



Haverford Township Historical Society



JOSEPH OAT (1796-1888) AND FAMILY

Compiled by Richard D. Kerr

[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.]

JOSEPH OAT, son of Jesse and Catherine Oat, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 28, 1796. He was educated in the schools of his native city, after which he served an apprenticeship at the trade of coppersmith, presumably under the tuition of his father, and, like his worthy sire, followed that line of business successfully for a number of years. On account of impaired health he removed with his family to Manoa, Haverford township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, where he purchased a farm and country homestead, which is now owned by the Delaware County Country Club. Mr. Oat was a man of strong individuality, and was prominently known for his probity of character. In all his business transactions he was scrupulously just, and in his trade and manufacturing establishment, which was located at 232 and 214 Quarry street, Philadelphia, he was regarded as a capable mechanic and master of his art. He was largely responsible for the development and improvement in the manufacture of copper pans, kettles and pipes used in the sugar refining and similar establishments, steamships and large vessels, and at the time of his death there was no man better known in his line of trade in the city of Philadelphia.

December 9, 1816, Joseph Oat married Sarah Van Meter, who was descended from an old and prominent New Jersey family, and to this marriage were born the following named children:

1. George R. Oat, born March 31, 1818;
2. Israel Oat, born August 10, 1819, married Maria Worrall, and settled in Marple township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania;
3. Charles C. Oat, born January 21, 1822;
4. Ann Maria Oat, born December 10, 1823, became the wife of George W. Colladay, of Philadelphia;
5. Sarah Oat, born November 14, 1826, became the wife of Robert S. Dunlap, of Philadelphia;
6. Caroline Frances Oat, born September 8, 1829, became the wife of William J. Heed, of Philadelphia;
7. Josephine Oat, born July 20, 1831, became the wife of Elisha Worrell, of Marple township, Delaware county.

After the death of his wife, Joseph Oat chose for his second wife Sarah Roberts, the marriage ceremony having been performed October 1, 1835. Their children are:

1. Francis Joseph Oat, born August 15, 1836, died in childhood;
2. William Henry Oat, born March 14, 1838, died in childhood;
3. Harriet Whitman Oat, born March 27, 1839, died in childhood;
4. Mary Roberts Oat, born March 27, 1840, died in childhood;
5. William Henry Oat (2), born February 22, 1841;
6. Emily Walker Oat, born June 26, 1843, became the wife of Robert Grier, of Philadelphia;
7. Joseph Lovering Oat, born November 28, 1845;

8. Albert Duy Oat, born December 99 [sic], 1846, mentioned hereinafter;
9. Fanny D. Oat, born October 1, 1849;
10. Matilda Dunlap Oat, born August 10, 1851.

Joseph Oat, the father of these children, died December 5, 1888, and his wife. Sarah (Roberts) Oat, passed away December 6, 1879, aged seventy-three years.

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