

THE BOYER FARM—KUNKLE'S GROVE

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ANDREAS BOYER, born February 2, 1681, in Ebstein, Palatinate, Germany, emigrated to America with his four sons in the ship named the "Winter Galley."

Mrs. Boyer, the wife of Andreas Boyer, died in their native land before the rest of the family sailed for their new place of living. They landed on September 5, 1738, at Philadelphia, Pa., and settled in Berne Township, Berks Co., Pa. The boys' names were John Philip, John Jacob, Philip and Martin. After being located in Berne Township for several years the boys immigrated to other parts of the state. One of them, John Jacob, who was born in 1716 in Ebstein, followed the Lehigh River up stream until he reached Lehigh Gap and the Aquashicola Creek. This territory, with its vast forests and fertile lowlands, though inhabited by several Indian Tribes, looked promising to him. He followed up the Creek about three miles where he chose, what he thought and what his descendants realized to be, the garden spot of the Aquashicola Valley. He immediately started to hew trees and built a small log house, also commenced to clear land and farm it. This tract or piece of woodland, that took years of hard labor to clear and put in a tillable condition with no improved tools or implements, but rather working with tools that were made from timber that he hewed and many a day working with a tool in one hand and his flint lock gun in the other to protect himself and family against the savage Indians and the wild animals, is included in the tract of land known to us as the Buck and Ziegenfus farm. To bound it more closely: the road from the Public road to Kunkle's Grove passes directly over it to the Aquashicola Creek, where the log house was built by the Pioneer.

Mr. Boyer had three children, Catherine, Dorothea and Frederick and in their meager and lowly home they thrived nicely, considering the hardships and handicaps they had to contend with both day and night and without any protection but their own.

In the Spring of 1758, the exact date is not available, the father was plowing with a mole-plow, that was made entirely out of wood, including the shoe, a short distance away from the house and there were no signs of any Indians being around. He was working joyfully and possibly thinking of the future and what reward he and his faithful wife might expect in raising the family according to their religious fervor, which meant then and means to-day the "Golden Rule." He also always had in mind to build a community, improve the environments and some day have a free country when they would have a voice in a government that would be made by the people and for the people. The Indians had no fire arms at that time, but their deadly weapon of war was a bow and flint stone arrow heads. These arrow heads were made from the native stone and in this locality. Places where they were manufactured were discovered by the early settlers. Many of the arrow heads have been found and are still being found in the fields along the Stony Ridge which helps to form the beautiful Aquashicola Valley and runs parallel with the Blue Ridge Mountain.

The Indians were very efficient in this method of destruction and knowing every rock, cliff, ravine, rivulet and tree they had all advantages in exterminating their white neighbors. While toiling he was attacked and shot with an arrow head that struck and lodged in his right temple not killing him immediately, but was murdered by scalping him alive. This scalping was not done with the idea of being a trophy or expecting a

reward from their chief, but it was done because he had red hair. The savages had no mercy for people with red hair.

The mother and the three children witnessed the attack and saw the torturing of the husband and father. They were taken captives, the mother was never seen again by her children nor by any of the relations that had settled in other localities. The three children were marched to Canada. There is no more record of Catherine. The writer is unable to get any clue as to what happened to this girl. The three children were parted and both Dorothea and Frederick could not locate or find out their sister's destiny.

Dorothea, the other sister, was married to an Indian Chief and was highly honored. She came back to visit her brother Frederick once with her two little Indian boys, but being away from the old homestead for a number of years and being accustomed to the Indian ways of living, so much thought of by her husband and the tribe and remaining faithful to her marital vows, she decided to return and was never seen again by any of her descendants. Her being highly honored is proven by the fact that her high moral standard and industrial raising had its influence upon her husband and tribe to such an extent that after her death her husband and his tribe erected a large monument over

her grave with the inscription "Dorothea The White Queen."

Frederick, the brother, remained a prisoner for approximately five years. He was taken to Philadelphia, Pa., and exchanged for a captive Indian. During his five years of captivity he had varied experiences, some humorous and some very sad ones. He, as could be expected, at once started and found his way back to his father's farm, finding the buildings intact, but a sorrowful homecoming and no one to greet him. After being on the farm for a while, he was married and raised a family with the same instilled enthusiasm for better environments and a free and better country.

When the call came for volunteers to gain the American freedom and to maintain its defense, he enlisted as a private in Captain George Nolf's Company, Northampton County Associates. During his time of service he was advanced to a Captain and was mustered out, only after the surrender of General Cornwallis, the British General to General Washington in 1781 at Yorktown. Mr. Boyer died October 31, 1832, left a son, John F. Boyer. This Boyer left a son, John A. Boyer. This Boyer left a son Edward Boyer who was my Dad. In diagnosing the family tree, Andreas Boyer was the writer's great-great-great-great-great Grandfather.

ZINC ROOFING RESISTANT TO CORROSION

IN AN article, contributed to a recent Bulletin of the Imperial Institute and abstracted in Chemistry and Industry, H. M. Ridge draws attention to the value of sheet zinc as a roofing material which is highly resistant to corrosion, and considers that the adoption of high-grade zinc sheets for roofing in

tropical countries, coastal areas, and industrial districts would be highly beneficial. Zinc sheets used for roofing in the Liege district, under such adverse conditions as a damp climate and numerous chemical and metallurgical works burning coal, are said to have a life of fully 100 years.

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