



THE RIVULET.

NUMBER 6.

.....

MARCH 2012.



DR. WALTER REED, U.S.A.

❁❁ Former Blue Ridge Summit resident to address Annual Meeting. ❁❁

In an illustrated presentation, Mr. William S. Stanley will recount the career of Dr. Walter Reed, U. S. A., against a familiar background of local mountain resorts, of which the Reeds were an integral part.

Two families were well acquainted. Social Hour to feature an exhibit of Reed memorabilia. Mr. John C. Frye to be first Herbert C. Bell Fellow.

ANTIETAM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION will return to The Lodge at Blue Ridge Summit for its second Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2012. The festivities will begin at 5:30 p. m. with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. At 6:30 p. m., a dinner of Roumanian Tenderloin (or vegetarian alternative) will be served.

The event is open to the public. Carriage House Inn will cater the dinner. The cost of the meal is \$35.00 per person, payable in advance of the meeting date.

The deadline for reservations is Tuesday, April 3, 2012. To reserve seats, please send remittance to "Antietam Historical Association," 119 West Main Street, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania 17268. Those requesting the vegetarian alternative dinner need to do so when making reservations. Further information is available by telephoning (717) 658-6789. Please refrain from

contacting either The Lodge or Carriage House Inn directly; only AHA will accept reservations.

The Lodge at Blue Ridge Summit is located at 13026 Stahley Road, Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania 17214.

The featured speaker for the event will be Mr. WILLIAM S. STANLEY, of Mount Joy, Pennsylvania, and a former resident of Blue Ridge Summit. He will narrate an illustrated presentation about Dr. Walter Reed, U. S. A., and his involvement in the summer colony on South Mountain, centering around Blue Ridge Summit and Pen-Mar.

Dr. Walter Reed (1851-1902) is best remembered for leading the research team credited with identifying the mosquito as the yellow fever carrier and thus enabling the United States to complete the Panama Canal. His work laid the foundations for the modern fields of epidemiology and biomedicine.

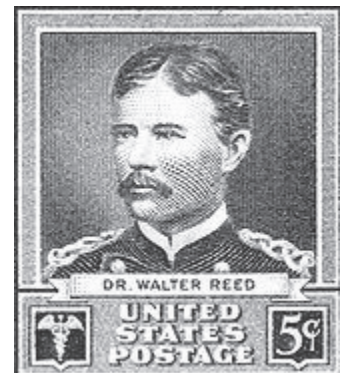
A native of Virginia, Reed earned the

M. D. degree at the age of eighteen, and was the youngest person ever to obtain that degree from the University of Virginia. In 1870 he earned a second medical degree from Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York City.

Dr. Reed was also a humanitarian. He medically treated the aborigines (most notably Geronimo) at a time when they were sorely misused by the American government, and he and Mrs. Reed, who had two natural offspring, adopted an Indian girl. He also insisted that it was Dr. Carlos Finlay, and not he, who conquered yellow fever by identifying the mosquito as its vector.

The Reeds were among

(Continued
on Page 4)



A Day in the Mountain.

by WILLIAM BLAIR.

A pleasant sojourn on the romantic South Mountain at a time when there was no Pen-Mar Park, no Blue Mountain House, and no Buena Vista Spring Hotel, as told by the plucky, longtime editor of Waynesboro's Village Record.

A DAY IN THE MOUNTAIN.—We had a pleasant trip to Waynesboro' Station [Pen-Mar] on the W. M. R. R. one day last week in company with a jolly good friend, Mr. D. W. Mickley. The Station is much easier of access than we had supposed. Indeed we have no knowledge of a better mountain road, which is solid and comparatively easy of ascent. It can however be much improved with little expense. As it is, four horses are ample to draw one hundred bushels of wheat to the Station.

We remained for sometime at the warehouse of Messrs. Rouzer & Shover, feasting our eyes and imagination upon the wild beauties that surrounded us, and was pleased to learn that this enterprising firm are driving a prosperous and growing business. More accommodating and gentlemanly business men are rarely met with. At this point the mountain scenery is grand, and from which one of the finest views is afforded, covering a large area of country to the North and Northwest, said to be not much excelled by that afforded from the famous "Franklin Cliff [High Rock]," not far off. Directly in front of the warehouse is a well seventy-five feet in depth, from which the purest water, almost ice-cold, is obtained. The buildings however lack one very essential means of comfort—shade trees—being exposed on all sides to the scorching rays of the sun.

After fully satisfying our curiosity as to Waynesboro' Station, we withdrew our "nag" from the bushes and started for "Beautiful View Springs [Buena Vista Springs]," at which place we turned up about 4, P. M., having had another pleasant drive without encountering

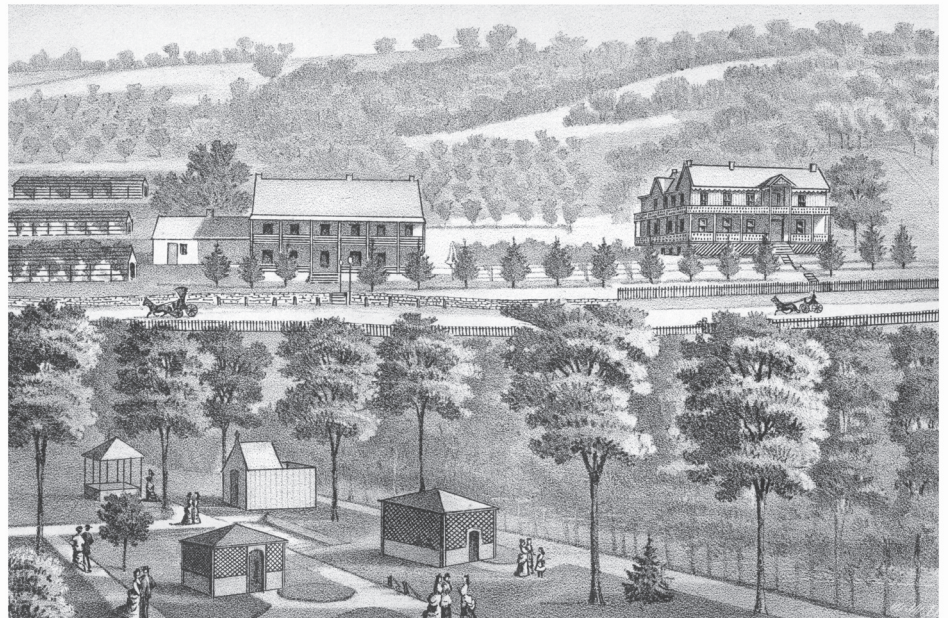
a single snake or mosquito. Here, as usual, we found everything cosy and comfortable, with many added improvements, and a pleasant society, about as many boarders as the house will comfortably accommodate, Mr. McCourt—who has been on the mountain for more than twenty years, winter as well as summer—being among the number.

Location and conveniences considered, Beautiful View Springs as a summer resort is excelled by few if any mountain houses. A fine spring and bath house close to the buildings, two wells of excellent water in the yard, (one hard and the other soft or sulphur)

one of the finest grape arbors perhaps in the county, extending from house to barn, and all other surroundings neat and trim, favorably impress the visitor. All that is required to make it a place of more general resort is a new building or an enlargement of the present one, for the accommodation of boarders. The worthy host, Mr. V. B. Gilbert, is always about and leaves nothing undone to make his guests comfortable. Supper over, we returned to town feeling loath indeed to quit so attractive and pleasant mountain retreat, having thus passed the pleasantest day of our "harvest week."

We purposed a ride since to the Monterey and Clermont Houses, on the summit, but failed to carry out our intention, at both of which we learn all the rooms are taken for the season.

—Waynesboro' Village Record,
Thursday, July 10, 1873.



Buena Vista Springs (sometimes referred to as "Beautiful View Springs") as it appeared not long after Editor William Blair visited it and wrote the accompanying article in his Waynesboro' Village Record. This view, from Historical Sketch of Franklin County (1878), was drawn by W. W. Denslow, who later gained fame as the illustrator of the first edition of The Wizard of Oz. It is made from the perspective of the present Capital Camps. In 1890-91 Buena Vista Spring Hotel was built on the high hill behind the ancient hostelry pictured here.

The *Hereditary Societies of Waynesboro.*

James Burns Society.

In recognition of the bicentennial of the War of 1812, AHA has selected the JAMES BURNS SOCIETY to unveil as the fourth group of The Hereditary Societies of Waynesboro. It is but a small part of the contribution AHA hopes to make to this anniversary celebration.

Anyone is eligible for membership in the James Burns Society who can prove lineal descent from a man included on the rosters of the two companies raised at what was then known as "Waynesburg" in Franklin county, Pennsylvania.

Although these units were led by Captains Samuel Gordon and John Flanagan, respectively, yet it seems fitting (rather than play favourites between our worthy captains) to name this society after JAMES BURNS (1786-1875), who emerged from the war as the leading military man in the community and who served actively in the Pennsylvania Militia for many years thereafter.

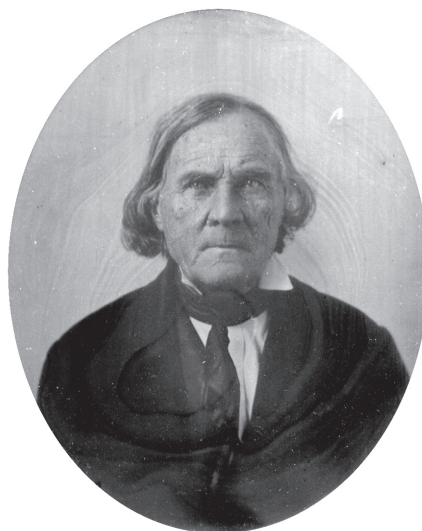
During the war, Burns was third lieutenant in Captain Gordon's company. According to his pension application, submitted in 1871 when he was eighty-five years of age, he was drafted March 1, 1814, at Waynesboro, and was discharged from service on August 24, 1814, at Buffalo, New York.

He received his commission as third lieutenant on May 9, 1814, and as such he participated in the battles of Chipewaw, Bridgewater, and Lundy's Lane.

Following the war, Burns received various promotions in the Pennsylvania Militia, culminating August 3, 1821, in his commission as Brigadier General of the Second Brigade, Eleventh Division, consisting of the militias of Cumberland, Perry, and Franklin counties.

James Burns was born at Roadside, near Waynesboro, a son of John Bourns

and his wife, *nee* Esther Morrow (or Murray). He attended school locally, and then learnt cabinetmaking. He plied his trade at Waynesboro, on the site of the present annex of the American Legion Home, East Main street.



James Burns

Burns was active in the economic and political life of his community. He served a term as sheriff of Franklin county, and was also county coroner. He invested in some of the early commercial organizations of Waynesboro, and was in the forefront of most civil movements of his heyday. He owned what became known as "Burns Hill," and was, at his request, buried there. Thus he became the first person buried in what is now Burns Hill Cemetery.

In 1815 at Waynesboro, James Burns married Jane Downey, who predeceased him. They had two daughters: Rosanna married William Smith Amberson, and Jane Downey married David Hoerner McGaughey.

Applications for membership in the James Burns Society, together with



application instructions and the rosters of the Waynesburg companies, are available on the AHA website or by telephoning AHA at 717-658-6789. A \$25.00 fee must needs accompany each completed application.

.....

Captain Thomas Wallace Society.

Mrs. Darlene S. Weddle has become a member of the Captain Thomas Wallace Society by application based on descent from Christian Keagy, one of Captain Wallace's militiamen.

Her lineage is as follows:

Linda Darlene Shockey was born at Waynesboro, Pa. She is the daughter of Delbert Robert Shockey and Abigail Good Newcomer, his wife, both deceased.

Abigail Good Newcomer was the daughter of Jesse Galen Newcomer and Albie Good, his wife.

Jesse Galen Newcomer was the son of Christian Bayer Newcomer and Emma Louise Baer, his wife.

Christian Bayer Newcomer was the son of John Leshner Newcomer and Catherine Bayer, his wife.

Catherine Bayer was the daughter of George Michael Bayer and Susanna Keagy, his wife.

Susanna Keagy was the daughter of Christian Keagy (Kagy or Cagy) and Mary Resh, his wife.

ERRATA.

In "A Letter from a Young Lady" which appears in THE RIVULET, Number 5, each mention of "German" street should instead read "Queen" street.

Dr. Walter Reed, U.S.A.

(Continued from page 1)

the first members of official Washington to select the South Mountain, where Mason and Dixon's line traverses it, for a summer residence. Dr. Reed built a cottage called "Keewayden," which still stands near Blue Ridge Summit.

Following Dr. Reed's untimely death from peritonitis, his family struggled financially. In their hour of need, they turned to the local mountain resorts for a livelihood. Their best-known effort was the Blossom Inn, named for and operated by their daughter, Emilie, known universally as "Blossom."

Dr. Reed died in the District of Columbia, but his widow died at her residence at Blue Ridge Summit in 1950. Their daughter Blossom followed at Blue Ridge Summit in 1964.

Mr. Stanley is well qualified to speak about Dr. Reed and his family. His ancestors for several generations, some of whom were themselves leading military physicians, were close friends and associates of the Reeds.

During the Social Hour of the Annual Meeting, Mr. Stanley and others who were acquainted with the Reeds will exhibit memorabilia of the noted family. Of especial interest will be Dr. Reed's dress sword.

Both Mr. Stanley's maternal and paternal ancestors were summer colonists, but his parents made the mountain their permanent year-round residence. Consequently, Mr. Stanley attended the local schools and graduated from Waynesboro Area Senior High School

with the Class of 1972.

Our speaker holds a bachelor of science degree in Nuclear Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a master of engineering degree from The Pennsylvania State University. He is a nuclear engineer at Three Mile Island and teaches part of the Fundamentals of Engineering review course at the Harrisburg campus of Penn State.

Mr. Stanley is married and has four children. He enjoys golf, target shooting, and history.

HERBERT C. BELL FELLOWSHIP.

AHA has established an honorary lifetime fellowship recognizing accuracy in Antietam History. The Herbert C. Bell Fellowship is named for Herbert Charles Bell, a professional historian and a native of Leitersburg district.

Mr. JOHN C. FRYE, the well-respected director of the Western Maryland Room of the Washington County (MD) Free Library, will be its first recipient and will receive his certificate at the Annual Meeting.

AHA hopes that a large number will attend the second Annual Meeting amid the rustic splendour of Blue Ridge Summit, where the most notable military physician in the world once sought relief from the tedium and heat of Washington in the summer. 🌿

IN MEMORIAM

HOWARD ARTHUR PARKER

The passing of Dr. Howard A. Parker on February 1, 2012, merits especial note here. He was a Charter Fellow, consistently renewing as a J. H. Stoner Fellow; but his contribution to AHA goes well beyond that.

Dr. Parker was born April 14, 1930, at Proctorsville, Vermont, in the midst of the Great Depression. He attended the University of Vermont before serving as a medical technician in the United States Air Force during the Korean War.

Following the war, our subject earned bachelor's, master's, and

Please save the date!

Spring Garden Fest

"Antietam Farm"

Saturday, May 19, 2012, 1-4 p. m.

doctoral degrees in Sociology at the University of Washington.

Dr. Parker taught Sociology at several universities, and was chairman of his department at the University of Hartford. Upon retirement, he settled in Lexington, Virginia.

Through marriage to Miss Mary Agnes Jones, of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, Dr. Parker became the custodian of a considerable estate, including part of the old Burns farm at Roadside and a moiety in the original Stoner farm near Waynesboro. This connexion led to the establishment of Little Antietam Creek, Inc. (LACI), of which the deceased was the first president.

Our subject became a retired gentleman as if to the manner born. He was charming. He was a shrewd, conservative investor but an enlightened, liberal thinker on topics which really matter. He was unpretentious, inoffensive, and charitable. In short he was the soul of reasonableness.

Throughout Dr. Parker's presidency of LACI, that organization has worked well with AHA. He readily supported all our projects, and his generosity made possible the first AHA Annual Meeting at The Lodge, where he made what was perhaps his last speech. THE RIVULET encourages its readers to contribute in his memory to the Mary Agnes Jones Parker Memorial Fund, 527 Fairview Place, Lexington, Virginia 24450. 🌿

THE RIVULET is published every little now and then by Antietam Historical Association, 119 West Main Street, Waynesboro, PA 17268.

Elizabeth S. Rock, *President.*

T. A. Dorsett, *Vice-President and Editor.*

Paula E. Fischer, *Secretary.*



"Keewayden," built by Dr. Walter Reed and photographed in 1960 by Philip Showalter Hench.