THE FAMILY OF JOHN POTTS (1709/10-1768), IRONMASTER, 
AND RUTH SAVAGE (1715/16-1786) 
OF POTTSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 

THROUGH THE FOURTH GENERATION 

A GENEALOGICAL SKETCH
THE FAMILY OF JOHN POTTS

December 2006

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The John Potts Family (1710-1767) of Pottstown, Pennsylvania
Pottstown, Pennsylvania
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania
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FOREWORD

The Family of John Potts (1709/10), Ironmaster and Ruth Savage (1715/16-1786) of Pottstown, Pennsylvania Through the Fourth Generation, was researched from 2003 to 2006. It does though contain information uncovered while researching other Potts and iron industry papers during the last twenty-five years.

The primary or original information included in the document came from several major locations: the Pottstown Historical Society, Pottsgrove Manor, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College, Winterthur, the Hagley Museum and Library, and the Chester County Historical Society and Archives. Secondary source information came from a large number of locations including: the Library of Congress, the Daughters of the American Revolution Library in Washington, D.C., the Wyoming County Historical Society, the Historical Society of Berks County, the Montgomery County Historical Society and Hopewell Furnace National Historical Site.

This paper is a companion to a paper I completed in 2003 entitled Samuel Savage Sr. (c1655-1707), Stonemason, and Descendants of Philadelphia, Berks and Chester Counties, Pennsylvania, Through Four Generations. That paper documented John Potts’ wife’s family. Because of the Savage/Rutter intermarriages with the Potts family, many of the individuals found in this paper are also in that paper. The Savage paper should be consulted for further information on the Savage family.

The paper was originally started to help me with other research. In 2003 I began working with Rachael Onuff on a finding aid for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. While I knew which of John Potts’s sons and sons-in-law were involved in the iron industry and which ironworks they were involved with, I realized very quickly as I was doing sketches of the works, I did not know his grandson’s generation as well as I needed. As I have previously stated, the Potts and Rutter families in the generations I have been searching were fairly unimaginative in naming their offspring. Numerous iron companies of cousins named Potts & Rutter or Rutter & Potts with their Johns, Davids, and Samuels and a Thomas or two, many with the middle names of Rutter or Potts (e.g. John Potts Rutter and John Rutter Potts) required more knowledge than I had.

I must admit, I did not originally anticipate or appreciate the scope of the project when I started. John Potts, plainly put, had a lot of descendants and it took me longer to finish the paper than expected. Thomas Potts, John’s oldest son alone had thirty-five grandchildren and eighty-eight great-grandchildren. His brother, Samuel Potts had fifty-one grandchildren and 126 great-grandchildren. Coupled with the family’s proclivity to marry cousins and the naming problems mentioned above, it was three years in the making.

But that said, in the larger sense, this paper is the culmination of thirty papers and twenty-five years of researching the John Potts family, all of which should be consulted for further information. The genealogical, biographical and historical data obtained during my research on
the Potts family and their “kin,” the Rutter, Savage, Hockley, Dewees and May families, and their various iron industry endeavors, are presented here.

There have been two good biographies of John Potts. One, while not its primary purpose, appeared in a Penn State doctoral dissertation in 1974 by Linda McCurdy, entitled *The Potts Family Iron Industry in the Schuylkill Valley*. The second was a biographical sketch that appeared in 2005 in Volume III of *Lawmaking and Legislators in Pennsylvania: a Biographical Dictionary*, which was edited by Craig W. Horle. This write-up is the first real biography on Potts and it is excellent.

Two other documents were consulted for basic genealogical information. As with any genealogical paper involving the Pottstown, Pennsylvania Potts family, the 1874 *Potts Memorial* by Isabella (Batchelder) James is a required source and provides a baseline of genealogical data from which to draw. The information presented there forms the basis of this paper. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Collection 520, has about 600 items including correspondence with various members of the Thomas Potts family, papers, notes, proofs, and original manuscripts gathered by Mrs. James during the writing of "The Potts Memorial." I used this information to supplement the information found in the *Memorial* itself.

In addition to the *Memorial*, Bill Brobst of the Pottstown Manor gave me a copy of a Potts genealogy that predated it. Originally compiled by William B. Potts (1802-1855) in the 1850s, this original genealogy has been hand copied by several descendants and numerous versions exist. I have seen three and each one is slightly different depending on the family knowledge of the descendant who copied it and how much was updated by later owners/descendants. The Pottsgrove Manor copy was about 300 pages. Mrs. James had access and used Potts’s work when she wrote her genealogy and she followed his horizontal generational numbering style. Isabella James indicates the following about Potts and his genealogy:

He was interested in collecting family genealogy, and his manuscript has been extensively copied and circulated. He had, however, little idea of chronological arrangement; and it is much to be regretted that, with his opportunities of obtaining information from the elder generation living in his day, he noted so few dates of births, marriages, and deaths, or the parents' names of those marrying into the family. His errors of omission as well as commission have sometimes led me astray before I gave up depending upon his record. To those who may think this genealogy is merely a compilation from his manuscript, I would say, my labor would have been lighter had I never seen his.

While Mrs. James had her problems with the document, I included a good bit of material from it in this paper. She synopsized much of his material and the entire write-up often contains other useful information. More importantly, Potts supplied a good bit of family lore and many of the family stories handed down in the family can be attributed to his asking older relatives and writing it down. While going over it fact-by-fact, I found that, as a true Victorian, Isabella James also did not include some information she had concerning illegitimate births or “inappropriate” marriages.

Edward Neill’s, 1875 *John Neill of Lewes, Delaware, 1739: and his Descendants*, was used in obtaining information on the Duffield, Neill and Martin side of the family. While the W.B. Potts Pottsgrove Manor copy was invaluable and was used extensively, another W.B. Potts copy at the
Historical Society of Pennsylvania, indexed in their catalogue under the unlikely lengthy title of: “Genealogical data, letters (1750-1785) and newspaper clippings (1870-1885) relating to the descendants of Thomas Potts – died 1752 – of Colebrookdale, Berks Co., Pa., and of his son John Potts, founder of Pottsgrove – died 1768 / includes material on the allied families of Rutter, Duffield, Neill, Yorke, Bartholomew, Hobart, Smith and Lohra, Vol. 1,” was also extremely useful. Its extra value comes from the fact that a later owner of that genealogy glued in newspaper death notices/obituaries, dated from 1870-1895, generally on the page near the Potts descendant in the genealogy. Although many of the obituaries are undated and most do not identify the newspaper they came from, they still provide information that I would not have uncovered elsewhere.

This paper is different from the Potts Memorial and the W.B. Potts genealogies in that it lists John Potts descendants vertically by his children, not by generation. Each of John Potts’ children and their descendants form a chapter. John and Ruth (Savage) Potts had thirteen children, seventy-seven grandchildren, and 169 great grandchildren and the paper has thirteen sections.

Two people helped with this paper and their assistance was appreciated: Bill Brobst of Pottsgrove Manor, and of course, Bob Pyle of Springfield, Virginia,

Dan Graham
Ellicott City, Md. 2006
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THE FAMILY OF JOHN POTTS (1709/10-1768), IRONMASTER, AND RUTH SAVAGE (1715/6-1786) OF POTTSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

THROUGH THE FOURTH GENERATION

“I then rode…to the home of the former English assemblyman, as he had something that he desired to confer with me about. Arrived there about six o’clock. This J. P[otts], Esquire, has laid out a town on his land, and nineteen houses have already been built there. He is an adherent of the Quak [Quaker] persuasion and desires that a German Evangelical church be built in his little town.”¹ From the Journal of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, August 12, 1764.

JOHN¹ POTTS, was the third child and eldest son of Thomas and Martha (Kerlius) Potts and was born 1709-10 in Philadelphia.² At the time of John’s birth, Thomas Potts was a butcher from Germantown who had moved to Philadelphia. He was able to accumulate excess capital by buying and selling parcels of land. In 1725, Potts rented Rutter’s Forge and Colebrook Dale Furnace in the Manatawny Region north-west of Philadelphia and he moved his family there. Thomas Potts quickly learned the ironmaster trade and he eventually owned majority shares in both ironworks.³ His son John learned the iron trade during the next ten years that he would derive his livelihood and fortune from.

On 5 October 1734, John Potts married at her step-father’s home in Coventry, Chester County Ruth Savage, the daughter of Samuel and Anna (Rutter) Savage. Ruth’s father died when she was young and her mother married Samuel Nutt, an ironmaster of Coventry. The couple’s Quaker-like marriage certificate, with signatures of attendees, appears in the Potts Memorial.⁴ Based on her given age at death, Ruth was born 1715/6 in Philadelphia County. Ruth was the granddaughter of Thomas Rutter, builder of the first ironwork in Pennsylvania in 1716.⁵ Her father, a stone mason, went to the Manatawny Region with Thomas Rutter and probably helped Rutter build the forge. Samuel Savage died in 1720 and after her mother’s remarriage to Samuel Nutt in 1726, the family moved to Coventry. By the time of Ruth and John’s marriage, Thomas Potts owned shares in and managed Colebrook Dale Furnace and Pine Forge. He had moved from renter to owner. Frank Willing Leach noted the following:

“Of Mrs. Potts—Ruth Savage—and her wedding, we have this description: At this date she could not have been sixteen year of age. Tradition asserts that she was a very beautiful girl, and that her rich dowry was far outweighed by her personal and mental charms. Her wedding dress of very elegant brocade, with high-heeled buckled shoes to match, were imported from England (as was the bridegroom’s), and are still in possession of the writer.”⁶

In 1736, William Branson built Reading Furnace in Chester County upstream from Coventry Forge and the Potts Memorial notes an agreement between John Potts, Samuel Nutt and William Branson to manage the furnace:

“The 15th day of March, 1736, Samuel Nutt and William Branson entered into an agreement with John Potts to carry on their furnace called Redding, recently built near Coventry, and of which they
are styled “joint owners.” He was “to cast the quantity of twenty-eight hundred weight of Cartboxes, Sash Weights or any other Particular small Castings every Month during the Continuance of the said Blast...And they also covenant that they ye said Owners or their Clerks or Agents for the Time being, shall deliver no Quantity of Rum to any of the People Belonging to the Furnace or therein concerned, without a Note or Token from the said John Potts or his Agent or Assistants.”

Potts was working at Reading Furnace by October as he is listed as of Coventry, Chester County on a Release dated October 19, 1736. Thomas Lewis and wife Hannah of Colebrook Dale Township, Philadelphia County transferred 200 acres of land to him near current Barto, Pennsylvania. John and Ruth moved into Popodickon, the manor house at Colebrook Dale Furnace where they lived until 1751. Potts worked at Colebrook Dale Furnace and eventually acquired an ownership share of Pine Forge. In 1738, Thomas Potts and two partners built Mt. Pleasant Furnace near present day Barto in Berks County and shortly after, built Spring Forge near Colebrook Dale. John, while remaining at Colebrook Dale Furnace, began running Mt. Pleasant Furnace in what would become Earl Township. The books of William Branson and Samuel Nutts’ Rock Run Furnace (also called Kristeen Furnace) at Coventry for 1743-1747 show that John Potts was managing it also.

In 1744, John was left by his mother-in-law’s will her share of Warwick, Coventry and the iron mines. Although Anna (Rutter) Savage Nutt lived for another sixteen years, she also mortgaged the property to him. By 1745, Potts had moved to Warwick and was running the furnace for the family. He build Warwick into the largest furnace in the colonies and he built his iron “empire” around it. By 1751, with the writing of Thomas Potts, Sr.’s will, John Potts knew his brother Thomas was receiving Colebrook Dale Furnace. John decided to move closer to Warwick Furnace and Pine Forge, which by then he was a part owner. To that end, on 7 November 1751, John Potts signed an indenture with Samuel McCall, Jr. to purchase two tracts comprising 995 acres for £3,000. John agreed to make seven payments, the last being due 16 November 1756 and after he made the second payment, due 1 March 1752, McCall “shall sign Seal Execute and deliver” the deeds to the two tracts.

He quickly built a manor house on the property near the confluence of Manatawny Creek and the Schuylkill River which he named initially called Pottsylvania but later Pottsgrove. He moved his family there. He also built a forge and established his business headquarters near the manor. It was from Pottsgrove that he managed his iron conglomerate, which included Warwick Furnace and Coventry Forge, Mt. Joy (later Valley Forge), Pine, Pool and Pottsgrove Forges. He developed an iron production and distribution system that was second to none in the colonies and he controlled a large percentage of Pennsylvania iron production. He supplied numerous non-Potts owned furnaces and forges with iron and food stuffs and merchandise for the workers. Potts became the eminent iron master of his time.

By 1758, John Potts had begun removing himself from the active management of his iron business and had transferred management of his various ironworks to companies composed of his sons and kin. He rented his various ironworks to them. Potts’ sons Thomas, Samuel and John formed a company and rented Warwick Furnace, Coventry and Valley Forge. Pine Forge and Pottsgrove Forge were later rented to Samuel Potts’ brother-in-law Thomas May. Potts served in the Pennsylvania Assembly for Berks County in 1755, 1759-61 and became a valued member of Benjamin Franklin’s political party which was both anti-pacifist and anti-
proprietary. During his term as an assemblyman, he purchased a house in Philadelphia. Richard Johnson noted “this Thirty First Day of May 1760…This is to certify that John Potts, Esq. of the City of Philadelphia hath contributed the sum of six Pounds to the Union School house of Germantown…” In 1761, he began laying out the town of Pottsgrove (later Pottstown) on the McCall property. By 1764, the town had nineteen houses, two mills and a tavern. An article by Robert Wright discusses how Potts used ground rents to sell lots at Pottsgrove.

On 30 August 1766, Potts was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly again for Philadelphia County (1766) as a member of Benjamin Franklin’s party. The Franklin’s knew the Pottes well and they are mentioned in several of his letters. Samuel Wharton in Philadelphia, wrote Benjamin Franklin, who was then in England, a letter introducing Dr. Jonathan Potts, son of “his friend, John Potts. Esq.”, “who goes to Europe to continue his studies in medicine.” Joseph Galloway wrote a similar one. By 1767 John Potts was ill.

Potts’s health became a concern for the party. Deborah Franklin wrote a letter dated 25 April 1767 to Benjamin Franklin noting John’s illness: “I was in hopes to a sente a Bill But Mr. John Potts is verey ill and two nights ago one of his Sones Came downe for a Dr. and his Son is gon up so I muste defer it tell he Comes down which I hope will be time aneuef for the Packit” Thomas Wharton also mentioned Potts illness to Franklin in a letter dated 21 September, “Our Election is near at hand, [and] we have little reason to fear a change in our Ticket; except [torn] of Our friend John Potts, who is so Ill, that his [torn] Expected.”

In 1767, due to his father’s ill health, son Samuel Potts took over his Assembly seat. John wrote his will on 24 April 1767 detailing how his large estate should be distributed among his children. He named Samuel as his Executor. Although Potts had spent most of later years in Philadelphia, he wrote his will from Pottsgrove Manor.

Potts died testate at Pottsgrove Manor more than a year after writing his will on 6 June 1768 and was buried in the Potts graveyard at Pottstown. His death was noted in Schwenkfelder David Shultze’s Journal: “The evening of the 6th of June John Potts, Esquire died and on the 8th was buried.” His obituary appeared in the Pennsylvania Gazette: ”After a long and tedious Illness, died the Sixth Instant, at his house in Pottsgrove, John Potts, Esq., a Gentleman of unblemished Honour and Integrity---known,---beloved,---lamented. Such this Man was; who now from Earth removed. At length enjoyed the liberty he loved." His will, which distributed his large estate, was written 27 April 1767, and taken for probate 16 June 1768. It is filed at Philadelphia in Will Book O, p. 248.

Ruth remained living at Pottsgrove Manor through the war years. In August 1777, Lieutenant-General Sir William Howe landed a British Army in Maryland at Elkton and started to advance toward Philadelphia. As the army came closer, the Pennsylvania authorities began to panic. They began to take measures to arrest pro-British sympathizers. Most of those arrested were Quakers who refused to take the Pennsylvania oath and had Tory leanings but also included her relative, the Rev. Thomas Coombe. It was decided by the Executive Council to send those arrested to Virginia.
Since the British were moving from the south, which was where the authorities were sending those arrested, it was decided that they should first be taken west and then south. Although the prisoners tried to slow down their exile, probably assuming the British would be in Philadelphia soon, they were marched west on 12 September. The "Extracts from the Journal of Friends who were exiled to Virginia by the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania in 1777" notes that the exiles left Philadelphia the day after the battle of Brandywine as prisoners:

9th month, 12th, 1777-We stopped about sunset at William Loyd's tavern about 30 miles from Philadelphia, but as we could not be accommodated there, we went on to Pottsgrove, which we reached between 7 and 8 o'clock, 37 miles from Philadelphia. Several of our kind friends came to the tavern and invited us to their houses. As soon as we arranged, we went with them and lodged at the widow Potts, Samuel Potts, John Potts, David Potts, and Thomas Rutter, agreeing to meet our guards at the tavern about 8 o'clock the next morning.13

Though apparently in ill health toward the end of her life, Ruth lived for eighteen years after the death of her husband at Pottsgrove Manor, which was purchased from the estate by son Thomas Potts. She appears in numerous contemporary records as “Widow Potts.” The following testimonial appeared in the 12 May 1784 Philadelphia Gazette: “We the subscribers hereby certify, that after several years blindness, we have been restored to sight by the assistance of doctor Frederick W. Jericho, physician and occultist, who intends to leave Philadelphia the last of this month. Ruth Potts, of Potts Grove, Barbara Hansman, Second street, above Vine street.”

The W.B. Potts genealogy contains a copy letter from Anna (Nutt) Potts dated 23 September 1785 to her daughter Martha (Potts) Haskins stating: “On Tuesday I went over to Schuyl Kill to see my dear Mammy Potts, who has been so ill, that they sent for Dr. Duffield.”14 On December 15, and 16 she signed as a witness on the indentures for son Samuel and son-in-law Thomas Rutter to buy Pine Forge from the David Potts estate. But she died about three weeks later in Pottstown on 7 January 1786. Her obituary appeared in the Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser dated 11 January 1786:

“On Saturday morning last departed this life, aged seventy years, after a short but severe illness, which she sustained with true resignation, Mrs. Ruth Potts, relict of John Potts, Esq., of Pottsgrove. If the tenderest performance of maternal duties, the most generous exercise of benevolence and charity to her fellow-creatures, and the purest piety to her God, deserve to be lamented, then is the circle of her mourners numerous indeed.”

Ruth (Savage) Potts is buried next to her husband at the family graveyard in Pottstown. John and Ruth Potts had a large family. They had thirteen children and 77 grandchildren of whom 41 lived to marry and produce 169 great grandchildren. The nine Potts boys worked in the Potts family’s iron endeavors eventually taking over the Potts works.
1. THOMAS\textsuperscript{2} POTTS; was the eldest child of John\textsuperscript{1} and Ruth (Savage) Potts. He was born “May the 29th about half an hour after one in the afternoon A.D. 1735” probably at Colebrook Dale Furnace.\textsuperscript{15} As Potts’ oldest son, he entered early into the family iron business and he was an ironmaster.

In 1756 he joined as a partner with his uncle in the firm of Yorke & Potts which supplied merchandise to the various Potts ironworks and he was living at that time in Philadelphia. He married c1757, at her home in Coventry, his first cousin Anna Nutt. Anna was the daughter of Samuel Nutt, Jr. and his wife Rebecca Savage. Anna was born 1736-37 at Coventry. After the death of Samuel Nutt, Jr. in 1739, Anna’s mother married Robert Grace who took over the management of Coventry Forge. About 1758, Potts formed Thomas Potts & Co., with his brothers Samuel and John, and rented and managed several of their father’s ironworks. In 1762 when their son, Nutt died, the Potts were living in Philadelphia. Although not Friends, the child was buried at Friends Burying ground in Philadelphia.

About this time, the firm of Yorke & Potts went into receivership and as a result, Thomas incurred a heavy debt load, particularly after his Uncle Thomas died. In 1765, Thomas obtained all his in-law’s rights in Coventry Forge, which he managed until his death and which became known locally as “Pott Forge.” The indenture, dated 1 March 1765, was between "Robert Grace Gentleman & Rebecca his wife, formerly Rebecca Nutt, on the one part, & Thomas Potts of the city of Phil. Merchant on the other, & conveys the Messuages, Plantations, Lands, Mines, Minerals, Forges, Furnaces, Rents, Tenement, Hereditaments & Real-Estate of sd. Robert Grace.”\textsuperscript{16}

Although the Coventry steel furnace appears not to have been in operation at the time of the sale, Thomas formed a company with brothers Samuel and John and reopened it. To get around the restrictions imposed by the 1750 Iron Act, there are several Notes of Testimony dated in 1764 found in Letters of Attorney from individuals indicating that the steel furnace Thomas Potts was repairing was the same one that belonged to Samuel Nutt. Steel was produced there during the Revolution.\textsuperscript{17}

Thomas and Anna Potts resided at Coventry until their deaths. In 1768, Thomas obtained Pottsgrove Manor in Pottstown from his father’s estate but apparently did not spend much time there. He was admitted to the American Philosophical Society in 1768 in Philadelphia and was a charter member when it reorganized in 1769. In 1769, Potts was taxed on a grist mill and saw mill in Douglass Township which was near Pottsgrove Manor also obtained from his father’s estate. In 1775 he was elected as a Colonel of one of the six Philadelphia Militia Battalions at the Provincial Council Meeting which convened 23 January 1775. Potts was also elected that Fall to the Assembly from Philadelphia County and in 1776 was elected as one of the three Commissioners for the county.\textsuperscript{18} Coventry Forge and Potts are not shown on the Coventry tax roles from 1775 to 1778 probably an indication the forge was closed.

Potts is shown as living in “Potts Grove” in 1778, when in the 8 May Pennsylvania Packet, he placed an advertisement for a strayed or stolen horse from Coventry Forge. He also signed his “Oath of Allegiance to Pennsylvania at Warwick Furnace with other family on 30\textsuperscript{th} May 1778.\textsuperscript{19} He appears again on Coventry taxes in Chester County in 1779. On 19
October 1780, letters of administration were granted to James Hockley on the estate of Thomas Hockley. Thomas Potts and William Evans furnished bond for 10,000 pounds. Thomas Potts of Coventry is listed as having five slaves on the 1780 Pennsylvania Registry of Slaves for Chester County. He was living at Coventry Forge after the war as Hessian doctor Johann David Schoepf stopped at the forge in November 1783 and noted Mr. Potts was absent but he was “received with particular courtesy.” A letter from Samuel Hodgdon dated May 13, 1780 sending him 6 ton of bar iron belonging to the “publick” to be made into steel and Potts’ estate inventory showing that he had a contract to make steel for the “United States”, shows he was making steel during the war. Potts served as a Pennsylvania Assemblyman for Chester County from 1783-1784.

Thomas died intestate on 22 March 1785 in Philadelphia and Letters of Administration No. 3696 were filed at 21 April 1785 at Chester County. He was buried at the family burying ground in Coventry. His obituary appeared in the 30 March 1785 Bradford’s Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser:

On Tuesday, the 22d instant, departed this life in this city Thomas Potts, Esq., a Representative for Chester County in the present General Assembly, in the fifty-first year of his age. His remains were removed to Coventry, the place of his family residence, and there interred on Friday last. His funeral was attended by a numerous concourse of relatives, friends, and neighbors, sincerely lamenting the loss of a person held in universal esteem by all who had acquaintance with him. Of this gentleman it may with truth be affirmed, that in the different relationships of husband, father, brother, master, neighbor, or friend he was excelled by few. The true interests of his country engaged his close attention, his assiduity in the duties of the station he filled imperiled the care of his health. Anxious to execute the trust reposed in him by his constituents, he flattered himself that he, might safely venture abroad to take his seat in the Assembly as soon as a severe fit of gout in his feet had abated. In this he was deceived by a sudden return of that disorder to his head, which in about six hours put a period to his existence. His religious sentiment and irreproachable deportment are a firm basis upon which his friends may build a reasonable hope that he has exchanged a life of pain for eternal bliss.

The Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser of Thursday, 31 March 1785 had a similar notice. Potts left a widow and eight living children and the Orphans Court records dated 4th February 1788 appointed guardians for the five minor children. On 27 April 1785, Letters of Administration (No. 3696) were granted to Samuel Potts, Benjamin Jacobs, Thomas Rutter and Dan Griffiths. The inventory of his estate, filed 30 April 1785, was taken by Thomas Bull, James Hockley and Caleb North and estimated to be worth £3332. Since his debts were determined to be £5563, the Orphans Court ordered the administrators to sell his property to pay his debts. Anna (Nutt) Potts lived for another eleven years at Coventry and died there 21 April 1796. No will or letters of administration were filed. Both Thomas and Anna are buried at the family graveyard at Coventry. Issue, nine children, of whom seven married, thirty-five grandchildren, and eighty-eight great grandchildren.

14. Rebeccah Grace Potts, was the daughter and oldest child of Thomas and Anna (Nutt) Potts. She was born 5 July 1760. She married at Coventry 16 February 1786, Robert, son of Robert and Elizabeth (Brooke) May. Robert was born 4 February 1749-50 on the May farm in what is now Pottstown, Pennsylvania. At the time of the marriage, May carried on Elk Forge at the Head of
Elk, Maryland for his brother, Thomas. After the marriage, Rebecca removed to the forge where two children were born. She died there in childbirth with the second child on 30 July 1789. She was buried in the graveyard four miles from Elk Forge, Cecil Co. May resided at the forge until shortly after the death of his second daughter in 1791. Robert and his eldest daughter Eliza moved to Coventry Forge in 1792 which he purchased and married Rebecca’s younger sister, Ruth. (See Number 18, Ruth Potts.) The remains of Rebecca (Potts) May and daughter Rebecca were removed from Hollingsworth Cemetery 1 April 1883 and re-interred in Elkton Cemetery. Issue, two children, nine grandchildren.

i. Elizabeth May, called Eliza, eldest daughter of Robert and Rebecca (Potts) May, was born in Elkton, Maryland on 2 March 1787, where her father was running Elk Forge. Her mother died in childbirth when she was only age two and her baby sister died when she was age three. When she was five, her father remarried her mother’s sister, Ruth Potts, and the family returned to Coventry in Chester County where she was raised. Elizabeth May, her sister Anna and her cousin Sarah Haskins were left a bequest by the 1799 will of her grandmother Rebecca (Savage) Nutt Grace so that they could “purchase some piece of plate for themselves if they shall so think proper.” Eliza resided in Philadelphia for some period, perhaps for schooling, and it is probably there she met her future husband who was apprenticing there. On 2 June 1804, when she was age 17, she was married at her father’s “Seat” in Coventry, Chester County by John Ralston, Esq., to Samuel Stevens, Jr., son of Samuel Stevens, of Talbot Co., Maryland. The Easton Star dated 19 June 1804 noted the marriage: “Married Saturday, June 2, 1804, by the Rev. Mr. Ralston, Samuel Stevens, Jr., of this county, to Miss Eliza May, daughter of Col. Robert May, of Chester county, Pennsylvania.” Notice of the marriage was also presented in Philadelphia’s Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser dated 1 July 1804: “MARRIED, on the evening of the second instant, at the Seat of Robert May, Esquire, in Chester County, Samuel Stevens, Esquire, of Talbot county, Maryland, to the amiable Miss Eliza May, of the first mentioned place.”

Stevens was born 13 July 1778 in Talbot County, Maryland. The bride moved to the family home of “Compton” and all their children were born there. Eliza’s father died in 1812. In a letter from “Dividing Creek” to her step-mother Ruth during the War of 1812 dated 7 May 1814, she responded to Ruth’s fears that Compton was still not safe: “We have but little fear of the British and should they attempt to molest us we can place the girls in safety.” Legislation of the State of Maryland, Session of the General Assembly held at Annapolis on the first Monday of 7 December, 1818, ended 19 February 1819, authorized David Patton as trustee and executor for Eliza M. Stevens of Talbot County for Robert May’s estate. As a result, on 9 June 1819, the one quarter share of Elk Forge belonging to Robert May, late of Coventry Township, Chester Co., deceased, was transferred to Eliza M. Stevens, wife of Samuel Stevens.

Upon the death of her step-mother Ruth (Potts) May in 1820, Eliza took her three youngest half-brothers into her household where they were raised. Samuel Stevens served as the Democratic-Republican Governor from Maryland from 1822-1826. Stevens was a descendant of Quakers who originally settled in Dorchester and Talbot Counties. When he was about sixteen his father died. For a short time, he was in business in Philadelphia. He began his long career of public service by being chosen to the House of Delegates from Talbot County in 1807. He served a number of terms until 1822 but they were not consecutive. He was elected Governor 9 December 1822 and served until 1826. The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company was charted under his term. Samuel Stevens & Co. is shown in the Elk Forge books as managing the forge in the 1830’s. Eliza (May) Stevens died in December of 1834. The Eastern Shore Whig and People’s Advocate of Easton noted her death: “Died at Compton, on Monday Night last, after a prolonged illness, Mrs. Eliza M. Stevens, wife of Samuel Stevens, Esqr., formerly Governor of this state. Respected by all who knew her, and affectionately respected by those who knew her in the intimate relations of life, Mrs. Stevens death hath excited deep and general sympathy in our society. Whether her life be viewed in relation of the christian, the wife, the mother or the friend, it presents an example well worthy of imitation.”

Stevens remained living at Compton but apparently was involved in the management of Elk Forge in the 1830’s. He was active as a member of the Agricultural Society for the Eastern Shore, serving several terms as its President. He died at Compton on 7 February 1860, at the age of 81 years. The
register of the Whitemarsh Parish, St. Paul’s Church, Talbot County, notes only that he was buried in the family cemetery. His grave was apparently not marked. Issue, nine children: Rebecca May\(^5\), William Augustus\(^3\), John\(^3\), Anna Maria\(^3\), Julian Potts\(^3\), Robert May\(^3\), Sarah Elizabeth\(^3\), Henrietta Louisa\(^3\), and Edwin John\(^3\) Stevens.

ii. Rebecca Grace May, second child of Robert and Rebecca (Potts) May was born in Elkton, Maryland in July 1789, 12:30 A.M. She died 8 October 1790, age 14 months and was buried at Hollingsworth Cemetery in Cecil County. Her birth and death are noted on the gravestone of her mother. The remains of Rebecca (Potts) May and Rebecca were removed from Hollingsworth Cemetery 1 April 1883 and re-interred in Elkton Cemetery.

15. Nutt Potts, was the eldest son and second child of Thomas\(^2\) and Anna (Nutt) Potts. Nutt was born 28 May 1762. Philadelphia Meeting Records indicate that Nutt Potts died in Philadelphia on 20 December 1762 and was buried in Friends Burial Ground.

16. Martha Potts, was the daughter of Thomas\(^2\) and Anna (Nutt) Potts. She was born 25 January 1764. She married at Coventry, 25 August 1785, Thomas, son of Joseph and Sarah (Ennalls) Haskins, of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He was born in Dorchester County on 7 November 1740. He was a graduate of William and Mary College in Virginia and studied law with Gustavus Scott, Esq. of Cambridge, Maryland and later with his cousin, Richard Basset, at Dover, Delaware. Like Basset, he became a convert to Methodism, and he thought it his duty, though much against the wishes of his family, to give up the law for the gospel of which he soon after became a preacher. At the time of his marriage he was already noted as having preached at Nanticoke on the Eastern Shore. W.B. Potts indicated that he “was a teacher of youth.”

After their marriage Haskins entered into business in Philadelphia and Martha (Potts) Haskins died there, 20 July 1797. She was buried in the graveyard of St. George's Church, of which her grandmother Rebecca (Savage) Grace had been one of the earliest benefactors. Three children from the marriage. Mr. Haskins married for his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of William and Mary (Patrick) Richards, of Batsto, New Jersey. They had three children. He died in Philadelphia 29 June 1816, and was buried in the yard of the Union Methodist Episcopal Church. Thomas and Martha (Potts) Haskins had three children, only one living to adulthood.

i. Thomas Potts Haskins, was the son of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Haskins. Thomas was born at Philadelphia, 27 March 1787. He died there at age three 14 May 1790.

ii. Sarah Ennalls Haskins, was the daughter of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Haskins. Sarah was born at Coventry at the residence of her great-grandmother, Mrs. Robert Grace, 19 December 1788. At the age of eight she lost her mother, and until her father’s second marriage, she was under the care of his sister, Sarah Ennalls Haskins. She married 20 September 1810, at Philadelphia, Jesse Richards, the son of William and Mary (Patrick) Richards, of Batsto, New Jersey. Jesse was born at Valley Forge, December 2, 1782, and succeeded his father in the management of Batsto Furnace. In 1829 he rebuilt the works there, and in 1846, the furnace having been abandoned, established extensive glass manufactories, which he carried on successfully until his death 17 June 1854. He greatly enlarged and improved the Batsto estate, which, toward the close of his proprietorship, comprised about forty thousand acres. This property he left to his children, who occupied it and carried on the glass manufacture for a considerable period. It was eventually obtained by Joseph Wharton of Philadelphia. Jesse Richards was a member of the Assembly of New Jersey for Burlington County at the Sessions of 1837-38 and 1838-39.

The Potts Memorial notes: “Jesse Richards carried on for many years Batsto Furnace, and, when bog iron ore became scarce, he established glass-works there. At his death the estate comprised over eighty thousand acres. Here Mrs. Richards lived in the exercise of great hospitality for fifty-nine years. She was a devoted member of the Methodist church, and often related anecdotes of the early preachers of that denomination, remembering Bishop Asbury well, whom she greatly revered.” Pierce in his chapter on Batso Furnace indicates “It was a happy marriage, blessed with six children,
three boys and three girls. Sarah survived Jesse by some 14 years; she is buried near him in the old Pleasant Mills graveyard.

Jesse Richards died at Batsto, 8 June 1854. His wife survived him until 14 October 1868. Issue seven children, one dying young: William, Thomas Haskins, Samuel Patrick, Elizabeth Haskins, Anna Maria, Sarah Ennalls Haskins, Jesse Wutrz Richards.

iii. Joseph Ennalls Haskins, was the son of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Haskins. Joseph was born 14 March 1791. He died in infancy 1 September 1791.

17. Elizabeth Potts, was the daughter of Thomas and Anna (Nutt) Potts. She was born 24 June 1766. She married Benjamin Jacobs a surveyor, lawyer and later a Chester County judge. Benjamin was the son of John Jacobs (III) and his wife Elizabeth Havard, the daughter of John Havard of Tredyffren Township, Chester County. Benjamin’s family had roots in the iron industry as his uncle and namesake, Benjamin Jacobs and partners Robert Evans and Jonathan Morris were partners in the Unicorn Forge (1762) in Queen Anne County, Maryland. In 1767, this Benjamin also went in with his older brother Joseph to run the Juniata Iron Company which closed in 1771.

Benjamin and Elizabeth resided at Coventry but had removed to West Whiteland Township in Chester County by the 1790 Census. Jacobs was one of the executors of the estate of his father-in-law and grandmother-in-law and is mentioned numerous times on Chester County deeds concerning the sale of properties belonging to the estates. Benjamin Jacobs of West Whiteland Township died intestate in Chester County on 1 August 1807. Isaac G. Gilpin’s Daybook for “8mo: 1” Benjamin Jacobs Esqr. late an associate Judge of Chester county died about this day.” Letters of Administration were filed 30 October 1807. Elizabeth became a member of the Society of Friends. She died the following year at West Whiteland and her will, filed at Chester County and dated 14 April 1808, was witnessed by Jos Kersey and brother-in-law John Jacobs. It was taken for probate 12 May 1808. She left sisters Ruth Mays and Henrietta James and her two Potts sisters-in-law, all her wearing apparel. She left sons Samuel and John Jacobs the residue of her estate. Issue, two children, five grandchildren.

i. Samuel Jacobs, the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Potts) Jacobs, was born c1790 in Chester County. The Potts Memorial indicates that he married Mary Miller. No other information provided. The William B. Potts’ genealogy indicates that they had two children: George and Mary Jacobs.

ii. John Jacobs, the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Potts) Jacobs was born c1792 in Philadelphia. He studied medicine in Philadelphia. He married Catherine Sheetz, the daughter of Justice Sheetz, of Norristown. Death unknown. Issue three children, Caroline, Elizabeth, and Ann Jacobs.

18. Ruth Potts, was the daughter of Thomas and Anna (Nutt) Potts. She was born 6 September 1768. She married on 28 March 1792 at Coventry, Robert May, her deceased sister's husband. He removed to Coventry after the death of his first wife and child, and carried on the family forge at that place. He became an extensive iron-master in Chester and Berks Counties, also owning shares of Gibraltar and Dale Forges and Joanna Furnace. May died intestate on 21 November 1812 at age 52 in 1812. A death notice appeared in the Chester & Delaware Federalist of 25 November 1812: “Communicated On Seventh Day evening last, 21 inst. as Robert May, of Coventry township, in this county, was returning from Pottsgrove home, his horse ran away with him and threw him on the back part of his head on the ground, which fractured his skull – he died within minutes afterwards, in the road, about two miles from home.”

His wife survived him until 17 January 1820 dying of cancer at their home in Coventry. Both are buried in the family graveyard at Coventry, where marble tombstones are erected to their memory. Her will, dated 8 January 1820, named Samuel Baird of Stowe in Pottsgrove Township Montgomery County as executor. It was witnessed by Baird, son Robert May, and relative David Potts and taken for probate at West Chester on 31 January 1820. Issue, seven children, eleven grandchildren.
i. Thomas Potts May, son of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May, was born at Coventry, Chester County, 9 March 1793, 5:30 P.M. at Coventry, Chester County Pennsylvania. At the “the age of twelve or thereabouts, he was sent to a grammar school, at that time baptized at the Presbyterian Meeting house at the forks of the Brandywine.” He became an Episcopalian minister. Thomas’ father died when he was fifteen. The Potts Memorial has the following: “He graduated at Jefferson College Cannonsburg, and afterwards studied for the ministry. He was ordained in 1817, and immediately entered upon his duties at Norristown as rector of St. John's Church. He married at Philadelphia, February 22, 1814, Sarah, daughter of James and Martha (Bull) McClintock, and died September 20, 1819, of yellow-fever, contracted while visiting, as a clergyman, a person ill of that disease. His wife married again, and died September 3, 1869.”

The Richard Lewis Scrapbooks indicate that both Thomas May and Robert May served in the militia during the war of 1812 even though the Pennsylvania Archives only show Robert. The Chester County Village Record of 28 February 1814 noted the 22 February 1814 marriage of Thomas Potts May, Esq. of Philadelphia and Sarah Maria McClintock also of Philadelphia by the Rev. Mr. Janeway at Philadelphia. Poulsom’s American Daily Advertiser on 1 March 1814 also noted the marriage. Sarah’s younger half-sister Elizabeth would marry Thomas’s younger brother, Addison. The Mays apparently lived in Pottstown after their marriage because on the first Tuesday in April 1815, Thomas was elected one of the first seven borough councilmen. His cousin Robert McClintock was elected the first burgess. This was the first election held by the Borough of Pottstown.

May was ordained an Episcopal minister in 1817. Mrs. James notes that after ordination he immediately entered upon his duties at Norristown as rector of St. John's Church there. Rev. Thomas P. May is noted in the 14 January 1818 Norristown Herald as renting a two story house on the main street and the easterly end of Norristown. Thomas Potts May died on 20 September 1819 at age 26 of Yellow Fever at Norristown, Pennsylvania. His death notice appeared in the Norristown Herald on 22 September 1819: “On Monday morning last, after a few days illness, the Rev. Thomas P. May of this borough.” His obituary appeared in the 1 October 1819 Poulsom’s American Advertiser of Philadelphia: “Died at Norristown, on Monday, September 20, after a short but severe illness, the Rev. Thomas P. May, rector of the Episcopal churches of St. John, Norristown, and St. Thomas, Whitemarsh, in that county…. He died in the twenty-sixth year of his age, and has left a widow and two young children to lament his sudden and early decease.” Issue three children: Mary, Ruth Anna, Sarah Thomas May.

ii. Robert May, son of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May, was born at Coventry, Chester County, 19 January 1795 in the daytime. Robert was seventeen when his father died. During the War of 1812, Robert joined the Washington Blues of Berks County with cousins David, Samuel and Thomas Potts. The Washington Blues were a company of volunteer militia under the command of Daniel D.B. Keim of Reading and were attached to the 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. On a 16 January 1819 deed, May is listed as “Robert May of Coventry township, Chester County…Student of Medicine.” The Potts Memorial has the following: “He graduated at Cannonsburg College, and received his degree of M. D. from the University of Pa., 1822. The subject of his essay was "Ophthalmia." He married Elizabeth Lavar; died January 26, 1866, and was buried in the family graveyard at Coventry.”

Robert and his brother James were among the sixteen men who signed the charter of incorporation for the establishment of Christ Episcopal Church in Pottstown on 30 April 1825. Robert had to file for bankruptcy in 1825. The Village Record of August 10, 1825 noted it. May was a Doctor in northern Chester County for a number of years and the Hopewell Furnace books list him numerous times for doctor visits for workers there during the years 1826-1851. May married late in life. At age 53 he married Elizabeth Lavar, age 28, daughter of Erasmus and Julian (Savage) Laver. The Jeffersonian of 25 April 1848 noted the marriage of Robert May: “In Chester co. Robert May, M.D., to Miss Elizabeth Lavar, of Warwick township.” The American Republican of 11 April 1848 also noted the marriage: “on the 16 ult., by the Rev. D.A. Nichols, at Lumberville, Robert May, M.D., to Miss Elizabeth Lavar, both of Warwick township, Chester county.”
The University of Pennsylvania Alumni files indicate that Dr. Robert May died in Chester County on 26 January 1866. They note he was born in Coventry on 19 January 1795. His father’s occupation is listed as an ironmaker. He entered the University of Pennsylvania Medical Department in October 1820 and graduated 4 April 1822. He practiced medicine in northern Chester County. Elizabeth (Lavar) May died in 1890. Her death notice appeared in the West Chester Daily Local of 25 October 1890: “Mrs. Elizabeth May, M.D. Mrs. Elizabeth May, widow of the late Dr. Robert May, of North Coventry, died on Friday, aged 70 years. Her husband was a physician of large practice and at his death, which occurred 25 years ago, she took up his practice and continued it successfully until a year ago, visiting patients all through Northern Chester county. She was the mother of Rev. James B. May, a Reformed clergyman of Birdsboro.” Robert and Elizabeth (Lavar) May had seven children: Anna Nutt, Robert E., Addison Newton, James Potts, Anna Elizabeth, Martha James, and James Bowman May.

iii. Anna Nutt May, daughter of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May, was born Coventry, 30 October 1796, 4 P.M. She died on 17 March 1823, at age 25 without children. Anna May, her sister Elizabeth and her cousin Sarah Haskins were left a bequest by the 1799 will of her grandmother Rebecca (Savage) Nutt Grace so that they could “purchase some piece of plate for themselves if they shall so think proper.” She was age fourteen when her father died. Anna married at Coventry 3 March 1819, her cousin David Potts, the son of David and Martha (Potts) Potts. The American Republican of 4 March announced the marriage of David Potts, Jr. of East Nantmeal and Anna May of Coventry noting the Rev. Mr. May performed the ceremony. The Norristown Herald of 10 March also gave notice of the marriage: “On Thursday the 4th inst. by the Rev. Thomas P. May, David Potts, Jr., Esq., of Warwick Furnace to Anna N., daughter of the late Robert May, dec’d, of Coventry, all of Chester county.” The couple seemed to have lived initially at Coventry House for her piano is noted there in a later estate accounting.

David Potts was born 27 November 1794. His father ran Warwick Furnace for the family but David was running it by 1825 and ran it until his death in 1863. Futhey and Cope have a biographical sketch on David. They indicate that David purchased Jefferson Furnace in South Manheim, Schuylkill County which he owned for a short time. Anna M. Potts of Coventry wrote her will 12 March 1823. It was taken to probate 24 May and witnessed by Samuel Shafer, David Potts, Sr., and Robert May. She died 17 March 1823. After her death, David was elected to Congress. The Biographical Dictionary of the United States Congress, 1774 to Present, has the following on David:

POTTS, David, Jr., a Representative from Pennsylvania; born at Warwick Furnace, about eight miles from Pottstown, Chester County, Pa., November 27, 1794; completed preparatory studies in Pottstown; became an ironmaster; owner and manager of Warwick Furnace; member of the State house of representatives 1824-1826; elected as an Anti-Masonic candidate to the Twenty-second and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1831-March 3, 1839); was not a candidate for re-nomination in 1838; resumed his former business pursuits; died at Warwick Furnace (now Warwick), Chester County, Pa., June 1, 1863; interment in Coventry Cemetery, near Warwick.

The couple did not have children and her husband did not remarry.

iv. James May, son of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May, was born at Coventry, Chester County, 14 December 1800. James died at 23 months at Coventry, 22 November 1802. He was buried family graveyard at Coventry.

v. James May, son of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May, was born at Coventry, Chester County 1 October 1805, 1 P.M. James married January 1829 at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, Ellen Stuart Bowman; died 18 December 1863. James became an Episcopal minister. He was age 7 when his father died and fifteen when his mother died. At his mother’s death, he went to live along with his two youngest brothers, with his sister Eliza in Maryland. He attended Cannonsburg College in Pennsylvania. He died in Philadelphia in 1863 at age 58. Futhey and Cope have a good biographical sketch of May:

His studies preparatory to entering college were with his brother at Pottstown, at an academy in Norristown, and at the school of Rev. Alexander Campbell at Easton, Maryland were so thorough that he was enabled to enter the senior class at Jefferson, where he graduated with high distinction.
James, the second, so named, born at Coventry, October 1, 1805. After the death of his parents, he went with his two younger brothers to reside with his sister, Mrs. Stevens, in Maryland. He graduated from Cannonsburg, and studied divinity in Philadelphia. He was ordained in 1826, and at once took charge of St. Stephen’s Church, Wilkesbarre, where he married Ellen, daughter of Capt. Samuel and Eleanor (Ledlie) Bowman, and sister of Rt. Rev. Samuel Bowman, D. D. He d. s. p. Dec. 18, 1863. A volume of his letters from Europe has been printed, and his biography was prepared and published by Rev. Mr. Shiras. A sermon commemorative of his life and labors was preached by the Rev. J. S. Stone, D. D., in Philadelphia, which was also printed. Dr. May was a man of intellectual ability, and greatly beloved by his parishioners, and in the theological seminaries, where he was for many years a professor.

He was buried by the side of his w. in St. Mary's Churchyard, West Philadelphia, and the following are the inscriptions on their tombstones:

James and his brother Robert were among the sixteen men who signed the charter of incorporation for the establishment of Christ Episcopal Church in Pottstown on 30 April 1825. Ordained as a minister in 1826, he was also a divinity teacher. James went abroad and visited Italy in the late 1830’s. The Hagley Museum and Library has several letters of May’s to Joseph Potts, his distant cousin, which describes his visit to Italy. In 1864, John Stone Seely wrote a “discourse” about May and it was published that year in Philadelphia by J.S. McCalla. In 1865, the Rev. Alexander M. Shiras (1813-1894), wrote a “religious biography” about May entitled The Life and Letters of Rev. James May, D.D. Published by the Protestant Episcopal Book Society, it provides a good background of his life. A biographical sketch is on file at the Chester County Historical Society written after his death:

James May, D.D., Born October 1, 1805, Died December 18, 1863. Dr. May was the son of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May and a brother of the late Addison May of West Chester. His mother was the daughter of Col. Thomas Potts of Revolutionary fame and one of the proprietors of Valley Forge and at whose house Washington and his wife were frequent guests during the winter of 1777. His maternal great grandfather John Potts was the founder of Pottstown. Robert May the father of James was an extensive iron-master in Coventry, Chester Co. He was killed by a fall from a horse when James was but eight years old. In his twelfth year James removed to Norristown and entered the Classical Academy, at seventeen he was in the senior class at Jefferson College, Canonsburg, Pa., and in 1825 he became a student in the Theological Seminary at Alexandria, Va. Subsequently, he removed to Philadelphia where he continued his studies under Rev. George Boyd. Dr. May was ordained in 1826 and the following year was elected by the Vestry to the Rectorship of St. Stephens, Wilkesbarre, Pa. In January 1829 he married Ellen Stuart, daughter of Capt. Samuel and Eleanor (Ledlie) Bowman, and sister of the Rt. Rev. Samuel Bowman, D.D. In 1837, Dr. May accepted a call to the Rectorship of St. Paul’s Church, Philadelphia. His health failing, he made a voyage to Europe, accompanied by his wife in the fall of 1838. During an absence of two years they visited nearly all the countries of Europe and extended their journey up the Nile. Upon his return to America he accepted in July 1842 the Professorship of Church History in the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary of Virginia, near Alexandria. In 1861, he was appointed to a professorship in the Pennsylvania Training School for students of Divinity, Philadelphia. Two years later he died of malignant Typhus fever. His and his wife’s remains are in the churchyard of St. Mary’s Parish, West Philadelphia. For a number of years, Dr. May was one of the editors of the Episcopal Records; and during a large part of the existence of the Protestant Episcopal Review, it was under the editorship of Dr. May.

No Issue.

vi. Newton Potts May, son of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May, was born at Coventry, Chester County, 26 December 1807, 4 A.M. He was only age four when his father died and thirteen when his mother died. At his mother’s death, he and his brother James and his brother Addison went to live with their half-sister Eliza on the eastern shore of Maryland. The Potts Memorial has the following information: “Graduated at Cannonsburg Coll., and received his degree of M.D. from the University of Pa., 1831; the subject of his essay, ‘Idiopathic Hemorrhage.’ He resides at Homesburg, where he practices medicine. Unmarried.”
The University of Pennsylvania Alumni files indicate that Newton received an A.B. from Jefferson College (now Washington and Jefferson) in 1827 and an M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1831. It notes that in addition to being a Physician, he was a Professor of Chemistry at St. Paul’s College in Long Island, New York and was a Professor at Flushing College on Long Island, New York. Wiley notes that “In 1837 he settled in Holmesburg, and practiced until his death in 1889. He was thoroughly educated allopathic physician, but afterward took up homeopathy.”

Newton May died unmarried in the Holmesburg section of Philadelphia on 27 January 1889. A memorandum from the Homeopathic Medical Society of the Twenty-Third Ward of Philadelphia appeared in the 1 November 1889 West Chester Local for Dr. Newton May. It noted: “His kindness, especially to the poor and needy, was marked, and such a testimonial is more to be desired, than a large estate.” No issue.

vii. Addison May, youngest child of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May, was born in Coventry, Chester County on 18 December 1811, 5 A.M. He was age 1 when his father died and nine when his mother died. At his mother’s death in 1820, he went to live with his two older brothers with his sister Eliza Stevens in Maryland.

The 1874 Potts Memorial has the following: “He graduated at Cannonsburg, studied law, and settled in Norristown where he practiced his profession for several years. Married, June 13, 1839, by Rev. Levi Bull, D.D., to Elizabeth Shafer, daughter of Hon. Samuel and Martha (Bull) Shafer. He resides in West Chester…Martha Shafer, daughter of Thomas Bull, was married first to James McClintock. Her second husband, Sam’l Shafer, to whom she was married October, 1812, became one of the judges of the courts of Chester County.”

Martha (Bull) McClintock Shafer had three children by James McClintock and three by Samuel Shafer. Elizabeth (Shafer) May, the second child, was born 4 October 1816. James McClintock was a relative to the Mays, and Elizabeth’s half-sister Sarah McClintock had married Addison’s brother the Rev. Thomas Potts May. Elizabeth May died in West Chester 8 April 1878.

Upon returning to West Chester in 1859, Addison became a member and eventually vestryman of Holy Trinity in West Chester. The church built a new edifice in 1868 and Addison read a historical address. There is a large biographical sketch of Addison in Wiley’s 1893 Biographical and Portrait Cyclopedia of Chester County. The following obituary appeared in the West Chester Daily Local of 8 January 1892:

Death of Addison May, Esq. This morning about ten o’clock Addison May died at his home on North Church street, West Chester. He had been ill for some time but his death was unexpected and was due to angina pectoris. Mr. May was the youngest son of Robert May…He was born in Coventry, Chester county, on December 18, 1811, and was a little over eighty years old. He was graduated at Jefferson College and read law with William H. Dillingham of West Chester, father of Jos. Brinton Dillingham. Upon being admitted to the bar on September 15, 1835 he went to Erie to hang out his shingle. Four years later he married Elizabeth, daughter of Hon. Samuel and Martha Bull Shafer. He then settled in Norristown and practiced law until 1850, when he moved to Coventry, whence in 1859, he moved to West Chester and built a house on North Church street where he had always lived. His wife died some years ago. By her he had one daughter, Mrs. J.T. Rothrock, who survives. Mr. May always took an active part in the literary, scientific and charitable work of the town, being a founder of the West Chester Relief Society and its President from inception up to within a few years. He was a member of the Board of Managers of the West Chester State Normal School, for two years its President, and for many years was a most zealous Inspector of the Chester County Prison being also President of that board. He was appointed Inspector of the Court, on March 29, 1880 in place of Edwin James…He was the original Trustee for the State from Chester county at the Norristown Insane Asylum. He was also a member of the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia. He was for years a member of the vestry of the parish of the Church of the Holy Trinity…

Addison and Elizabeth (Shafer) May had one child, Martha Ellen May.

19. Samuel Nutt Potts, was the son of Thomas and Anna (Nutt) Potts. He was born 13 October 1770. Samuel is noted in Thomas May’s “Wilmington Journal” as residing in Wilmington with his Aunt Grace Potts from 1785 to 1787: “Samuel Nutt Potts left Mrs. Rachel Winecoops 20th
October 1785 – went to See his friends at Coventry – Returned on the Evening of 30th Same month and then Began Boarding with Mrs. Grace Potts…Sunday October 7th 1787 Samuel Nutt Potts went home to his Mother’s and on that day quit Boarding with Grace Potts – his apprenticeship having commenced the day before.” 51 He married Mary Camac Welsh on 11 February 1796. The announcement of the ceremony appeared in Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser dated 15 February 1796. They lived in Philadelphia and Samuel died there 23 September 1819 and was buried in the yard of the Union Methodist Episcopal Church, Fourth and Arch. His wife survived him until 1836. Issue, nine children, twenty-seven grandchildren.

i.  Thomas Welsh 4 Potts, oldest son of Samuel 3 and Mary (Welsh) Potts, was born in Philadelphia, 16 January 1797. He married at Norristown, 1822, Hannah, daughter of Jacob Rittenhouse. They resided at Norristown. He was Burgess of Norristown, where he established his residence, in 1851-52. The Potts Memorial indicates that he was for several years mayor of that borough. He died 14 March 1864. His wife survived him until 26 March 1872. No issue.

ii. John Graff 4 Potts, son of Samuel 3 and Mary (Welsh) Potts, was born in Philadelphia, 17 February 1800. John married at Philadelphia 26 November 1829, Mary Kennedy, daughter of William and Rachel Kennedy. She died 17 May 1831. He married for his second wife Elizabeth Graham Hunt, 2 December 1832. The Potts Memorial indicates the following:

“He was engaged in the hardware business in Philadelphia, but after his mother’s death in 1838, he removed with his family to Galena, Illinois, where he was living and residing in 1872. At his death he was the oldest justice of the peace in that State, having held the office thirty-three years. He was three times chosen mayor of the city, and served each term. He was the head of the Order of Odd Fellows in the Northwest, and was the oldest member of that society in the United States. For the purpose of instituting new lodges, he traveled many thousands of miles through a wild country before the establishment of stage-coaches and railroads.”

He is mentioned numerous times in various histories of Jo Davis County where he served a number of public positions. He died in 1874. The Montgomery Ledger dated 19 February 1874 noted his death: “John G. Potts, of Galena, said to be the oldest Odd Fellow in the world, died on Monday last. He was Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1823.” Issue, two children: Samuel 5, and Joseph 5 Potts.

iii. Anna Grace 4 Potts, daughter of Samuel 3 and Mary (Welsh) Potts, was born 21 July 1802. In 1872 she was residing at Reading with her brother Samuel. Not married, no issue.

iv. Samuel Jacobs 4 Potts, son of Samuel 3 and Mary (Welsh) Potts, was born 23 November 1805. On 12 September 1832, Samuel married Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Hulme, of Hulmeville, Bucks County, a descendant of George Hulme. In an obituary he is noted as a one time coal merchant at Pottsville and a railroad agent at Reading. Elizabeth died in 1877 and Potts died in 1889. The West Chester Local of 7 January 1889, copied from the Pottstown Ledger, notes the following:

Samuel Jacobs Potts, died at 514 Greenwich street, Reading, Jan. 3d, aged 83 years, 1 month and 11 days. He was the great-grandson of John Potts, founder of Pottstown, his grandfather Col. Thomas Potts, who resided at the family mansion (now Mill Park) at Pottstown, was a prominent officer on the patriotic side in the Revolutionary war, afterwards moved to Coventry and was an extensive iron manufacturer. The deceased, who was a second cousin to the late Henry Potts of this borough, was born in Philadelphia, established the first hardware store in Pottsville, was one of the first to operate a coal mine in Pennsylvania and was freight agent of the Reading Railroad from 1847 to 1867. Three children survive, Mrs. Ellen Mary Pomeroy, Howard and J. Hulme Potts. His wife died in 1877. Issue, eight children: Joseph Hulme 5, Elizabeth Graham 5, Chresswell Harris 5, John Harris 5, Francis Henry 5, Thomas Welch 5, Mary Elizabeth 5, Sarah Sayre 5 Potts.

v. Sarah Haskins 4 Potts, daughter of Samuel 3 and Mary (Welsh) Potts, was born 31 July 1808. Sarah married John R. Johnson, of Longacoming, New Jersey, 20 July 1826. She became a widow, and married for her second husband, George Smith, in 1849. Issue first husband: Edward R. 5, Anna 5, Russell 5 Johnson; by second husband: Rufus 5, Thomas F. 5, and George 5 Smith.

vi. Charles Frederick 4 Potts, son of Samuel 3 and Mary (Welsh) Potts, was born 6 April 1811. Charles was brought up in the hardware business in Philadelphia but went West in 1837. In 1838 he settled in Galena Illinois, the centre of the lead-mines of the Northwest and his older brother John
joined him there. He married Roxanna Witt Burnet, of Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1841. She died at Galena, Illinois, 28 February 1871, aged fifty-seven. He married for his second wife, Elizabeth, widow of Ebenezer Shumway, at Galena, 28 May 1872. Issue, five children: William Hollis\(^5\), Catherine Ann\(^5\), Mary Elizabeth\(^5\), James Franklin\(^5\), and Jane Francis\(^5\) Potts.

vii. Mary Ann\(^4\) Potts son of Samuel\(^3\) and Mary (Welsh) Potts, was born 4 May 1814. She married Peter Crans, Jr., of Philadelphia in October 1836. She died there, 28 October 1865. Issue, three children: Peter\(^5\), Julia\(^5\) and Anna Grace\(^5\) Crans.

viii. George Washington\(^4\) Potts, son of Samuel\(^3\) and Mary (Welsh) Potts, was born 1817. Emigrated to the “West,” and settled in Missouri, near St. Louis, where he was living and residing in 1872. Not married, no issue.

ix. Eliza Stevens\(^3\) Potts, daughter of Samuel\(^2\) and Mary (Welsh) Potts. Died unmarried, no issue.

20. Julianna\(^3\) Potts, was the daughter of Thomas\(^2\) and Anna (Nutt) Potts. She was born 23 February 1773. She died intestate and unmarried at Coventry, 2 August 1795, and was buried there in the family graveyard. No Letters of Administration were issued. No issue.

21. Thomas\(^3\) Potts, was the son of Thomas\(^2\) and Anna (Nutt) Potts. He was born 13 May 1777 and was age 7 when his father died. He was raised at Coventry. Thomas married Ann MacClanahan Humphreys, daughter of Ashelton and Frances Humphreys. They married at Christ Church on 3 December 1803 and marriage records there list her as Ann Mary Humphreys.\(^52\) The announcement of the marriage appeared in Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser dated 6 December 1803 and notes him as Thomas Potts, Jr. He died at Coventry, 7 September 1814, and was buried there in the family graveyard. His wife survived him until 5 November 1843. Issue, three children, fifteen grandchildren.

i. Julianna Humphreys\(^4\) Potts, was the daughter of Thomas\(^3\) and Ann (Humphreys) Potts. Julian was born at Philadelphia 8 December 1804. She married September, 1832, her cousin Robert Hobart\(^4\) Potts, son of David and Martha Potts. She died at Warwick, 29 January 1868. Her husband survived until 12 December 1872, and both are buried in the family graveyard at Coventry. Issue, three children: Anna May\(^5\), Nathaniel\(^5\) and Francis Thomas\(^5\) Potts.

ii. Thomas Ashelton\(^4\) Potts, son of Thomas and Ann (Humphreys) Potts, was born at Coventry, 14 June 1814. On 12 August 1835 he married at Philadelphia, Mary Ann Haines, the daughter of Joseph and Isabella Haines. She was born 16 February 1816. Issue, twelve children: William Morgan\(^5\), Nathan Haines\(^5\), Juliana\(^5\), Thomas Lacey\(^5\), Marion Fennimore\(^5\), Mary Ann\(^5\), Isabella Haines\(^5\), Thomas Humphrey\(^5\), David Gardiner\(^5\), Sarah Jane\(^5\), Juliana\(^5\), and Rebecca Smith\(^5\) Potts.

iii. Frances\(^4\) Potts, daughter of Thomas and Ann (Humphreys) Potts. Died unmarried, no issue.

22. Henrietta\(^3\) Potts, was the youngest daughter of Thomas\(^2\) and Anna (Nutt) Potts. She was born 30 May 1780 at Coventry. She was age four when her father died and sixteen when her mother died. She was married at Coventry, 26 March 1801, in the same house where she was born, to Isaac James, the eldest son of Griffith and Mary (Gyger) James, of Radnor, then in Chester County. Isaac was born at Radnor in 1777. Henrietta died at Radnor, Pennsylvania on 18 April 1832. Isaac was still living in his ninety-seventh year. The Evening Telegraph of Philadelphia, dated October 1870 had the following: “The Methodist says: Rev. I. James, M. D., of Bustleton, Pa., has the honor of being the oldest Methodist in the world. He is in his ninety-fourth year, being born January 28, 1777. He joined the Methodist society in 1790, eighty years ago. He was licensed to exhort in 1798, to preach in 1800. Was ordained deacon by Bishop Asbury in 1806, and elder by Bishop Morris in 1849.” The 1874 Potts Memorial in describing Coventry Hall states: “Henrietta was born and married there, and that, sixty years after that last event, her husband, still living at the advanced age of ninety-six, stood upon the same spot in the parlor where more than half a century before he had received the marriage benediction.”
Isaac died in 1874. A death notice from an unmarked Philadelphia paper dated 24 January 1874 noted his death: “Rev. Isaac James, M.D., a local Methodist preacher at Bustleton, Twenty-third Ward, died on Thursday, aged 97 years.” Issue, nine children, twelve grandchildren.

i. **John Fletcher James**, eldest son of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born at Radnor, 16 January 1802. He was fitted for Nassau Hall, Princeton; but circumstances prevented him from obtaining a collegiate education. He however received the honorary degree of A. M. from Cannonsburg College in 1834. He early developed a fondness for mathematics, and, when quite a young man, was made actuary of the Girard Life-Insurance Company of Philadelphia and he calculated a set of tables upon the basis of the average of life in this country, being at that time the only person except Nathaniel Bowditch, of Boston, who had attempted this elaborate work. He was a member of the American Philosophical Society for twenty-three years.

He married at Compton, Talbot Co., Md., by Rev. Henry M. Maison, 10 August 1837, to cousin Sarah Elizabeth Stevens, daughter of Samuel and Eliza (May) Stevens. Sarah Elizabeth Stevens, was born 3 November 1815 at Compton, Maryland. Their marriage was noted in the *Baltimore American* of 24 August 1837: “Married, John F. James of Philadelphia and Sarah Elizabeth Stevens, daughter of Samuel Stevens, late Governor of Maryland, at “Compton” Talbot co. August 11.” Sarah died in Philadelphia, 30 January 1842, and was buried at Laurel Hill. She used to relate that, when a child, she had danced with Gen. Lafayette in her father's house. As the "Nation's Guest," in 1825, Lafayette was entertained at Annapolis by Gov. Stevens

John married for his second wife, his deceased wife’s sister, Henrietta Louisa Stevens at Compton, Maryland 2 April 1845. Henrietta was born 26 April 1817 at Compton, Maryland. The *Easton Star* dated 22 April 1845 noted the wedding: “Married April 2, 1845 by the Rev. Henry M. Mason, John F. James of Philadelphia, to Miss Henrietta Louisa, daughter of Hon. Samuel Stevens of Talbot county.” She died without issue at Philadelphia, 30 December 1867, and was buried at Laurel Hill, Philadelphia. John died suddenly in Philadelphia 5 February 1871, and was buried near his two wives in Laurel Hill, Philadelphia. His death notice appear in the Philadelphia papers dated 7 February 1871: “James—Suddenly on the 5th instant, John F. James, in the 69th year of his age. His relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, 926 Spruce street, on Thursday 9th inst., at 10 o’clock. To proceed to Laurel Hill.” Issue, one child: Henrietta (Potts) James.

ii. **Thomas Potts James**, son of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born in Radnor 1 September 1803. He received his early education in Trenton, New Jersey, intending to enter Princeton College, but was prevented by circumstances. James is known today as the co-author of the *Manual of Mosses of North America*. He was a member of the earliest circle of American bryologists.

He established himself in the drug and apothecary business in Philadelphia with his brother, which he continued for forty years. He was an instructor at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. From his youth he devoted his leisure to the study of botany, and, having acquired a knowledge of phaenogamous plants, he turned his attention to the cryptogamia, making the musci a specialty. His progress in this branch of science appears in the papers upon the subject he has from time to time published. He accepted the office of secretary of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and performed its duties for twenty-three years, and was elected professor of botany by that association after the death of its first professor, the eminent Dr. Darlington, in 1864, and to that position he has been re-elected annually. He was for a time one of the trustees of the College of Pharmacy, in Philadelphia, and the official head of the Drug Exchange. He was treasurer of the American Pomological Society. He was chosen member of the American Philosophical Society in 1857, ninety years after the election of his maternal grandfather, whose name he bears, and was chairman of the committee of publication for several years, and filled other positions in that association.

He was married at Christ Church, Cambridge, Massachusetts, by Rev. N. Hoppin, 3 December 1851, to Isabella, only surviving daughter of Samuel and Mary (Montgomery) Batchelder. Isabella Batchelder wrote the *Potts Memorial*. In 1869 he removed with his family to Brattle Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts. He died on 22 February 1882. Issue, four children: Mary Isabella, Montgomery, Clarence Gray, and Francis Batchelder James.
iii. David James, son of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born at Radnor 14 March 1805. He was married in Byberry by Rev. George Sheetz, rector of Oxford Church, 10 October 1833, to Amanda Worthington, daughter of Benjamin and Ann (Walton) Worthington. He died in Philadelphia 7 June 1873. The following obituary appeared in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin of June 9 1873.

David James, M. D., a prominent physician of the homoeopathic school of medicine, died on Friday last, in this city. He had been in active practice for forty five years. For twelve or fourteen years he practiced the allopakythic system of medicine; but, becoming convinced of the merits of the new system from studying and prescribing it for such patients as were willing to try it, he at length resolved to administer nothing but the homoeopathic medicines to any of his patients. So great was the confidence in him as a man and physician, that almost the entire circle of his extensive practice adopted it at once. He was a graduate of the Jefferson Medical Coll., of this city, in 1828, and, soon after graduating, became associated with Dr. Worthington, residing in Byberry Township, in the northern part of the then county of Phil., now the Twenty-third Ward of the city; but about seventeen years ago he removed with his family to his late residence, in Green St., where he has since lived in the enjoyment of a large and remunerative practice.

In 1822, he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has always since that time a most consistent, active, working member in the denomination of his choice. He soon became a local preacher, and a more zealous, deeply pious Christian was not to be found. He had a most cheerful, hopeful disposition, was always happy at home and abroad, and his routine life was truly an exemplary one. His perception was quick and discerning, his judgment very clear and accurate; he was naturally generous and open-hearted, and actuated by high and noble impulses. His loss will be felt and mourned by a large circle of warm friends.


iv. Anna Potts James, daughter of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born at Radnor 21 February 1807. Unmarried 1872, date and place of death unknown.

v. Mary Ann James, daughter of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born at Radnor 6 May 1808. She died there at six months, 27 November 1808.

vi. Isaac Griffith James, son of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born at Radnor 20 November 1809. He died at Trenton, New Jersey, at age twelve 8 June 1822.

vii. Samuel Nutt James, son of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born at Radnor 4 July 1813. Unmarried 1872, date and place of death unknown.

viii. Henrietta James, daughter of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born 5 February 1816 at Radnor. She died there at age sixteen 30 January 1832.

ix. Martha Haskins James, daughter of Isaac and Henrietta (Potts) James, was born at Radnor, 19 August 1819. Martha died unmarried in 1880. An unmarked Philadelphia paper dated 13 February 1880, had the following: “James — On the 13th inst., Martha H. James, in the 61st year of her age. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from her late residence Bustleton, Twenty-third Ward, Philadelphia, on Monday, the 16th inst., at 12 o’clock M., funeral to proceed to Radnor Church.” No issue.

Thomas Potts (1735-1785) Obituary

30 March 1785 Pennsylvania Gazette: “On Tuesday, the 22d instant, suddenly departed this life, in the 50th year of age, the honourable Thomas Potts Esq; one of the members of Assembly for the county of Chester. News-paper panegyric is seldom of much avail. With strangers it has but little effect, and others will form judgment by different rules. Friendship, arising from esteem, must, however, as a small tribute to his memory, observe, and candour will certainly confess, that if domestic tenderness and affability, integrity thro’ the various walks of life, charity to the poor (for enemies we believe he had none for its exercise towards) and benevolence to all constitute the man of worth, and raise him high in our estimation, was Mr. Potts in a eminent degree.”
2. SAMUEL² POTTS; was the son of John¹ and Ruth (Savage) Potts. He was born “November ye 13th about three of the Clock in the afternoon A.D. 1736” at Colebrook Dale Furnace. He attended, though apparently did not graduate from the Academy and College of Philadelphia. On 7 March 1758 he married Joanna Holland at Christ Church. Joanna was one of seven children of Thomas Holland, a Philadelphia merchant and born 1785/1786. Thomas Holland died in 1755 at which time his wife was already deceased. Samuel ran several Potts iron works including Pottsgrove and Valley Forge and acted as his father’s business manager for the Potts iron endeavors and was executor of his estate in at his death in 1768.

In 1767, due to his father’s ill health, Samuel took over his Assembly seat. He was elected in 1768 and 1769. About 1769, Samuel moved with his family to a small farm that would eventually become the eastern part of Pottstown. He built a house there called Snowberry. His brother-in-law and later partner, Thomas Rutter, moved next to his property.

Potts put an article in the 30 August 1770 Pennsylvania Gazette “to the Freeholders and other Electors of the County of Philadelphia” requesting that the electorate choose some other person in the ensuing election. On 27 April 1772, Samuel, his brother John and brother-in-law Thomas Rutter were made Justices of the Peace. Samuel purchased Warwick Furnace from his brother John and ran it with Thomas Rutter during the Revolution. They contracted with the state government to make cannon and munitions there for the American Army in 1776-1777. The “Minutes of the Council of Safety” for 25 November 1775 record this agreement: "Considering the absolute necessity of procuring a number of cannon, Board appt'd a Committee to Compleat an agreement with Mr. Samuel Potts and Mr. Bumstead (Bustead is correct) for casting a number of heavy cannon and that these gentlemen be requested to take Mr. Rittenhouse with them to Mr. Pott's Works.”

Warwick and Potts are noted in Robert Treat Paine’s diary. Paine was in charge of making cannon for the Continental Government. Paine stopped at Warwick on his way from the Continental Powder Mill on 23 May 1776: “…thence to the Continental Powder Mill on French Creek 5m, din’d, view’d the Mill, thence to Warwick Furnace owned by Potts, 12m, rough Country, lodged. Genl. Washington arrived at Philada.” In October 1777, a certain Colonel Brown of the American forces, on his way through Pottstown, had “forcibly seized and carried off” three of Warwick’s horses. Samuel wrote George Washington a “Petition of Remonstrance” and asked for the horses back.

The General Assembly passed an act on 13 June 1777, requiring all white male inhabitants over age 16 to take the oath. A certificate was given when the oath was taken and anyone traveling outside of the county or city they lived in without it could be considered a spy. In May 1778, Samuel Potts and brothers James and Thomas took the Oath of Allegiance to Pennsylvania at Warwick Furnace in Chester County on 30th May 1778.

After the war, Potts was involved in opening anthracite coal lands in northern Pennsylvania and was part of a company that built Joanna Furnace. He sold some of his Warwick percentage to finance these moves. In November 1784, Samuel was one of the signers of a petition from the various iron masters in Pennsylvania to the General Assembly discussing the devastating effects of foreign competition on the American Iron industry after
the Revolution. Relatives David Potts, and Thomas Rutter also signed. He also produced a list of which Pennsylvania Furnaces and forges were open and which were closed. Samuel Potts was one of the electors for Pennsylvania for the first presidential elections and he cast his vote for Washington and Adams. He died testate at age fifty-eight on 3 July 1793 at Pottstown. Notice of his death appeared in _Dunlap’s American Daily Advertiser_ dated Friday, 5 July 1793:

On Wednesday morning died at his seat at Pottsgrove, Samuel Potts, Esq. It is enough to say of him that a numerous and respectable family lose their friend and guide; that the large circle of his acquaintance has lost a citizen whose heart was warm for their interest and whose manner were without guide; that his servants had lost a master, his wife a husband, and his children a companion, a friend and a father. Not a tear will be shed on his grave but will not be from the bottom of the heart.

Samuel’s will is filed at Montgomery County, Estate #5018. Joanne (Holland) Potts lived twenty-five years after her husband. She died testate 16 March 1818 aged eighty-four years at Pottstown. Joanna Potts will is also filed at Montgomery County Will Bk. 5, p. 50. A flyer was produced for the sale of her goods. Both Samuel and Joanna are buried at the family cemetery at Pottstown. Issue, six children, all of whom married, and had fifty-one grandchildren, and 126 great-grandchildren.

23. **David Potts**, was the son of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts. He was born at Pottsgrove c1758. David married 24 January 1792 at St. James Episcopal Church, Perkiomen to Martha Potts, the daughter of David and Anna (Potts) Potts, of Pine Forge and the announcement of the marriage appeared in _Dunlap’s American Daily Advertiser_ dated 28 January 1792. They resided, during the first years of their marriage, in Pottstown, where David built the large mansion near his father’s, known as the Hill, and now used as a boys’ boarding school. He did not finish the house, and it remained uninhabited for many years. In 1792, David, under David Potts & Company, was involved in building Joanna Furnace in Berks County. He ran the furnace from 1792 to 1795 when he removed to take over Warwick Furnace for the family. Samuel Potts, by his will in 1793, left his own share of Warwick, after the death of his widow Joanna, to his son David, if he chose to take it, in fee simple, at a certain valuation, giving as a reason, "that I expect he will conduct the business of said furnace for his mother during her life." David got into financial problems and eventually lost the furnace, which was taken over by his son. His wife, Martha Potts, died at the Warwick on 3 October 1813. David died at the same place 16 September 1834. His death notice appeared in the _American Republican_ dated 30 September 1834: "Died at Warwick Furnace, Chester co. on the 16th inst. David Potts, sen., at an advanced age." David was buried next to his wife at the family graveyard at Coventry. Issue, eleven children, and nineteen grandchildren.

i. **Joanna Holland Potts**, oldest daughter of David and Martha (Potts) Potts, was born at Pottstown, 5 October 1793. Records at St. Mary’s Church indicate that she was baptized as an adult on 16 December 1814 there. She died unmarried at Warwick 3 October 1826, and was buried in the family graveyard at Coventry, where many of her brothers and sisters are buried.

ii. **David Potts**, son of David and Martha (Potts) Potts, was born at Pottstown, 27 November 1794. Before the age of eighteen, David had the principal charge of Warwick Furnace, which he carried on most successfully for half a century. In 1819, he married at Coventry, Anna Nutt (Potts) May, daughter of Robert and Ruth (Potts) May, _The American Republican_ of 9 March 1819 had the following: “Married – On Thursday the 4th inst., by the Rev. Mr. May, Mr. David Potts, jr of East
Chester Republican on Wednesday, Nov. 1 residence, Warwick Potts died in 1876. The following appeared in the when he moved to Tennessee to conduct ironworks for his wife's uncle, Anthony Vanleer. Thomas Templin and born in 1805. In an obituary for son John, it notes his mother's grandm.

iii. Edmund Key Potts, son of David Potts and Martha (Potts) Potts, was born at Warwick, April 16, 1796. He died at age nine on 17 May 1805.

iv. Thomas May Potts, son of David Potts and Martha (Potts) Potts, was born at Warwick 9 August 1797. Thomas May Potts and Hanna Templin, both of Chester County, were married by the Rev. Bull at St. Mary’s Church on 6 July 1826. Both are noted in the church record as being from Chester County. Hannaette Templin, called Hanna, was the daughter of John and Ann (Nancy) (Van Leer) Templin and born in 1805. In an obituary for son John, it notes his mother’s grandmother was a sister of General Anthony Wayne. In 1829, Potts purchased part of Hanna’s grandfather’s estate located on French Creek at the “Iron Bridge.” He sold part of the property but built what was known as a Cupola Furnace on the remaining water power tract. The Cupola operated only for two years when he moved to Tennessee to conduct ironworks for his wife’s uncle, Anthony Vanleer. Thomas Potts died in 1876. The following appeared in the Local dated 31 October 1876: “Potts—At his residence, Warwick Furnace, Chester county, Thomas M. Potts, in the 80th year of his age. Funeral on Wednesday, Nov. 1st, at 11 o’clock A.M.” An excellent biographical sketch appeared in the West Chester Republican a few days later:

Thomas May Potts—Rebecca S. Potts. The newspapers of a few days ago, contained a notice of the almost simultaneous deaths of the two members of the Warwick branch of the Potts family. Thomas M. Potts, was born at Warwick Furnace, in what is now known as Warwick township, Chester county, on the 9th day of August, 1797…There were no suitable schools in the vicinity of Warwick Furnace he sent them to Pottstown…Thomas Potts May was placed under the tuition of a teacher named Glass...
receiving his education, he returned home and remained there, assisting in the management of the Furnace until after he became of age, after which he married Hannaette Templin, a daughter of John Templin, who resided near Warwick… His marriage took place on the 6th day of July, 1826. Shortly after his marriage, Mr. Potts moved to the State of Tennessee where he conducted the iron works of Anthony Van Leer, Esq., near Nashville, a relative of Mrs. Potts. He remained there about two years, when he returned to Chester county, and erected a small foundry about a mile below Warwick Furnace on the South branch of the French Creek….He then went to Virginia and engaged in the manufacture of iron, in company with David Jenkins, Esq. of Lancaster county…While Mr. Potts was in Virginia, his brother David purchased Jefferson Furnace, situated in Mouth Manheim township, Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania. At David’s insistence Thomas took charge of these works, and conducted them for some time…these works failed…and in connection with his brother Nathaniel, carried on Warwick Furnace…He died on Sunday morning the 29th of October, 1876, passing away calmly and peacefully and without much suffering. On Wednesday the 1st of November, his remains were buried at St. Mary’s Church…He leaves a widow and two sons and two daughters surviving, besides grandchildren whose parents are no longer living.

Records at St. Mary’s under burials indicate “Thomas Potts, Esq., in his 80th year.” Hanna (Templin) Potts died in 1890. Her place of death is unknown. Issue, eight children: David 3, Anna Templin 5, Martha E. 5, Mary R. 5, Emma Gertrude, John 4, Holman 4, Thomas May 5 Potts. The Potts Memorial lists two additional children, Rebecca May 5 and Nathaniel 5.

v. Nathaniel 4 Potts, son of David 3 and Martha 3 (Potts) Potts, was born at Warwick 13 November 1798. After the death of his brother David, he carried on Warwick Furnace, where he was residing with his unmarried sister. He is noted in an obituary for his brother as “a bachelor, with his maiden sister, Rebecca, live in the old house.” Potts died in 1873 and the Local dated 13 December 1873 noted the following: “Nathaniel Potts, owner of Warwick Furnace, and great-grand-son of the founder of Pottstown, was interred on last Wednesday at the family burial ground at Coventry village.” The American Republican of 16 December 1873 had more information:

Deceased – Nathaniel Potts, of Warwick township, this county, who has been suffering from illness for several weeks past, died on Saturday morning of last week, his disease being paralysis. Mr. Potts was a brother of the late Hon. David Potts, and a great-grandson of John Potts, the founder of Pottstown. He was unmarried, and about 73 years of age. The deceased had been for many years the manager of Warwick Furnace, and since the death of Hon. David Potts, has been the owner of that old and well-known iron works. He was a man generally esteemed and respected.

Unmarried, no issue.

vi. Rebecca Smith 4 Potts, daughter of David 3 and Martha 3 (Potts) Potts, was born at Warwick, 29 June 1800. She died at age five on 22 October 1805.

vii. Francis T. 3 Potts, son of David 3 and Martha 3 (Potts) Potts, was born at Warwick, 14 January 1802. He was married by his brother-in-law to Ann M. Church. The Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post of 2 February 1842 noted the marriage: “On the 27th ult. at Hopewell Furnace, by the Rev, Nathan Stone, Francis Potts, of Chester County, to Anna M., daughter of the late Thomas M. Church.” The Village Republican of 8 February 1842 had the following under marriages: “On Thursday evening, the 27th ult., at the residence of Clement Brooke, Hopewell Furnace, by the Rev. Nathan Stem, Francis Potts, of Chester county, to Anna M., daughter of the late Thomas C. Church.” They lived near Warwick.

Ann (Church) Potts died at Pottstown 29 September 1872, aged fifty-five. Francis lived for three years after Ann’s death. The Montgomery Ledger dated 21 May 1875 had the following: “Potts – On the 17th Inst., in Pottstown, Francis Potts, aged 73 years, 4 months, and 3 days. The funeral of Francis Potts, deceased, at Warwick, Chester county on Friday last, was largely attended. A number were present from Pottstown.” Issue, six children: Maria Theresa 3, Rebecca 5, David 5, Francis Thomas 5, Mary 5, and Sally 5 Potts.

viii. Sarah May 4 Potts, daughter of David 3 and Martha 3 (Potts) Potts, was born at Warwick, 19 December 1803. Sarah May Potts, the daughter of David Potts, was baptized at St. Mary’s Church on 31 March 1822. She married the Rev. Nathan Stem. The announcement appeared in the Village Record of 13 July 1831: “Married. On the 12th alt in St. Mary’s church, Chester county, Pa. by the
Rev. Levi Bull, the Rev. Nathan Stem, of the diocese of Ohio, to Miss Sarah May, daughter of David Potts, Esq.” Rev. Stem became the rector of St. John's Church, Norristown, where he served for twenty-five years. He died in Norristown and is buried at St. John’s Church. After his death, Sarah moved in to the old homestead with her brother Nathaniel. She married for her second husband, her cousin David, son of Joseph and Sarah (Potts) Potts, at Philadelphia 16 September 1869. David died in Philadelphia, 15 November 1870, and was buried at Milton, Northumberland Co. near his first wife. Sarah died in 1886 and the Local of 26 January 1886 had the following:

Death’s Work. Sarah May Potts. Mrs. David Potts died on Saturday last at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. O.C. Bobbyshell in Philadelphia. She was taken ill on the preceding Monday with inflammation of the lungs. Deceased was the last of eleven brothers and sisters known as the Potts family of Warwick, children of David and Martha Potts. Her father in early life lived in Pottstown and built the original building at the Hill School at that place, but afterwards became proprietor of Warwick Furnace, Chester county. Her brother, Hon. David Potts, was owner and manager of the same furnace many years. Mrs. Potts married Rev. Nathan Stem, the well-known pastor of many years of St. John’s Episcopal Church, Norristown. They had five children, of whom two are living, Mrs. O.C. Bobbyshell and Sarah P. Stem. Her second husband was her cousin, David Potts, now deceased. She was an estimable lady. Her age was 82 years, 1 month and 4 days.

Issue. The Potts Memorial indicates that Nathan and Sarah had four children: Francis Potts, William White, Martha Ellen, and Sarah Potts Stem.

ix. Robert Hobart Potts, son of David and Martha (Potts) Potts, called Hobart by the family, was born at Warwick 6 May 1805. In 1832, he married his cousin Juliana Humphreys, daughter of Thomas and Ann M. (Humphreys) Potts. Records at St. Mary’s Church under marriages indicate: “September 20, 1832, Robert Hobart Potts & Juliana Potts, both of Chester county.” Juliana Potts died 29 January 1868. Her husband survived her until 12 December 1872. The Montgomery Ledger dated 17 December 1872 states the following: “Hobart Potts, a brother of the late Hon. David Potts, of Warwick Furnace, Chester Co., died near Pughtown on Thursday last. He was a great-grandson of John Potts, the founder of Pottstown. Deceased was about 60 years of age.” Siblings Francis T. Potts, Anna May Potts, and John R. Hoffman, put the standard notice to settle the estate in the American Republican of 7 January 1873. The W.B. Potts genealogy indicates three children: Nathaniel, Anna May and Francis Thomas Potts.

x. Rebecca Smith Potts, son of David and Martha (Potts) Potts, was born at Warwick 28 February 1808. She lived at Warwick and she died unmarried in 1876. Her death notice appeared in the West Chester Local dated 30 October 1876: “Rebecca S. Potts, died on Friday at Warwick Furnace, Chester county, in the 71st year of her age. She was a sister of the late Hon. David Potts, and a great-grand-daughter of John Potts, the founder of Pottstown. Deceased had been a sufferer for several years.” No issue. The following appeared in the West Chester Republican with her brother Thomas’ obituary who died shortly after she did:

Just 36 hours before Mr. Potts’ death occurred, his sister, Rebecca S. Potts, died. She was born at Warwick Furnace, on the 28th day of February, 1807, and died in the house in which she was born on the 27th day of October, 1876. She never married. After the death of her father and mother and the marriage of an older sister, she became the female head of the Warwick family....On Tuesday, the last day of October, her remains were followed to the grave by many relatives and friends. She was interred in the Potts-May-family burying ground in Coventryville, where repose the remains of her father and mother...

xi. Martha Ellen Potts, daughter of David and Martha (Potts) Potts, was born at Warwick, 16 August 1808. She died unmarried at age forty-four at Warwick, 10 May 1852. Village Record of 6 July 1852 had the following: “Martha E. Potts’ Estate. Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Martha E. Potts, late of Warwick township, deceased, have been granted to the subscriber, residing at Warwick Furnace, in the same township. All persons indebted to said estate, will please make payment, and those having claims against the same will present them for settlement. David Potts, Jr., Executor June 29, 1852.” No issue.
24. Nathaniel Potts, was the son of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts. He was born at Coventry c1759 and educated as a lawyer. He was admitted to the Philadelphia Bar in 1782. He early supported the Whig cause and when only eighteen years of age, he was captain of a company in the battalion raised by his uncle Col. Thomas Potts. He married Rebecca Hobart, at Christ Church in Philadelphia on 8 October 1782. Rebecca was the daughter of Enoch and Hannah (Pratt) Hobart and was born c1760. The marriage annotation there indicates “Nathaniel Potts, Esq. and Rachael Hubbard.” At the close of the war Potts returned to Pottsgrove. W.B. Potts notes that “he was afflicted with gout.” Nathaniel died intestate at age twenty-five at Pottsgrove 26 April 1784, and was buried in the family graveyard in Pottstown. Letters for the Administration of his Estate were filed in Administration Book I, page 88. The Potts Memorial notes the following obituary is copied from one of the Philadelphia newspapers of the day:

“In the spring of 1784, Mr. Nathaniel Potts moved to Pottsgrove with his wife, intending to make that place his permanent residence. But immediately on his arrival there he was seized with a violent fever, which in a few weeks terminated his mortal existence, in the bloom of youth and promise. He had studied law in Philadelphia with William Lewis, and had been admitted to practice in that city, under the most flattering auspices. He was greatly endeared, by amiable qualities, to his relatives and friends.”

The widow of Nathaniel married for her second husband, Robert Smith of Philadelphia on 6 July 1791 at St. James Episcopal Church, Perkiomen. Smith was the son of William and Elizabeth (Corrin) Smith and was born 20 November 1752. Smith had served as a captain in the Revolutionary War. Rebecca Smith died aged 42 years on 7 July 1802 at Frankford near Philadelphia, and was buried in Presbyterian graveyard Arch above 5th Street, from which her remains were removed to Laurel Hill in November 1867. The following obituary notice, which Mrs. James notes was “from the pen of Dr. Benjamin Rush,” was one of those inserted in the newspapers of Philadelphia a few days after her death: “Died, universally and justly lamented, on Wednesday morning, near Frankford, in the forty-second year of her age, Mrs. Rebecca Smith, wife of Robert Smith, merchant, of this city….” Issue, two children by Nathaniel, neither of whom lived to adulthood. Also issue by Robert Smith.

i. Emily Potts, daughter of Nathaniel Rebecca (Hobart) Potts, was born c1783 and died in infancy and buried in the Potts burial ground at Pottstown.

ii. Nathaniel Potts, son of Nathaniel Rebecca (Hobart) Potts, was born 30 November 1784. He died at Pottstown, aged four years, 20 days on 25 December 1788 and was buried at the Potts burial ground there.

25. John Potts, Jr., was the son of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts. John was born 26 October 1760 and educated in Philadelphia as a lawyer. The Potts Memorial relates that he was involved in the “Defense of Ft. Wilson” in Philadelphia during the Revolution. In 1793 he joined his brothers and his brother-in-law, Robert E. Hobart, in forming the Copper Mine Company of Pennsylvania which had a mine near Morgantown in Berks County. In the same year he was induced to accept the post of secretary of the Patowmack Company in Alexandria, Virginia, probably by George Washington, president of the company. His father's work on a scheme to improve the navigation of the Schuylkill River may have been responsible for his joining Washington's project on the Potomac. Potts went to Alexandria and although the plan was unsuccessful he remained there until his death.

John married at Alexandria, Eliza Ramsay, fourth daughter of Patrick and Elizabeth (Poythress) Ramsay. She was born at Petersburg, Virginia, 19 March 1768, and survived her husband many years. During this period, Potts remained active in the Copper Mine Company and apparently induced some of his Virginia associates to invest in it. Although it completed some short canals and improvements to the channel of the river, the Patowmack Company was ultimately unsuccessful and the canal discontinued.
After the canal company was abandoned, Potts remaining living in Alexandria and most of his descendants remained living in Washington and Virginia. In 1795 he built 607 Oronoco in Alexandria (now known as the last home of General Henry "Light-Horse Harry" Lee and the Boyhood Home of General Robert E. Lee). John took over the operation of the Keepryst Furnace upriver in Berkeley County, now in West Virginia. He was also drawn into land speculation involving some 20,000 acres in Randolph County and 18,000 acres in Spotsylvania County. Neither venture was successful, and the threat of America's involvement in the Napoleonic Wars adversely affected the copper mine project. Potts filed for bankruptcy. Because he owned a share of his father's anthracite coal lands, a copy of his bankruptcy papers reside at the Schuykill County Historical Society in Pottsville. John Potts was insolvent when he died on 17 October 1809, while on a visit to Pottstown to visit his family. He was buried in the family graveyard in Pottstown. Many of his business papers reside at the Hagley Museum and Library. W.B. Potts indicates “She was a strict member of the P.E. Church, frequently visited her son-in-law N.P. Hobart at Reading. In boyhood I spent many happy hours in her society, was as fond of her as of a mother.” Issue, five children, thirty-three known grandchildren.

i. Joanna Holland Potts, daughter of John and Eliza (Ramsay) Potts, was born 22 September 1788. On 18 April 1813, Joanna married her cousin Nathaniel Potts4 Hobart, son of Robert Enoch and Sarah May (Potts) Hobart. Nathaniel Hobart was born 3 October 1790. He died 3 July 1860 in Pottstown. Joanna (Potts) Hobart died at Pottstown, 8 January 1867. Issue, nine children: John Potts5, Sally Potts5, Elizabeth Ramsay5, Anna Sophia5, Hannah Pratt5, Robert Henry5, Nathaniel Potts5, William Ramsay5, Ellen Goodin5 Hobart.

ii. Sophia Wilson Potts, daughter of John3 and Eliza (Ramsay) Potts, was born c1790. She married near Alexandria, Virginia, July, 1808, Dr. Thomas Semmes. He was one of four children of Dr. Edward and Sarah (Middleton) Semmes. He was born in Prince George's Co., Maryland, 13 August 1779, and received his degree of M. D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1801. His essay was on "The Effects of Lead." After traveling extensively in Europe, he returned to Alexandria, where he commenced the practice of medicine, and resided there until his death in 1833.66 His wife survived him six years. She was a woman of great personal attractions and elevated character. Dr. Semmes and Sophia are buried in Christ Churchyard, Alexandria. A Semmes genealogy, Semmes America, also has a long biography on Semmes and it provides copies of two portraits of him.69

Mrs. James in the Potts Memorial notes: "One of Mrs. Semmes's daughters has given me the following anecdote, which she had heard her mother relate. After Gen. Washington's retirement to Mount Vernon, he would sometimes dine at her father's, in Alexandria. On one of these occasions there were other guests, and Sophia, with their children, her young friends, was seated at a side-table. These girls were Molly Fitzhugh (afterwards Mrs. Custis, the mother of Mrs. Robert E. Lee), Nancy Jennifer, and some others. Child like, they agreed before dinner to eat of the same dishes, so every one chose wild duck; then all took precisely the same vegetables. This amused Washington greatly, who, turning to them, said, "Young ladies, will you all take a glass of wine with me!" an invitation which made the climax of the glee of the young party." Issue, six children: Thomas Middleton5, Anna Sophia5, Mary Elizabeth5, Douglas Ramsay5, William Hawley5, and Sarah Wilhelmina5 Semmes.

iii. Samuel F.4 Potts, son of John3 and Eliza (Ramsay) Potts, was born c1792. He married Mary Ann Ross. They obtained a marriage license in the District of Columbia on 28 January 1817.70 They lived in Alexandria, Virginia. Issue, nine children: John5, Andrew Ross5, Mary Eliza5, Richard5, Samuel5, Caroline5, Roberta5, Charles Ramsay5, and Alice Ramsay5 Potts.

iv. Ramsay Douglass4 Potts, son of John3 and Eliza (Ramsay) Potts, was born c1794. He married Lucretia, surname unknown. Date of death, issue unknown.

v. Wilhelmina Douglass4 Potts, daughter of John3 and Eliza (Ramsay) Potts, was born c1795. She was married at Christ Church, Alexandria, D. C. (now Virginia), 25 August 1818, to Rev. William
Hawley, who was rector of St. John's Church, Washington, for twenty-eight years, and died there 23 January 1845. One of her daughters related to Mrs. James that her mother remembered sitting on Gen. Washington's knee when a child, and drinking wine out of his glass, her father's house being one of Washington's homes in Alexandria. Wilhelmina (Potts) Hawley died in Philadelphia 13 April 1865. Issue, nine children: Elizabeth Potts, Phoebe Mary, Thomas Semmes, Wilhelmina, Catherine Ramsay, Peter W. Radcliffe, Fanny Lear, Anna Sophia Semmes, and William Hawley.

26. Thomas Potts, was the son of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts. He was born c1764 and brought up as a merchant, and in 1787, was in partnership with his brother Joseph in Philadelphia as an iron merchant on North Second Street in the city. Thomas entered into partnership with Robert Hobart, who became his brother-in-law. Thomas married Abigail Miles, daughter of Col. Samuel and Catherine (Wistar) Miles on 8 December 1785 at the First Baptist Church in Philadelphia. With Hobart as a partner, they built the Vincent Slitting and Rolling Mill and Dale Furnace. But Potts had to declare bankruptcy in 1797 and removed himself from the iron industry. Thomas was made recorder of deeds and register of wills in Montgomery County by his brother-in-law, Gov. McKean, and resided in Norristown. By his 1805 will, Samuel Miles left the “lands in Spring Township (except land where son Samuel lives) to be sold and money to be put on interest for Abigail Potts, wife of Thomas Potts, and her children.” He also gave Abigail all of Thomas Pott’s household and kitchen furniture which he obtained from his creditors. Thomas died at Pottstown, 9 September 1823. His wife survived him only two weeks, and both were buried in the family graveyard. Issue, nine children, nineteen grandchildren.

i. Joanna Potts, the daughter of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts was born at Pottstown, 29 October 1786. Joanna died unmarried in 1874. The Montgomery Ledger dated 9 June indicates the following: “Potts – In Pottstown, Montgomery County, on Monday, June 8, 1874, Miss Joanna Potts, in the 88th year of her age. Her relatives and Friends are respectfully invited to attend her funeral from her residence in Pottstown, on Thursday, the 11th inst., at 2 o’clock P.M. to proceed to Potts Family Ground.”

ii. Catherine Miles Potts, the daughter of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts, was born in Philadelphia 30 November 1787. She married her deceased sister’s husband, Dr. Samuel Gartley. He practiced medicine in Norristown. His date of death is unknown. Catherine died in March 1885. Her obituary appeared in a Pottstown paper: Death of Catherine H. Gartley The oldest resident of Pottstown in her 98th year. Mrs. Catherine Miles Gartley died about 11 o’clock on Monday evening, March 2d at her home, corner of High and Penn streets aged 97 years, 3 months and 2 day…was born in Philadelphia on 30th of November 1787. Her father was a merchant in the city, and afterwards Recorder of Deeds and Register of Wills of Montgomery county by appointment from Governor Thomas McKean. Her sister Sarah married Dr. Samuel Gartley, a practicing physician of Norristown. Some years after her sister died…She outlived all four or her children and stepchild.” Issue, four children: John, Thomas, Samuel, and Elizabeth Hutton Gartley.

iii. Rebeccah Potts, the daughter of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts, was born at Pottstown, c1789. She died unmarried in 1843, no issue.

iv. Samuel Miles Potts, the son of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts, was born in Pottstown c1792. He died unmarried in 1823. A standard estate notice appeared in the Village Record of 19 February 1823: “Notice. All persons indebted to the Estate of Samuel M. Potts, late of the township of Eastnantmel, Chester country, dec. are desired to make immediate payment…Joseph M’K. Potts, David Potts, Jun. Feb. 19.”

v. Thomas Potts, the son of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts, was born in Pottsgrove in 1794. He married Harriet Brooke, of Limerick. Issue five children: Elizabeth Brooke, Anna May, Juliana, Samuel Miles, Thomas Potts.

vi. Juliana Potts, the daughter of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts, was born in Pottsgrove c1796. She died unmarried in 1867. No issue.
vii. Joseph McKean Potts, the son of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts, was born in Pottsgrove c1799. On 8 April 1824, Joseph McKean Potts and Rebecca Jones Brooke, “both of Montgomery County,” married at St. Mary’s Church. Rebecca was the daughter of Reese and Harriet (Potts) Brooke, and Joseph’s cousin. He died 3 August 1832 and was buried at the Potts Burial Ground. Rebecca lived almost fifty years longer than Joseph. She died in 1882. Notice of her death appeared in the Montgomery Ledger dated 2 May: Potts – In Pottstown, on May 1st, 1882, Rebecca J. Potts, in the 79th year of her age. The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Funeral from her late residence, on Hanover street, near Queen (Railroad) on Thursday afternoon, May 4th, at 2 o’clock. Issue, five children: Harriet Brooke, Catherine Gartley, Emily Rutter, Mary Paxton, Joseph McKean Potts.

viii. Sarah Miles Potts, the daughter of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts, was born in Pottsgrove c1800. She married Dr. Samuel Gartley but died shortly after the birth of her child. Date of death unknown. Issue, one child: William H. Gartley.

ix. Francis Richardson Potts, the son of Thomas and Abigail (Miles) Potts, born in Pottsgrove 10 May. He married Mary Ann Moore, of Chester County. She died without issue. He married for his second wife his cousin, Mary Miles. He went to Ohio, and settled at Putnam, of which town he was postmaster in 1872. His death notice appeared in the Montgomery Ledger dated Tuesday, 25 June 1872: “Francis Potts, a former resident of Pottstown, died at Zanesville, Ohio, on Friday evening last, in his 72d year. Deceased was a brother of Miss Joanna Potts, of this borough. He was a worthy and pious man and held in highest esteem be all who knew him.” Issue, four children: Joanna, James Linnard, George Engles, and David Potts.

27. Joseph Potts, the son of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts. He was born 2 June 1766 in Pottstown. Before he was of age he entered into the iron business with his elder brother Thomas, in Philadelphia. In 1789, he returned to Pottstown and with his cousin David Rutter purchased Glasgow Forge at sheriff’s sale, each owning one half. Rutter sold his half to Samuel Potts and at his death, Joseph obtained full ownership. He carried on Glasgow, two miles from Pottstown, for a number of years. He also owned Valley Forge for a brief time. On 9 February 1792, Rev. Slater Clay of St. James Church married “Joseph Potts, Jr.” to his cousin Sarah Potts, daughter of David and Mary (Aris) Potts who owned Valley Forge. Sarah was born 27 December 1774. Joseph and Sarah lived at Glasgow Forge which Joseph ran for a number of years. Their twelve children were born there.

Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser dated 26 March 1798 notes: “Joseph Potts, Jr., wishes to sell his house and 4-acre lot in Pottstown. He may be seen at Glasgow Forge, near the town.” In 1804, Joseph put the Glasgow Forge up for sale. He also put the Valley Works up for sale, his father-in-law having died in 1797. Neither was sold. Sarah joined Friends Meeting in at nearby Exeter Meeting in 1808 and she remained a Friend for life.

In 1811, Joseph and Sarah moved to Philadelphia and returned to Glasgow Forge in 1813. W.B. Potts indicated that he was afflicted with Gout for many years and was fond of gunning. Joseph removed to Pottstown during the latter part of his life, and he died there testate 27 September 1824 (Montgomery County Estate #5018.) The following obituary is copied from a Philadelphia paper: “Died, on the morning of the 27th ultimo, at Pottstown, Montgomery Co., Pa., in the fifty-ninth year of his age, Mr. Joseph Potts, one of the most respectable inhabitants of that borough….” His wife died 11February 1851. The following obituary is taken from a Potstown paper, February 1851: “Died, in Pottstown, on the 11th February, 1851, in the seventy-seventh year of her age, Mrs. Sarah Potts, relict of the late Mr. Joseph Potts….” Her death was entered in the Exeter Meeting Records on 28 Imo 1852 as “Sarah Potts, an Elder, died 2mo 12, 1851, age 76 years.” and both are buried in the family graveyard at Pottstown. She was a member of the Society of Friends, and the last surviving grandchild of John Potts.” Issue, twelve children and forty-three grandchildren.
i. Mary Potts, was the daughter of Joseph and Sarah Potts. She was born at Pottstown, 7 December 1792. She was married at Pottstown, by Rev. Dr. Clay, 23 September 1813, to Robert Hobart Smith, son of Robert and Rebeccah (Hobart) Smith. His mother was the widow of Nathaniel Potts.

   The Potts Memorial notes that Mr. Smith graduated from the University of Pennsylvania. He studied law with Hon. Jared Ingersoll, and had commenced practice in Philadelphia, when he believed it to be his duty to devote himself to the ministry. He therefore entered the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and, after spending the required time there, he was licensed in 1829 to preach by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. His health had, however, become too feeble for him to assume a pastoral charge; but he occasionally officiated at the various benevolent institutions of the city, and was for nearly a quarter of a century a ruling elder in the Second Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia, and treasurer of the General Assembly for many years. He was a good classical scholar, and, as he grew older, he would often turn to these favorite studies of his youth as a means of mental recreation. During the last years of his life he resided at Germantown, where he died 10 August 1858, "having occupied an enviable place in the estimation, not only of those with whom he was connected by the ties of relationship, but of all with whom he was associated, either in the department of business, or in the intercourse of society." Issue, nine children: Rebecca, Robert, Joseph Potts, William Alexander, Alfred, Sarah Potts, Hobart, Edmund, and Corrin Smith.

ii. Samuel Potts, was the son of Joseph and Sarah Potts. He was born at Pottsgrove, 13 March 1794. He married 17 October 1813 at St. Gabriel’s Church in Douglassville, his cousin Ruth Anna Rutter, daughter of David and Mary Ann (Potts) Rutter. Ruth Anna was born 8mo 12, 1792. Samuel’s early years of his life were spent in Pottstown; but he removed to Philadelphia while still a young man, and for thirty-six years he held the office of chief clerk in the Mutual Assurance Company of Philadelphia. Ruth Anna, his wife died in Philadelphia on 9 October 1864, and is buried in the family graveyard at Pottstown. Samuel died suddenly, while walking in the street, 1 November 1869. The following is extracted from an obituary notice in the papers of the day:

   Honorable in his deportment, kind and gentlemanly in his manner, punctual and reliable in his business habits, he won the respect of all who knew him in private, and both secured and to the last retained the confidence of those with whom he was connected in business life. In mature age, and after due consideration, he became a member of the Episcopal Ch., and through all his subsequent years continued to manifest the sincerity of his faith by the consistency of his life. Thus, in the experience and practice of heartfelt but unobtrusive piety, he steadily moved onward in the narrow way, until, according to the mysterious will of God, suddenly, and without warning, he fell upon the side of the busy street, and in a few moments surrendered his spirit into the hand of Him who gave it. His remains, brought to this place, were conveyed to the quiet burial-ground of those who were near of kin to him, and there committed to the grave, to mingle with kindred dust.

   Two stained-glass windows are in the edifice of Christ Church in Pottstown, to the memory of Samuel and Ruth Anna Potts. Issue, three children: Mary Ann, Mary Ann, and Samuel Potts.

iii. Henry Potts, was the son of Joseph and Sarah Potts. He was born at Pottstown, 7 December 1795. He died at seventeen months on 27 December 1797.

iv. Henry Potts, was the son of Joseph and Sarah Potts (the second child so named.). He was born at Pottstown 5 August 1797. He married in 1819, Isabella M., daughter of Daniel Hitner, of Marple Hall, Montgomery Co. In 1846, with his cousin David Potts of Warwick Furnace, he founded the Pottstown Iron Works, the rolling mill of which was located on Water Street in Pottstown between Charlotte and Penn Streets. The establishment went into operation in December of that year, the style of the firm being Henry Potts & Co. In April 1857, the firm sold the works to a company comprised of Henry’s son and Edward Bailey, who continued it under the firm of Potts & Bailey. Henry died 31 August 1861. The following is extracted from an obituary printed in the Pottstown paper a few days after his death.

   He was born August 5, 1797, at the then family residence in Pottstown. His parents were the late Joseph and Sarah Potts, each of them a descendant, in the third generation, of John Potts, proprietor of the estate known for many years as Pottsgrove. The municipal corporation, created at a much later day than that of his death, was called Pottstown. Henry Potts, after being carefully educated, was placed in the
counting-room of the late Robert Smith, Esq., of Philadelphia, where he acquired or developed the habits of clearness and accuracy which through life distinguished him in the details of his transactions. In early life he married Isabella, daughter of Daniel Hitner, Esq., of Montgomery Co. Immediately after, was settled at Glasgow Forge for the business of his life, which was the manufacture of iron. There and at Pottstown, with the exception of about three and a half years at Norristown, his life was passed. The records of his life from the time of his marriage would be a diary of affectionate devotion to his family, and of faithful, diligent attention to the duties of his trust.

The funeral solemnities on Tuesday, 3d of September, gave an illustration of the regard in which he was held, and of the impression made by his death upon the community in which he had been known for more than a century. The concourse of relatives and citizens was such as seldom if ever before had come together for a like purpose in the town. By spontaneous impulse, the stores were closed while his body was borne to the family cemetery where his fathers sleep. The unanimous sentiment, not infrequently spoken aloud, was, the community has lost its best, most useful, and most honored citizen, while no one lives to supply his place.


v. David 3 Potts was the son of Joseph 3 and Sarah 3 Potts. He was born at Pottstown on 11 August 1799. Mrs. James indicates that he was called “Springton David,” to distinguish him from his cousins of the same name. He was chiefly engaged in the iron business. His first important venture was the purchase of Springfield Forge, on East Brandywine Creek, Chester Co., near Downingtown. This he subsequently sold, and, after a brief residence in Pottstown, he, in company with his brother Henry and brother-in-law John Potts Rutter, built Isabella Furnace (so named in honor of Henry's wife), on a branch of the creek above mentioned, and four miles northwest of Springton. This furnace he took charge of as manager in the spring of 1836, and continued in that position until April, 1855, when the enterprise, of which he was then chief owner, succumbed to disaster.

From this time he was variously engaged until 1 October 1865, when he was chosen secretary and treasurer of the West Branch Lumber Company, which post he successfully filled till his death. He removed, in March, 1862, to Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pa., and thence, in September 1869 married Rebecca Speakman, the daughter of Micajah and Phebe S. Speakman, “a young Quaker lady of rare excellence and unusual force of mind and character.” The American Republican of 17 February 1829 had the following: “Married, On Thursday, the 12th inst. By Samuel Culbertson, Esq. Mr. David Potts, of Springfield, to Miss Rebecca S. Speakman, daughter of Micajah Speakman, all of Chester county.” Rebecca was born at Concord, Delaware County on 30 April 1811. She died at Williamsport, 29 March 29, 1867, and was buried at Milton, Pennsylvania. Her obituary appeared in the Jeffersonian of 6 April 1867: “March 28th, 1867 at Williamsport, Pa., Rebecca S. Potts, wife of David Potts, and daughter of Macajah Speakman, formerly of Chester co.”

David married for his second wife, 16 September 1869, his cousin, Sarah 4 (Potts) Stem, the wife of the Rev. N. Stem, and daughter of David and Martha (Potts) Potts. He died in Philadelphia, 15 November 1870, and was buried at Milton, Northumberland Co. The Potts Memorial indicates “He was energetic, laborious, sanguine, fond of science, rigidly upright, a constant biblical student, and a conscientious Christian. He had a lively sense of humor, and possessed a vast store of family anecdote, in the repetition of which his enjoyment never flagged.” The Montgomery Ledger dated 22 November 1870 had the following: “David Potts, formerly a resident of Pottstown, and a brother of the late Henry Potts, died in Philadelphia on Thursday last, November 15th. He was in his 72d year. Deceased was a great-grandson of John Potts, the founder of Pottstown. His funeral took place on Friday last, the remains being interred at Milton, Pennsylvania.” Issue, two children: Joseph D. 3 and William Speakman 3 Potts, born 5 May 1838, died 4 August 1881, married Elizabeth Pembroke, 19 November 1873.

vi. Joseph 4 Potts was the son of Joseph 3 and Sarah 3 Potts. He was born in Pottstown 17 February 1801. He was married by Rev. Dr. Bull at St. Mary’s Church, 20 February 1823, to Mary Katherine 4 Rutter daughter of David 3 and Mary Anne (Potts) Rutter. Mary Katherine was born 12 November 1802. In the marriage record, he is noted as of Montgomery County and she of Berks County. Catherine died 22 May 1858, and is buried in the family graveyard. Joseph married for his second
wife, Elizabeth Mitchell of Philadelphia. He carried on the iron works at Spring Grove and Glasgow Forge, and died at the latter place 13 May 1866. St. Mary’s Church records under deaths note: “Joseph Potts, May 13, 1866, age 68.” He is buried by the side of his first wife at the Potts Burying Ground in Pottstown. Issue, three children: John Rutter, Mary Ann and Clement Rutter Potts.

vii. Emily Potts was the daughter of Joseph and Sarah Potts. She was born at Glasgow Forge, 7 June 1804. She was married 22 January, 1824, by Rev. Dr. Bull at St. Mary’s Church, to John Potts Rutter, son of David and Mary Anne (Potts) Rutter. In the marriage annotation, they are both noted as “of Montgomery County.” Emily Potts died at Pottstown, 30 March 1867. See information under John Potts Rutter (Number 31, iv). Issue, seven children: William H., Sarah, Emily, Henry Potts, Clement Milton, Martha and John Potts Rutter.

viii. Edward Potts, was the son of Joseph and Sarah Potts. He was born at Glasgow Forge, 21 July 1806. He was married by Rev. Dr. Bull, in 1829, to Sarah Bechtel daughter of John Bechtel. Edward died 29 December 1836 at Pottstown. He was buried in the Potts family graveyard where he shares a tombstone with his daughter Eliza. Sarah (Bechtel) Potts died at the same place in 1856 and was also buried at the Potts burying ground. Issue, four children: Sarah, Emma, Eliza Read, and Edward Potts.

ix. John Potts, was the son of Joseph and Sarah Potts. He was born at Glasgow Forge, 28 September 1809. He married in 1837 Mary Grace Jamison, the daughter of Samuel Jamison of Norristown, where she died 25 August 1867. He was educated for the bar, and resided many years at Norristown in 1872 be removed to the home of his daughter in Illinois. For twenty-two years he had been an active and influential member of the school board in Norristown, and before his departure a public reception was given him, and resolutions adopted relative to the loss that place would sustain of the most efficient laborer in the cause of popular education. Potts died in 1880. The Norristown Free Press had the following: “John Potts, formerly a well known citizen of Norristown, died on the 4th inst., at the residence of his son, Mr. Samuel J. Potts, 3225 Sansom street, West Philadelphia. He was in his seventieth year…was admitted to the Montgomery County Bar August 16th, 1836…His Funeral took place from the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Samuel Jamison Main Street of this borough.” He was buried in Montgomery Cemetery.” Issue, five children: Samuel Jamison, Helen, Mary Grace, John, and William Potts.

x. Sarah Potts, was the daughter of Joseph and Sarah Potts. She was born at Glasgow Forge on 10 January 1812 and died there at five months 5 July 1812.

xi. Robert Smith Potts, was the son of Joseph and Sarah Potts. He was born 21 December 1813. He was an ironmaster and was an owner and manager at Martic Forge. He married in 1839 Anne H. Bull, the daughter of Rev. Levi Bull, D. D., rector of St. Mary’s Church, Chester County. She died 14 July 1847. Issue, one child. Robert married for his second wife Lydia Baldwin, November, 1849. He died at Marticville in Lancaster County in 1886. His death notice appeared in the West Chester Local of 16 June 1886: “Robert S. Potts, iron manufacturer, died suddenly near Marticville, Lancaster county, on Wednesday evening, aged 72 years. He was a member of the firm of Davis & Potts, proprietors of Martic Forge, and manager of the same. The other owners reside in Pottstown. Deceased was the last of a well-known Pottstown family of twelve, and was a great-grandson of John Potts, founder of Pottstown.” Issue three children by two wives: Howard, Maria, and Charles Sumner Potts.

xii. Sarah Potts, was the youngest child of Joseph and Sarah Potts. She was born 19 March 1816. Sarah died at age thirteen years on 17 February 1830 and was buried in the family burial ground in Pottstown. Poulsdon’s Daily Advertiser dated 19 February 1830 noted her death: “On the 17th inst., Sarah Potts, daughter of the late Joseph Potts of Pottstown, Montgomery co., in her 14th year.”

28. Sarah May Potts, was the daughter of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts. She was born 18 January 1770. She was married 14 January 1790 by the Rev. Slater Clay of St. James Episcopal Church, Perkiomen, to Robert Enoch, son of Enoch and Hannah (Pratt) Hobart, of Philadelphia and older brother of the Rt. Rev. John Henry Hobart. Hobart was born there 25 April 1768. He
was educated as a lawyer, and practiced in that city. He became an iron merchant and was in business with Sarah’s brother, Thomas Potts in the city. Hobart received, as part of his father-in-law’s estate, a portion of Glasgow Forge, which he traded with his brother-in-law Joseph Potts for Joseph’s share of the newly built Dale Furnace, also owned by Thomas Potts and John Smith. He became the senior partner at Dale, which was managed by Sarah’s cousin, Samuel Potts, the son of John Potts Jr. In conjunction with Dale, Hobart and Thomas Potts, and perhaps Samuel, built the Vincent Slitting Forge in Chester County and they imported workers from Germany. Neither of the works did well financially, and by 1800 Hobart closed both and eventually sold his interests taking a large financial loss. Additionally, he was in business with his brother-in-law John Potts involved in a Copper Company with a mine at Morgantown in Berks County. He appears also to have invested in the Keytryst Furnace venture with Potts in Virginia and land speculation there.

About the beginning of 1800, Hobart built a house at the northwest corner of 9th and Spruce Streets, in Philadelphia. The Hobart family became communicants at Christ Church here, and several of their children are buried at the burial yard. Hobart, towards the latter part of his life, removed to Pottstown, and finished the house on the hill commenced by his brother-in-law, David Potts. He was made a Justice of the Peace at Pottstown. In 1825, Hobart and his son were among the sixteen men who signed the charter of incorporation for the establishment of Christ Episcopal Church in Pottstown. The first building stood at the corner of Hanover St. and the railroad, and was erected on the foundation walls of the old brew house, which is mentioned in the 1767 will of John Potts. This church was afterward rebuilt on High St., and was taken down in 1872, and a new edifice was erected on the same site. He served as senior warden. Hobart was a member of the Legislature and served on the Democratic ticket in 1823, and was re-elected in 1824 and 1825. While serving in that capacity he died at Harrisburg, 17 March 1826. His wife had died a few months previous, 2 January 1826, and both are buried at the family graveyard in Pottstown. Issue, twelve children.

i. Nathaniel Potts Hobart, was the son of Robert Enoch and Sarah (Potts) Hobart. He was born in Philadelphia 31 October 1790. He was married at Alexandria, Virginia, by the Rev. William Meade (afterwards, Bishop of Virginia), 18 April 1813, to Joanna Holland Potts, daughter of John and Eliza (Ramsay) Potts, born 22 September 1788. He was by profession a lawyer, and was appointed by Gov. Hittner, as the Auditor General of Pennsylvania. He purchased the right of the other heirs of his grandfather Samuel to the Potts reserve of coal in Schuylkill County. The “Nathaniel P. Hobart” family was enumerated on the 1850 Census for Pottsgrove Township in Montgomery County. Nathaniel, age 59, a farmer, and wife Joanna H., age 60, shared the household with three children: Sarah, age 30; Eliza, age 28; Sophia, age 26; and Ellen age 20. The real estate was valued at $12,000. He resided in Pottstown, where he died 3 July 1860; his wife survived him until 8 January 1867, and both are buried in the family graveyard. The History of Montgomery County had the following:

Nathaniel Potts Hobart was born in Philadelphia, Oct. 3. 1790, read law in the office of John C. Smith, and was admitted to the Bar of his native city; removed to Pottstown, where he was appointed justice of the peace by Gov. Simon Snyder; joined Capt. Daniel De B. Keim's company of Washington Blues in August, 1814; marched it to Camp Depont, and there joined the 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers Oct. 7. 1814, and served as fourth sergeant of the company until Dec 5th of the same year, when they returned to Reading; admitted an attorney of the Berks County bar Jan. 3. 1818; was clerk in the prothonotary's office, under John Adams, for several years; was assistant clerk in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, under chief clerk Francis R. Shunk. In 1827 Governor Shulze appointed him clerk of the Orphan's court and court of Quarter Sessions of Berks county, which positions he held until 1830, when he removed to Pottstown. In 1826 he was appointed auditor-general of Pennsylvania by Governor Hittner, and held the office for three years. He resided at Pottstown from 1830 until his death July 3. 1860. He married April 18, 1813, Joanna Holland, and their children were: John Potts (who became an attorney in Pottsville), Sarah Potts, Elizabeth Ramsay, Anna Sophia, Robert Henry, Nathaniel Potts, William Ramsay and Ellen Goodin Hobart.
Nathaniel and Joanna Potts had nine children and twenty-three grandchildren. The children are listed under number 25, ii.

ii. Joanna Potts 4 Hobart, was the daughter of Robert Enoch and Sarah 3 (Potts) Hobart. Joanna was born in Philadelphia 26 September 1792. She died unmarried at Pottstown, 10 April 1869, and was buried in Edgewood Cemetery. A large painted window in memory of Joanna and her sister Sarah, representing the figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity was placed at the Christ Episcopal Church in Pottstown.

iii. Robert Enoch 4 Hobart, was the son of Robert Enoch and Sarah 3 (Potts) Hobart. He was born at Pottstown, 2 June 1796. He was baptized with his sister Rebecca at St. Gabriel’s Church, Morlattan by Bishop White, 19 August 1819. He is was a soldier in the War of 1812. He married Henrietta Williamina Smith, one of six children of Gen. William Rudolph and Eliza (Anthony) Smith of Blair County. She was the grand-daughter of Rev. William. Smith, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania. Henrietta was born 2 May 1814 at Huntingdon, Blair County. William Ives Rutter, Jr. wrote the following:

“Robert Enoch Hobart…was born in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, June 2, 1796. The regular home of his parents was Philadelphia, Pottstown (the home of his mother’s family) being their summer residence. His childhood was spent partly in both places until, according to the custom then prevailing, he was sent to boarding-school….At the age of seventeen he entered the army of the county in service against England in the War of 1812. He was a private in the Eleventh Company (“Washington Guards” of Reading, Berks County, Captain Daniel de B. Keim, commanding.)…He was one of the veterans who met in Independence Hall, January 9, 1854, and organized the society which still exists as the “Society of the War of 1812.” After the close of the war he accepted a clerical position in New York, and while there lived for several years with his uncle, Bishop Hobart….On leaving New York he engaged for a few years in the mercantile business in Pottstown, but gave that up to enter the iron business, and later became manager of Rebecca Furnace at Bedford, Pennsylvania. While there, he met and married, July, 1835, Henrietta Williamina Smith, daughter of Brigadier-General William Rudolph Smith…In 1845, he returned to Pottstown, where he lived for the remainder of his life. He died there May 20, 1869, and is buried in Edgewood Cemetery in that borough.”

In 1825, Hobart and his father were among the sixteen men who signed the charter of incorporation for the establishment of Christ Episcopal Church in Pottstown. There is a large memorial window to the memory of Robert E. Hobart in the church which William Ives Rutter notes: “The large window at the end of the church, representing the “Good Shepherd” is a memorial to him (not to his father, as stated in the “Memorial of the Potts Family.”

A local paper dated 12 September 1828 indicated that Mr. Robert E. Hobart invented a “ingenious machine” for making horse shoes and he obtained a patent on it. It is said “one ton weight of horse shoes may be made in one day by this machine.” He died at Pottstown, 20 May 1869, and was buried in Edgewood Cemetery. Henrietta died on 27 November 1873 at Big Spring, Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Issue, eight children: William Smith 5, Sarah May 5, Eliza Anthony 5, Robert Enoch III 5, John Henry 5, Henrietta Williamina 5, Anna Potts 5, and Thomas Duncan 5 Hobart.

iv. Sarah Potts 4 Hobart, was the daughter of Robert Enoch and Sarah 3 (Potts) Hobart. She was born at Pottstown 18 December 1798. She died unmarried at Pottstown, 2 February 1872, and was buried in Edgewood Cemetery. Her death notice appeared in the Montgomery Ledger dated 3 February 1872: “Hobart – February 2, 1872, Sarah P. Hobart, in the 75th year of her age. Her friends and relatives are respectfully invited to attend her Funeral from her late residence, No. 560 High street, Pottstown, Pa. at 2 p.m. on Monday February 5th, 1872.” No issue.

v. Rebecca 4 Hobart, was the daughter of Robert Enoch and Sarah 3 (Potts) Hobart. She was born in Pottstown 23 January 1800. She died at two years in Philadelphia on 5 August 1802 and is buried in Christ Churchyard of that city.

vi. Rebecca 4 Hobart, was the daughter of Robert Enoch and Sarah 3 (Potts) Hobart, the second so named. She was born near Frankford, 15 May 15, 1803. She died unmarried at Pottstown at age twenty-six, 13 January 1837 and is buried in the Potts burial ground. She and her sister Mary share a tombstone there. No issue.
vii. Mary Hobart, was the daughter of Robert Enoch and Sarah (Potts) Hobart. She was born at Philadelphia 29 March 1805. She died unmarried at Pottstown, 17 July 1845 and is buried near her sister in the Potts burial ground at Pottstown. No issue.

viii. Elizabeth Potts Hobart, was the daughter of Robert Enoch and Sarah (Potts) Hobart. She was born at Tacony, Philadelphia, 18 August 1808. She died at sixteen months on 20 December 1809, and was buried in Christ Church Churchyard. A Philadelphia paper had the following: “On Wednesday, the 18th instant, at the residence of her father, near the borough of Pottstown, Elizabeth Potts Hobart, daughter of Robert E. Hobart, Esq., in the 13th year of her age, August 31, 1824.”

ix. Samuel Potts Hobart, was the son of Robert Enoch and Sarah (Potts) Hobart. He was born at Philadelphia 21 October 1809. He died 11 November 1809 less than one month. He was buried in Christ Church Churchyard in Philadelphia.

x. John Henry Potts Hobart, was the son of Robert Enoch and Sarah (Potts) Hobart. He was born at Philadelphia 15 March 1810. He married Mary Ann Mintzer, the daughter of William and Sarah (Missimer) Mintzer. She was born 12 March 1815. She died at Pottstown, April 2, 1858, and is buried in the family graveyard. Hobart, whom the Potts Memorial calls “Gen. Hobart,” was educated as a lawyer, and practiced his profession at Norristown, and was appointed district attorney in 1855. He died at Pottstown 31 March 1887. The following appeared in Hunsicker’s Montgomery County history:

John Henry Hobart, son of Robert Enoch and Sarah Mary (Potts) Hobart, was born in Philadelphia, March 15, 1810. When a child he removed to Pottstown with his parents, and there, in the village school, he received his early school training. Later, in Reading, Pennsylvania, he continued his studies under the direction of Rev. John Grier, and then entered a military school near Germantown. Tow years later he was enrolled among the cadets at West Point, in which institution he remained until he was twenty-one years of age. He then resigned and removed to Norristown, Pennsylvania, where he began the study of law in the office of Daniel H. Mulvany. Two years later, at the May term of 1836, he was admitted to the bar and immediately after passing his examinations, engaged in practice at Norristown. There he remained for a period of twenty years, from 1836 to 1856, at the end of which time Pottstown became his place of residence and of professional practice. In 1877 he retired from the active duties of his profession and returned to Norristown, where he continued until the time of his death.

Politically Mr. Hobart gave his support to the Democratic party, and his first vote was cast for Andrew Jackson. In 1847 he was appointed deputy attorney-general of the county of Montgomery, and in 1853, he was elected district attorney. Throughout the long period of his professional career, his abilities found an attractive field of labor in the Orphan’s Court. He took an active part in local public affairs, and in Norristown served as burgess, member of the Town Council, and member of the school board. He was a member of the Strickler Lodge, No. 254, Free and Accepted Masons, of Pottstown, in which he attained the rank of past master; and his religious affiliation was with Christ Protestant Episcopal Church of Pottstown. He married, in 1837, Mary J. Mintzer, and they were the parents of six children: Robert Enoch, deceased; William Mintzer, of further mention; David Potts; John Henry, deceased; and two who died in infancy.


xi. Elizabeth Potts Hobart, was the daughter of Robert Enoch and Sarah (Potts) Hobart, the second so named. She was born at Pottstown, 11 August 1811. She died at age thirteen on 18 August 1824 and was buried in the family graveyard.

xii. Ellen Goodin Hobart, was the daughter of Robert Enoch and Sarah (Potts) Hobart. She was born at Pottstown 4 July 1817. She died unmarried at Pottstown at age twenty-three on 20 August 1830 and is buried at the Potts family graveyard in Pottstown. No issue.
3. JOHN ² POTTS, JR.: was the son of John ¹ and Ruth (Savage) Potts.  
He was born “October the 15th about half an hour after three of the Clock in the afternoon 1738” at Colebrook Dale Furnace. He attended and graduated from the Academy and College of Philadelphia, and he went to London where he studied law. In 1759, John Potts, Jr. was admitted to the Philadelphia bar. On 28 February 1764 he married by license dated 27 February, Margaret Carmick at Christ Church. Margaret was the daughter of Stephen and Mary Carmick of Philadelphia and was born 10 January 1748. Steven Carmick was born in New Jersey and was a merchant in Philadelphia. The family attended Christ Church where Margaret was baptized. Potts ran and owned Mt. Joy Forge (later named Valley Forge) and Warwick Furnace. He became a Justice of the Peace for the County of Philadelphia and one of the Judges of the Common Pleas for the City and County.

John served on Common Council in Philadelphia 1774-1775. During the War, he became a Loyalist and during the occupation by the British, he removed to Philadelphia in September of 1777. That December, he carried a letter from Joseph Galloway to George Washington at Valley Forge and one from himself requesting that Margaret and the children be allowed to removed to Philadelphia, and he requested bringing some of his furniture.

Sir As the decisions of the present most direful and unhappy contest cannot in any degree be affected by or depend upon the distress which individuals must suffer by a separation from their nearest and most inearing connections And as the benevolent & human Character of your Excellency is universally acknowledged I am encouraged (although personally a stranger) to address you for permission to remove my family & household furniture from my home in the Country into Philadelphia or if that sh'l be apprehended to be too great an indulgence that I might be permitted to use two or three wagons unmolested when I departed from my house & by that means deprived my Wife & Children of that protection which a Husband & Parent can afford/& which I am afraid is absolutely necessary to protect them from Savage casualty. I had great reason to believe that myself as many other quiet Citizens were should be torn from every thing I held dear & drove into Banishment for an indefinite Term. Permit me to apply to the feelings of your Excellency’s own heart for an answer to my request. I am with the greatest Respect Your Excellency’s most Obedient Humble Servant.

Washington responded:

To John Potts Head Quarters, December 20, 1777. Sir: In Answer to your Letter delivered me by Major Jamieson. When Mrs. Potts applies she will have my permission for herself and Children to go into Philadelphia. As to your Household furniture, I cannot consent to their removal, they being under the cognizance and direction of the Legislature of the State. The Bearer will escort you tomorrow morning as far as our Pickets. I am etc.

Potts went with the British to New York when Philadelphia was abandoned in late Spring of 1778 and eventually, after the war, to Nova Scotia. His estate at Stowe in Douglass Township was confiscated under the Act of Attainment passed by the Assembly 29 March 1779 and condemned and sold by the authorities of Philadelphia County at the Court House in Philadelphia, 11 September 1779. Jonathan Potts obtained the property with Potts family money. Margaret (Carmick) Potts died in New York c1782. On 15 June 1784, John went to England where he filed a claim with the Royal Commission that was established to compensate Loyalists for their losses. On 3 October 1786 he received a pardon from Pennsylvania. John disappeared afterwards. W. B. Potts in his Potts
genealogy notes he died in Ohio; the *Potts Memorial* indicates he “died in the West.” Issue, Stephen, Samuel and Mary Anna Potts. Children are listed in the order they are listed in the will of Stephen Carmick dated 28 November 1766, proved 3 August 1774. All his children married and he had twenty-four grandchildren.

**29. Stephen Potts**, was the eldest son of John and Margaret (Carmick) Potts. Stephen was born c1765, probably in Philadelphia. Between 1772 and 1775 the family lived in Pottsgrove but continued to spend time in Philadelphia. In late 1777 or early 1778, Stephen and his family joined their father in Philadelphia, which the British occupied and in 1779 his father removed to New York City where the family joined him (probably) in June. While there, Stephen joined the Pennsylvania Loyalists under Col. William Allen and served as an ensign. The Pennsylvania unit combined with a Maryland unit and became known as the United Corps. The Corps and Potts saw service in the “Southern Campaign” against the Spanish in Florida. Eventually defeated, the British command surrendered and returned to New York City in 1781. Stephen was put on half-pay. Stephen listed his residence as Shelburn, Canada in a 1785 petition to Thomas Carleton, Governor of New Brunswick for a Warrant of Survey of a grant of land to the disbanded officers and men of the Pennsylvania Loyalists. He is one of on the petition. For his service with the British, Stephen received a grant of land in Nova Scotia. Stephen married Eunice Dennis c1795. He and his family removed to Pottsville in Schuylkill County and he worked as a clerk at iron works at Pine Grove there. W.B. Potts in his genealogy notes that Stephen was afflicted with rheumatism. Stephen received a pension from the British and in 1839 was noted as the only surviving officer of the corps. Issue, seven children, four grandchildren.

i. **Martha Walker Potts**, was the daughter of Stephen and Eunice (Dennis) Potts. She was born circa 1796 and the family moved when she was young to Pottsville, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. Martha married Dr. Joseph E. Sorber (or Sober both are used) who was born c1791. He practiced medicine at Pottsville, Pennsylvania and the family also lived in Minersville nearby. Records at the Historical Society of Schuylkill County indicate that he became a Justice of the Peace on 1 January 1830. Joseph E. Sorber leased a certain portion of Fifth Street in Pottsville to Daniel Benett in 1841 and a J.E. Sorber signed the charter of the Pottsville Library Co. in 1858 although this appears to have been a son.

Records of Trinity Episcopal Church in Pottsville indicate that Martha Walker Sorber, wife of Dr. Sorber of Minersville and her daughter Marianne Potts Sorber (adult), were baptized 29 September 1843. Mrs. Rebecca Kline and Miss S. Potts were sponsors. Sorber died 13 March 1850. An unmarked obituary, found in the W.B. Potts Genealogy notes: “Dr. Joseph Sober, Physician at one time at Orwigsburg, Pottsville and Minersville, Died at Minersville, 13 March 1850 and was interred at the Presbyterian Church Grounds Pottsville.” Record’s at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Minersville for 1857 and 1858 indicate that "Mrs. Sorber" was a communicant there. Trinity Church records indicate that Martha W. Sorber, Presbyterian, 87 years old died at Minersville on 28 August 1878. The W.B. Potts genealogy has an unmarked obituary in pencil dated August 1878, Died: “Sorber at Minersville, on the 24th instant, Mrs. Martha, relic of Dr. Joseph Sorber, in the 86th year of her age.” Margaretta Potts Sorber, born 1831 and Rebecca Sorber, born 1833, were baptized as adults on 6 March 1853 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Pottsville. Sarah Potts (aunt) and Deborah Potts stood as sponsors. Margaretta and "Mrs. Sorber" are also listed as communicants there in 1858. Records there also indicate that Mary Sorber, daughter of the late Dr. Sorber of Minersville, a communicant of this church, died after a long illness on Tuesday and was buried in Pottsville on 30th April 1857. Issue, four children: Marianne, Margaretta, Rebecca and Charles Sorber.

ii. **Margaret Potts**, was the daughter of Stephen and Eunice (Dennis) Potts. She was born circa 1798, probably at Pottsville. It is not known if she married or had issue.
iii. **Sarah⁴ Potts**, was the daughter of Stephen³ and Eunice (Dennis) Potts. She was born circa 1799, probably in Pottsville. It is not known if she married or had issue. She served as sponsor for the adult baptisms of her nieces Marianne in 1843 and Margareta and Rebecca Sorber on 6 March 1853.

iv. **Mary Ann⁴ Potts**, b. c1800; was the daughter of Stephen³ and Eunice (Dennis) Potts. Nothing has been uncovered on Mary Ann.

v. **John⁴ Potts**, was the son of Stephen³ and Eunice (Dennis) Potts. He was born circa 1802, probably at Pottsville, Pennsylvania. It is not known if he married or had issue.

vi. **Rebecca⁴ Potts**, was the daughter of Stephen³ and Eunice (Dennis) Potts. She was born circa 1804. She married first, Dr. Augustus Kline. He died from stab wounds in Berks Co. inflicted by Adolph Hatfield, who was tried for the deed and condemned to the penitentiary. Rebecca (Potts) Kline married second in March, 1848, his brother, Rosendale Kline. She died 1849.

vii. **Edward⁴ Potts**, was the son of Stephen³ and Eunice (Dennis) Potts. He was born circa 1806. Mrs. James indicates that he removed to Natchez, Mississippi and died there. It is not known if he married or had issue.

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30. **Samuel³ Potts**, was the son of John² and Margaret (Carmick) Potts. Samuel was born c1766 probably at Philadelphia. Samuel and his family joined his father in Philadelphia during the British occupation in 1777-1778 and removed to New York City where they lived until 1783. In 1783, at age seventeen, Samuel returned to Philadelphia. In 1791, he became involved in managing the Dale Furnace in Berks County, which was built by a company comprised of his cousins. He lived in Pottstown at this time although he had apparently removed in 1795 to Sussex County Delaware. He married a cousin, Mary Hewes, at the Reformed Church at Falkner Swamp on 14 May 1797. Mary was the daughter of Caleb and Deborah (Pyewell) Potts Hewes and born 18 December 1767, probably in Philadelphia. She was baptized on 7 January 1768 in Philadelphia at Christ Church. In 1798 the family joined Exeter Quaker Meeting and became Friends and Exeter Meeting records indicate that Samuel and wife Mary and daughter Ruth Anna were received in membership 8mo 29, 1800.

On 5mo 28, 1800, Exeter Meeting records indicate that Samuel, Mary, Ruth Anna and son Edward were given a certificate to Muncy Meeting. In January 1801, Samuel’s estate was put up for sale containing a plantation adjoining Pottstown containing 80 acres, a large dwelling house, and six islands in the Schuylkill contiguous thereto. The family moved several times but eventually settled in Ohio. Mary (Hewes) Potts died and Samuel, as an older man, remarried Ann (Dewees) Potts, the widow of James Potts, son of his Uncle David, and daughter of William and Sarah (Waters) Dewees. Samuel died on 6 October 1850 and is buried at Springboro near Warren City, Ohio. The *Potts Memorial* indicates that like his brother he received a pension from the British, this is appears incorrect. Issue, six children.

i. **Ruth Anna⁴ Potts**, was the daughter of Samuel³ and Mary (Hewes) Potts. She was born 12mo 4, 1797. On 2mo 27, 1820, Aquilla Whitacre was given a certificate from the Miami Monthly Meeting to the White Water Monthly Meeting to marry Ruth Anna Potts. Miami Meeting records show that Aquilla was the son of Robert and Patience Whitacre of Warren County, Ohio and he was born 9mo 7, 1797. Later Day Saints ancestral files indicate he was born at Hopewell in Frederick County, Virginia. The marriage took place 5mo 27, 1820 and Ruth Anna returned to Warren County.

The family attended Miami Meeting and the births of their children are recorded there. The Miami Meeting was located on the Little Miami River in Warren County in south-west Ohio. Miami records indicate that Ruthanna Potts Whitacre died 6mo 12, 1838 and that the couple had nine children: Rebecca Potts⁵, born 10mo 30, 1821, married Benjamin Chandler, born 11 October 1820; Mary Potts⁵, born 1mo 1, 1824, married Mahlon Hollingsworth, who was born 24 February 1822; Jane⁵, born 2mo 25, 1825; Harriet⁵, born 6mo 10, 1827, died 10mo 23, 1848, married Marcellus Cook, born 1823; Edward⁵, 10mo 11, 1829; Ann⁵, also given as Martha Ann, born 8mo 11, 1831; Margaret⁵, born 6mo 6, 1834; Lydia⁵ born 7mo 31, 1836; and Lindley⁵, born 6mo 12, 1838, died 6mo 13, 1838.
Miami records indicate that on 5mo 5, 1844, Aquilla married as a second wife, Ann Cook, daughter of Abraham and Ruth Cook of Warren County. They had six children; the first girl being named Ruth Anna.

ii. Edward Garrigues4 Potts, son of Samuel3 and Mary (Hewes) Potts, was born 4 November 1799. On 10mo 26, 1821, Edward was given a certificate by the Flushing Meeting to Concord Meeting, Ohio to marry Abigail Newport. Concord Meeting records indicate on 11mo 28, 1821, Edward Garrigues Potts, son of Samuel and Mary of Belmont, Ohio married Abigail Newport daughter of Aaron and Mary (Cadwallader) Newport of Belmont. She was born 1 April 1802.

On 2mo 20, 1822, Abigail Potts was given a certificate from the Concord Meeting to the Flushing Meeting and on 4mo 26, 1822, Abigail was received by the Flushing Meeting. On 3mo 21, 1823, Edward, Abigail and son Alfred were given a certificate to Plainfield Monthly Meeting where they were received 7mo 24, 1823 and on 8mo 20, 1823 Edward Garrigues and wife Abigail and son Alfred were received at Concord Meeting on a certificate. Concord Meeting records show the birth of two children: Alfred5, born 9mo 12, 1822, married twice, first, a Miss Telgleman, second Mary A. Pope; and Oliver Goldsmith6, 12mo 21, 1824, married Lizzie Oliphant.

On 3mo 25, 1829, Edward, Abigail, Alfred and Oliver were given a certificate by Concord to Springborough MM. Short Creek Meeting Records indicate that on 7mo 22, 1828, Abigail Potts was disowned for joining Hicksites. Later Day Saints ancestral files indicate that the couple had seven additional children after the meeting disowned them: Mary5, born about 1827; Franklin5, born about 1829, married Sarah French; Lindley A.5, born about 1835, married Louise Fuller; Edith5, born about 1838, married Issac Botter (Butter or Butterworth); Jesse Newport5, born about 1841, married Alice Cowman in Baltimore, Maryland; Sabrina M.5, born about 1843, married Albert Hutton; and Charles Edward,5, born about 1845, married Adelia Jane Polley at Richmond, Indiana on 6 May 1868, died Orange County, California on 30 July 1922, buried Wichita, Kansas. Edward died on 21 December 1870 and his wife Adelia, died 23 December 1870. Eight children: Alfred6, Oliver5, Mary5, Lindley A.5, Franklin5, Edith5, Jesse Newport5, and Edward5 Potts.

iii. Deborah4 Potts, was the daughter of Samuel3 and Mary (Hewes) Potts. She was born 8mo 14 1801. She may have died young as she is mentioned in Concord Monthly Meeting records dated 11mo 18, 1806 but not mentioned in the family's 12mo 22, 1814 certificate of transfer to Plainfield Meeting. However, the 1820 Census for Wayne County, Indiana shows two females in the household under 20 and sister Ruth Anna had been married by the census.

iv. Rebecca4 Potts, daughter of Samuel3 and Mary (Hewes) Potts, was born before 4mo 4, 1804 when she appears on a certificate of that date from the Catawissa Monthly Meeting. Plainfield Monthly Meeting records indicate that on 4mo 26, 1826, Rebecca married Jesse Wood, son of Joshua and Hannah Wood, at St. Clairsville Meeting, Ohio.

v. Lindley4 Potts, son of Samuel3 and Mary (Hewes) Potts, was born between 4mo 23, 1805 and 11mo 18, 1806. Lindley was disowned by the Springborough Meeting for joining Hicksites 3mo 24 1829. Later Day Saints ancestral files indicate he married, spouse unknown, and they had three children: Samuel5, born about 1827; Ruthanna5, born about 1824; and Rebecca5, born about 1851.

vi. John4 Potts, son of Samuel3 and Mary (Hewes) Potts, was born between 11mo 18, 1806 and 12mo 22, 1814. He married on 16 December 1829, Mary Ann Newport. John was disowned by the Springborough Monthly Meeting for joining Hicksites, 3mo 24 1829. Later Day Saints ancestral files indicate that John and Mary Ann had three children: Caroline5, born about 1830, married Ira Thomas; Joseph H.5, born about 1832; and Mary Ellen5 Potts, born about 1835.

31. Mary Anna Potts, was the daughter of John and Margaret (Carmick) Potts. Mary Anna was born 1767-1768 probably in Chester County Pennsylvania.88 Mary Anna was raised at Stowe, the family home in Pottsgrove. In 1777/1778, she moved with her family to Philadelphia; and in 1779 to New York City. She had returned to Pottsgrove about 1782, after the death of her mother. She lived with her Uncle Samuel Potts’ family. Mary Anna married her first cousin, David3 Rutter, the son of Thomas Rutter and Martha3 (Potts) Rutter “on Thursday the Tenth Day of December On Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty Nine.” David was born 10 February 1766 and took over the management of Pine Forge in 1787 from his cousin Thomas Walker who was leasing. Rutter ran
the forge until about 1815 when his son John became involved. David Rutter died intestate on 5 April 1817 and Mary Anna and the remaining children moved to Pottstown. Mary Anna died there 22 September 1824 in Pottstown. Letters of Administration dated 11 March 1826, number 15868, are on file at the Montgomery County Courthouse. Issue, eleven children.

i. **Margaretta Potts Rutter**, was the oldest child of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. Margaretta was born at Pine, the manor house at Pine Forge, "on Sunday the Eighteenth Day of October One Thousand seven hundred and Ninety at Three O’Clock in the morning.” She married Dr. Samuel Heister of Chester County and had two children. Records at St. Gabriel's Protestant Episcopal Church in Morlatton, Douglassville, Berks County state that on 17 Oct 1815, Samuel Heister and Margaret Rutter, both of Montgomery County, were married there by the Rev. Levi Bull. "Margaretta P. Hiester, daughter of the before mentioned David & Mary Anna Rutter departed this life on the 2nd day of May A.D. 1820 in the 30th year of her age."

The Potts Memorial has her gravestone inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Margaretta P. Heister wife of Doct. Samuel Heister who departed this life May the 2nd 1820 in the 30th year of her age Leaving a beloved husband and two children to lament her loss. Therefore be ye also ready. Math. 24 chap. 44 verse." Not much is known about Samuel Heister. He lived in Coventry in Chester County across the river from Pottstown. There is a brief item in the Village Record dated 17 March 1824 concerning his sale of several horses which notes he lives "Near Schuylkill, Coventry township.” Dr. Heister remarried in 1854. The American Republican of Chester County dated 4 July 1854 indicates the following under Marriages: "On the 28th ult., by the Rev. E. M. Rutter, Saml. Heister, M.D., to Miss Catherine Detwiler, both of East Coventry township, Chester County.” Issue, two children: John Rutter and Mary Heister.

ii. **Ruth Anna Rutter**, was the daughter of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. The Rutter family Bible states that she was "Born on Sunday the Twelfth Day of August One Thousand Seven hundred and Ninety Two (1792) at Five O'Clock in the Afternoon." She married Samuel Potts, the son of Joseph and Sarah (Potts) Potts, in 1813.

Ruth Anna was left $60 by the 1810 will of her aunt, Ruth Anna (Rutter) Lindley. Records at St. Gabriel's Protestant Episcopal Church in Morlatton, Douglassville, Berks County state that on 17 October 1813, Samuel Potts and Ruth Anna Rutter, both of Montgomery County, were married there. Records at the church also indicate Ruth Anna was confirmed there with her brother John by the Rev. William DeHaven on 14 Sept 1813.

Samuel Potts was born on 13 March 1794. The early years of his life were spent in Pottstown. He removed to Philadelphia while a young man and for thirty-six years he held the office of chief clerk in the Mutual Assurance Company of Philadelphia. Ruth (Rutter) Potts died 9 October 1864. Samuel died in Philadelphia "suddenly while walking in the street,” 1 November 1869. Mrs. James states Ruth Anna died in Philadelphia five years before her husband and was buried in Pottstown. Her gravestone inscription from the Potts Burying ground is provided: "In memory of Ruth Anna wife of Samuel Potts daughter of David & Mary Ann Rutter Born Aug 12 1792 Died Oct 9 1864 Christ in you the hope of glory;" and "Samuel Potts Born March 13 1794 Died Nov 1 1869." Two memorial stained glass windows, #1 and #2, West side front to rear, containing their names are in Christ Episcopal Church on High Street in Pottstown. Issue, three children: Mary Anna, Samuel and Mary Ann Potts.

iii. **Thomas Rutter**, was the son of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. The family Bible states "Thomas Rutter was Born on Saturday the Seventh Day of March One thousand Seven hundred and Ninety Five at Six O’Clock in the Afternoon.” Thomas married twice; first to Catherine Boyer, and second to Catherine Ovenshine. Of all the children of David Rutter, Thomas is the least well known. The Norristown Herald dated 10 March 1819 noted his first marriage: "On Tuesday the 2d inst. by the Rev Slator Clay, Thomas Rutter, Jr., to Catharine, daughter of John Boyer, all of Pottstown.”

The Rutters may have been members of St. Gabriel's P.E. Church in Morlatton, Douglassville, Berks Co., because on 27 August 1820, David Rutter, son of Thomas and Catherine Rutter of Douglas Township, was baptized there. Thomas Rutter had two children by his first wife Catherine Boyer, both of whom died young: David and Sarah; and nine by his second wife Catherine Ovenshine:
Sarah, Mary Ann, Catharine, Charles, Charles, Charles, Henrietta, Samuel O. and Rebecca Rutter.

iv. John Potts Rutter, was the son of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. He was born at Pine, the family home and the family Bible noted his birth: "John P. Rutter was Born on Saturday the Thirteenth Day of January One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Seven at Ten O'clock in the Evening." On 22 January 1824 he married Emily Potts. John continued in the family vocation of iron making and at his father's death in 1815, took over the management of Pine Forge. John married in 1824. The family Bible states "John P. Rutter son of the above named David & Mary Anna Rutter and Emily Potts daughter of Joseph and Sarah Potts were married Thursday 22nd day of January A.D. 1824 by the Rev. Levi Bull." The Norristown Herald & Weekly Advertiser dated 28 January 1824 also noted the marriage: "On Thursday evening last, by the Rev. Levi Bull, John P. Rutter ESQ., of Pine Forge, Berks County, to Emily, daughter of Joseph Potts, of Pottsgrove, Montgomery Co." Bull was the minister of St. Gabriel's P.E. Church in Morlatton, Douglasville, Berks Co. Records there also state that John Rutter, and his sister Ruth Anna Rutter, were confirmed on 14 September 1813 by the Rev. William DeHaven. John and Emily Rutter became members of Christ Episcopal Church on High Street in Pottstown and annotations of their family baptisms, confirmations and burials can be found in church records. The Potts Memorial provides the following on John: "At this date (1824) he owned and occupied Pine, and carried on that forge until it was sold in 1843, when he removed to Pottstown, where his wife died March 30, 1867, and he survived her until April 13, 1870. Both are buried in the family graveyard."  

John probably took over the management of Pine Forge prior to his father's death in 1815 and he ran it for the next 28 years. In 1832, John was named executor for the will of Joseph Potts, Jr. About 1835, John with his brothers-in-law David and Henry Potts, erected Isabella Furnace on a branch of the Brandywine Creek, four miles northwest of Springton. John sold his interests in Pine Forge at public sale in April 1844. After he sold the forge, John, as did many of the Potts and Rutters, began working for the Pennsylvania Railroad of which his son-in-law, John D. Taylor, was then the Treasurer. His daughter Emily's obituary, which appeared in the Montgomery Ledger dated 28 July 1885 indicated: "Her father was for twenty-five or thirty years ticket and freight agent of the Reading Railroad Company at Pottstown...." Potts was an ardent abolitionist.

John and Emily Rutter attended Christ Episcopal Church in Pottstown where John served as a vestryman from 1845-49, and again from 1859-1862. (A picture of him hung at Christ Church, (1997) with those of other early vestrymen.) Family baptisms and confirmations are contained in the church records. Two memorial stained glass windows, #9 and #10, East side front to rear, with their names are at the church. Blake also indicates that the Church Bible, Prayer Book, and Alter Service were presented in memory of John P. and Emily Potts Rutter by their children on 20 December 1872. As mentioned, Emily (Potts) Rutter, John's wife, died at Pottstown in 1867. The Rutter Bible states "Mrs. Emily P. Rutter departed this life on the 30th of March 1867 in the 64th year of her age." John died in 1870. Mrs. James provides his obituary from the Montgomery Ledger of Pottstown dated 19 April 1870: "Died on the 12th instant, in this borough, John P. Rutter, aged seventy-three years two months and twelve days...." John and Emily were buried from Christ Church in Pottstown and are interred in the Potts Burying Ground in Pottstown. John Potts and Emily (Potts) Rutter had seven children. Listed under Emily Potts Number 27, vii. Most of these children were baptized at St. Gabriel's Church in Morlatton, Douglasville, Berks County.

v. Clement Stocker Rutter, was the son of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. The family Bible states "Clement Stocker Rutter was Born on the Fifteenth Day of January On Thousand Seven hundred Ninety Nine at Seven O'Clock in the Evening." He was born in Douglas Township at Pine Forge, Berks County, Pennsylvania. After their father's death in 1815, the family moved to Pottstown where Clement operated a grocery store. He remained living with his mother until her death in 1824. At that time he moved to Philadelphia and opened a grocery store there.

Clement married at Philadelphia on 20 April 1824, Letitia, daughter of Capt. David and Letitia Brown. Brown was a merchant seaman. Letitia died at Philadelphia 1 April 1837, aged thirty-three. Clement married second 8 November 1838, Sarah McCollom, daughter of Captain John and Mary.
Erwin McCollom. The Public Ledger dated 10 November 1838 had the following: "On the 8th inst. by Rev. John Coleman, Clement S. Rutter to Sarah, daughter of the late John McCollom, all of this city." McCollom was also a merchant sea captain. Clement quickly got into the shipping and importing end of the business and he had interests in ships and South American sugar and coffee plantations. He had several partners and he retired shortly after his son Robert's death in 1858.

Sarah (McCollom) Rutter died in Philadelphia on 4 December 1871 and Rutter died the following year in Philadelphia on 9 November 1872. Both were buried in the family plot at Trinity Church graveyard in south Philadelphia. The graves were relocated to Mount Moriah Cemetery in 1913.

The William B. Potts material at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania has several death notices/obituaries for Clement and Sarah. Two are identified as to paper, two are not. An undated, unmarked death notice, probably from a Philadelphia paper has the following for Sarah: "Rutter - On Monday morning, December 4th, 1871, Sarah, wife of Clement S. Rutter, aged 71 years. The relatives & friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 627 Spruce street on Thursday morning, 7th inst., at 12 o'clock."

Under deaths, the Philadelphia Press of 12 November 1872 had the following: "Rutter - on the 9th inst., Clement Stocker Rutter, in his 74th year. His relatives and male friends are invited to attend his funeral from his late residence 627 Spruce street on Tuesday morning, at 12 o'clock." The Montgomery Ledger of 12 November 1872 also had a death notice: "Clement S. Rutter, a brother of Charles S. Rutter, Esq. of Pottstown, and many years a resident of this borough, died in Philadelphia on Saturday last, in his 74th year." Finally, there is an unmarked obituary probably from a Philadelphia paper: "Clements Stocker Rutter died November 9th, aged seventy-three years. He was formerly a whole-sale grocer. Forty years ago he was in business at No. 246 South Second street (old number.) He afterwards was in Front street below Walnut, on his own account, and in partnership with Edward Patterson, as Rutter and Patterson."

Clement had five children by his first wife Letitia Brown: Mary Anne, David Brown, Robert Lewis, Levi Taylor, and Clement Stocker Rutter; and three by his second wife Sarah McCollom, only one living to adulthood; Sarah Josephine Rutter.

vi. David Rutter, was the son of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. The family Bible states "David Rutter was Born on the Twenty Third Day of December One Thousand Eight hundred at Seven O'clock in the Morning." Like his siblings, David was born at Pine. The following on David is from the Potts Memorial on page 299: "He received his degree of M.D. from the Univ. of Pa., 1823. The subject of his essay was 'Ardent Spirits.' He removed to Chicago, Ill., where he practiced medicine for many years...and died in Chicago, April 1866." (1865 is correct.) Records at St Gabriel's Protestant Episcopal Church in Morlatton, Douglasville, Berks Co. indicate that on 4 June 1815, David Rutter Jr., of Pottstown, Montgomery County, was baptized at the church by the Rev. Levi Bull. Records at the same church show David Rutter was confirmed there on 9 August 1819.

The Norristown Herald & Weekly Advertiser had the following on 10 September 1823: "Doctor Rutter has commenced the practice of Medicine and Surgery at Mr. Weidner's Inn at Evansburg." The same paper notes the following on 28 April 1824: "Dr. Rutter has removed his Shop to his place of residence at Samuel Jacoby's, Norristown." Davis, in his Centennial history of Pottstown, states in 1826 Rutter provided the July 4th oration in Pottstown. Clarence Erwin Pyle (his brother Clement's grandson) indicates his family always called David "Uncle Doctor." Pyle states that his children were all born in Chicago where he went to practice after nine years in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

The University of Pennsylvania General Alumni files contain a file on David filled out by his daughter Mary Ryerson Rutter. The file notes he was the son of David Rutter, owner and manager of Pine Forge, Berks County, Pennsylvania and Mary Ann Potts. He was born 23 December 1800 at Pine Forge and died 17 April 1865 in Chicago. He entered the University of Pennsylvania medical department in 1821 and graduated in the Class of 1823. David practiced medicine in Norristown and Pottstown for the next seven years and went to Philadelphia in 1830. He removed to Chicago in 1849 where he became a professor at the Chicago Medical School and in 1864 became associated with the Northwestern University.
David married on 4 Apr 1824, Isabella A. Crawford, daughter of Alexander Crawford of Norristown, Pa. David was listed as one of sixteen "citizens of the Commonwealth" who signed the charter of incorporation of Christ Church, Pottstown, on 30 April 1825. He was also one of the original seven vestrymen there. Isabella Rutter died in Philadelphia in 1834 and her death notice appeared in the Public Ledger dated 13 January 1834: "Died, 11th inst., Mrs. Isabella A.C., wife of Dr. David Rutter, in the 28th year of age." The first two children of David and Isabella, Alexander and Isabella, are buried in the Potts Burying Ground in Pottstown. David married secondly, Esther Turner Ryerson, daughter of Thomas Ryerson, an officer of the Continental Army and subsequently a merchant in Philadelphia.

David died in 1865 and the Philadelphia papers were alerted to his death by the Chicago Tribune dated 18 April 1865: "In this city, suddenly of apoplexy at one o'clock in the morning, April 17th, at his residence, Dr. David Rutter, M.D. in the 65th year of his age. Philadelphia and New York papers please copy." A handwritten, unmarked, copy of David's obituary appeared in the Thomson Potts Memorial but is undated and the paper is not given:

Obituary, Philadelphia (Pa) Newspaper, David Rutter, M.D. Death of an eminent Philadelphia physician. The Chicago papers contain the sad intelligence that Dr. David Rutter, long well known in Philadelphia, and highly esteemed as a successful practitioner of medicine, died of apoplexy on the 17th ult., We are well assured that his many friends, particularly in the southern part of the city, will hear with deep regret that they shall see his face no more....A very large number of friends escorted the remains from the late residence of the deceased to the Bishop's Church in the west division....At the termination of the funeral service in the church, the remains were borne to the city cemetery and interred in the family vault.

David had five children by his first wife Isabella Crawford: Alexander Crawford, John Rhea Bartram, Julieta, and Elizabeth Stocker Rutter; he had six children by his second wife Esther Turner Ryerson: Mary Ryerson, Joseph Ormsby, Anna (or Annie), Charles Lindley, Esther Elizabeth, and David Rutter.

vii. Mary Catherine Rutter, daughter of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. Her gravestone indicates her name was Mary-Catherine but the Rutter Bible has Mary Katherine. The Bible indicates "Mary Katherine Rutter was Born on the Twentieth Day of November One Thousand Eight hundred Two." She married Joseph Potts, son of Joseph and Sarah (Potts) Potts. She died 22 May 1858. Joseph Potts was born 17 February 1801. Joseph and Mary Catherine were married at St. Mary's Church, Chester County by the Rev. Dr. Bull, on 20 February 1823.

Records there indicate that Mary Catherine was buried from Christ Church in Pottstown on 24 May 1858 by the Rev. A. Christman. After Mary Katherine's death, Joseph married as a second wife, Elizabeth Mitchell of Philadelphia. He carried on the iron-works at Spring-Grove and Glasgow and died at the later place 13 May 1866. Joseph is buried at the side of his first wife at the Potts Burying Ground. The gravestone inscriptions for Mary Catherine and Joseph indicate the following: "Sacred to the memory of Mary Catherine wife of Joseph Potts and daughter of David & Mary Anna Rutter Born November 20 A.D. 1802 Died May 22 A.D. 1858 Be ye therefore ready also, for the son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not"; and "JOSEPH POTTS Born Feb'y 17 1801 Died May 13 1866. So he giveth his beloved sleep."

Joseph and Mary Catherine (Rutter) Potts had three children: John Rutter Potts, Mary Ann Potts, and Clement Rutter Potts.

viii. Martha Rutter, known in the family as Patty, was the daughter of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. Mrs. James indicates that Martha was born 18 November 1804 and married at age thirty-three, Major William Brooke. He died at Pottstown 7 October 1872 in the eighty-first year of his age. Brooke was born in 1791-2 and initially belonged to the Society of Friends. He became Episcopalian sometime prior to his marriage and William and Martha became members of Christ Episcopal Church in Pottstown. Records show William Brooke married Martha Rutter there on 18 October 1837. Residence (of whom?) is given at Pottsgrove Twp., Pottstown. Family baptisms, marriages and deaths were also recorded at the church. Records there indicate that Martha R. Brooke was confirmed by Bishop Potter on Whit Sunday, 1848.
William Brooke was born in Chester County at the Brooke Farm which was located in Limerick Township on the Schuylkill River about two miles below Pottstown. Known as the Schuylkill Farm, it lay along the valley at the point where Sprogell's Run empties in the Schuylkill River. (In 1992, the land was owned by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co.) A short biography of Brooke appeared in a *Public Ledger* article dated 5 August 1898 on his son, John Rutter Brooke. While the article was on his son, it provided the following information on his parents:

General Brooke's progenitors were characteristic types of early English settlers in Pennsylvania. John Brooke, the first of the family, immigrated from Yorkshire England, with his wife and two sons in 1699. He settled upon a tract of about 750 acres previously purchased from Penn...Matthew Brooke, the son of John, brought the present Brooke Farm and erected there, about 1765, a fine stone mansion...The mother of the present leader of the American forces was Miss Martha Rutter, daughter of David Rutter, of Pine Forge Works...

Major William Brooke, the General's father, was a character unique among men and bequeathed many of his sterling qualities to his distinguished son. He served in the War of 1812, but took no active part in the engagements. The military title of major was held in the local militia. Attending the meetings of the Society of Friends in Pottstown, the chief traits of his character were pugnacity, a strong will, and iron determination. Called by some 'a gentleman of the old school', he was a farmer from the cradle to grave, brusque, severe, and a disciplinarian who ruled his family with an iron hand. Major Brooke was an Old Line Whig, and his political prejudices and belligerent spirit were so ungentlemanly that may people in Pottstown still tell of an encounter he had with a political opponent on one occasion, which resulted in the major soundly cudgelling his opponent with his walking stick.

The traits which in the son have developed a general were wasted by the father in petty incidents of farm and village life.

Records at Christ Episcopal Church in Pottstown indicate Major William Brooke, aged 81 years, Pottstown, was buried 11 October 1872 in Edgewood Cemetery. Records there indicate Martha died five years later: Mrs. Martha Brooke, age 75, died at Pottstown of jaundice on 22 November 1878 and was buried at Edgewood cemetery 26 November 1878. Martha's death notice appeared in the West Chester *Local* dated 26 November 1878: "Brooke-At Pottstown, Montgomery county, on the 22d of November, Martha R., wife of the late Major William Brooke, in the 75th year of her age." Martha and William were buried at Edgewood Cemetery. Edgewood is located east of Pottstown and was established on land given by a relative, William Mintzer, in 1866. William and Martha (Rutter) Brooke had three children: John Rutter Brooke, Caroline Brooke and Anna Maria Brooke. ix. Lindley Charles Rutter, son of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. Genealogical information from "The Family Bible of The Reverend Lindley C. Rutter, Sr., (1807-1882) of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania," is on file at the Library of Congress. The Bible has the births, deaths and marriage dates of Lindley, his three wives and children. Lindley was born 3rd Sept 1807 at Pine Forge. He studied divinity, and became a Presbyterian minister. He married three times:

"On the evening of 15th Jun 1830 Lindley C. Rutter (was married) to Rebecca L. Montgomery by the Rev. J.N.C, Grier." Rebecca Stanley Rutter died on 22nd July 1831. One child resulted from this union. "On the evening of 27th June 1833 Lindley C. Rutter (married) to Matilda Postlethwait Anderson by the Rev. A.B. Quay." Matilda Postlethwait-Anderson was the daughter of William and Isabella Anderson and was born 14 March 1813. Matilda died on "Sabbath morning 20th April - 1834 - Aged 21 years." He married for the third time his cousin: "On the evening of the 23rd June 1835...Louisa Margaret Potts by the Rev. Saml G. Winchester." Louisa was the daughter of Benezet and Margaret (Tallman) Potts and was born 3rd April 1809.

There is a good sketch of Lindley found in the *Philadelphia Press* dated 10 January 1873 entitled "Boy Preacher of the West The Temperance Advocate." Lindley's obituary is found in the Thomson *Potts Memorial* and is from *The Presbyterian* dated 18 March 1882:

The Rev. Lindley C. Rutter, Sr., the oldest member of the Presbytery of Westminster, died at his residence in Chestnut Level, Lancaster county, Pa., on Sunday, March 5th, in his seventy-fifth year of his age. Mr. Rutter was born at Pine Forge, Berks county, Pa., September 3d, 1807. He received his early education at the Academy in Reading, Pa., of which Dr. John F. Grier was Principal, and which in those days was a well known and very useful institution. During this period he was converted and
Lindley had twelve children. He had one by his first wife Rebecca Montgomery: William Montgomery Rutter; one by his second wife Matilda Anderson, William Anderson Rutter; and ten by his third wife, Louisa Potts; Samuel Potts, Henry Tallman, Henrietta Tallman, Mary Catherine, Margaretta Louisa, John Clement, Lindley Charles, Anna E., Laura W., and Clarissa Brooke Rutter.

x. Charles Rutter, was the son of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. Mrs. James indicates Charles was born 24 April 1810, and married Mary Ann Ives, daughter of Jesse and Rebecca (Hockley) Ives. The Waynesburg Press dated Wednesday, March 5, 1834, noted his marriage: "On Tuesday evening, the 18th ult. by the Rev. George Mintzer, Mr. Charles Rutter, of Berks county, to Miss Mary Ann, only daughter of Jesse Ives, Esq., of Pottstown." Charles was a notary public and was a railroad enthusiast and collected "railroadiana." Charles and his family were members of Christ Church in Pottstown and with his brother David was one of the sixteen persons who signed the original charter. Rutter served as a vestryman there from 1875-1877. His picture hangs on the wall with other early vestrymen at Christ Church (1992) and he bears a striking resemblance to his brother, Clement. Records show he married Mary Ann Ives there on 23 March 1834 (which disagrees with the above.) Potts was active in the anti-slavery movement.

The William B. Potts material at the Pennsylvania Historical Society contains several unmarked obituaries of Rutter: "Rutter - at Pottstown, Dec. 27, 1887, Charles Rutter, in the 78th year of his age. Funeral from his late residence, on Friday, December 30, at 2 o'clock P.M." Also:

Death of Charles Rutter - A widely known citizen passes away in his 78th year. Charles Rutter died at his residence on Hanover street, Pottstown, on Tuesday afternoon. He had been sick and afflicted some two years or more, by both mental and bodily infirmities. He was a man of superior judgment and ability, and sometime an iron manufacturer, subsequently held an important position on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, but for the past eighteen or twenty years lived some what retired though filling very acceptably the office of notary public several times.

Charles Rutter worked for the Reading Railroad at Pottstown. Christ Church records record his wife's death. Mary Ann Rutter, aged 81 years, was buried from Christ Church on 5 March 1894 and interred at Edgewood Cemetery.

Charles and Mary Ann (Ives) Rutter had eight children: William Ives, Elizabeth Wills, Samuel Hockley, Marielle Ryerson, Anna Margareta, Charles Francis, John Osborne, and Mary Hockley Rutter.

xi. Samuel Potts Rutter, was the youngest child of David and Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter. The family Bible states "Samuel Rutter was born on Monday the Fifteenth day of November On thousand Eight hundred Thirteen about Six O'clock in the Morning." Samuel's father died when Samuel was three and his mother died when he was eleven. He lived with Clement Stocker Rutter and his family until adulthood and moved to Philadelphia with them about 1825. He married 1837. The Public Ledger dated 6 March 1837 noted his marriage: "On the 2d inst. by the Rev. Samuel Brainard, D.D., Samuel P. Rutter to Jane Kniffer, daughter of Isaac B. Bazter, all of this City." The Potts Memorial indicates he was married by the Rev. Thomas Brainard on 2 March 1837 to Jane Kniffen, the
daughter of Isaac and Hester Baxter of Philadelphia. *Elroy's Philadelphia Directory* for the year 1849 lists him as a clerk living at 26 German Street. Samuel's obituary appeared in the *Montgomery Ledger* dated 19 January 1886:

Samuel Potts Rutter died on Wednesday evening of paralysis, at his home, 405 South Forty-first street, Philadelphia, after an illness of fifteen months. He was in his 73d year. For the past forty years the deceased held a responsible position in the Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank of Philadelphia. Prior to that time he was engaged in the grocery business in the southern section of the city. Mr. Rutter was for twenty years a vestryman of Trinity Episcopal Church, Southwark, and subsequently was a member of Trinity Church, West Philadelphia.

Samuel Potts Rutter was born at Pine Iron Works, Berks county, November 13, 1813 (The Rutter Bible states November 15 is correct.), and was the son of David and Mary Ann Rutter, his father being a prominent iron manufacturer. He was the youngest of eleven children, of whom is brother, the venerable Charles Rutter, of Pottstown, the next youngest is now the only survivor. Of these eleven children, seven were sons and four daughters...Samuel Potts Rutter, whose decease occurred in Philadelphia on Wednesday, was a most excellent, intelligent and estimable man. He was well known to many of the older citizens of Pottstown. His wife, three sons and two daughters survive him. The date of his funeral we have not heard as yet.

Samuel Potts and Jane (Baxter) Rutter had seven children: Letitia⁵, Isaac Baxter⁵, David⁵, Thomas Baxter⁵, Heister Kniffen⁵, Anna Potts⁵, Samuel⁵ and Lindley⁵ Rutter Potts.
FOOTNOTES


2 John Pott’s year of birth is routinely given as 1710. This is derived from his age at death as given on his tombstone at Pottstown: “Here Lieth the body of JOHN POTTS who departed this life the 6 day of June 1768 Aged 58 years.” However, depending on his month of birth, his year of birth could have been either 1709 or 1710. The birthdates of his two older sisters are provided in Philadelphia Meeting records but his is not.


4 James, Mrs. Thomas Pott (Isabella Batchelder), *The Memorial of Thomas Potts Junior*, Privately Printed, Cambridge, Mass., 1874, p. 92. Called the *Potts Memorial*, this early genealogy has been, and still is, the definitive genealogy on the John Potts family of Pottstown and is the document from which most Potts genealogical data is derived. While somewhat uneven in her presentation of the early iron industry in general and Thomas Rutter’s and Thomas Pott’s role in it specifically, genealogically speaking, the work is for the most part accurate.

5 For more information on Ruth Savage’s family, see my 2004 genealogy, *Samuel Savage Sr. (c1655-1707), Stonemason, and his Descendants of Philadelphia, Berks and Chester Counties, Pennsylvania, Through Four Generations*. Through his marriage to Ruth, John Pott eventually obtained and consolidated the Rutter, Savage and Nutt iron holdings which became the foundation for his iron empire.


7 James, *Potts Memorial*, p. 51.

8 Indenture, “McCall to John Potts,” Pottstown Historical Society.

9 William Baird Potts, *Potts Genealogy*, Pottsgrove Manor copy, c 1855, p. 163, given here after as “W.B. Potts Genealogy.” Several hand copied versions of this genealogy exist, each different, depending on the family information known by the author.


13 James, *The Potts Memorial*, p. 243.


15 The dates of birth for the first nine children of John and Ruth (Savage) Pott were copied from an “old Bible of John Pott and Ruth Savage his wife” that Mrs. James also had access to. The Bible information used here was taken from a transcription currently at Pottsgrove Manor by Anna Pott Rutter Weaver(?) done June 16th, 1911. She notes the Bible “was given to my dec father John David(?) Rutter by his cousin William S[mith] Hobart. Thru my father I am descended from David & Martha Pott…. ” The whereabouts of the actual Bible is unknown.
16 James, The Potts Memorial, p. 124.

17 Letters of Attorney, D-2, #6, pp. 187-188, Testimony of “Thomas Meredith of East Nantmel Township” and “William Ridge of Coventry Township.”


19 “A List of the Names of the Persons Who have taken the Oath and Affirmation of Allegiance to this Commonwealth before me...T. Taylor”, original document, Chester County Historical Society.


21 See my 2002 Robert May (1750-1812) and Family: Ironmaster of Elkton, Maryland and Coventry, Pennsylvania, With a Short History of Coventry Forge, Chester County, Pennsylvania, for an extensive sketch on May and his family.

22 See the 2003 paper entitled Elk Forge (1761-1841): Cecil County, Maryland, for a more complete discussion on Elk Forge and the May family’s role in its management and ownership.


24 Cecil County Land Deeds, No. 16, p. 327.


31 “Gilpin Register,” Isaac G. Gilpin’s Day Book, 1804-1829, MS 1782, p. 4, Chester County Historical Society.

32 The births of the May children are taken from the Gilbert Cope Collection at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania which contains two pages on the Robert May, Sr. family. Since birth times are given, it appears
Cope copied the information from a Bible, possibly Robert May’s (1750-1812), but what specific information, if any, came from a Bible and what Cope obtained orally is unknown. There was a family Bible, as May’s mother, who died in 1776, left son Robert “the Large family Bible” in her will. Two of Robert May’s children lived in West Chester as adults when Cope did and he could have obtained the personal family information from them. The Cope document remains the closest material uncovered on the family to primary genealogical information.

33 Bull Collection, “Biographical Sketch of Thomas Potts May,” Chester County Historical Society.

34 James, The Potts Memorial, p. 280.


37 Chester County Deed, R-3, p. 478.

38 James, The Potts Memorial, p. 281.


42 Futhey and Cope, p. 654.

43 James, The Potts Memorial, pp. 281-282.

44 Blake, pp. 35-37.


46 James, The Potts Memorial, p. 282.


48 James, The Potts Memorial, pp. 282-283.

49 Futhey and Cope, p. 720.

50 Futhey and Cope, p. 278.


52 Pennsylvania Archives, 2s, v8, p. 205.

53 Pennsylvania Archives, 2s, v8, p. 205.

54 Pennsylvania Archives, 2s, v9, p. 727.

55 Ibid, 2s, v9, p. 713.
Technically, Warwick made cannon for the Provincial government of Pennsylvania. Captain Daniel Joy supervised these activities. Robert Treat Paine arranged with Hopewell and Cornwall (Grubb's) Furnaces for Continental cannon manufacture. “Continental” meant under the control of Congress or George Washington. Warwick and Reading Furnace were under the Pennsylvania Council of Safety (Franklin, Rittenhouse, and all representatives of the various parts of the state.) Since there was no unified national government, each province (state) felt responsible for its own defense. However, in the everyday working out of problems, there was little difference about who got what and Treat and Joy worked together.


“Sam’l Potts to George Washington,” General Manuscript Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Chester County Historical Society, "A List of the Names of the Persons Who have taken the Oath and Affirmation of Allegiance to this Commonwealth before me...T. Taylor", original document.


The *Pennsylvania Gazette*, 7 January 1789, and 14 January 1789.

There is a biographical sketch of David Potts in the *Pennsylvania Biographical Encyclopedia*

See article by Cyrus T. Fox in the *Reading Eagle* dated 5 November 1916 entitled: “Thos. May Potts and Loyal Sons, Ironmasters of Warwick Region” for more information on the Thomas May Potts’ family.

*Pennsylvania Archives*, 2s, v8, p. 205.

A good article on this John Potts and his family by Cyrus T. Fox appeared in the *Reading Eagle* dated 7 January 1917 entitled: “Berks Ironmasters in the South; Potts Family Virginia Branch.”

The Hagley Library and Museum has a large collection of John Potts correspondence between John Potts and his brother-in-law, Robert E. Hobart, of Portstown and Philadelphia. It chiefly relates to the Keepryst Furnace on the Potomac River in Berkeley County, Virginia (later Jefferson County, West Virginia), and the Copper Mine Company of Pennsylvania (with operations near Morgantown, Berks County, PA); together with other letters, deeds, surveys, and accounts. Call Number 0031, Business Papers of John Potts, 1767-1830.


Pennsylvania Archives, 2s, v8, p. 774.

I covered the Joseph Potts family in some detail in “Glasgow Forge (c1750-c1848) of Montgomery County,” Vol. XXXIII, No. 4, Spring 2001, the *Bulletin of the Historical Society of Montgomery County*. 
There is a biographical sketch of Henry Potts in the *Pennsylvania Biographical Encyclopedia*.

See *Descendants of Robert Enoch Hobart*, by William Ives Rutter, privately printed, New York, 1912. Hobart’s brother was an Episcopal minister and became Bishop of the State of New York. He was the founder of Hobart College in Geneva, New York. He died in Fishkill, New York in 1847 and had one son, Dr. William Henry Hobart.


Rutter, William Ives, *Descendants of Robert Enoch Hobart*, privately printed, New York, 1912, pp. 561-62. This small book was printed by Rutter who noted: “The foregoing pages are an Extract from Volume V of the Archives of the General Convention, Edited by the Rev. Arthur Lowndes, D.D. Six copies have been printed and bound separately.” One of the copies is at The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.


Pennsylvania Archives, 2s, v2, p. 234 and s2, v8, p. 205.


*Pennsylvania Archives*, 2s, v8, p. 611.

*The Picket Post*, July 1946, p. 36.


See Daniel A. Graham, *The David Rutter (1766-1817) and Mary Anna Potts (c1767-1824) Family of Pine Forge, Douglass Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania*, June 2001 for an extensive sketch on the Rutter and his family through four generations.

James, *The Potts Memorial*, p. 364.

James, *The Potts Memorial*, p. 297.

The forge property was sold to Joseph Bailey of Chester County, who was then an in-law and iron manufacturer and in-law with the Lukens Iron and Steel Company. The forge itself, built in 1720, which had not been in use for a number of years, was in a dilapidated condition. Bailey removed to the property and lived at the manor house. He spent the next year making repairs to the house and grist mill. He then rebuilt the dam in
the creek and tore down the old Pine Forge using the stone to build a rolling mill for the making of plate iron. Named the Pine Forge Iron Works, the company produced plate for the next fifty years under Bailey family management. The property was sold on 15 May 1907 to Mrs. Mary E. Rutter, widow of John Rutter's nephew, who moved her family from Chicago and lived there.

92 Blake, p. 37.

93 Clarence Erwin Pyle, *Brief History The Pyle Family*, privately printed, 1943. Pyle’s genealogy, which was hand-typed, contains many anecdotes about the Potts and Rutter families. A copy resides at The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

94 This David Rutter, born 13 October 1846, married Mary Elizabeth McMurtrie. The couple had three children: William McMurtrie, Lynn Ryerson, and Rhea Bartram Rutter. David died in Chicago on 8 October 1891 and in 1909, Mary Elizabeth Rutter purchased Pine Forge from the Bailey heirs and moved her family there. Son William married Lucia Osborn Ford and had four children: Peter, Elizabeth, Martha and Thomas. William obtained the property prior to his mother’s death and about 1918, added the addition on the right side of the structure. Lucia Rutter died in 1938 and William sold Pine Forge in 1943. See also *Reading Mercury* dated 9 March 1940.

95 John Rutter Brooke had a distinguished career in the military, retiring in 1902 as the army’s senior general and commander of the Department of the East. He was succeeded in this position by General Arthur McArthur, Douglas McArthur’s father. Brooke entered the service as a Captain of Volunteers from Chester-Montgomery Counties. After the first Bull-Run, Brooke raised a regiment at the request of Governor Curtin which was named the Fifty-Third Pennsylvania. This regiment was attached to the Army of the Potomac with Brooke as Lt. Colonel. It saw service at second Bull-Run, Fredericksburg, Antietam, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania Court House, the Wilderness, Cold Harbor and Appomattox. Brooke was wounded four times and brevetted three times for his actions at Gettysburg, Spotsylvania Courthouse and Cold Harbor.


97 M. Auge, *Lives of the Eminent Dead and Biographical Notices of Prominent Living Citizens of Montgomery County*, Published by the Author, Norristown, 1879.
4. **MARTHA**² POTTs; was the eldest daughter of John³ and Ruth (Savage) Potts. She was born “March the 31st about five of the Clock in the afternoon A.D. 1740” at Colebrook Dale Furnace. Martha became a Friend later in life. On 20 February 1759 she married Thomas Rutter III. The Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg married the couple "by authority of license at Potts Grove."¹ Rutter was an ironmaster and part owner of Colebrook Dale Furnace. He was the only son of Thomas II and second wife Mary Catherine (Ghiselin) Rutter and the grandson of Thomas Rutter (1660-1730) the founder of the Pennsylvania iron industry. He was born January 1732 and baptized shortly after at Christ Church, Philadelphia. Thomas removed to Colebrook Dale Furnace, (which he had received one third of from his father’s will), Berks County in 1753 and became a partner to Thomas Potts II (c1720-1762) there. He served as a Berks County Commissioner from 1756 to 1759. In 1756 Rutter also served as lieutenant for a company of Douglass Township militia.

The couple took up housekeeping at Colebrook Dale Furnace and they lived at Popodickon, the manor house there that they had been given by John Potts. Rutter ran the furnace after Thomas Potts’ death in 1762 and also took over management of Spring Forge. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1764 and he retained his commission until the Revolutionary War.

In 1770, the family moved to Pottstown to a small farm called Laurel Lodge. At the same time Rutter purchased one-half interest in Warwick Furnace from his brother-in-law Samuel Potts and they remained partners until their deaths. In November 1775, Rutter and his partner Samuel Potts contracted with the Pennsylvania authorities to make cannon at their Warwick Furnace. The “Minutes of the Council of Safety” for 25 November 1775 record this agreement. The "Minutes of the Council of Safety", from a meeting held at "PHILD’A., 30th March, 1776, indicate: "Messrs. Samuel Potts & Thomas Rutter having engaged with the Board to cast a Number of Canon for use of this Province & requiring a sum of Money as an advance for putting their Works in proper order, By order of the Board, an order was drawn on Michael Hillegas, Esq'r, in their favor, for the sum of one thousand Pounds.²

The "State of the Accounts of Michael Hillegas, Provincial Treasurer" show that Potts and Rutter were given their funds sometime between the 30 June 1776 account, where the payment does not appear, and the 18 November 1776 account where the following is listed: "Samuel Potts and Thomas Rutter, per Order of the Committee of Safety, 1000 pounds This appears to be the money the Council of Safety voted on 30 March to put their works in order.”³ Warwick made cannon and munitions for the American Army during the war.

After the war, he was involved in a company that built Joanna Furnace in 1791 on Hay Creek in western Berks County. He also purchased an interest in Rebecca Furnace in Chester County and he was involved in buying anthracite coal lands in northern Berks County. Thomas died at his home in Pottstown on 7 May 1795. His will (Montgomery County, in Book 1, p. 458) was signed 5 March 1795, was taken for probate 25 May 1795. The notice of his death appeared in **Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser** dated 28 May 1795. It noted that he was interred 10 May 1795. Martha sold the Pottstown property in 1800 and moved to Philadelphia. She lived with her son, Samuel. Martha died testate there 1 October 1804 and is buried with her husband at the Potts burial ground in Pottstown.
notice of her death appeared in *Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser* dated 13 October 1804 and in *Relf’s Philadelphia Gazette*:

Died, on the 1st instant, in the sixty-fifth year of her age, Mrs. Martha Rutter, relict of the late Thomas Rutter, Esq., and her remains were interred in the family burying-ground at Pottsgrove, attended by a numerous concourse of mourning relatives, friends, and acquaintances. The deceased was for a number of years afflicted with a severe and painful indisposition which she sustained with uncommon fortitude and Christian resignation. It can with great truth and sincerely be said she possessed and practiced in an eminent degree every virtue requisite to adorn the female character.

Her will is filed in Philadelphia Will Book L, 1804, #88, page 243. She was buried next to her husband Thomas and son John at the Potts burying ground. Issue, six children and twenty-seven grandchildren.

**32. John Rutter**, was the son of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Rutter. He was born 30 May 1760 at Colebrook Dale Furnace where he was raised. John was in the iron business and was an ironmaster at Joanna Furnace. He died intestate 5 November 1794 at Pottstown; not married; perhaps issue. His obituary appeared in *Dunlap’s Daily American Adviser* dated 12 November 1794: “On the 5th instant, departed this life, at the seat of his father, in Pottsgrove, Mr. John Rutter, in the 35th year of his age. Of the gentleman it may be truly said, that his aged parents have lost an affectionate son, his numerous acquaintances a most valuable friend. With uncommon patience he long endured a debilitating complaint, and at last met death with resignation and tranquility of mind.” He is buried at the Potts graveyard in Pottstown. No Letters of Administration granted.

**i. James Rutter**, probable child of John Rutter relationship not established. James was born 1780-1 and died 24 May 1869. He was a tanner. James was perhaps a grandson of Thomas Rutter and Martha Potts. His kinship and ancestry are not known via primary sources, but it is conjectured that he may have been the illegitimate offspring of John Rutter, the son of Thomas. This is based on the wording of Thomas Rutter’s 1795 will regarding “legal” grand-children and the fact Rutter’s estate accounting shows James was receiving money from the estate. Rutter is also referred to “James Rutter of Pottstown” in the description of the Faust Tannery which Rutter once owned.

In 1796, James was apprenticed to a tanner in Bucks County and his expenses were underwritten by the Thomas Rutter estate although he was not named in the will. The Montgomery County courthouse files contain the original and lengthy handwritten inventory accounting of belongings and expenses of Rutter’s estate. The following appeared toward the end of the list of expenses accounted for by the executors:

October 1796, £7, cash paid James Rutter to pay “his expenses to Bucks and cloaths.” August 1797, pay £2 Mrs. Rutter which she gave “James Rutter for cloaths.” December 1797, £4 to “Sam Fell for making cloaths for James Rutter. Sam Fell was a Quaker tailor of Buckingham Township, Bucks County. Rutter was perhaps apprenticed to Isaiah Jones a Quaker tanner in the same township and the 1800 Census shows 3 males between 16-26 years old in his household.

James eloped before February 1802 with Mary Good, daughter of Edward and Eleanor (Harris) Good of Plumstead Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Mary was born 21 Oct 1775 and died in 3 May 1853.

Buckingham Monthly Meeting censured Mary for marrying out of unity, but she retained her membership. It is probable that James Rutter worked for the Thomas Tannery in Ambler Township until the owner, Jonathan Thomas, died in 1808. James was one of the “twelve free men and lawful of bailwick” appointed in 1809 to settle the division of the Jonathan Thomas estate equitably. These jurors decided the lands and tannery could not be divided without prejudice and spoiling the whole so they set off the house and acreage for the widow Alice; Thomas’ third; and acreage for the eldest child David Thomas. On 2 April 1810, James Rutter paid £1515 for the Thomas Tannery. His land
extended along the Butler Road and he owned the property for 41 years. The Thomas estate was settled 13 November 1810 with and accounting which included: “Rents received from James Rutter not appraised $213.33”; and “1 August 1810, also paid to James Rutter $46.44.”

Subsequent purchases took place in 1813 and 1814. In these deeds, filed in Montgomery County, James is termed a tanner and farmer. James Rutter, age 31 was listed as a private on the 1810-11 roster of Enlisted Militia of Upper Dublin Township, Montgomery County. He is listed in the 7th Company, 56th Regiment of the Pennsylvania Militia. Tax records for Upper Dublin for 1811 list James Rutter as owning 25 acres and a tan yard. By 1829, he had 34 acres and the tan yard.

Mary Rutter and her five minor children joined Upper Dublin Meeting in 1816. There is no record of James having formally joined Friends but he is buried with Mary at Upper Dublin Friends burial ground. James remained a farmer and tanner in Upper Dublin Township. James’ eldest daughter, Margaret and her husband Jonathan Shoemaker, died in 1827 and James and Mary were given their children to raise. Mary (Good) Rutter died in 1853. James sold the farm in 1855 and by 1860 was living in the Philadelphia home of his daughter Jane (Rutter) Winder.

James Rutter died in Philadelphia in 1869. The Public Ledger dated 26 May 1869 had the following: “James Rutter on the evening of the 24th instant in the 89th year of his age. His relatives and friends are invited to attend his funeral from 113 Laurel Street on Fifth-day morning 27th at 7 o’clock. To proceed to Upper Dublin by North Pennsylvania Railroad.” James and Margaret Rutter had seven children: Margaret, Ellinor, John, Ruthanna, Elizabeth, Thomas, and Jane Rutter.

33. Mary Katherine Rutter, was the daughter of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Rutter. She was born 23 May 1762 at Colebrook Dale Furnace. The family moved to small farm near Pottsgrove called Laurel Lodge when she was about eight and she was raised there. She was married by the Rev. Henry Muhlenberg 5 March 1782 at Laurel Lodge in Pottsgrove to John Clement Stocker, son of Anthony and Margaret Stocker. Muhlenberg’s Journal of 5 March 1782 has the following:

In the afternoon Thomas Rutter, Esq., sent his son to take me to Pottstown in his phaeton. The road was dreadfully deep and muddy; we set out at half pass two and arrived before nightfall. I lodged with Mr. [Samuel] Potts, and at seven o’clock in the evening, in the presence of a large company in Squire Ruther’s house, I married young Mr. John Clement Stocker, merchant of Philad, and Mary Catherine Ruther, a daughter of Squire Ruther, with a license from President Moore, Esq., dated February 28, a.c. About eight o’clock I returned to my lodgings at Mr. Potts’s because the din made me dizzy.”

Records at Christ Church show Stocker was born in Philadelphia on 18 February 1760 and was baptized on 2 June 1760 there. John’s older sister Anna married James Potts, Mary Katherine’s uncle, in 1788. Stocker lived in Philadelphia where he was a successful merchant. John held several positions of both religious and public nature. He was a vestryman at St. Peter’s and at St. James’ Churches. He was an alderman in Philadelphia, one of the directors of the Pennsylvania Bank and also the Pennsylvania Insurance Company. Stocker was enumerated on the 1790 Census and is shown as a merchant on Pine Street in Philadelphia. John died testate there 12 October 1813. His obituary appeared in the Thursday, 14 October 1813 Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser.

Departed this life on the 12th instant, in the fifty-third year of his age, John Clement Stocker, Esq., whose death is sincerely deplored by his relatives and friends, and will doubtless be justly and deeply lamented by the community; for in every relation of social life he was exemplarily affectionate and attentive, in every public appointment he was eminently faithful and useful. He discharged with unrivalled fidelity and attention the duties attached to an alderman of the city, a director of the Pennsylvania Bank and Pennsylvania Insurance Company, and a vestryman of the Episcopal churches of Saint Peter’s, Christ Ch., and St. James.

The high degree of merit attached to the character of the deceased renders his death a severe public as well as domestic loss; for his liberal and extensive patronage to the poor, his firmness, zealous and undeviating patriotism, his unimpeached and incorruptible integrity, his courteous, cheerful, and
mild deportment, rendered him as amiable and exemplary in private as he was correct and beneficient in public life.

The friend who offers this record of his virtues has long been intimately acquainted with his character, and as long experienced his kindness. 'When such friends part, 'tis the survivor dies.' Mary Katherine (Rutter) Stocker died shortly after on 28 November 1813 at Philadelphia. Her obituary appeared in the 30 November 1813 Poulson's American Daily Advertiser.

Died, suddenly, by apoplexy, on Sunday last, Nov. 28, in the fifty-first year of her age, Mrs. Mary Katherine Stocker, relict of the late John Clement Stocker, Esq., whose, decease we announced on the 13th ultimo. Thus are the surviving children bereaved of both their parents within the short period of a few weeks. Such afflictive dispensations of Divine Providence call loudly upon all who are informed of them to 'consider their ways,' the uncertainty of life, and the high responsibility of man. Of Mrs. Stocker it may be truly said, that her unselfish and exalted purity, her amiable and affectionate disposition, her kind and courteous deportment, rendered her inestimably valuable to her relatives and friends, and endeared her to all who had the privilege of her acquaintance. Such was the blameless tenor of her life, and such her habitual meditation on the inevitable approach of death, that -his coming to terminate her state of probation, though executed without warning, did not find her unprepared; for her spiritual lamp was always burning with a bright and steady flame.

Both are buried at Christ Church, issue, six children, all born in Philadelphia, and twenty-one grandchildren.

i. Anthony Stocker, was the son of John Clement and Mary Katherine (Rutter) Stocker was “Born December 23 1782 baptized by the Rev. R. Blackwell.” The Stocker Bible states the following: “Anthony Stocker and Elizabeth Hamilton Clark of Portsmouth, New Hampshire were married on the 19th of October 1813.” He died without issue in Philadelphia 24 February 1832, and was buried in Christ Churchyard. His widow married for her second husband, Robert Walsh, well known for his literary pursuits, and for his long service as U. S. Consul in France.

ii. Thomas Daniel Stocker, was the son of John Clement and Mary Katherine Stocker. “Thomas Daniel Stocker Son of J. Clement & Mary K. Stocker was Born January 2, 1785, baptized by the Rev. W. White.” He died at age five. The Bible notes: “Thomas Daniel Stocker the above mentioned departed this Life Jany 19th 1790 Aged 5 years and 17 days.” No issue.

iii. John Clement Stocker, was the son of John Clement and Mary Katherine (Rutter) Stocker. The family Bible indicates he was “Born August 30th 1786, baptized by the Rev. R. Blackwell.” He married Caroline Tousard, the daughter of General Louis Tousard, 30 August 1808. The Potts Memorial has the following:

In a letter of Washington to Lafayette, 1778, is the following: "I am sorry for Monsieur Tousard's loss of an arm in the action on Rhode Island; and offer my thanks to him through you for his gallant behavior on that day." A note to the text of Sparks' Life of Washington is as follows: " M. Tousard was a French officer attached to the family of the Marquis de la Fayette. In the action on Rhode Island he rushed forward very courageously in advance of the troops, when an attempt was made to take a cannon, and found himself surrounded by the enemy. His horse was killed under him, and he lost his right arm, but escaped from capture. As a reward for this brave act, Congress granted him the rank of lieutenant-colonel by brevet, and a pension of $30 a month for life."

John died 28 July 1833. Caroline died in 1877. Her death notice appeared in a Philadelphia paper: “Stock - On August 5th, 1877, in the 89th year of her age, Louise Caroline Françoise, daughter of the late Col. Anne Louise de Tossard, of Paris, France and widow of the late John Clements Stocker, Esq., of this city. Her relatives and friends are invited to attend her funeral at St. Peter’s Church, Third and Pine streets on Wednesday Morning next at 11 o’clock precisely.”


iv. Martha Rutter Stocker, was the daughter of John Clement and Mary Katherine (Rutter) Stocker. She was called Patty by the family. The family Bible indicates: "Patty Rutter Stocker, Daughter of J. Clement and Mary K. Stocker was Born March 11th 1789 baptized by the Rev. M. Bend.” She married Robert Morton Lewis, 23 February 1815. Poulson's American Daily Advertiser
of 25 February 1815 noted the marriage. The family Bible notes: “Patty Rutter Stocker and Robert M. Lewis were Married the 23d February 1815 by the Rev. James Abercrombie.” It also states: “Robert Morton Lewis, son of William & Rachel Lewis was born August 20th 1786 at 4 o’clock A.M.” Robert Lewis died in 1855 and the Stocker Bible notes the following: “Robert Morton Lewis died February 18th 1855 at 2 ½ o’clock P.M. aged 68 year & 11 months. Martha died in Philadelphia in 1868. The family Bible notes: Martha R. Lewis died January 26, 1868 at 10 ½ o’clock A.M. aged 78 years 10 months.” Issue, five children: Mary Stocker, Julia Wharton, Margaret Stocker, Clement Stocker and Robert Wharton Lewis.

v. Mary Katherine Stocker, was the daughter of John Clement and Mary Katherine (Rutter) Stocker. The family Bible notes she was “Born August 6th 1792.” The Bible also notes she “departed this Life October 22d 1793. Aged 14 Months & 10 days.” She was buried in the Potts burial ground in Pottstown. Her tombstone notes the following: “Mary Stocker departed this life 22 Oct. 1793, Aged 4 months and 10 days.”

vi. Anna Maria Stocker, was the daughter of John Clement and Mary Katherine (Rutter) Stocker. She was born in Philadelphia 6 July 1798. She married in Philadelphia, Lawrence Lewis, 4 December 1817. Pouls'n's American Daily Advertiser of 9 December 1817 noted the marriage. Lawrence Lewis died sometime before 1879. Anna Maria died in April 1879. Her obituary from an unmarked Philadelphia paper indicates the following: “Lewis – On Friday Morning, the 11th instant, Anna Maria, widow of the late Lawrence Lewis, in the 81st year of her age. Funeral services at St. Peter’s Church, Third and Pine streets, on Monday, the 14th inst., at 4 o’clock precisely.” Issue, six children: Mary Katherine, Stocker, Lawrence, William Mortimer, Robert Morton, and Francis A. Lewis.

34. Samuel Rutter, was the son of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Rutter. He was born 14 January 1764 probably at Colebrook Dale Furnace. He joined Friends at Philadelphia Meeting shortly before his marriage there 5 July 1787 to Sarah Jones, daughter of Owen and Susanna (Evans) Jones. Samuel served in a Philadelphia Militia company during the war. He was enumerated on the 1790 Census in Philadelphia as a merchant on Pine Street and was a member of the Philadelphia Meeting Southern District (PMSD). Rutter’s cousin David Potts managed Joanna Furnace from 1792 to 1796 when he moved to Warwick Furnace. From 1796 to 1798 Samuel was the manager. Rutter declared bankruptcy and eventually removed to Philadelphia where he again became a merchant. In 1800 his mother moved in with him. Samuel died testate in Philadelphia in 1809 and was buried 12 September 1809. His will filed at Philadelphia in Will Bk. K, No. 164, p. 357. Sarah (Jones) Rutter died 6 August 1830 at Philadelphia. Issue, five children, no grandchildren.

i. Susanna Jones Rutter, was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Jones) Rutter. Mrs. James indicates that Susanna and her brother Owen were burned to death and were buried in the family graveyard at Pottstown. Their gravestones contain only their names. Susanna was inoculated "for the smallpox on 9th day of the 10th month 1789 by Dr. John Jones and had the disorder favorably." She died between the date of the inoculation and 4mo 22, 1795, when the records at the PMSD note a certificate of transfer to another meeting for Samuel and wife Sarah which listed only two children; Thomas and Martha. She was burned to death with her brother.

ii. Thomas Rutter, was the son of Samuel and Sarah (Jones) Rutter. Records on file at the PMSD indicate that Thomas Rutter was born 8mo 29, 1790. The census, taken shortly before his birth, indicates his family lived in Philadelphia on Chestnut Street. Thomas was inoculated by Dr. John Jones for the smallpox “on the 10th day of the 10th month 1790 and had the disorder favorably.” This inoculation took place exactly a year after his older sister Susanna’s.

At age 28, on 2mo 25 1818, PMSD records indicate that Thomas Rutter was given a certificate to Alexandria MM. Records at Alexandria, as noted by William Wade Hinshaw, show that Thomas was received on a certificate from Philadelphia Meeting, Southern District, on 3mo 26, 1818. Records there also show that Thomas was given a certificate to Philadelphia Meeting Northern District, dated
limo 22, 1822. On 9mo 23, 1823, PMSD records indicate that Thomas Rutter was received on certificate from Alexandria MM and “to Philadelphia Monthly Meeting Western District.” Thomas died rather young two years later. His death notice appeared in Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser dated 9 August 1825: “At the residence of Richard B. Jones, Esq., Montgomery County, on the 5th inst., Mr. Thomas Rutter, of this city, in the 35th year of his age.” He apparently did not marry or have children.

iii. Owen Jones Rutter, was the son of Samuel and Sarah (Jones) Rutter. Owen died young and Mrs. James notes that he was burned to death with his sister Susanna. He was born after the census of 1790 as no male children are listed and died prior to 4mo 22, 1795 when he is not listed on a certificate from the PMSD. He is buried in the family graveyard at Pottstown.

iv. Martha Rutter, was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Jones) Rutter. Records on file at the PMSD indicate that Martha Rutter was born lmo 1, 1794. Martha, nicknamed Patty, was left 4 shares of bank stock by the will of Ruth Anna (Rutter) Lindley in 1810. PMSD records indicate that Martha Rutter was given a certificate to the Philadelphia MM, Western District on 9mo 25, 1816. The Potts Memorial indicates that Martha married Howell Hopkins, son of John and Catherine Hopkins, and that she died without issue March, 1850. Records on file at Christ Church indicate that Martha Rutter married J. Howell Hopkins there on 18 November 1832. The Hopkins’ family eventually became members of the Society of Friends and they are noted in Western District Meeting records. There is no death notice in the Public Ledger for Martha Hopkins.

v. Rebecca Jones Rutter, was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Jones) Rutter. Records on file at the PMSD indicate that Rebecca Jones Rutter was born 4mo 30, 1797. Records there also indicate that “Rebeccah” Rutter was given a certificate of transfer to Philadelphia MM, Western District on 9mo 25, 1816. Rebecca died in 1841. Her death notice is provided in the Public Ledger dated 1 February 1841: “On the 24th ult., Rebecca Jones Rutter, daughter of Samuel Rutter, dec’d, late of this City.” The 1841 will of Rebecca J. Rutter is on file at Philadelphia in Will Book 14, #47, page 527. Rebecca left her estate to her sister Martha Hopkins and her husband Howell Hopkins—who received her “moveable” property and use of her real estate during their life. At their decease, the real estate and ground rents were to go to Rebecca’s cousins Susanna, Charles and Jesse Foulke, children of Edward Foulke of Montgomery County. Howell Hopkins was made executor. The will was probated 6 February 1841.

35. David Rutter, was the son of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Rutter. He was born 10 February 1766 probably at Colebrook Dale Furnace. David married on 10 December 1789 at Pottstown, his first cousin Mary Anna Potts, daughter of John and Margaret (Carmick) Potts. Mary Anna was born in Philadelphia c1768. David was an ironmaster. He purchased one-half of Glasgow Forge, but sold it to his Uncle Samuel Potts for Samuel’s one-half share of Pine Forge in Berks County. He obtained the other half from his father’s estate. He operated the forge until about 1815 when his son took over. He died intestate 5 April 1817 in Pottstown. Letters of Administration were filed in Berks County Administration Bk. 17, No. 233. Mary Anna (Potts) Rutter died Pottstown 22 September 1824. Issue, eleven children. Children listed under Number 31, Mary Ann Potts.

36. Ruth Anna Rutter, was the daughter of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Rutter. She was born 3 January 1768 probably at Colebrook Dale Furnace. She died intestate 5 September 1810. She became a Friend by convencement and was received into membership by Exeter Monthly Meeting on 5mo 30, 1787. At age 22, she was accepted as a minister. An article of her becoming a Friend, her early family life and her parent’s reaction appeared in the Friends Intelligencer. She married Jacob Lindley, a widower and public Friend from New Garden, Chester County, Pa., on 6mo 26, 1800 at Pottstown Meeting House. Jacob, the son of Jonathan and Deborah (Holiday) Lindley, was a farmer in Chester County. Lindley was an active abolitionist and involved in the Under Ground Railroad. Later that year, she requested and was granted a certificate of removal to New Garden Monthly Meeting. Her transfer is recorded in the minutes of
New Garden Monthly Meeting, 11mo 1, 1800. She died on 9mo 5, 1810 in the 42nd year of her age. Ruth Anna’s will, filed at Chester County, was signed 8 February 1810 and taken for probate 2 October 1810. Ruth Anna was a minister among Friends and the Friends produced a sketch of her life. Jacob Lindley died intestate 12 June 1814 and Letters of Administration were filed at West Chester 25 July 1814. Both are buried at New Garden Burial Ground in Chester County. Ruth Anna wrote a biographical sketch of herself that was published in the *Friends' Miscellany*.

**Issue, four children.**

1. **Daughter** Lindley, was the daughter of Jacob and Ruth Anna (Rutter) Lindley. *The Potts Memorial* indicates only: a daughter died in infancy. She was probably born in 1801.

2. **Thomas Rutter** Lindley, was the son of Jacob and Ruth Anna (Rutter) Lindley. *The Potts Memorial* indicates that: “Thomas was born in New Garden on lmo 24, 1803. He was engaged with his brother in carrying on the Duncannon Iron-Works, Perry Co., and had gone to Harrisburg to transact some business connected the establishment, when he died there unm., 1 mo 12, 1842.”

   In his history of Perry County, Ham notes the Duncannon Iron Works were located on the Susquehanna River where Sherman’s Creek enters it. In 1828, the owner built a forge and a gristmill, sawmill and distillery. The works were expanded to include a rolling mill and nail factory and during the Civil War expanded considerably. Ham indicates an act was passed in 1839 by the Pennsylvania Legislature authorizing the building of a bridge across the Juniata River at Baskin’s Ferry. The same year, another act was passed which authorized the construction of a railroad from the Pennsylvania Canal, at Duncan’s Island, to Sherman’s Creek. This railroad was used and operated by the Duncannon Iron Works to transport raw materials to and finished products from the plant. A board of directors was established to direct the building of the bridge and railroad. Thomas R. Lindley was appointed as one of the directors. Thomas was in Harrisburg concerning this project when he died. Thomas’ death notice appeared in the *Village Record* dated 8 February 1842: “Died. On the 12th ult. after an illness of a few days, in Harrisburg, where he went on business connected with the establishment of which he had charge, Thomas Rutter Lindley, son of Jacob Lindley, deceased, formerly of Chester county. His seizure was sudden and violent, but his mind was calm and resigned.” No will for Thomas is found on file in Perry County. He did not marry or have children.

3. **William** Lindley, was the son of Jacob and Ruth Anna (Rutter) Lindley. *The Potts Memorial* indicates that: “William, born 6 mo. 3, 1805. He has been for many years connected with the iron-works at Duncannon, where he still lives unmarried.” William died at Duncannon in 1881. Two death notices appeared in the Chester County papers. The *Chester County Local* dated 4 February 1881 had the following: “Lindley-At Duncannon, Pa., on February 1st., William Lindley, aged 76 years. Interment on Friday morning, at New Garden, Chester county.” The *Chester County Oxford Press* dated 9 Feb 1881 also provided his death notice: “Lindley-At Duncannon, Perry county, Pa., on February 1st, 1881, William Lindley, in his 76th year, formerly of Avondale, Chester county, Pa.” He did not marry or have children.

4. **Edward** Lindley, was the son of Jacob and Ruth Anna (Rutter) Lindley. *The Potts Memorial* indicates that Edward was born 8mo 1, 1806; and died 6mo. 14, 1808.

37. **Clement** Rutter, was the son of Thomas and Martha (Potts) Rutter. Clement “was born on Saturday the Thirty First Day of March in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy (1770) about five O’clock in the Evening.” He was born in Pottstown. He “departed this Life on Tuesday the Ninth Day of April One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy One Aged One Year Nine Days.”
5. **DAVID\(^3\) Potts**; was the son of John\(^2\) and Ruth (Savage) Potts. He was born “April ye 4\(^{th}\) about three of the Clock in the Morning A.D. 1743” at Colebrook Dale Furnace. At an early age, he and his brother Joseph were sent to Philadelphia where they were to receive educations as merchants. David joined Friends at Philadelphia Meeting in 1760. On 10 January 1767, the Rev. Dr. Duchee of Christ Church married David and Mary Aris (Ayres) by license they obtained the same day.\(^{14}\) They lived in Philadelphia where he owned a home, wharf and business. On 27 January 1769, by deed, he obtained from the Executors of his father’s estate, the farm and mills on the Manatawny Creek in Pottsgrove whose valuation was given as 1750 pounds. In the events that preceded the Revolution, David Potts took an important part. He was active in the non-importation resolutions in 1765, and in August 1775, he was chosen on the committee for the city and districts of Philadelphia.

David owned one-half of Valley Forge from 1772 until 1782. He served as a factor for Potts iron in Philadelphia; and was arrested as a Tory in 1778 but released. By deed dated 21 December 1780 from Jonathan Potts of Reading, Doctor of Physic and Grace, his wife, David Potts, Sr., of the City of Philadelphia received Stowe, the 225 acre estate of John Potts, Jr. near Pottsgrove Manor. David eventually sold it to relative Samuel Baird. David removed to Valley Forge in the 1790’s, which he both managed and owned. He died intestate there in 1797 and was buried at the Valley Friends Meeting ground. Letters of Administration are on file at Montgomery County, Estate #1466. *Claypoole’s American Daily Advertiser* dated 7 July 1798 had the following: “By consent of the heirs of David Potts, late of the Valley Works, in Montgomery County, his city house, at Fourth and Lombard streets, will be auctioned off. James Potts, Jr., administrator, signs the advertisements, and information may be had of Capt. Charles Potts, 91 Arch street.”

Mary Potts, Widow of David Potts, and her daughters Harriet, wife of Reese Brooke and Mary, and Reese Brooke, son of Bowyer Brooke, the elder were left bequests by the 1801 will of James Hartley, merchant of Philadelphia. Mary (Aries) Potts lived over twenty-five years after her husband and died in Pottstown in 1823 where she seems to have lived with her daughter Sarah. Her will, dated 17 July 1821, notes her as of Pottstown and provided various bequests to grandchildren. She left the remainder of her estate to be equally divided by daughters Sarah and Harriet. It was witnessed by Jacob Drinkhouse and Mary Graham and filed at Norristown on 4 November 1823 in Will Book 6. Issue, five children, and twenty-one grandchildren.

38. **Charles\(^3\) Potts**, was the son of David\(^2\) and Mary (Aries) Potts. He was born c1770 probably in Philadelphia and became a sea captain. Charles married 6 January 1795, Margaret Tallman, and the day after he sailed for China in command of the merchant ship "Adventure." The notice of the announcement appeared in the 6 January 1795 *Dunlap’s American Daily Advertiser*. In 1798 he was captain of the *Alexander Hamilton*. The *Potts Memorial* presents the following from his logbook: "March, Martinico. Weighed anchor, and sailed in company with the *Alfred*, seventy-four, and several frigates as convoy; also a number of American vessels. Sunday, 14th. Came to St. Kitts, and lay there until Wednesday, the 16th; then weighed anchor and sailed with the convoy and two hundred and fifty sail of merchantmen. The 24\(^{th}\), saluted the commodore with five guns, and left the fleet."

On his return from this voyage, he first lived in Philadelphia at 91 Arch Street, but in the latter part of 1798, he settled in Pottstown, where he died and was buried in the family graveyard.
there. The will of Charles Potts of Douglass Township, dated 21 October 1800, was proven at Norristown 13 December 1800 and filed in Will Book 2, p. 187. He left to wife, household goods, wearing apparel, &c. Estate received from father to be sold and money to wife Margaret and son Hartley (named James Hartley in his grandmother Potts’ will.) Executor was brother-in-law Joseph Potts. William Geer and George Leonard were witnesses. His widow removed to Philadelphia and married her husband’s brother Benezet. The Potts Memorial also has a portrait of Capt. Charles Potts painted in France in 1798 by “Salazar” which is currently located at the Pottsgrove Manor. Issue, one child, six grandchildren.

i. James Hartley⁴ Potts, was the son and only child of Charles³ and Margaret (Tallman) Potts. He was born at Valley Forge, 8 February 1797 and named after James Hartley, a Philadelphia merchant and friend of his father. His father died in 1800 and his mother married his uncle Benezet when he was eight. There were two other children born from the second marriage. James, called Hartley, married Sarah Jackson, the daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Hughes) Jackson of Robeson Township at Philadelphia 11 May 1821. Sarah was born 26 December 1798 and died at Robeson Township on 25 October 1843, in the forty-fifth year of her age. Her death was noted in the 28 October 1843 Schuylkill Journal. She was buried at Robeson Meeting. James married for his second wife, Edith Jones, the daughter of Samuel Jones of Brownsville, at Pittsburgh, February 1858. She died without issue at Jones Mines, Berks County, August 1860. James died 6 June 1863 and was buried near his first wife. Issue, six children, all from first marriage: Maria⁵, Margaret⁵, Lydia Jackson⁵, Louisa Coin⁵, Louis Coin⁵, and Elizabeth⁵ Potts.

39. Sarah³ Potts, was the daughter of David² and Mary (Aries) Potts. She was born April 1771 probably in Philadelphia. Philadelphia Meeting records indicate that Sarah Potts, daughter of David Potts, was buried at Friends Burial Ground 10mo 21, 1772, age 16 months.

40. Benezet³ Potts, was the son of David² and Mary (Aries) Potts. He was born c1772. He married Margaret (Tallman) Potts, the widow of his brother Charles. They obtained a marriage license 16 May 1805 and married at Christ Church in Philadelphia on 16 May. The W.B. Potts genealogy notes: “I remember him well, he lived a short distance from Pottstown, frequently visited our house. His horse was hitched under a willow tree, at the same time that old Mr. Kile’s house was blown down, and he Mr. K. was killed.” Benezet died in the spring of 1809. Margaret died in Philadelphia in 1818, and was buried in Friends’ graveyard at Fourth and Arch Streets. Issue, two children, ten grandchildren.

i. Aris⁴ Potts, was the eldest child and the daughter of Benezet and Margaret (Tallman) Potts. She was born c1806. W.B. Potts indicates that she died unmarried.

ii. Louise Margaret⁴ Potts, was the daughter of Benezet³ and Margaret (Tallman) Potts. She was born 3 April 1809. She married the Rev. Lindley Charles⁵ Rutter as his third wife. The Lindley Rutter Bible says: "On the evening of the 23rd June 1835...Louisa Margaret Potts by the Rev. Saml G. Winchester." Lindley died 5 March 1882. Issue ten children. See Number 31 Mary Anna Potts, ix.

41. James³ Potts, was the son of David² and Mary (Aries) Potts. James was born 1773/74 probably in Philadelphia. His death notice indicates that he was an Iron Merchant. He married at Valley Forge, about 1811, Anne, daughter of William Dewees, and his second wife Sarah Waters. Anne was born c1779, probably in Tredyffrin Township and her father and James’ father were partners in ownership of the forge before and after the Revolution. Potts was interested in the Valley Forge works, and resided in Philadelphia, where he sold the bar-iron manufactured there. Ann (Dewees) Potts is discussed in a recent article on Valley Forge by Harold Twiss after the Revolution:
Ann Potts, who was credited in the ledger (the 1826 Valley Forge Cotton Factory ledger) for supplying butter, was assessed in the 1825 tax list for Charlestown Township for twenty-two acres of land. She was related to the Potts and Dewees families, who had been deeply involved in Valley Forge at the time of the Revolution. She was the daughter of William Dewees and the widow of James Potts, a son of David and Mary Potts. James had sold his interest in the family’s Valley Forge properties to his siblings. Before his death around 1820, he had been selling bar iron in Philadelphia that was manufactured at Valley Forge. In 1824, Anne purchased from her nephew, also named William Dewees, full rights to land he had received from his grandmother, Sarah Dewees, the widow of William Dewees. The parcel was adjacent to the Rogers and Malin property.

James Potts died on 25 October 1820. Polson’s American Daily Advertiser dated 27 October 1820 had the following: “Died, at his residence in Tredyffein Township, Chester County, on the 25th inst. After a lingering indisposition, James Potts, formerly of this city, Iron Merchant, aged 46 years.” The 7 April 1822 will of Sarah Dewees of Charlestown Township, Chester County left her house and land “to my only daughter Ann Potts, widow of James Potts.” She also was left the remainder of the unbequeathed items from the estate. Twiss in his Valley Forge article speculates that Ann may still have lived at Valley Forge in 1830 although her name does not appear on the tax roles for that year. About that time, Ann went to Terre Haute, Indiana having inherited the estate of her brother George W. Dewees, who resided there. She afterwards removed to Springfield, Indiana where she married her husband’s cousin Samuel Potts, son of John and Margaret (Carmick) Potts, then an old man. Samuel died 6 October 1850 and is buried at Springboro, Ohio. Issue, two children.

i. David Potts, son of James and Ann (Dewees) Potts, was born at Valley Forge c1813. David Potts and cousin William Dewees were left bequests by the 1822 will of Sarah (Waters) Dewees. In the 1820s he removed with his mother to Terre Haute, Vigo County, Indiana, when he became the heir of his uncle, George Dewees, and married his ward. It is believed that he died without issue.

ii. Sarah Dewees Potts, daughter of James and Ann (Dewees) Potts, was born c1815 at Valley Forge. Granddaughter Sarah Dewees Potts was left $12 yearly and privileges of her house while unmarried. Sarah married at Springfield, Indiana, a Mr. Cole, born 1815, and died without issue. Date of death unknown.

42. Sarah Potts, was the daughter of David and Mary (Aries) Potts. Sarah was born at Philadelphia 27 December 1774. On 9 February 1792, she married her cousin Joseph Potts, son of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts. Joseph was born 6mo 2, 1766. They resided at Glasgow Forge, a few miles above Pottstown. On 2mo 24, 1800, Sarah was received in membership at the Friends Meeting at Exeter. Son-in-law Joseph Potts was left 100 pds. and silver coffee pot by his mother-in-law’s 1821 will. Also left bequests by her mother’s will. Joseph Potts died 9mo 27, 1824. Sarah Potts became a “strict” Friend, and was the oldest member of the family at the time of her death, which took place 11 February 1851. The following obituary is taken from a Pottstown paper, February 1851: "Died, in Pottstown, on the 11th February, 1851, in the seventy-seventh year of her age, Mrs. Sarah Potts, relict of the late Mr. Joseph Potts...." Her death was entered in the Exeter Meeting Records on 28 1mo 1852 as “Sarah Potts, an Elder, died 2mo 12, 1851, age 76 years.” Issue, ten children. Children listed with Number 27, Joseph Potts.

43. Harriet Potts, was the daughter of David and Mary (Aries) Potts. Exeter Meeting records indicate that she was born 3mo 30, 1775. She married in 20 March 1799 at St. James Episcopal Church, Perkiomen, to Reese Brooke, son of Bowyer and Hannah (Reese) Brooke, who lived in Brooke Court (also given as Brooks’ Alley), Philadelphia. Bowyer Brooke was a boat builder and between 1785 and 1791 had his shop at 109 Water Street. Leech indicated that these Brookes were of “the distinguished Maryland family.” The Philadelphia Brookes were communicants at
Christ Church were Boyer and Hannah had married there 22 August 1767. The announcement of the Brooke/Potts marriage appeared in the 27 March 1799 *Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser*. At this time Harriet's father was dead, and Mr. Brooke, Sen., purchased for his son the widow's right in Valley Forge. The newly married pair was established there, and Reese Brooke was involved at the works until his death in 1824, after which they were discontinued. Harriet received bequests from her mother’s 1821 will. Harriet became a public Friend, and during the latter part of her life she resided at Pottstown, but died in Philadelphia, where she had gone for her health, on Easter Sunday, 12 April 1846. Her remains were taken to Pottstown, and buried in the family graveyard there. W.B. Potts indicates that “Her mind was much impaired for some time before her death.” Issue, six children, eleven grandchildren.

i. Mary Brooke, was the daughter of Reese and Harriet (Potts) Brooke. She was born 30 November 1800. She married in June 1818, Charles Paxton, son of Timothy and Ruth (Johnson) Paxson. He died in Philadelphia in 1823. Mary (Brooke) Paxson was living in 1872 when Mrs. Potts wrote the *Potts Memorial*. Issue, three children: Harriet3, Henry5 and Edward5 Paxon.

ii. Rebecca Jones Brooke, was the daughter of Reese and Harriet (Potts) Brooke. She was born 7mo 20, 1803. She married Joseph McKeans (Potts, son of Thomas3 and Abigail (Miles) Potts, 4mo 8, 1824. Joseph was born 1799 and died 8mo 5, 1832. Rebecca died 5mo 1, 1882 and was buried at Pottstown Meeting. Her death notice appeared the *Montgomery Ledger* dated 3 May 1882: “Potts – In Pottstown, on May 1st 1882, Rebecca J. Potts, in the 79th year of her age. The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend funeral from her late residence, on Hanover street, near Queen, (Railroad) on Thursday afternoon, May 4th, at 2 o’clock.” Issue, five children, listed under Number 26, vii., Joseph McKeans Potts.

iii. Hannah Brooke, was the daughter of Reese and Harriet (Potts) Brooke. She was born 24 April 1811. She was baptized as an adult 27 December 1840 by the Rev. George Buncker, John P. and Emily Rutter were the sponsors. She died unmarried in Pottstown at age thirty. Her tombstone there notes the following: “Sacred to the Memory of Harriet Potts Brooke, daughter of Reese & Harriet Brooke, born April 24th A.D. 1811 and departed this life April 24th A.D. 1841 Aged 30 years Parted Friend’s again may Meet, From the toils of Nature Free; Crowned with Mercy Oh! How sweet will eternal friendship be.”

iv. Bowyer Brooke, was the son of Reese and Harriet (Potts) Brooke. He married Rebecca Parvin. Issue, six children: Jacob Paxon5, Mary Davis5, Reese5, Harriet5, Sarah Starr5, and Rebecca Potts5 Brooke.

v. Harriet Potts Brooke, was the daughter of Reese and Harriet (Potts) Brooke. She was born 24 April 1811. She was baptized as an adult 27 December 1840 by the Rev. George Buncker, John P. and Emily Rutter were the sponsors. She died unmarried in Pottstown at age thirty. Her tombstone there notes the following: “Sacred to the Memory of Harriet Potts Brooke, daughter of Reese & Harriet Brooke, born April 24th A.D. 1811 and departed this life April 24th A.D. 1841 Aged 30 years Parted Friend’s again may Meet, From the toils of Nature Free; Crowned with Mercy Oh! How sweet will eternal friendship be.”

vi. Sarah Brooke, was the daughter of Reese and Harriet (Potts) Brooke. She died in infancy.
6. JOSEPH POTTS; was the son of John and Ruth (Savage) Potts. He was born “March the 12th about 3 of the Clock in the Morning A.D. 1744” probably at Colebrook Dale. He was sent to Philadelphia with his brother David when young and Philadelphia Meeting records dated 30th 5th mo. 1760, indicate David and Joseph Potts “now attended the Meeting, [which] express willingness to consider them as Members in Fellowship with us.” He and David both were accepted into membership and Joseph remained a Friend for the remainder of his life.

Joseph became a wealthy Philadelphia merchant, ironmaster and brewer. He married four times, having issue from each wife. He married at Plymouth Meeting 16 August 1764 Mary Morris, the daughter of John and Mary (Sutton) Morris of Southwark. Mary was born 1mo 3, 1738. She died 12mo 18, 1765, in the 28th year of her age. There was one child from the marriage. Joseph married on 21 January 1768 Sarah, the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Morris) Powell of Philadelphia. Sarah was born 9mo 22, 1747. Mrs. Franklin noted the marriage in a letter to Benjamin dated 21 January 1768: “Yesterday our Mr. Potts son Joseph was married to Sammy Powell’s sister. His first wife was John Morris’ daughter she died in childbed.”

By deed dated 10 May 1768, Joseph Potts obtained Mt. Joy Forge (later called Valley Forge) from his father. In 1769, Joseph Potts and Sarah, his wife, executed a mortgage on Mt. Joy Forge, sawmill & gristmill and three tracts of land in Upper Merion, and allotted said premises to his brother John Potts, of East Nantmeal Township and Margaret, his wife. At the same time Joseph manumitted his eight slaves at Mt. Joy Forge.

By 1771, Joseph Potts and William Dewees, a relative by marriage, began renting Glasgow Forge near Pottsgrove Manor. By 1772, Potts and Dewees were managing and renting the forge from the McCall family and an agreement with Mark Bird provided below implies that they had also purchased some of the lands there. Bird had just built Hopewell Furnace in nearby Union Township. On 9 June 1772, Potts and Dewees signed Articles of Co-partnership with Mark Bird, Esq. Concerning iron production at Glasgow for him. The agreement stated:

That the said Parties from the Day of the Date hereof for and during the Space of six consecutive Years shall and will be jointly and equally concerned in the making or Manufacturing of Barr Iron at the Forge called Glasgow which with the Lands thereof belonging they have purchased of Archibald McCall.

Sarah (Powell) Potts on 1mo 7, 1773, in the 26th year of her age. Her obituary, copied from the Pennsylvania Gazette, dated 16 January 1773, indicated she was interred in Friends Burying ground in Philadelphia. Jacob Hiltzheimer’s diary entry for 10 January 1773 indicated the following: “went to the burial of Joseph Pott’s second wife (a Powell) from their house on Race Street.” The couple had two children.

Shortly afterward, he moved to the Dock Ward from his Race Street house in May and transferred his certificate from Exeter Meeting. Philadelphia Southern District Meeting records dated 5mo 26, 1773, show Joseph Potts and children Mary and Joseph were received on certificate from Exeter Meeting. Potts moved his family immediately adjacent to Glasgow Forge owner Archibald McCall and Provincial Tax records for the City of Philadelphia for1774 show them next to each other with some of the highest assessments in the Ward. At the time of his move, 1774, Joseph established a brewery at Fifth and Minor
Streets in Philadelphia. During the British occupation of the city, the brewery was seized and used as a barracks. He sold the brewery to Henry Pepper in 1786.

Joseph married on 13 October 1774 to Ann, the daughter of Abraham and Sarah (Robinson) Mitchell. She was born 1738 and died on 14 September 1778 in the 41st year of her age in Philadelphia. Two children resulted from the marriage. He married fourth, on 5 May 1780, Mary Kirkbride, the daughter of Stacey and Francis (Smith) Kirkbride of the Falls Meeting of Bucks County. Mary was born 4mo 19, 1754. They had six children. Shortly after, on 30 May 1774, the McCall family sold their interests in the Glasgow Forge land and the forge in two separate tracts. James Hockley of Douglass Township, Esq., John Potts of Philadelphia, Esq., and Joseph Potts Gentleman of said city, purchased 486 acres that had been part of the “Manor of Douglass.” Hockley ran the forge, the Pottses capitalized it.

As the war approached, Potts decided to sell the Glasgow property. On 30 May and 1 April 1777, Joseph Potts and his wife and John Potts and his wife deeded their two-thirds share of Glasgow Forge with its saw and grist mills and house to James Hockley for £2,247.21

Potts’ various investments included a variety of ironworks, a brewery, salt works and mercantile pursuits. During the 1760s he was an Overseer of the Poor in Philadelphia.22 He owned several Potts works, including Mt. Joy and he purchased Glasgow Forge. Joseph was one of many Friends who signed a 4 October 1783 document to the “United States Congress from the People called Quakers to stop the slave trade.”23

Joseph died testate at age 57 at estate near Frankfort, Philadelphia County. He died 4 February 1804 and his death notice appeared in the 7 February 1804 Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser:

On Saturday evening last, suddenly, Mr. Joseph Potts, of the vicinity of Frankford. This gentleman, through the whole course of his life, evinced a firmness and amicableness of disposition equalled by few. In early life he embraced the principles of the Society of Friends, among whom he lived and died an esteemed member and approved minister. His particular soft and endearing manners gained him the affection of all who knew him. Blessed within the circle of numerous family, his principal care was for their happiness. In the death of Mr. Potts the public has lost a valuable and citizen and numbers a worthy friend who will long deplore him.

His will, filed in Will Book 1, p. 186, was written 9 July 1803 and taken for probate 7 March 1804. He named wife Mary and sons Phineas and Joseph K., and daughters Anna, Frances and Hepsibah. He named wife Mary, son Phineas and worthy friend and brother Joseph Kirkbride executors. Mary (Kirkbride) Potts died 9mo 17, 181. Of Joseph’s known thirteen children by four wives, only one had living child, nine grandchildren.

44. John Morris’ Potts, was the son of Joseph2 and Mary (Morris) Potts. He was born 11 December 1765. He died unmarried 12 March 1786. His was a Friend and is noted as a Charter member at Southern District Meeting when they broke off from Philadelphia Meeting. The Potts Memorial notes that he was to receive a large estate left by his grandfather Morris at the age of twenty-one, but died nine months before attaining his majority. His grandfather Morris devised to him, in his 1781 will, all his mother’s share of the Morris property; and among other things are enumerated "all the plate that was his mother's, packed up in a red leather trunk, which said plate
was purchased of his father, and paid for by my dear wife and all the china-ware that was his
mother's. I also give him' eight mahogany chairs, the seats of which were worked by his mother."
Sister Deborah Morris to have the custody of the estate and effects left to grandson John Morris
Potts, and to exercise care over him until he arrive at the age of twenty-one years. The Potts
Memorial notes: “The funeral of this young man is mentioned in a letter from the Memoirs of the
Hill Family of Margaret Morris (widow of his uncle) to her sister:" It was a disappointment to me
that I did not see some of thy family at Plymouth, when I went to the funeral of my poor afflicted
nephew, John Potts. His removal was very unexpected to me, and I think it was a time of deep
humiliation to my mind as I ever experienced, and I have much desired it might be the same to my
children, upon whose mind I have endeavored to impress that the bounties of Providence (which
by their poor cousin's death will fall into their hands) are by no means the reward of their merits."
It is evident that by his early death a goodly estate passed into the possession of John Morris's
other grandchildren.”

45. Mary Powell⁵ Potts, was the daughter of Joseph² and Sarah (Powell) Potts. She was born 1
January 1769. She married Jonathan Potts Jones, son of Owen and Susanna (Evans) Jones and the
brother of Samuel Rutter’s wife, Sarah. She died in childbirth 12 March 1787, aged eighteen
years. Her infant survived only a few hours.

46. Joseph⁵ Potts, was the son of Joseph⁴ and Sarah (Powell) Potts. He was born 10 October
1770 and died at age 3 on 12 January 1774. Southern District Meeting records indicate that
Joseph Potts, son of Joseph Potts, was buried 1mo 12, 1774.

47. Sarah⁴ Potts, was the daughter of Joseph⁴ and Ann (Mitchell) Potts. She was born 23
September 1775 and died 24 November 1777. Philadelphia Meeting records state that Sarah Potts,
dughter of Joseph Potts, was buried 11mo 25, 1777, age 2. Sarah was buried at Philadelphia.

48 Joseph⁵ Potts, was the son of Joseph⁴ and Ann (Mitchell) Potts. He was born 17 October
1776. Philadelphia Meeting records indicate that Joseph Potts, son of Joseph, was buried 9mo 4,
1779, age 3. He was buried in Philadelphia.

49. Anna Potts, was the daughter of Joseph² and Ann (Mitchell) Potts. Philadelphia Meeting
records indicate that Ann Potts, the daughter of Joseph Potts, was buried 9mo 14, 1778.

50. Robert³ Potts, was the son of Joseph² and Mary (Kirkbride) Potts. Philadelphia Meeting
records, Southern District note Robert Potts, son of Joseph Potts, was buried 9mo 2, 1782, age 2.

51. Anna³ Potts, called Nancy by the family, was the daughter of Joseph² and Mary (Kirkbride)
Potts. She was born at Springmill, 7 March 1781. She died unmarried on 19 August 1839 and
was buried in Philadelphia. She is noted in records as a member and overseer of the Philadelphia
Meeting Western District.

52. Frances³ Potts, was the daughter of Joseph² and Mary (Kirkbride) Potts. She was born at
Plymouth 21 May 1783. She died unmarried 15 March 1833. She was a member of the
Philadelphia Meeting Western District and was buried in Philadelphia.

53. Phineas³ Potts, was the son of Joseph² and Mary (Kirkbride) Potts. Phineas was born at
Plymouth, 20 December 1784. He married Eliza Horn, who was noted as a Roman Catholic by
W.B. Potts, on 1 January 1809 and the notice of the ceremony appeared in the 14 January 1809
Dunlap’s American Daily Advertiser. Philadelphia Meeting records indicate that Phineas Potts
died on 1mo 24, 1823, age 38 in Philadelphia. He died without issue
54. **Hepsibah Potts**, was the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Kirkbride) Potts. She was born Plymouth on 2 February 1787. She died unmarried, 21 December 1850.

55. **Mary Potts**, was the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Kirkbride) Potts. She was born at Plymouth 26 July 1797. Died in infancy.

56. **Joseph Kirkbride Potts**, was the son of Joseph and Mary (Kirkbride) Potts. He was born at Plymouth, Montgomery County, 20 April 1789. He is listed as “Josephus Potts” in meeting records. He received a business education and early in life engaged in a mercantile enterprise, subsequently acting as clerk in the United States Bank until 1840. For the following ten years he lived in the New Jersey, afterwards returning to Philadelphia, where he resided during the remainder of his life. He was a member of the Society of Friends and in political affairs he was allied with the Whig faction.

He married at Frankford Meeting, Montgomery County 11 January 1882, Sidney Bonsall, the daughter of Isaac and Mercy (Milhous) Bonsall. Sidney was born at Uwchlan, Chester County 28 September 1799. Milhous notes in the Bonsall genealogy that Joseph was known as a “Quaker of sterling character and generous disposition.” Joseph died in Philadelphia on 30 October 1861 in Philadelphia. He was buried there. Sidney (Bonsall) Potts died in Philadelphia 12 August 1886 and she was buried at Philadelphia. Issue eight children.

i. **Mary Potts**, was the daughter of Joseph and Sidney (Bonsall) Potts. She was born at Philadelphia 1 March 1824. She died there in 1896. She was unmarried and had no issue.

ii. **Charles Potts**, was the son of Joseph and Sidney (Bonsall) Potts. He was born Philadelphia 12 September 1825. An unmarked sketch at the Chester County Historical Society indicates the following: He attended the Friends’ School in Philadelphia and on completing his studies there spent two years at Westtown. After leaving school he adopted the occupation of farming, following this pursuit in the valley between Penningtonville, now Atglen, and Parkersburg for two years, after which he worked for his father for some time. In 1848 he was engaged as a teacher in the English Department of the Westtown school, filling this position for three years. At the end of this period he returned to his former employment of farming for a few years, then again accepted the position of teacher in the Westtown school where he remained for twenty-five years. In 1887, he became the owner of a farm near Media, Pennsylvania, residing there until 1893, when he retired from all active work and settled in Media where he still lives a somewhat secluded life. He is overseer of the Meeting of the Society of Friends. He is a member of council of the Delaware Valley Naturalists’ Union, of council of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association, and of the Delaware County Institute of Sciences, of which he is Vice President.”

Charles married at Friends 6th St. Meeting, Anne McCollin (also given as McCollom), the daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Garrett) McCollin, 5 March 10, 1853. He died 9 December 1905 in Media, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Anne (McCollin) Potts’ place and date of death is unknown. Issue, one child: Franklin M. Potts, born in 1855.

iii. **Anna Potts**, was the daughter of Joseph and Sidney (Bonsall) Potts. She was born 10 March 1827. She died unmarried 19 March 1864 in Philadelphia. No issue.

iv. **Edward Potts**, was the son of Joseph and Sidney (Bonsall) Potts. He was born 12 March 1829. He was married at Newburg, New Jersey by Rev. William J. Paxson, 2 March 20, 1867, to Julia Paxson, daughter of Edward and Lucy A. Paxson. Milhous notes that “Edward Potts shared with his brothers a literary interest and an interest in natural science and was an informed observer of outdoor phenomena.” The Charles Potts sketch mentioned above notes: “Edward Potts, brother of Charles Potts, is a well known scientist and a specialist on sponges, having a variety named after him in Europe, he being discoverer of the same.” The Library of Congress has a book authored by Potts on fresh water sponges which was published by the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences in
1887. Edward died 1912 in Media, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Julia (Paxon) Potts’ date and place of birth is unknown. Issue, one child: Lucy Potts, born 1867.

v. Frances Potts, was the daughter of Joseph and Sidney (Bonsall) Potts. She was born 7 mo. 28, 1832 in Philadelphia. She was married by Rev. C. D. Cooper at St. Philip’s Church, Philadelphia, to Waldron Joseph Cheyney, son of Waldron and Martha (Scott) Cheyney. Milhous notes: “Waldron Joseph Cheyney’s grandparents were Joseph and Edith (Mendenhall) Cheyney and great grandparents were John and Ann (Hickman) Cheyney of Thornbury, Pennsylvania. A granddaughter of Waldron and Frances (Potts) Cheyney recalls her grandmother’s interest in flowers and the family home in a county place in Obsecan, New Jersey.” Waldron died 24 February 1906 in Media, Delaware County, Pennsylvania and was buried in the Cheyney Cemetery in Cheyney, Pennsylvania. Frances (Potts) Cheyney died 26 December 1917 in Media, Pennsylvania and is buried next to her husband. Issue, seven children: George Washington, Joseph Potts, John King, Edward Potts, Edith King, Samuel Williamson, Anna Potts, and Paul Cheyney.

vi. Joseph Potts, was the son of Joseph and Sidney (Bonsall) Potts. He was born 11 mo. 12, 1834 at Philadelphia. He married at 12th Street Meeting, 5 mo. 25, 1859, Regina Shober Kimber, daughter of Thomas and Joanna (Shober) Kimber. They lived in Philadelphia. Milhous notes: “Joseph Potts attended Westtown Boarding School, after which he entered the office of an uncle to learn conveyancing. While there he studied law. For ten years he was secretary of the steel works near Harrisburg, Pa. In 1879 he felt called to missionary work and went to Tennessee to minister to mountainers. Later, he served in two North Carolina Meetings, followed by several months in the North Carolina State Treasury Department. In 1896 he went to Denver, Colorado, and spent two years as pastor of the Denver Meeting. He returned to North Carolina and served the next four years at the Mount Airy Friends Meeting. He spent the last seven years of his life at Deep River, North Carolina.

Joseph died 19 February 1910 in Deep River, North Carolina. He is noted as buried in the Milhouse Bonsall genealogy on 25 May 1859. Regina (Kimber) Potts place and date is unknown. Issue: the Potts Memorial notes three children: Thomas Kimber, Frances Anna and Regina Shober Potts. The Milhous Bonsall genealogy indicates two: Frances Shober Potts and Reginald Potts.

vii. William Potts, was the son of Joseph and Sidney (Bonsall) Potts. He was born at Philadelphia 5 of 5 mo. 1838. He married in Brooklyn, Kings New York, 9 February 1864, Lucretia Starbuck Anthony, daughter of Edward and Helen M. H. (Grieve) Anthony of that city, formerly of Providence, Rhode Island. Lucretia was born 30 June 1839 in New York City, New York. Milhous notes:

William Potts attended the Friends Boarding School at Westtown, Pennsylvania. He studied that branch of law connected with real estate and spent some years in a conveyancer’s office in Philadelphia. In 1863 he removed to Brooklyn, New York, where he engaged in the insurance and banking business. He was active in public affairs and reform movements. He served as a secretary of the National Civil Service Reform League from its organization and was Chief Examiner of the Civil Service Commission of New York State. He also engaged in literary pursuits and was the author of several essays.

The Potts Memorial indicates that William was a volunteer in an artillery company from Philadelphia in the Antietam campaign of 1862. Potts was an author and social reformer and was the author of "Evolution & Social Reform - The Socialistic Method" printed in 1890. He died 1908 in Philadelphia. His wife, Lucretia (Anthony) Potts died on 24 November 1881 in Brooklyn, New York. No issue.

viii. Elizabeth Potts, was the daughter of Joseph and Sidney (Bonsall) Potts. Elizabeth was born at Haddington, New Jersey 25th 6 mo. 1841. She died in 1928 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Not married, no issue.
7. JONATHAN POTTS: was the son of John and Ruth (Savage) Potts. He was born “April ye 15th about five of the Clock in the afternoon A.D. 1745” probably at Colebrook Dale. Jonathan apparently attended school at Ephrata that was run by the Seventh Day Baptists. He may have also attended the Academy in Philadelphia where several of his brothers had attended. About 1761, when he was sixteen, he began an apprenticeship with Dr. Phineas Bond that lasted five years to become a doctor. In 1765, Potts and Benjamin Rush, who was then apprenticing under Dr. John Redman, were permitted to attend the Pennsylvania Hospital as apprentices. In 1766, it was decided both would take medical training at Edinburgh and in the summer of 1766, they traveled to the continent with a letter from Dr. John Morgan, an Edinburgh Medical School graduate.

Prior to leaving, Potts became engaged to Grace Richardson. Grace, who belonged to the Society of Friends, was the daughter of Francis and Mary (Fitzwater) Richardson and niece of Philadelphia’s famous goldsmith, Joseph Richardson. It was decided they would marry when he returned. Potts and Rush sailed on August 3 aboard the Friendship for Liverpool. The ship arrived October 21st. Benjamin Franklin, who was then in London, provided a letter of introduction for the two men and sent a letter 20 December 1766 to Messrs. Rush & Potts at Edinburgh, regarding their behavior at Edinburgh University and giving them instruction and advice as to how to conduct themselves. He told the young men that they were fortunate to study with “illustrious men” and advised them to be “circumspect in your behavior.”

Potts also brought a letter of introduction signed by John Pemberton, clerk of Philadelphia Meeting. He attended Friends meeting while in Edinburgh. On 20 January 1767 Potts wrote home: “I have been constantly employed in attending the college, where I daily receive new improvements in Medical knowledge, and hope to return to my native land answering the expectations of all my Friends, with the character of a good physician, and what I prefer to everything else, the character of a good man.”

Jonathan did not finish his instructions there as his fiancée in Philadelphia was pregnant and he decided to return home. He borrowed 70 pounds from Franklin and sailed from England on March 5th to marry. Because the voyage took from seven to eight weeks, he missed the birth of his daughter, Mary Frances Potts. He married Grace at Reading on 5 May 1767. Brother-in-law Thomas Rutter, “one of his Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for the Province of Pennsylvania” officiated. Eleven Potts or Rutter relatives signed the Quaker-like certificate although no Richardsons signed. While Jonathan did not, Grace continued attending meeting and remained a Friend and their various physical moves can be traced through her meeting records. In 1767 Jonathan established a medical practice in Reading, Pennsylvania.

He returned to Philadelphia and enrolled in the medical school of the College of Philadelphia and in the summer of 1768 graduated with a Bachelor of Physic at the first medical commencement in America. The medical class had only ten in number and he delivered the valedictory speech. The Pennsylvania Gazette dated 30 June 1768, notes the names of the graduates and indicates: “An elegant Oration was spoken by Mr. Potts, the Advantages to the Study of Physic, from a previous liberal Education in other Sciences, particularly Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy.”
Jonathan had removed to Pottstown by 1769 and had started a practice. He received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1771. His dissertation was published and a copy exists at the Library Company of Philadelphia. In 1772 he returned to Reading and continued his medical practice there but by 1773 he moved again to Philadelphia. Meeting records at Exeter Meeting state that on 24th 9th month 1773, Grace Potts removed to Philadelphia “to reside with her husband.” Philadelphia Meeting records for 9mo 26, 1773 also state Grace Potts, wife of Jonathan, was received on certificate from Exeter Meeting. Jonathan became a member of the American Philosophical Society.

Potts early joined the Whig cause and represented Berks County on several committees. On 1mo 26, 1774 the family apparently moved back to Reading as Grace Potts obtained a certificate from Philadelphia Meeting to Exeter Meeting. About this time, she and one of her daughters were left bequests from the 1776 will of Deborah Claypoole, widow of Philadelphia. Shortly after Lexington and Concord in 1775, Jonathan petitioned Congress for a medical post and in May was appointed to the Northern Department. On Friday, May 10, 1776, Congress resolved: “That Dr. Potts be taken into the Pay of the Continent and be employed in the Canada Department or at Lake George as the Genl s shall think fit. But that this Recommendation be not considered so as to supersede Dr. Stringer. That the Pay of Dr. Potts be Dollars per Mo.”

Jonathan served in the Medical Department during the Revolution as a physician and was at Saratoga and Valley Forge and at the Battles of Trenton and Princeton. Several biographies have been written on his life and many of his letters, which were written to Continental Congressmen and other Revolutionary leaders, remain in a number of repositories. In 1780, Jonathan purchased his brother John’s confiscated estate at Stowe near Pottstown which contained a mansion house and 235 acres. He paid £20,000 “Continental” for it. He sold it shortly after to relative Samuel Baird. Jonathan died testate at Reading early October 1781. His will (B-19) was signed 11 October 1780 and taken for probate at Berks County on 11 October 1781.

After Jonathan’s death, Grace and the family remained at Reading. Exeter Meeting records of 7mo 31, 1782 under “Status of Slaves owned by Quakers” of the Meeting notes that Grace owned two slaves, both to be set free soon. In 1785, Grace and her family moved to Wilmington, Delaware near Thomas and Sarah May there. Thomas May’s “Wilmington Journal” notes the following: “Grace Potts Came to Reside in Wilmington 19th October 1785 and took Possession of Widow Martha Proles house in Kings street at £50 per Annum.”

On 10mo 26, 1785, Exeter Meeting records indicate that Grace Potts, widow of Jonathan, transferred her certificate to Wilmington Monthly Meeting. Grace took her children as Hugh Judge notes in his journal of 16 September 1787 a Delaware visit: "In the company of Samuel Canby, I visited the widow Potts' family & had a good open time of communication among them; was glad I attended to the intimation." Grace is mentioned numerous times in May’s “Wilmington Journal” during this period and it notes she took in boarders including nephew Samuel Nutt Potts and nieces Ruth and Martha Potts, daughters of Jonathan’s deceased sister Anna. Thomas Shallcross and Deborah Claypool Potts, daughter of Jonathan Potts, late of Pottstown...deceased and Grace his wife, married 10mo 22, 1789 at the Quaker Meeting in Wilmington.
of letters in existence from Grace Potts to Rebecca (Mifflin) Archer dated from 1789 to 1794.  

On 6mo 25, 1794 Grace Potts, widow of Jonathan, was given a certificate back to Exeter. Exeter Meeting records indicate that Grace Potts died in Pottstown six months later on 11mo 19th, 1794. Neither Jonathan nor his children were involved in the family iron industry. Issue: eight children, seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren.

57. Mary Frances Potts, was the daughter of Jonathan and Grace (Richardson) Potts. She was born 4 April 1767. Mary Frances’ son, William, in his genealogy indicates that she: “inclined to Friend’s Society, played sweetly on the Guitar, accompanied with the voice.” She was married in September 1798, by Robert E. Hobart, Justice of the Peace of Pottstown, to William Potts, the youngest son of Thomas Potts (c1720-1764) and his second wife Deborah Pyewell of Colebrook Dale Furnace. Potts was her father’s first cousin and was born at Colebrook Dale. William’s father died when he was young and he was early involved in the family iron business

58. at Valley Forge with his Uncle David at the ironwork there. Subsequently, he removed to Pottstown.

Mary Frances Potts died of consumption about 1809. William died testate 21 February 1819. Both were buried in the family graveyard at Pottstown. There are Orphans Court records concerning their three children. One son, William, was an early Potts genealogist and his material was used by Isabella James in her Potts Memorial.

i. Thomas Potts, was the son of William and Mary Frances (Potts) Potts. Thomas was born 25 November 1800. He died at ten months on 29 September 1801.

ii. William Baird Potts, was the son of William and Mary Frances (Potts) Potts. William was born 22 February 1802. He was educated for the bar and practiced law, first at Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County and later at Pottsville. He married 8 April 1830, Jane Hughes Downing, the daughter of Levi Downing. Jane was born 22 March 1807 and died 8 March 1883. They lived at Pottsville where he was a lawyer. He was an early Potts biographer. William died 9 October 1855 and is buried at the family graveyard at Pottstown. Issue, six children: Mary Frances, William Ramsay, Edward Hobart, Howard Downing, Clement Downing, and Helen Jane Potts.

iii. Deborah Potts, was the daughter of William and Mary Frances (Potts) Potts. Deborah was born April 1804. She died unmarried in 1874. The Montgomery Ledger of 22 June 1874 noted her death: “Miss Deborah Potts, a highly esteemed lady died on Thursday, the 18th inst., at Pottsville in the 71st year of her age and her remains were interred in the burial ground of the Potts family at Pottstown, on Saturday last. Deceased was a daughter of William Potts, who at one time resided at Valley Forge, but afterwards removed to this place and entered in the mercantile business...William B. Potts, a prominent member of the Schuylkill county bar, and brother of Deborah Potts, was interred here in October, 1815 with Masonic honors.” No issue.

58. Benjamin Rush Potts, was the son of Jonathan and Grace (Richardson) Potts. He was born 19 May 1768. In a letter to Samuel Fisher, Benjamin Rush notes the following: “My friend Jon. Potts tells me in his last letter that his wife was safely delivered of a son on the 18th of last May which he says he intends to call Benjamin after me but I suspect it is after Dr. Franklin. I cannot help smiling every time I think of Jonathan being so early the father of two children. May he enjoy happiness in them.” Meeting records at Exeter show Benjamin Potts was received in membership there 1mo 14, 1789 but was disowned 1mo 14, 1795 because he: “has almost entirely neglected the attendance of our religious meeting, deviated in dress & general deportment.” The Potts Memorial notes he emigrated to the West, and in 1822 was living in Ohio, seventy miles
from Wheeling. “It is believed that he married there; but if be left descendants, they are unknown to the rest of his family.” W.B. Potts indicates, however: “He had a wife and a good family so says Uncle Samuel Potts’ letter to Wm. Baird.”

59. **Clement Potts**, was the son of Jonathan and Grace (Richardson) Potts. He died in infancy.

60. **Grace Potts**, was the daughter of Jonathan and Grace (Richardson) Potts. She was born 30 Oct 1769; died 3 November, aged four days.

61. **Deborah Claypoole Potts**, was the daughter of Jonathan and Grace (Richardson) Potts. She was born 15 December 1770. Deborah Potts was left a legacy by the 1776 will of Deborah Claypoole, widow of Philadelphia, which was taken for probate in 1785. In a petition to the Orphans’ Court, dated 13 May 1786, she is described as a minor, above the age of fourteen, and entitled to a valuable property by the will of her father, Jonathan Potts, and of her aunt, Deborah Claypoole. She appeared in open court, and chose for her guardians her mother, Grace Potts, now of Wilmington, Delaware, widow, and Joseph Mifflin, merchant, who were appointed by the court. Exeter Meeting records indicate that she was received in membership on request on 7mo 15, 1789. She married at Friends Meeting in Wilmington, Delaware, Thomas Shallcross, 10 mo. 22, 1789, and died 10 January 1798 in her twenty-seventh year, and was buried in the family graveyard at Pottstown. Issue, three children apparently all died young. Thomas, Sarah and John Shallcross.
   i. **Thomas Shallcross**, was the son of Thomas and Deborah Claypoole (Potts) Shallcross. He was born c1790. Apparently died young; marriage, issue, date of death unknown.
   ii. **Sarah Shallcross**, was the daughter of Thomas and Deborah Claypoole (Potts) Shallcross. She was born c1792. Apparently died young; marriage, issue, date of death unknown.
   iii. **John Shallcross**, was the son of Thomas and Deborah Claypoole (Potts) Shallcross. He was born c1794. Apparently died young; marriage, issue, date of death unknown.

62. **Francis Richardson Potts**, was the son of Jonathan and Grace (Richardson) Potts. He was born 15 August 1772. Francis was educated as a physician, and practiced medicine in Pottstown. On 18 March 1802 he married at Christ Church, Lydia Mayburry. 38 Lydia was the daughter of ironmaster Thomas and Rebecca (Warder) Mayburry, and was born 1780. She was a Friend. Exeter Meeting records dated 6mo 30, 1802 indicate that Lydia Potts, former Mayburry, was disowned for marrying contrary to discipline. He became a physician and practiced that profession in Pottstown. Francis’ date of death is unknown, but W.B. Potts indicates that he died after 1812. His widow married for her second husband, Dr. Charles Rex of Chestnut Hill. Lydia died 21 July 1858, and was buried in the Potts family graveyard. Her tombstone there notes: “Lydia P. Rex Daughter of Thomas & Rebecca Mayberry Died July 21 1858.” Issue, Francis and Lydia had one child.
   i. **Grace Potts**, died in infancy.

63. **Horatio Gates Potts**, was the son of Jonathan and Grace (Richardson) Potts. He was born 16 October 1778; died in infancy, not mentioned in his father’s will.

64. **Edward B. Potts**, was the son of Jonathan and Grace (Richardson) Potts. He was born 1780 probably at Reading. He died 16th of 8 mo., 1790 at Philadelphia of yellow fever, and was interred in Friends’ burying ground in that city. His cousin Joseph Paul Potts, died nine days later of yellow fever, “supposed to have been taken while attending his cousin, Edward B. Potts.” No issue.
8. **ANNA NUTT² POTTS**: was the daughter of John¹ and Ruth (Savage) Potts. “Anna was born July the 5ᵗʰ about nine of the Clock at night, A.D. 1747.” She was born at Popodickon at Colebrook Dale. The *Potts Memorial* provides a miniature of a portrait of Anna painted before her wedding. Shortly after her father’s death, on 22 December 1768, she married her cousin David Potts (styled Jr.), third son and eldest child of Thomas Potts II (1720-1762) and his first wife Rebecca Rutter. The Rev. William Currie of Pottsgrove performed the Church of England service. David Potts was born c1742 in Berks County. David's cousin, also a David, although only born in 1741, was styled “Senior” and consequently, David was styled “Junior.” In several early Berks County deeds he is listed as David Potts "the Younger."

David Potts was raised and probably also born at Colebrook Dale Furnace. His mother died when he was about eight. His father and grandfather worked at and managed the furnace. When the elder Potts died in 1752, David's father took over its management. The family, which apparently lived near or at the furnace, moved into the manor house at that time. David learned iron making under his father and his uncle, Thomas Rutter III at Colebrook Dale and at Spring Forge. David's father died in 1762 when he was about 19. On 13ᵗʰ Day of May 1763, David petitioned the Orphan’s Court for a guardian and on the same day, the court “approve and appoint the Said James Boone Guardian.”³⁹ In 1766, David's step-mother removed to Philadelphia and remarried. She apparently took the younger members of the family with her but David remained at Colebrook Dale. Although he was given the option by his father's will of taking Colebrook Dale Furnace when he turned age 21, he declined. Instead, he purchased in 1768, Pine Forge from the estate of his uncle and future father-in-law, John Potts. The price was £2000, with "£500 in hand and the remainder in five yearly payments." Rather than actively manage the forge, records indicate that David rented Pine Forge to several individuals including Thomas May and Thomas Walker. During this time period Warwick Furnace supplied all of Pine Forge’s iron. Warwick was making cannon for the Pennsylvania Council of Safety as early as 1775.

During the Revolution, David served in the militia as he is listed in the 4ᵗʰ class of Capt. George Boucher’s Company of Berks County. Potts died at age 40 in 1782, his wife Anna dying shortly before he did. Anna (Potts) Potts died in early October of 1782; David died on 9 November 1782 at Pine Forge. Anna Potts' will, filed at Reading and in found Berks County Will Book B, #45, was written 27 March 1775 and probated 8 October 1782. Anna basically left everything to her husband, David. David was made the sole executor and Samuel Robeson, Martha Hughes, and John Ellis witnessed it. The will of David Potts, Jr. of Douglas Township was written 5 October 1782 and taken for probate 14 November 1782. It was filed at Berks County in Will Book B, #46. Both David and Anna were buried in the Potts Cemetery at Coventry. Anna Nutt Potts has a headstone but David does not.

Issue, two children, Ruth Anna and Martha (called Patty), raised by Anna’s sister Martha after their deaths and they boarded with their Aunt Grace Potts in Wilmington, Delaware. Thomas May’s “Wilmington Journal” notes: “Ruth and Patty Potts left Mrs. Widow Whitlocks 24ᵗʰ October and Same day Began to Board with Mrs. Grace Potts.”⁴⁰ Fifteen grandchildren.
65. Ruth Anna Potts, was the eldest daughter of David and Anna (Potts) Potts. She was born c1770, at Pine. Her parents died when she was about twelve and she lived with the Martha (Potts) Rutter family at "Laurel Lodge" in Pottstown until her marriage.

Ruth Anna married at the Rutter home at age twenty-one, Edmund Key of Maryland, son of Thomas and Jane (Llewellyn) Key. The marriage was performed by the Rev. Frederick Dellicker and is recorded in the records of the Falkner Swamp Reformed Church. Key is listed in church records as "Lawyer Edmund Key." The Maryland Journal reported the marriage: "Edward Key of Maryland, Counsellor at Law and Ruth Anna Potts married at the seat of Thomas Rutter at Pottsgrove, Pennsylvania on June 28, 1792." Dunlap’s American Daily Advertiser of 29 June 1792 also noted the marriage. Edmund and Ruth Anna are noted as living in New Hanover Township, Montgomery County on a 1799 deed, which distributed Rebecca Rutter Potts’ estate. Key was born in 1771 at "Bushwood Lodge," near St. Mary's County, Maryland. Edmund was an Associate Judge there, 1st Judicial district, from 1806-1851. He died 19 February 1857 at age 86 in Prince George's County. Francis Scott Key, composer of the National Anthem, was his first cousin. The family moved from Montgomery County to the Key estate at his father’s death to St. Mary’s County. The date of Ruth Anna's death is not known. She is buried in the Key family vault under Christ Episcopal Church of King and Queens Parish in Chaptico, Maryland. Key married second Margaret Johns Mackall. Issue, Edmund and Ruth Anna had four children.

i. Anna Key, was the daughter of Edmund and Ruth Anna (Potts) Key. Issue, marriage, date of death unknown.

ii. Martha Key, was the daughter of Edmund and Ruth Anna (Potts) Key. She married a. Mr. McGregor. Issue, date of death unknown.

iii. Thomas Key, was the son of Edmund and Ruth Anna (Potts) Key. Issue, marriage, date of death unknown.

iv. Jane Key, was the daughter of Edmund and Ruth Anna (Potts) Key. Issue, marriage, date of death unknown.

66. Martha Potts, called Patty, was the daughter of David and Anna (Potts) Potts. She was born c1771 at Pine Forge, Berks County. Martha married on 25 January 1792, her cousin, David Potts, Jr., and the announcement of the marriage was in Dunlap’s American Daily Advertiser dated 30 January 1792. David was one of six children of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts. Samuel was her mother's brother. David was born at Pottsgrove, Pennsylvania c1757, managed Vincent Slitting Mill and was involved in building and managing Joanna Furnace. After his father's death, he leased and managed Warwick Furnace in Chester County. David was also involved in a company to develop Copper. David ran Warwick Furnace for the next decade. He got into financial difficulties prior to 1817 and the Chester County newspapers had numerous articles concerning them. The Village Record of 15 October 1817 indicates his assignees were trying to sell his un-elapsed term of lease for the furnace. Martha (Potts) Potts died at Warwick on 3 October 1813 “of Bilious fever” and was buried at the family cemetery at Coventry Forge. David's personal ownership share of Warwick was "seized and taken in execution” and put up for sale by the county sheriff via notice of 20 February 1826. Consequently, David, as "the surviving Executor, of the last Wills and Testaments of Samuel and Joanna Potts," also put Warwick Furnace itself up for sale. This was announced in the Village Record dated 18 August 1826. The furnace had between six and seven thousand acres of land at that time. It appears that the furnace was not sold as David's son, also a David, became manager and owner at his father's death. David Potts died at Warwick on 16 September 1834 and his also buried at Coventry. Issue, eleven children. Children listed under Number 23, David Potts.
9. ISAAC² POTTS; was the son of John and Ruth² (Savage) Potts. Isaac was born “May the 20th about eleven of the Clock in the forenoon A.D. 1750.” He was a miller, iron master, tanner and ran several Potts foundries. Isaac joined Friends at age twenty and he eventually became a minister among them. Gwynedd Monthly meeting records dated 7mo 31, 1770, state Isaac Potts was received in membership there. He married twice: first to Martha Boulton, 6 December 1770 at Plymouth Meeting. Martha was the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Livezey) Boulton and was born 5mo 28, 1750. Isaac worked for his brother at Valley Forge and purchased on 1 February 1773 the mill there. In 1776, Meeting records indicate that he “Journeyed to South Carolina and Georgia on private concerns.” During the Revolution he rented his mill to William Dewees and he built and ran a tannery in Pottstown where he lived. He is shown on tax records during this time and on one year as refusing to pay, perhaps in opposition to the war. Isaac gained some prominence as the individual who witnessed George Washington praying at Valley Forge in “Parson” Weems’ book on the life of George Washington. He is included in a number of paintings and lithographs depicting the scene.

In 1782, he purchased property in Charlestown Township, in Chester County and moved his family there. On 2 October 1784 he purchased Valley Forge. During the war the forge had been burned and Potts rebuilt the ironwork and added a slitting mill. He filed a claim for damages. The following appeared in the 19 December 1792 Pennsylvania Gazette under: “The petition of Isaac Potts was presented, praying compensations for damages suffered by his property during the war. Ordered to lie on the table.” He is shown on the 1790 Census as living in Montgomery County.

In 1793 he moved to Philadelphia and built Martha Furnace and Wading River Forge in New Jersey. The Jersey ironworks in 1797 and returned to Cheltenham Township, Montgomery County where he bought a farm. Martha (Boulton) Potts died there 4mo 30, 1798 and was buried at Cheltenham. Isaac married second, Sarah Evans, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Mather) Evans at Abington Meeting on 10 March 1803. Sarah was born 7mo 6, 1757. He died testate 15 June 1803 and his death is noted in Elizabeth Drinker’s diary. Isaac’s will, dated 22 May 1803, is filed in Montgomery Co. Bk. 2, page 318. The will notes his real estate was to be sold and divided among his children and his wife given the estate he owned in North Wales at the time of their marriage. His obituary appeared in Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser of 22 June 1803 and in the June 25 Federal Gazette and Baltimore Daily Advertiser.

As mentioned, in the 1808 edition of Mason Locke Weems’s biography of George Washington, the story of Isaac finding Washington praying at Valley Forge first appeared. It was repeated in the 6 November 1812 Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser numerous times since. Additionally, several paintings and lithographs depicting the scene are in existence and widely copied. Issue twelve children, nineteen grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren.

67. Mary³ Potts, was the daughter of Isaac² and Martha (Boulton) Potts. She was born 11 mo. 12, 1771. She married her cousin, John Paul at Northern District Meeting, Philadelphia, 5 mo. 12, 1795 and a copy of their marriage certificate is at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Paul was the son of John and Mary (Bolton) Paul and born 1771. Dunlap’s American Daily Advertiser on 16 May 1795 noted the marriage of John Paul and “Molly” Potts. A copy of their marriage
certificate resides at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Mary (Potts) Paul of Lower Dublin Township, Philadelphia County wrote her will 31 August 1792. It was taken for probate 11 January 1797 and filed in Will Book X, p. 533. John Paul married as a second wife, Hannah Lewis, and died in Philadelphia 7 mo. 28, 1844. John and Mary (Potts) Paul had two children, both died young.

i. Isaac Paul, was the son of John and Mary (Potts) Paul. He was born 8 mo., 1797. He died 7 mo. 2, 1798.
ii. Mary Paul, was the daughter of John and Mary (Potts) Paul. She died young.

68. Rebecca Potts, was the daughter of Isaac and Martha (Boulton) Potts. She was born 1 mo. 3, 1773 and died at age four on 9 mo. 10, 1777 and was buried at Pottstown.

69. Joseph Paul Potts, was the son of Isaac and Martha (Boulton) Potts. He was born 7 mo. 3, 1774 and died at age 26 of yellow fever. The Potts Memorial provides the following notice of his death copied from a record written by his father: "Joseph Paul Potts, son of Isaac and Martha Potts, departed this life at Pottstown, 8th mo. 25, 1790, of yellow-fever, supposed to have been taken while attending his cousin, Edward B. Potts, whom his humanity led him to attend, and with whom he stayed till his interment in Friends' burying-ground, Philadelphia, the evening week previous to his own departure, which was First day morning about sunrise. O my soul, many have been thy trials this year! Gracious God, grant patience and resignation.” Not married, no issue.

70. Anna Potts, was the daughter of Isaac and Martha (Boulton) Potts. She was born 8 mo. 7, 1776 and died at age three on 20 July 1779 and was buried at Pottstown.

71. Edward Burroughs Potts, was the son of Isaac and Martha (Boulton) Potts. He was born 12 mo. 18, 1778. Edward married at Friend’s Meeting House in Plymouth, Sarah Williams, the daughter of Isaac and Phebe (Meredith) Williams, of Whitemarsh, Montgomery Co. on 16 May 1805. Sarah was born 11 mo 16, 1784. Poulson's American Daily Advertiser dated 18 May 1805 had the announcement of the ceremony: "On Thursday last, at Friends’ Meeting, Plymouth, Mr. Edward B. Potts to Miss Sarah Williams, daughter of Mr. Isaac Williams, of Montgomery County.” Sarah died 8mo 18, 1854 and was buried at Abington Meeting. Issue, one child.

i. Isaac Williams Potts, was the son of Edward and Sarah (Williams) Potts. He was born in Montgomery County, 16 February 1807. Isaac married in Philadelphia 15 November 1838, Hannah Austin Newlin, daughter of Nathaniel Newlin, late of Concord. An obituary notes that he formerly extensively engaged in the wool business and forty year ago had his warehouse in Front street below Market. Isaac died in 22 September 1876. An unmarked Philadelphia paper dated 23 September had the following: “Potts – On the 22d instant, Isaac W. Potts, in the 70th year of his age. The relatives and male friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, No. 1921 Wallace street, on Monday Morning, the 25th instant at 9 o’clock.” Four children: Augusta, William Newlin, Austin and Virginia Potts.

72. Samuel L. Potts was the son of Isaac and Martha (Boulton) Potts. Samuel was born 9mo. 19, 1779; married at Abington meeting, 11 mo. 20, 1806, Sarah, daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Ashbridge) Fletcher. The 22 November 1806 Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser noted the marriage: “On Thursday last, at Friends’ Meeting, Abington, Montgomery County, Mr. Samuel Potts, to Miss Sarah Fletcher, daughter of Mr. Thomas Fletcher, all of Montgomery County. Sarah (Fletcher) Potts was born 3 mo. 26, 1786. He died intestate in Philadelphia on 3 mo.15, 1815 and Letters of Administration are filed in Philadelphia in Administration Book L, p. 234, File 72. Sarah (Fletcher) Potts died in Germantown, 8 mo. 18, 1854. Issue, two children.

i. Hannah Fletcher Potts, was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Fletcher) Potts. She was born 9 mo. 22, 1808. She died unmarried 22 July 1872.
ii. Martha\textsuperscript{4} Potts was the daughter of Samuel\textsuperscript{3} and Sarah (Fletcher) Potts. Martha was born 2 mo. 1810. She died unmarried in Philadelphia, 8 mo. 25, 1845.

73. Joanna\textsuperscript{3} Potts, was the daughter of Isaac\textsuperscript{2} and Martha (Boulton) Potts. She was born 12 mo. 24, 1781. Joanna married at Abington Meeting, 2 mo. 17, 1809, Daniel, son of Thomas and Hannah (Ashbridge) Fletcher. The marriage was noted in \textit{Polson's American Daily Advertiser} dated 9 December 1809. Thomas was born 5 mo. 8, 1781, and died in Philadelphia 12 mo. 13, 1860. Issue, two children.

i. Mary Paul\textsuperscript{4} Fletcher, was the daughter of Daniel and Joanna\textsuperscript{3} (Potts) Fletcher. She was born 3mo 10, 1810. Mary died 2 mo. 15, 1826.

ii. John Shoemaker\textsuperscript{4} Fletcher, was the son of Daniel and Joanna\textsuperscript{3} (Potts) Fletcher. John was born 3 mo. 31, 1812. He died unmarried 4 mo. 19, 1861.

74. Martha\textsuperscript{3} Potts, was the daughter of Isaac\textsuperscript{2} and Martha (Boulton) Potts. She was born 3 mo. 1, 1783. Martha married at the Friend’s Meeting House at Abington, 3 mo. 9, 1804, Rowland Jones, son of John and Mary (Rowland) Jones, of Montgomery Co. The announcement of the ceremony was in \textit{Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser} dated 10 March 1804: “Yesterday at Friends’ Meeting, Abington, Rowland Jones, of Birmingham Works, N.J., to Martha Potts, daughter of I. Potts, late of Cheltenham, dec’d.” Rowland was born 1778. She died without issue 7 mo. 20, 1826 and was buried at Burlington Meeting. Rowland Jones survived until 8mo 19, 1867, dying at the age of eighty-nine. He was buried at Burlington Meeting.

75. Ruth Anna\textsuperscript{3} Potts, was the daughter of Isaac\textsuperscript{2} and Martha (Boulton) Potts. She was born 2 mo. 18, 1785. Philadelphia Meeting records show that she married her cousin at the Pine Street Meeting on 6 mo. 5, 1805, Joseph M. Paul, son of John and Mary (Boulton) Paul. He was born 11 June 1779. Ruth Anna died 26 April 1811, and the following obituary appeared in the Philadelphia \textit{United States Gazette}:

"Died, on the 26th of April, Ruth Anna Paul, wife of Joseph M. Paul, of this city, in the twenty-sixth year of her age. The exit of this amiable woman, whose peculiarly affable and pleasing manners, joined to an excellent understanding, had endeared her to all her acquaintances, has made a blank that will long be felt and mourned by a large circle of attached relatives and friends. We could speak much of her virtues, but wish not to panegyrize the dead, but exalt that power which enabled this lovely woman, when surrounded by all that makes life desirable, with composure and resignation 'To meet the shaft of death, nor chide its hasty wing.'"

Joseph M. Paul survived his wife until Oct. 25, 1829 and W.B. Potts indicates that “He died in 1844, reported to be very wealthy.” The \textit{Ladies Literary Port Folio} dated 28 October 1854 noted the following: “On the 25th Inst., Joseph M. Paul in the 51st year of his age.”\textsuperscript{49} His will is filed at Philadelphia in Will Book 17, p. 212, file 149. Issue, three children, three grandchildren.

i. Sarah Ann\textsuperscript{4} Paul, was the eldest child of Joseph M. and Ruth Anna\textsuperscript{3} (Potts) Paul. Sarah was born at Philadelphia, 29 March 1806. She married there to Thomas Callender Price, 11 mo. 1, 1826. Thomas died and she married for her second husband, George Vaux Bacon, 3 mo. 31, 1841. Issue from both marriages. She died 13 December 1858. Sarah and Thomas Price had three children: Joseph M.\textsuperscript{5}, Richard\textsuperscript{5} and Mary Paul\textsuperscript{5} Price. Sarah and George Bacon had two children: George Warder\textsuperscript{5} and Frances Eliza\textsuperscript{5} Bacon.

ii. Martha\textsuperscript{4} Paul, was the daughter of Joseph M. and Ruth Anna\textsuperscript{3} (Potts) Paul. She was born 16 December 1807 and died 21 August 1809.

iii. John\textsuperscript{4} Paul, was the son of Joseph M. and Ruth Anna\textsuperscript{3} (Potts) Paul. John was born 11 September 1809. He died unmarried 15 June 1832.

76. Rebbecca\textsuperscript{3} Potts, was the daughter of Isaac\textsuperscript{2} and Martha (Boulton) Potts. Called Becky by the family, she was born 8 mo. 9, 1786. She married in Philadelphia 1 mo. 29, 1812, William Wayne, Jr., son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Lloyd) Wayne. The announcement of the marriage appeared in
Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser dated 31 January 1812: “Married, on the 29th inst. By Robert Wharton, Esq. Mr. William Wayne, jun. of this City, Merchant, to Miss Rebecca Potts, daughter of Isaac Potts, deceased.” William Wayne was born 8 mo. 29, 1785. She died in Philadelphia 2 mo. 4, 1816. Her husband survived until 12 mo. 6, 1857 and was buried at Fair Hill, Germantown. Issue, three children.

i. Isaac⁴ Wayne, was the daughter of William and Rebecca³ (Potts) Wayne. Isaac was born 10 mo. 31, 1812. He died on 3 mo. 27, 1814.

ii. Ruth Anna⁴ Wayne, was the daughter of William and Rebecca³ (Potts) Wayne. Ruth Anna was born 2 mo. 15, 1814. She married in Philadelphia, William Carey Betts, son of Samuel B. and Grace Betts, 12 mo. 4, 1833. Issue, four children: Sarah Wayne⁵, Rebecca Potts⁵, Ruth Anna⁵ and Mary Lacey⁵ Betts.

iii. Rebecca Potts⁴ Wayne, was the daughter of William and Rebecca³ (Potts) Wayne. Rebecca was born 7 mo. 12, 1815. She married Elwood Byerly, son of Stephen and Rebecca Byerly, on 7 mo. 25, 1844. Issue, three children: Rebecca⁵, William Elwood⁵ and Martha Gibson⁵ Byerly.

77. Anthony Benezet³ Potts, was the son of Isaac² and Martha (Boulton) Potts. He was born 7 mo. 4, 1788 and died under age 1 on 6 mo. 4, 1789.

78. Deborah³ Potts, was the daughter of Isaac² and Martha (Boulton) Potts. She was born 2 mo. 12, 1789. Deborah married at the Mulberry Street Meeting in Philadelphia on 5 mo. 4, 1815, Isaac Williams, Jr., son of Isaac and Phebe (Meredith) Williams of Whitemarsh. He was born 3 mo. 17, 1788. The announcement of the marriage was in the 8 May 1815 Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser: “At Friends’ Meeting, Mulberry street, on the 4th inst., Isaac Williams, jun. Of Whitemarsh to Deborah Potts, daughter of Isaac Potts, deceased.” Deborah (Potts) Williams died at Whitemarsh, Montgomery Co., 7 mo. 22, 1825. Her husband survived her only a few weeks, dying 8 mo. 31, 1825. Issue, six children.

i. Ann⁴ Williams, was the daughter of Isaac and Deborah³ (Potts) Williams. Ann was born in Montgomery County 2 mo. 13, 1816. Alive in 1872 and living in Philadelphia.

ii. Martha⁴ Williams, was the daughter of Isaac and Deborah³ (Potts) Williams. Martha was born in Montgomery County 10 mo. 15, 1817. Alive and living in Philadelphia in 1872.

iii. Isaac⁴ Williams, was the daughter of Isaac and Deborah³ (Potts) Williams (787). Isaac was born in Montgomery County 5 mo. 13, 1819. He married at Moorestown, New Jersey, Mary Haines Borton, daughter of Levi and Sarah H. Borton, on 10 mo. 21, 1841. Isaac died at his residence near the above named town, 6 mo. 13, 1862. Issue, four children: Levi Borton⁵, Edward⁵, Henry Borton⁵, and Sallie Borton⁵ Williams.

iv. Elizabeth Paul⁴ Williams, was the daughter of Isaac and Deborah³ (Potts) Williams. Elizabeth was born in Montgomery County 1 mo. 6, 1821. She died unmarried in Philadelphia, 6 mo. 22, 1843.

v. Joseph Paul⁴ Williams, was the daughter of Isaac and Deborah³ (Potts) Williams. He was born in Montgomery County 12 mo. 9, 1822. He died 6 mo. 23, 1823.

vi. Deborah Potts⁵ Williams, was the daughter of Isaac and Deborah³ (Potts) Williams. Deborah was born in Montgomery County 7 mo. 15, 1824. She died 11 mo. 7, 1825.
10. JAMES² POTTS; was the son of John¹ and Ruth (Savage) Potts. James was born 1752, probably at Colebrook Dale Furnace. He was six when his father died and he was raised at Pottsgrove Manor. James was admitted to the Philadelphia bar on 1 August 1773 and he was an attorney. In April 1775, James, was elected to the “Associators Committee”. He was an early Whig and appointed as a Major on 16 March 1776 along with John Cadwalader as Colonel and Caleb Perry as Lt. Col. of a “Musket Battalion.” Maj. James Potts was one of the men deputized along with Col. Thomas Hockley, to be elected to the Provincial Conference held in Philadelphia on 18 June 1776. Potts represented Philadelphia County and Hockley Chester County. On 30 May and 1 April 1777, James Potts signed as witnesses for the sale of Glasgow Forge by his brothers to James Hockley.

On 9 April 1778, James married Anna Stocker, called Nancy by the family, at St. Gabriel's Church, Morlatton. Anna was the daughter of Anthony and Margaret Stocker of Philadelphia and sister of John Clement Stocker who had married his niece. Margaret was born 3 January 1756 in Philadelphia. By a marriage settlement by tripartite deed dated 7 April 1778, Potts conveyed a lot to her. The deed states that "a marriage is intended to be shortly had and solemnized between the aforesaid, a certain messuage and lot of ground situate in Pottstown on the south side of King Street, being lot No.18 in the plan of said town."

Potts practiced law in Philadelphia. W.B. Potts indicates: “I have a promissory note for $30.40 Continental Money dated 1st May 1779, payable on demand, from James to Jonathan his brother, written on the nine of clubs.” He died intestate at age 36 at Philadelphia on 16 November 1788 and was buried at the Christ Church Burial Ground in Philadelphia. The following obituary appeared in the Philadelphia Independent Gazetteer dated Thursday, November 20, 1788:

On Tuesday afternoon last the remains of James Potts, Esq., counselor at law, of Pottsgrove, Pa., were interred in the Friends' burial-ground, attended by many respectable inhabitants and brother practitioners of the law. The many social virtues and good qualities of this worthy gentleman render his loss very affecting to his surviving relatives and friends. It may be justly said of Mr. Potts what was once asserted on a similar occasion in faithful remembrance of a predecessor in the practice of the law in England ‘God works wonders now and then Here lies a lawyer and an honest man.

Dunlap and Claypoole’s Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser also had a death notice: “On Sunday last (16th inst) departed this life in the City James Potts Esq., Attorney at law, of Pottsgrove, Montgomery County Pa., and on Tuesday his remains were interred in Christ Church burial ground.” The Pennsylvania Gazette of 26 November 1788 also had a notice. James was buried at Christ Church not the Friends’ Burial Ground with the Stockers. Letters of Administration are on file at Philadelphia in Administration Book I, page 209.

Anna (Stocker) Potts survived her husband for 33 years until 24 May 1821 when she died in Philadelphia. She was buried at Christ Church in the Stocker plot. Her gravestone, which she shares with her grandmother, notes her as the “widow of James Potts of Pottsgrove.” Her obituary appeared in Poulson's American Daily Advertiser of 28 May 1821:
Died, on the 24th instant, Mrs. Anna Potts, relict of Mr. James Potts. Endowed by her Creator with
stere and noble feelings and great energy of character, the deceased, in the several stations of
daughter, parent, and friend, made an exemplary use of the talents committed to her. "Her
charities were active and judicious, and her resignation and confidence in the last earthly trial, it is
humbly hoped, were harbingers of her entrance into that rest which remaineth for the people of
God. By Nature's law what may be, may be now. There's no prerogative in human hours. In
human hearts what bolder thoughts can rise than man's presumption on to-morrow's dawn. Where
is to-morrow? In another world; For numbers this is certain. The reverse is sure to none.

Anna (Stocker) Potts, Widow, wrote her will 25 May 1814. It was taken for probate 19
June 1821 and filed in Philadelphia Will Book 7B, p. 311. She only named one child,
Maria. She left a legacy to son-in-law: George Poe, Jr. All residue of estate was bequeathed
to nephews Anthony Stocker, John C. Stocker “for my daughter Maria Poe, wife of George
Poe, Jr. and at her death to her children.” She named Anthony Stocker and John C. Stocker
as executors. The will was witnessed by Margaret Stocker, James S. Smith and John Miller,
Jr. (of Philadelphia), Merchant. James and Anna Potts had issue, Anthony, Anna Maria,
Clement and Andrew Potts.

79. Anthony Stocker Potts, was the son of James and Anna (Stocker) Potts. He was born 22
February 1779; died 2 May 1785, six years old, and is buried in the Potts family graveyard at
Pottstown.

80. Anna Maria Potts, called Maria, was the daughter of James and Anna (Stocker) Potts. She
was born c1780 probably in Philadelphia. She married George Poe, Jr., at Philadelphia on 29
December 1808. The notice of the marriage was mentioned in Philadelphia’s Poulson’s American
Daily Advertiser dated 31 December 1808: “Married, on Tuesday evening, by the Rev. Dr.
Abercombie, Mr. George Poe jr. to Miss Anna Maria Potts, daughter of the late James Potts.”
George Poe was one of four sons of George Poe, Sr. and Catherine Dawson Poe, Scots Irish
immigrants. Shortly after their marriage, George and Maria (Potts) Poe removed to Pittsburgh
and their children were born there. He was initially a farmer but became a cashier of a bank in
Pittsburgh. George Poe was left a legacy by his mother-in-law’s 1814 will. Granddaughter Maria
Poe, wife of George Poe, was left a legacy in trust with Anthony Stocker and John Clements
Stocker by the 24 September 1821 will of Margaret Stocker. Maria (Potts) Poe died interstate in
Pittsburgh on 24 June 1824. Because she died “without making appointment in the nature of a
Will, her said estate became vested in her minor children, of whom George Poe was appointed
Guardian, on the 24th day of June, 1824” by the Allegheny County Orphans Court.”

On 04 April 1827, Poe married Emma Maria Toulmin, born 12 June 1807 in Tunton,
Somersetshire, England. Emma apparently was Catholic which seemed to influence Poe’s
educational choices for his first wife’s children. In 1847, apparently one of his first wife’s
daughters’ husbands filed for an accounting indicating that their inheritance was spent on his
second family. Two documents exist that reached the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and provide
some information on the children. These records indicate that the Poes had three living children
in 1847 when the accounting took place showing all the sons were dead and all the girls married.
The Allegheny County Orphans Court found basically that Poe had abused his trust, and converted
the trust property to his own use. Poe took the matter to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The
Supreme Court in its decision noted that:

By Will of Margaret Stocker, and the Will of Anna Potts, certain property, real and personal, located
in the County of Allegheny, in the City of Philadelphia, and also in the State of New Jersey, was
devised to Anthony Stocker and John C. Stocker, as Trustees of Maria Poe, dec’d. She was to
receive all the rents and profits of the real estate, and the dividends from the personal estate, during her natural life, and to dispose of said real estate by writing, in the nature of a last Will and Testament. If the said Maria should die without making such Will, then the property should become the property of her children. The said Marie died suddenly on 2d November 1823…It is, therefore, earnestly, but respectfully submitted, that the decree of the decree of the Orphans’ Court should be reversed.

George Poe, Jr. lived for a time in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, then in Mobile, Alabama and finally in the Georgetown area of Washington, DC. Emma and George had nine children born from 1828 to 1848. Emma Maria (Toulmin) Poe died 29 November 1852. George W. Poe, Jr. died 21 July 1864 in Washington, D.C. Issue, six children.

i. George Washington Poe, was the eldest son of George and Anna Marie (Potts) Poe. He was probably born in Pittsburgh in 1809 or 1810. A letter in the court records dated 1847 indicates that George was living in Texas in 1840 but he was deceased by the date of the 1847 Orphan’s Court proceedings. It is possible that George is the George Washington Poe who fought with Sam Huston in Texas. The University of Texas at Austin Handbook of Texas Online has the following:

Poe, George Washington (ca. 1800-1844). George Washington Poe, soldier, was probably born near Cincinnati, Ohio, about 1800. He moved to Texas in 1834 with his wife, Frances, with whom he lived until 1839. In October 1835 Poe was serving as a volunteer captain in the artillery branch, assigned to mounting the army’s cannons. By November 6 he was with the artillery company engaged in the siege of Bexar. On December 30, 1835, he was acting adjutant general of Gen. Sam Houston’s army with the rank of captain and was stationed at army headquarters in Columbia. Among his duties was supervising the construction of fortifications at Galveston and Velasco. On January 16, 1836, the General Council commissioned him third lieutenant in the artillery regiment of the yet-unformed regular army, but by January 30 of that year Houston was referring to him as “major,” no doubt his volunteer rank…After leaving the army Poe established residence in Houston, where he engaged in land speculation. On November 13, 1838, Houston nominated him as stock commissioner of the Republic of Texas and submitted the nomination to the Senate for confirmation. Poe died in 1844 and his wife in 1871. In 1874 Mrs. Poe’s heirs filed suit for possession of her undivided half interest in the league and labor head-right issued to Poe in 1838, but after years of litigation and appeal their claim was denied.

Poe married Frances (surname unknown.) The University of Texas material would indicate he married before he went to Texas. Poe died in 1844 and his wife in 1871. Issue unknown.

ii. Anna Marie Poe, was the daughter of George and Anna Marie (Potts) Poe. She was born in Pittsburgh c1812. Anna married in 1835 Thomas W. McCoy. Marriage, issue and death unknown.

iii. James D. Poe, was the son of George and Anna Marie (Potts) Poe. He was born in Pittsburgh c1814. James attended Mt. St. Mary’s College from 1824-1830. Court records show he went to France. He appears to have been deceased in 1847. Marriage and issue unknown.

iv. Richard Poe, was the son of George and Anna Marie (Potts) Poe. He was born in Pittsburgh c1816. No mentioned in the estate accounting, assumed died young. Date of death unknown.

v. Maria Poe, was the daughter of George and Anna Marie (Potts) Poe. She was born in Pittsburgh c1818. Court records indicate that she was educated by Miss Peter’s School in New Haven and that on “Nov. 2, 1844, she is of age.” Maria married as his second wife, Dr. William Henry Denny of Pittsburgh. Denny was the son of Ebenezer and Nancy (Wilkins) Denny of Pittsburgh. He was born there 18 March 1796. He was educated at Dickinson College and at the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. The Potts Memorial indicates: “He received his degree of M. D. from the University of Pennsylvania, 1825. Subject of his essay "Bronchocele of Pittsburgh." The Denny Genealogy notes he was a successful physician and a leading citizen of Pittsburgh and has a good biography of him. His first wife, by whom he had three children, died in 1849. He married Maria after her, and they had three children which would have been young at his death. Denny died of pneumonia on 5 May 1863 and is buried in Allegheny Cemetery. The Potts Memorial notes that Maria (Poe) Denny died in 1863. Issue, Georgianna, William Henry, and George Tolman Denny.

vi. Catherine Poe, was the daughter of George and Anna Marie (Potts) Poe. She was born in Pittsburgh c1820. Court records show she was educated at “St. Joseph’s Seminary” as her father sent
money to “Sister Genevieve” there. Catherine married William W. Robinson and they appear to have been living in New Orleans in 1847. Issue and death unknown.

81. **Clement Stocker ³ Potts**, was the son of James² and Anna (Stocker) Potts. He was born November 1781. He died unmarried, no issue.

82. **Andrew ³ Potts**, was the son of James² and Anna (Stocker) Potts. He was born 1783. He died unmarried at St. Thomas, West Indies of yellow fever. No issue.
11. REBECCA Potts; was the daughter of John and Ruth (Savage) Potts. Based on her given age at death, Rebecca was born in 1753-54 at Pottsgrove Manor. Her father died when she was age 13. Rebecca married on 28 April 1778, Dr. Benjamin Duffield, son of Edward and Catherine (Parry) Duffield. The Neill genealogy has a copy of an interesting indenture made the 27th of April, the day before they married. Benjamin Duffield of Pottstown, Practitioner of Physick of the one part, Rebecca Potts, spinster, of the second part, and Samuel Potts, Edward Duffield and Andrew Robeson of the third part made the indenture because Rebecca had received her share of her father’s large estate. It was agreed that 700 pounds of her inheritance would be for her sole and separate use. Benjamin and Rebecca and the others signed it. It was sealed and delivered in the presence of Jesse Potts and Nathaniel Potts.

Duffield was born 30 November 1753 at “Benfield,” the family seat at Bucks County. He was educated at the College of Philadelphia and graduated with a Bacheelor of Arts in 1771 and delivered on Commencement day, a poem entitled “Science.” He studied medicine with Dr. John Ridman, and after attending the lectures of Drs. Morgan and Shippen, in 1775 went to medical school in Edinburgh. He was a contemporary in the medical profession of Rebecca’s brother, Dr. Jonathan Potts, and his teacher, Dr. Benjamin Rush. Rebecca’s oldest brother Thomas Potts sent a letter dated 1 August 1774 to Benjamin Franklin, who was then in London, which was taken by Duffield: “My friend Mr. Duffield’s son Ben is going to Edinburgh to improve himself in his profession of Physic, by whom I write this, and he promises to send by some friend from there; if he should ever have the pleasure of seeing you in London, you will easily discern merit in him.”

Neill indicates in his biography that during the war, Duffield was put in charge of a hospital Reading. “Benjn Duffield” took the oath required by Pennsylvania at Warwick Furnace in Chester County with several of his Potts brothers-in-law on 30th May 1778. After the war they moved to Philadelphia and resided in Front Street above Shippen Street and Benjamin began to practice medicine. He had a large number of students and taught obstetrics. He is noted as the first lecturer on Obstetrics in America, and was a member of the American Philosophical Society. A poem of his inscribed “To the Memory of the late Dr. Rittenhouse, by his sincere admirer,” is still extant. In the life of Judge Iredell, one of the first Associate Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, are several letters from Dr. Duffield, who was the Judge’s family physician.

Duffield played a major medical role during the yellow fever outbreak in Philadelphia in 1793. A committee was appointed to “alleviate the sufferings of those afflicted” and in the published minutes is the following: Dr. Benjamin Duffield offered his services to assist at the Hospital at Bush Hill which are accepted. Agreed that the thanks of the Committee be presented to him, and that he be furnished with a chaise or other carriage to aid him in his benevolent undertaking.”

Duffield disagreed with the treatment given by fellow physician and prior teacher Dr. Benjamin Rush, who still favored bleeding, for yellow fever victims. In his book on Rush, Arnebeck quoting Rush’s Notebook entry for 12 October 1793 states the following: “In his notebook he recorded the report that Dr. Benjamin Duffield had accused him of killing 99 out of 100 patients and said he ‘ought to have a mad shirt put on’.”
Rebecca Potts died 4 February 1797 at age forty-three in Philadelphia. Her obituary appeared in Basche’s Philadelphia Aurora dated 8 February 1797: “Died on Saturday last in the 43rd year of her age, of a short, but excruciating illness, Mrs. Rebecca Duffield, wife of Dr. Benjamin Duffield of this City.” Benjamin died in Philadelphia 13 December 1799, aged 46 years although no will or letters of administration are on file for him there. Three of their daughters married medical students working under Benjamin. Benjamin and Rebecca’s children’s births are taken from inscriptions from their Bible on file at the DAR Library in Washington. Issue: six children, thirty-one grandchildren, seventy-six great grandchildren.

83. Mary Catherine3 Duffield was the eldest daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca2 (Potts) Duffield. She was born “April 9, 1779 about 25 min after eleven in the morning.” On 19 April 1798 she married John Church at Christ Church.61 Church was born in Southwark in 1774 and was of Swedish descent. John was a doctor and received his degree of M. D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1792. His father-in-law died in 1799 and Church continued his practice. Catherine died in Philadelphia on 9 February 1804. Her obituary appeared in Poulson’s Philadelphia American Daily Advertiser, Friday, 10 February 1804. “On Thursday afternoon, 9th instant, in the twenty-fifth year of her age, Mrs. Catherine Church, wife of Dr. John Church, of this city. By the death of this truly amiable and good woman, her husband has met with a severe and heavy affliction, her brothers and sisters have sustained a great and irreparable loss, and her numerous relations, friends, and acquaintances will have to mourn for one who was deservedly loved and esteemed by them.” Church died two years after his wife in 1806 at his residence in Second Street above South. No issue.

84. Martha Rutter3 Duffield was the daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca2 (Potts) Duffield. She was born “August 9, 1780 about eleven in the evening.” She married about 1808 Dr. Henry Neill, son of Dr. John and Elizabeth (Martin) Neill of Snow Hill, Maryland.62 Neill was born in 12 March 1783 in Snow Hill, Maryland. The Neill genealogy states that “His birth is recorded in the family Bible as in ‘the year which the United States of America obtained their sovereignty and independence.’” His early education was by a Presbyterian minister in Snow Hill. He attended Washington Academy, Somerset County, Maryland. He studied medicine under his father but went to Philadelphia to continue his education. He studied under Dr. John Church who had married the eldest daughter of Benjamin Duffield. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania on 01 April 1806. The subject of his essay was "Bubunocele."

Neill notes that Henry and Martha were married about 1806 by Dr. Abercrombie, rector of St. Peter’s Church of which the Duffields were parishioners. They moved to a house on the east side of Front Street above South. Neill became interested in religion and joined the First Presbyterian Church in 1812. Neill practiced his profession in Philadelphia and became vice-president of the College of Physicians. He died in 19 October 1845 in Belvidere, New Jersey where he had taken ill. He was interred in the burial ground of the First Presbyterian Church. Martha (Duffield) Neill died 22 June 1856 at age 75 years and she was buried next to her husband. Issue, eleven children, two died in infancy, 30 grandchildren.

i. Catherine Neill, was born 17 November 1807. She was baptized by Dr. Wilson, October 10th, 1810. After visiting relatives in Maryland, she was taken sick and died in Philadelphia August 1823, aged 16 years 9 months.

ii. Elizabeth Duffield4 Neill, was the daughter of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield)3 Neill. She was born 30 November 1809. On 6 October 1828, Elizabeth married at the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, Dr. John Rodman Paul. Paul was the son of James Paul and was born in Philadelphia 24 January 1802 and died in 1877. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1823. The subject of his essay was "Constipation." Rodman was a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania in...
1820 and three years later received his degree of M.D. there. For thirty-five years he was Treasurer for the College of Physicians. He was a member of the City Council and ran his practice in Philadelphia until 1844. Between 1862-1863 Elizabeth cared for the sick and wounded soldiers who were sent to Philadelphia hospitals at the hospital on Christian Street. Elizabeth died 18 January 1866 and was buried at Laurel Hill. The Pauls had eleven children, three dying young: Mary Catherine; Margaret; Frances McIlvaine; Eleanora Ellicott; Henry Neill; Emily Martha; James Marshall; and John Rodman Paul.

iii. Benjamin D. Neill, was the son of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield) Neill. He was born 16 July 1811 and baptized 16 December 1811. He graduated from Yale and went to the University of Pennsylvania where he received a medical degree. He initially moved to Mississippi but after three years returned to Philadelphia where he lived for a number of years. Shortly after moving to Jenkintown he died on 22 August 1872. He is buried at Laurel Hill in Philadelphia. Not married, issue unknown but doubtful.

iv. Anna Potts Neill, was the daughter of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield) Neill. She was born 17 June 1813. She died unmarried in 1881. Her death notice appeared in a Philadelphia paper dated July 17th, 1881: “Neill- On the 16th inst., Anna P. Neill, daughter of the late Dr. Henry Neill, in the 68th year of her age.” No issue.

v. Henry Neill, was the son of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield) Neill. He was born at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 16 October 1815 and was the oldest son of the Rev. Herman Humphrey, President of Amherst College. Humphrey died in Philadelphia 30 April 1873. Henry died in Philadelphia, 21 April 1879. An obituary appeared in the New York City Observer of 1 May 1879. The Amherst Biographical Record provides and extensive biography:

Prepared with Dr. S. B. Wylie, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; University of Pennsylvania, 1830-33; Amherst College, 1833-34. Taught Fayetteville, North Carolina, 1834-35; Lane Theological Seminary, 1836-39; resident licentiate Andover Theological Seminary, 1839-40; ordained Hatfield, 16 April 1840; pastor there, 1840-46; Lenox, 1846-54; Fort Street. Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, 1854-57; organized Westminster Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan; pastor there 1857-61; Presbyterian Church Genesee, New York, 1862-66; w. c. Pittsfield, 1866-67; s. s. West Stockbridge, 1867-69, and Richmond part of this time; p. 2nd Presbyterian Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 1869-71; s. s. Presbyterian Church, Hopewell, South Carolina, 1871-72; w. c. Philadelphia, 1872-79; organized Presbyterian Church, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, 1872; s. s. there, 1873. Author several religious works. Died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 21 April 1879. Issue, five children: H. Humphrey; Henry Jr.; Albert Barnes; Lucy Humphrey; and John Neill.

vi. Emily Martha Neill, was the daughter of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield) Neill. She was born 2 September 1817. She married on 14 April 1838, Robert Ewing, son of Thomas and Sarah Ewing. Ewing was born 1 April 1804, he died 11 May 1870. Issue and date of death unknown.

vii. John Neill, was the daughter of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield) Neill. John was born 9 July 1819 in Philadelphia. He entered the University of Pennsylvania at the age of 14. He graduated from the Academic Department in 1837, and enrolled in the Medical Department. He received his degree of M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1840 and he became a prominent Philadelphia physician. The subject of his essay was "Diseases of the Eye." There is a biography of Neill in found in Dr. Chapman’s medical notes:

Neill was a skilled and charismatic surgeon and teacher who held many academic and professional positions in Philadelphia. In 1839, prior to his graduation, he had already been appointed House Surgeon at the Wills Eye Hospital. He retained this position until 1841, when he took a voyage to the West Indies to oversee a patient’s care. He returned to Philadelphia in 1842 to set up practice and give private medical instruction. He soon was appointed Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy at the University of Pennsylvania and in connection with the Guardians of the Poor served as a Vaccine Physician and Physician to a City District. In 1845 he succeeded to the position of Demonstrator of Anatomy, drawing large numbers of pupils to witness his dissections, through his accuracy, clarity and charm. Together with Drs. Reese and Benedict, Neill revived the Medical Institute of Philadelphia, the post-graduate summer school founded by Dr. Chapman. Neill lectured on anatomy there from 1846.
until 1849. In 1847 Neill was elected a Surgeon at Wills Hospital, where he was frequently attended by large groups of students. When an epidemic of Asian cholera attacked the city in 1849, Neill served as Physician to the Southeast Cholera Hospital. From 1852-1859 he was a Surgeon in the Pennsylvania Hospital. His growing eminence as a surgeon and instructor prompted the Pennsylvania College to restructure its staff in order to offer Neill the Chair of Surgery in 1854. At this time, Neill also accepted a position at the Philadelphia Hospital. In 1859 the faculty of the Pennsylvania College resigned en masse. For the next two years Neill devoted himself to family practice and taking private surgical cases. He returned to teaching from 1874-1875 as the first Professor of Clinical Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania.

After the fall of Ft. Sumter in 1861, Neill took the single-handed initiative to make Philadelphia a center for military hospitals. As Medical Director of the Home Guard, Neill appropriated 8 buildings and converted them quickly into hospitals, using his contacts and prestige to recruit staff and donations of supplies. In 1862 he was appointed Surgeon of Volunteers. The next year he became Medical Director of the forces from Pennsylvania, and for outstanding service during the Battle of Gettysburg he was made Lieutenant-Colonel. After the war he became Post-Surgeon and a medical examiner of recruits until 1876.

Neill was instrumental in founding the Presbyterian Hospital of Philadelphia. He served on its first medical Board from 1872-1875…. In 1844 Neill married Anna Wharton Hollingsworth in 1844, and had 3 children. On 11 February 1880, John Neill died. 64 Neill married Anna Wharton Hollingsworth on 24 September 1844. He died 11 February 1880 in Philadelphia. There were several obituaries in the Philadelphia papers. The Public Ledger of 12 February 1880 noted: “At an early hour yesterday morning, Dr. John Neill, a well-known and highly respected physician of Philadelphia, died at his residence…John Nell was the son of Dr. Henry Neill, of Philadelphia. He was born in this city on the 9th of July, 1819.” The Philadelphia Press of 12 February 1880 had the following:

Dr. John Neill, a prominent physician of this city, died yesterday morning at his residence, No. 258 South Eighteenth street, of Bright’s disease, aged 61 years. The deceased entered the freshman class, University of Pennsylvanian, in 1833, and graduated in 1837, receiving the degree of A.B. He entered the medical department of the University in the same year, and received the degree of M.D. and A.M. in 1840…In 1861 Dr. Neill was appointed surgeon-in-charge of the military hospitals in Philadelphia, he organized and constructed the first eight general hospitals of the city. In the following year he was commissioned surgeon, U.S.V., whilst on duty at Broad and Cherry streets Hospital. In 1863 he was appointed medical director to the forces from Pennsylvania, under the command of General William F. Smith, U.S.A., which joined the Army of the Potomac at Gettysburg. During the same year he was brevetted lieutenant colonel for meritorious service. He was present at the bombardment of Carlisle, and established the hospital at Dickinson College….and was appointed post surgeon at Philadelphia, which position he held until the close of the war in 1865…In 1874 he was appointed professor of clinical surgery in the University of Pennsylvania….which he held up to the time of his death.


viii. James Patriot Wilson4 Neill, was the son of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield)3 Neill. He was born 30 May 1821. He was baptized by the Rev. James Patriot Wilson, for whom he was named, at the First Presbyterian Church on 1 September 1822. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1838 from the College of Pharmacy. On 28 February 1843 he married Alice Johnson Renshaw, daughter of Richard and Mary Renshaw, Esq., of Philadelphia. Alice died with the birth of their second child in Philadelphia on 29 July 1856. In 1856 he went to Superior, Wisconsin. James married second, on 2 July 1857, Mrs. Marcia Ross Wheeler, daughter of Hugh Williamson Ritchie, of New Castle, Delaware. James served in the Army during the war and was wounded at Chickamauga. He was made the Provost Marshal of Louisville and remained in the service. He died 01 November 1899 in Delaware. Three children; two by his first wife, Richard Renshaw4 and Patty Duffield Neill; and one by his second wife, who died at age five on 18 October 1863.

ix. Edward Duffield4 Neill, was the son of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield)3 Neill. He was born in Philadelphia on 9 August 1823. He was an ordained Presbyterian minister, and the author of several
The following appeared in 1869, lieutenant April 1826 at Philadelphia. He entered the army in 1847; graduated at West Point; commissioned, five children, all born in Minnesota: Minnesota failure. He w Neill died suddenly last evening at 6 o'clock at the family residence, 515 Portland Avenue, of heart Neill died in 1893 and the extensive biography: principles but unalterably opposed to co education. The Amherst Biographical Record provides an extensive biography:

Prepared Academy of the University of Pennsylvania; University of Pennsylvania, 1837-39; Amherst College, 1839-42. Andover Theological Seminary, 1 year; studied theology with Rev. Albert Barnes and Rev. Thomas Brainard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; ordained by Galena (Ill.) Presbytery, 1848; home miss'y Elizabeth, Illinois, 1847-49; pastor 1st Presbyterian Church. St. Paul, Minnesota, 1851-55; House of Hope Church there, 1855-60; Chancellor University of Minnesota and ex-officio State Supt. of Public Instruction, 1858-61; chaplain, 1st Minn. Vols., 1861-64; secretary to President of U. S., 1864-69; U. S. Consul, Dublin, Ireland, 1869-71; Provost Jesus Coll., St. Anthony's Falls, Minn., 1872; president Macalester College Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1872-84; professor of history, literature and political economy there, 1884-93. Author History of Minnesota; Virginia Company of London; English Colonization in America During the 17th Century, and other works. Died at St. Paul, Minnesota, 26 September 1893. Neill died in 1893 and the Pioneer Press dated 27 September 1893 noted the following: "Rev. Ed. D. Neill died suddenly last evening at 6 o’clock at the family residence, 515 Portland Avenue, of heart failure. He was seventy years of age. His death came almost unheralded and was painless.” Issue five children, all born in Minnesota: Minnesota, Samuel; Henry; Edward Duffield; John Selby Martin Neill.

x. Thomas Hewson Neill, was the son of Dr. Henry and Martha (Duffield) Neil. He was born 9 April 1826 at Philadelphia. He entered the army in 1847; graduated at West Point; commissioned, in 1869, lieutenant-colonel, Sixth Cavalry. He was brevetted Major General of Union volunteers. The following appeared in Appleton’s Encyclopedia:

Thomas Hewson Neill, soldier, born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 9 April, 1826; died there, 12 March, 1885, passed two years in the University of Pennsylvania, and was then appointed to the United States military academy, where he was graduated in 1847. He was assigned to the infantry, and served on frontier duty till the civil war, with the exception of the years 1853-7, when he was assistant professor of drawing at West Point. He was promoted 1st lieutenant, 31 July, 1850, and captain, 1 April, 1857, and, after doing duty in the mustering and organization of regiments early in the civil war, became, on 17 February, 1862, colonel of the 23d Pennsylvania volunteers. He served through the peninsular campaign, where he was brevetted major, United States army, for gallantry at Malvern Hill, commanded a brigade in the Maryland campaign, where he guarded the crossings of the Potomac in September and October, 1862, and on 29 November was commissioned brigadier-general of volunteers. He was in the Rappahannock campaign, received the brevet of lieutenant-colonel for his services at the battle of Chancellorsville, was engaged at Gettysburg after a forced march of thirty-five miles, and took part in the succeeding operations of the Army of the Potomac till the autumn of 1864, being brevetted colonel for gallantry at Spottsylvania. He was acting inspector-general in Sheridan's Shenandoah campaign, and at the close of the war received the brevets of brigadier-general, United States army, and major-general of volunteers. He then served in various capacities till 1869, when he was made lieutenant-colonel of the 1st infantry and commanded the general recruiting depot at Governor's island, New York, till 1871, when, having been transferred to the 6th cavalry, he commanded that regiment on the frontier, operating against the Cheyenne Indians in 1874-75. He was commandant of cadets at the United States military academy from 1875 till 1879, when he became colonel of the 8th cavalry, and on
2 April, 1883, he was retired for "disability in the line of duty." He was a very handsome man, and was popularly known as "Beau Neill." Neill married at Looneyville, Erie County New York, near Buffalo, Eva L. Looney, second child of Robert and Josephine Looney. Neill died on 12 March 1885 at Philadelphia and is buried at West Point.

85. Edward^3 Duffield, was the son of Benjamin and Rebecca^2 (Potts) Duffield. Edward was born "Dec 13th 1782 About 15 minutes after 8 o’clock in the morn.” He married Mary Howland c1804. Neill indicates: “He engaged in business, and married Miss Mary Nolan.” He died in Philadelphia 15 January 1825 in the 43rd year of his age. He is buried in the ground of St. Mary’s Church, Fourth Street above Spruce, Philadelphia.” Mary (Howland) Duffield died in 1846. Issue, four children.

i. Benjamin^4 Duffield, son of Edward^3 and Mary (Howland) Duffield. Benjamin was born c1808. He was married by the Rev. Henry E. Montgomery to Katherine Bertha Mahan on 10 May 1851. He married second a Miss Weymans. He was a paymaster in the Navy. Neill indicates that: Benjamin is at the United States Navy Yard, Philadelphia in the Paymaster’s department.” An undated and unmarked death notice, apparently from a Philadelphia paper had the following: “Duffield – On Monday, March 9, at Annapolis, Md., Benjamin Duffield, USN, formerly of Philadelphia, in the 69th year of his age. Due notice of funeral.”

ii. Edward^4 Duffield, son of Edward^3 and Mary (Howland) Duffield. He was born about 1810. He died in infancy.

iii. John Potts^4 Duffield, son of Edward^3 and Mary (Howland) Duffield. He died in infancy.


86. John Potts^3 Duffield, was the son of Benjamin and Rebecca^2 (Potts) Duffield. He was born “Tuesday November the 2nd 1784 about 12 o’clock at night at Snowhill, Md.” He married twice; first on 11 August 1811 (also given as 14 August) to Sarah Handy, (called Sally) daughter of Col. Levin and Nancy (Wilson) Handy. The Handy genealogy, who calls him “Captain” Duffield, notes that she was born 29 April 1791, at “8 o’clock A.M.” and was baptized by the Rev. Samuel McMasters. Sarah (Handy) Duffield died at Snow Hill on 29 July 1820, leaving three children. Her obituary, written by the Rev. Thomas B. Balch, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Snow Hill, notes: “Died in Snow Hill, Md., on the 27 July in the 30th year of her age, Sarah Duffield…On the following day, her remains were conveyed to the Presbyterian Church, where a funeral discourse was delivered from Rev. XIV.13.”

Several years after her death, Duffield married Zipporah Anna Bishop, called Anna, the daughter of John and Ann (Godfrey) Bishop, of Snow Hill. She was born 13 April 1799 and died in Snow Hill on 25 April 1857, surviving her husband many years. They had three children. Neill in his genealogy notes about John:

His parents having died when he was very young, and his father’s house being near the Delaware River, he became fond of a sea-faring life; and insisted on following the vocation of a sailor. He acquitted himself so well that he was rapidly promoted. He invested a part of his patrimony in a vessel, and commanded it himself, made many voyages to the East Indies and elsewhere. When on a visit to his sister, Mrs. Martin, at Snow Hill, Maryland, he became attached to Miss Sally Handy, and they were married. At his wife’s persuasion he relinquished his sea-faring life, and became a
merchant. After witnessing the celebration of the Lord’s Supper in the Presbyterian Church, he determined to lead a Christian life. Soon he was elected an elder in the church.

He formed a second marriage with Miss Bishop in 1821. The decided elements in Captain Duffield’s natural character made him firm and active in religion. An interesting memoir of him has been written and published by Irving Spence, Esq., of Worcester County, Maryland, in his work entitled “Letters on the Early History of the Presbyterian Church in America.” He died in 1830, leaving six children.

There is biography of Duffield and his children in the Handy Family Annals. John’s second wife, Zipporah Anna Bishop, was born about 1788 in Virginia. Her date and place of death is unknown. He died at Snow Hill 24 October 1830. Issue five children by his first wife; five by his second wife. Thirteen known grandchildren.

i. John Martin Duffield, was the son of John Potts and Sally (Handy) Duffield. He was born 8 August 1812 and died 13 August 1812.

ii. John Martin Duffield, was the son of John Potts and Sally (Handy) Duffield. He was born 20 October 1813. Neill notes he “studied law in the office of Mr. Irving Spence, Snow Hill, Maryland; he was admitted to the bar; went to the south, and became Mayor of Natchez. He was the law partner of Hon. S.S. Prentiss, and was Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals. He married Miss (Martha) Tunstall, of Kentucky and left two children, Harry T. and Rosa M. Duffield.” There is a good biography in the Handy genealogy which states:

John received a good education at Snow Hill Academy, taught school for a time on the Eastern Shore, and in 1830 moved to Washington, D.C....In 1836, he removed to Natchez, Mississippi, and entering immediately upon the life of an editor...an advocate of the Whig party in conjunction with the Natchez courier...He was genial in his disposition and was sufficiently popular in the community to be elected mayor of the city. He was called to this position in 1843, and resigned it the very same year to accept the clerkship of the high court of appeals. He held this office until 1848...He was also a member of the legislature of Mississippi during the session of 1841 and 1842. At the opening of the Mexican War, he was appointed adjutant general of militia of the state, but it is not known that he went into any active service. Some time after the close of the war, he seems to have formed the purpose of removing to Texas and died of yellow fever on his way to the state....He married Martha Tunstall, daughter of Joseph T. and Elisabeth Tunstall. She is said to have been a member of the Roman Catholic Church, to which her husband had become quite partial long before his death. There were three children by this marriage....Mrs. Duffield died in Louisville, Ky., in 1858 or 1859.

Issue, the Potts Memorial shows three children: Henry Temple, Mabel, and Rosa Montgomery Duffield.

iii. Edward Martin Duffield, was the son of John Potts and Sally (Handy) Duffield. He was born 23 August 1815.

iv. Nancy Handy Duffield, was the daughter of John Potts and Sally (Handy) Duffield. She was born 16 September 1817. Nancy married Dr. William Riley, of Snow Hill, Maryland. He received his degree of M. D. from the University of Pennsylvania, 1832. Subject of essay was "Acute Bronchitis." Neill states Nancy:

married Dr. Riley, a gentleman of education and refinement. He was a student at Jefferson College, Canonsburg, Pa., where he received a degree of Bachelor of Arts. He commenced the study of medicine in the office of Dr. John Martin, and graduated in the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1839. After his marriage, he entered upon the practice of his profession at Snow Hill. His career was a short one. He was killed in 1846, having been thrown from a horse on the way to visit a patient. Nancy Riley died a few years after her marriage. They had one child, who died young. Handy also provides a biography.

She was born September 16, 1817, went to school several years under appointed teachers, made commendable progress in her studies, and in her twenty-third year gave her hand to one of the most popular and highly educated physicians on the Eastern Shore. She was married to Dr. William H. Riley on May 13, 1840. No couple ever seemed better suited to each other, but their earthly association were of short duration, for Mrs. Riley died on January 11, 1842, and her husband followed her November 16,
Mrs. Riley was buried in the Presbyterian churchyard where lie the remains of her father and mother. William H. Riley was born in Snow Hill on February 22, 1812. He pursued a thorough academical course with the Rev. Alexander Campbell, principal of Buckingham Academy and pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Berlin. After this he became a student in Jefferson College, Pa., and graduated there with honors. He studied medicine with Dr. John S. Martin, attended the usual lectures in Philadelphia, and received his diploma from the University of Pennsylvania.

Issue, one child William Duffield, born 1842, died 1854.

v. Saunders Balch Duffield, was the son of John Potts and Sally (Handy) Duffield. He was born 1 June 1820 at Snow Hill, Maryland. Neill notes he spent a portion of his life in Philadelphia, and went to Ohio. Handy indicates that he was named after two Snow Hill Presbyterian ministers and his mother died about one month after his birth. He was a distinguished vocalist and sang at church and at social gatherings. He eventually gave public concerts and became well known in the state. He married and had two children but “since that time his relations have known little of his movements. At one time he was represented to be a steamboat captain on the Rio Grande, very popular, and still addicted to his love of music. He has more recently married the second time, and at the last accounts of him he was the lessee of a theater in the city of Mobile. The name of his second wife is given as Salome W. Secor. Issue by first marriage, Saunders, and Nancy; and one by his second, William Florence Duffield, born 1872 in Baltimore, Maryland.

i. Benjamin Duffield, son of John Potts and Zipporah Anna (Bishop) Duffield. Benjamin was born 2 April 1822 in Pennsylvania, died 2 July 1822.

ii. Edward M. Duffield, son of John Potts and Zipporah Anna (Bishop) Duffield. He was born c1825. Edward married Emeline Hutchinson. She died, and he married for a second time. He resided in Hannibal, Missouri in 1872.

iii. Ambrose White Duffield, son of John Potts and Zipporah Anna (Bishop) Duffield. Ambrose was born 12 December 1828 in Pennsylvania, and died 15 May 1833.

vi. Anna Zipporah Duffield, was the daughter of John Potts and Zipporah Anna (Bishop) Duffield. Anna was born 12 December 1828 at Snow Hill. She married the Hon. John R. Franklin, a judge at Snow Hill, Maryland and died 8 December 1863. Five children: Mary A., Anna S., John R., Sarah Emeline, and Florence Franklin.

v. Charles Bishop Duffield, son of John Potts and Zipporah Anna (Bishop) Duffield. Charles was born about 1830 in Pennsylvania and married a Sarah Joynes, of Accomack County, Virginia. They were living in Norfolk, Virginia in 1872. Date and place of death unknown. Issue: Mary Duffield.

Rebeccah Grace Duffield, was the daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca (Potts) Duffield. She was “Born Sept 7 1786.” Records at Christ Church, Philadelphia show that she was baptized there 22 October 1786. She was married at Christ Church by Rev. Abercrombie, to Dr. John Shelby Martin, of Worcester Co., Maryland. The announcement of the marriage appeared in both the Baltimore and Philadelphia papers. The Baltimore Federal Gazette dated Thursday, 21 March 1805 noted: “Married March 13 at Philadelphia, John S. Martin of Snow Hill to Rebecca Duffield, daughter of late Dr. Benjamin Duffield of that city.” Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser dated 15 March 1805 had the following: “On Tuesday evening March 12th by the Rev. Doctor Abercrombie, Dr. John S. Martin of Snow Hill, Md. To Miss Rebecca Duffield daughter of the late Dr. Benjamin Duffield of this city.” Neill states:

“She was a much beloved sister, daughter, and wife. She had those qualities of character which won the confidence and affection of her household and her friends. Unaffected kindness marked her life; and withal a cheerfulness in her tone and manner which was magnetic and refreshing. Soon after going to Snow Hill, she connected with the Presbyterian Church, and died a consistent member of it, November 21st, 1843. Dr. and Mrs. Martin are interred at Snow Hill, Maryland.”

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Neill also discusses Dr. Martin: “Dr. John S. Martin, of Snow Hill, Maryland, who married Rebecca...was well known throughout Worcester County, Maryland, for his sterling integrity and his universally recognized medical skill. He was widely sought for as a physician, and greatly beloved and respected as a man. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and for many years a beloved and respected elder. He had faculties which fitted him for any responsible station in life. He was for several years a member of the Governor’s Council; and also an Examiner of the State Medical Society for the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He had much executive energy. His judgment was a kind of innate sagacity...The friendship between himself and his kinsman, Dr. Henry Neil, was beautiful and enduring, a fitting counterpart to the attachment of the sisters who they married.” All their children were born in Philadelphia. Rebecca (Duffield) Martin died November 1943. John Martin died 21 November 1843.” Issue, twelve children, twenty-eight grandchildren.

i. John Church 4 Martin, was the son of John and Rebecca Grace 3 (Duffield) Martin. He was born 11 March 1806. He married Caroline Becker Krumbharr, daughter of Louis and Mary Krumbharr of Philadelphia, 27 October 1835. They lived in Philadelphia and he was a merchant in early life, and for many years was a member of the City Councils of Philadelphia. Caroline Martin died 10 May 1874. John died 25 May 1875. Neill notes: “A beautiful tribute was paid to the memory of Mr. John C. Martin at his funeral, by Rev. Mr. Coelfelt, of Philadelphia.” Issue, seven children, three dying young: Lewis Krumbharr 5, Rebecca 5, Mary Krumbharr 5, Emma Krumbharr 5, Henry 5, John Shelby 5, and Caroline 5 Martin.

ii. Rosena Catherine 4 Martin, was the daughter of John and Rebecca Grace 3 (Duffield) Martin. She was born 20 December 1807 in Philadelphia. She died at four months, 11 May 1808 in Snow Hill.

iii. Henry Neill 4 Martin, was the son of John and Rebecca Grace 3 (Duffield) Martin. He was born 28 July 1809 in Philadelphia. The Neill genealogy notes: “He graduated at Princeton College with high honor. Not only were his acquirements profound, but his natural gifts were of a superior order. He had rare intellectual power, such as men have who make their mark on the world. He delighted in truth and in the search for it. He studied medicine in Philadelphia, and received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He married Lucy Adams of Mississippi.” Henry married Lucy Adams, who was born about 1829 and died about 1870. He died 4 October 1844. Issue, two children Anna 5 and Henry 5 Martin.

iv. Rebecca Potts 4 Martin, was the daughter of John and Rebecca Grace 3 (Duffield) Martin. She was born 4 December 1811 in Philadelphia. She died unmarried 24 November 1846 in Somerset County, Maryland. No issue.

v. Rosena Catherine 4 Martin, was the daughter of John and Rebecca Grace 3 (Duffield) Martin, the second so named. She was born 13 August 1813 in Philadelphia. She died young on 21 January 1817.

vi. George 4 Martin, was the son of John and Rebecca Grace 3 (Duffield) Martin. He was born 21 October 1816 in Philadelphia. Neill notes he engaged in mercantile pursuits. He married Margaret M. Dixon of Mississippi on 14 February 1839. He died 11 October 1844 age 28 years. Issue, three children, one dying young: Catherine, and Georgianna Martin.

vii. Sarah Selby 4 Martin, was the daughter of John and Rebecca Grace 3 (Duffield) Martin. He was born 19 April 1819 in Philadelphia. She married as his second wife, the Rev. William Ker Handy, of Maryland. The Baltimore American of 21 January 1850 noted the marriage: “Married at Snow Hill, 11 June 1850, the Rev. Isaac W.K. Handy to Sallie S., daughter of the late Dr. John S. Martin.” Handy was born 14 December 1815 and attended Jefferson College in Cannonsburg. She died 14 October 1853 from complications brought on by childbirth. Handy died 17 June 1878. Issue, one child: James Henry Martin 5 Handy.

viii. Martha Duffield 4 Martin, was the daughter of John and Rebecca Grace 3 (Duffield) Martin. Martha was born 20 March 1821 in Philadelphia. She died at age two, 29 May 1823.
ix. Edward Duffield Martin, was the son of John and Rebecca Grace (Duffield) Martin. He was born 25 March 1823 in Philadelphia. He attended Amherst College with his cousin Edward Duffield Neill in the class graduating 1842, but he is listed as a non-graduate. Their files indicate the following: “Son of Dr. John S., born about 1823. Registered from Snow Hill, Maryland. Alpha Delta Phi. A. C., 1840-41. Practiced law in Md.; clerk of the courts of Worcester Co., Md., 1846-56. Died Snow Hill, Md., 1856.” Neill notes “Mr. Edward Martin had the affection and confidence of his fellow citizens.”

He married Sarah Richardson, called Sally, of Denton, Maryland. Issue, five children: Edward Duffield, John Shelby, Lucy, William Richardson, and Edward Duffield Martin.

x. Margaret Neill Martin, was the daughter of John and Rebecca Grace (Duffield) Martin. She was born 5 September 1825 in Philadelphia. She married William Henry Purnell. He was born in 1826. Neill states: “Mr. Purnell was admitted to the bar and practiced his profession in Maryland. He organized and commanded the ‘Prunell Legion’ during the Rebellion. After the war he was elected ‘Chancellor of the Treasury’ of Maryland by a large majority. Retiring from political life, he was elected President of Delaware College, which institution is now flourishing under his administration. They had ten children, five died young.” Margaret died 11 August 1856. He died August 1902. Issue, eleven children: Caroline Martin, Mary Rosell, Martin, Margaret Neill, Rebecca Grace, Maria Bowen, Elizabeth Harwood, Caroline Martin, William Henry, Edward Duffield, and Grace Duffield Purnell.

xi. Thomas Edgar Martin, was the son of John and Rebecca Grace (Duffield) Martin. He was born 8 October 1827 Philadelphia. He died unmarried 28 July 1870, in Baltimore, Maryland. The Baltimore Sun dated Sunday, 29 July 1870 noted he was age 42, a native of Somerset County, a Confederate veteran, a former Clerk and Police Commissioner.

xii. Mary King Martin, was the daughter of John and Rebecca Grace (Duffield) Martin. She was born 12 March 1831 in Philadelphia. She married the Hon. Isaac Dashiel Jones, 13 July 1852. Jones was born in Wicomico County, Maryland on 1 November 1, 1806. Isaac was a member of Maryland state house of delegates, 1832-34, 1840-41, 1867; and a U.S. Representative from Maryland 1st District, 1841-43; delegate to Maryland state constitutional convention, 1864, 1867; delegate to Democratic National Convention from Maryland, 1864; Maryland state attorney general, 1867-71; state court judge in Maryland, 1877. Presbyterian. Died in Baltimore, Md., July 5, 1893. Interment at Greenmount Cemetery, Baltimore, Md. See also: Congressional Biographies. Neill states the following:

“Mr. Jones has been for many years one of the leading lawyers of his State. Twice he has been forced into public life. His high moral standing and knowledge of national interests led the voters of his district to select him as the representative to Congress, where he served for several terms. And when the Office of Attorney General of the State was vacant, such was the public estimate of his professional skill and executive energy, that he was compelled to serve in that capacity for four years. He was Commissioner and Chairman of the Committee to settle the Boundary Line between Maryland and Virginia, and his report is one of acknowledged ability. After his retirement from public life, he resumed the practice of law in Baltimore, where, as a distinguished member of the bar, and an active elder in the Presbyterian Church, he commands the respect of the community.”

Mary (Martin) Jones died 1882. Issue, one child: Henry George Jones.

88. Mary Duffield, was the daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca (Potts) Duffield. She “was Born August 7th 1789 and died Decem 17 1789.” She was baptized at Christ Church on 23 September 1786.
12. **Jesse Potts**: was the son of John and Ruth (Savage) Potts. Jesse was born in 1756 at Pottsgrove Manor when his mother was forty-three and his father was forty-six. He was only age eleven when his father died and his brother Samuel was made his guardian. Jesse was apprenticed to Samuel Sansom, Jr. on the 14th of December 1773 for the term of three years and three months, which expired on the 14th of March 1777, presumably when he was twenty-one years. Jacob Hiltzheimer’s diary entry for 27 December 1777 noted: “We stayed and dined with Mr. Samuel Potts…after diner we were joined by Mr. Jesse Potts and a son of John Potts, just from Jersey.”

Jesse was early involved in a number of capacities in several of the Potts iron endeavors. He was also part of a company with his brother Joseph and Norris Jones that ran Sarum Forge after the Revolution. He married Sarah Lewis c1795 and his signature appears on many legal documents as a witness involving the Potts iron business. He was involved with his brothers Samuel and Thomas in the anthracite coal lands in upper Berks County after the war. Jesse Potts paid the taxes at Coventry Forge in 1786 after his brother Thomas’ death. Jesse died young and the *Potts Memorial* notes his spouse survived him for many years although no explanation is given as to why Ruth Potts Lohra had daughter Martha. Jesse and Sarah had two children, both died in girlhood. Jesse died before 1814 as he is noted in that year in the obituary of daughter Martha as the “late Jesse Potts of Pottsgrove, Ironmaster.”

89. **Sarah Potts**, was the daughter of Jesse and Sarah (Lewis) Potts. The *Potts Memorial* indicates that she was burned to death when a child.

90. **Martha Rutter Potts**, was the daughter of Jesse and Sarah (Lewis) Potts. She was born 1796-1797. Martha’s father died when she was young she was raised by her Aunt Ruth (Potts) Lohra who lived in Philadelphia. Martha died in Philadelphia at age seventeen of “consumption” and her death notice appeared in *Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser* dated 19 February 1814: “On the 14th instant, in the seventeenth year of her age, very deservedly esteemed and sincerely lamented by her numerous relations, friends and acquaintances, Miss Martha Rutter Potts, daughter of the late Jesse Potts of Pottsgrove, Ironmaster.” Not married, no issue.

13. **Ruth Potts**, was the youngest daughter and child of John and Ruth (Savage) Potts. She was born c1759 at Pottsgrove Manor and her father died when she was age nine. She married late at age forty-four, the W. B. Potts genealogy indicating: “Ruth used to say she would marry no man until she was too old to have children.” On 9 July 1803, she married, probably as his third wife, widower Peter Lohra at Christ Church. *Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser* of 13 July 1803 noted that: “On Saturday evening last by the Rev. James Abercrombie, Peter Lohra Esq. of this City, to Miss Potts of Pottsgrove, Pa.” Lohra was the son of Johan Caspar and Anna Maria (Seyfried) Lohra and was born 23 August 1747. Leech states: “He was a well-known figure in Philadelphia a century ago, being prominent as a conveyancer, notary public, ship-broker, ec. He was also Secretary of the Commission appointed by Congress to negotiate the first treaty between the United States and Spain.”

The W.B. Potts genealogy notes Peter Lohra was a well known business man, lived at 65 Dock Street where he was located for many years and probably died at the South
East corner of Walnut and Dock Streets in Philadelphia. He was a notary public and ship broker. He was married two times prior to his marriage to Ruth and had children by one of his marriages. Leach indicates that

Peter and Ruth raised their niece Martha Potts, the daughter of Jesse Potts. Ruth died eight years after her marriage on 29 May 1811 at Philadelphia. Her obituary appeared in *Poulson’s American Daily Advertiser* of 1 June 1811: “On Wednesday last, much and deservedly respected and esteemed, and sincerely lamented, Mrs. Ruth Lohra, wife of Peter Lohra, Esq., of this City. The deceased was the youngest and only Survivor of Thirteen Son and Daughters of John Potts, Esq., formerly of Pottsgrove in Pennsylvania, and the original founder of that place.” Peter Lohra died in the 70th year of his age at Philadelphia 13 July 1827 and is buried in Christ Church yard. No issue.


3 Pennsylvania Archives, 8s, v8, p. 7576.

4 It is interesting that Mrs. James who had access to much of the same material I did, did not include James Rutter as a descendant.


7 The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has a copy of “John Clement Stocker and Mary Catherine Rutter Bible” which includes information on Anna Maria (Stocker) Lewis’ family. It has been used here to give the various births and death dates of family members.


15 *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2s, v2, p. 234; and 2s, V8, p. 205.


*Pennsylvania Archives*, 3s, v14, p. 233.

Montgomery County Deed Bk. 2, pp. 117-121.


The Papers of the Continental Congress, 1774-1779, “The Address of the People called Quakers,” M247, r57, i43, p. 337.

Information on Joseph and Sidney’s children was obtained from a typed genealogy, dated 1968, pp. 9 and 16-18, by Dorothy Z. Milhous and Hazel A. Stewart entitled: “Isaac Bonsall and Mercy Milhous.” There is a copy at Swarthmore and at the Daughters of the American Revolution Library. The document contains small pictures of the children and of Sidney (Bonsall) Potts.


Duke University Library, Papers, 1766, “Benjamin Franklin to John Swinton”; and Charles Allen Munn Collection, Box 8, Fordham University Library.

James, *The Potts Memorial*, p. 178.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania, General Collection.

Dissertation medica inauguralis, de febris intermittentibus, potentissimum [sic] tertianis, Library Company of Philadelphia Call Number, Apr. 1771r, printed by John Dunlap, Philadelphia, 1771. The Rare Book Room at the Library of Congress also has a copy, RC156 .P6 1771, Am Imp.


The Resolutions and Recommendations of Congress May, 10-15, 1776.


Mifflin Papers, MS 32, Franklin and Marshall College, First Series, Sub-Series XV, Rebecca Mifflin Archer Correspondence.


38 *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2s, v8, p. 205.


41 There appears to be some connection between Edmund Key of Maryland and the Edmund Key who signed John and Ruth (Savage) Potts’ marriage certificate in 1734. Mrs. James provides no information on this individual.


43 *Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser*, 3 July 1792, p. 3, col. 1, Library of Congress paper Volume number 244.


45 See Graham’s *Isaac Potts (1750-1803) of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania and the Valley Forge Washington at Prayer Legend*, December 2000 for an extensive biographical sketch of Isaac Potts.


47 See Arthur D. Pierce’s *Iron in the Pines, the Story of the New Jersey Ghost Towns and Bog Iron*, pp. 16-17, 71-72, and 84-86 for an extensive presentation of Potts’ role in the development of those two iron works. Additionally, the Martha Furnace books have been published.

48 In my *Isaac Potts (1750-1803) of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania and the Valley Forge Washington at Prayer Legend*, I cover the Potts/Washington at Prayer story.


50 *American Archives*, 4s, v5, pp. 245-246, 581-582 and 683; 5s, v1, pp. 349 and 1293; *Colonial Records*, Vol. X, p. 643. There is a short biographical sketch of *Major James Potts* by Thomas Maxwell Potts, privately printed in 1877 in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania by author that is not about James Potts, son of John Potts. This James Potts was the son of Samuel and Ann Potts and served as a lieutenant during the War. He became a Major in 1802.

51 Livengood, p. 38. See also “Provincial Conference of Committees, of the Province of Pennsylvania Held at the Carpenter’s hall at Philadelphia Begin June 18th, and continued by appointments to June 25 1776, Philadelphia,” printed by W. & T. Bradford, Philadelphia, 1776, p. 4.


*The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, Letter from Thomas Potts to Benjamin Franklin, dated 1 August 1774, p. 268.

“A List of the Names of the Persons Who have taken the Oath and Affirmation of Allegiance to this Commonwealth before me...T. Taylor,” Chester County Historical Society, original document.


William B. Potts genealogy, p. 85.


*Pennsylvania Archives*, 2s, v8, p. 76.

See *John Neill of Lewes, Delaware, 1739: and his Descendants*, by Edward Duffield Neil, Collins printer, Philadelphia, 1875 for information on Henry Neill and his descendants. See also, “Descendants of Dr. Henry Neill, born 1783, died 1845”, in the Henry Paul Collection at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Volumes XIII and IX. Paul was a descendant and official at the University of Pennsylvania.


There is a biography of Dr. John Neill found in, “Notes taken from the lectures of N. Chapman, M.D.”, Vol. 1, which currently resides at the Philadelphia College of Physicians in their Historical Medical Library, Call no. 10a/138, Acc. 51544. The biography is annotated “Jno Neill, Wills Hospital, Given to the College 1 June 1897, by H.R. Wharton, M.D.”


Fletcher and Young, Number 720.


Handy, pp. 491-492.

Handy, pp. 492-495.
71 *Extracts from the Diary of Jacob Hiltzheimer of Philadelphia 1765-1798*, p. 141.

72 Pennsylvania Archives, 2s, v8, p. 205.