



Haverford Township Historical Society



GEORGE WASHINGTON DEAVES (1873-after 1922) AND FAMILY

Compiled by Richard D. Kerr

[The following is excerpted from A History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania and Its People, John W. Jordan, editor, published by Lewis Historical Publishing Company, New York in 1914.]

The original name of the family of which **GEORGE WASHINGTON DEAVES**, of Llanerch, is a worthy representative, was Douceaux, and they were natives of France, from whence they made their way to the new world in the early period of its history. The great-grandfather of George W. Deaves, named Douceaux, had a grant for the entire island of San Domingo, whereon he resided, and during an outbreak of the natives he and his family came to the United States and never returned. They settled in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, where they spent the remainder of their days, and their descendants resided there for many years.

LEWIS DEAVES, son of the above mentioned ancestors, was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and he lived and died near Rebel Hill. He was probably engaged in the iron ore business, which was one of the leading industries of that section and times. By his wife Susan he was the father of several children, among whom was Lewis Deaves, of whom further.

LEWIS (2) DEAVES, son of Lewis (1) Deaves and Susan Deaves, was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, about 1827. He was brought up and educated there, and in early life turned his attention to farming, finally purchasing his father-in-law's farm, which he tilled until he was accidentally killed by falling from a wagon in the year 1885. He served as supervisor of his township, having been elected on the Democratic ticket. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Hannah B. Hart, born in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, about 1835, living at the present time (1913), daughter of Hugh and Ann (Lukens) Hart, old residents of Haverford township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, where they lived and died, he an extensive farmer and landowner, and both members of the Society of Friends. Mr. and Mrs. Hart were the parents of six children:

1. Samuel J. Hart, resides in Upper Darby township; retired from active pursuits.
2. Edward J. Hart, deceased; was a soldier of the civil war.
3. William Hart, deceased; was a soldier of the civil war.
4. Martha Hart, deceased: was the wife of the late John Duffs.
5. Mary Hart, married Henry Jacobs: resides in Avondale, Chester county, Pennsylvania.
6. Hannah B. Hart, wife of Lewis Deaves. Mr. and Mrs. Deaves were the parents of one child, George Washington Deaves, of whom further.

GEORGE WASHINGTON DEAVES, son of Lewis (2) and Hannah B. (Hart) Deaves, was born at the intersection of Darby and Eagle roads in what is now Oakmont, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, December 27, 1873. He was educated in the schools of Coopertown, and his first employment was in the foundry business at Paschallville, in which he continued for about six years. He then turned his attention to general contracting and building, operating largely in the suburban districts of Delaware

county, especially in Llanerch, and about one half of the dwelling houses in that place were erected by him, and their solid and substantial appearance, aside from their architectural attractions, is ample proof that he is master of his art and that he gives the strictest attention to every detail of his work. Aside from his business, which occupies so much of his time and thought, he is interested in the welfare of his town and is always ready and willing to further its interests to the best of his ability. Prior to its becoming a township he served for six years as supervisor, as township auditor for two terms, and as township commissioner for two years, and for a number of times has served as delegate to county conventions, performing the duties of each office faithfully and conscientiously. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the order of Free and Accepted Masons, affiliating with Hamilton Lodge, No. 274 and University Chapter, No. 256.

Mr. Deaves married, September 1, 1895, Gertrude Gilmore, born in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, daughter of Maurice E. Gilmore and Martha (Burger) Gilmore, who after their marriage resided in Delaware county, Pennsylvania. The father was born in Delaware county, was a builder by trade, and died in Clifton Heights, September 18, 1908, and his wife, who was born in York county, survives him, residing in Clifton Heights.

Mr. and Mrs. Deaves had two children:

1. Maurice Deaves, who died aged eleven years;
2. Lewis Deaves, who died aged eighteen months.

[The following is excerpted from the "Delaware County Daily Times," Chester, Pa., June 17, 1915.]

The Times congratulates George W. Deaves, the well-known citizen of Llanerch, upon his appointment as superintendent of State roads for Delaware county. He succeeds A. A. Sellers, who resigned a few days ago, and Governor Brumbaugh immediately appointed Mr. Deaves.

©2016-2018 by Haverford Township Historical Society. Personal non-commercial use permitted; all other rights reserved.