

HISTORY: Historic Huntingdon, 1767-1909, Chapter 1, Charter, Huntingdon County, PA

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Historic Huntingdon, 1709-1907. Huntingdon Old Home Week, September 5-11, 1909. Souvenir Edition. Huntingdon, Pa.: Historical Committee of the Old Home Week Association, 1909.

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SELINA HASTINGS, COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON. [portrait]

Born Aug. 24th, 1707 - Married June 3rd, 1728 - Died June 17th, 1791.

Donington Park, Leicestershire, England.

In whose honor both borough and county are named.

Benefactress of the Rev. William Smith, D.D.

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ONOJUTTA - JUNIATA - ACHSINNIC.

STANDING STONE [photo]

Erected September 8th, 1896, as a Memorial to the ANCIENT STANDING STONE

Removed by the Indians in 1754.

{copy of inscription}

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The Charter to William Penn for the Province of Pennsylvania -  
Formation of the Three Original Colonies.

CHAPTER I

WILLIAM PENN in 1674 became one of three trustees chosen to manage the affairs of West Jersey. In the execution of this trust, he had good opportunity to become acquainted with the valuable tract of land lying on the opposite side of the river. At the death of his father, Admiral William Penn, it was found that the British government was indebted to him for money loaned and services rendered about sixteen thousand (16,000) pounds. Instead of money, William Penn suggested that he would prefer a grant of land on the western side of the Delaware north of Maryland. A formal petition was presented to Chas. II. in June, 1680, and after many conferences with adjacent proprietors, on the 4th day of March, 1681, the king granted a charter.

The boundaries were described, but serious differences occurred and many years passed before they were settled and defined. Penn, his heirs, and assigns, were made and ordained true and absolute proprietaries of all the lands within the bounds described in the charter, and upon him and his heirs, their deputies and lieutenants was conferred the executive authority of the province. William Markham was commissioned Deputy Governor, and sent over from England clothed with full authority to inaugurate the new government, and in the fall of the year at Upland, now Chester, he took charge of the executive affairs.

In October, 1682, Penn arrived in the "Welcome," and soon thereafter the lands of the province

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were divided into three counties, to wit: Chester, Philadelphia, and Bucks. The precise date of the erection of these counties does not appear, but it must have been before the 18th day of November, 1682, as on that day the proprietary issued his writs to the sheriffs of the respective counties, requiring them "to summon all freeholders to meet on the 20th instant, and elect out of themselves seven persons of most note for wisdom, sobriety, and integrity, to serve as their deputies and representatives in General Assembly, to be held at Upland, in Pennsylvania, December 6th (4th?) next."

Erection of Lancaster, Cumberland, and Bedford Counties -

Purchases of the Indian Title - Erection of Townships,

and Election Districts - Local Officers.

LANCASTER, the fourth county of the province was erected from Chester by an act of the General Assembly passed the 10th day of May, 1729, and embraced all the land of the province to the northward of Octorara Creek, and to the westward of a line of marked trees running from the north branch of said creek to the river Schuylkill. The sixth county, Cumberland, was erected by the act of the 27th day of January, 1750, and took from Lancaster all the lands lying within the province to the westward of Susquehanna and northward and westward of the county of York.

The proprietaries, having due regard to the rights of the Indians, would not permit any occupation of land, either by settlement or grant from the land office, until after the Indian title had become vested in them. At the time of the organization of Cumberland County the natives were yet in possession of all the territory northwest of the Kittatinny Mountain (the northern barrier of the Cumberland Valley) and the Susquehanna River. At a treaty held by order of the king at Albany in the summer of 1754, negotiations for the purchase of the Indian title resulted in the execution, on the 6th day of July in that year, of a deed from the chiefs of the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga,

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Seneca, and Tuscarora nations, constituting the confederacy known as the Six Nations, conveying, for the consideration of four hundred (400) pounds lawful money of New York to Thomas and Richard Penn, "all the lands lying within the said province of Pennsylvania, bounded and limited as follows, namely: Beginning at the Kittochtinny of Blue Hills, on the west branch of the Susquehanna River, and thence by the said, a mile above the mouth of a certain creek called Kayarondinagh; thence northwest and by west as far as the said province of Pennsylvania extends to its western lines or boundaries; thence along the said western line to the south line or boundary to the south side of the said Kittochtinny hills; thence by the south side of the said hills to the place of beginning."

Although a few warrants were issued during the year 1755 for lands in the upper part of the valley of the Juniata, and some surveys and improvements were made, there does not seem to have been any division of this territory into townships for some years thereafter. At July sessions in 1767 the Cumberland County court fixed the boundaries of Derry township as follows: "Beginning at the middle of the Long narrows; thence up the north side of the Juniata as far as Jack's Narrows; thence to include the valley of Kishacokulus and Jack's creek." These boundaries included a part of the present township of Brady.

At October sessions of the same year 1767, five additional townships were erected, and were named and bounded as follows:

DUBLIN - "Bounded by Air and Fannet townships on the one side, and Coleraine and Barre townships on the top of Sideling Hill on the other side."

COLERAINE - "Bounded by Dublin township, as above, by the provincial line, and the top of Dunning's Mountain (so as to join Cumberland and Bedford townships) to the gap of Morrison's Cove, from thence to the mouth of Yellow Creek (joining Barre township) to strike Sideling Hill."

CUMBERLAND - "Bounded by Coleraine township (as above), the provincial line to the Allegheny Mountain,

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and along the top of the Allegheny Mountain to the top of the ridge that divides the waters of Wills Creek; from thence of Juniata to strike Dunning's Mountain through Lun's gap."

BEDFORD - "Bounded by the above mentioned east line and Dunning's Mountain to the gap of Morrison's Cove, and from thence to the top of Tussey's Mountain (joining Barre township) so as to include Morrison's Cove, and from the end of Morrison's Cove cross by Frankstown to the Allegheny."

BARRE - "Bounded by Dublin, Coleraine and Bedford townships, as already mentioned, and along the Allegheny until a line struck from thence to Jack's Mountain so as to include the waters of Little Juniata and Shaver's and Standing Stone Creeks."

These townships of Derry, Dublin, Coleraine, Cumberland, Bedford, and Barre included all the area of Bedford, Blair, and Huntingdon, a large part of Fulton and Mifflin, and a part of Centre counties. It is probable that as the eastern limits of Dublin were not clearly defined a part of what is now Tell township, Huntingdon county, may have been included in the previously erected township of Lack.

ARMAGH township was created at January sessions, 1770, from a part of Derry, and included all the territory of that township northwest of Jack's Mountain.

The officers of these townships were as follows:

1767. - John Ramsey (Dublin), William Parker (Coleraine), Thomas Coulter (Cumberland), John Cochran (Bedford), John Forsee (Barre), constables.

1768. - Charles Boyle (Dublin), Samuel Anderson (Barre), constables; John Brady, Jacob Hair (Barre), supervisors; George Jackson, Zebulon Moor (Barre), overseers of poor.

1769. - Robert Ramsey (Dublin), Samuel Anderson (Barre), constables; Zebulon Moor, Robert Caldwell (Barre), supervisors; Benjamin Elliot, Charles Boyle (Dublin), overseers of poor; James Little, Charles Caldwell (Barre), viewers of fences.

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1770. - James Watson (Dublin), John Wilson (Barre), William Brown (Armagh), constables; Samuel Thompson, Daniel Egoe (Barre), James Moor (Armagh), supervisors; Zebulon Moore, Robert Caldwell (Barre), James Reed (Armagh), overseers of poor; James Little, Charles Caldwell (Barre), viewers of fences.

1771. - William Shirley (Barre), James Foley (Dublin), constables; Samuel Thompson, Daniel Ego. (Barre), supervisors; Zebulon Moor, Robert Caldwell (Barre), Charles Boyle, Benjamin Elliot (Dublin), overseers of poor.

The Indians after fully realizing the immense stretch of country covered by the bounds set in the treaty of 1754, expressed disappointment and dissatisfaction. They said they did not understand the points of the compass and were thereby deceived. Some of them became allies of the French and commenced a series of depredations upon the frontier settlers.

An accommodation of the differences between the proprietary government and the Indians was effected at a conference held at Easton, where on the 23rd day of October, 1758, a deed was executed limiting the boundaries of the purchase as follows: "Beginning at the Kittochtinny or Blue Hills, on the west bank of the Susquehanna River, and running thence up the said river, and binding therewith, to a mile above the mouth of a creek called Kaarondinhah (or John Penn's Creek); thence west to the east side of the Allegheny or Appalachian Hills; thence along the east side of the said hills, binding therewith, to the south line or boundary of the said province; thence by the said south line or boundary to the south side of the Kittatinny Hill; thence by the south side of the same hill to the place of beginning." This deed confirmed the title of the proprietaries to all the lands within the boundaries above mentioned, including the present counties of Bedford, Fulton, Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata and Perry, and parts of Snyder, Union and Centre, and released

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to the Six Nations the residue embraced in the deed of 1754.

By an act passed on the 9th day of March, 1771, Bedford county was erected from Cumberland, and its boundaries fixed as follows: "Beginning where the province line crosses the Tuscarora Mountain, and running along the summit of that mountain to the gap near the head of Path Valley; thence with a north line to the Juniata; thence with the Juniata to Shaver's Creek; thence northeast to the line of Berks County; thence along the Berks County line northwestward to the western bounds of the province; thence southward, according to the several courses of the western boundary of the province, to the southwest corner of the province; and from thence eastward with the southern line of the province to the place of beginning." This act authorized the Governor to commission a competent number of justices, who, or any three of whom, were empowered to hold courts in the months of January, April, July and October in every year.

With remarkable promptitude a Court of Quarter Sessions was opened at Bedford on the 16th day of April, 1771, by William Proctor, Robert Hanna, William Lockery, Robert Cluggage, George Wilson, and William McConnell. The court then proceeded to divide the county into townships. AIR, COLERAINE, and DUBLIN were to remain as fixed by the Cumberland court. The lines of BEDFORD and CUMBERLAND were extended from the foot to the top of Allegheny Mountain. BARRE to be cut off by Little Juniata and Tussey's Mountain. Brother's Valley, Fairfield, Mount Pleasant, Hemp Field, Pitt, Tyrone, Spring Hill, Ross Straver, Armstrong, and Tullileague follow, but as these townships embrace territory outside of the limits of Huntingdon and Blair they do not concern us now.

At July sessions, 1773, "that part of Barre township including all the waters that empty into the Raystown Branch of Juniata below the mouth of Yellow Creek and up said creek to Tussey's mountain is hereby erected into a township by the name of Hopewell township."

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It will be noticed that the act creating Bedford county excluded from the boundaries therein described that portion of Huntingdon County lying northeast of the Juniata below the mouth of Shaver's Creek and according to

the letter of the law that territory remained in Cumberland County. The act of March 21, 1772, forming Northumberland, took from Bedford the territory lying west of Tussey's Mountain and northeast of the main branch of the Little Juniata to the head thereof.

Another act passed the same day for the purpose of explaining and better ascertaining the boundary lines of the county of Bedford, after reciting the boundaries described in the act of the 9th day of March, 1771, and that as "the Tuscarora Mountain does not extend to the province line and the southern boundaries aforesaid are not properly described, the lines of the county of Bedford cannot be known and run by the trustees appointed for that purpose, provided that the lines following, to wit: "Beginning where the province line crosses the North or Blue Mountain, that runs between the Great and Little Coves and that part of Cumberland County called Connegocheague, and thence along the summit of the said mountain to the beginning of the Tuscarora Mountain, and running along the summit of the said Tuscarora Mountain to the gap near the head of the Path valley, from thence a north line to the Juniata River; thence up the Juniata to the mountain that divides the Kishicocolus Valley from the Standing Stone Valley, and along the summit of that mountain to the head of the Standing Stone Creek; from thence northeast to the line of Berks County; thence by Berks County line to the western bounds of the province; thence southward, according to the several courses of the western boundary of the province, to the south west corner thereof; and from thence with the other boundaries of the province to the place of beginning; shall be, and are hereby declared to be, the boundary lines of the said County of Bedford."

By act of the 26th day of February, 1773, all the territory of Bedford lying west of the Laurel Hill and of the

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ridge dividing the waters of the Allegheny and Susquehanna to the head of the latter stream, and south of a line to be run thence due west to the limits of the province, was erected into a new county called Westmoreland.

The geography of the valley of the Juniata was not well understood by the framers of the acts of Assembly above recited, and the indefinite and inconsistent descriptions of boundary lines were producing uncertainty and conflict of authority. On the 30th day of September, 1779, an act was passed reciting that, -

"Whereas the act of General Assembly of the province of Pennsylvania entitled an act for explaining and better ascertaining the boundary lines of the county of Bedford, passed the twenty-first day of March, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-two, and the act passed the same day entitled an act for erecting a part of the counties of Lancaster, Cumberland, Berks, Northampton, and Bedford into a separate county, are contradictory to each other, and assign different and inconsistent boundaries to the said county of Bedford and the county of Northumberland; and part of the boundary of the said county of Northumberland is, by reason of the Little Juniata, near the head thereof, impassable; and that strip of land on the northeast side of Juniata, between Jack's Narrows and Standing Stone Mountain, being separated by large mountains from the rest of Cumberland County, makes it inconvenient for the people residing on the said northeast side of



Juniata at the place aforesaid; that the same should continue in the said county of Cumberland: For remedy whereof, -

"BE IT ENACTED, ETC., That the lines following, viz: Beginning where the line (dividing Pennsylvania and Maryland) crosses the North or Blue Mountain that runs between Great and Little Coves and that part of Cumberland County called Conecocheague, and thence along the summit of the said mountain to the beginning of the Tuscarora Mountain and running along the summit of the said Tuscarora Mountain to the gap near the head of Path Valley; from thence a north line to the Juniata River; then up the Juniata to

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Jack's Narrows; thence along the summit of the ridges and mountains which divide the waters falling into the said northeast side of the said Juniata above Jack's Narrows aforesaid, from the waters which fall into the said river below the said Narrows to Tussey's Mountain at the head of Standing Stone Creek; thence along the summit of Tussey's mountain to the ridge dividing the waters falling into Bald Eagle Creek from the waters of Little Juniata; thence along the said last mentioned ridge to the Chestnut Ridge; thence along the Chestnut Ridge to the head of the southwest branch of Bald Eagle Creek; from thence a straight line to the head of Moshannon Creek; thence down Moshannon Creek to the west branch of Susquehanna; thence up said west branch to the purchase line run from Kittanning to the said West Branch, to the line of Westmoreland County; thence along the southeast boundary of the said county of Westmoreland, as the same is described in the act erecting the said county of Westmoreland, to the line dividing Pennsylvania from Maryland aforesaid; and thence along the said line last mentioned to the place of beginning."

This act annexed that part of Kishacoquillas Valley now in Brady township, Huntingdon County, to Bedford County. In 1773, two years after the erection of Bedford County, the lands along the river from Jack's Narrows to the mouth of Mill Creek, and those then taken up in the west end of Kishacoquillas Valley, were taxed in the assessment of Barre township, Cumberland County, and it is fair to presume that this district remained under the jurisdiction of that county until after the passage of the act of the 30th of September, 1779.

FRANKSTOWN township was created at April sessions, 1775, from parts of Bedford and Barre, and the boundaries fixed as follows: "Along the line dividing Bedford and Northumberland Counties from the West Branch of the Susquehanna to where Little Juniata runs through Tussey's Mountain; then along the said mountain to the ridge dividing Morrison's Cove from Croyle's Cove; then along the said ridge to Dunning's Mountain; then along

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Dunning's Mountain to the dividing ridge between the waters of Dunning's Creek and the southwest branch of the Frankstown Branch; then along the said ridge to the Allegheny Mountain; then cross the same and by the line Quemahoning township to the line dividing Bedford and Westmoreland Counties and by the said line and along the limits of this county to the place of the beginning."

This township included the whole of Blair County and the present townships of Morris, Franklin and Warriors Mark, of Huntingdon county.

HUNTINGDON township was formed from a part of Barre. The records of the court do not contain any account of its erection. At April sessions, 1780, a return of the township officers was made, from which it may be inferred that the township was formed about 1779.

Its territory is now divided into Brady, Walker, Porter and parts of Juniata, Logan, Henderson and Oneida. It also included the present site of the Borough of Huntingdon. The records also fail to give an account of the erection of SHIRLEY township, which was formed from Dublin about the date last mentioned. The earliest assessment was made in 1780, and of Huntingdon in 1781.

TYRONE township was erected from Frankstown, but neither the date nor boundaries appear among the records of the Bedford court. In the proceedings at April sessions, 1787, the name occurs for the first time.

#### Elections and Election Districts.

A law enacted June 14th, 1777, fixed the second Tuesday of October as the day for holding the annual general election. Bedford County was divided into four districts and the places named at which the elections should be held, as follows: "The freemen of the townships of Bedford, Coleraine and Cumberland Valley, being the First District, shall hold their elections at the court house of the said town of Bedford; the freemen of the townships of Bethel, Air, and Dublin, being the Second District, at the house of

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John Burd at Fort Littleton; the freemen of the townships of Barre, Hopewell and Frankstown, being the Third District, at the place called the Standing Stone; and the freemen of the townships of Brother's Valley, Turkey Foot and Quesmahoning, being the Fourth District, at the house of John Kemberline, near the junction of said three townships."

Each voter was required to produce a certificate of his having taken and subscribed the oath of allegiance as prescribed by an act passed the preceeding day.

By the act of the 13th day of September, 1785, dividing the several counties into election districts, Bedford county was separated into five districts, and the elections directed to be held as follows:

First, the town of Bedford and townships of Bedford, Coleraine, Providence, and Cumberland Valley, at the court house in Bedford; Second, the townships of Bethel and Air, at the house of Ephraim Wallace in Bethel; Third, the townships of Barre, Hopewell, Frankstown, and Huntingdon, at the place called Standing Stone; Fourth, the townships of Brother's Valley, Quesmahoning, Turkey Foot, and Milford, at the house of James Black in Quesmahoning; Fifth, the townships of Dublin and Shirley, at the house of George Cluggage, in Shirley.

On the 19th day of September 1786, a sixth district was created, consisting of the "townships of Frankstown and Morrisson's" (?), and the elections directed to be held at the house of Lazarus Lowrey, at Frankstown.

The act of September 27, 1786, fixed the number of representatives to the General Assembly to be elected in Bedford County at Three.

The officers of the townships of Bedford County that covered the present territory of Huntingdon and Blair, appointed by the court of Quarter Sessions, were as follows:

1772. - Thomas Weston (Barre), James Foley, Jr. (Dublin), constables; Samuel Anderson and George Jackson (Barre), overseers of poor; John Wilson and James Little (Barre), supervisors.

1773. - APRIL SESSIONS: Charles Caldwell (Barre), John Bale (Dublin), constables; July sessions: James Little

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appointed in the room of Charles Caldwell.

1774. - MARCH SESSIONS: Philip Stoner (Hopewell), constable; April Sessions: James Little (Barre), John Bell (Dublin), Philip Stoner (Hopewell), constables; July sessions: Robert Caldwell, John Thorlton, deputy (Barre), John Latta (Dublin), Philip Stoner (Hopewell), constables; James Little, Michael Cryder (Barre), John Ramsey, James Foley (Dublin), Richard Long, Samuel Thompson (Hopewell), supervisors of the highways.

1775. - PRIVATE SESSIONS, March 25: John Mitchell (Barre), John Latta (Dublin), Phillip Stoner (Hopewell), constables; Samuel Anderson, Thomas Johnston (Barre), overseers of the poor; James Little, Michael Cryder (Barre), supervisors, GENERAL SESSIONS, second Tuesday in April: James Dean (Barre), Samuel Daniel (Dublin), William Phillips (Frankstown), Walter Clark (Hopewell), constables; Samuel Anderson, Thomas Johnston (Barre), Benjamin Sanders, Bastian Shoupe (Hopewell), overseers of the poor; James Little, Michael Cryder (Barre), Michael Whetstone, Peter Hartsock (Hopewell), supervisors.

1776. - PRIVATE SESSIONS, March 25: William Barrick (Frankstown), William Smart, Jr. (Hopewell), constables; Absalom Gray, Samuel Jack (Frankstown), Benjamin Saunders, Bastian Shoupe (Hopewell), overseers of the poor; Markem Coleman (Frankstown), Peter Hartsock (Hopewell), supervisors. APRIL SESSIONS: David Lewis Smart, Jr. (Hopewell), constables.

1777 - PETTY SESSIONS - September 27: William Riddle (Barre), John Walker (Dublin), Joseph Cellar (Frankstown), Joshua Davis (Hopewell), constables. GENERAL SESSIONS, October 14: William Riddle, of Barre, fined; John Walker, of Dublin, fined thirty shillings; Thomas Anderson, Joshua

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Davis (Hopewell), Felix Miller, appointed constables.

1778. - GENERAL SESSIONS, April 13: William Wilson (Barre), William Winton (Dublin), constables.

1780. - GENERAL SESSIONS, April 11: Robert Wasson (Barre), James Morton (Dublin), Jacob Rowler (Frankstown), Benjamin Sanders (Hopewell), George Reynolds, Isaac Worrill, deputy (Huntingdon), Giles Stevens (Shirley), constables; Alexander McCormick, John Glenn (Barre), Hugh Davison, John Walker (Dublin), Patrick Maguire, David Lowrey (Frankstown), William Sherley, Levi Moore (Hopewell), Archibald Fletcher, James Gibson (Huntingdon), James Galbraith, James Cluggage (Shirley), overseers of the poor; James Anderson, Jeremiah Rickets (Barre), James Coil, Esq., John Ramsey (Dublin), Jacob Rowler, Jr., Absalom Gray (Frankstown), Solomon Sell, Hugh Skelly (Hopewell), Ludwick Sells, Joshua Lewis (Huntingdon), Jacob Shara, James Carmichael (Shirley), supervisors of the highways.

1781. - APRIL SESSIONS: David Ralston (Barre), James Burnet (Dublin), Absalom Gray (Frankstown), Ludwick Sells (Huntingdon), George Cluggage (Shirley), constables; Joseph Oburn, Benjamin McGuffey (Barre), Hugh Davidson, John Walker (Dublin), Samuel Rhea, James Johnston (Frankstown), Henry Lloyd, Michael Cryder (Huntingdon), James Galbraith, James Cluggage (Shirley), overseers of the poor; William Nelson, Archibald Glen (Barre), James Coyle, Esq., John Ramsey (Dublin), Urick Heifheit, Edward Beatty (Frankstown), Joseph Prigmore, Moses Donaldson (Huntingdon), James Carmichael, Jacob Shara (Shirley), supervisors of the highways.

1782 - APRIL SESSIONS: Chain Rickets (Barre), William Justice (Dublin), William Traviss (Huntingdon), Giles Stevens (Shirley), constables; Henry Fergu-

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son, James Carswell (Barre), Hugh Davidson, John Walker (Dublin), Michael Cryder, Henry Lloyd (Huntingdon), overseers of the poor; William McLevy, Alexander McCormick (Barre), James Coil, John Ramsey (Dublin), Joseph Prigmore, Jacob Laird (Huntingdon), supervisors of the highways.

1783 - APRIL SESSIONS: William Long (Barre), James McKee (Dublin), George Jackson (Huntingdon), James Cluggage (Shirley), constables; Benjamin McGoffin (Barre), Hugh Davidson, John Walker (Dublin), Henry Lloyd, Michael Cryder (Huntingdon), James Galbraith, Matthew Patton (Shirley), overseers of the poor; David Ralston, Gilbert Cheny (Barre), John Burd, George Hudson (Dublin), George Reynolds, Samuel Donnel (Huntingdon), John Morgan, Francis Cluggage (Shirley), supervisors of the highways.

1786 - APRIL SESSIONS: Abraham Nelson (Barre), Benjamin Burd (Dublin), Absalom Gray (Frankstown), Solomon Sill (Hopewell), John Biddle (Huntingdon), constables; John Ramsey, Hugh Orlton (Dublin), William Devinny, Thomas McCune (Frankstown), James Hale, Felix Miller (Hopewell), John Fee, Jacob Laird (Huntingdon), overseers of the poor; Robert Ramsey, George Hudson (Dublin), Samuel Davis, Michael Fetter (Frankstown), William Sherley, Hugh Skelly (Hopewell), William Sherley,

Hugh Skelly (Hopewell), Henry Neff, George Reynolds (Huntingdon), supervisors of the highways.

1787 - APRIL SESSIONS: William Nelson (Barre), John Ramsey (Dublin), John Bittle (Huntingdon), John Armstrong (Shirley), constables; James Anderson, John Dickey (Barre), James Barnet, Hugh Davison (Dublin), John Fee, George Reynolds (Huntingdon), George Wilson, John Morgan (Shirley), overseers of the poor; John Wilson, James Hannam (Barre), Robert Ramsey, George

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Hudson (Dublin), Henry Neff, Nathaniel Jarrit (Huntingdon), James Galbraith, William Morris (Shirley), supervisors of the highways.

Among the citizens of that portion of Bedford county, now composing Huntingdon and Blair, summoned as grand jurors, were: 1772, July 14th, Michael Cryder; 1780, April 11th, William Shirley; 1781, January sessions, William Simonton, James Foley, and Michael Cryder; 1782, April sessions, Samuel Anderson; July sessions, Samuel Anderson, James Foley and Moses Donaldson; October sessions, Alexander McConnell; 1786, January sessions, George Ashman and George Cluggage.

The first Court of Quarter Sessions was held at Bedford, April 16, 1771, before "William Proctor, Robert Cluggage, Robert Hanna, George Wilson, William Lockery, and William McConnell, Esqs., justices of our Lord the King, to hear and determine divers felonies and misdemeanors in the said county committed." Twenty-three grand jurors were sworn. Robert Galbraith was enrolled as an attorney.

At April sessions, 1773, "John Freeharty, of the grand jury, is fined five shillings for being drunk and ten shillings for the contempt in doing so while on the duty of that office, and coming into court while in that condition."

At July sessions, 1780, "The court proceeded to regulate the Price of Laborers, and are of opinion that the same shall be estimated and rated 26 dollars each man per day." October sessions, continued at the same rate.

Unexplained this would appear extravagant but it must be borne in mind that the standard of value was the dollar in Continental currency, which had rapidly shrunk in worth as contrasted with specie. When measured by the specie standard, the price of a day's labor was worth about forty cents. The paper currency of the country depreciated so rapidly in value that it was necessary to establish some rate of exchange, and the General Assembly, by act of April 3, 1781, fixed a scale of depreciation for each month from the beginning of the year, 1777, to the end of February, 1781. In July, 1780, it required sixty-four and

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one-half dollars in paper to equal one dollar in specie.

Among the justices sworn, as appears by the records, were:

1771, April 16, Robert Cluggage; 1773, April 13, Robert Cluggage; 1774, April 13, Robert Cluggage; 1782, December 18, Robert Cluggage; 1773, April 13 William McConnell; 1774, May 12, Henry Lloyd; 1777, September, Robert Galbraith, James Martin; 1779, January 13, James Carmichael, James Coyle; 1779, February 12, Matthew Dean; 1781, April 28, John Canan (Commission dated February 3, 1781); 1786, July 20, Thomas Wilson, John Little; 1787, January 22, John Coyle; 1787, June 22, James Coyle.

Persons were recommended for license to keep public houses as follows:

1773, July sessions, Michael Cryder; 1773, October sessions, Michael Cryder; 1774, October sessions, Michael Cryder, Ludwick Sells; 1778, April sessions, Francis Cluggage; 1781, January sessions, Ludwick Sells. Benjamin Elliot was commissioned high sheriff October 31, 1785 and was sworn December 19, 1785. George Ashman, Lieutenant, was sworn December 26, 1780.