

THE PIDCOCK FAMILY HISTORY

INTRODUCTION

When Esther and Gladys Pidcock began their research in 1945 to compile the History of the Pidcock Family and Association little did they realize that it would become such a time-consuming and difficult project. However, with the aid of George M. Pidcock, Edwin Moore, G. Edwin Pidcock, Fred Bruce Morgan, Helen Pidcock Morgan, Nelson and Edith MacKissic, et al., a booklet was printed and distributed among the family members in 1958. Most of the persons listed in that genealogy are descendants of Charles Pidcock, son of Jonathan Pidcock.

Several references were made by the authors of this history to a "missing link" and to the possibility of finding other descendants of John Pidcock in other parts of the country. They also wanted to know where John Pidcock came from. Further research on these matters was therefore encouraged.

In 1965, Dr. John Tallmadge, Professor Emeritus from Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and a genealogist went to England and Ireland where for six weeks he traveled the highways and byways looking for Pidcocks. After spending considerable time in research, he concluded that the English Pidcocks originated in Bakewell and Matlock, in central Derbyshire between Manchester and Sheffield near the center of England. He also discovered that a Thomas Pidcock had emigrated to Ireland around 1648, during the period when Cromwell invaded that country. He concluded that John Pidcock of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, was a descendant of that Thomas Pidcock since John has been referred to in several early sources as "that Irish immigrant."

In 1987 Dr. William Marsh, Professor Emeritus from Kutztown University, was commissioned by John and Donna Pidcock of Allentown to revise the Family History and search for the "missing link." His theories are described in this book and are based on factual as well as circumstantial evidence.

This writer is indebted to members of the Pidcock family who have contributed information from their branches of the family. Although much information has been gathered concerning other descendants of John Pidcock of Bucks County and William Pidcock of Burlington, New Jersey, the bulk of

material in this history pertains to the descendants of Jonathan Pidcock, grandson of John Pidcock.

THE EARLY YEARS

The earliest account of Pidcocks in America has been found in a book by William D. Spenser entitled Pioneers on Maine Rivers, p. 21. It recalls how a certain Thomas Pidcock arrived on the shores of Maine in 1624. Thomas worked for Jennings and Company on Monhegan Island, which is about 100 miles east of Portland. The writer records that Thomas was a fisherman, who fished for and prepared the catch for market by drying. On one occasion, his ship was attacked by pirates who took the catch.

Whether the Thomas mentioned above is related to the Pidcocks of Bakewell and Matlock is not known. However, there is evidence that a Thomas Pidcock served with Oliver Cromwell during the English Civil War of 1644-48. According Dr. John Tallmadge, the ancestral home of the Pidcocks was in Bakewell and nearby Matlock in Derbyshire, England. This may or may not have been the same Thomas Pidcock who served aboard the fishing boat in Maine.

Before moving further, we should consider the origin of the Pidcock name. According to the book Surnames of the British Isles, the name **PIDCOCK** was derived from the name **PITCOTT**. Other spellings include **PIDDCOCK**, **PIDCOCKE**, and **PITCOCK**. One member of the family changed his name to **PIDCOE** circa 1800.

The next Pidcock to appear on the shores of the New World was George Pidcock. In Ancestral Heads of New England Families, p. 161, a George Pidcock married Sarah Richards on 16 May 1640 in Scituate, Massachusetts. Also, in Pioneers of Massachusetts by Charles Henry Pope, there is a reference to a George Pidcock. The record states that he was exempt from military training and became a constable in 1656. There is also a reference to his appearing in Virginia in 1657. His name also appears in Savage's Genealogical Dictionary of First Settlers of New England, Vol. III, p. 426, based on Farmer's General Register of First Settlers of New England where he is mentioned as living in Scituate, MA in

1657. According to the Colonial Records of Massachusetts, p. 324, George Pidcock died of old age in 1670. There is no mention of his having issue.

Since George is a common name among the Pidcocks of Bakewell and Matlock, it may well be that the George in Massachusetts is related to them in some way.

In the Lists of Immigrants, 1600-1700, Hotten, p. 395, a William Piddock (likely Pidcock) appears on the passenger list of the ship Friend's Adventure which set out from London in 1679 for Barbados and other ports of the Americas, including those on the Delaware River. Later we read in the New Jersey Archives, Calendar of Wills, Vol. XXXIII, p. 329, that a William Pidcock died in 1767 and that his will was processed on 7 April 1767. His widow Rosanna and a friend, David Stratton, served as co-administrators. The place of death was Burlington, New Jersey.

Though it is unlikely that this William was the same one who arrived on the Friend's Adventure, it is entirely possible that he was the son of the emigrant. The name William continued to be used by Mercer County Pidcocks in succeeding generations.

It is unclear as to when John Pidcock arrived on the shores of the Delaware. Some local historians say 1679 while others believe that he came prior to 1678. All agree that by 1684 he had established himself at the mouth of the creek which bears his name. (**Pidcock Creek**). Upon his arrival he made friends with the Lenni- Lenape Indians who occupied the vicinity, set up a trading post, and built some sort of abode almost exactly where the Thompson- Neeley House is now located.

While several local historians believe that John was an indentured servant of Gilbert Wheeler, the facts do not support their contention. According to records found in the book Early Shipping to the Jersey Shore of the Delaware, pp. 145-46, Gilbert Wheeler arrived from London on the 12th of July, 1679, with his wife Martha, his children William, Briant, and Martha Wheeler, and his servants: Charles Thomas (Thompson), Robert Benson, and Katherine Knight. There was no mention of John Pidcock in the account. Nor was John Pidcock listed in the volumes Bonded Servants in American Colonies. However, it is entirely possible that John had worked for Gilbert Wheeler in the years prior to 1684. According to the Records of the Courts of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas of Bucks County, 1684-1700, for 25 June 1686, **Jon** (note spelling) Pidcock was accused

by Gilbert Wheeler of trespass. Jon defended his position stating that Wheeler owed him 25 pounds for services rendered and that he had come to collect. Wheeler lost the case and was ordered to pay John the money. However, John was fined 3 pounds and was bound over to his good behavior. This was the first of many altercations between John Pidcock and Gilbert Wheeler.

From this evidence one may conclude that John had been employed by Gilbert Wheeler at one time, but there was no mention of an indentured relationship. Assuming that John was not an indentured servant, it is entirely possible that he earned his passage to America as a sailor or cabin boy, in which case he would not have been included on a passenger list but on the crew list, instead. He could even have been with William Pidcock aboard the Friend's Adventure or on the Jacob and Mary.

Another claim made by the local historians was that John Pidcock was an Irish immigrant. George M. Pidcock, in speaking before the Pidcock Association in 1919, recalled conversations with his grandmother, Mary Godown Pidcock, wife of Jonathan Pidcock, who claimed that the Pidcocks were of Scotch-Irish descent, coming from the northern part of Ireland. For many years, the Pidcock family has believed this to be so. However, the findings of genealogist+John Tallmadge indicate that the Pidcock family originated in the towns of Bakewell and nearby Matlock, in Central Derbyshire, between Manchester and Sheffield, near the center of England.

According to Dr. Tallmadge, two families of Pidcocks, those of Robert and Thomas, traveled to London in the 1640's. During the English Civil War, 1644-48, a Thomas Pidcock distinguished himself as the official messenger of the Parliamentary "Committee of Two Kingdoms," which ruled England during the interregnum following the abdication of King Charles I. For his forty-five official trips to the Parliamentary armies of Cromwell and others, this Thomas Pidcock was rewarded by being allowed to draw lots for land in Morgallion Barony, County Meath, Ireland. Since Thomas Pidcock was the only "Irish" Pidcock recorded, Dr. Tallmadge concluded that Jon (John) Pidcock was his descendant. For this reason, John Pidcock was referred to as an "Irish immigrant." Though he may have been born in Ireland, his father was certainly English. One must also realize that County Meath is located just north of Dublin in southern Ireland and not in the Ulster region of that country.

Confusion also exists over the purchase of the Thompson-Neeley tract. Certain local historians have claimed that John did not own the land, officially. William Ely, curator at the Spruance Library in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, mentions in a letter to Dr. B. F. Fackenthal, dated 13 August 1931, that "John Pidcock secured a Warrant of Survey for 500 acres, comprising the site of the present Thompson-Neeley House quite early, at least by 1686." Dr. Fackenthal, in an address presented on 19 October 1931, in ceremonies at the Thompson-Neeley House described the contract and the problems involved:

It appears that part of the tract (the Thompson-Neeley Tract) was claimed by Thomas Rowland who had been granted a Warrant of Survey 1681 for 2,500 acres by William Penn. On September 9, 1690, the heir at law of Thomas Rowland, deceased, conveyed the Pidcock Tract to Gilbert Wheeler. It further appears that John Pidcock took squatter possession of the tract, which he seated and improved and thereon established as a trading station.

This gave him a good title as against any one except the Penns. There was some litigation between Wheeler and Pidcock in regard to the title, or to establish lines between their properties, or possibly it may have been an attempt to dispossess Pidcock, but the Court of Bucks County decided in Pidcock's favor, and to clear his title Wheeler by deed dated 1 March 1701, conveyed the entire tract to Pidcock.

A copy of the deed is on file in the Register of Deeds, Bucks County Court House, Doylestown, Pennsylvania. (See Grantee Index, Vol. I, p. 4.) It should also be noted that the center portion of the Thompson-Neeley house was built by John Pidcock in 1701.

However, Warren Ely, declared in his letter to Dr. Fackenthal that the title never became valid since Pidcock never paid Wheeler the required sum of 24 pounds for the land; hence Pidcock held the land only under Warrant of Survey.

Ann Hawkes Hutton, writing in her book The House of Decision records that "John Pidcock sold his entire property to one Jeremiah Langhorn in 1735. Upon Langhorn's death, the

estate passed to Lawrence Crowden, his legatee. After John Pidcock's death, in 1735, his son John went to court claiming the estate, on the basis of the deed of 1693. The court held that, the deed was invalid and that Crowden's title was good."

The assumption which Mrs. Hawkes Hutton made does not coincide with those of Ely and John Richardson who claim that the Pidcocks remained on the property until 1740 when it was sold to a John Simpson. According to Ely, the transaction was made between Simpson and Pidcock, not Simpson and Crowden.

Be that as it may, John Simpson did obtain the property and has been credited with having erected the Mill and to have occupied part of the present Thompson-Neely house. He died intestate in October, 1747, and letters of administration were granted to his widow, Hannah Delaplaine. Six months after his death, Robert Thompson, a journeyman miller for Simpson, married Simpson's widow and became administrator, per se, of the estate. This led to a series of suits by the heirs of Simpson, who, nearly a half century later, secured a substantial verdict in their favor.

However, the story of the Thompson-Neeley House did not end with its acquisition by Robert Thompson. In 1753, a number of Philadelphia capitalists including James Hamilton, Governor of Pennsylvania, Chief Justice William Allen, Lawrence Crowdon of Bucks County, Langhorne Biles, Joseph Turner, William Plumstead and William Coleman, became interested in the supposed deposit of copper and other ores on the plantation and with the connivance of Thompson, secured a transfer of the old Warrant of Survey for the Pidcock tract and on 18 January 1753, a patent was granted there under by the Proprietaries's Commissioners to William Coleman of Philadelphia, merchant, for the whole tract of 505 acres. Thompson was allowed by the group to remain on the property.

In 1757 Robert Thompson erected an addition to the house. Prior to his death in November, 1804, he devised the mill and plantation to his daughter, Elizabeth Simpson and her husband, William Neeley. Neeley had emigrated from Ireland where he was born 31 August 1742. He was in charge of the grist mill operation at the time of Washington's Encampment and there ground grain for the Continental Army. Somehow, the property was obtained from Coleman, for it remained in the Neeley family for years. It was finally subdivided and the greater part purchased by Reuben High whose heirs on 12 July 1918, sold

190 acres, 40 perches to Irwin M. High from whom the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on 15 October 1926 purchased 125.9 acres for \$35,000. The original house is presently on the list of Historic Places in Pennsylvania.

Another mystery surrounding the personage of John Pidcock concerns his relationship with a Dr. John Bowman whose body rests in a grave at the top of Bowman's Hill. The hill, by the way, marks the boundary between the plantation of John Pidcock and the "London Tract" which is now the line between Solebury and Upper Makefield Townships.

According to tradition this Dr. John Bowman had been appointed as surgeon in an English fleet which set out after William Kidd, the pirate. Bowman came to Bucks County after Kidd was hanged in 1700. He built a cabin at the foot of the hill and by request was buried on top of the hill. There was even a rumor that a portion of Kidd's treasure was buried with Bowman.

In Place Names of Bucks County we read that "John Bowman was an associate and friend of Jonathan Pidcock, first actual settler near the north of the hill." (There are several sources in which John Pidcock is referred to as Jon or Jonathan. It is entirely possible that the Jonathan Pidcock referred to here is John, the Irish immigrant.)

J.E. Scott, MD, of New Hope, in speaking before the Bucks County Historical Society on 27 May 1913, refuted the story so long believed by the local inhabitants. He maintained that the Bowman from whom the hill gets its name was Thomas Bowman and not John Bowman. He writes,

Thomas was not a pirate, but an erratic merchant from England, who in 1683 purchased of Peter Jegou Lessa Point and the Island over against Burlington, New Jersey, where he had warehouses and traded with such vessels as Jegou and other Swedish and Dutch traders had done for a half century before. His name appears on the records of Bucks County courts as early as 1684 and at intervals thereafter down to his death at the house of John Pidcock in 1697 or 1698. His will dated December 25, 1692, at the 'fawles of the Delaware' was probated in New Jersey and letters granted to his brother-in-law Edward

Hunloke, who on September 14, 1698, brought suit in Bucks County Court to compel John Pidcock to yield up to him certain goods and chattels belonging to the estate of Thomas Bowman left in his possession at the decease of said Bowman.

John Pidcock in defense of the suit acknowledged he had such goods and chattels but declined to deliver them until he was compensated for the funeral charges of said Thomas Bowman and for attendance on him in his last illness. The court directed that he surrender the goods and that the administrator pay his proper charges for services to the decedent, etc.

Had Thomas Bowman been in actuality Dr. John Bowman, it would have been a more interesting story. But as one can see, tradition is often far from accurate.

As a frontiersman John Pidcock led an interesting and sometimes exciting life. On one occasion he was taken into court because he and his Indian friends had been involved in a wild party. John was fined one hundred and ten pounds for keeping a disorderly house. (See Records of the Courts of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas of Bucks Co., 1700-1710, Vol. II, p. 377.)

On another occasion, John discovered that his neighbor Gilbert Wheeler had been selling rum to the Indians, so he reported Wheeler to the authorities who took him into court and fined him a sizeable amount of money.

Accounts of John Pidcock's other exploits may be found in the Records of the Courts of Bucks Co.

Another mystery pertaining to John Pidcock is that no mention has been made of his wife in the various accounts of his life. Some have said that she was an Indian maiden. Certainly, his association with the Indians was very close. Again, she could have been the daughter of one of his friends, or simply an acquaintance. No record of his marriage has been found.

The earliest account of a Pidcock marriage in America occurred in 1640 when a George Pidcock married a Sarah Richards in Scituate, Massachusetts. However, it was not until 1715 that the account of a Pidcock marriage appears again. In the Marriage Record of Christ Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, PA Archives Series, Vol. VIII, p. 202, we read that on 30 December 1715, Robert Pidcock married Ann Smith. The next time we hear of Robert was when he appeared in the Bucks

County Court in 1730. He was listed as a resident of Makefield Township and as a laborer. It is entirely possible that Robert was a son of John Pidcock. The name "Robert" can be seen in the report of Dr. John Tallmadge who stated that a Robert Pidcock left Bakewell and moved to London in the 1640's and died there in 1652.

Other Pidcocks living in the Bucks County area in the early 1700's were Emanuel Pidcock, Benjamin Pidcock, John Pidcock and Stephen Pidcock.

In the Pidcock Family History, First Edition, we read that Emanuel Pidcock married a Rachel Ruchman (Buckman). According to the Early Register of Wills of Bucks County and the Index of Wills for Bucks Co., p. 125, Rachel died in 1727, many years before Emanuel, the son of Jonathan Pidcock was born. It is probable that she had married an Emanuel Pidcock who was living in the area prior to the birth of Jonathan Pidcock. Very likely, it was the same Emanuel Pidcock who was mentioned in the Bucks County Court Records. When Rachel died, she left her estate to her children, one of whom was STEPHEN PIDCOCK. (See Will of Rachel Pidcock, No. 248.) Since her children had not reached their maturity, Rachel proposed that her brother, John Ruckman (Buchman), administer her wishes in the will. We later read in a report given by Bruce Morgan, Esq., that Stephen moved to Amwell, New Jersey, where he raised his family. He died in 1742. Mentioned in his will were his two sons, John and Thomas. (Since Rachel does not mention Emanuel in her will, it seems likely that he had died prior to her demise in 1727. Until her death, she was responsible for the estate of her husband.)

Another Pidcock who lived in Solebury during this period was Benjamin Pidcock. His name appears in the Bucks County Court records as early as 1729 and as late as 1735. Unlike Robert and Stephen, he owned property in Solebury and was listed as a yeoman, i.e. a freeholder, in the community. The Tax Records of Bucks County show that he had paid taxes between 1762 and 1787. He died in 1789. The Records of the Orphan's Court of Bucks Co. reveal that he was married to a Sarah Burger and that he had four children; Mary who married James Lear, Elizabeth who married William Boyd, Hannah who married Abner Ely and Joseph, who married Jane _____.

Following the death of Benjamin, Sarah his wife petitioned the court to appoint Isaiah Paxon as Joseph's guardian,

since Joseph had not reached his maturity. Hannah Pidcock Ely, had a daughter, Sarah Ely and a son Barnet Pidcock. She requested that the court appoint a guardian for her daughter Sarah which the court did, naming Watson Sill as her guardian. Elizabeth Pidcock Boyd also had children, William Mariea and Sarah, both of whom attempted to claim their share of the Pidcock estate. When Joseph Pidcock died in 1846, his wife Jane requested that the court find a guardian for their daughter, Ann Elizabeth. Jonathan Kinsey was appointed as guardian.

Since Benjamin Pidcock lived in the Solebury-Makefield area at the same time as Emanuel, Robert, and Stephen, it is likely that he, too, was a son of John Pidcock, the immigrant. (There is an account of John Pidcock's having a child in 1692. The child died at birth and is supposedly buried in the Pidcock plot. Therefore, it is likely that Emanuel and Robert were born around that time.)

The fourth Pidcock who lived in the Solebury-Makefield area during this time period was John Pidcock. His name appears in County Court records as early as 1729 and as late as 1732. He was listed as a farmer, not a laborer, and when John Simpson purchased the Pidcock Tract in 1740, he purchased it from a John Pidcock. The elder Pidcock, John's father, had died in 1735.

Although much of the evidence presented here has been circumstantial, the possibility that John Pidcock had four sons certainly exists. All of these Pidcocks lived in the immediate area. Four appeared in the Bucks County Court Records for various reasons as early as 1729 and as late as 1738. This indicates that all were in their maturity and were not taken in as juveniles. Two of them, Robert and Emanuel, were married in Philadelphia, but moved back to Bucks County. Both Benjamin and John owned property and paid taxes. For these reasons, one may assume that they were brothers and the sons of John Pidcock, the Irish immigrant who was among the first white men to settle along the Delaware.

At the 1936 reunion of the Pidcock Family Association, Bruce Morgan intimated that there was a missing link in the Pidcock family tree. In his research he found half a dozen Pidcocks who were older than Jonathan who was born in 1729. From looking at the evidence listed above, one may conclude that one of these sons is the father of Jonathan and, therefore, the "missing link."

There was no account of Robert and Ann Pidcock having had any children. No other Robert Pidcock appears among the names of Pidcocks living in the Solebury-Makefield area in the middle and late 1700's. We know that Emanuel and Rachel Pidcock had children and that their oldest was named Stephen. It is also very likely that he had another son named Moses. There is a record of a Moses Pidcock who owned land in the area around Makefield and who leased a portion of it to the County in order to build a school. This was in the 1760's. There is also evidence of an Emanuel Pidcock who was born in Bucks County in 1742. According to Gladys Pidcock, Emanuel who also spelled his name Immanuel, married Elizabeth Marshall, dau. the celebrated Edward Marshall, who walked out the day and a half Indian purchase. (This event has been referred to in American History as "The Walking Purchase.") Emanuel and his son Benjamin are listed in the 1800 Census as living in Lycoming, Pennsylvania. It was this Benjamin Pidcock who married Anna Heylman. This Emanuel also had a son named Moses who fathered the branch of the family which later changed the name to Pidcoe.

Now, we do know that Benjamin of Solebury had four children but only one male heir, Joseph, who died in 1742. Joseph had one daughter, Ann Elizabeth. It was she who became the ward of Jonathan Kinsey. It is not possible, therefore, that Jonathan Pidcock could have been the son of Benjamin of Solebury.

Of the four Pidcocks of Bucks County - Robert, Emanuel, Benjamin, and John, only John is left as the possible father of Jonathan Pidcock. We can find no record of John's having had any children, but it is most likely that he did. He was a farmer, and farmers needed children to help run the farm. It is also significant that this John inherited the Pidcock Tract which he sold. Generally, it is the eldest son who inherits the father's estate. It is also likely that John Jr. named his first son Jonathan, after his father, who was also referred to as Jonathan. (None of Jonathan's children were named John. Two were named Emanuel and Benjamin. Jonathan's son Charles named his sons John and Jonathan.)

Although the evidence is circumstantial, it seems most likely that John Jr. was the father of Jonathan. The names John and Jonathan have been used consistently by descendants of Jonathan Pidcock through the years.

PIDCOCKS IN THE REVOLUTION

In several accounts, including Snell's History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey, we read that Jonathan Pidcock bought property at the foot of Goat Hill, just below where the rubber mill was located in Lambertville, New Jersey; that he erected a dwelling, a store and a grist mill; (All this was prior to 1778.) and that he owned a number of Durham boats which his sons, Emanuel and Charles, used to transport cargoes of flour and produce down river. Store merchandise was brought up river on the return trip.

J.A. Anderson, in his article "Navigation on the Delaware and Lehigh Rivers," describes the Durham boats in detail. Anderson records that the customary length of these boats was 60 feet while the width of the craft was 8 feet. The draft while empty was from 3 1/2 to 5 inches, and loaded about 28 inches. A boat 60 feet long would carry 150 barrels of flour or about 600 bushels of shelled corn. The movement down stream was by floating with the current, with the aid when necessary, of a pair of eighteen-foot oars. Moving up stream the boat was usually propelled by "setting poles" 12 to 18 feet long and shod with iron.

On the thwarts was laid, on each side, a plank, 12 inches wide. On these 'walking boards' two members of the usual crew of three, starting at the forward end, with poles on the river bottom and top ends to shoulders, walked to the stern, pushing the boat forward. While they rapidly returned to repeat the process, the captain, who steered, used a pole to hold the boat from going back with the current.

Events occurred on these Durham boat trips which were both interesting and amusing. In the year 1809, the Hon. John Lambert, United States Senator from New Jersey, wrote to his wife, who was living near Lambertville, that "the table fare at his Washington boarding house was pretty fair, but that the table drink was beer, which he did not fancy, and as he did not like spirits, he wished her to send him a barrel of cider by Pidcock's boat, to the Philadelphia Navy Yard, from which place it would be forwarded." Some further correspondence indicates that the cider went astray.

Durham boats were later used by Washington when crossing the Delaware in his raid on Trenton, December 25, 1776.

Among the Colonial documents found in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, there are frequent references to the Pidcocks; especially Jonathan Pidcock. The evidence shows that Jonathan Pidcock was married and had seven children: Emanuel, Charles, Philip, Benjamin, Thomas, Phoebe and Charity. His wife was named ANKEY. Whether Ankey was her first name or her maiden name is still a mystery. Gladys Pidcock believes that her last name might have been Ankey since there is evidence of an earlier settler in Pennsylvania by the name of Spyke Ankey. On the 14th day of April 1683, William Penn conveyed 300 acres to Spyke Ankey, who located in the northern part of Makefield Township. Another possibility is that **Ankey** (**Ankie**) is the equivalent name for **Anna** in Holland Dutch. There were many persons of Dutch descent living in New Jersey at the time.

We also know that prior to the American Revolution Jonathan moved with his family from Lambertville, New Jersey, to Amwell, New Jersey. It is interesting that he named his son Emanuel Amwell Pidcock. There he purchased land and raised his family. When America declared its independence from Great Britain in 1776 and war broke out, Jonathan and his son Charles joined the local militia. Though Jonathan was physically unfit for active service due to his age, he did make himself useful looking after the quartering of troops and caring for the sick and wounded. His son, Charles, on the other hand, participated actively in the war and at least on one occasion came into very close contact with the enemy.

Gladys Pidcock records that one day a company of British Regulars and Tories came up from Trenton to hunt rebels. Charles was at home, disabled from hard marching. He tried to escape by the front door, but that was guarded. He went to the back door and there stood two armed men. Taking advantage of the darkness, he sprang past the guards and fled up the steep side of Goat Hill, the rocks cutting his feet at every step. A sharp volley of musket balls fell around him, and the soldiers rushed up the hill after him. Young Pidcock found a hiding place under a large rock; his pursuers even stood upon it; but failing to find him gave up the search. During the affair, the officer in command of the party lost his chapeau. Charles became the possessor and proud owner of the trophy. (See also Traditions of Our Ancestors by John W. Lequear, ed. and pub. by D. H. Moreau, Flemington, NJ, 1957, p. 9.)

According to Lequear, Jonathan's other sons also served in the Revolution under Captain John Phillips, Third Regiment, Hunterdon County Militia, New Jersey. They are also listed as members of the militia in the Military Census of New Jersey of 1793. It is recorded that only Charles received a pension for his military service.

Another event occurred during the war which is of interest since it pertains to Jonathan Pidcock. It seems that inquisitions were being held by the Committees of Safety in New Jersey towns to decide on the disposition of the property of persons known to have joined the Loyalist cause. One such case is documented in the History of Amwell, p. 123. The case was against a Joseph Smith who left Amwell to serve in the British Army. Serving on the Committee of Inquisition were twenty-two citizens of Amwell, including Jonathan Pidcock. The defendant was found guilty as charged.

Realizing that he was getting old and was not in the best of health, Jonathan Pidcock drew up his will. Prepared on November 10, 1803, it was probated following his death in January, 1812. Apparently, he was well off, for in his will he left to his daughter, Charity Pittenger, 200 pounds and to his daughter, Phoebe Kitchen, interest on 200 pounds. He stipulated that at her death the money should be divided among her children. His son Emanuel was to receive 100 pounds as compensation for his expenses in the construction of a building on his (Jonathan's) property. The remainder of the estate was to be divided among his five sons; Charles, Emanuel, Philip, Thomas and Benjamin. His two eldest sons, Charles and Emanuel, served as executors of the will. Jonathan's total assets at the time of death were \$3,866.65. (See New Jersey Wills, File No., 2550J.)

GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The sons and daughters of Jonathan Pidcock lived and died in the areas of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Some achieved financial success, while others had difficulty making ends meet.

America was still in its infancy, and one had to work very hard to be successful. It is evident from the examples given below that the Pidcocks were not afraid of hard work.

Charles Pidcock, who had labored with his brother Emanuel, poling Durham boats up and down the Delaware, eventually gave up that line of work and purchased a tavern in New Hope. In that day, only persons of very high repute in the community were allowed to own taverns. The tavern remained in the family for many years.

In Snell's History of Warren and Sussex Counties, New Jersey, and Sussex Counties, New Jersey we read that a Jonathan Pidcock purchased a tavern, known as Anderson's Tavern, in Andersontown, Mansfield Township, Warren County, New Jersey. The tavern had been built by Joseph Anderson in 1775.

Pidcocks owned land in Amwell Township, Readington Township, Whitehouse Station, Lambertville, Bethlehem Township, and Mercer County and Warren County, New Jersey. They also continued owning property and farm land in Bucks County and Lycoming County, PA.

Since the economy was basically agrarian in the 18th and 19th centuries, one can see why many Pidcocks remained on the farm. Among those farmers working their land in New Jersey and Pennsylvania were Thomas Pidcock, Jonathan Pidcock, Phillip Pidcock, all of Amwell and Jonathan Pidcock, Johnson Pidcock, Charles Pidcock, J. Williams Pidcock, all of Lambertville. Moses Pidcock also owned land in Bucks County. Charles Pidcock of Lambertville was also listed in the 1850 Census records as a carpenter and as a miller. Alexander was a quarryman. William of Mercer County owned property and hired help to work his farms. He was listed as a landlord. Both Martin Pidcock and Nelson Pidcock were labeled as machinists. Other Pidcocks, including Aaron Pidcock and John Pidcock appeared in the 1850 Census as laborers.

One of the most successful entrepreneurs was Fisher Pidcock, son of John Godown Pidcock. Like his father, he went into the real estate business and for many years bought and sold land in Readington Twp., Hunterdon County, New Jersey. He lived in Whitehouse Station, and Lebanon, New Jersey. According to Hubert G. Schmidt, author of Rural Hunterdon, the Pidcocks had large land holdings and were successful brokers for a number of years, but eventually their luck ran out and they had to rent portions of their land to tenants. The Pidcocks had specialized in dairy farming and developing peach orchards. Eventually, they sold their property to Kline Realty and

Improvement Company and saw their land being parcelled off into small plots. Good fortune had turned into bad.

The Pidcock who really made his mark both in business and in politics was James Nelson Pidcock, son of John Godown Pidcock and brother of Fisher Pidcock. A biographical account may be found in Snell's History of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, p. 504. James Nelson was born in Mechanicsville, New Jersey, February 8, 1836. When he was five years old, he and his parents moved to Lebanon, New Jersey. There he attended public schools. At the age of thirteen he left school and went to work with a corps of engineers on the Belvidere Delaware Railroad, where he was engaged until 1851. He so profited from his experience that he was able, upon going South, to take charge of the construction of a section (25 miles in length) of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, situated in the state of Mississippi. Although this work was carried on successfully, despite the panic of 1857, James Nelson resigned his position and returned home to New Jersey.

When an opportunity came to build several miles of track for the Allentown and Auburn Railroad, he took it. This venture also met with financial disaster. However, James Nelson was not daunted by adversity. He went into the clothing business with J.E. Vorhees and J.F. Wyckoff. Their aim was to purchase clothing at forced sales in New York, then dispose of those purchases by wholesale and at auction in various parts of the country. Prior to 1873, James Nelson Pidcock, though a loyal Democrat, took no active part as a candidate for any office. However, that year he was the regular nominee of the Democratic party for the office of State senator, and was defeated by the Honorable F. A. Potts, the Republican candidate. He was again nominated in 1876, and elected by a majority of sixteen hundred and seventy-five votes. His tenure in office lasted from 1877 until 1880. James Nelson was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Chicago in 1884 and at St. Louis in 1888. He was also represented the New Jersey Fourth District in the United States Congress during its 49th and 50th sessions.

James Nelson continued his involvement in the railroad business, building the Georgia Northern Railroad in southwest Georgia. He also dabbled in real estate, and following Pidcock tradition, constructed a mill. According to Gladys Pidcock, Charles W. Pidcock, grandson of James Nelson Pidcock and Frank R. Pidcock, son of the builder continued to manage the railroad after James Nelson returned to New Jersey. Like many

Georgians, James Nelson's descendants became engaged in the tobacco business. One Frank R. Pidcock, III, presently grows tobacco and owns a warehouse in Moultrie, Georgia.

The builder of railroads, James Nelson Pidcock, died on 17 December 1899 and was buried in the Presbyterian Church Cemetery, in Lebanon, New Jersey with his wife Fannie Faulks Pidcock. Their son John Faulks Pidcock is also buried there.

Another success story from the annals of the Pidcock Family concerns G. Edwin Pidcock, son of George McClellan Pidcock, founder of G. Edwin Pidcock Company, Civil and Consulting Engineers of Allentown, Pennsylvania. A graduate of LaFayette College, Mr. Pidcock served as county engineer for Lehigh County in 1942 and in this capacity was responsible for notable engineering improvements and installations in Lehigh County. His firm designed the Pine Street bridge over the Lehigh River at Catasauqua, and numerous other bridges, large and small, including two on the Pennsylvania Turnpike Eastern Extension. The company did extensive work not only in Pennsylvania but in other states as well.

Following in his father's footsteps, John S. Pidcock graduated from LaFayette College with a degree in civil engineering and engineering physics. He also did graduate work at the University of Maryland, the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn and Lehigh University. Between 1950 and 1954, John was employed as a structural engineer by D.B. Steinman, world-famous designer of suspension bridges in New York City. Following a two-year hitch in the U.S. Army where he was engaged with guided missile research, Mr. Pidcock returned to Allentown where he became a partner in his father's engineering firm. Since 1967 the partnership was composed of Edwin Pidcock's two sons, John Scott Pidcock and Ralph M. Pidcock. In 1987, John's son J.Scott Pidcock, became a partner in the firm. Under the leadership of these men, the company has achieved a national reputation in airport design and has served as the prime design professional for all of the expansion of the A-B-E Airport. The firm was also involved in the design and construction of many projects such as the Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospital Center, (now known as the Lehigh Valley Hospital Center), the Hamilton Mall, the Hibernia Fire Station and the Emmaus Fire Station, and the A-B-E Airport Passenger Terminal. In 1987 the firm completed the Holiday Inn Convention Center and began

construction on an extensive addition to the First Presbyterian Church of Allentown.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

When John Pidcock arrived on the shores of the Delaware, the land was inhabited primarily by Indians. The area of Bucks County was a wilderness. With the coming of the Quakers, meeting houses were eventually built. Until then, services were held in homes or in the open air. Although John Pidcock lived within the Quaker community, there is no indication that he became associated with that group. However, it is possible that some of his descendants married Quakers. There is a reference in the Bucks County Historical Collection, Vol. VIII, p. 407, to a Maggie Wright Pidcock who served as a teacher in a Friends school in Langhorne, Pennsylvania. If John were a descendant of Thomas Pidcock, the Puritan soldier who served with Oliver Cromwell in Ireland, he would probably have been a Protestant.

The earliest record of a Pidcock being connected to a church was when Robert Pidcock, son of John Pidcock, the immigrant, married Ann Smith in Christ's Church, Episcopal, in Philadelphia in 1715. When Rachel Ruckman (Buchman) Pidcock made out her will before her death in 1727, it was obvious from the content of the will where she used numerous pious phrases that she was a devout Christian. There is a record of a marriage between a Joseph Pidcock and Mary Bird 23 November 1801 in the Kirkwood Baptist Church. John Godown Pidcock married Elizabeth Ann Ramsey 1 January 1835 in the Dutch Reformed Church of Lebanon, NJ. Fisher Pidcock was baptized in that church and was buried in the Greenwood Dutch Reformed Cemetery in Lebanon.

Early leadership in the Church can be traced as far back as 1813 when Benjamin Pidcock of Solebury was elected as one of the first of four elders of the Presbyterian Church of Solebury. He served this position until 1820 when he moved from the area. Jonathan Pidcock and his wife Mary Godown Pidcock were baptized in the Solebury church 4 October 1818. Later, they transferred their membership to the Union Presbyterian Church of Georgetown and Lambertville. According to the Rev. Gerald Raymaker, Jonathan and Mary Pidcock helped to establish the church in Lambertville. Early in its history, Jonathan served as a ruling elder and as a member of the Board of Trustees. Jonathan and Mary honored their pastor, the Rev. P.O. Studdiford, by

naming a son after him. His son, George McClellan Pidcock, became an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Bloomsbury, New Jersey. Two of his great-grandsons became Presbyterian ministers.

One great-grandson, the Rev. George Pidcock Morgan, accepted his first pastorate at the Presbyterian Church in Peru, New York, while the other great-grandson, Bruce Morgan, Jr., became a missionary to China. In September 1947 Bruce and his wife and daughter sailed for China aboard a freighter, arriving in Tsingtao, where they labored as preacher and teacher until they had to flee from the Chinese Communists. They worked in Hong Kong until early 1950 when they were sent to Chiengmai, Thailand, where they also preached and taught. Bruce was also engaged in Christian Cooperative Rural Work.

Other Pidcocks who belonged to the Solebury Presbyterian Church, later to be renamed the Thompson Memorial Church, were John and Anna Butterfoss Pidcock, Johnson and Hannah Pidcock, Daniel Pidcock, Jane Pidcock, Johanna Pidcock, Rebecca Pidcock, Charles Pidcock, Lavinia Pidcock, Letitia Pidcock and John Williams Pidcock. John Williams served as an elder between 1899 and 1911 when he died.

The only known Catholic Pidcock living in the Solebury area was Elizabeth Pidcock, daughter of Joseph and Jane Pidcock. Following the death of her father in 1845, she lived with two guardians; Jonathan Kinsey and Edward L. Poole. She died 5 September 1885 and was buried in the St. Martin of Tours Catholic Cemetery in New Hope. Recently, there have been numerous times when Protestant Pidcocks have married wives or husbands who were of the Catholic faith. This has been especially true in New Jersey.

The Pidcocks of Allentown have been active in the First Presbyterian Church since G. Edwin Pidcock moved to that community. For sixteen years he served as a member of the board of trustees of the church. His sons, John Scott and Ralph M., and their wives Donna and Doris have served as elders, deacons, trustees, and other church positions. All three of John's children attended theological seminary. His daughters, Karen Louise Pidcock-Lester and Judy Ellen Pidcock, are ordained Presbyterian ministers are serving pastorates in Richmond, Virginia and Columbus, Ohio. J. Scott Pidcock and Judy Ellen Pidcock graduated

from Yale Divinity School. Karen Pidcock-Lester and her husband are graduates of Union Theological Seminary in Richmond Virginia. They serve in the same pastorate.

J. Scott Pidcock's wife, Gillian Moffat Pidcock, originally from Paisley, Scotland, relocated to the United States to work in cancer radiation therapy.

It has already been mentioned that Jonathan Pidcock and his five sons served in the Revolution. During the Civil War Pidcocks served the Union as volunteers. Among those who served as privates in New Jersey regiments were Joseph Pidcock, Fisher Pidcock, Nelson Pidcock, and Stacy Pidcock. Howard Pidcock had moved to King Ferry, New York. When the war broke out, he joined Company K, 111 Regiment, of the New York Volunteers. The only known Pidcock casualty was Anderson Pidcock, son of Charles and Mary Pidcock, who was killed May 6, 1864, in the Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia. Anderson was a corporal in Company H, 6th Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers.

During the World Wars I and II, many Pidcocks served their country on land, in the air and on the sea. Edwin Moore, Past President of the Pidcock Association, served in the Coast Guard in W.W.II. Gerald B. Pidcock, son of Raymond Pidcock Sr., Past President of the association, served in the Navy in W. W. II, and received a number of medals including the American Defense Medal, the American Theater Campaign Medal, the Occupation Service Medal, and the Asiatic-Pacific Medal. His service included five battles at sea. Also serving in the Navy was John F. Pidcock, nephew of former President James N. Pidcock. Following his enlistment he advanced to the rank of Commander and served aboard the U.S.S. Nevada in the Pacific.

Mary Elizabeth Bond, niece of the second secretary of the association, Ella S. Bond, was killed in an Army airplane accident in New York City. She was a member of the Women's Army Corps in W.W. II. Richard E. Pidcock, grandson, George M. Pidcock, founder of the Pidcock Family Association, served in the Army during World War II as did many other members of the family.

Two incidents, one in W.W. I and the other in W.W. II, are interesting. During the first World War, Anderson N. Pidcock, son of DuWillis Pidcock, enlisted in the Army 24 June

1918; he received a medical discharge two days later. One could say that he served the shortest amount of time in the armed forces than any member of the Pidcock family.

The other event occurred during World War II. While Frank Raymond Pidcock Jr., Past President of the Pidcock Association, was working as an accountant for the Standard Oil Company's Foreign Service in China, he was taken prisoner by the Japanese and was later repatriated to the United States on the first trip of the S. S. Gripsholm. Later, he returned to Bombay, India. When the Communists took control of China in 1949, he and his wife and daughter were forced to leave Canton. Frank was sent to Seoul, Korea, while his wife and daughter returned to the United States. After a brief visit, they flew to Korea and joined Frank. When the North Koreans invaded the south in June 1950, Mrs. Pidcock and her daughter were given an hour and a half notice to leave the country. They were evacuated to Japan by the U.S. Army.

Such were the adventures of Pidcocks in foreign places during times of peril. Under these circumstances, it took great courage to endure.

THE PIDCOCK FAMILY ASSOCIATION

The first reunion of descendants of John Pidcock was held August 22, 1913, on the spot called Win-Na-Haw-Caw-Chunk and later known as Neeley's Mills where he first settled sometime prior to 1678. Under the leadership of George M. Pidcock of Bloomsbury, New Jersey, an association of family members was formed. Since the formation of the association, Pidcocks have met on a yearly basis to celebrate their colonial heritage. (Though the happenings of each reunion are not included in this history, events that occurred at earlier meetings which are of importance in the development of the association have been included.)

In the first edition of the **Family History**, Gladys Pidcock gave a vivid description of many outstanding reunions with the hope that family members who could not attend would benefit from reading what went on at these meetings. The following are samples (in her own words) of these meetings.

The sixth annual reunion of the Pidcock Family was held at Neeley's Mills August 24, 1919, with one hundred and fifty in attendance.

The President, F. Raymond Pidcock of Trenton, New Jersey, presided. Dr. Crooks, pastor of the Thompson Memorial Church offered a prayer. F. Raymond Pidcock eulogized our ancestor, the first settler, John Pidcock and then introduced George Pidcock of Bloomsbury, New Jersey, who served as program chairman. After a few brief remarks, he introduced Mrs. Annie Pidcock Davey who made the presentation address in which she emphasized the pride that is felt to have sprung from such honored stock. The bronze tablet on the rugged boulder was unveiled near the former home of John Pidcock, now the Thompson-Neeley House, by Anna Pidcock of Moultrie, Georgia and Edith Pidcock, daughter of J. Cooper Pidcock of Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania, both direct descendants of John Pidcock. The bronze tablet bore the following inscription:

On this spot
on a tract of land
of 505 acres called
by the Indians
Win-Na-Haw-Caw-Chunk
JOHN PIDCOCK
the first settler
built mills and
established a trading
post with the Indians
in 1684.

The bronze tablet was accepted by the Honorable Allan W. Hagenbach, President of the Washington Crossing Park Commission of Pennsylvania. Mr. Hagenbach asked the question, "Is it proper to have ancestors?" He commended the descendants of John Pidcock for marking the hallowed spot and urged that they make some recognition of the graves on top of Bowman's Hill. He promised that the commission would preserve the graves.

Samuel Eastburn, the historian, gave an interesting account of the history linked with the locale. He told of the services which the Pidcocks had rendered to their country; one being the running of a ferry during the Revolutionary War, the contributing flour from their mills to our troops, and another being their military record. He brought the history through the present generation, eulogizing the services of the Honorable James Nelson Pidcock, prominent in the affairs of state during the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

At the nineteenth annual reunion held August 24, 1932, a special program commemorating the birth of George Washington, was presented. The secretary, Gladys G. Pidcock, read a detailed paper on the "Life of George Washington", emphasizing his activities in the vicinity of Washington's Crossing during the Revolutionary War. This was followed by a historical pageant and minuet presented by Mr. and Mrs. Nelson MacKissic, Miss Janet Pidcock, Miss Esther White, and Miss Jane Transu directed by Mrs. Cooper Pidcock. This Washington pageant introduced historic costumed tableaux and concluded with the minuet.

The twenty-first annual reunion was held on Saturday, August 25, 1934. Two hundred fifty people witnessed the enactment of a pageant. "**The Arrival of John Pidcock**," written and directed by Gladys C. Pidcock to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the arrival of John Pidcock.

The prologue, "The Spirit of Prophecy", portrayed by Miss Janet Pidcock of Washington Crossing, narrated the history of the property from the time of its purchase from the Indians by King Charles II of England through his agent William Markham from the Indians, through the Revolutionary War, when in 1776 it became the headquarters of Lord Stirling.

Scene One depicted the arrival of John Pidcock, portrayed by Lewis Pidcock of Pineville, Pennsylvania, with his pack and gun. The second scene showed John Pidcock meeting with the Indians and establishing a trading post. The third scene depicted the meeting between John Pidcock and Thomas Bowman, portrayed by J. Cooper Pidcock of Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania. Thomas Bowman had his headquarters on Burlington island and supplied the settlers with goods.

One hundred years elapsed between the third and fourth scenes. The fourth scene showed Lord Stirling, Captain James Monroe, who later became President of the United States, Captain Moore, and Captain William Washington studying a map. General Washington then appears on horseback with his aides. Dismounting from his horse, he discusses the plan which had been previously formulated for the capture of Trenton on Christmas night, 1776. Following the meeting, Washington mounts his horse and leaves the area, followed by the officers and his aides. (All participants wore costumes of the period.)

Musical numbers, "Indian Love Call", "By the Waters of Minne- tonka", and "By the Sky Blue Waters" were rendered between the scenes. Several Indian dances were presented. A violin solo, "Melody in F" by Arthur Rubenstein, was rendered by F. Bruce Morgan, Jr. of Bloomsbury, New Jersey.

Following the dramatic presentation and the musical numbers, a bronze tablet was unveiled by John Pidcock, of Allentown, Pennsylvania, a direct descendant of the original builder of the stone house. The oldest portion of the house, built in 1702, was dedicated to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

George M. Pidcock of Bloomsbury, New Jersey, made the presentation address with the acceptance speech being given by Thomas Scott of Bristol, Pennsylvania, President of the Washington Crossing Park Commission for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The inscription on the plaque reads, "The central portion of this house was built by John Pidcock in 1702, and has been preserved as a type of earliest Pennsylvania architecture and masonry." Placed in 1934 by the Pidcock family.

In accepting the plaque, President Scott said in part, "It is most fitting that we should honor the memory of those early settlers of this country of ours, of whom John Pidcock was an outstanding representative. Those men of abounding courage, of great powers of endurance were fitted to overcome and meet the most severe privations that an unsettled and undeveloped land could present. They hewed the pathways through the virgin forests for future generations to follow. It is not possible that John Pidcock, when he cleared the ground and built his home, could have foreseen the part it was to play in the making of these United States. That historic occasion which was responsible for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's acquisition of these lands, and the restoration of these buildings that they might be preserved, unsullied and unchanged as a National shrine."

At the 1937 reunion a Mr. DeLacey, lecturer and guide at the Washington Crossing Park, gave a most interesting and instructive talk. He mentioned a venerable oak tree, 80 feet in height, the brow of which formed a platform. This old landmark had been struck by lightning. This spot has been found to be an archeologist's paradise. Jasper, the most beautiful stone in Bucks County, can be found here. It was also concluded that the Turtle Clan of Indians lived in the area of the park.

He also mentioned that John Pidcock had settled here prior to 1684, and that in 1692 a Pidcock child was buried on Bowman's Hill. Mr. DeLacey also mentioned that in 1735, (the year of John Pidcock's death) the copper mine was opened. (Looking at the death date of this child, it would seem likely that John's sons, Robert, Emanuel, John and Benjamin, were born in the late 1680's or the early 1690's.)

Mr. DeLacey went on to tell how in December 1776, the enlistments in the Continental Army were running out. Since many of these men were hungry and poorly clad, their morale was breaking. General Washington knew something had to be done. American liberty was really born here. Paine's "**American Crisis**" had helped to stimulate and provoke thought among liberty loving Americans. One thousand two hundred and twenty-six were encamped in this vicinity. Lieutenant James Monroe was a most able man. On the 24th of December the Delaware River was crossed with one hundred three horses and artillery. They camped at Bears Tavern. Seven hundred lives were lost. In 1832 an appropriation was made for the preservation of the graves. Captain James Moore and others were buried here. In 1930 it became a part of the State Park.

He concluded his address by stating, "There are but two stone towers in the United States, constructed entirely of stone, one of these being the tower on Bowman's Hill. It is 125 feet in height and 271 feet from the road. From the top, one has a magnificent view of the surrounding country."

The twenty-fifth annual reunion held August 20, 1938, proved to be a memorable occasion. For it was that year that President Edwin Moore of Trenton, New Jersey, invited family members to participate in the unveiling of the bronze tablet at the grave of Jonathan Pidcock who was buried on Bowman's Hill.

George M. Pidcock, Honorary President and founder of the Pidcock Family Association, made the presentation. He said in part:

Back in the sixties and seventies, my grandmother, Mary Godown Pidcock, widow of a grandson and namesake of that Jonathan Pidcock, who lies buried here, used to point to this hill and tell me that this spot contained the graves of Jonathan Pidcock, his wife Ankey, and other Pidcocks. Later, my father, Peter

Studdiford Pidcock, used to bring his children here and repeat the story. At that time the graves were well defined. I would remind you that when Jonathan Pidcock was buried early in 1812, Mary Godown Pidcock was a woman some twenty-eight years of age and doubtless attended his funeral, and that my own father, born a few years later, could remember the time when these graves were as fresh as those among our own immediate families.

He continued to relate how Jonathan Pidcock and his sons participated in the Revolution and he concluded by saying,

Dr. Flood, we have placed this tablet not because we look upon Jonathan Pidcock as a great man. We would have him remembered as a hardy, substantial citizen, loyal to his country, and raising his family, as facts bear out, in the fear of God.

To you, Dr. Flood, as the representative of the Washington Crossing Park Commission, we present this tablet in the hope that it will be an addition to the historical interest of the Park.

The tablet which bore the inscription "Here lie buried Jonathan and his wife Ankey and other members of the Pidcock Family" , was unveiled by Edna May Moore, daughter of the President, Edwin Moore of Trenton, New Jersey, and Ralph Pidcock, son of Edwin Pidcock of Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Flood accepted the tablet on behalf of the Washington Crossing Park Commission and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He stated that he was pleased to have the graves of pioneers and patriots who aided in the building up of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania marked in such an appropriate manner. He then presented George M. Pidcock, founder of the association, with two gifts; a briar pipe and a sterling silver bowl with an inscription which read, "In devoted service on this, the twenty-fifth anniversary (1913-1938) of the founding of the Pidcock Family Reunion and the establishing of the Association."

Saturday, August 24, 1940 proved to be an ideal day for the twenty-seventh annual reunion of the Pidcock family and for the unveiling of a bronze tablet on the grave of Charles Pidcock, Revolutionary War soldier, who is buried in the cemetery adjacent to the Lambertville Presbyterian Church, Lambertville, New Jersey.

The Daughters of the American Revolution ritualistic service was used. Mrs. Harrie G. Pidcock, Ex-Chaplain of Old White House Chapter, D.A.R., and the present regent, Gladys G. Pidcock, took part in the service.

The bronze marker was unveiled by Ralph Pidcock, son of Edwin Pidcock, of Allentown, Pennsylvania, and great-great-great grandson of Charles Pidcock.

The Rev. Joseph Weer, Pastor of the Thompson Memorial Church, read the Nineteenth Psalm and offered a prayer.

Following the devotions, George M. Pidcock spoke of the role of Charles Pidcock in the Revolutionary War. He related the story of Charles Pidcock's escape from the British soldiers, which has been previously written in local history.

Mrs. Edward Randolph, State Registrar of the New Jersey Daughters of the Revolution, spoke briefly. She emphasized the value of genealogy and the interest we should have in our ancestors.

Miss Gladys Pidcock, regent of Old Whitehouse Chapter, D.A.R., spoke of her ancestor, Charles Pidcock, and told how he and his brother Emanuel supplied flour to the Continental troops, how they operated Durham boats at Wells Ferry which was a dangerous crossing, and how he had served with his father and brothers under Captain John Phillips and Colonel David Chambers, in the Third Regiment of the Hunterdon County Militia. She also recalled that he took part in the battles of Millstone and Monmouth as a member of that regiment.

Robert Reading of the Junior Drum and Bugle Corps, American Legion, Post 120, of Lambertville, sounded taps.

During the war years - 1942-44 - the Pidcock Family Association did not hold their annual reunions. Gas was rationed and that made it difficult for persons to come from great distances to attend.

At the reorganization meeting on Saturday, August 25, 1945, the President, Edwin Moore, who had returned from active duty in the Coast Guard presided.

The following year, at the thirtieth reunion of the Pidcock Family, held August 24, 1946, an impressive Memorial Service for our late Honorary President and founder of the association, George M. Pidcock, was conducted by the President Edwin Moore of Trenton. He offered a prayer, and a beautiful poem was read by Helen Pidcock Bradshaw.

Edwin Moore sketched the life of George M. Pidcock who was born August 30, 1862, on a farm near Lambertville, New Jersey. He was the son of Peter Studdiford and Catherine Hunt Pidcock. George was the youngest son of a youngest son. He died at Bloomsbury, New Jersey, on the seventeenth of April 1946 and was buried at Bloomsbury on April 20, 1946, which was the day before Easter. He had been a funeral director for sixty-one years and had served as Mayor of Bloomsbury for two terms. Under his leadership as mayor, improvements were made on the roads.

At the time of his death, he was serving as Vice-president of the Citizens National Bank of Bloomsbury. George M. was a member and had served as a trustee of the Bloomsbury Presbyterian Church. He had served four times as Master of Bethlehem Lodge 140, also Past District Deputy of the Fourteenth Masonic District and was the oldest past master at the time of his death. He also was a member of the New Jersey Consistory. George M. was also a member of Kiowa Order of Red Men and an honorary Life Member of the Bloomsbury Hose Company. He held the office of President of the Cemetery Association. As president and founder of the Pidcock Family Association, he was instrumental in placing four bronze markers where Pidcocks lived and were buried. The first marker was placed where John Pidcock established a trading post with the Indians; the second on a portion of the house built by John Pidcock, the third on the graves of Jonathan Pidcock and his wife Ankey and where other Pidcocks are buried, and the fourth on the grave of Charles Pidcock, Revolutionary War soldier who was buried in the cemetery adjacent to the Lambertville Presbyterian Church.

ACTIONS OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

In 1915, two years after the founding of the association, a committee was appointed to collect data and compile an historical record of the family. Serving on this committee were Raymond Pidcock, chairman, Watson Dudbridge and George Barber. The next year the names of Mrs. Annie Davey and Mrs. Nellie Williams were added.

In 1921 George Pidcock was appointed Chairman on Research. Also, serving on the committee were George Barber and Helen Pidcock Morgan. In 1924 the Research and Monument Committees were combined. The latter committee was empowered to select a site upon which the boulder would be erected and a bronze tablet would be placed on the monument. This was to mark the site of the trading post John Pidcock established with the Indians.

At the reunion Raymond Pidcock reported that the committee had been making extensive searches of records in Doylestown, Philadelphia and Burlington. They found records showing that John Pidcock had settled in the locality in 1684, but could find no records of his arrival in this country.

In 1926 the Monument and Research Committee was given a new name. From then on it was to be called the Genealogy Committee. Serving on the committee were Raymond Pidcock, Chairman, George Pidcock, Annie Pidcock Davey, Cooper Pidcock, Robert Pidcock and F. Bruce Morgan, Sr. In 1931 George Pidcock, a member of the Genealogy Committee, stated that the committee had communicated with people in England about research work; that they had sent five pounds six shillings for the above and would receive a book which they hoped would be of great value and interest to the family.

Bruce Morgan suggested that the committee concentrate its attention on the History of the Pidcock Family in the United States. He reminded the committee that John Pidcock had been spoken of as an Irish immigrant. He mentioned a will, probated in 1650, concerning a Pidcock who was an Irish adventurer. Men who supported Oliver Cromwell in his invasion of Ireland were called "Adventurers." Bruce Morgan indicated that these so-called "adventurers" were expelled from Ireland around 1680. (Note that his conclusions coincide to some degree with those of

Dr. Tallmadge who indicated that Thomas Pidcock had served Cromwell during the English Civil War. John Pidcock could have been the son Thomas or one of those "adventurers.")

George Pidcock discussed the names Pidcock, Haycock, Glasscock, and other variations of the above and the frequency of their use as English names.

Mrs. Harrie G. Pidcock spoke about meeting Miss Azaleta Pidcock of Waco, Texas, on her return trip from Europe in 1930. Miss Pidcock told about her relatives in Winchester, London, and Staffordshire, England. She also mentioned having relatives in Canada, South Africa, and Australia. (On a trip to Australia in 1988, John and Donna Pidcock met with Mr. and Mrs. Ian Pidcock of Sydney who reported that there was a loosely knit Australian Pidcock Family Association. These Pidcocks claimed to be descendants of William Pidcock of Bakewell, England.)

For 1931-32 the following members of the Genealogy Committee were appointed: G. Edwin Pidcock, F. Raymond Pidcock, F. Bruce Morgan, Sr. and Mrs. Esther Pidcock.

At the 1932 reunion G. Edwin Pidcock spoke in regard to a letter which he had received from the Honorable Philip Cory, York Herald of the College of Arms, London, England.

The committee reported that nothing had been done during the past year because it was deemed inexpedient to expend money for research purposes due to the conditions of the times.

In 1935 F. Raymond Pidcock, Sr. spoke about the history of the family. Frank Pidcock said he knew a genealogist who would write the history of the family in pamphlet form. Edwin Pidcock expressed his feeling that the "missing link", or supposed "missing link" between John and Jonathan should be found.

Bruce Morgan replied that much work had been done in the past and more would be done in the future.

Mr. William Heinitsh, Director of Bowman's Hill State Wild Flower Preserve, described one way of making a Family Tree. He advised using plaster board, or celotex, which should be longer than its height. There ought to be places for succeeding generations. A permanent place should be found for the board.

Information could be secured for the data from the genealogy blanks.

At the 1936 reunion F. Bruce Morgan, Sr. explained the Chart and Family Tree which he had constructed of felt, 25 feet in length. He stated that undoubtedly there were at least half a dozen Pidcocks older than Jonathan who was born in 1729. Emanuel's widow died in 1732. (If this was Rachel Ruckman Pidcock, she died in 1727. See copy of the will in Bucks County Ct. House.) William Pidcock received a deed in 1701-02. (This was likely the William who arrived aboard the Friend's Adventure in 1679.) Stephen Pidcock resided in Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, in 1742. According to his will, probated in Amwell, he died there that year. He indicated that the family of Jonathan had been completed on the above mentioned chart and that the cooperation in obtaining data for this line was greatly appreciated.

George Pidcock of Langhorne, Pennsylvania, attended the reunion for the first time. An old "indenture" to Benjamin Pidcock and David Parry of Yardleyville for property drawn up in 1811 was shown.

Edwin Moore of Trenton was elected President at the twenty-fourth annual reunion of the family. He expressed a deep interest in genealogy and told of his work along this line. He stated that he would do his best for the Pidcock Family Association. As part of his responsibilities, he appointed the following to the Genealogy Committee: F. Bruce Morgan, Sr., Bloomsbury, New Jersey, Edwin Pidcock, Allentown, Pennsylvania and Gladys G. Pidcock, White House, New Jersey.

Edwin Pidcock indicated that he had corresponded with a Paul Pidcock, an expert hockey player at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. In June he received a reply from the mother of Paul Pidcock, Mrs. Lillian Pidcock, Bishops Ct., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. She wrote that she appreciated his interest in their family and would communicate with her sister-in-law, Mrs. Lucy Pidcock Wardel in Staffordshire, England, relative to their family history and genealogy.

In 1939 the President, Edwin Moore, showed a small notebook of Pidcock genealogy. This had been started by Frank Pidcock, Jr. of Trenton. He thought it expedient to add to this work which in time, could be compiled into a pamphlet - "Genealogy of the Pidcock Family."

Edwin Moore and Gladys Pidcock were appointed as members of the committee to collect and compile family data.

At the Genealogy Committee meeting held in 1940, it was revealed that the Thompson Family History, had been compiled and some material was pertinent to the Pidcock family. George Pidcock stated that Thompson was an apprentice to John Pidcock at the mill, that he married a Pidcock and that his daughter married a Neeley. (George is incorrect, here. Robert Thompson married Hannah Delaplaine, widow of John Simpson. It was her daughter who married William Neeley, the Irish immigrant.)

A report from the Genealogy Committee presented at the 1941 reunion showed that members of the family were contributing information and that further research on the project was necessary.

Since the reunions were discontinued during World War II, no further research work was done. Following the war, the committee resumed its work.

At the reunion of 1945 Esther Pidcock was authorized to compile the Pidcock Genealogy and Gladys Pidcock the history of the family and association. Serving on the committee with Esther and Gladys were Edwin Moore, G. Edwin Pidcock, Helen Pidcock Morgan, and Nelson and Edith MacKissic.

The committee expressed its desire that the project continue, that the "missing link" be found, and that the various generations be linked together in the chain. (The family history went to press in 1958.)

Since 1987 Dr. William Marsh has been working on a revised edition of the History of the History of the Pidcock Family and Association. He has conducted extensive research in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and has discovered the names of many Pidcocks who have not appeared in the earlier work published in 1958. Also, he has been in contact with Mr. Russel Pidcoe of Albuquerque, NM, Mrs. Nancy Kern of Nelsonville, OH, Mr. Thomas Pidcock of Buffalo, NY, and Mr. David Pidcock of Great Falls, MT, all of whom sent him material on the Pidcock Family.

Another recent contact has been made with a Mr. Doelph Pidcock of Jacksonville, NC. He sent us material concerning the arrival of a John Pidcock to Wilmington, NC, 11 June 1741. This

John Pidcock settled with his family in Sarecta, (also spelled **Soracte**), Duplin Co., NC. Doelph had also done research on George Pidcock of Scituate, MA. (See earlier ref.)

Unfortunately, the Association will be unable to include the lengthy addition of material supplied by Russel Pidcoe in this work. (Russel, by the way, is a descendant of Moses Pidcock who was the son of Emanuel Pidcock, the son of John Pidcock.) However, it is possible that in future years, research done on all of the branches of the family will be compiled into an extensive work.

Already, work has been done on the **William Pidcock** branch of the family by Melba R. Hutchinson of Lodi, California, and Louise Pidcock of Kentucky. In 1988 a member of the family from Kentucky attended the reunion at the State Park in Washington's Crossing.

Speaking of reunions, the Pidcock Association has met regularly at the State Park, and the members of the family have maintained an interest in their heritage. It is the hope of this writer that this interest in family history will continue.