

CAPTAIN GERLACH PAUL FLICK, PENNSYLVANIA  
PIONEER

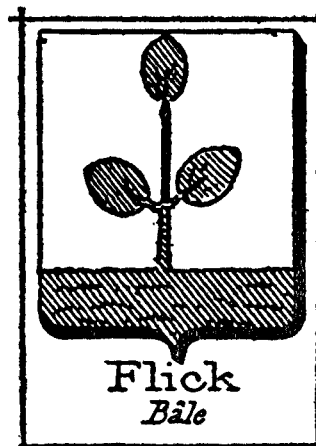
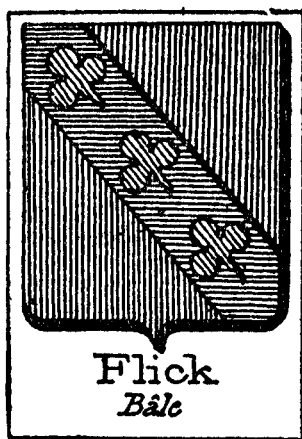
BY ALEXANDER C. FLICK, LITT.D.

## I.

## EUROPEAN BACKGROUND.

The family name Flick seems to have come from the Old German Flacco or Flecco. The German variations are Flack, Flak, Fleck, Flick, Fleek, Flock, Flook, Fluck, Flück, Fluch, Flüch, Flicker, Flickiger, Flickinger and Flickwir. Van Vleck may have been a Dutch spelling. The Anglo-Saxon form was Flagg and the modern English Flag, Flegg and Flack. The French variations are Flec, Fleck, Flick, Flicky and Flieg. Today Flicks are found in Switzerland, Germany, Holland, France, England, the United States and other countries.<sup>1</sup>

Family tradition makes Switzerland the ancestral home of the American Flicks, where the name may have been derived from Flickwir, or from Flückiger, a village in Canton Berne.<sup>2</sup> A Flück family lived for many years in Brienz, Canton Berne.<sup>3</sup> Planches, *L'Armorial General* II, Pl. 333, gives the following coats of arms of two Flick families in Basle:



<sup>1</sup> Ferguson, *The Teutonic Name System*, 411.

<sup>2</sup> Letter of James B. Lux, 1926.

<sup>3</sup> Kuhns, *Germans and Swiss—of Penn.*, 237.

Rietstaps, *Armorial General*, 681, prints a description of these two coats of arms. What relation, if any, these families have to the Flicks in the United States has not been ascertained.

In 1711 the political authorities of Bern, Switzerland, offered the Mennonites of that region free transportation down the Rhine river to a Dutch seaport in order that they might emigrate to the British colonies in North America, and also gave them permission to sell their property, on condition that they would promise never to return to Switzerland. Evidently, on account of their peculiar religious ideas and customs, these Mennonites were undesirable citizens. The Dutch ambassador to Switzerland, Johan Ludwig Runckle, seems to have taken an interest in them and was untiring in his efforts to facilitate their departure via Holland to the New World. Consequently, about this time, Swiss Mennonites crossed the Atlantic and began to settle in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Among them are found such names as Flückiger and Frick but no Flicks.<sup>4</sup> Favorable reports about their reception in Pennsylvania, and the religious toleration and economic opportunities found there, were sent back to Germany and Switzerland. As a result within a few

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<sup>4</sup> Kuhns, *Germans and Swiss—of Penn.*, 46-47, 57; Rupp p. 7-7 says that about the year 1672 relentless persecution drove "a large body of defenseless Mennonites" from the Cantons of Zurich, Bern and Schaffhausen to Alsace above Strassburg where they lived until 1708 when they emigrated to London and thence to Pennsylvania. They lived in the vicinity of Philadelphia for a few years and in 1712 purchased a large tract of land in Pequae, then Chester, now Lancaster County. This was the nucleus of a large Swiss, French and German settlement. The list of names from 1709 to 1730 contains no Flicks. *Ibid.*, 436-439. The Mennonites sent Martin Kendig to Germany and Switzerland to induce others to emigrate and so great was the influx that the Pennsylvania Provincial Government became alarmed. *Ibid.*, 9. That others than Mennonites crossed the ocean at an early date is shown by the fact that a Reformed Church was organized as early as 1717 at Goshenhoppen. *German Reformed Messenger*, Aug. 3, 1842. See Sheffer, *Mennonite Emigration to Pennsylvania*, *Penna. Mag. of Hist. and Biog.*, II, 117.

years many Germans and Swiss who were not Menonites but adherents of the Reformed Church followed them. It was in this later exodus that the Flicks first appear in America. The number of immigrants to Pennsylvania increased until in the year 1751 nearly 4000 Germans and Swiss arrived in that province.<sup>5</sup>

The social, economic and religious conditions in Europe and America which induced at least ten Flicks to seek new homes in Pennsylvania during the twenty-five years preceding the War of Independence were significant. The social inequalities in Europe under the old regime prevented ambitious young men from rising above the station in which they were born. The War of the Austrian Succession, which ended in 1748, left the common people of Europe in a wretched economic state. Employment was scarce and poorly paid, and the cost of living was high. Moreover there was little freedom of speech or opinion, and religious bigotry and intolerance were rampant. In sharp contrast to the difficulties and hard times in Europe came the encouraging news about America. There, it was reported, existed social equality, economic opportunity and religious freedom. The attractions of the New World had been spread over Europe and discussed at many a public gathering and family fireside. Thousands had already gone from Germany, Switzerland and other continental European countries to the English colonies over seas and had sent back glowing accounts of the new El Dorado—how an abundance of fertile land, with plenty of wood and good water, in a fine climate, could be had for the asking by those who were wise enough to make the venture. The emigration officers of that day were also very busy in eliciting business.<sup>6</sup>

Young Gerlach Paul Flick had his imagination fired by these alluring reports and with some of his brothers

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<sup>5</sup> See Fisher, *Making of Pa.*, 99 for European conditions.

<sup>6</sup> Fisher, *Making of Pa.*, 105.

and kinsmen resolved to make the experiment. The journey to Holland and transportation across the Atlantic were comparatively expensive. The fares had to be paid in cash, clothing and food provided for the long journey, and some money taken along to get one started in the new home. Just how the necessary funds were obtained, whether by gifts from his parents or on loan, is not clear. Somehow the problem was solved and the start was made.

The Provincial Council of Pennsylvania after asking in 1717 for "the number and character" of foreigners in 1727 required masters of vessels to prepare a list of all immigrants, giving their occupation and European homelands. Such immigrants had to sign an oath of allegiance to the King of England and to swear fidelity to Pennsylvania.<sup>7</sup> To this wise provision we owe the preservation of the names of so many American pioneers, among them that of Gerlach Paul Flick and his relatives.

There were numerous complaints from the immigrants that they were robbed, swindled and mistreated in many ways.<sup>8</sup>

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## II.

### IMMIGRATION OF THE FLICKS.

Emigrants bearing names which may have been related directly or indirectly to the Flicks arrived in Pennsylvania a generation before the Flicks themselves landed at Philadelphia. Johannes Flückiger, a Palatine, came September 15, 1729.<sup>9</sup> Theobald Fick followed in 1738<sup>10</sup> and Johann Henrich Fick in 1750.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Kuhns, German and Swiss—of Penn., 45-47.; *Min. of Prov. Council* III, 18, 299. The oath is printed in Rupp, 47.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, 105; Pa. Arch. 1" Ser. IV, 473.

<sup>9</sup> Rupp, Thirty Thousand Names of Immigrants, 61.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, 119.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, 232.

Johan Henry Fleck, a Palatine, reached Philadelphia October 25, 1738,<sup>12</sup> and after him Conrad Fleck November 9, 1738,<sup>13</sup> Peter Fleck in 1751,<sup>14</sup> Valentin Fleck in 1753,<sup>15</sup> Henry Fleck in 1753,<sup>16</sup> and Johan Wilhelm Fleck in 1771.<sup>17</sup> John Jacob Fleck, age 26, crossed the Atlantic on the ship *Lydia* in 1741.<sup>18</sup> Johannes Flück arrived October 20, 1744.<sup>19</sup> Lucas Flak came in 1747.<sup>20</sup> Matheis Flach landed in 1751.<sup>21</sup> Johan Adolph Flock followed in 1752.<sup>22</sup> Peter Flickinger reached Philadelphia in 1753.<sup>23</sup> John Christian Fleit came in 1772.<sup>24</sup> Gotthard David Flickwir arrived in 1772,<sup>25</sup> and Johan Matheis Flach landed in 1772.<sup>26</sup> John Flickwir served in the Revolution in New York in Col. Marinus Willett's Levies.<sup>27</sup> Insufficient data and the carelessness in spelling proper names makes it difficult to determine the relationship of these immigrants to one another and to the Flicks. All of them came via Holland from either Germany or Switzerland.

The first Flicks to reach Pennsylvania were Gerlach Paul Flick, the subject of this sketch, John Peter Flick, Johan Martin Flick and John Philip Flick on September 23, 1751, aboard the ship *Neptune*, which carried 154 passengers from Rotterdam via Cowes.<sup>28</sup> The first

<sup>12</sup> Rupp, *Thirty Thousand Names of Immigrants*, 61.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, 129.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, 254.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, 304, see map of his land.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, 320, Pa. Arch. 6, XIII, 131.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, 397.

<sup>18</sup> Pa. Arch. 2, XVIII, 212.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, 170.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, 177.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, 247.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, 410.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, 296.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, 400.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*, 402.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*, 410.

<sup>27</sup> N. Y. in the Rev., 89.

<sup>28</sup> Rupp's *Thirty Thousand Names of Immigrants*, 260. John Peter Flick arrived Sept. 25, 1754, Pa. Arch. 2 Ser. XVII, 341, 395. A James Flicke had been transported to Maryland as early as 1674.

three took the required oath of allegiance at Philadelphia on the same day.<sup>29</sup> These four Flicks were probably near relatives. Gerlach Paul Flick, a young man of 23, many years later mentioned a Philip Flick in his will, and named his second son Martin. During the quarter of a century subsequent to the coming of Gerlach Paul Flick and his three relatives to Philadelphia in 1751, six more Flicks sought homes in Pennsylvania—John Peter and Peiter,<sup>30</sup> on the ship *Neptune* in 1754;<sup>31</sup> Heinrich “von Rotterdam über Cowes” on the *Pallas* in 1763;<sup>32</sup> Johan Adam on the *Chance* in 1766;<sup>33</sup> Johan Wilhelm on the *Crawford* in 1769;<sup>34</sup> and John Wilhelm during the Revolution in 1777.<sup>35</sup> Andries Flick crossed from Amsterdam on the *Belvedere* in 1802.<sup>36</sup> It seems quite probable that some of these Flick immigrants brought their wives and children with them although, if so, the fact is not mentioned.

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<sup>29</sup> Pa. Arch. 2 Ser. XVII, 341.

<sup>30</sup> It is possible that they were the same individual. The record is confusing. See Pa. Arch. 2 Ser. XVII, 397.

<sup>31</sup> Pa. Arch. 2<sup>d</sup> Ser., 395, 397.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, 458; Rupp, 355.

<sup>33</sup> Rupp, 373; Pa. Arch. 2<sup>d</sup> Series. XXIX, 475.

<sup>34</sup> Pa. Arch. 2<sup>d</sup> Ser. XVII, 491.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*; Rupp, 491.

<sup>36</sup> Pa. Arch. 2<sup>d</sup> Ser. XVII, 584. Andries Flick may have been Andrew Flick, born near the Rhine River, Germany, in 1784, who “when a boy” came to Philadelphia, where he died in 1851 aged 67 years. He had a son, a sister Margaretha in Evansville, Ind., and a brother Louis who “kept a bakery on South Broad St., Philadelphia.” Andrew Flick had four children: Margaretha, William, Andrew Jackson and Charles. Andrew Jackson, born in Philadelphia in 1813, died in Springfield, O., aged 83. He was married twice, had a daughter by his first wife, and three children by his second wife—Elizabeth, Charles Wallace and Claude Wilmot. Letter of May 20, 1928, from Mrs. Elizabeth Flick Edmonson, Harrisburg, Pa. Of the \$180 passage money of Andries Flick \$33.10 was advanced and the remainder was paid apparently by relatives upon his arrival at Philadelphia. Andreas Flick was godfather to John Schneider at Frederick, Md., in 1766. He and his wife Magdelein had two daughters, Catherine and Christina, confirmed in 1767 and 1770. Christina married Henry Bruer in 1797. Ger. Ref. Church Records, 128, 103; Eng. Luth. Church Records, 545; Nead, The Pa. Germans in Settling, Md., Lancaster, Pa., 1814.

Just what relationship these later arrivals sustained to the earlier ones is not apparent. Further study of the sources may throw more light on the later history of these contemporaries of Gerlach Paul Flick.

While searching for data about Gerlach Paul Flick the following items concerning the early Flicks in America were found and are given with the hope that they may be of some value to those who are interested in the collateral branches of the family:

1. Henry Flick. John Henry came to Philadelphia in 1751 with Gerlach Paul and Heinrich 12 years later.<sup>37</sup> Apparently John Henry settled in York county and was the executor of the will of John Ocker who died in 1761.<sup>38</sup> Heinrich seems to have settled in Philadelphia and was included in the return of the 5th Battalion, Philadelphia county Militia in July, 1777.<sup>39</sup> He served in Capt. John Jacons Company which was reported as needing shoes, stockings and blankets.<sup>40</sup> In 1774 he was a taxpayer of Philadelphia county owning 1 horse and 3 cattle and paying a tax of £2/13/4.<sup>41</sup> In 1779 he paid a tax of £4/<sup>42</sup> and in 1781 he paid a tax of 10/ as a "laborer."<sup>43</sup> A Henry Flick of Elk township, Cumberland county, served in the militia in 1789 and 1793.<sup>44</sup> Another Henry Flick was sponsor of Catherine Hinckle born in Bucks county May 23, 1812.<sup>45</sup>

2. Peter Flick. John Peter accompanied Gerlach Paul to America in 1751 and "Peiter" came in 1754.<sup>46</sup> One of them seems to have settled in Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, and was included in the census of 1785 as owning a dwelling and having a family of six.<sup>47</sup> The

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<sup>37</sup> Pa. Arch. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ser. XVII, 397.

<sup>38</sup> York Co. Wills, 409.

<sup>39</sup> Pa. Arch. 6<sup>th</sup> Ser. I, 341, 496, 511, III, 46; 1<sup>st</sup> Ser. III, 72.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid.*, III, 511, 971.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ser. XXV, 403.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*, 505.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*, XVI, 75, 214.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid.*, 6<sup>th</sup> Ser., V, 40, 190.

<sup>45</sup> Hinke, Tohickon Union Church, 515.

<sup>46</sup> Pa. Arch. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ser. XVII, 397.

<sup>47</sup> Federal Census Va. 1790.

other located in Philadelphia and in 1777 was a "substitute" in the Philadelphia Militia.<sup>48</sup> A Peter Fleek enlisted in Capt. Craigh's Company, January 8, 1776. He was wounded. In May, 1818, he was living in Huntingdon Co., Pa., at the age of 65.<sup>48a</sup> A Peter Fleak was charged with stealing a horse in Augusta Co., Va., in 1785 and Wm. Jordan appeared against him as a witness.<sup>48b</sup>

3. Philip Flick. John Philip crossed the Atlantic in 1751 with Gerlach Paul and located in New Jersey where Thomas Andrews of Eversham, Burlington County, in his will dated July 17, 1755, mentioned him as a son-in-law and named him executor.<sup>49</sup> This may have been "the certain Philip Flick," possibly a brother, mentioned by Gerlach Paul in 1825 in his will as being dead and owing him £50. Another Philip Flick lived in Philadelphia and served in the Philadelphia Militia, 2<sup>d</sup> Battalion, September 17, 1777.<sup>50</sup> He was a baker in Philadelphia and in 1779 paid a tax of £88 and £22.<sup>51</sup> In 1780 he paid £182/10 and £9/4. In 1782 he paid a tax of £3/6/6 and 15/9.<sup>52</sup> He must have died that year, for his estate paid an additional tax of 4/5.<sup>53</sup> On September 4, 1775, a Philip Flick married Mary Lowry.<sup>54</sup> Another Philip Flick had a wife Catherine and a daughter Margaret born February 3d and baptised April 3, 1778.<sup>55</sup>

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<sup>48</sup> Pa. Arch. 6 Ser. I, 27, 199, 279.

<sup>48a</sup> Pa. Arch. 5 Ser. II, 95.

<sup>48b</sup> Abstract Records of Augusta Co., Va. I, 384.

<sup>49</sup> N. J. Arch. XXXI, 13; the following Flicks are mentioned in N. J. Index of Wills, Vol. I: Amy B., 1777, p. 308, Gloucester Co. William, 1821, p. 51, Index of Wills. Thomas, 1829, p. 51, Index of Wills. Henry S., 1834, p. 308, Gloucester Co. Ann W., 1834, p. 308, Gloucester Co. Sarah, 1849, p. 308, Gloucester Co. Joseph, 1866, p. 308, Gloucester Co. Charles, 1891, p. 225, Index of Wills, Union Co. Leonard, 1893, p. 225, Index of Wills, Camden Co.

<sup>50</sup> Pa. Arch. 6 Ser. I, 129.

<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.*, 2 Ser. XIV, 475, 571.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*, XV, 210, 751; XVI, 321, 367.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.*, XV, 429.

<sup>54</sup> Penn. Ger. Soc. V, 214.

<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*, 218.



4. Martin Flick. One Martin came to Pennsylvania in 1751 with Gerlach Paul and three other Flicks.<sup>56</sup> By September 11, 1758, he was married, for he and his wife Margaretha were sponsors at the baptism of Catharine Mehrkam on that date.<sup>57</sup> Another Martin was a son of Gerlach Paul Flick and served in the Revolution.<sup>58</sup>

5. Adam Flick. One Adam immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1766<sup>59</sup> and settled in Bedford County, Milford Township, where he paid a tax of 16/ in 1773 and 6/2 in 1776,<sup>60</sup> and in 1786 took out a land warrant for 140 acres.<sup>61</sup> He was included in the First Census as head of a family of 3 sons and 1 daughter, p. 24. He served in the Revolution<sup>62</sup> and performed militia duty in 1789.<sup>63</sup> Another Adam lived in Philadelphia where he was on the militia rolls in 1783–1790,<sup>64</sup> and paid a tax of £16 in 1779,<sup>65</sup> and £107/8 in 1780.<sup>66</sup> An Adam Flick was sponsor for Catherine Beitelman born in Bucks county February 7 and baptised March 21, 1810.<sup>67</sup> Another Adam took the patriot's oath in Washington county, Maryland, and also served in the Revolution.<sup>68</sup> Andrew and George, sons, as heads of families, were in the Census of 1790.

6. William Flick. Johan Wilhelm went to Pennsylvania in 1769 and John Wilhelm in 1771.<sup>69</sup> The first settled in Lancaster county, had a wife named Catherine<sup>70</sup>

<sup>56</sup> Rupp, 260.

<sup>57</sup> Pa. Arch. 6 Ser. VI, 11.

<sup>58</sup> See Part VII.

<sup>59</sup> Pa. Arch. 2 Ser. XVII, 475.

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.*, 3 Ser. XIII, 608; XV, 411.

<sup>61</sup> *Ibid.*, XXV, 512.

<sup>62</sup> *Ibid.*, 1" Ser. III, 72; 6" Ser. I, 639, 650.

<sup>63</sup> *Ibid.*, 6" Ser. III, 40.

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*, I, 639, 650.

<sup>65</sup> *Ibid.*, XIV, 608.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*, XV, 411.

<sup>67</sup> Hinke, 413.

<sup>68</sup> Brumbaugh, 13.

<sup>69</sup> Rupp, 397.

<sup>70</sup> Brumbaugh, 13.

and 2 sons and 3 daughters.<sup>71</sup> He was a dyer in Lancaster county in 1779<sup>72</sup> and in 1782 paid a tax of £2/16/3.<sup>73</sup> He seems to have been on the payroll of Capt. John Reitzel's Company of Pennsylvania Militia.<sup>74</sup> The second married Elizabeth Hoffman October 5, 1778, in Christ Church, Philadelphia, and the next year paid a tax of £1.<sup>75</sup> He may have moved to Gloucester county, N. J., where his will was recorded in 1829.<sup>76</sup> A William Flick took the Patriot's Oath in Maryland and served in the Revolution.<sup>77</sup>

7. John Flick. Since so many of these early Flicks began their names with John and none of them apparently used it exclusively, it is difficult to know who was meant by this designation. In the year Gerlach Paul arrived at Philadelphia in 1751 a John Flick took up 100 acres of land in Lancaster county. It seems likely that he was the Revolutionary soldier who on August 2, 1776, was in the 4th Vacant Company of the German Regiment, Continental Forces, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Weltner;<sup>78</sup> and also a private May 22, 1777, in Captain William Heyser's Company of the German Regiment commanded by Colonel Baron Arent.<sup>79</sup> He was recorded as a "freeman" in Lancaster county in 1779,<sup>80</sup> and in 1790 was included in the Federal Census as having 1 son and 1 daughter and as living in Donegal township. Another John Flick paid taxes in Philadelphia of £1/10 in 1779 and £56/ in 1780.<sup>81</sup> He may have moved to Washington county,

<sup>71</sup> Federal Census, Pennsylvania, 1790.

<sup>72</sup> Pa. Arch. 2" Ser. XVII, 606.

<sup>73</sup> *Ibid.*, 756.

<sup>74</sup> Pa. Arch. 6" Ser. V, 357.

<sup>75</sup> Pa. Marriages Prior to 1810 I, 91; Pa. Arch. 2" Ser. XVI, 475; 751.

<sup>76</sup> Index of N. J. Wills.

<sup>77</sup> Brumbaugh, 13; George Flick, Md. Arch. 18: 50, 206, and John Flick, *Ibid.*, 208, 264, 285, may have been his sons.

<sup>78</sup> Pa. Arch. 4" Ser. III, 804.

<sup>79</sup> Penn. Ger. Soc. XVII, 221, 225. Pa. Ar. 4" Ser. III, 794.

<sup>80</sup> Pa. Arch. 2" Ser. XVII, 522.

<sup>81</sup> *Ibid.*, 2" Ser. XV, 570; XVI, 475, 751.

Pennsylvania, and was included in the Federal Census of 1790 as being married but without any children. One of the John Flicks, probably of the second generation, was drafted in the War of 1812 at Dansville and saw service in the 81st Regiment in 1814.<sup>82</sup> The next year, 1813, John Flick had a survey of 38 acres made in Franklin county.<sup>83</sup> A John Flick was sponsor at the baptism of Absalom Benner born July 5, 1816, in Bucks county.<sup>84</sup> A John Flick from Elizabeth Town, Maryland, enlisted as a Revolutionary soldier in Washington county of that state.<sup>85</sup>

8. Jacob Flick. One served as a private in Captain Nathan Smith's Company from June 1, 1776, one month and fifteen days at Martha's Vineyard to defend the seacoast.<sup>86</sup> He was drafted for militia duty in Brothers Valley, Bedford county, in 1789.<sup>87</sup> Another Jacob served for six months at \$20 in the War of 1812.<sup>88</sup> A Jacob Flick was also sponsor at the baptism of Jacob Eckert in 1815 in Bucks county.<sup>89</sup>

9. Daniel Flick was a Revolutionary soldier in the 1st Virginia Regiment<sup>90</sup> and may have been a son of one of the immigrants.

10. Christopher Flick, born in 1756, probably a son of an immigrant, went to Virginia as a boy, enlisted in the Revolutionary army from that state, and was in Colonel Crawford's Expedition to Ohio in 1782. He applied for a federal pension in 1835 from Orange county, Indiana.<sup>91</sup>

11. Michael Flick, probably an immigrant's son, in

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<sup>82</sup> Pa. Arch. 6" Ser. VII, 625; IX, 19; Jonas and Joseph Flick also served in the War of 1812, *Ibid.*, VIII, 562, IX, 200, X, 94.

<sup>83</sup> *Ibid.* 2" Ser. XXV, 18.

<sup>84</sup> Hinke, 418.

<sup>85</sup> Williams, Hist. of Washington Co., Md., I, 79.

<sup>86</sup> Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the Rev., V, 786.

<sup>87</sup> Pa. Arch. 6" Ser. III, 43.

<sup>88</sup> *Ibid.*, VII, 205; VIII, 232, 699.

<sup>89</sup> Hinke, 417.

<sup>90</sup> Rev. Soldiers of Va. II, 112.

<sup>91</sup> Petition in Pension Bureau, Washington, D. C.

1773 paid a tax of 1/6 in Bedford county.<sup>92</sup> Another Michael was included in the Federal Census of 1790 as the head of a family in Philadelphia.

12. Thomas Flick made his will in Gloucester county, New Jersey, in 1829,<sup>93</sup> and may have been related to William Flick of that same county.

13. Among the women who bore the name Flick were the following: Elizabeth married Henry Carry in Christ Church, Philadelphia, June 22, 1771.<sup>94</sup> Another married Peter Becker August 22, 1776.<sup>95</sup> Another married Peter Tythe November 7, 1777.<sup>96</sup> And still another Elizabeth in 1835 witnessed a will in Philadelphia.<sup>97</sup> Mary Flick married William Stidhan September 29, 1785.<sup>98</sup> Margaret Flick married John Whetman in the Swedish Church, Philadelphia, July 31, 1777.<sup>99</sup> Catherine Flick married Ellet Howell at Trenton, New Jersey, December 27, 1777.<sup>100</sup> And Amy Flick made her will in New Jersey in 1777.<sup>101</sup> In all probability these Flicks were daughters of immigrants although some of them may have been widows of Flicks.

By the time of the American Revolution there were Flicks not only in Pennsylvania but also in New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. It seems more than likely that from Pennsylvania they scattered to the other colonies although it may be that some of them went directly. The exact relationship of these various branches cannot be determined until more public records, church records, family and cemeterial records, both in Europe and America are examined.

<sup>92</sup> Pa. Arch. 2<sup>d</sup> Ser. XXII, 10.

<sup>93</sup> Index of N. J. Wills.

<sup>94</sup> Penn. Marriages Prior to 1810 I, 91. Cf. Pa. Arch. 2<sup>d</sup> Ser. II, 103.

<sup>95</sup> *Ibid.*, 669.

<sup>96</sup> *Ibid.*, 524.

<sup>97</sup> Ger. Soc. of Penn. V., 311.

<sup>98</sup> Penn Mar. Prior to 1810 I, 39.

<sup>99</sup> *Ibid.*, 369.

<sup>100</sup> N. J. Arch. 1<sup>st</sup> Ser. XXII, 148.

<sup>101</sup> *Index of Wills* I, 308.

The European ancestral home of the Flicks has not been determined with certainty. No printed primary sources contribute to the settlement of this point. The record of John Henry Fleck's arrival in Philadelphia in 1738 states that he came from the Pfalz, or the Palatinate, in Germany.<sup>102</sup> Doubt may be raised, however, as to whether this Fleck was a Flick. The only secondary work which mentions Gerlach Paul Flick and gives the family history of his son John Caspar and his descendants states that Gerlach Paul came from Germany.<sup>103</sup> The traditions preserved in other branches of Gerlach Paul Flick's family contend that German Switzerland was his European home. His affiliation with the Reformed Church, which was strong in Protestant Switzerland, strengthens this supposition. Further his marriage with a daughter of the Fabian family, which was of Swiss origin, increases the probability. It is also well known that in the eighteenth century a large stream of Swiss immigrants flowed into Pennsylvania. No doubt an examination of Swiss church and local records would throw much light on the problem. Many of the so-called Pennsylvania Dutch actually came from the German side of Switzerland.<sup>104</sup>

If the Flicks had their ancestral home in Switzerland, it seems certain that they settled on the Rhine River in Germany before going to America. Evidence of this is preserved in a letter written by Johann Christian Flick to his son Gerlach Paul Flick from Emmerichenhain near Wiesbaden on March 31, 1766. In the letter are mentioned three brothers of Gerlach Paul, namely, John Peter, Philip Henry and John Christian, Jr., and a sister, Anna Gertrude. John Jost Flick is also named but not as a brother. This letter

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<sup>102</sup> Rupp, 125. A Conrad Fleck also arrived from Rotterdam and qualified Nov. 9, 1738. *Pa. Arch.* 2<sup>nd</sup> Ser. XVII, 178.

<sup>103</sup> Kulp, Families of the Wyoming Valley.

<sup>104</sup> Fisher, Making of Pa., 89.

carries the family back to Europe and establishes what was in all probability the place from which Gerlach Paul Flick emigrated.<sup>105</sup>

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### III.

#### GERLACH PAUL FLICK IN BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

Gerlach Paul Flick was born on March 7, 1728, according to the records of Zion's Church (Stone Church) near Kreidersville, Northampton County, Pennsylvania.<sup>106</sup> The place of his birth may have been Emmerichenhain near Wiesbaden, Hesse-Nassau, Germany. This surmise is based on the fact that his father, Johan Christian Flick, Sr., wrote him a letter from that place in 1766. His mother's name is unknown but she, together with three brothers and a sister, were living at or near Emmerichenhain. It seems to be a reasonable conjecture, however, that Johan Martin and John Philip Flick, who accompanied him to Philadelphia were his brothers.

At the age of 23 he left home, made his way down the Rhine river to Rotterdam, Holland, to seek his fortune in the New World. In various ways he had learned of the unusual opportunities in the province of Pennsylvania to which he was going. As a rule the men who go from the older parts of the world to find homes in the newer are among the bravest, most intelligent and most venturesome. It took a good deal of pluck and self-confidence to sever family ties and neighborhood attachments and to encounter all the hardships and uncertainties incident to the establishment of a new place of abode across the broad Atlantic in a strange continent. What sort of financial adjustments and arrangements Gerlach Paul made for the long journey is

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<sup>105</sup> Original letter in possession of Edward Paul Flick of Effort, Pa.

<sup>106</sup> These records when examined in 1928 were kept in the vault of the First National Bank at Northampton, Pa.

largely conjectural. Somehow he obtained his passage money, which enabled him to sail from Rotterdam in company with three other Flicks and in all likelihood with a number of neighbors for Philadelphia in 1751 on the ship *Neptune* under Captain Weir. No doubt, following the custom of that day, he and his companions carried their provisions with them for the long sea journey. Such supplies were partly brought from home and partly purchased before embarkation. The journey from Europe to America in the slow and small sailing ships of those days frequently consumed six weeks, and involved deprivations and hardships unknown today. No account of the ocean voyage has been preserved and hence its description must be left to the imagination. Mittelberger's "Journey to Pennsylvania in 1750" gives the nearest description we have of the amusements and hardships attending the crossing of the Atlantic at that time.<sup>107</sup>

A few facts about the sea trip have survived. The list of adult male passengers is known.<sup>108</sup> Among them was a pastor of the Reformed Church, John Egidius Hecker, from the village of Dillenburg in Nassau. He was two years older than Gerlach Paul Flick and had studied in the University of Herborn.<sup>109</sup> A warm friendship sprang up between these two young immigrants which was a determining factor in Gerlach Paul Flick's life. Some years later the families of these two men were more closely united by marriage.<sup>110</sup> Leaving Rotterdam probably in August, the *Neptune* after touching at Cowes, which afforded the passengers an opportunity to see something of England, landed at Philadelphia on September 23, 1751.<sup>111</sup> It was all a wonderful adventure for a young man seeking his fortune

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<sup>107</sup> Fisher, Making of Pa. 102

<sup>108</sup> Rupp, 260.

<sup>109</sup> Hinke, 33.

<sup>110</sup> Rev. Henry Koch, grandson of Hecker, married Mary Hugus, granddaughter of Gerlach Paul Flick.

<sup>111</sup> Rupp, 260.

in a new quarter of the globe. Upon his arrival he immediately took the required oath of allegiance to the King of England and to the province of Pennsylvania.

The details of the career of Gerlach Paul Flick in Pennsylvania for the first few years are lacking. Influenced by relatives or acquaintances he early left the city of Philadelphia for the country and located in Bedminster Township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where Germans and Swiss had a settlement about the Tohickon Reformed Church. The first pastor of this church and perhaps its founder was the Rev. John Conrad Wirtz, born in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1706, who came to Philadelphia with a Swiss colony in 1735. He served various rural churches, among them the Tohickon Reformed Church from 1745 to 1748.<sup>112</sup> There may have been some connection between the Flicks and Wirtz, although Wirtz had been succeeded by the Rev. John Jacob Riess when Gerlach Paul Flick settled there and became a member of the church.<sup>113</sup>

Apparently young Gerlach Paul found lucrative employment among the farmers and saved his earnings, for within four years after his arrival in the province he married Anna Catherine Fabian on October 28, 1755.<sup>114</sup> "After a three-fold proclamation" the ceremony was performed by the Rev. John Egidius Hecker, pastor of the Tohickon Reformed Church from 1755 to 1761, and special friend of the bridegroom. The marriage was recorded in the records of his church as the second performed by this minister.<sup>115</sup> At the time of his marriage Paul Gerlach Flick was 27 years old and Anna Catherine Fabian 19. She was a native American, having been born in 1736 and baptised June 20 in the Goshenhoppen Reformed Church as the daughter of Michael and Dorothea Fabian. Michael Fabian at

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<sup>112</sup> Hinke, 3.

<sup>113</sup> *Ibid.*, 14.

<sup>114</sup> *Ibid.*, 212.

<sup>115</sup> *Ibid.*



the age of 30 immigrated from Rotterdam in 1732, landed at Philadelphia October 11 and settled in Goshenhoppen Valley, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, where Anna Catherine was born.<sup>116</sup>

For about five years after his marriage Gerlach Paul Flick maintained his residence in Bedminster Township, where his first child, a daughter named Anna Margaret, was born August 18 and baptised October 14, 1756;<sup>117</sup> and his second child, a son named John Caspar, was born June 22 and baptised November 14, 1758.<sup>118</sup> Both births are in the Tohickon Reformed Church records.<sup>119</sup> On December 23, 1759, Gerlach Paul Flick and his wife acted as witnesses for the baptism of John Paul Neelig.<sup>120</sup> It is worthy of note that in the birth and baptismal record "Gerlach" and "Anna" were dropped and the more familiar "Paul" and "Catherine" used. With this incident the name of Gerlach Paul Flick disappears from the printed records of Bucks county in the year 1760, and it is quite evident that he had removed with his family to some other part of the province. When he went to Bucks county in 1751 it comprised all the territory north of Philadelphia county. The following year, March 11, 1752, Northampton county was formed from the northern part of Bucks.

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#### IV.

#### GERLACH PAUL FLICK IN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

After disappearing from Bucks county in 1760 Gerlach Paul Flick turned up in the newly organized Northampton county, which included all territory in

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<sup>116</sup> Data of James B. Lux.

<sup>117</sup> Hinke, 81.

<sup>118</sup> *Ibid.*, 96.

<sup>119</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>120</sup> Hinke, 105.

Pennsylvania north of the present northern boundary of Bucks until Lehigh county was formed from Northampton in 1812. In 1760 Northampton county was on the frontier, sparsely settled, and offered an abundance of free land and special opportunities to a young married man ambitious and willing to work. The frontier settlements were still menaced by hostile bands of Indians who roved about over the county. The roads were poor and few, and markets were far away.

The attention of Gerlach Paul Flick was called to the greater advantages of this newer region at an early date. Northampton county was organized only a year after his arrival in Philadelphia, and his friends and acquaintances had established new homes there. Several months before his marriage to Anna Catherine Fabian his father-in-law, Michael Fabian, on February 15, 1755, took out a land warrant for 25 acres in Northampton county.<sup>121</sup> This same year, whether before or after his marriage is not clear, Gerlach Paul Flick himself had a survey made of a tract of land in Northampton county, which would make it appear that at an early date he contemplated settling there. In 1773, eighteen years later, George Schwartz attempted to get control of this land on the claim that he had had the land surveyed earlier than 1755. The case was tried in November 1773 before the "Board of Property." The minutes of the Board show that the case was heard and dismissed, which was a victory for Gerlach Paul Flick.<sup>122</sup>

In 1757, apparently leaving his wife and child in Bedminster county, Bucks county, Gerlach Paul Flick went into Northampton county for employment of some kind, for on October 5th of that year at the "Forks of the Delaware" in Lehigh township near Easton, he joined others in signing a petition to the Governor and General Assembly of Pennsylvania asking for protec-

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<sup>121</sup> Pa. Arch.

<sup>122</sup> *Ibid.*, 1<sup>st</sup> Ser. XXXII, 370.

tion against the Indians.<sup>123</sup> This petition, written in German and translated into English, stated that many of the settlers had fled from the county because of Indian attacks. It asked for arms for the pioneers and the construction of a road with small guard houses along it. Among the signers were a number of men who were actual settlers of the region which later was organized as Moor township. It seems very likely that Gerlach Paul Flick had gone to Northampton county to clear his land and to erect a log cabin for his little family. Again on October 28, 1784, he signed another petition at Easton for the appointment of Peter Caler as sheriff of Northampton county.<sup>124</sup>

It may be assumed that in 1760 Gerlach Paul Flick removed his family and such movable goods and livestock as he possessed to his farm in Lehigh township, Northampton county, for in 1761 he was recorded as a resident and as having paid a tax of £7 there.<sup>125</sup> That portion of Lehigh township in which he settled was organized in 1749 as Allen township and then was created into Moor township in 1765 and named after John Moor, a representative in the Pennsylvania General Assembly in 1761-2. No doubt Gerlach Paul Flick was one of the moving spirits in bringing about this change. Moor township was located in the northern part of Northampton county, was six miles square and contained 22,506 acres. It was well watered and wooded

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<sup>123</sup> Pa. Arch. 1" Ser. III, 284; Frontier Forts I, 247. The fear of hostile outbreaks from the Indians in Northampton County is expressed in a number of letters and petitions from the inhabitants in that county. See Letter of Wm. Parsons to Governor Morris in 1755, Pa. Arch. 1" Ser., II, 515; petition of May 4, 1757, signed by 41 Germans, *Ibid.*, III, 151; petition from Lower Smithfield Township, *Ibid.*, 174; petition from Easton, July 25, 1757, *Ibid.*, 238; *Ibid.*, 321. See also Supreme Executive Council XII, 57, 62, 64, 248, 312, 236, 358, 677. See recommendations of Gov. James Hamilton to the Assembly for the protection of and relief of the inhabitants of Northampton Co. Pa. Arch. 4" Ser., 216-218.

<sup>124</sup> Pa. Arch. 6" Ser. XI, 266.

<sup>125</sup> Northampton County Papers Miscel. 1758-1767 (Pa. Hist. Soc.) p. 75.

and although hilly yet its gravel and shale soil was good for growing vegetables, fruit, rye and buckwheat. By 1740 the white settlers in that area numbered about 50, who increased during the next 30 years to 500. In 1770 there were 3 grist mills, and two saw mills in operation in the township. The village of Moortown was on the eastern border and Petersville was soon settled.<sup>126</sup> By 1830 the inhabitants of Moor township numbered 1645.

In such a frontier community, naturally, the records were meager but they are sufficient to present a fair outline of Gerlach Paul Flick's subsequent career. At that day few men thought of the wealth in the earth such as ores, coal and oil. It was what was on top of it that counted—farming and lumbering. Hence men gave their attention to crops, cheese-making, sawmills, gristmills, fulling mills, tanneries, blacksmithing, wagon-making, and the erection of buildings. From 1760 on Gerlach Paul Flick was a hard-working, highly respected farmer of considerable prominence in Northampton county. Later on he set up a mill and was known far and wide as "Miller Flick." Sometime between 1760 and 1770 Michael Fabian also moved into Moor township, or the neighboring Allen township. Both men took an active part in the Reformed Church at Kreidersville in Allen township. During this decade comparatively little is known of the activities of these two pioneers. On March 14, 1770, Gerlach Paul Flick witnessed the will of Michael Reubary of Moor township.<sup>127</sup> In erecting the new Stone Church at Kreidersville Gerlach Paul Flick contributed £4 on March 16, 1771, and Michael Fabian and his children £5.<sup>128</sup> His eldest child, Anna Margaret Flickin (feminine spelling) was confirmed in Whitehall Church at Egypt.<sup>129</sup>

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<sup>126</sup> Haller, *Hist. of Northampton Co.* II, 485.

<sup>127</sup> Eyerman, 183.

<sup>128</sup> Records of Stone Church.

<sup>129</sup> Church Records in Harrisburg.

In 1797 he subscribed 18/9 and his son Caspar 15/ for the support of the Church.<sup>130</sup>

Like most men of that day Gerlach Paul Flick speculated in land which was both the evidence of wealth and one of the best means of increasing it.

On Nov. 22, 1766, Paul Flick filed application No. 2137 for a survey of land in Northampton Co. Philip Drum on Oct. 18, 1774, entered a "Caveat" against the survey on the claim that he had made improvements on a part of the land before the application was recorded. How the dispute ended is not clear.<sup>130a</sup>

In 1772 he was recorded on the tax records as the owner of 175 acres in Moor township on which he paid a property tax of £2/16.<sup>131</sup> In 1773 he had a survey made of a tract of 50 acres in Northampton county and took out a land warrant for it.<sup>132</sup> The same year in a suit before the "Board of Property" he won a clear title to another piece of land in the same county.<sup>133</sup> On April 14, 1774, Saul (Gerlach Paul) "yeoman" and William Beck bought the land on which Emanuel Church at Petersville, Moor township, was located and which adjoined Paul Flick's farm. On the death of Beck shortly thereafter he became the sole owner of the tract. On September 30, 1782, he sold 76 acres and 110 perches to Philip Drum, Casper Erb and Henry Bartholomew, trustees of the Church, for the use of the Reformed and Lutheran congregations for church and school purposes only.<sup>134</sup> The deed was recorded on November 7, 1785, in the county seat at Easton.<sup>135</sup> Meanwhile his friend, the Rev. John Egidius Hecker, who at an earlier

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<sup>130</sup> Records of Stone Church, 24.

<sup>130a</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" Ser. II, 581.

<sup>131</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" Ser. XIX, 60.

<sup>132</sup> *Ibid.*, XXIV, 77.

<sup>133</sup> Pa. Arch. 2" Ser. XXXII, 370.

<sup>134</sup> Pa. Ger. Soc. I, 433, 551, 558, 561, gives the history of Emanuel Church at Petersville.

<sup>135</sup> County Court House, Land Records.

day had preached at various places in Northampton county, finally settled in Moor township in 1767 where in addition to several other congregations he ministered to Emanuel Church. He died in Moor township in November, 1773.<sup>136</sup> In 1774 Gerlach Paul Flick had a lawsuit with Philip Drum about a land application of November 21, 1766, in which Drum claimed that he had made improvements on the land before Flick filed his claim. How it was adjusted does not appear in the records.<sup>136a</sup>

In 1780 Gerlach Paul Flick was assessed on property in Moor township valued at £115.<sup>137</sup> His wife Catherine in 1781 paid a tax of £1/16, on a half lot valued at £600, in Philadelphia.<sup>138</sup> In 1782 he sold a parcel of land in Moor township to Daniel Schwartz. In 1785 he sold another tract in the same township to Philip Drum, and paid a tax of £1/3/4 on 175 acres, 2 horses and 4 cattle.<sup>139</sup> As administrator of the estate of Martin Herbster he sold a tract of land in Moor township to Daniel Schwartz on November 7, 1785. Land Records, F 1, 25. In 1786 he paid a Federal tax of £1/10/7 on 293 acres, 3 horses and 4 cattle, and witnessed the will of George Schwartz.<sup>140</sup> In 1788 he paid a similar tax of £1/1/2 on 175 acres, 4 horses and 4 cattle.<sup>141</sup> No doubt the unprinted records after 1788, if preserved, would show him paying taxes, buying land, operating his mill, performing the multitudinous duties of an active, prosperous farmer and participating in all the public affairs of the community. The printed records for the period from 1789 to 1825 contain but two references to his land deals. The will of Michael Schwart in 1801 mentioned the lands owned by Gerlach Paul

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<sup>136</sup> Hinke, 33.

<sup>136a</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" Ser. II, 581.

<sup>137</sup> Hist. Northampton Co. (1877), 76.

<sup>138</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" Ser. XV, 667.

<sup>139</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" Ser. XV, 140.

<sup>140</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" Ser. XIX, 249; Eyerman, 430.

<sup>141</sup> *Ibid.*, 352.

Flick;<sup>142</sup> and as late as November 19, 1819, he took out a land warrant for 46 acres in Northampton county.<sup>143</sup>

As old age approached, realizing that he was no longer able either to work his land himself with profit or to rent it advantageously he appears to have sold all of it. No doubt a careful search of the land records of Northampton county would reveal the dates of sale and the names of purchasers. After his death the inventory made of his property on February 18, 1826, by Peter Steckel and Abraham Stern, the two witnesses of his will, shows that it consisted of bonds, notes, book debts, farm implements and household goods. An inventory of his bonds, notes and book debts made a total of \$8723.31 and the tools and home articles \$161.12, or a total of \$8884.43. For that day this sum was a modest fortune, the product of hard work and thrift in a new country. After all expenses were deducted, the proceeds of the sale were divided equally among his 11 surviving children.<sup>144</sup>

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## V.

### CAPTAIN GERLACH PAUL FLICK'S MILITARY RECORD.

When Gerlach Paul Flick at the age of 23 came to Philadelphia in 1751 it is not unlikely that he had had some military experience in Europe. Although he must have had opportunities to serve in the French and Indian War after settling in America no evidence of such service has come to light. His eagerness to establish himself and his marriage in 1755 checked any such inclination.

The discussion of the issues between the colonists and the mother country found eager listeners among the Germans and Swiss of Pennsylvania, who for the

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<sup>142</sup> Eyerman, 409.

<sup>143</sup> Pa. Arch. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ser. XXVI, 80. This may have been his son Gerlach Paul, Jr..

<sup>144</sup> Administration papers in Court House, Easton, Pa.

most part became champions of the American cause and proved their devotion in many ways. When the War of Independence began in 1775 Gerlach Paul Flick was 47 years old and had been in his adopted country 24 years. He had been married for 20 years and had a large family to support as well as a farm and a mill to manage. Located on the frontier he and his family lived in constant fear of massacre by the Indians, particularly after it became certain that most of them had allied themselves with the British in the pending struggle. It seems quite probable that in the years preceding the Revolution he had served in the militia of Northampton county organized to protect the frontier settlements against Indian outbreaks and thus had accustomed himself to the military tactics of the New World.<sup>145</sup>

In the American Revolution Moor township raised a company of 106 men under Capt. Adam Bruckhauer and Lient. Timothy Reed, which was a credit for such a sparsely settled region.<sup>146</sup> John Caspar Flick, 18 years old when Lexington was fought, the eldest son of Gerlach Paul Flick, early enlisted as a private in the Revolution and saw much service.<sup>147</sup> Martin Flick, the second son, enlisted in New York during the whole period of the struggle for Independence.<sup>148</sup> Gerlach Paul Flick had adequate excuse for keeping out of the army but his heart was in the contest and he gladly volunteered. His name as a Revolutionary soldier ap-

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<sup>145</sup> A company of militia was formed in Northampton county in October, 1763. Pa. Arch. 1" Ser. IV, 285. The Pennsylvania Council of Safety on December 17, 1776, authorized General George Washington to call out the Northampton County Militia for active service. *Ibid.*, V, 115. Again on August 5, 1777, the Executive Council ordered Northampton county to support General Washington with the Militia. *Ibid.*, 523. See petitions of the inhabitants of Allen township in 1779 for advice about Indian outbreaks. Pa. Arch. 1" Ser. VII, 284.

<sup>146</sup> Haller, Hist. of Northampton Co., II, 485.

<sup>147</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" Ser. XIX, 156, 258, 386; XXVI, 78, 80; Pa. Ger. Soc. XVII, 330, 221, 225; XXII, 235.

<sup>148</sup> Cal. N. Y. MSS. II, 356; Mass. Soldiers and Sailors of the Rev., V, 786; N. Y. in the Rev., 21



peared first May 21, 1777, on the muster roll of Col. Cook Long.<sup>149</sup> A return of troops from Chester, Pennsylvania, on August 28, 1777, mentions his company and shows that he was a commissioned officer.<sup>150</sup> In June, 1777, and May 1, 1778, his name appears as Captain of the 8th Company, 4th Battalion, Northampton County Militia, commanded by Col. John Siegfried and Lieut. Col. Nicholas Kern.<sup>151</sup> From 1778 to 1783 he served as Captain of Rangers on the frontier.<sup>152</sup> in 1781 he commanded the 1st Company of the 3rd Battalion of Northampton County Militia,<sup>153</sup> under Lt. Col. Nicholas Kern.

Since General Sullivan's Expedition sent out in 1779 to punish the Indians of western New York marched from Easton to Wyoming not far from Captain Gerlach Paul Flick's home it is possible that he took part in it. He may have been in Schott's Rifle Corps, or in the Independent Rifle Company, or in the German Battalion, or even in Morgan's Riflemen, who were largely Pennsylvanians. President Reed of Pennsylvania on August 3, 1779, begged the people of Northampton county to turn out to protect the state against the enemy. Since the summons came in the midst of harvest the farmers strenuously objected and a near riot ensued. However cooler heads prevailed and matters were adjusted. The inhabitants stated that the county's quota was already in the field, and among those in service at the time was Gerlach Paul Flick. The 5th and 6th Battalions of the Northampton County Militia under Col. Nicholas Kern were at Wyoming July 30, 1784.<sup>153a</sup>

On the monument erected at Northampton, Pa., May

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<sup>149</sup> Pa. Arch. 5th Ser. VIII, 304; Penn. Ger. Soc. XVII, 297.

<sup>150</sup> Pa. Arch. 5th Ser. VIII, 544.

<sup>151</sup> Pa. Ger. Soc. XVII, 297, 330.

<sup>152</sup> Pa. Arch. 3rd Ser. XXII, 301.

<sup>153</sup> *Ibid.*, 5th Ser. VIII, 257.

<sup>153a</sup> Pa. Arch 1<sup>st</sup> Ser. VII, 616, 655; Pa. Ger. Soc. XVII, 330.

30, 1914, "to perpetuate the memory of Col. John Siegfried and the men who served under him in the Northampton County Militia during the War of the Revolution" the assertion is made that they participated in the battles of Assunpink, Brandywine, Germantown, White Marsh, Red Bank and Monmouth.

A military career on the frontier in the Revolutionary War was not ordinarily spectacular but it required unusual bravery, fortitude and resourcefulness. Gerlach Paul Flick possessed all these qualifications to an unusual degree. His contribution to American freedom will be better understood when the services of the military units which he led have been dug out of the records. It required an intelligent interest in an epoch-making movement and an exceptional courage and self-sacrifice to induce a man of middle age with a large family to support and a large farm to look after, to volunteer his services in the Revolution and to continue in the field for six years. His selection as captain also shows the high regard of his associates for his patriotism, his character and his ability. He neglected his own personal affairs and gave his time and energy gladly to create the new Republic of which he was a proud citizen. So far as known he never applied for a pension either to his state or the Federal Government. He must have taken considerable pride in the fact that two of his sons took up arms in defense of their native land. His youngest son, Gerlach Paul, Jr., was born the year Burgoyne surrendered at Saratoga. Whether any of his sons-in-law were soldiers in the Revolution has not been determined. At least four other Flicks who were immigrants like Gerlach Paul, several of whom were probably his brothers, and a number of their sons participated in the conflict.

At the conclusion of the Revolution Captain Gerlach Paul Flick returned to his mill and farm a man 55 years of age. He took a keen interest in the creation

of the Federal Constitution of 1789<sup>154</sup> and voted for George Washington as the first President of the United States. Later he seems to have become a supporter of Jefferson. The inhabitants of Moor township bitterly opposed the House Tax which resulted in the Fries Rebellion of 1798-9, and Gerlach Paul Flick was unusually active in the hostile measures taken against it.<sup>154a</sup> State and local politics interested him greatly but he had no personal ambition to hold office although his high standing in Northampton county and his unusual military career would have brought him strong support had he cared to use them for political advancement. Although far advanced in years when the War of 1812 began, he followed its course with deep interest and rejoiced at its favorable conclusion.

In his home Captain Gerlach Paul Flick and his family spoke and wrote and read German, but all of them could use English in intercourse with neighbors who knew only that tongue. He himself, for that day, had received a good education in Hesse-Nassau and it had been supplemented by extensive travel and by service in the Revolutionary army. His scholarly taste is shown by the fact that he had 14 books in his library dealing no doubt with religion and history.

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## VI.

### CAPTAIN GERLACH PAUL FLICK'S WILL.

Having accumulated a competence against his old age, Gerlach Paul Flick carefully guarded it and arranged for its distribution after his death among his children. On November 12, 1825, a little more than two

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<sup>154</sup> No doubt he had taken an active part in organizing the "Constitutional Society of the Battalion of Northampton County" which looked out for the political rights and security of the inhabitants of the county. Pa. Arch. 1<sup>st</sup> Ser. VII, 284.

<sup>154a</sup> Davis, *The Fries Rebellion, 1798-9*, Doylestown, Pa., 1899, p. 38.

months before his death, he made a will which is still preserved in the Registry of Wills in the County Court House at Easton. It is written in English and signed in his own hand as "Paul Flick" instead of "Gerlach Paul Flick." The "Gerlach," probably a family name, was dropped as early as 1756, but has been retained throughout this paper to distinguish him from his third son, Paul Flick. The will written in another hand than his own is given here in full:

"In the name of God Aman. I Paul Flick of Moor township in the county of Northampton and State of Pennsylvania am old sick weak of body but of perfect mind memory and understanding blessed be God Almighty for the same and knowing that it is appointed of all men to Die do publish this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say first is my will that all my Just Debts shall be paid after my Disease by my Executors hereinafter named second is my Will that all my reale as well as personel Estate Shall be sold by my executors after my Disease and the proceeds thereof shall be devided among my eleven children, shiere and shiere alike [excepting as hereinafter excepted] that is to say to my son Casper Flick one sheare to my son Martin one sheare one share to my son Paul one sheare to my daughter Margeretha intermarried to Jacob Gilbert to my daughter Catherine intermarried to Jacob Hugus one sheare to my daughter Anna Maria intermarried to Jacob Defenderfer one sheare to [my] daughter Suzanna intermarried to Peter Sholl one sheare to my daughter Elizabeth intermarried to George Greber one sheare to my Daughter Maria Magdalena intermarried to Peter Muffly one share to my daughter Sofya intermarried to John Reder one other sheare and as to my daughter Gertrante intermarried with Edward Greenemeyer her share shall remain in the hands of the executors and shall pay her the interest thereof during her natral life

as also of the principal if she should stand in need of and after Desease what is left I give and devise to her son Daniel Sheikels and whereas I have paid in my lifetime fifty pounds for a certain Philip Flick who is since departed this life it is my will that this fifty pounds with the interest should remain in the hands of the children of said Philip [Flick] and should be di-veided amongst them sheare and sheare alike and I do hereby impower my executors to make sign seal and execute such Deed or Deeds or other Instruments of Writing for my Real estate as I myself ought or chould have done in my lifetime and I do hereby Nominate Constitute and appoint my son Paul Flick and my sons in law Peter Sholl and John Reder sole Executors of this my last will and Testament hereby revoking dis-annul all former Wills by me made in witness whereof I have herunto set my hand and seal the twelfth day of November in the Year of our Lord one Thousand eight hundred and twenty five

(Signed) Paul Flick (Seal)

Signed sealed published and decleared by the above Testator and for his Last Will and Testament in the presents of us who at the instance and request of the Testator and in the presents of each other have here-unto subscribed our names as Witnesses

(Signed) Peter Steckel

Abraham Stern

Paul Flick

Peter Sholl Executors sworn Northampton Co.

Same day John Reder one of the Executors re-nounced all Letters Testamentary Granted Paul Flick and Peter Sholl the other two executors named in the will."

P. L. Eberle D. R.

It will be noticed that Gerlach Paul Flick does not mention his wife Anna Catherine in his will. Undoubtedly she died some years before, the date at present

being unknown. He names 11 surviving children—3 sons and 8 daughters—and gives the names of all of them together with his sons-in-law. He showed no favoritism but divided his property “share and share alike” among his children but for some reason not quite clear provided that the portion going to Gertrante, presumably the youngest daughter, should be held in trust for her to be paid her as she needed funds, the remainder at her death to go to her son Daniel Sheikels, perhaps a son by a former marriage. A Philip Flick, very likely a brother who came to Philadelphia with him in 1751, is mentioned. The two eldest sons, John Caspar and Martin were not made executors, perhaps because they lived at some distance.

Captain Gerlach Paul Flick died January 20, 1826, at the age of 97 years, 10 months and 13 days, and was buried at Zion's Church (Stone Church) which he helped to build many years before at Kreidersville, Northampton county.<sup>155</sup> On February 4, 1826, his will was “exhibited and probated.” At the public sale of his personal property 14 books were sold for \$3., “one pair of specs” for 25 cents, “ten puter plates” for \$1., and “one copper Kittle” for \$4. An inventory of his property made on February 18, 1826, showed that Caspar Flick owed the estate one bond amounting to \$1098.52 with interest; Col. Nicholas Kern owed a note and interest of \$877.83; Martin Flick owed \$443.54 and interest secured by one bond and three notes; Peter Muffly owed \$247.39 with interest secured by three bonds; Paul Flick owed a “book debt” of \$762.24 with interest; John Reder owed a “book debt” of \$182.53 and interest; and many other persons owed notes and “book debts,” the total amounting to \$8723.31. The household goods and farm implements brought at public auction amounted to \$161.12. The total sum

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<sup>155</sup> His tombstone, a small brown stone slab about 18 inches high, has on one side the date 1826 and on the other side “P. Flick.”

realized from the estate was \$8884.43. When all expenses were paid it seems that each of the eleven children received \$574.24. The savings of Captain Gerlach Paul Flick accumulated by a lifetime of hard work and thrift was a modest fortune for his day. It would be interesting to know the titles of the 14 volumes sold after his death, for they would give a clue to his intellectual equipment and to his literary taste. That this pioneer farmer and miller was a man of high standing in his community is attested by indisputable evidence.

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## VII.

### CAPTAIN GERLACH PAUL FLICK'S FAMILY.

So far as known no attempt has ever been made by any of Gerlach Paul Flick's descendants to write an account of either his life or that of his family. Hence the sources of information which might have been available at an earlier date have either disappeared altogether or have been so widely scattered that it is almost impossible to collect them. The colonial records of Pennsylvania preserve the date of his arrival in Philadelphia in 1751. The records of the Tohickon Union Church in Bedminster township, Bucks county, supply the date of his marriage and the birth of his two eldest children as well as the name of his wife. After his removal to Northampton county about 1760, however, there are few printed family or church records giving the dates of the birth or baptism of the nine later children. The records of Zion Church (Stone Church) at Kreidersville, Egypt Reformed Church and of Emanuel Church at Petersville might supply this information. The places of the burial of Gerlach Paul Flick, Jr., and wife and Peter Muffly and wife are known and the gravestones contribute data.

In the will of Gerlach Paul Flick the three sons are

mentioned in the order of seniority, and then the eldest daughter heads the list of girls. Knowing this arrangement it may be assumed that the eight daughters are named according to age. The Federal Census of 1790 contains the name of "Paul Flick" of Moor township as the "head of a family" with one son under 16 years of age and five daughters.<sup>156</sup> By 1790 he had been married 35 years and was 62 years old. Certainly all his 11 children had been born by that time. Assuming that the two eldest sons, Caspar and Martin, and the three eldest daughters, Margaret, Catherine and Anna Maria, were married and had homes of their own, that would leave Paul, aged 13, and Susanna, Elizabeth, Maria Magdelein, Sofya and Gertrante to make the six children still at home. The scanty information gleaned about the members of Gerlach Paul Flick's family will be summarized below, the order of his will being followed:

1. John Caspar Flick, born June 22, 1758, and baptised November 14, in Bedminster township, Bucks county, died in Northampton county in 1840 at the age of 82. Like his father he was a miller by trade. He served as a private in the Revolution and in 1794, was Captain of the 1st Company of the 4th Regiment of Northampton Co. Militia.<sup>157</sup> Caspar Flick in 1785 paid a tax of £2/16/3 on 193 acres, 1 horse and 2 cattle in Moor township; in 1786, 12/ on 133 acres, 1 horse and 2 cattle; in 1788, 3/4 on 1 horse and 1 cow. In 1786 he took out a warrant for 400 acres in Northampton county; in 1808 another tract of 50 acres; and in 1832 another tract of 12 acres.<sup>157a</sup> He had 12 children of whom all lived to be over 80. He was the father of John Flick, the founder of Flicksville, who was born January 1, 1783, and died at Flicksville, January 1,

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<sup>156</sup> Federal Census, 1790, Pennsylvania, 177.

<sup>157</sup> Pa. Arch. 6" Ser. IV, 394; V, 425, 431. He married Betsy Foulk.

<sup>157a</sup> Pa. Arch. 2" Ser. XIX, 156, 253, 356; XXXIX, 78, 80.



1869. On May 27, 1810 he married Barbara Caster (Koester), who was born in 1780 and died 1858. His children were: (1) Elizabeth who was born in 1811, died 1887, married H. Shuman and had two daughters; (2) Bebra; (3) Catherine; (4) Joseph who went to Wisconsin; (5) Reuben Jay who became President of the Peoples Bank at Wilkes-Barre, was defeated for Congress, in 1882, died in 1890, and had 6 children; Liddon died 1905, Warren J. in Nevada, Helen F., Reuben J., Jr., Lydia and one other.<sup>158</sup>

2. Martin Flick was born about 1760 and may have been the third child. He was evidently named after John Martin Flick who came to Philadelphia in 1751 with Gerlach Paul Flick. On November 25, 1776, he enlisted for the period of the Revolutionary War as a private in Capt. James Gregg's Company, known also as the 3rd Company, of the 1st Regiment New York Line commanded by Col. Goose Van Scaick and Lt. Col. Cornelius Van Dyck.<sup>159</sup> Martin's name appears in the muster roll for March-June, 1780, and also in the muster roll dated at West Point January-April, 1781.<sup>160</sup> Col. Goose Van Schaick had been transferred from the 2nd New York Regiment to the 1st New York Regiment on November 21, 1776.<sup>161</sup> In the Battle of Monmouth he served as a brigadier general under Lord Stirling in 1778. He was in the Mohawk Valley in 1779 and was put in charge of the expedition against the Onondagan Indians. Martin Flick was one of the privates who invaded the Onondaga territory. Congress on May 10, 1779, publicly thanked Col. Van Schaick, his officers and men "for their activity and good conduct in the late expedition against the Onondagas."<sup>162</sup> In 1777 he

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<sup>158</sup> See Nat. Enc. of Am. Biog. X, 35; Families of Wyoming Valley, II, 692; Wyoming Hist. and Geolog. Soc. X, 7, 14, 37, 285; XVIII, 25; Kieffer, First Settlers of the Forks of the Delaware, 360.

<sup>159</sup> N. Y. in the Rev., 21; Arch. of the State of N. Y., 177.

<sup>160</sup> Mass. Sol. and Sail. of the Rev. V, 786; Cal. N. Y. MSS. II, 356.

<sup>161</sup> Heitman I, 984.

<sup>162</sup> *Ibid.*

marched into Cherry Valley with 150 men against the Indians and Tories.<sup>163</sup> In 1781 with 800 men he pursued Sir John Johnson by way of Johnstown, N. Y.<sup>164</sup> For his services in the Revolution the State of New York on July 8, 1790, allotted Martin Flick 500 acres of land in the Military Tract, which was lot No. 26 in township 15, known as Fabius. He had the patent delivered to Caleb S. Riggs.<sup>165</sup> He had sold his New York bounty claim on June 26, 1790, to Benjamin Lay.<sup>166</sup>

After the Revolution he returned to Pennsylvania, for in 1785 he paid a tax of 10 shillings in Northampton county as a "single freeman."<sup>167</sup> On June 6, 1786, he took out two warrants for 400 acres each in that county.<sup>168</sup> The same year on August 20 "Mertain" Flick's name appears on the muster roll of Capt. John Rutter's Company of Northampton County Militia,<sup>169</sup> and on the muster roll of the 5th-7th classes of the 4th Battalion of the Northampton County Militia, which was called out on duty.<sup>170</sup> Nothing further is heard of him until 1826 when he was mentioned in his father's will.

3. Gerlach Paul Flick (second)<sup>171</sup> also called Paul Flick, Sr., and "Saw Miller Flick," third son but probably ninth child, was born in Moor township November 19, 1777, died September 14, 1856, and is buried

<sup>163</sup> Lossing I, 237. Upon returning from the Sullivan Expedition Col. Gansevoort found the 1st N. Y. Reg. at Fort Schuyler Sept. 24, 1779. Jour. of Lieut. Robert Parker in Pa. Mag. of Hist. 28:20.

<sup>164</sup> *Ibid.*, 290.

<sup>165</sup> Bal. Bk. 28, 129, 159.

<sup>166</sup> N. Y. Cal. of Land Papers, 819.

<sup>167</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" XXVI, 78, 79.

<sup>168</sup> Pa. Arch. 3" Ser. XXVI, 78, 79. He seems to have been enrolled in 1782 in the 1st Company, 3rd Battalion, of the Northampton Co. Militia along with "Gasper." *Ibid.*, 4th Ser. VI, 246, 260, 266, 279. On August 20, 1784, he was doing military duty at Wyoming, Pa. *Ibid.*, III, 883.

<sup>169</sup> *Ibid.* 6" Ser. III, 883.

<sup>170</sup> *Ibid.*, 790.

<sup>171</sup> Tombstone at Bath, Pa., Printed List of Names p. 8.

with his wife in the cemetery at Bath, Pennsylvania. In 1802 he married Maria Margaret Roeder who was born in 1782 and died in 1860. He ran a saw mill and plaster mill indicated on a map made in 1850 and now in the Pennsylvania Historical Society showing that the mills were located almost in the center of the southern border of Moor township. The Northampton county records state that between the years 1820 and 1852 he bought seven tracts of land. He died intestate and his son Stephen Flick and his son-in-law Abraham Leh were appointed administrators of his estate which realized at public sale \$3790.<sup>172</sup> The petition of the administrators mentions 12 children—7 sons and 5 daughters—all living in 1856 except George, in the following order: (1) Lydia, born about 1802, married Jacob Donner and died about 1872 leaving six children, Caroline, Susan, Frank, Tihlman, Abraham, Paul, and Stephen. (2) John, the eldest son, born about 1804 and living in 1856, married Nancy ——— and had daughters Emelina and Helen. (3) Paul, born about 1806, died in 1859, unmarried. (4) Isaac, born about 1808, married Sarah Palmer about 1829, in 1841 went with his family and brother Abraham to Ohio, visited California in 1849, and removed to Illinois after the Civil War. His children were Mary, Abraham, Rebecca, Harrison, Elizabeth, Emaline and George. (5) Catherine, born about 1810, died about 1863, married Jeremiah Flick and had these children: George, Sarah, Susan, Abanton, Emma and Anne Eliz. (6) Henry, born about 1812, married Louisa Miller, and lived at Bath. He was the father of Quintus, Paul (unmar.), George and William Flick who married Louisa Bender in 1845 and had 14 children: James A., 1864; Mary E. S., 1867; Lydia S., 1869; Augustus F., 1870; Elmer A.,

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<sup>172</sup> Orphans' Court Records, Easton, XVIII, 146. The records of the First Reformed Church at Easton, Pa., give the marriage of John Paul Flick to Maria Margaret Roeder, on Feb. 7, 1802. This was probably Gerlach Paul Flick Jr. Kieffer, 371.

1872; Hannah E., 1873; Sarah, 1876; Cora S., 1877; Lillian A., 1878; Mame V., 1880; Mackie R., 1881; Clara, 1884 Martha M., 1886, and Myce, 1890.<sup>173</sup> (7) Abraham, born April, 1813, in Moor township, died December, 1870, near Galion, Ohio, married Catherine Patterson of Philadelphia in 1836 and moved to Crawford county, Ohio, with his wife and three children and his brother Isaac in 1841. Children: Abraham Amandus, 1837; Mary Jane, 1838; Sabina Catherine, 1840; Lewis Paul, 1842; Enos Henry, 1845; Stephen, 1846; John Peter, 1848; Sarah Ann, 1850; and Hannah, 1853. About 1857 he visited his relatives in Pennsylvania and in 1859 his brother Stephen and his mother visited him in Ohio.<sup>174</sup> (8) Julianna, born July 15, 1817,<sup>175</sup> married Thomas Moyer. Children: Mary, Sarah, Abanton, John, Jane, Emma, Oliver and F. Rader. (9) Sarah ("Sally"), born September 26, 1822, baptised October 8 with Maria Siegfried, widow of John Siegfried, sponsor,<sup>176</sup> married Abraham Leh and had the following children: Ellen, Mary, James and Abraham. (10) Rebecca, born about 1819, and was unmarried, but had sons: Eugene Lowell, Charles B. and George Weitzel. (11) Stephen, born about 1825, was joint administrator of his father's estate, bought property in Bath in 1856, visited Ohio in 1857, and was father of Stewart, Flora, Margaret, Laura, Robert L., Gertrude, Edward, Paul, Emma and Harry Elwood. (12) George, born about 1806, was dead in 1856, married Elizabeth ——— and had five children—Levinda, Sybilla, George, William and Sarah, all of age in 1856, making him one of the older children. (13) Maria Margaret, born May 25, 1819, was named after her mother but since she was

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<sup>173</sup> See Genealogical Record of the Schwenkfelder Families for details.

<sup>174</sup> The compiler of this paper traces descent through Abraham and Enos Henry Flick.

<sup>175</sup> Birth recorded in Egypt Reformed Church, Whitehall township, Lehigh county, Pa. Arch. 5th Ser.

<sup>176</sup> Pa. Arch. 6th Ser. VI, 100.

not mentioned in her father's administration papers was probably dead and without heirs.<sup>177</sup>

4. Margaretha, born August 18 and baptised October 6, 1756, in Bedminster township, Bucks county, married Jacob Gilbert and was living in 1826.<sup>178</sup>

5. Catherine, born about 1762 in Northampton county, married Jacob Hugus and was living in 1826. Their granddaughter Mary M. married Rev. Henry Koch, a grandson of Rev. John Egidius Hecker.<sup>179</sup> In 1819 Catherine was living at Greensburg, Pa., and had 4 sons and 7 daughters.<sup>180</sup> She died in Tuscarawas Co., Ohio, after 1834.

6. Anna Maria, born about 1764, married Jacob Defendorfer and was living in 1826.

7. Suzanna was born about 1766, married Peter Sholl and died about 1848.<sup>181</sup>

8. Elizabeth, born about 1768, married George Greber and made her will in 1844.

9. Maria Magdelein, born October 24, 1774, died February 9, 1859, was buried in Zion Cemetery, married Peter Muffy and had 2 sons and 4 daughters.<sup>182</sup>

10. Sofya, born about 1779, married John Reder and was living in 1826.

11. Gertrante, born about 1782, died November 8, 1846, married first apparently, — Sheikels and had a son Daniel and secondly, Edward Greenemeyer. Died 1840. Theobald Sheffer on October 19, 1846, as executor of her estate in trust after the death of Peter Sholl, reported the balance in her account to be \$546.15.<sup>183</sup>

<sup>177</sup> Same as footnote <sup>175</sup>.

<sup>178</sup> Pa. Arch. 6" Ser. VI, 94.

<sup>179</sup> Fathers of the Reformed Church 299-303.

<sup>180</sup> 12, 1819. The 11 children signed their own names. Will of Jacob Hugus, Tuscarawas Co., O. Names of 12 children given.

<sup>181</sup> Letter of Jacob Hugus to Gerlach Paul Flick at Kernsville, Dec.

<sup>182</sup> Paul Flick's Will, Registry of Wills, Easton, Pa.

<sup>183</sup> Eyerman, The Old Graveyards of Northampton Co., 130.

<sup>184</sup> Registry of Wills, Easton, Pa., File No. 3734.

## VIII.

### CONCLUSIONS.

1. The first Flicks to leave Europe for America were Gerlach Paul Flick, John Peter Flick, Johan Martin Flick and John Philip Flick in 1751. They were followed by at least six more Flicks. Some of them undoubtedly brought their families with them. All of them sailed from Dutch ports and landed at Philadelphia.

2. Unfavorable social, economic and religious conditions induced them to leave the Old World. They came to Pennsylvania attracted by the favorable reports of the unusual opportunities and greater liberties sent home by those who had preceded them to that province. Although most of them settled in Pennsylvania, still some of them went to New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia.

3. The coming of the Flicks was typical of what was happening in all the British colonies in North America. Young men of ambition and ability from the older communities over seas were settling on the frontiers of America, marrying into the families of older immigrants, establishing their own homes, clearing the land to make new farms, rearing families of future Americans, and rapidly becoming desirable citizens.

4. Captain Gerlach Paul Flick readily adapted his life to the new environment, emerged as a man of means and influence in his community, was perhaps the most conspicuous of the Flick pioneers, and left behind him an honorable reputation for industry, thrift, honesty, high morality, intelligence and good citizenship. Although nearly all of the Flicks took up arms, as did their sons, in defense of American rights in the Revolution, Gerlach Paul Flick and his son John Caspar

were the only ones who won for themselves the rank of an officer.<sup>184</sup>

5. Today the descendants of Captain Gerlach Paul Flick are found in all sections of the United States. If the four generations following him have kept up an average of five children for each family his descendants would now number more than 6000—a suggestion of how the present population of the nation has been created.

6. The problems connected with the biography of Captain Gerlach Paul Flick which remain to be solved are: (1) additional facts about his native land and his ancestors; (2) further details concerning his life in Pennsylvania; (3) a more specific account of his military services in the Revolution; (4) information about his children and their descendants. It is hoped that others will help to supply the data now lacking.

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<sup>184</sup> The "Alphabetical List of Revolutionary Soldiers 1775-1783," which purports to give all the Pennsylvania Revolutionary soldiers' names, but two Flicks—Adam and Henry. Pa. Arch. 2" Series XIII, 1-250. This is manifestly an error as the later volumes in the Archives prove. For instance a Frederick Flick was enrolled as a Ranger on the Frontier from 1778 to 1783. *Ibid.*, Ser. XXIII, 268; and served in the Cumberland County Militia in 1780, 1781 and 1782. *Ibid.*, 721, 741, 793. George Flick private in Capt. John Reynolds' Co. Pa. Ger. Soc. XXII, 221.