

LAYTON

NORTHWESTERN
NEW JERSEY

A History

— of —

SOMERSET, MORRIS, HUNTERDON, WARREN
AND SUSSEX COUNTIES

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many years' standing, the late Joshua Hill, of Pontiac, Michigan, an express package containing securities to the value of \$15,000, with the request that these be devoted to some communal purpose in memory of the donor's father, mother, and uncle, Price Hill. This generous gift, through Mr. Bunnell's influence, was devoted to the new home of the Sussex County Historical Society. At the annual meeting of the Sussex County Historical Society, January 23, 1925, the following resolution offered by Rev. I. H. Condit, was adopted:

Whereas, It is proper that recognition should be made of the channel through which this gift (Historical Building) has come; therefore,

Resolved, That a rising vote of thanks be given to our worthy first vice-president, Mr. Jacob L. Bunnell, for his thoughtful interest and fruitful endeavors whereby this rich and seasonable legacy has been secured our society.

Mr. Bunnell is a member of the New Jersey Historical Association, of which he was a former president. For a term of nine years Mr. Bunnell was a member of the board of directors of the New Jersey Firemen's Association, receiving his appointment from Governor James F. Fielder. For four years he was president of the board. In politics he is a supporter of the Democratic party and its principles, and for many years he has been prominently active in his community and county in the affairs of his party. For fifteen years he was clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders. He was also treasurer of the New Jersey State Democratic Association, and, in 1900, was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at Kansas City. In 1909 he was a candidate for nomination for State Senator. While failing of the nomination, himself and friends took satisfaction in the thought that the petitions circulated throughout the county favorable to his nomination filed in the office of county clerk as required by law were signed by double the number any Democrat had previously received for nomination to this the highest office within the gift of the electorate of Sussex County.

Mr. Bunnell is a member of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, Free and Accepted Masons; Baldwin Chapter, No. 17, Royal Arch Masons, of Newton; De Molay Commandery, No. 6, Knights Templar, of Washington, New Jersey; Salaam Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, of Newark, New Jersey; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is a Past Noble Grand; Knights of Pythias, of which he is a Past Chancellor Commander; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Tall Cedars of Lebanon; Junior Order

United American Mechanics; Pomona Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, of which he was lecturer, and is at present (1927) chairman of Pomona Legislative Committee. He is also a member of the Newton Club, and for a term of years he was chairman of the industrial committee of the Newton Board of Trade. His religious affiliations are with the Presbyterian church and more particularly with the First Presbyterian Church of Newton, of which he was treasurer for fifteen years and of which he was, in 1926, a member of the board of trustees, continuing so to the present time.

Jacob L. Bunnell married (first) S. Jennie Smith, a daughter of Sheriff James Smith, of Newton. He married (second) Lucille Buckley, a daughter of Elder Simon W. Buckley, of Wantage Township, Sussex County, New Jersey. On March 16, 1909, in the presence of a number of State editors and political and personal friends, at the Hotel Astor, New York City, he married (third) S. Estelle Clark, a daughter of Matthias Mettler and Mary (Phelps) Clark, a near relative of the late Judge Hiram C. Clark. Mr. and Mrs. Bunnell have no children and occupy their home at No. 11 Halsted Street, Newton.

PORTER LAYTON—Porter Layton, a prominent farmer of Layton, New Jersey, and a direct descendant of the pioneers for whom this township was named, one of the oldest and best known families in northwestern New Jersey, was born on March 15, 1870, in Sandyston Township. Mr. Layton is a son of John (2) and Amanda (Lord) Layton, and a grandson of William Layton.

The first established ancestor of this family was Thomas Layton, who was born during the year 1738, and who married Lydia, who was born in 1743. They were the parents of ten children: 1. William, who was born in 1765. 2. Mary, who was born in 1767. 3. Abigail, who was born in 1769. 4. John, of whom further. 5. Thomas, who was born in 1773. 6. Rebecca, who was born in 1775. 7. Darius, who was born in 1778. 8. Leurs, who was born in 1781. 9. Mary (2), who was born in 1783. 10. Andrew, who was born in 1786. Of these, it was John Layton, the second son and fourth child of Thomas and Lydia Layton, who carried on the line. John Layton was born in 1771 and, having married Abigail Brink during the year 1797, became the father of eleven children: 1. William, of whom further. 2. Derick, who was born in 1799, and who died in 1833. 3. Lydia, who was born in 1802, and who died in 1841. 4. Isaac, who was born in 1804. 5. Polly, who was born in 1806 and who died in 1827. 6. John, who was

born in 1809 and who died in 1812. 7. Katie, who was born in 1812. 8. Hester, who was born in 1814 and who died in 1877. 9. A child who died in infancy. 10. Lorenzo, who was born in 1824. 11. John B., who was born in 1816. Abigail (Brink) Layton, the mother of the foregoing died during the year 1827, and Mr. Layton married (second), in 1828, Sally M. Shay, who was born during the year 1791, and who died during the year 1838 without issue. Mr. Layton married (third), during the year 1839, Sally M. Snover, who was born in 1820, and who died in 1900. By this third union there were three children: 1. Abigail, who was born in 1840. 2. Andrew J., who was born in 1841, and who died in 1917. 3. Snover M., who was born in 1843. Mr. Layton died in 1865.

William Layton, the first child and first son of John and Abigail (Brink) Layton, was born in 1797, and died in 1847. He had married, August 3, 1822, Phebe Rosenkrans, who was born in 1799. By this union there were fourteen children: 1. James, who was born in 1823, and who died in that same year. 2. Darius, who was born in 1824. 3. John (2), of whom further. 4. Lydia, who was born in 1826. 5. Sylvester, who was born in 1828. 6. Francis, who was born during 1829. 7. Eunice, who was born in 1830. 8. Sarah, who was born in 1831. 9. Christian, who was born in 1832. 10. Abigail, who was born in 1833. 11. Stewart, who was born in 1835. 12 and 13. William and Phebe, twins, who were born in the year 1836. William died in 1847 and Phebe died in 1872. 14. Thomas, who was born in 1838, and who died in 1900.

Of these John Layton (2) was the one who carried on the line. He was born in 1825, and died February 19, 1909. He was a very prominent farmer and a large produce dealer in Sandyston Township; a man beloved by those who knew him well, and respected by all with whom he came in contact. He was later associated with his uncle, John B. Layton, who was the first settler at Layton, and the man who was the prime instigator in having a branch office of the United States Post-office established at Layton. John Layton (2), and John B. Layton, the uncle, carried on a successful partnership in the mercantile business at Layton. John Layton (2) married, (first), in 1847, Maria Kyle, who was born in 1826, and who died in 1855. By this union there were four children: 1. William, who was born during the year 1849. 2. Edgar, who was born in 1850. 3. John (3), who was born in the year 1852. 4. Maria, who was born in 1855. Upon the death of Maria (Kyle) Layton Mr. Layton married, (second), in 1858, Amanda Lord, who was born in 1833, and who

died March 15, 1911. By this union there were twelve children: 1. Phebe Alice, who was born in 1859, and who died during the year 1906. 2. Martha Della, who was born in 1860, and who married D. M. Johnson. 3. Lewis, who was born in 1861, and who died during the year 1923. 4. Stewart, who was born during the year 1863, and who died in 1864. 5. Christina, who was born in 1864, and who died during the year 1905. 6. George, who was born in 1866. 7. Frank Elmer, who was born in 1868. 8. Porter, of whom further. 9. Joseph, who was born in 1871. 10. Mark, who was born in 1873. 11. Anna Edna, who was born in 1876, and who died during the year 1880. 12. Emmett S., who was born in the year 1879.

Porter Layton, the fifth son and eighth child of John (2) and Amanda (Lord) Layton, was born in 1870 and received his education in the district schools of the community in which he was born, Sandyston Township, after which he at once went into the actual operative work of farming. In the spring of the year 1900, Mr. Layton removed to Layton, where he has since remained, farming and dairying on a large scale. Indeed, his home farm in this vicinity is known as one of the best-kept estates in this part of the county; and its owner is one of the most prominent, stable citizens of Sandyston. Despite the many varied and exacting duties required of one who would operate a farm of such dimensions, Mr. Layton has still found time in which to take an active interest in the civic and community affairs of his township. He has served for several years as a member of the Board of Education, and as a member of the Election Board as well. He has been almost equally active in his club and social life, and he has formed many lasting friendships throughout this part of the State. He is one of the active members of the Delaware Valley Grange, No. 143, of which his second son, Claude V. Layton, is, during this year (1926), serving as the Master.

Porter Layton married, June 8, 1895, Ella S. Van Horn, who was born in 1874, a daughter of Peter and Sarah Jane (Berthoff) Van Horn. By this union there were six children: 1. Clarence Layton, who was born in 1896, who is a veteran of the World War, having served overseas for a period of twelve months, and who married Theresa Andres, and with her resides in Trenton, New Jersey. 2. Claude V. Layton, who was born in 1898, who married Hazel Montross, and who is now the owner and operator of a garage at Layton, New Jersey. 3. Gladys Layton, who was born in 1900, and who died in 1902. 4. Glenna Layton, who was born in 1902, and who died in 1904. 5.

Roylance L. Layton, who was born in 1906. 6. Dorothy Edna Layton, who was born in 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Porter Layton, the parents of the foregoing children, maintain their residence in Layton, in which community they attend the Methodist Episcopal Church.

REV. JAMES LE FEVRE—A vigorous preacher of the Gospel, a wise counsellor in whose judgment the people of his congregation confided, Dr. Le Fevre has left an indelible memory in the community in which he lived. Honored by his associates, he endeared himself in the hearts of his brethren of the ministry by his delightful traits of character.

Dr. James Le Fevre was descended from Simon Le Fevre, one of the twelve patentees—the "Duzine" as they were called, who came from France, after a short stay in Holland, in 1660. He located first in Wiltwyck, now Kingston, New York, but later, in 1667, settled in New Paltz, Ulster County, New York. He married Elizabeth Deyo, and they had a son, Jean (or Jan) who married Catharine Blanshaw. Their son, Andries J., married Rachel Dubois, their son, Johannes, married Elizabeth Dubois, and their son, Nathaniel, married Magdalen Hornbeck.

James Le Fevre, son of Nathaniel and Magdalen (Hornbeck) Le Fevre, was born at New Paltz, New York, in 1828. He received his degree from Rutgers College in 1854, and three years later was graduated from the New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Years later Rutgers College honored him by making him a member of the board of trustees and conferring the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him. His first charge was at the Third Reformed Church at Raritan, New Jersey, being installed there the year of his graduation and remaining seventeen years, at the end of which time he made the only change of his career, by becoming the pastor of the Middlebush Reformed Church, where he served for more than a quarter of a century. In addition to his ministerial duties Dr. Le Fevre was secretary and treasurer of the Alumni Association of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary for twenty-six years. Sunday school work and its development claimed much of Dr. Le Fevre's attention, in which movement he was secretary of the Somerset County Sunday School Association. The most noted of his publications was his "Huguenot Patentees of New Paltz." He was a member of the Huguenot Society of America. Dr. Le Fevre was possessed of an unusually large physical frame and was moved by a sympathetic understanding of human ills, and

had a large, loving heart which exhibited itself in unending generosity and hospitality to every one.

Dr. Le Fevre, married, June 12, 1857, Cornelia Hasbrouck, daughter of James and Henrietta (Bevier) Hasbrouck. She is a lineal descendant of Abraham Hasbrouck, one of the twelve Huguenot patentees of New Paltz, New York. He was a native of Calais, France, and at the time of the persecution of the Huguenots emigrated to Palatinate and later to England, where he served in the English Army under Governor Edmund Andros, having a commission as lieutenant. He came to America in 1675, landing at Boston, thence proceeding to New York. Owing to influence with Governor Andros he obtained for the Huguenots the patent of New Paltz, New York. During the Revolutionary War Abraham Hasbrouck was colonel of a New York regiment. Mrs. Cornelia (Hasbrouck) Le Fevre is also a descendant, on her mother's side, of Louis Bevier, one of the twelve Huguenot patentees of New Paltz, New York. He was born in France in 1647, and came to America with his wife in 1673, because of the persecution of the Huguenots. He married Marie Le Blanc. He died in 1720. Dr. Le Fevre died May 6, 1914, leaving a stunned community from which he had received many tokens in commemoration of the place he had gained. His work was marked by an unfeigned piety which stamped him preëminently as a man of God, and his chiefest delight was in doing his Master's will. He had great love for his fellowman. His widow survived him for two years and passed away February 12, 1916. There were five children of this union: 1. Dr. Egbert Le Fevre, M. D., D. Sc., LL. D., who had achieved rare distinction as dean of New York University and of Bellevue Medical College, and who died March 30, 1914. He married, in 1889, Helen Hasbrouck Trotter. 2. Cornelia Bevier Le Fevre, of Somerville. 3. Mrs. George H. Brown, of whom extended mention further. 4. Esther De Witt Le Fevre, of Somerville. 5. Hasbrouck Le Fevre, vice-president and general manager of the Electric Steel and Metals Company of Welland, Ontario, who died October 23, 1914. He married, in 1896, Florence Howard, who survives. Children: George Howard and James Hasbrouck, who married Barbara Endicott. Laura Hasbrouck Le Fevre, the daughter of this illustrious Huguenot father, who was the seventh generation of his family in this country, was born in Raritan. She married George H. Brown in 1898. He was born in Somerville, where he received his education, and was for many years a superintendent in the Metropolitan Life Insurance