

3347

Came into Court James Lemmon and Sarah Lemmon Minor Orphan Children of William Lemmon Deceased both above the age of fourteen years and prayed the Court to appoint John Copey of West Pennsborough Township Guardian over their Persons and Estates & the Court upon consideration do there fore appoint the said John Copey Guardian over the Persons and Estates of the said James Lemmon and Sarah Lemmon Minor Orphans aforesaid during their Minority or until other Guardians or a Guardian shall be appointed in his Room

17th The Court Call James Justice

By the Court

Came into Court Col. Joseph Armstrong on a Citation having been issued for him to appear at this Court to settle the Account of his Guardianship of the Person and Estate of Joseph Dickson during his Minority & The Court upon hearing the Parties and examining their Accounts exhibited to the Court and carefully considering the same do find that the said Colonel Joseph Armstrong is Justly indebted to the said Joseph Dickson on account of the Estate left the said Joseph Dickson by his Father and which came into the Hands of the said Joseph Armstrong Guardian aforesaid the sum of Seventeen Pounds fourteen Shillings and Two pence: and do Order and Decree that the said Joseph Armstrong shall pay the same to the said Joseph Dickson in the manner following Viz, three Pounds now in hand and the remaining fourteen Pounds fourteen Shillings and Two pence on or upon the Twenty third Day of April next with Lawful Interest from the present Date

By the Court

→ Came into Court Mary W. Shenny late Mary Shelly and Apprises to the Court to appoint a Guardian over the person and Estate of her Son William Shelly a Minor orphan above the age of fourteen years now an Apprentice to Robert Shannon who (she says) refuses to let the said Apprentice appear before this Court to choose a Guardian. The Court on consideration do Order and Decree that a Citation be immediately issued for the said Robert Shannon to appear at the next Court of General Quarter Sessions at Carlisle on the Twentieth Day of January next and then and there bring with him the said Apprentice being a Minor Orphan as aforesaid together with his Indenture in Order that the Orphan Court may then take such Order therein as to them shall appear right and agreeable to Law

By the Court

Came into Court James Galbreath a Soldier in the Pennsylvania Line Discharged as an Invalid by General Lincoln bearing Date the 24th Day of October 1783 and apply to the Court for the benefit of the Provision of Congress as is established by a Law of the State (he now living in Washington Pennsylvania) The Court do therefore Order that an Order issue in favour of the said James Galbreath to the Treasurer of this County for seven Dollars and a half of a Dollar being his Pension agreeable to Law from the said fourth Day of October last until the 19th Day of Nov. the Date hereof being one month and a half of five Dollars of Month's Pension

By the Court

Came into Court Hugh Woods an Invalid as aforesaid and apply for an Order on the Treasurer of this County for his Pension from the end of his last Order being the 15th Day of July last until the end of three Months amounting by fifteen Dollars The Court do therefore Order that an Order issue in favour of the said Hugh Woods to the Treasurer of this County for fifteen Dollars being his Pension for three months ending the 15th Day of October next

By the Court

Transcription of
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA, ORPHAN'S COURT, 1761-1787, p. 334, 8 November, 1783
 Cumberland County Courthouse, Carlisle, PA.
 (See original on the previous page)

Came into the Court Mary McIlhenny late Mary Skelly and applied [*sic*] to the Court for to appoint a Guardian over the person and estate of her son William Skelly a minor above the age of fourteen years now an apprentice to Robert Shannon who (she says) refuses to let the said apprentice appear before this Court to chose a guardian. The Court on consideration do order and decree that a citation be immediately issued for the said Robert Shannon to appear at the next Court of General Quarter Sessions at Carlisle on the twentieth day of January next and then and there bring with him the said apprentice being a minor orphan as aforesaid together with his indenture in order that the Orphan Court may then take such Order therein as to them shall appear right and agreeable to law.

On examination of the record of the Court of General Quarter Sessions at Carlisle for January next [1784], no reference was found to this case.

The following two excerpts are from F. Edward Wright. *Abstracts of South Central Pennsylvania Newspapers, 1785-1790*. Westminster, MD: Family Line Publications, 1988.

THE CARLISLE GAZETTE

p. 3. 5. 7 Sep 1785. List of letters received from the Post Office in Lancaster, by the Printers, and will be delivered [*sic*] at their office. William M'ADAM, Buffaloe twp; Robert M'AFEE, Fort Loudon; John M'CAUN, Carlisle; Joseph M'CAY, care John M'CAY, Milford; Nail M'COLGANIN, Kishacochohis valley; John M'COLLOUGH, care John HUNTER, Carlisle; William M'CONNELL, near Carlisle; Alexander N'COLLOUGH, Strabane twp, care Rev. Mr. M'MILLAN; Alexander M'CULLY, Scot's valley; Hugh and James M'CURDY; John M'FALL, near Hager's town; Joseph M'FERSON, Cumberland co; James M'KIBBIN, near Bigspring; James M'Kim, care Rev. Mr. LINN; John M'KIM, Carlisle; Capt. Henry M'KINLAY, near Carlisle; Roger M'LEAN, care David ELDER, Path Valley; John M'LUCAS, Guilford twp; William M'MICHAEL, Juniata River; Neal M'MONAGH, Armagh twp, Robert M'WHNEY, care Capt. CALLENDER, near Carlisle; Thomas MACBROOM, Harris's ferry; John and Hugh MAGEE, care John CRAIGHEAD, Shippinsburgh; Samuel MAGUIRE, care John HUNTER, Carlisle; Peter MARTIN, care of Francis BIRT, Carlisle; James Maxwell MEASON, Conococheague; James MEMENAMEY; William MENTEETH, East Pennsbury twp; William METCHELL, Yellow Breeches; John MILLAN, Shearman's Valley; John MILLER, care John HARRIS; John MITCHELL, Hopewell twp; care Rev. Robert COOPER; Jane MONTGOMERY, Shearmans valley; Alexander MOOREHEAD, CUMBERLAND CO; William MORRIS, Sunburry; Arthur OHARO, care John POLLOCK, Carlisle; William PERRY, care Robert MILLAR, Carlisle; Jacob or Sarah PITSWORTH, Cumberland co; John POAK, care John POLLOCK, Carlisle; John REED, Queen's co; William RICHEY, Westmoreland co; William RODMAN, near Carlisle; David SAMPLE, care Rev. Robert COOPER, Shippensburg; **Mary SKELLY**, care Rev. Mr. RODGERS; JOHN Sloan, Antrim twp; Matthew SMITH, care James

POLLOCK, Carlisle; James STEADMAN, Northumberland co; Margaret STEWARD, near Shearmans valley; Sarah STILWELL, Shearmans valley; Charles TAGART, Bedford co; David TAIT, Pittsburgh; John TATE, Bedford co; Andrew TAYLOR, near Chamberstown; Hugh TELLY, Hanover twp; Elenor TERRENCE, Cumberland co; William THOMPSON, care Timothy GREEN, Hanover; Andrew and William THOMPSON, Land Surveyors; Henry TODD, Fawn twp, York co; John VINCENT, Carlisle; Joseph WELSH, near Harris's ferry; John WILKERSPOON; David WILLIAMSON, near Carlisle.

p. 56. 135. Feb 6 1788. **John M'GOFFOG**, Newton twp, Cumberland co, having passed five notes payable to **Joseph BOGLE**, for the use of **Mary M'GOFFOG**, **William SKELLY**, **George SKELLY** and **Agnus SKELLY**, in consideration of a piece of land, a still and other moveables, which I have since found were not the property of the aforesaid persons . . . I am determined not to pay any part thereof – John M'GOFFOG.

Explanation of
CARLISLE GAZETTE Extracts

7 Sep 1785. The significance, if any, of this extract is unknown, but considering the scarcity of early Skelly references, it needs to be included. If Mr. Wright's transcription is correct, this is the only entry which neglects to mention a location. It says only that Mary Skelly's mail was left in the care of Rev. Mr. Rodgers. Thus far it has not been possible to identify Rev. Rodgers with a church. Five years later in the 1790 U.S. Census for Cumberland County, the only Rodgers listed are found in Newtown, Hopewell Township. This is the general area where the Skelly family of this study lived.

Who was this Mary Skelly? She probably was not the Mary Skelly, mother of William and George, who by 1785 had been remarried for some time and was now Mary McElhenny. On the other hand, her remarriage might not have been known to the person sending the letter. Possibly she was the Mary Skelly referred to as Mary M'Goffog in the *Carlisle Gazette* extraction of 6 February 1788, if indeed that Mary had been Mary Skelly previously.

6 Feb 1788. By contrast, this extract is extremely significant. It may almost equate to an orphan's court record of the children of Mary Skelly McElhenny and her deceased Skelly husband, given name unknown. Apparently John M'Goffog had contracted for and was making payments to Joseph Bogle on land, a still and other movables formerly belonging to the father (or possibly some other deceased relative) of the Skelly children. John M'Goffog had discovered that the Skelly heirs did not have title to the items, and was denying responsibility for further payment. Joseph Bogle may have been the administrator of the deceased's estate or guardian of the deceased's heir's estates. No estate records have been found. William and George Skelly were already identified as children of Mary Skelly McElhenny. Probably Agnes Skelly was their sibling. Mary M'Goffog may have been another sibling and the wife of John M'Goffog or she may have been M'Goffog's daughter. The 1789 census of parishioners of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church shows no wife Mary for either of the John McGuffins [M'Goffog] listed. There is a Mary McGuffin [M'Goffog], five years old, listed near Mary (Skelly) McElhenny in the census.

1790 U. S. CENSUS
Cumberland County,
Pennsylvania
Hopewell/Newton Twps.
Microcopy M637, Roll 8, p. 20

Names of Heads of Families	20				
	1066	1220	1375	48	49
Brought forward					
James Nicholson	4		1	2	2
Jacob Vinegar	1	1	1		
Saml McElheney	2		1		
Martha M'Cauley			3		
Hugh McElheney	1	3	2		
Saml McElheney	2		2		
Hugh Ross	1	2	3		
Robert Shannon	2	2	4		
Robt Morrison	2	1	2		
Robt Christey	2	2	4		
Nicholas Hoorgan	2		0		
Philip Yacouce	1	2	2		
Danl M'Laughlin	1	1	2		
Joseph Shannon	1	2	1		
Christian Hoes	1	1	2		
John Hooker	1	4	2		
Philip Christian	1	2	3		
John Hookery	1	1	2		
Mrs Marshall	3	1	1		
Thos Mathers	2		3		
John Dewalt	1	1	1		
Saml Wilson	1		2		
John Scoullor	3	1	5		
Mrs Wilson	1		2		
Samuel Wilson	1	1	1		
Jas Wilson	3		4		
John Hosack	1		3		
James M'Gure	1	1	3		
James Doyle	3	2	2		
George Lightle	1	1	1		
Francis White	1	1	1		
Edward M'Donald	2		3		
Francis Donald	1				
James Beatty	1		1		
John Moore	1	1	3		
Wm Wilson	1	1	1		
Eleanor Dugan		2	3		
Robt Gillespie	3		3		
Nathaniel G. Massey	2	2	3		
Nicholas Fairlee	4	2	3		
John Purdy	3	2	1		
Mrs Donald	2	1	3		
John Shields	2	1	3		
Alexander Miskille	1		2		
Andrew Spiller	2	4	4		
Thomas Burns	3		1		
	1462	1277	2600	46	52

The second Samuel McElheney listed was probably the husband of Mary Skelly McElheney. Robert Shannon was the person to whom Mary's son William had been apprenticed according to the Cumberland County Orphan's Court case of November, 1783.

HISTORY

OF THE

Big Spring Presbyterian Church,

NEWVILLE, PA.

1737==1898.

BY

Gilbert Ernest Swope,

Author of "A History of the Swope Family,"

With an Introduction by

REV. EBENEZER ERSKINE, D. D.

NEWVILLE, PA.,
TIMES STEAM PRINTING HOUSE:
1898.

opportunity to inquire into them, and it has been feared that if persons were then kept back, offense would be taken, and no doubt reports are sometimes groundless. To prevent then the growing evil and the prostitution of holy ordinances, the members of session respectively engage that they will use every lawful means which belongs to their office in order to a knowledge of those who are members of their own district, that they will not recommend any one chargeable with any of the glaring crimes above taken notice of. It is unanimously agreed in session that in the future that any persons who have in view to attend upon the ordinances of baptism some time before, signify their intention to the member of session in the district in which he lives, or if there be no member of session in the district, the one most convenient, so that the member previous to his recommending him may have an opportunity of conversing with him before he recommends him, and that the blessing of God may succeed this attempt for the reformation of this society, upon whose account it is essayed, is the earnest prayer of the respective members."

MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS OF THE BIG SPRING
CHURCH, 1789.

About 1789 Rev. Samuel Wilson made lists of members and adherents of the church dividing them into districts, and over each district, an elder was placed. The lists give the ages of the persons, and states whether they were in communion, not in communion, and whether they were baptized. The communicant members of the church are shown in these lists by a

star following a name. There is no date attached to the lists, but comparing the ages given of persons whose ages we positively know, we feel quite safe in saying, the lists were made in 1789. Dating back from that time, the number of years given to each person, will give about the year in which they were born.

One of the duties of the elder, was, to visit the people and catechise them. Questions having been previously prepared by the pastor and given to the members to commit to memory, or, at least to obtain a correct understanding of them. These visitations of the elder were made annually.

JOHN CARSON'S DISTRICT. QUESTIONS AND MEMBERS.

1. Who was the penman of the Book of Genesis? When is it generally thought to have been written, and what length of time does that history contain?
2. What are the principal doctrines and events recorded in this book?
3. What do you understand by creation, and is it a work peculiar to God only?
4. What seems to be the order of creation, and what was the work of each day?
5. What are those called who do not acknowledge divine revelation? What objections do they offer against Moses and his writings, and how are their arguments confuted?
6. What rational arguments can be offered in favor of Moses, that his mission was from God and that his writings were of divine inspiration?
7. What scripture prophecies have been fulfilled and what are at present fulfilling or yet to be fulfilled?

Persons not in communion,	70.
Total number of persons,	89.

HUGH LAUGHLIN'S DISTRICT.

Jane Laughlin	34, *	David Williamson	35,
Buhard Brines	12,	Samuel Williamson	13,
David, a negro.	25,	Hugh McElhenny	30,
Alexander Laughlin	52, *	Margaret McElhenny	33,
Charity Laughlin	37, *	Hugh Kirkpatrick	13,
Susana Laughlin	15,	Richard Nicholdson	73, *
Ann Laughlin	10,	Mary Nicholdson	77, *
John Laughlin	8,	James Nicholdson	33,
Eve, a negro.		Mary Nicholdson	33,
Jack, "		Isaac Shannon	18,
Hall, "		James Steen	13,
Robert McCormick	30,	Sal, a negro.	
Esther McCormick	38,	Pomp, "	
Wm. Nisbit, (absent)	28,	Robert Shannon	64, *
Esther Nisbit	19,	Jane Shannon	63, *
James Stewart (absent)	28,	Sarah Shannon	30, *
Thomas Martin		John Shannon	33,
Eleanor Stewart	22,	Mary Shannon	20,
Thomas Montgomery	20,	Mary McGuffin	5,
☞ Rebecca McMullin	13,	Robert Morrison	56, *
John Allen	26,	Elizabeth Morrison	58, *
Isabella Allen	20,	Robert Morrison	20,
Hugh Allen	57, *	Mary Morrison	16,
Jennet Allen	50,	William Morrison	13,
Elizabeth Allen	18,	Samuel McElhenny	40,
Alexander Allen	19,	☞ Mary McElhenny	38, *
Jenny Allen	14,	☞ George Sully†	16,
David Allen	13,	Rebecca McElhenny	66,

† Skelly