear knickers to be comfortably clad for out the door work. By heredity and education they are just as fitted to preside in the drawing room or make a speech at a meeting as if they had never come in contact with the hard work which goes with the running of the large dairy farm where they were both born.

They believe in and enjoy farming. They do good with their products. When Charles A Lindbergh reached the home of Ambassador Herrick in Paris he was asked just what he wanted and the reply was a bottle of milk and a bath. Milk proved the most desirable thing for the man of iron nerve and muscles of steel. People talk about strong drink. Analysis will show that milk is the strongest liquid we have, strongest in food value, strongest in the elements which make for flesh, bone, energy and a clear head. It is not a stimulant which puts fire into the body to burn up its energy but it is a builder, constructive not destructive. Dairy products are a basic industry in America and these sisters can well feel proud they are doing well their part to help the world onward and upward by producing and distributing first class Guernsey milk.

Half Century Farmers Book Two Reprint From Salem Standard and Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, December 26, 1928

A September 1922 article in the Woodstown Monitor-Register reports that the Colson farm was located about a mile from Daretown in Upper Pittsgrove, near Elmer and Woodstown. It also notes that the main barn on the farm, completed in 1914 and one of the finest at the time in South Jersey, was on a hill at the highest elevation point in Salem County where US geological surveys were taken.

# Corporate and Business Members "Partnerships with History" FENWICK BENEFACTORS

Salem County Mutual Fire Insurance Co.
The Denn House

### PEDERSEN PROVIDERS

DuPont Chamber Works
Farmer's Mutual Insurance of Salem
Harvest Community Bank
Henry D. Young, Inc.
Lippincott Insurance Agency
Mannington Mills
Warner & Co., CPA's

# **OAK TREE ASSOCIATES**

Clement Pappas & Co., Inc.
Cowtown Rodeo
Earl H. Sloan, Inc.
Franklin Bank
John D. Jordan, Esq.
Kates Realty, LLC
Morgan's Electrical Services
Oak Tree Chapter-NSDAR
Redaptive Holdings

The Society is grateful for the support of our corporate and business members. For more information about our "Partnership with History" program

Call 856-935-5004 or visit

## www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com

# Membership Report

# **Individuals**

Mrs. Cheryl Barnebey, Solana Beach, CA
Mrs. Susan Boisvert, Mays Landing, NJ
Ms. Rachel Condo, Alloway, NJ
Mr. Philip Donohue, Alloway, NJ
Mrs. Kim H. Hitchner, Elmer, NJ
Ms. Betty Mahala, Sea Isle City, NJ
Ms. Josie Moore, Pilesgrove, NJ
Ms. Juta Nolan, Toms River, NJ
Mr. Mike Pankok, Pennsville, NJ
Mrs. Amy Widger, Salem, NJ
Mr. Albert Zambone, Vineland, NJ
Leanne Zilinski, Pennsville, NJ

### In Memoriam

Lucille Goldey Maude Haynes Graeff Robert Grant Forrest Houtz Julie McEnany Jack Plasket Jay Pratt Angela Turco Norman White

**Woodstown**—A number of **new automobiles** have appeared in Woodstown during the past week. A. D. Snelbaker has purchased a new Winton; Henry C. Lippincott a Hudson; Harry Lippincott, a Jackson; Arthur B. Lippincott, an Apperson Jack-Rabbit, six cylinder roadster; and, A. D. Borton and J. Gilbert Borton, a Chalmers.

Salem Standard & Jerseyman, Salem, NJ May 9, 1917

# The Jewish Colony

The Jewish Colony near Vineland has been named Alliance and comprises 450 souls, 260 adults and 190 children. The colony occupies a beautiful tract of land in Pittsgrove township being a part of the 32,000 acres plot originally laid out by Chas. K. Landis. Every day new recruits arrive from New York. Four one-story wooden houses, 100 feet in length and 20 in width, provide accommodations for the settlers.

In the center of each of these buildings, running lengthwise, is a large aisle, on both sides of which are the apartments occupied by the refugees and their families. The cook-house is 50 by 20 feet, and is some fifty feet away from any of the other buildings.

A commodious tent, capable of sheltering a half a hundred people, is used for quarantine purposes. The new arrivals are compelled to live a short time in this tent until it is demonstrated that they are not afflicted with disease.

A large batch of emigrants are [sic] shortly expected from New York, and Superintendent Sternberg has applied to the War Department at Washington for a number of army tents for their use.

The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society of the United States is bearing all the expense of the settlement. This association contemplates buying 1,100 acres in the vicinity of Vineland. If this ground is purchased, and there is every reason to believe it will be, each male adult will be given fifteen acres, the necessary agricultural implements and a horse.

The terms will be easy, and the farmer will be expected to reimburse the society for the ground in the course of ten years, when it will be deeded to him.

Next fall school houses will be built and the youngsters will be taught some of the rudiments of the English language.

The expenses of the colony are about \$700 a week, nearly all of which is spent in Vineland for groceries, hardware, clothing and other supplies.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, July 14, 1882

# **ALEXANDER'S ANNALS**

### 50 YEARS AGO

The Monitor-Register, March 1962

- William Roper elected president of Woodstown Rotary Club.
- Tercentenary History Mobile Here April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Where to Put Courthouse? Dilemma Faces Freeholders.
- Transplanting Clinic—Owens Supply—Tuesday—7:30 P.M.
- Walt Disney's *Pinocchio*—Palace Theatre—Salem.

### 75 YEARS AGO

Pennsgrove Record, March 1937

- Emma H. Wheatley—Elmer's 1<sup>st</sup> woman postmaster.
- Admiral Byrd to speak in Salem—Palace Theatre.
- Morris' Restaurant—Next to Borough Hall—Sunday Dinner—75¢.
- Muskrat Skinning Contest—Court House—Salem.
- Free—2 lbs. Sugar with \$1 purchase—DuPont Department Store.

# 100 YEARS AGO

Salem Sunbeam, March 1912

- More than 50 cases of mumps in Alloway.
- Thomas Hawn to light and furnish oil for public lamps—Pennsville.
- Electric Lights for Daretown—Wires extended from Woodstown.
- Maxwell Buzby—Woodstown—breaks arm while cranking auto.
- Dr. Charles MacDonald begins private hospital—Market St.—Salem.



A New A-framed Roof has been placed over our original library and vault by Chard Construction of Woodstown. Craig Schneeman's B&G Committee have contracted with Servpro of Salem County to clean out and rehab the vault.

# **Quinton Band**

Wheeler & Son, of this city, had an exhibition in their window last week, a full set of handsome band instruments that had been ordered by the newly organized Quinton Band. The new band will comprise of 18 pieces.

National Standard, Salem, NJ, May 7, 1890



# **Collections Spotlight:**

The Society recently opened the back vault, which had been closed for some time. Inside the vault we found our next collections spotlight item! If you have any ideas about this quarter's artifact please e-mail info@salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com.

What we know: Not much! Unfortunately, we do not know the provenance (donor, where the artifact came from, etc..) of this item. The artifact is a large, almost 5 foot tall, plank of wood, painted blue on the front.

The front has an elaborate geometric pattern of ten octagonal shapes made up of small, thin pieces of wood that are projected off of the surface of the plank. It appears to be some sort of design matrix.

It has been suggested by one board member that the artifact may be a design matrix for making rugs or oilcloth.

What we would like your help with: What is the function of this item? What was the elaborate geometric pattern used for?

# **Spotlight Recap:**

George Bowen

Courtesy of Ron Magill

**What we knew**: This belt belonged to Captain George Bowen of the 12<sup>th</sup> New Jersey Volunteers during the Civil War. The belt is made of khaki. Inserted within the khaki is a series of metal clasps and wires. It had been suggested previously that this was an exercise belt.

What we did not know: What is the function of the metal clasps and wires? What we know now: Thanks to member Ron Strobel, we have some new ideas as to what the function of the clasps is. Ron sent us some copies of military accessory

catalog excerpts about belts and trusses, and one of the belts in the catalog is very similar to the Bowen belt. The belt in the catalog is listed as having "hard adjustable rubber sanitary pads" and "nickel holders". Ron also noted that the belt has the basic geometry for use as a hernia belt.



# **George Returns**

By: David Culver

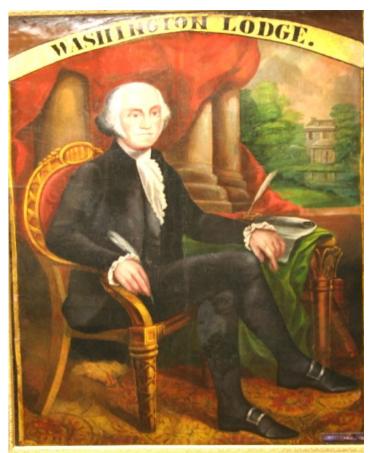
After over 12 years at an art conservancy studio, our wonderful portrait of George Washington has returned. Originally a banner proudly owned by the Washington Lodge of Odd Fellows on Market Street in Salem, it came to the Society in the late 1990's through the efforts of Ken Hassler. It is a primitive masterpiece painted by prominent Philadelphia artist Robert Street sometime in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

The banner was extremely fragile when accessioned, and it required years of careful work by master conservator Timothy Jayne of Twistback Art Conservancy, Ltd. surface of the banner which was made of pillow linen had warped badly, and it was coated with a layer of dirt and discolored varnish. Chips of paint were beginning to flake off. During the conservation process, the banner was removed from its stretcher, then stretched and flattened, relined using new fabric and a vinyl resin microcrystalline adhesive, and finally remounted onto the original, reconditioned stretcher The discolored surface film was carefully removed and areas of paint loss were retouched with -non-darkening, easily removable acrylic medium textured to match surrounding Finally, it was protected with a medium gloss, transparent varnish. The result looks great. Come by the society to see it.

The Odd Fellows were a unique and interesting fraternal order. The Washington Lodge No 21 of Salem claimed over 200 members at the time of their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1893. A contemporary newspaper article discovered by Harlan Buzby describes their celebration on that occasion. Following music, prayer, and an address on "oddfellowship", they staged a "Burlesque Initiation" in which the candidate was made to climb the "greased pole", crawl through improvised "dark passages", and was then triumphantly transported to center stage on "one of those long-eared, intelligent looking animals". Some 400 Odd Fellows and friends attended.

The banner joins two other important Odd Fellow objects from the Washington Lodge in our collection, an early paint-on-wood membership list, and a wooden ceremonial hatchet.





Above: Newly conserved banner from Washington Lodge No. 21; Below: Odd Fellows Membership List.



**Fishing Facts**—It is estimated that nearly 200,000 shad were taken in the Delaware last week. They brought \$7 per hundred.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, May 13, 1881

# **Brick Wall**

The Trustees of the Presbyterian Church will soon commence the erection of a brick wall on the eastern side of the cemetery, adjoining the railroad property. It will cost \$1,000, of which amount the railroad company will contribute \$300.

The South Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, March 11, 1884

Page 12 Quarterly Newsletter Spring 2012

# CIVIL WAR LETTER FROM CAMP

# From the 4<sup>th</sup> New Jersey Regiment

[In "Young America's" last letter to the Sunbeam editor, Gwynne, he remarked, "I was astonished, while home, to find so many who disapproved of the Administration, and opposed the war. They seemed to think we were a band of murderers, and we would have to answer at the Great Day for every drop of Southern blood we shed. No wonder we make such little progress, when there are so many at home encouraging the rebels and the traitors, who would destroy our happy country." (Quarterly Newsletter, Winter, 2011)]

# CAMP SEMINARY, March 1, 1862

"FRIEND GWYNNE—To-day is the first of spring. The winter months have passed away, but not the cold weather, for this has been quite a cold day.—Last night was considered by us soldiers as cold as any night during the winter. Before winter began, we looked forward with fearful forebodings. We anticipated frozen feet, ears, and hands; but, fortunately, we have passed through the period with but little suffering from the cold weather.—

We have had good warm clothes, and plenty of wood, and thus we were enabled to live quite comfortable in our tents. Now the winter has gone by, we can look forward for pleasant weather soon, which will be very agreeable to us, I assure you. This being caged up in our tents does not suit us any too well.

Last Monday was a day we will not soon forget. In the morning it was quite clear and pleasant, but, about 10 o'clock, the sky suddenly became over-clouded, the rain began to drop, and soon it was accompanied with a gust of wind, which increased with such fury that it blew a perfect hurricane.

Nearly every tent around was blown down, and in some of the regiments they were torn to pieces. After the wind calmed down they were soon put up again. Several large trees were torn up by the roots, but luckily no harm was done to anyone. It continued to blow very hard till after night-fall, when it decreased.

We do not expect to receive our pay again until April. I have no doubt but many families who are dependent on the soldiers will be much disappointed, but I trust none will suffer for the necessaries of life.

The regiment has been quite excited this week, as an order came out the first of the week to prepare to march at short notice. Yesterday we began to pack up, and now we have everything in readiness to go forward. We expect to start on Monday or Tuesday. We are not allowed to take anything with us but an extra shirt, a pair of drawers, and a blanket. Even the officers are to take nothing more than a valice with them. Only four wagons are going to take provision and ammunition. The tents we are to leave behind.—

We expect to go to Centreville first, but we do not know. [As this cannot be published before we move, there can be no impropriety in informing you.] The whole army of the Potomac is ordered to go forward. You may expect to hear of something very soon. We have been idle long enough, allowing our brothers to do the fighting; now it comes our turn, and we will not try to sneak out of it.

"Onward to Richmond!" is our cry, and soon we hope to walk its streets and give three cheers for the Union. We will show the would be ruler of the South that he has aimed too high, that his game is lost. Poor old Jeff! He used to be pretty well thought of, but his time has gone by, and now he will either have to flee from his country, or suffer the penalty which is due him as a traitor of the deepest dye. But he is not the only one who should hang by the neck till the breath should leave them. Beauregard, Price, and all those rebel leaders, should share the same fate, and no doubt they will.

Oh, it is horrible to think that so much misery should come upon our once happy and prosperous nation through the influence of a few, bold, bad men; surely there must be a dreadful account against them in the Book of Judgment.

We feel more assured every day that the war will soon end. The news from the South is such as will prove that they are growing less hopeful every day, and could the mass of the people know the truth, they would soon throw down their arms and surrender. But they have been miserably blinded by their would be great men. They have been assured that we wanted to rule over them like a king, that their slaves were all to be freed, and their fortunes ruined forever.

But, in some places, they begin to see they have been deceived, the dawn begins to break, and soon the dark clouds that hang over them will vanish, and brightly they will see the object we have in view,—that only of restoring to our good government its lost rights; of raising again, in all the United States, the glorious Stars and Stripes, which they have so ignominiously trampled in the dust.

God speed the right, and may the time speedily come, when the brothers of the North shall shake hands with brothers in the South; when long-parted loved ones and friends shall meet again, never more to be parted by a traitor hand.

Now I will close for the present. It may be (should I ever be permitted to write to you again,) that we will be far away from here, and I may have some glorious news to tell you. Hoping so, I will bid you good-bye."

# YOUNG AMERICA

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, March 7, 1862

# Open House In Fenwick's Colony 2012

In 1675, John Fenwick founded the area which came to be known as Salem County. An English Quaker, Fenwick laid the foundation for the later residents, a population who opposed violence yet supported the cause of the patriots some 100 years later.

When in March of 1778 Sir General William Howe ordered 1500 British troops to forage for food and horses in South Jersey, they were met with considerable resistance from Salem County patriots and were turned back at the Battle of Quinton's Bridge. This battle became a turning point for the marauding British troops.

Just a few days after the battle at Quinton's Bridge, Colonel Mawhood (commanding a detachment of the British army at Salem) proposed to the militia at Quinton's Bridge and the neighborhood to lay down their arms and depart, each man to his own home. On that condition, he solemnly promised to "re-embark his troops without delay, doing no further damage to the country; and he will cause his commissaries to pay for the cattle, hay, and corn that have been taken, in sterling money.

"If, on the contrary, the militia should be so far deluded, and blind to their true interest and happiness, he will put the arms which he has brought with him into the hands of the inhabitants well affected, called tories; and will attack all such of the militia as remain in arms, burn and destroy their houses and other property,



and reduce them, their unfortunate wives and children, to beggary and distress. And, to convince them that these are not vain threats, he has subjoined a list of the names of such as will be the first objects to feed the vengeance of the British nation."

Colonel Elijah Hand's answer to Colonel Mawhood did not include the laying down of arms. Rather Col. Hand took Col. Mawhood to task for his cruel order and assured him the militiamen of the County would prefer to defend their property at the risk of loss of all.

And so begins the retaliation. Over the next few days Salem Countians witnessed the bloody battle at Hancock's Bridge and the burning of Holmeland.

Join us on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 4:00pm as we explore our County's history during the Revolutionary War. Visit the private homes and historic public buildings involved in the battles and hear the stories each has to tell.

Please visit our website <u>www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com</u> or facebook to see the sites that will be open for the tour and to purchase tickets. Or, call the Society for more information. Hope to see you on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

# Save The Date



Salem County Historical Society

# Open House In Fenwick's Colony

Saturday May 5, 2012

10 AM -- 4 PM

Enjoy a day visiting
Salem County's many unique
historic homes and sites
involved in our nation's
Fight for Independence

# Thank You

Our programs and services cannot happen without the generous support from our volunteers.

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# Wanted!!

Library volunteers are needed for both short and long term projects. If you are an accurate typist, willing to dedicate three to twelve hours a month, we would like to hear from you. We are in need of volunteers who would type from print or handwritten documents. Call the library today so we can discuss a volunteer assignment that matches your interests and availability.

# The Pennsylvania Museum Digs Old Alloway Glass Factory

The "North American" last week published the following interesting account of some digging that has been done on the site of the old Wistar glass factory in Alloway Township, by the Pennsylvania Museum of Philadelphia.

"The United States has attained its majority and is able to rank with the civilized countries of the "old world" and of the east, now that archeological [sic] explorations into the activities of its first citizens have been commenced by the Pennsylvania Museum.

"Delving has been done in Salem County in South Jersey. From below the surface of what are now well-tilled farms has been dug evidence that in the middle of the eighteenth century glass bottles were made to be used for a beverage which at a later date in the nation's history was prohibited by a measure known as the eighteenth amendment. Window panes and various fanciful creations also of glass were made by those early denizens.

"From other sources has been obtained documentary evidence of a scheme for co-operative industry between workmen and capitalists which was put into effect where today such things are only mentioned with bated breath.

"The digging was done by the Pennsylvania Museum, Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park as part of a plan to establish the history of crafts and craftsmen of Philadelphia and its vicinity. It was on the site of the old Wistar glass works near Alloway, N. J., once known as Wistartown and later as Thompson's Bridge. More than 1000 fragments of bottles and window panes were reclaimed for classification and exhibition as examples of early American glasswork. Glass making still is an important New Jersey industry.

"Caspar Wistar was the first successful glass manufacturer in the American colonies. He landed in Philadelphia about 203 years ago and is supposed to have been an Austrian of noble lineage. One of his first activities was to manufacture brass buttons, "warranted for seven years," the fame of which continued long after his death, which occurred in 1751. He married Catharine Johnson, of Germantown, a Quakeress and joined the Society of Friends.

"By 1739 Wistar had acquired about 2,000 acres in Salem County, convenient to sand and fuel and not far from water transportation facilities.



"In 1738 he had entered into an agreement with four glass

"More than 1,000 fragments of bottles and window panes were reclaimed for classification and exhibition..."

workers from Holland to pay 50 pounds 8 shillings sterling, the price of their passage from Rotterdam, and that in return for their service in teaching him, his son, Richard, and no one else the craft of glass making, he was to provide land, fuel, servants, food and material for a glass factory and to give them one-third of the net profits of the enterprise.

"Richard continued the business after the death of his father. In 1769 an advertisement showed that the establishment made most any sort of "bottles and window glass, lamp glasses, snuff and mustard bottles, also electrofying [sic] globes and tubes".

"Director Warner, in announcing the results of the archeological [sic] labors of the museum, promises a detailed investigation into the types of glass which were produced in South Jersey and Pennsylvania. Several glass industries were commenced in various parts of the country, with more or less success, after the failure of the Virginia glass enterprise



Wistarburgh Chestnut Flask, Dale Murschell

started at Jamestown in 1608 and revived about fourteen years later. The first to produce glass on a paying basis and to continue for a considerable period of time was that of Caspar Wistar.

"In the wills bearing on the enterprise there is mention only of window glass cut into three sizes, a case of "pocket bottles" and of other containers of one quart, half gallon and one gallon sizes. Director Warner is of the opinion that the little pitchers, glass toys and big milk bowls turned out at the works were made from excess glass which was given to the workmen or that at a later date than is on record their manufacture was added to the regular business of the plant."

National Standard, Salem, NJ, September 1, 1920

# GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD THREE-DAY TOUR

VIA PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1908

# **ROUND TRIP FARE \$9.70 FROM SALEM**

Covers transportation to and from Gettysburg, hotel accommodations at Gettysburg, and drive over the Battlefield.

Detailed Itineraries and full information of Ticket Agents, or

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Salem Standard and Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, May 6, 1908 Courtesy Bill Saunderlin

Fine Portrait—Mr. John P. Flynn, our photographer, has added a new feature to his business, that of finishing portraits in crayon, and for the purpose he has purchased a solar camera. His first picture, that of the late Rev. George Wheeler, is on exhibition in the window of A. E. Taylor's store. It is a faithful picture and is well executed.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, May 6, 1881

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Danielle Polonczyk

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RETURN TO: SCHS, 83 Market Street, Salem, NJ 08079

# REMINDER CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY

If you are a supporter of the Society, check with your employer to see if they will enhance your support through a Matching Gift or other type of philanthropic program. We know of several employers who support employee giving through payroll deductions. And, one of our retiree members earns an annual \$1,000 grant for the Society from her former employer for her volunteer work with us.

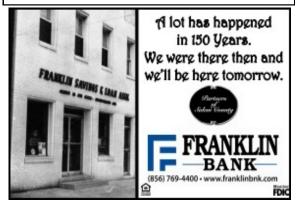
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In the 8<sup>th</sup> U. S. Colored Regiment, which was with the force recently disastrously repulsed in Florida, were one or two companies principally composed of colored men from the county. In the partial list of casualties published, the following have been recognized as Salem men:— Killed—George Willet, George Johnson, R. Collins, Joseph Johnson, Wounded—Serg't George H. Kelly, Isaac Hacket.

The Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, March 4, 1864.

The **first funeral in Lawnside Cemetery** took place on Tuesday of last week when **Edward D. Turner**, of Pennsgrove, was buried there. Mr. Turner was a brother of our townsman [Woodstown] **Restore Turner**.

Salem Standard and Jerseyman, Salem, NJ May 2, 1917

The Salem County Historical Society receives general operating support grants and project grants from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, through the Salem State. Additional funding has been made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, through the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Delaware River and Bay Authority.







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