



Pantograph used by George Woods in laying out Pittsburgh, in 1784

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COLONEL GEORGE WOODS, PITTSBURGH'S FIRST SURVEYOR

The founder of the Woods family, in Pennsylvania, was George Woods, who married a Miss Hall. They were the parents of the subject of this sketch, and their home was in the eastern part of the province of Pennsylvania. It is the family tradition that the first George Woods was an Indian trader and trapper in Canada, before coming to Pennsylvania, and that he also had one daughter, who died in girlhood. The parents seem also to have died early, leaving George Woods in his young manhood, very much alone in the world. When the French and Indians began to penetrate far into eastern Pennsylvania, after the defeat of Gen. Braddock's army, in 1755, George Woods took refuge in Bingham's Fort, in the Tuscarora Valley, Tuscarora Township, Juniata County, Pa. Many families in the vicinity flocked into the fort, seeking escape from prowling savages, but this refuge availed them little, for on Friday night, June 11, 1755, the Indians attacked and burnt the fort and killed or carried away into captivity all of its inmates. Among the captives were the wife and three year old daughter of John Gray, the wife and three children of Francis Innis, George Woods, and others. Mr. Gray and Mr. Innis were absent from the fort, having gone to Carlisle for groceries. When they returned, nothing remained but the smoking remnants of the fort, amidst which were many charred bones of its former inmates. The enemy had killed many

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cattle, eating or carrying away the beef. The following extract contains information as to the fate of the captives: (1)

"They were taken across the Allegheny to the old Indian town of Kittanning, and from thence to Fort Duquesne where they were delivered over to the French. Woods was a remarkable man, and figured somewhat extensively afterward in the history of Bedford and Allegheny Counties. He took his captivity very little to heart, and even went so far as to propose marriage to Mrs. Gray, while they were prisoners in the fort (Duquesne). Mrs. Gray, however, had no inclination for a partnership in misfortune and peremptorily declined. The French commander, in apportioning out the prisoners, gave Woods to an old Indian, John Hutson (spelled more correctly Hudson) who removed him to his own wigwam. But George, proving neither useful nor ornamental to Hudson's establishment, and as there was no probability of any of his friends paying a ransom for him, *insomuch as he had neither kith nor kin*, he opened negotiations with George to let him off. The conditions made and entered into between the two were, that George Woods should give him an annuity of ten pounds of tobacco, until death should terminate the existence of either of the parties named. This contract was fulfilled, until the massacre of the Bedford Scouts, when Harry (Henry) Woods, a lieutenant of the scout, and son of George Woods, recognized among the most active of the savages the son of John Hutson, who used to accompany his father to Bedford, where Harry Woods had often seen him. It is hardly necessary to add that old Hutson never called upon Woods after that for his annuity. Mr. Woods, after he removed to Bedford, became a useful and influential citizen. He followed his profession (as surveyor) and most of the original surveys in the upper end of the Juniata Valley were made by him. He reared a large family, and his descendants are still living. He lived to a good old age, and died amid the regrets of a most extended circle of acquaintances."

In some accounts of the capture of George Woods, it is stated that he was about to be burnt at the stake by the

Delaware Indians, when Captain Hudson, a Seneca chief, demanded him from the Delawares, who dared not refuse, being under the domination of the Six Nations. In his gratitude at being freed, this account states that Woods wished the chief to come and make his home with him, for the remainder of his life. (2) The chief refused, but never failed to collect his ransom annuity of tobacco until afraid to trust himself among the whites, after permitting his son to help massacre the scouts. Years afterward, Henry, son of George Woods, was at Pittsburgh wharf when he noticed one of a party of Seneca Indians who had come down the Allegheny River scrutinizing him very closely. On speaking to him, he found that it was Hudson's son, who was very much pleased at being recognized, and said to Mr. Woods that the last time he had seen him he was "Running like de debbil up Juniata Hill."

George Woods married Miss Anna McDowell, and located permanently at Bedford, Pa. There he followed his profession of surveyor, and held many public offices of honor and trust. "As early as 1765, four men whose names are prominently indissolubly connected with the history of the town, county, province and commonwealth, became residents of Fort Bedford-Barnard Dougherty, Robert Galbreath, Thomas Smith, and George Woods. It is believed that all were of Scotch descent, and it is known that all were men of great activity, ability, and sterling worth. All of them served as early justices of the peace of Bedford County, were active in the formation and organization of the county, and during the Revolutionary period, assisted largely in shaping the destinies of the state. (3)

By order of the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, John Lukens, Surveyor General, in 1766 laid out the town of Bedford, at the site of old Fort Bedford. The order bore the date of May 5, 1766, and the surveyor arrived at Bedford on June 5, 1766. He called together the principal inhabitants of the vicinity, and discussed with them the matter of laying out the streets and the size of the lots. A large stone house had been built in 1764, on what was called, in the Lukens' Survey, Pitt Street. It was a comfortable and commodious dwelling, of limestone, the most preten-

tious in the new town of Bedford. On April 25, 1771, this house and the ground surrounding it were sold at public sale by Sheriff David Hoge, to George Woods. The deed recites that "on the east, the three lots were bounded by reserved lots, on which Fort Bedford was built. (4)

Bedford County, which was erected by Act of March 9, 1771, covered a large extent of territory, all of Western Pennsylvania then owned by the Penns. This act provided "That it shall and may be lawful to and for Arthur St. Clair, Barnard Dougherty, Esquires, Thomas Coulter, William Procter and George Woods, or any of them, to purchase and take assurance to them and their heirs of a piece of land situated in some convenient place in said town (Bedford), in trust and for use of the inhabitants of said county, and thereon to erect and build a court house and prison, sufficient to accomodate the public service of said county, and for the use and conveniency of inhabitants." The first court house erected was a rude log structure, and nearby it was a low one-story jail. At a meeting of the County Commissioners, held May 31, 1783, George Woods, Esq. drew an order for the sum of 43 pounds, 10 shillings, it being for "116 days' service, attending at the building of the Court House and Prison, at 7 shillings, 6 pence per day, as trustee, in the years 1774 and 1775." (5)

The date of the appointment of George Woods as one of the justices of the court of Bedford County, Pa. was Monday, March 11, 1771. From the time of the organization of Bedford County, in April, 1771, until the adoption of the State Constitution of 1790, the justices of the peace presided over all courts held in the county, three of them forming a quorum to transact business.

In an enumeration of the citizens of Bedford and their taxable property, in 1771, George Woods, Esq. is mentioned as the owner of six town lots and 30 acres of improved outlots, and he kept three servants, four horses, and three cows.

It was the duty of a wood ranger to look after all stray cattle, the woods, etc. The commission of "George Woods, Esq., of the County of Bedford as "Wood Ranger" bears date of March 15, 1771, and is signed by John Penn. (6)

In 1774, George Woods represented Bedford County at

a Convention held at Philadelphia, for the purpose of taking action in regard to the oppressive legislation of the mother country, Great Britain.

On the occasion of the celebration of Old Home Week, at Bedford, Pa., August 4th to 10th, 1907, the Hon. Wm. P. Schell prepared a small book called "*Annals of Bedford County, Pa.*" (7) In speaking of the citizens of Bedford who were very active on the side of the colonists, during the Revolutionary War, Mr. Schell mentions the names of Colonel George Woods and Colonel David Espy (who married Jane, daughter of Colonel George Woods, and was almost as prominent in the history of Bedford and Bedford County as his father-in-law).

A splendid work was accomplished by Col. George Woods in affording protection from Indian attack to the people at Bedford and vicinity. Mr. Schell (p.43, in little volume above mentioned) states that "In 1771, Fort Bedford was in a state of dilapidation and decay; but we are still told that after 1771, even up to 1792, the whites were in the habit of running to the fort when alarmed by Indians. The explanation is that George Woods, Esq. had a fort built around his own house-picket fort-and this was generally called Fort Bedford, and it was into this fort that the whites generally ran, after 1771."

We find the following reference to this matter in the centennial issue of the *Bedford Gazette*, of date Sept. 21, 1906, which states that in 1776 "Fort Bedford was in ruins. George Woods built a stockade fort around his house the old stone building called the Boquet House, which was burned down a few years ago—into which the country fled, when threatened by Indians." The stone house mentioned, the home for many years of Col. Woods and family, was destroyed by fire, in March, 1901, but another dwelling was immediately erected on the site.

In 1778 and 1779, Col. George Woods served as a member of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania. In 1784, he was appointed County Lieutenant of Bedford County. His title of Colonel was won, during the Revolutionary War, by his activity in the Colonial militia. His many military and judicial duties seem not to have entirely

suspended the work of Colonel Woods as a surveyor, for as occasion required he still performed work of this kind.

The Indian title to the lands in the present Western Pennsylvania was extinguished by the purchase of this territory by the Penns, proprietaries of Pennsylvania, in 1768. On April 3, 1769, a land office was opened for the sale of land. In this part of the province, except certain sections called manors, which were reserved. The survey of one of these, called the Manor of Pittsburgh, was completed in March, 1769, and contained 5,766 acres. The result of the Revolutionary War was the loss of the colonial possessions of Great Britain in America. By the Act of Nov. 27, 1779 (called the Divesting Act) the Penns, proprietaries of Pennsylvania, were divested of all their proprietary public property, including the quitrents; but this act carefully protected their rights to the manors, and all that could be distinguished as private property. A liberal compensation was made to the Penns for the loss of their proprietary rights in Pennsylvania, the sum of 130,000 pounds sterling, money of Great Britain, being allowed them; and they also received from Great Britain an annuity of 4,000 pounds, from an estimated loss of half a million sterling.

In the fall of 1783, the Penns offered for sale their lands in the Manor of Pittsburgh, and the first sale was made in January, 1784, to Isaac Craig and Stephen Bayard, of all the ground between Fort Pitt and the Allegheny River, "supposed to contain about three acres." After this sale was made, the Penns decided to lay out the town of Pittsburgh so as to include the three acres and also old Fort Pitt, but Messrs. Craig and Bayard afterward received a deed for the lots included in their original purchase. (8) John Penn and John Penn, Jr., former proprietaries of Pennsylvania, instructed Tench Francis, their attorney, to employ a competent surveyor to make a survey and lay out a town on their Manor of Pittsburgh. Mr. Francis employed Col. George Woods, of Bedford, to do the work, in which he was assisted by Thos. Vickroy, also of Bedford. *No official survey of Pittsburgh had ever been made, up to this time.* In May, 1784, the surveyors arrived in Pittsburgh, and their work was completed in July, 1784.

The old "Military Survey," as it was called, made in 1764, by Col. John Campbell, was in the main, allowed to stand. It included four squares, between Water and Second Streets (Second Avenue), and Ferry and Market Streets. By what authority Campbell's survey was made is not now known. The letter written by Tench Francis, attorney for the Penns, requesting Col. George Woods to make the survey of Pittsburgh, bears date of April 22, 1784, and the letter of acceptance of the survey and plan of the town made by Col. Woods, written by Mr. Francis, bears date of Sept. 30, 1784. (9)

A very peculiar feature of the Woods' survey and plan of Pittsburgh is the fact that a rod was used which was one-eighth of an inch longer, in every ten feet, than the United States standard of measurement. From this anomaly of two standards, considerable confusion in the purchase and sale of property in Pittsburgh later resulted, it being necessary, if the Government standard was used, to add one-eighth of an inch in every ten feet, to make it harmonize with the Woods' survey. In later years, some additional information having been found necessary concerning the methods pursued in making this first official survey of Pittsburgh, Mr. Thomas Vickroy, of Bedford, prepared a document dated Dec. 16, 1841, describing the manner of making the survey. This document is still on file in the city archives of Pittsburgh. The names of the two surveyors have been preserved, that of Col. Woods being given to Wood Street, one of the city's principal thoroughfares (the "s" being dropped for the sake of euphony), and that of Thos. Vickroy to Vickroy Street, on Boyd's Hill, between Bluff and Locust.

One of the most prized relics of the Woods' family has always been the pantograph (or pantagraph, for it is correctly spelled both ways) or draughting instrument used by Col. Woods, in drawing the plan of Pittsburgh in accordance with his survey. This quaint old brass instrument, when folded up, is about twenty inches in length, and is kept in the identical wooden box in which Col. Woods carried it. (10) There is no name on the box to indicate who was the maker of this rare old relic, so intimately associated

with the history of Pittsburgh. It is in as good condition, today, as it was when used by Col. George Woods 140 years ago, in making the plan of Pittsburgh. He used it also in making the plans of his surveys in other parts of Pennsylvania. It is authoritatively stated that Col. Woods did surveying in Philadelphia, Pa. and Cincinnati, Ohio, while he did all his own surveying, being an extensive land owner in and about Bedford. One of the old family papers (11) is a deed for one of these tracts of land, bearing date of March 23, 1786, and recorded May 25, 1786. It is signed by John Penn and John Penn, Jr.

Pittsburgh people are accustomed to refer to the city's first official surveyor by his military title, as "Colonel" George Woods, but during the later years of his life, he was better known as Judge George Woods. From the time the Declaration of American Independence was made, on July 4, 1776, to that of the adoption of the State Constitution of Pennsylvania, in 1790, Barnard Dougherty, James Martin, and George Woods held commissions, and served alternately as President Judges of the courts of Bedford County, Pa. (12)

On August 20, 1791, Governor Thomas Mifflin, of Pennsylvania, appointed George Woods as first associate judge of the Fourth Judicial District, then composed of the counties of Cumberland, Franklin, Bedford, Huntington, and Mifflin. (13)

Upon the incorporation of Bedford as a borough, on March 13, 1795, provision was made for an enumeration of the amount and kinds of property owned by each citizen. The work was completed in 1796. Judge George Woods owned three houses, two barns, six horses, and eight cows, and it is stated: "The Hon. George Woods was then the largest property owner in the borough." (14) From the time he first located there, in 1765, the home of Judge George Woods was in Bedford, Pa., and there he died, some years after the beginning of the eighteenth century. His family consisted of three sons, John, Henry and George, and daughters Jane (wife of Col. David Espy, of Bedford); Ann (wife of Hon. James Ross, of Pittsburgh); and Mary (or Polly) Woods, who never married.

To our knowledge, Judge George Woods was never the owner of any land in Pittsburgh, or the vicinity of the city; but five of his six children were citizens of Pittsburgh, and four of them were large land owners in the present city of Pittsburgh or its immediate vicinity. The descendants of Pittsburgh's first official surveyor have been closely and prominently identified with the history of Pittsburgh, down to the present time.

For the reasons given above, we shall give a brief sketch of each of the six children of Judge George Woods, in the order above named.

John Woods was educated at Bedford, and on August 30, 1781, took the oath of allegiance, which was required in accordance with an act passed for the "further protection of the Government of Pennsylvania." (15) He is mentioned as the son of Col. George Woods, of Bedford, and a "student at law." In 1783, John Woods was admitted to the bar of Washington County, Pa., and in 1784, to those of Westmoreland and Fayette Counties, Pa. Allegheny County, Pa. was established by Act of Sept. 24, 1788. The first court-Quarter Session—was held Dec. 16, 1788, in Pittsburgh, and at this time there were admitted as members of the bar of Allegheny County Hugh H. Brackenridge, John Woods, James Ross and six others. The three men named were among Pittsburgh's first resident attorneys, and became wealthy and prominent citizens. (16) H. M. Brackenridge, in his *Recollections of Persons and Places in the West*, (17) says concerning John Woods, the Pittsburgh attorney:

"Mr. John Woods, who stood next to Mr. (James) Ross (in the bar of Allegheny County) had the reputation of a skillful lawyer. His person was fine, and his dress and manner bespoke the gentleman, although there was a touch of aristocratic pride about him which lessened his popularity. His voice was rather shrill and unpleasant, especially when contrasted with his manly appearance; but, like John Randolph, his ear-piercing voice often gave the effect of a powerful invective. Few lawyers could manage a case with more skill. He was deeply versed in all the subtleties of the law of tenures and ejectment causes. Being possessed of a

comfortable fortune, he rather shunned than courted practice, but in a difficult case, the suitor thought himself fortunate when he could secure his assistance."

At the April term of 1791, John Woods was admitted to the bar of Bedford County, Pa. (18) He was a Presidential elector in 1796. The commission of John Woods, granted by Thomas Mifflin, Governor of Pennsylvania, as Brigadier General of the "Brigade of Allegheny," bears date of March 28, 1798. (19) John Woods served one term in the State Senate, being Speaker, in 1800. In 1814, he was elected to Congress, serving one term. (20) The home of Mr. Woods was a handsome dwelling on Penn Street (now Penn Ave.) which was then the fashionable residence district of Pittsburgh, and he and his wife, Theodora, were prominent in the social life of the borough. Upon the death of John Woods, in 1817, his remains were interred in the burial ground of the First Presbyterian Church, of which he was a member. He was a man of wealth, and the owner of a great deal of land in and about the city of Pittsburgh and at Bedford, Pa., His will (21) bears date of Sept. 20, 1816. and is recorded in *Will Book*, Vol. 2, p. 109, in the Recorder's office of Allegheny County, Pa. As Mrs. Woods did not intend to remain in Pittsburgh, she was bequeathed an annuity of \$2,400 for life, the household goods, and the three black servants, Henry, Israel and Nancy, for the remainder of their respective terms of servitude. She returned to her people in New Jersey, where she died Feb. 19, 1833, after an illness of ten days, in the 62nd year of her age. (22)

Henry Woods, as a young man, was a member of the Bedford Scouts, a company organized for the defense of the settlers against the Indians. On one occasion, this company, of which Henry Woods was then Lieutenant, was ambushed, and but three of the company, of whom he was one, escaped with their lives. This was probably the occasion, as mentioned by Chief Hudson's son to Mr. Woods at Pittsburgh wharf, when he ran "like de debbil up Juniata Hill." A very strong and active young man, Henry Woods was noted for his knowledge of woodcraft and his military prowess. During the Revolutionary War, he was a member of the militia of Bedford County, Pa., attaining the rank of

Captain. Miss Mary K. Woods, of Pittsburgh, a granddaughter of Henry Woods, of Bedford, has the sword carried by Mr. Woods in the Revolutionary War. The handle is of bone, and the blade long and keen. The leather scabbard is partly missing. Henry Woods was admitted to the bar of Bedford County, Pa., June 5, 1792, on motion of John Woods, his brother. (23) He was a member of the Sixth and Seventh Congress, and served from 1799 to 1803. (24) He is mentioned as the handsomest member of that august body, and James Ross, of Pittsburgh, his brother-in-law, then also in Congress, as the youngest member. (Age 32 years.) In a list of citizens of Bedford, in 1810, the name of the Hon. Henry Woods, a practicing attorney, is mentioned. He always made his home at Bedford, Pa., where he died in 1826; but, by the will of John Woods, his brother, the Pittsburgh attorney, Henry Woods was bequeathed 530 acres of land, now a part of the Fifteenth Ward of the city of Pittsburgh, so he was a large land owner in the present city. He bequeathed this land, the one-half of the "Scotch Bottoms" farm of 1,060 acres (including the present Hazelwood, and parts of Greenfield and Squirrel Hill) to his two sons, Henry Woods (then a boy about 12 years of age, but afterward a prominent citizen of Pittsburgh, surveyor of the port during the administrations of President Taylor and Fillmore, and later sheriff of Allegheny County) and John George Woods, also a citizen of Pittsburgh, and the first member of the Woods family to reside in the present Fifteenth Ward. These two sons were bequeathed also considerable property at Bedford and Bedford Springs, besides some other lands.

George Woods was the only one of the sons of Col. Woods to take an interest in surveying. He accompanied his father to Pittsburgh in 1784, and assisted in making the survey for the Penns. He also assisted his father in making surveys at Cincinnati, O., and other places. In 1795, George Woods (3d) was Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts, and also Register and Recorder for the county of Bedford. (25) He married Miss Martha McDowell, and there were born to them the following children: Mary L., who never married; Harriet (wife of a Mr. Brackenridge, of Pittsburgh);

Margaretta (Mrs. John Dike, of Steubenville, Ohio) ; Anna, wife of Nathaniel Dike (a cousin of John Dike) of Stubenville, O. By the will of their uncle, John Woods, the Pittsburgh attorney, these four daughters of George Woods (3d) were bequeathed a valuable piece of property in Pittsburgh, eight lots, numbered in the general plan of the town from 75 to 82. This was in 1817, and it was probably at this time that George Woods, (3d), and family removed to Pittsburgh. The records of the family are rather meagre, at this period, but in the marriage notice of one of the daughters of this family, she is mentioned as a daughter of "George Woods, of Pittsburgh." Mrs. Harvey Childs, of Pittsburgh, and her brothers, Geo. D. Blair, of New Castle, Pa., and Thos. S. Blair, of Chicago, Ill., are the descendants of this branch of the Woods family.

Jane Woods, daughter of Judge George Woods, of Bedford, became the wife of Col. David Espy, a prominent citizen of Bedford, Pa. The children of Col. David Espy and wife were George, David, and Mary Espy (wife of Dr. John Anderson), all beneficiaries under the will of John Woods, the Pittsburgh attorney. George and David Espy were bequeathed large tracts of land bordering on the Allegheny river. Mrs. Anderson being deceased, her share of John Woods' estate went to her children, George Espy, Ann Jane, Mary and Elizabeth Anderson, and besides other property, included lots Nos. 431 and 432 in the city of Pittsburgh. Dr. John Anderson was a fine physician, and a man of many interests and considerable wealth. He was extensively engaged in land speculations in Bedford and vicinity, and was the owner of the famous Bedford Springs property, the "Carlsbad of America." The Anderson family were interested in the ownership of these springs for many years.

Ann Woods, daughter of Col. George Woods, was about 13 years of age, at the time Pittsburgh was laid out in 1784. Her brother, John Woods, was one of the first resident attorneys in Pittsburgh, and both he and James Ross were admitted to the bar, Dec. 16, 1788, at the first session of court held in the new county of Allegheny. It was probably through this brother that Miss Woods met his friend, James Ross, and their marriage took place Jan. 13, 1791. The career of the Hon. James Ross is too well known to be re-

peated here. (26) The home of the Ross family was on Grant's Hill, Mr. Ross having purchased a large tract of land here, from Jean Marie, a Frenchman. Later they removed to a residence on Stockton Avenue, east of Sandusky Street, Allegheny City, and here Mr. Ross died, Saturday, Nov. 27, 1847. Mrs. Ross died at Cornwall, Pa. Sept. 11, 1805, in the 35th year of her age, leaving three children, James, Mary Ann, and George Woods Ross. It was through their only daughter that the Hon. James Ross and wife left any descendants, as both sons died unmarried. On Oct. 7, 1816, Mary Ann Ross was married to Edward Coleman, of Lancaster and Philadelphia, a man of considerable prominence, and a member of the State Senate. Mrs. Coleman died at Lancaster, Pa. Sept. 27, 1825, leaving three children: Ann Ross Coleman (wife of George Aspinwall), who died leaving no heirs; Mary Jane Coleman, who died unmarried; and Harriet Coleman, who married Eugene Livingston, a grandson of Chancellor Robert Livingston. The son of Eugene Livingston and wife, Eugene Jr. died of a fever at the age of 17 years, while serving in the Union army. The only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Livingston, Mary Coleman Livingston, married Maturin L. Delafield, of New York city, and their four sons were named Maturin, Joseph, John and Eugene, and three daughters Julia, Mary and Harriet. The Delafields of New York are the direct and only descendants of the Hon. James Ross and Ann (Woods) Ross, his wife.

At the death of the Hon. James Ross, the bulk of his property went to his son, James Ross, his only surviving child. Mrs. Coleman was deceased, but her share of the estate was bequeathed to her three daughters, \$30,000 to each one. At the death of James Ross, Jr. in 1851, all of his estate received from his father was also bequeathed to his nieces.

Mary Woods, daughter of Judge George Woods, of Bedford, was better known to her family and friends as Polly. In 1817, by the will of her brother, John Woods, the Pittsburgh attorney, Miss Woods was left joint owner, with her brother, Henry Woods, of Bedford, of the great tract of land in Peebles Township, Allegheny County, Pa.

known as "Scotch Bottoms," which included the larger portion of the present Fifteenth Ward of the city of Pittsburgh. Miss Woods then removed to Pittsburgh, and lived here for the remainder of her life. By agreement of the brother and sister, Miss Woods took the upper part of the tract, 530 acres, including the present Glenwood. About 1818, she built a story and a half stone cottage on this farm, and this was the home of the tenant to whom the farm was rented. Being engaged to be married, Miss Woods and her affianced husband made a trip of inspection out to her domain, with the idea of living in the stone cottage, after the wedding, but during the trip the couple quarrelled and the engagement was broken. Miss Woods never married. She died in 1841, and bequeathed her Glenwood farm to James Ross, Jr., the son of the Hon. James Ross and her sister, Ann (Woods) Ross. Miss Woods made her home with the Ross family.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mrs. S. Kussart.

- (1) *Report of the Commission to Locate the Site of the Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania* (2 vols., Clarence M. Bush, State Printer, 1896), I, 588-589.
- (2) *History of Bedford, Somerset and Fulton Counties, Pennsylvania, with biographical sketches of pioneers, and prominent men*, Waterman, Watkins & Co. 1884, p. 207. Henceforth cited as "*Hist. Bedford County, Pa.*"
- (3) *Ibid.*, p. 246.
- (4) Bedford County, Pa. records, *Deed Book A.*, p. 31
- (5) *Hist. Bedford Co., Pa.*, p. 246
- (6) Cf. "Notes and Queries," *post*, p. 132. The original is one of the family papers in the possession of Mrs. Harvey Childs, of Pittsburgh, a great-great grand-daughter of Col. George Woods.
- (7) Published by the Bedford Gazette Publishing Co., Bedford, Pa., 1907. The full title is *Annals of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, consisting of condensed sketches of the most important events which occurred during the century from Jan. 1750 to 1850; prepared for Old Home Week, August 4-10, 1907.*
- (8) *History of Allegheny County, Pa.; its early settlement and progress to the present time, with biographies of its representative citizens.* A. Warner & Co., Chicago, 1889, pp. 475-481.
- (9) The original copies of these letters, old and yellowed with age, but plainly decipherable, and very valuable as historic relics are now in the possession of Mrs. Harvey Childs, of Pittsburgh, a great-great grand-daughter of Col. George Woods.
- (10) It is the property of Miss Mary K. Woods, of Pittsburgh, Pa., a great grand-daughter of Col. George Woods. Cf. the reproduction, p. 1.

- (11) In the possession of Mrs. Harvey Childs, of Pittsburgh, Penna. Cf. *Hist. Bedford Co., Pa.*, p. 204.
- (12) The following is a copy of the commission issued to Judge George Woods, in 1790:

Presidency

Seal of the State of Penna.	"In the name, and by the authority of the free- man of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Supreme Executive Council of the said Common- wealth, to George Woods, Esq., of the County of Bedford.
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We reposing especial trust and confidence in your patriotism, prudence, integrity, and knowledge, have appointed you President of the County Court of Common Pleas, of the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery, and granting unto you, the said George Woods, full power and authority to execute and perform all the several acts and things to the said office belonging.

Given under the hand of his Excellency, Thomas Mifflin, Esq., President, and the Seal of the State, at Philadelphia, this twentieth day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

Attest, Chas. Biddle, Secretary.

- (13) *Hist. Bedford County, Pa.*, p. 204.
- (14) *Ibid.*, p. 250.
- (15) Cf. "Notes and Queries" *post*, p. 138. The original of this document bearing date of August 30, 1781, is one of the family papers in the possession of Mrs. Childs, of Pittsburgh, Pa.
- (16) White, John William Fletcher, *Judiciary of Allegheny County*, 1883.
A reprint from the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, VII (1883).
- (17) P. 11.
- (18) *History Bedford County, Pa.*, p. 205.
- (19) Cf. "Notes and Queries," *post*, p. 138. The original is one of the family papers held by Mrs. Harvey Childs, of Pittsburgh, Pa.
- (20) *Twentieth Century Bench and Bar of Pennsylvania*, 2 vols. H.C. Cooper, Jr. & Bro., Chicago, 1903, II, 806.
- (21) Cf. "Notes and Queries" *post*, p. 135-138.
- (22) *Pittsburgh Gazette*, February 19, 1833.
- (23) *Twentieth Century Bench and Bar of Pennsylvania*, II, 808.
- (24) *History Bedford Co., Pa.*, p. 217.
- (25) *Ibid.*
- (26) Cf. *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine*, III, 103-103.
"Reminiscences of Hon. James Ross," by Hon. Thomas Mellon.