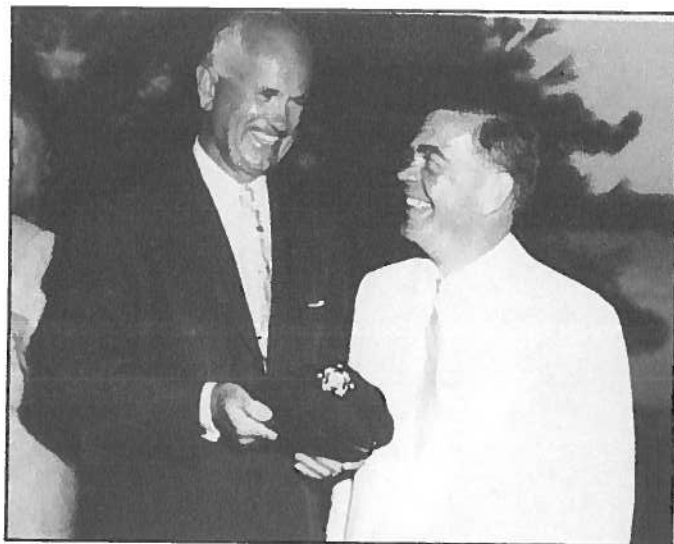


**Memphis Newspaper Article
Vacation in Store for Sam Nickeys**

"The address is Box No. 16, Walloon Lake, Mich.," called Mrs. Sam Nickey Jr. Sunday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Nickey and their three children, Sam, Elizabeth and Lois were leaving their home, 3999 Walnut Grove Road, followed by Mr. and Mrs. Nickey Sr. for a two-month-vacation in Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Nickey Sr. have vacationed for many years at Walloon and last Fall found a house several doors away for their son and his family. The homes are on the lake and they will while away the days swimming, fishing and sailing to come in in the evening to log fires and wool blankets. Mr. Nickey Jr. will return to Memphis in two weeks and later join his family for a visit before bringing them home the first week in September.



Sam's Place, Walloon Lake, Michigan—1947



Ivan Wiles, President of Buick, a neighbor at Walloon, turning over the Commodore's hat of the Walloon Yacht Club to Daddy. The family drove Buicks for years due to Mr. Wiles' friendship. The most popular model was the blue woody station wagon with "Property of Elizabeth Nickey" engraved in the center of the steering wheel, compliments of Mr. Wiles.



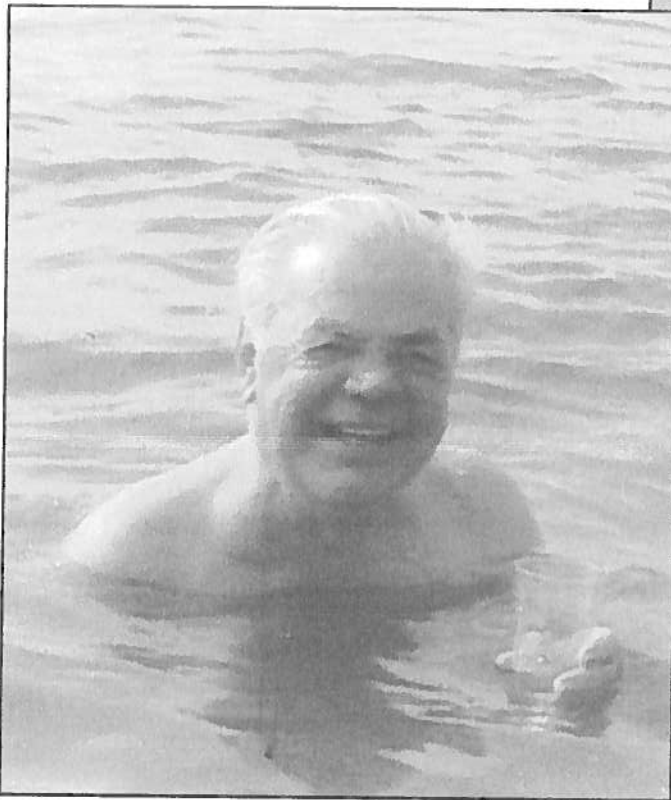
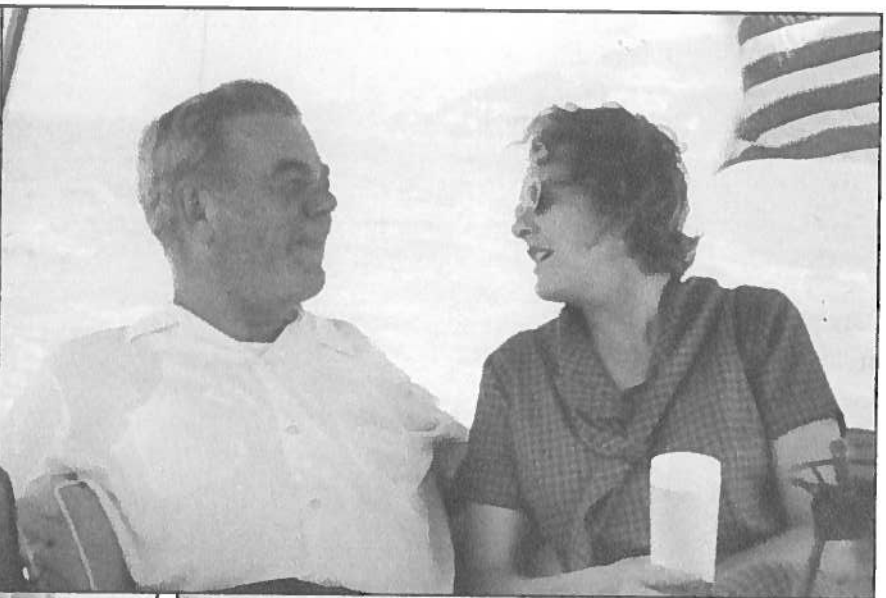
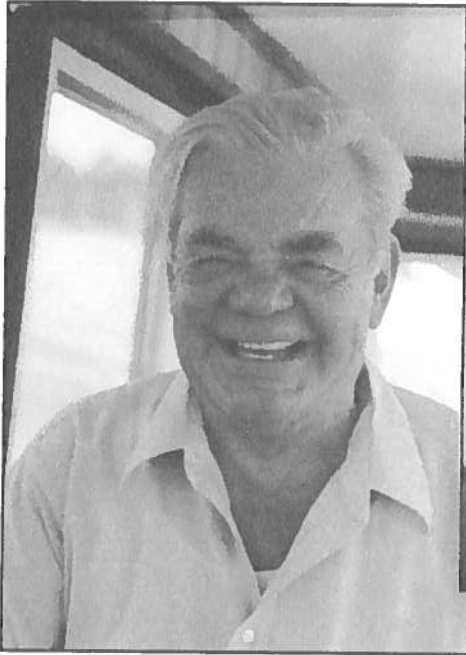
Bass fishing at Walloon Lake



Sam Nickey Jr. with one of his
"toys", a battery operated car made
out of his Philippine mahogany



1960



Nothing like being on your houseboat on the Tennessee River with a good drink of scotch, even if it has to be out of a beanie weenie can!



Retired lumberman Samuel Nickey dies

Samuel Mossman Nickey Jr. of Memphis, retired president and chairman of the board of Nickey Bros. Lumber Inc., died Monday at William F. Bowld Hospital. He was 79.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Memphis Funeral Home Poplar Chapel.

Mr. Nickey retired about 10 years ago as chairman of the board of Nickey Bros. Lumber Co., and was a former president of the company that held extensive operations in Brazil, Philippines and Southeast Asia.

Mr. Nickey was regarded as one of the top leaders in forest conservation in the South and was a former member of the Tennessee Conservation Commission, which supervises the state park system. He was instrumental in the development of Shelby Forest as a timber conservation and recreational area.

In the early 1950's he and former Memphis mayor Henry Loeb were co-founders of the Memphis Zoological Association to help save the Memphis Zoo. He also served as president of the association.

Mr. Nickey was a past director of First Tennessee Bank and Memphis Boys Town and was a former member of the Memphis Park Commission and was a member of the Lumberman's Club. He was a member of Woodland Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Nickey, the husband of Elizabeth McKellar Nickey, also leaves four daughters, Elizabeth Neilson of Alexandria, La., Lois Mancin of Birmingham, Carolyn Rosson of Memphis and Eleanor Hoehn of Pensacola, Fla.; a son, Sam Nickey III of Memphis; a sister, Lois Nickey Eason of Memphis, and 10 grandchildren.

ELIZABETH MCKELLAR NICKEY, 77, of Memphis, homemaker, died of cancer Thursday at her home. Services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday at Memphis Funeral Home Poplar Chapel. She was a graduate of The Hutchison School and attended Southwestern College. She was a member of the Junior League of Memphis, Woodland Presbyterian Church and the Mini-Makers Miniature Club. Mrs. Nickey, the widow of Samuel Mossman Nickey Jr., leaves four daughters, Elizabeth Neilson, Carolyn Rosson and Eleanor Hoehn, all of Memphis, and Lois Mancin of Birmingham; a son, Samuel Mossman Nickey of Marks, Miss.; a sister, Carolyn Bolton of Biloxi, Miss.; a brother, Clinton McKellar of Atlanta, and 11 grandchildren. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, memorials be sent to the charity of the donor's choice. **FEB. 1, 1996**

Memorial

Samuel M. Nickey, Jr., retired president and chairman of the board of Nickey Bros. Lumber, died early in March at the age of 79. Mr. Nickey retired about 10 years ago as chairman of the board of Nickey Bros., a company that held extensive operations in Brazil, the Philippines and Southeast Asia.

Mr. Nickey was regarded as one of the top leaders in forest conservation in the South and was a former member of the Tennessee Conservation Commission. He was also a co-founder and past president of the Memphis Zoological Association, a director of First Tennessee Bank in Memphis, a member of the board of Memphis Boys Town, the Memphis Park Commission, and the Lumbermen's Club of Memphis.

Mr. Nickey was instrumental in establishing the NHLA Inspection School in Memphis in 1948. The first class was held at a local vocational high school until a permanent facility was built adjacent to the Nickey Bros. sawmill and veneer plant in Memphis later in the year. Through "Mr. Sam's" generosity the NHLA school rented the property at \$1 per year for over 30 years, until moving to its present facility in 1980. Mr. Nickey was a former member of the NHLA Board of Managers and an Honorary Member at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth, four daughters, and a son Sam Nickey, III. Elizabeth Nickey resides at 2921 Francis Place, Memphis, TN 38111.



Lois Elizabeth Nickey
1917—1995



Grandmother Nickey and Aunt Lois



The Commercial Appeal
March 14, 1938

A South American coati went to his first Memphis party yesterday when Dudley and Jack Fulton entertained at Mrs. Fulton's newly decorated studio. The coati, obtained in South America on her recent trip by Lois Nickey, was nicely behaved, consuming his initial cocktail with relish.



Les Passes Living Ad



Queen of Memphi
Memphis Cotton Carnival

Wilson Jeter Eason
Husband of Lois Elizabeth Nickey
Birthdate Unknown, Died in 1993
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wilson Eason of Memphis
Studied at Carnegie Institute of Technology
Artistic and Talented Memphis Architect and later officer of Nickey Brothers



Uncle Jeter and his mother



Lois Nickey
and Jeter Eason Wedding
December 6, 1938



Wedding dress first worn by
Martha Dockery McKellar,
mother of Elizabeth Nickey,
when she married Hugh Clinton
McKellar in 1907. Also worn by
Elizabeth in 1938 when she
married Sam Nickey Jr.

Sustainer Profile

Lois Eason

In putting together a profile of **Lois Nickey Eason** (Mrs. Jeter), I found that throughout her life she's been many things to lots of people. They all can come up with different images of this dynamic woman, who is perhaps best known as a nationally (and internationally) recognized horticulturist.

To my mother (**Mary Virginia Capell Miles**), her friend for more years than either would care to admit, she was a partner in crime, hiding in the attic of Lois' parents' house on Goodwyn, dipping their erstwhile snuff, which was actually cinnamon and sugar. Lois was also a ballerina of note; my mother remembers clumping clumsily around the Auditorium stage in the background of a Hutchison dance program while Lois, the star, twirled gracefully *en pointe* at center stage.

The Junior League remembers her as a dedicated worker, committee chairman, and, ultimately, as its president (1949-51). Lois was always an enthusiastic participant in the Follies, and an unofficial reviewer of one of her well-known performances reports that "she was the best scrub-woman you ever saw."

To the Cotton Carnival, she was a tireless volunteer, serving for many years as the chairman of the Children's Ball Committee and the Children's Parade. Any of you who participated in that event in Crump

Stadium in the Fifties have Lois Eason to thank for making your moment as a member of juvenile royalty so much fun.

But it's as a gardener that Lois has gained most fame. Her garden, which she designed and built from scratch, is a magnificent showplace that's home to a myriad of rare plant species, and has been featured in national publications and books. She's always been generous in opening her home and garden to tours and pilgrimages, sharing such treasures as 200 year-old bonsai trees and triple-blossom dogwood trees with the public.

She's been president of the Memphis Garden Club, and received that organization's Norfleet Trophy — the highest trophy awarded. Lois has served as vice-chairman of Zone IX of the Garden Club of America, and received the Horticultural Award of Merit for that area. The crowning achievement in her gardening career came in 1972, when Lois was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal from the Garden Club of America.

To the city of Memphis, Lois is the reason that so many areas of the city are pleasant, green oases. As the first volunteer chairman of the City Beautiful Commission, she began the "Flowering Tree Trail" along East Parkway; began memorial plantings, in which more than 5,000 dogwood and crabapple trees were planted; and encouraged the city in general to pitch in for the beautification effort.

She was instrumental in getting the Goldsmith Civic Garden Center established, and worked with **Jack Goldsmith** toward that end during her tenure on the Park Commission. The finished product reflects her interest in the Orient, with its Japanese garden. Lois is a world traveller, and her heart lies with things Oriental. Her expertise in the arts of bonsai (growing the dwarfed plants of the same name) and ikebana (Japanese flower arranging), and her fabulous collection of jade all attest to that.



Easons to Make Historic Flight on Jet Airliner

By MARY ALLIE TAYLOR, Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

A much-traveled Memphis couple will be passengers when the first American jet airliner crosses the Atlantic.

Lois and Jeter Eason will make the inaugural flight of Pan American World Airways Oct. 26 from New York to Paris.

The former chairman of the City Beautiful Commission and the architect-lumber executive will be among 121 passengers aboard the 600-mile-an-hour Boeing 707 Jet Clipper, when it takes off from Manhattan for the about seven-hour flight to the French capital city.

In January of this year while in New York the Easons, who like travelers all over the world had been reading about the coming of the jet age, went up to the Pan American office on the 44th floor of the Chrysler Building. They saw pictures of the big Jet Clippers, almost half as long as a football field with a tail four stories high; heard about the new kind of passenger comfort in flying "over the weather" at 30,000 to 40,000 feet, and in a living atmosphere of quiet and lack of vibration decorated in an eye-resting color scheme of blue and gray pastels.

They Signed Up

Right then and there they put their names on the list for reservations on the first flight. At that time they were told the jets would probably go in scheduled service in the fall of 1959.

So the other day when a Pan American official called and an-

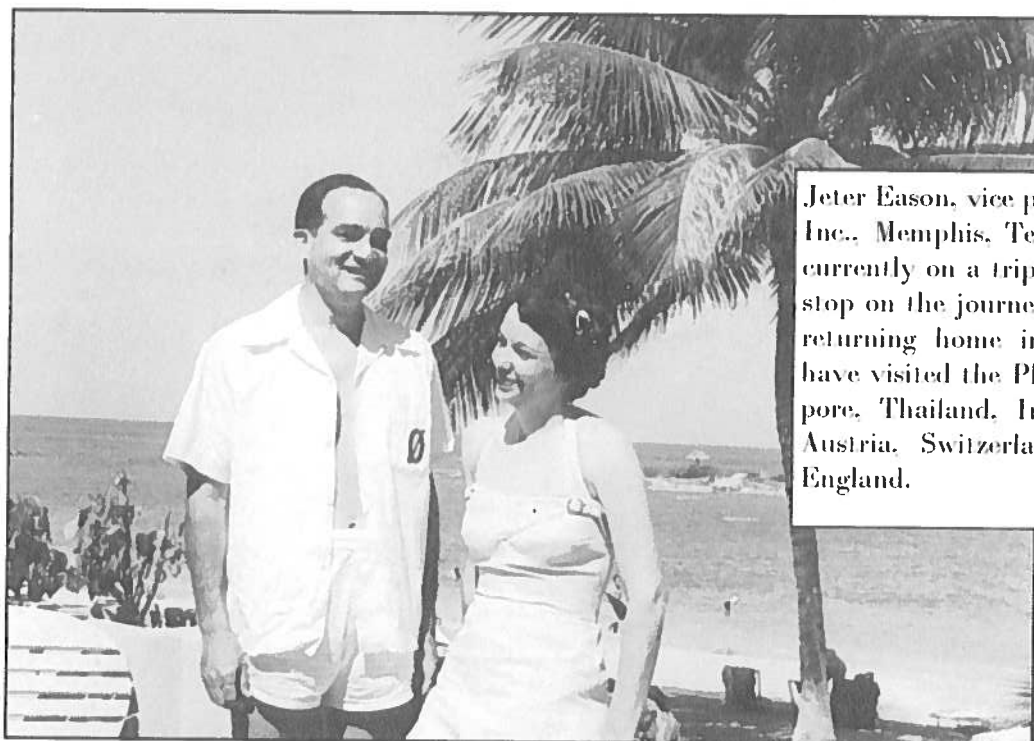
nounced the Oct. 26 date, Jeter cancelled their reservations. He was not ready for a European hop this fall.

That night Lois pointed out that this jet flight would open a new age in transportation, that they would be missing out on history making by not going.

The next day their reservations were reinstated.

Leaving New York that Sunday at 7, New York time, they will be in Paris at 8 Monday morning, Paris time.

Monday, October 13, 1958



Jeter Eason, vice president of Nickey Bros., Inc., Memphis, Tenn., and Mrs. Eason are currently on a trip around the world. First stop on the journey was in Hawaii. Before returning home in June the couple will have visited the Philippines, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, India, Turkey, Lebanon, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, France and England.



Horticulturist Lois Eason sowed her interest near and far

By Chris Conley
The Commercial Appeal

Lois Nickey Eason was an expert on the rare, exotic and beautiful — a devoted collector and grower of flowers and plants.

The noted Memphis horticulturist died of heart failure Thursday at Hillhaven Nursing Home. She was 77.

"She was an all-around horticulturist. . . . She would try any-

thing new," said longtime friend Ellie Harwood.

The daughter of a lumber company owner who traveled in search of lumber sources, Mrs. Eason traveled all over the tropics and South Seas, gaining expertise about rare and exotic plants which she brought back to Memphis.

"She was very creative, and an experienced traveler," said Harwood. Wherever Mrs. Eason and her husband would travel, they would visit the local botanical

garden, Harwood said.

Among her keenest interests were orchids, which she grew in a greenhouse behind her home in Chickasaw Gardens, and bonsai, the Japanese art of growing and tending miniature trees.

"She used to go around the country showing people how to create bonsai," Harwood said. "It's quite an art."

Mrs. Eason took many trips to Japan to further her knowledge of the art form. She also was a charter member of the Bamboo

Chapter of Ikebana International, a Japanese flower arrangement group, and the Memphis Bonsai Society.

Mrs. Eason was the first woman named to the Memphis Park Commission.

Mrs. Eason, whose late husband was an architect, served two years as chairman of the City Beautiful Commission. It was during her stint with the commission that the program of planting flowering trees along the city's parkways was begun.

She was president of the trustees of Memphis College of Art, president of the Memphis Garden Club and received the Distinguished Service Medal, Cornell Medal and the Horticulture Award of Merit from the Garden Club of America.

As a member of the Rare Plant Group of the Garden Club of America, she was chairman of its forum held in Memphis in 1966.

Mrs. Eason served as a horticulture and flower arrangement

judge for the Garden Club of America.

She also was president of the Junior League of Memphis, a member of the Dilettantes and the Memphis Woman's Club.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. today at St. John's Cemetery. Memphis Funeral Home Poplar Chapel has charge.

Mrs. Eason was the widow of W. Jeter Eason. The family requests that any memorials be sent to Memphis Botanic Garden.

Christian Balsley, Gunsmith

Excerpts from the Biography of Christian Balsle (Balsley) written by Ella Metsker Milligan. Christian was the father of Anna Catherine Balsley, wife of Samuel Nickey I. He served in the Revolutionary War for eight years and fired the first shot at the Battle of Long Island.

CHRISTIAN BALSLE, GUNSMITH

This dashing ancestor is best remembered because of his record as a soldier in the American War for Independence. He also is noteworthy as having contracted a happy marriage, near the close of the War, with the daughter of the wealthy Michael Keinadt and Margaret Diller, thus allying himself with two of the most substantial families of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; evidence that this gunsmith had a keen eye and a steady hand in other things as well as in the use of a rifle.

It is stated in the history of the Keinadt-Diller family that Christian Balsle was a native of Switzerland. It is also a matter of record in this history that he had two brothers, Peter and Jacob, and a sister Elizabeth. That they were residing in Lancaster County at the beginning of the Conflict with England is evidenced by Christian and Peter enlisting at once in the Pennsylvania Colonial Militia of that County.

The following excerpts, written by a Britisher, make one feel more keenly the dash and brilliance of the American Colonial Troops in this notable War, than if by an American. Says David Hannay, author of this article; "From a military standpoint, as well as politically, it (War For Independence) was a conspicuous and instructive conflict, - conspicuous, or even unique, as being the most famous struggle in history where colonial dependencies defeated their powerful parent state; and instructive as presenting exceptional conditions, and consequent errors in the attempt to break down the revolt. The reasons for Great Britain's failure appear in the progress of the War which assumed two distinct stages, the operations in the north, followed by the operations in the south." "To strike at the rebellion first in the north was natural and inevitable. To King George and his Ministry, Massachusetts seemed the head and front of opposition to the Colonial policy, and there coercion should be first applied!"

The skirmish at Lexington and Concord, April 19, 1775, opened the eyes of the British Regulars

to the unusual in this conflict. In the Colonies it served to rouse all the sympathetic Whigs to action. The second Continental Congress was called, George Washington was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Colonial Troops, and steps were taken to enlist and train militia in all of the Colonies. In the meantime the bloody battle of Bunker Hill followed, the New England continental forces bottled up Howe in Boston, and the Home Government sent ships, 10,000 regulars, and four of their ablest Generals to meet the situation. In March 1776 Howe evacuated Boston and sailed away to Halifax to make ready for a fresh start. Thus ended the first year of this War. The campaign of the second year centered around New York. Quoting Mr. David Hannay further: "To the home government the purely military problem ---- still seemed to admit of a simple solution, namely to strike hard where the rebellion was most active and capable of the longest resistance ----- As much more than one-half of the population and resources of the colonists lay north of Chesapeake Bay - it was only a question as to what point in this area should be made the future base of operations. Gen. Howe, Burgoyne, and others decided to shift the field and trench to New York thus splitting the Colonies." But General Washington anticipating this, preceded them in this field and entrenched strongly beyond the village of Brooklyn back of Brooklyn Heights, on Long Island, and otherwise fortified New York. At this point in the Campaign of the second year the Pennsylvania Militiamen first entered the War, and at this point Christian Balsle and his brother Peter of Lancaster County first saw service.

On the 23rd of August Howe entered the Narrows and crossed to Long Island with forces now increased to 20,000 men. He reconnoitred several days. The Colonial Troops, who had established a number of outposts in front of their main entrenchments, believed the British afraid to come into open conflict. At this point, on August 27th, 1776, the commander of the outpost in which Christian Balsle was stationed ordered "his Swiss" to fire a few well directed shots into the camp of the enemy to draw them from cover. Christian, who was expert with the rifle did as bidden, not wisely, but too well. These were the shots that precipitated the Battle of Long Island. Howe drove the Americans into their Brooklyn works, and captured about 1400 prisoners. Among them was Peter, the brother of Christian. Had Gen. Howe followed up immediately his advantage at this point, he had completely annihilated the American Army. But, he waited for fair weather, and meantime the agile George Washington collected boats, all the water conveyances to be had along the coast including Glover and his fishing-smacks from Gloucester. August 29th under

cover of fog and darkness of night he got his men out of Long Island, and across the Hudson River, the sharp-shooter Christian Balsle among them. His brother Peter was confined in prison ships along the Connecticut shore, foul rotting hulks, in which the prisoners suffered every deprivation. "They were improperly fed and were allowed to remain almost naked. Their sufferings were fearful, they became emaciated in body until they were truly said to resemble 'walking corpses'. British cruelty never exhibited itself in a more inhuman form." Peter Balsle was fed bread mixed with lime, which caused his death.

The part played by this William Tell of Family tradition is verified by the historical narrative in Mather's "Refugees of 1776 from Long Island to Connecticut," in an account of the incidents of the "series of unconnected skirmishes" called the Battle of Long Island. "Under Stirling", he says, "was Colonel Kachlein's Pennsylvanians, with other troops," and that, "being in command of the front works, Stirling 'annoyed' the British and did rouse them to action. He withstood their spirited attack well until, late in the day, he found himself surrounded by a flank movement of the Hessians in the British service. Stirling's troops were held at bay right at the corner of 5th Avenue and 4th Street (now), Brooklyn, where many of his men fell and others were drowned trying to escape across the Creek (near 8th and 9th Streets) and the remainder, including Stirling, were captured."

The ready military service of this young "foreigner" to the Cause of the Americans in a mood of revolt is proof prima facie that he was not of the Faith of the Swiss Colony often called German Quakers, who settled Bern (Berne, Switzerland?) Township, then in Lancaster, now in Lebanon County, nor of the Group of Pietists who built the Cloisters at Ephrata. Granted that when he came to Penn's Province he may have drifted first to these centers of his people, yet he must have drifted back again, soon, to the County-town of Lancaster. He was a city-man by taste and trade. He was of the next generation younger than the Builders of Ephrata, or the Agriculturists of Lebanon. Born in Switzerland in 1753, here he was, at 22, firing the shot at Long Island which drew the British from Cover and precipitated that gallant though foolhardy fight. Early his hand-craft held him aloof from early religious scruples, and gave him a zest for military exploit.

His later religious, social, and economic life seems to be built on the contacts he made during his enlistment with the Pennsylvanians in the American War for Independence.

In one Company or another of the Lancaster County Militia were three brothers, the three oldest sons of Michael Keinadt and Margaret Diller, his young wife, daughter of Casper and Barbara Diller of New Holland. First George Adam, eldest of the sons, enlisted. Then Conrad, second. George Michael Keinadt followed, scarcely 18, the picture of his father, dark-eyed, arching forehead, aquiline nose, medium height, born a British subject, yet a mere lad eager to be in the army of the Great General George. Next these three brothers, was born to Michael and Margaret Keinadt a daughter, Elizabeth, (Betty), born about 1760. After Betty came Mary, born 1762. By 1777 when the War had opened in good earnest, Betty Keinadt was ready for Boarding School, and Mary, too. The English grandmother, Barbara, and the mother Margaret were deeply concerned that the girls should be English in speech and manner and lack no accomplishment of their day. Margaret the young mother discussed with her Lutheran husband three schools: the Moravian Girls' Seminary at Bethlehem; the excellent Linden Hall at Lititz in their own County; and lastly, the one she had herself attended, the Reformed Church girls' school at Glenwood Hall, less than 20 miles from Philadelphia. Michael, the father well remembered how he had met Margaret, the school-girl, at Pottstown, where he was directing the Forge and the Ironworks, and where Margaret came, on horseback, to catch the Stage down to Glenwood Hall. Love at first sight had broken off her school days, and his bride of sixteen had allied him with one of the most well-to-do English speaking "foreign" families in Lancaster County. So, secretly romantic yet, Michael and Margaret decided that the young daughters should continue where Margaret had left off - at Glenwood Hall. Here would be gay school life, near the City, near Loveland Hall, school for boys, beautiful landscape, and interesting daily life, but for the War, the needs of the soldiers, wintering now at Valley Forge, so near, so many soldiers sick, and cold, and barefoot. The lessons in singing were short. The reading of English literature curtailed. The hours for dancing, or for meditation, were turned into time allotted to serve their Country, also. Hours spent in picking the soft white lint from old muslin, lint to stop the bleeding wounds

of soldiers, hours of knitting warm socks for cold soldiers' feet, hours of rolling bandages for the hospital camps.

In the same spirit, what spreads were made when George Adam, or Conrad, or George Michael could come over to Glenwood for an evening's visit with their sisters, Betty and Mary. And could they not introduce their young Swiss friend Christian Balsle? Naturally, yes, and so the social life of Christian began in America. After Howe evacuated Philadelphia, in June, 1778, once more the gaiety of the City was shared with American troops. That winter the Keinadt sisters were invited to spend the Christmas holidays with a schoolmate who lived in Philadelphia. The Keinadt boys and C. Balsle managed to be in the City too. At the Holiday Ball which was given, all appeared in their new uniforms just adopted by the Continental Congress, ground blue with vests and overalls of white, revers and facings of red for the Pennsylvanian troops, tricorne with a binding of red. What fine dancing partners, the Keinadts. And the tall and slender, jocular and witty Swiss, Christian, was the lion of the evening.

But, however, the finances of the American Army were demoralized. The winter of 1778-79, at Morristown, was cruel for the soldiers. At New Holland, Casper Diller and Barbara were growing very, very old, and desired that their granddaughter, Elizabeth, should leave school, and come to them to manage their house and servants. The father Michael and his good wife Margaret with their younger family had moved up the Susquehanna, had crossed over at Harris' ferry, and had pushed on to Shippensburg and Yellow Breeches Creek where they bought several farms in Culbertson's Row, thus removed from their parents, and from New Holland a week's journey, at this cost thus doubling their wealth.

A second time, the Pennsylvania troops wintered in huts at Morristown, 1779-80. Although the winter had been bitter, the Spring opened with brighter prospects for the soldiers. LaFayette had secured a fleet from France, and pecuniary aid for the Colonial Government. The soldiers' supplies were in better shape through General Greene as Quartermaster. The soldiers' pay was guaranteed in specie by Robert Morris. Things were looking up. Christian Balsle had been made Ensign of his Company. With this advance, he journeyed over to New Holland to persuade Elizabeth Keinadt to marry him, which she did. There was no waiting to consult Michael and Margaret by letter, a week's journey there, and longer, back. The ambitious, the stubborn Lutheran, the lordly Michael, may well be thought

to have pouted, to have stormed, and to have washed his hands of the hasty affair.

Christian took his bride to the home-town of his Captain, Andrew Ream, and the Reamstown Boys, gallant soldier friends of his - to the snug village of Reamstown. After his honeymoon was ended, and he must join his Company, he left her established where she could, by horseback, quickly still attend on her sick grandmother, at New Holland in case she was needed.

Again the Pennsylvania Battalions spent the winter stationed near Morristown - the winter of 1780-81. They were neglected by Congress, and had cause of complaint because of controversy over the term of enlistment which in many cases had expired. On the first of January, 1781, thirteen hundred Pennsylvania troops left the camp at Morristown under arms and set off for Philadelphia, to obtain redress from Congress. General Wayne, their commander, placed himself in front of them, and pistol in hand, attempted to stop their march. In an instant their bayonets were at his breast; up spoke their leader, "the Swiss" Ensign Balsle, "We love you, we respect you, but you are a dead man if you fire". "Aye, Aye", from thirteen hundred throats. "Do not mistake us; we are not going to the enemy; were they now to come out you would see us fight under your orders, with as much resolution as ever". "They halted at Princeton, where they were met by the agents of Sir Henry Clinton, who endeavored to induce them to join the British service. They promptly seized these men and delivered them up to General Wayne as spies. At a later period it was proposed to reward them for this action, but they refused to accept anything, saying; 'We ask no reward for doing our duty to our country.' Congress was greatly alarmed by the approach of these troops, and a committee, accompanied by Reed, the president of Pennsylvania, was sent to meet them. The committee met the leaders of the mutineers, and agreed to relieve their immediate wants, and to secure them their back pay by means of certificates. Permission was given to all who had served three years to withdraw from the army. Upon these conditions the troops returned to duty."

A month later, leave was granted to Ensign C. Balsle, - three months, - to visit his young wife at Reamstown. When he returned to his Company it was as a proud father, parent to a love-child, destined later to ride the crest of the tide of emigration Westward. He delayed for the christening in the village Reformed Church, and named his daughter "Anna Catherine" for her grandmother in Switzerland. With the blooming of the dogwood life began anew, for Christian and for Elizabeth, in Camp and in Cottage.

(Page missing in original document—paraphrased from another source)

At the close of the War, Christian seems to have been still stationed at the pleasant Pennsylvania village of Reamstown, but as he was mustered out of military service for his country, he was transferred into its technical service, the skill and knowledge of his craft being needed in the important military base at Reading, pioneer in the iron industry, where the cannons were produced for the Continental Army and which town was to retain the supremacy in the manufacture of ordnance for one hundred years.

To this new home and life Ensign Balsley took his wife and child. Reading was founded by the sons of William Penn, Thomas and Richard. Chosen, no doubt, for its scenic beauty and delightful climate, this estate embraced the upper Schuylkill River and Tulpehocken Creek in the Blue Ridge Mountains. These Englishmen, sons of the Great Founder, had brought into this town of Reading and its vicinity the English type of Georgian architecture modified by the Welsh stone work in walls and fireplaces, which may be seen today, still, in hundreds of houses in this district.

In some such home as this the little Anna Catherine spent her girlhood, except the years when her parents entrusted her to the school of the Swiss Sisters in the Cloisters at Ephrata; though only twenty miles away, yet a day's journey as traveling was then. Here the wooden pillows of the Sisters were softened to the tender heads and shoulders of the children in their "Kloster School." The tender minds and hands were trained in the fine arts of music,

embroidery, lace-making and cookery. On the Holy Saturday they attended the high service in the Great Saal, and shared in the fragrant meals served from the huge kettles to the Gemein assembled from the country for miles around.

But another center of the iron industry seemed to be calling Christian Balsley, particularly so since his wife's family had removed to Cumberland County where now resided Conrad, her brother, his army chum, and George Adam, his wife's favorite brother. Their letters came postmarked "Carlilse," and the letters persisted in reciting the opportunities developing, there, in the iron industry, and in the cultural quality of the people. The letters said: 'Here are six or seven furnaces, a large rolling-mill, and several forges; Carlilse is on the turn-pike from Harrisburg to Pittsburg; and on the Public Square, alone, are four churches.' 'In 1783', the letters said, 'a college was founded here, and named for John Dickenson, who signed the Declaration of Independence. Reverend Charles Nisbet, D.D. has come from Montrose, Scotland, to be its President. Your daughter, Anna Catherine, and your other children, may get a fine education here, right at home under their mother's care.' (*)

To please his wife Christian sought, and obtained, the management of a chain of forges at Carlilse. Thereupon in the summer of 1792, the Balsleys established themselves in the town of Carlilse, whose citizens were 'noted for their intelligence and orderly habits; residence of a circle of distinguished professional men attached to the college and the army, and to the different professions, who impart an elevated tone to the society of the place.'

The U. S. Barracks, located here, furnished a set of military men in whom Christian found a common meeting ground. Shortly after he had established himself here, the Whiskey Rebellion broke out and his great General, George Washington, now President of the United States, made headquarters in Carlilse, until the matter was

Dickinson College and Institute - 1783: The original Charter granted by the Legislature reads: "that in memory of the great and important services rendered to his country by his Excellency, John Dickinson, Esq., President of the Supreme Executive Council, and in commemoration of his very liberal donation to the institution, the said college shall be forever hereafter called and known by the name of Dickinson College."

settled. This was a thrilling week for the soldier who had fired the first shot at the Battle of Long Island, and who had served in the Revolutionary War for eight years. A thrilling week, too, for his daughter, Anna Catherine, now a girl of twelve.

Carlisle, as well as Reading, reflected the social and commercial life of Philadelphia, which during this period was the metropolis of the new Republic, and lavish in gaiety and good-living, altogether the most sumptuous city of the thirteen States. In this atmosphere of culture Anna Catherine lived and developed into womanhood in College, Church, Sports, making, and keeping friends. But

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Now of necessity, she learned to live in the saddle. Of necessity the dimities, the silks, the 'sundowns' and quilted satin coats were replaced by riding skirts of heavy sturdy cottons or alpacas, by redingotes and caps or snug hoods, by furs, and thick gloves. Now for the first time, she came to know and love her grandmother, Margaret Diller, the occasional week in the lower Valley at the Keinadt homestead and the Keinadt Lutheran Church, so much a part of it, were her only social events except the journeys to Staunton for shopping when she was a guest of the daughters of General Porterfield and had a taste of Virginia social life.

Anna may have spun, may have spent days at the loom, but chief of her interests were the classes of her younger brothers and sisters and of the little children of her father's hired hands which met in her mother's house daily to do their lessons and to learn to sing. All the beauty and art of her earlier cultural opportunities were now visited upon these little pioneer youngsters.

In time the substantial house, styled a Swiss chalet, was built, and social invitations could be extended for an outing or a hunt in the forest. On one of these occasions the Porterfield girls brought, in their party, a youngish man from Woodstock, a Dr. Samuel Nickey, who had lately settled there on Middle River, coming from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He was interesting, not too young, (in fact, a widower) whose father, John Nickey had been surgeon to the 3rd Battalion of Lancaster County troops in the War, and a part of the medical Corps of General James Hand of Lancaster town. This common background with Catherine's father made him an acceptable guest, at once. Out of this visit, by Dr. Nickey, developed a series in rapid succession, so that on New Year's Day 1806, the Swiss Chalet on the slopes of the Blue Ridge put on an aspect of great hospitality to celebrate the marriage of Anna Catherine to the son of an army-friend of her father.

The life of Anna Catherine Balsley is continued in *The Daughter of a Revolutionary Soldier*, much of which is quoted from Ella Milligan's biography of Christian Balsley and consequently redundant.

The Daughter of a Revolutionary Soldier

Tribute to Anna Catherine Balsley read at the unveiling of a bronze tablet honoring her by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1929 at the pioneer graveyard in Whitley County, Indiana

THE DAUGHTER OF A REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER
(Carrying on the story of Samuel Nickey)

On a Sunday afternoon, late in September, 1929, in the long-forsaken burying-ground of old Concord there had gathered an unusual assemblage of people. This pioneer grave-yard of Northeastern Indiana is in Smith Township of Whitley County, lying six miles east of Columbia City, the county-seat. The visitors on this Sunday afternoon were the members of the Columbia City Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and, in addition, descendants of Anna Catherine Balsley, wife of Samuel Nickey, even to great, great, great grandchildren residing in the Community.

They had met to unveil a bronz tablet, which had been placed on her grayed tombstone, recalling that she was the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. The stars and stripes covered her headstone, and flags marked the graves of two of her sons, Jacob, and Henry, and of a grandson, Austin, all near by. A slender youth, a great, great, great grandson, sounded reveille with his clarinet, and then played the air, "The Star-Spangled Banner." The leading attorney of Columbia City followed with an address, appreciative of the Revolutionary Soldiers and of the Pioneers who had extended the Nation across the Continent. Two sweet young great, great, great granddaughters then drew aside the flags covering the marker, whereupon the following account of Anna Catherine Balsloy-Nickey's life was read:

ANNA CATHERINE BALSLEY, wife of SAMUEL NICKEY I

"The woman honored here, today, was the daughter and eldest-born of Christian Balsley, Ensign of the 2nd Company, 3rd Battalion, Lancaster County Militia, Pennsylvania.* He was in the service of the Colony from

* He was born May 1, 1750, in Lancaster (now Lehigh) Co. Penna.

He was the son of Peter Baltzli and his wife, Elizabeth Gessler both of Switzerland, who had settled in Pennsylvania, 1754.

June, 1775 to December, 1782, according to the Pennsylvania Archives. At the outbreak of hostilities with the Mother Country, he brought to the Colony the Swiss love of liberty, and enrolled immediately in the first muster of troops in Lancaster County. He brought to the Colony, also, an expert training in fire arms, being by trade a gunsmith, and expert with the rifle. He participated actively in the Campaign of Washington around New York, and in the subsequent Jersey campaigns. Activity in the Middle Colonies ceased in 1780, as Gen. Clinton and Lord Cornwallis moved their attack to the Carolinas. Washington called the Maryland line and the Southern troops to meet this manœuvre, leaving the Pennsylvanians to hold their own territory. In this lull of actual hostilities Christian Balsley, now promoted to Ensign of his Company, found time to court and marry a debutante daughter of two of the most well-to-do families of Lancaster County, none other than Elizabeth Keinadt, daughter of Michael Keinadt and Margaret Diller, and granddaughter of the then late well-known Casper Diller of New Holland, and Barbara Diller, his wife.

Of this romantic marriage the first-born was his daughter, Anna Catherine, whose birth in May, 1791, we celebrate, today, with this bronze marker, near one hundred fifty years later.

At the close of the War, Christian seems to have been still stationed at the pleasant Pennsylvania village of Reamstown, but as he was mustered out of military service for his Country, he was transferred into its technical service, the skill and knowledge of his craft being needed in the important military base at Reading, pioneer in the iron industry, where the cannon were produced for the Continental Army and which town was to retain the supremacy in the manufacture of ordnance for one hundred years.

To this new home and new life Ensign Balsley took his wife and child. Reading was founded by the sons of William Penn, Thomas and Richard. Chosen,

no doubt, for its scenic beauty and delightful climate, this estate embraces the upper Schuylkill River and Tulpehooken Creek in the Blue Ridge Mountains. These Englishmen, sons of the Great Founder, had brought into this town of Reading and its vicinity the English type of Georgian architecture modified by the Welsh stone work in walls and fireplaces, which may be seen today, still, in hundreds of houses in this district.

In some such home as this the little Anna Catherine spent her girlhood, except the years when her parents entrusted her to the school of the Swiss Sisters in the Cloisters at Ephrata; though only twenty miles away, yet a day's journey as traveling was then. Here the wooden pillows of the Sisters were softened to the tender heads and shoulders of the children in their "Kloster School." The tender minds and hands were trained in the fine arts of music, embroidery, lace-making and cookery. On the Holy Saturday they attended the high service in the Great Saal, and shared in the fragrant meals served from the huge kettles to the Gemein assembled from the country for miles around.

But another center of the iron industry seemed to be calling Christian Balsley, particularly so since his wife's family had removed to Cumberland County where now resided Conrad, her brother, his army ohum, and George Adam, his wife's favorite brother. Their letters came postmarked "Carlilse," and the letters persisted in reciting the opportunities developing, there, in the iron industry; and they spoke of its cultivated people. The letters said: 'Here are six or seven furnaces, a large rolling-mill, and several forges; Carlilse is on the turn-pike from Harrisburg to Pittsburg; and on the Public Square, alone, are four churches.' 'In 1783,' the letters said, 'a college was founded here, and named for John Dickinson, who signed the Declaration of Independence. Reverend Charles Nisbet, D.D. has come from Montrose, Sootland, to be its President. Your daughter, Anna Catherine, and your other children, may get a fine education here, right at home under

their mother's care.' (#)

To please his wife, Christian sought, and obtained, the management of a chain of forges at Carlilse. Thereupon in the summer of 1792, the Balsleys established themselves in the town of Carlilse, whose citizens were 'noted for their intelligence and orderly habits; residence of a circle of distinguished professional men attached to the college and the army, and to the different professions, who impart an elevated tone to the society of the place.'

The United States Barracks, located here, furnished a set of military men in whom Christian found a common meeting ground. Shortly after he had established himself here, the Whiskey Rebellion broke out and his great General, George Washington, now President of the United States, made headquarters in Carlilse, until the matter was settled. This was a thrilling week for the soldier who had fired the first shot at the Battle of Long Island, and who had served in the Revolutionary War for eight years. A thrilling week, too, for his daughter, Anna Catherine, now a girl of twelve.

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(#) Dickinson College and Institute - 1783: The original Charter granted by the Legislature reads:

"that in memory of the great and important services rendered to his country by his Excellency, John Dickinson, Esq., President of the Supreme Executive Council, and in commemoration of his very liberal donation to the institution, and said college shall be forever hereaft called and known by the name of Dickinson College."

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For this celebration the Keinadt kinsmen, on the lower edge of the County, laden with heirlooms and with useful things for the future, made the journey in great state to honor the bride and groom. The General Porterfield family added a military touch and the aristocratic atmosphere of Virginia society. Gowned in stiff white silk with high waist, girdled under the bust, low neck and puff sleeves, the bride's ruddy complexion, lustrous gray eyes and walnut-brown hair glinting with the copper of her grandmother's red-head, seemed brilliantly beautiful. The eager groom, quite professional, was clad in gray silk breeches and hose, short red 'weskit', black out-a-way frock coat and tall black silk hat.

Of the feast, there was wild game, and tame. Swiss entrees and cheeses, pastries, and cordials, served with German lavishness. Drinking? Army men 'kept their jug,' and physicians prescribed 'stimulants' as well as enjoyed them.

The infare journey was planned to begin early the following morning. But the preparations were a matter of considerable care---first the heavy wagon drawn by two strong horses must be loaded with the hair-covered trunks containing the trousseau, the barrels of dishes and gifts, and the 'melodeon' which Anna had purchased of her own income. The breakfast, a stout meal against a long tedious day's ride, must be put on for guests and family as well as bride and groom. Now the colored hostlers are leading up the restless riding horses, and holding them ready for the mounting of the departing cavalcade. Farewells and good wishes are repeated, while

a hunter's horn sounds out as the train winds down the slopes and a burst of shots from the numerous rifles of the Chalet make a farewell salute.

The infare of Anna Catherine Balsley into her station as wife of Dr. Samuel Nickey closed one period of twenty-five years in her life and opened another. Now she dwelt in the midst of her mother's kinsmen, and with her husband became a communicant of the Keinadt family Lutheran Church. Here her first child was christened David, honoring the paternal grandfather. When Margaret Diller Keinadt was laid in her grave by that of Michael, Anna Catherine, looked for the last time on her beloved grandmother, whose dignity had meant so much to her. The War of 1812 called her husband to its service, and, although the short duration of this conflict exacted no toll of blood, yet, by the same token, it became a service financially disastrous to the ambitious Samuel. For, with his wife's approval, and on the advice of her father, Christian Balsley, erstwhile gun smith in the Government service, Dr. Nickey had invested heavily in the manufacture of ammunition, which risk became a total loss.

at the close of the War of 1812, the Nickeys settled in Staunton for some years. Later they purchased a farm carved out of the domain of Christian Balsley, and on this farm, surrounded by his interesting family of sons and daughters, Dr. Nickey ended his days and passed from them, in February of 1832. His sons carried him down the slopes of the Blue Ridge and laid him in the burying-ground at the Keinadt Church.

This bereavement closed the second period of Anna Catherine's life, now a widow at fifty, although ten lively patterns of her husband, their father, remained to comfort her. Hardly would she have accepted the twentieth century caption, 'Life begins at forty', but, at least, nineteenth century women had ceased to be decrepit derelicts at fifty. With ten children looking into the future, but one course of action remained for her, and her generalship was demanded.

The Shenandoah Valley was populated in 1832. The forests had been removed. The famous river was mantled with wide-reaching farms to the

very tip of all of its branches. Orchards of apple and peach were rose with bloom in Spring and red with fruit in Autumn. Elegant and roomy brick mansions had replaced the early pioneer houses. Architectural blends of the Pennsylvania and Virginia Colonial developed a style peculiar to the Shenandoah, of great beauty, a style so traceable now wherever the children of these establishments migrated in the National Domain to find new Valleys to conquer. These red brick, white trimmed, green-shuttered farm houses were teeming with well-brought up families, but the acres that had produced both had also increased in their value a hundred-fold. Cheap land for development by the young generation must be sought elsewhere, and at this stage of the Nation's history those lands were opened in Ohio, and beyond the Wabash. To these, then, Anna Catherine must lead the way with her Nickey Clan, now marriageable, or just married.

With keen and clear decision inherited from her soldier father Anna Catherine turned the eyes of her family to the Northwest Territory. With unanimity preparations were made, and in the early autumn of the same year the migration was begun. The Queen Bee led her young swarm down the beautiful Valley of the Shenandoah, down toward the well-known ferry at Oldtown, on the Potomac. Here the friends, who had come along a piece, said farewell, and turned the heads of their horses back, back to Staunton. But the Nickey Clan when across the upper Potomac, followed trails now well marked, into the West, on to the Ohio's gathering waters, trails used by Braddock and George Washington, and frequented daily now by homeseekers moving into the new Territory.

It is not written down whether they crossed the Ohio at Wheeling, or above Wheeling, but the Nickey Cavalcade ferried over, and then, facing still the setting sun soon rested their herd of cattle, their weary teams of horses, their own strenuous daily travel and routine procedure. In the new lands above Chillicothe, on the picturesque Paint Creek, they settled to begin again, in what is now Ross County, Ohio.

Whatever opportunities the Public Domain afforded her, it is evident

that advertisements called their attention to much better, on the Maumee and Upper Wabash in Indiana. In this Ohio County, in advance of the cavalcade from the Great Valley Virginia was a young Irishman, Francis Tulley, the sweetheart of Mary Ann, tall and sedate eldest daughter of the Nickey family. Under the lure of these new opportunities offered by the Government, these young lovers made a romantic plan. Their honey-moon should be the two-week's journey to the land-office at Fort Wayne, their first business venture in common, the selection of their own lands in the forests on Eel River, upper tributary of the Wabash, very heart of the realm of the Miami Indians.

This honeymoon, as dreamed by the young Francis Tulley and his dauntless fiancée, was carried through in the Spring of 1834. The land they purchased lies just across this highway here to the East. The log house they built, almost a hundred years ago, became a civic center for the settlers who followed in the next few years.

The contagion of this adventure caught the entire Nickey Clan. In the very same year, David, Samuel, and Jacob married belles of Ross County and thought of following their sister Mary Ann. The queen mother Anna Catharine instead of laying down her role of leader again ordered the Conestoga wagons to be spread with their canopies of white, the mahogany bureaus and tables to be swathed with padding, the art treasurer of weaving, silver, pewter and glass to be packed in chests and barrels. Poised for the second flight, she took her place at the head of the van, and led her family to the scene of the new empire they were to build, later to be named Whitley County, Indiana.

In the midst of her family, soon united again in a community of farms, she prompted or abetted their religious and educational enterprises, enjoyed their children, and gradually let go of life as age crept on.

From this gravelly eminence on the bank of Eel River, dedicated by the Communicants of two Churches once making this Cross-Roads a Community

Center, and named 'Concord,' you, who have assembled here, today, standing among the graves of pioneers, and honoring Anna Catherine Balsley-Nickey as a leader among them,--you may look to the East, to the West, to the North, and see the homesteads of this Nickey Clan, pioneers here in 1834 and 1836. Across the highway from this spot stood the Methodist Episcopal Church built by an organization made in the cabin of Samuel Nickey, with his mother as promoter; they first built a log church here, succeeded by a frame building in 1861. On the corner diagonally opposite, Jacob Nickey in 1848 built a frame church-house dedicated to the United Brethren in Christ. This Religious Center of Smith Township for half a century was, also, the center of social life, the marriages, the burials, the singing schools, the picnics, and the political rallies and Campaign speeches.

Within view of this corner was the first school house, a school started in the kitchen of Mary Ann Nickey-Tulley. The second school house was on the farm of Jacob Nickey, whose daughter Rose Nickey was the first school-mistress in the County.

The name, Nickey, studs the pages of history in Whitley County, in which they shared responsibility of development, government, and education in an outstanding way. The Clan, over which Anna Catherine Balsley-Nickey ruled, built here, in this fertile Valley of Eel River, a replica of the Shenandoah. Here, if you will but look, in any direction, bathed in the Indian summer haze, you will see a fine rolling landscape, farms dotted with grazing herds, apple and peach orchards, stretches of woodland on the horizon. In the foreground evergreen trees, imported from distant states, tower above roofs of red brick mansions, white trimmed, green shuttered, eaves and front porches peculiar to the Shenandoah Valley---achievements these pioneers left to posterity when they were placed in the consecrated ground at your feet.

Thirty years, of widowhood, marked by intelligent leadership, and lack of fear, in guiding the destinies of her children, crowned the life

of Anna Catherine Balsley-Nickey. Tenacious of the amenities of life, of strong convictions, religious temperament, clannish, she set a pace that has left its mark on this great State of the middle-west, and she was, in character, as well as fact, the daughter of a Revolutionary Soldier.

