



Haverford Township Historical Society



HENRY LEWIS (16xx-1688)

HENRY LEWIS (1671-1731)

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.]

HENRY LEWIS, with his wife Margaret Lewis and family, came from the parish of Narbeth, in the County of Pembroke, Wales, and settled in Haverford township in 1682. By trade he was a carpenter. As a member of the Society of Friends, he was strict in the performance of his religious duties, and during the short period he lived, after reaching his new home, he devoted much of his time to civil affairs and acts of benevolence. Before the establishment of Haverford Meeting, in 1684, he belonged to Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, and was by that body appointed one of a committee "to visit the poor and the sick, and administer what they should judge convenient, at the expense of the monthly meeting." He held the office of "peacemaker" for the County of Philadelphia, and was foreman of the first grand jury for that County, Haverford and Radnor at that time being regarded as belonging to Philadelphia. He died in 1688, leaving his wife and three children, all born in Wales, to survive him:

1. Henry Lewis, married Mary Taylor, the daughter of Robert Taylor of Springfield;
2. Samuel Lewis,
3. Elizabeth Lewis, married Richard Hayes of Haverford.

The second **HENRY LEWIS** became a man of considerable note, was a member of the [Pennsylvania] Assembly in 1715 and 1718, and was employed in other public trusts. His descendants are numerous, and many of them have been remarkable for intellectual superiority. The most noted was the late Enoch Lewis, the mathematician. The elder Henry Lewis had been a pecuniary sufferer in his native country on account of his religion.

[The following is excerpted from Historic Homes and Institutions and Genealogical and Personal Memoirs of Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania, by Gilbert Cope and Henry Graham Ashmead, published by The Lewis Company, New York and Chicago in 1904.]

HENRY LEWIS married, January 12, 1670, Margaret Philpin, and they with their son, Henry Lewis, came to America from Pembrokeshire, Wales, in 1682, and at the time of his decease in 1688 was the owner of a house in Philadelphia, and a large tract of land in Haverford, Delaware county.

HENRY LEWIS, son of Henry Lewis and Margaret (Philpin) Lewis, was born October 26, 1671, married, October 20, 1692, Mary Taylor, a daughter of Robert Taylor, who died in 1695, and Mary (Hays) Taylor, who died in 1728.

JOHN LEWIS, son of Henry Lewis and Mary (Taylor) Lewis, was born March 23, 1697, and died in 1780; he married, November 6, 1725, Katharine Evans one record has it, and another record has it Roberts,

who died in 1781; she owned half of a farm of one hundred acres in Radnor, Pennsylvania, and her husband, John Lewis, purchased the other half of her sister, and they resided there until their deaths.

[The following is excerpted from History of Chester County, Pennsylvania, with Genealogical and Biographical Sketches, by J. Smith Futey and Gilbert Cope, published by Louis H. Everts, Philadelphia, in 1881.]

HENRY LEWIS, with his family, including his father, Evan Lewis, then an old man, emigrated from Narbeth, in Pembrokeshire, South Wales, early in the year 1682. Evan Lewis is supposed to have died within a few years after his leaving his native country. The family record is silent respecting him after his arrival in Pennsylvania. Henry Lewis purchased a tract of 800 acres of land in Haverford township in May of the same year, and was one of the first three landed proprietors in that township who derived title under William Penn. Immediately after the city of Philadelphia was laid out and surveyed according to the plan of the proprietary, Henry Lewis procured a lot in the new city and erected upon it a house, in which he resided during a part of each year. He also erected a dwelling house and farm buildings upon his tract in Haverford, which he cleared and cultivated, and on which he generally spent his summers. He served as foreman of the first grand jury which sat for the county of Philadelphia, and he was one of the peacemakers appointed for that county. A copy of an old record, still extant, shows that he was a township officer for Haverford in 1682. He was a benevolent man and a public-spirited citizen. He gave much of his time to works of charity and to municipal affairs. His career of usefulness was terminated by death before he attained middle life. He died at his residence in Haverford in August, 1688.

HENRY LEWIS, the second, born in 1671, was the eldest son of the first Henry. He married in 1692, and had a family of nine children, of whom John Lewis, born May 23, 1697, was the third. Henry resided on the Haverford farm during the whole of his life [died between November 18, 1731 and January 5, 1731/2], and was several times a member of the Colonial Assembly.

Henry Lewis married, 1, 12, 1670, Margaret Philpin, alias Prouterin, and had issue:

1. Henry Lewis, b. 10, 26, 1671 [see below];
2. Sarah Lewis, b. 5, 2, 1673, buried 12, 8, 1674;
3. Samuel Lewis, b. 8, 1, 1676;
4. Elizabeth Lewis, b. 12, 14, 1677, married Richard Hayes.

HENRY LEWIS married, 10, 20, 1692, at Bartholomew Coppock's house in Springfield, Mary Taylor, daughter of Robert Taylor, of Springfield, and had children:

1. Isaac Lewis, b. 3, 5, 1694 ;
2. Mary Lewis, b. 2, 5, 1696, died young;
3. John Lewis, b. 3, 23, 1697 [see below];
4. Sarah Lewis, b. 10, 11, 1698;
5. Margaret Lewis, b. 9, 17, 1700, married Isaac Price;
6. Mary, b. 10, 16, 1702, married Thomas Philips;
7. Hannah Lewis, b. 7, 21, 1704.

JOHN LEWIS, of Haverford, mason, married, 1725, Katharine Roberts, daughter of Abel and Mary Roberts, of Radnor, born 8, 28, 1702. Children:

1. Abel Lewis, b. 8, 12, 1726, d. 1766;
2. Mary Lewis, b. 11, 1, 1728, married Benjamin Davis;

3. Samuel Lewis, b.;
4. Rachel Lewis, b. 12, 19, 1734, married _____ McCulloch;
5. John Lewis, b. 5, 31, 1737;
6. Evan Lewis, b. 4, 13, 1740;
7. Elizabeth Lewis, b. 7, 9, 1743, married _____ Tucker.

*[For many additional details on this Lewis family, please refer to the following Rootsweb page:
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~paxson/price/Lewis-h.html>]*

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