



Haverford Township Historical Society



EDWARD HUMPHREY (1710-1776)

Compiled by Richard D. Kerr

[The following is excerpted from History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania by George Smith M.D., published by Henry B. Ashmead in Philadelphia in 1862.]

EDWARD HUMPHREY, son of Daniel Humphrey, and Hannah his wife, was born in Haverford township, in the year 1710. He learned the fulling and dyeing business [of a textile mill], and carried on that business as long as he lived, at the place that is now known as “Kelly's Upper Factory” [also called the Humphrey Mill and Haverford Mill]. Though fulling was his business, he did not attend to it personally; for having acquired considerable knowledge of medicine and surgery, probably from his grandfather, Dr. Wynne, and being remarkable for his ingenuity, judgment and success, he acquired a high reputation as a physician and surgeon. His services were much sought after, but were seldom remunerated, for he did not charge the poor for attendance. What, however, reflected most the true dignity of his character, “was his benevolence and humanity to his suffering fellow-creatures — ever delighting to relieve their distresses, to soften the rigor of their misfortunes, and to pour balm into their bleeding wounds.” He died unmarried, January 1st, 1776, and was buried at Haverford Friends’ burying-ground, having lived a consistent member of that Society.

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