



Haverford Township Historical Society



JOSEPH SUPER (18xx-18xx) AND FAMILY

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

In 1678 **PHILLIP SOUPER** arrived in New York with the Huguenot emigres and refugees from St. Kitts, St. Christopher, West Indies, where they had taken asylum from the religious persecutions in their own country, France. Phillip Souper joined the French colony at New Rochelle, Westchester county, New York, and there remained for several years. Later he departed, and the records say that he most probably went to the province of Pennsylvania. He is supposed to be the progenitor of the Super family in Pennsylvania.

PHILLIP SUPER, descendant of Phillip Souper, the French emigre, was born in Haverford township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, and there lived and died on a farm. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and reared their children in the same faith. They were among the substantial, highly esteemed citizens of the township, and in dying bequeathed to their children an honorable name and a stainless record. Among their children were four sons:

1. Joseph Souper, of whom further;
2. John Souper, born in Haverford township, a farmer, died unmarried;
3. Phillip Souper, born in Haverford township, a farmer, died unmarried;
4. Levi Souper, born in Haverford township, a farmer, died unmarried.

JOSEPH SUPER, eldest son of Phillip Super, was born on the Super homestead, Haverford township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania. He was reared on the farm and received a limited education in the district school near his home. Reaching adult age he chose farming as his vocation for life, and succeeded more than unusually well. He purchased a large farm on the Barren road, which he improved until it was the model farm of that section. He was actively interested in politics, worked for and gave his franchise to the Republican party. He never held a political office, his large business and personal interests demanding all of his time and closest attention. With his wife he was a consistent and devout member of the Presbyterian church. He was one of the most widely known and generally esteemed men of his day, and when he died, at the age of sixty-two, he was universally mourned. He married Mary Ann Shearer, who survived him many years, dying at the age of eighty-two, a daughter of George Shearer and Elizabeth (Grimm) Shearer, of Haverford township. Besides Mrs. Super there were four other children, all of whom are dead except Mrs. Barr, of Philadelphia. After the death of her husband Mrs. Super married George White, of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, a veteran of the civil war, who died in Media, Delaware county, Pennsylvania. Children of Joseph Super and Mary Ann (Shearer) Super:

1. Rush R. Super, born February 21, 1851, in Middletown township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania.
2. Jacob Super, born in 1853, died in 1910 from kick received from a horse; was a teamster at Media, Pennsylvania; married Maggie _____, who still lives in Media; children: Edward, Ethel, and three others.
3. Hannah Super, born in 1855; married Harry Suiter and later William Morgan, of Media, Pennsylvania.

4. Ida Super, born 1859; married Elwood Smith, banker in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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