



Haverford Township Historical Society



E. OSCAR LOBB (1880-1963) 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 Lobbs of Pennsylvania trace their descent paternally from Welsh, and maternally from English forbears. The grandfather of **E. OSCAR LOBB**, of this narrative, was **WILLIAM LOBB**, who for many years was a teacher of botany in the Philadelphia high schools. Retiring from the pedagogical profession, in which he had earned distinction, he purchased a small farm in Chester county, where he devoted his latter years to stock raising. Many of his horses were bred from fine stock, and nothing gave him more genuine pleasure than the exhibition of a well-formed, strong, handsome, blooded horse. He and his wife were members of the Society of Friends, and both are buried in the churchyard of the Darby Friends Meeting-house. He was the father of thirteen children, of whom the following are living:

1. Ethelbert Lobb, a builder of Berwyn, Chester county;
2. Clayton A. Lobb, a lumber dealer of Devon;
3. Henry Lobb, lives retired at Broomall, Delaware county;
4. Maria Lobb, married Edward Dutton and lives in West Chester, Pennsylvania;
5. Mary Lobb, married William Clegg (deceased);
6. Margaret Lobb, married Thomas Taylor (deceased);
7. Louis D. Lobb, of whom further.

(II) **LOUIS D. LOBB**, son of William Lobb, was born near Berwyn, Chester county, Pennsylvania, in 1856. After receiving a public school education he learned the trades of cabinetmaking and undertaking under the direction of his father-in-law. For four years he continued in those pursuits, then began building operations in Berwyn under the firm name of L. D. Lobb & Sons. In 1909 he moved to Oakmont, Delaware county, where his son, E. Oscar, was engaged in a contracting and building business, and entered his employ. He is a Republican in politics, and with his wife is a member of the Baptist church. He married Mary E. Otty, born at White Horse, Chester county, Pennsylvania, in 1857, daughter of Enoch Otty and Anna E. (Mercer) Otty, from near Media, Delaware county. Enoch Otty, died 1911, was a cabinetmaker of wide reputation, many of his pieces of work being held at great value by the owners. Because of the extreme care taken in its manufacture, the finely fitting joints and smooth finish, there is little, if any, of his work upon the market. Every secret of the cabinetmakers' art was his and his smallest article is a masterpiece of neatness and beauty. His earliest occupation was as the driver of a tram car up and down the mountains in search of closely-knitted, straight-grained lumber for use in the manufacture of various articles of furniture. Besides the work he did in this line he was frequently called upon to act as undertaker, a business he had learned when a young man. Although he was a member of the Society of Friends he nevertheless forsook the doctrines of the "peaceful sect" at the outbreak of the civil war, and took up arms in defence of what he believed to be a greater principle than universal peace, universal freedom. He was a Democrat in political belief. He married Anna E. Mercer and had children: George Otty, a carpenter of West Chester, Pennsylvania; Anna E. Otty, married Harry Lewis and

lives in Malvern, Pennsylvania; Mary E. Otty, married Louis D. Lobb, of previous mention; and six others, all deceased. Children of Louis D. Lobb and Mary E. (Otty) Lobb:

1. E. Oscar Lobb, of whom further;
2. Clyde Lobb, a contracting painter, married Gertrude Griffith, and lives in Conshohocken, Pennsylvania;
3. Victor Lobb, married Rosamond Mousman, and lives at Conshohocken, Pennsylvania;
4. 5. & 6. Edith Lobb, Marion Lobb, and Russell Lobb, all living at home.

(III) **E. OSCAR LOBB**, eldest son and child of Louis D. Lobb and Mary E. (Otty) Lobb, was born near Berwyn, Chester county, Pennsylvania, August 6, 1880. He obtained a public school education at Berwyn, Pennsylvania, and later attended Drexel Institute at Philadelphia, there taking a business course of one year's duration. This he followed with a three years' correspondence course in architecture, a profession in which he progressed rapidly because of certain innate ability and talent. His first position was with his father in the firm of L. D. Lobb & Sons, with whom he remained until 1908, when he determined to enter business independently and came to Llanerch, establishing as E. Oscar Lobb, builder. Being the designer of all of his own houses, he soon gained a reputation for original taste and individuality which created a great demand for his services in the erection of houses in the vicinity. Since starting in business in Llanerch he has built eighty-six houses, also dealing in real estate in a small way. Mr. Lobb is a valuable member of the Llanerch community and one from whom much may be expected in the future, as he is an indefatigable worker, well-liked, and public-spirited, all qualities and attributes which make for success. He is deeply interested in all political questions and is an ardent supporter of the Progressive party. His church affiliations are Baptist, while his wife is an adherent of the Presbyterian faith. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic order, belonging to lodge, chapter, commandery, and shrine; also to the Improved Order of Red Men and the Independent Americans. He is a member of the Shrine Club and the Delaware County Auto Club. [He died on December 23, 1963.]

He married, in February, 1902, Rae [or Rachel] H. Huntly [1881-June 15, 1965], born near Berwyn, Chester county, Pennsylvania, daughter of Robert Huntly, an engine inspector of the Pennsylvania Railroad, now retired, and Mary Huntly, (deceased). Children:

1. Ellen Lobb, born July 5, 1904;
2. Ethel Lobb, born May 5, 1906.

[E, Oscar Lobb and Rachel H. Lobb are buried in Arlington Cemetery in Drexel Hill, Upper Darby Township.]

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