

**HISTORY OF THE HAYES HOMESTEAD
ROUTE 973 NEAR THE PERRYVILLE BRIDGE
ON LYCOMING CREEK
HEPBURN TOWNSHIP, LYCOMING COUNTY**

Taken from History of Lycoming County Pennsylvania
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JOHN HAYES, Sr. was one of the earliest settlers of Lycoming township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. He was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, but the exact year of his immigration to America is not known by his descendants. His first settlement was at Warrior Run, Northumberland County, and he was engaged in the merchandise business at that point, in connection with his son James, before coming to Lycoming County. They also engaged in the purchase of flax from the pioneers of the Susquehanna valley, which they shipped to the seaboard, and loaded on a vessel for the Irish market. The vessel was lost at sea, and caused great financial loss to Mr. Hayes and his family. In fact, it was this event that influenced their settlement in Lycoming County.

John Hays applies for three hundred acres of land ... the west side of Lycoming Creek to include the mouth of a run and including an improvement made by Joseph Hogeland ... Before me the subscriber one of the justices of the peace in & for the county aforesaid came William Hall who after being sworn according to the law saith that in the year 1777, he was at Joseph Hogeland's improvement on the above described tract of land & at different times saw wheat & rye growing and afterward stacked and the said Hogeland had Indian corn & had in the ground, and lived with his family on said place till he was drove off by the Indians & further saith not. Sworn & submitted the 5th day of August 1785. William Hall.

The log cabin that John Hays built near Hoagland's Run still stands near the Perryville Bridge along Route 973 in Cogan Station. It was built the year the land was acquired. An historical marker announces that the cabin was built in 1780, but John Hays didn't acquire the land until 1785.



About 1789 James came to this county and took out a patent for some 3,000 acres of land, located in what is now Lycoming and Hepburn townships, in the name of his father, John Hayes, Sr. He commenced clearing off the forest, and built a log house upon the farm now owned, by John S. Hayes, to which John Hayes removed his family from Warrior Run. Here he resided the balance of his days. He was twice married his first wife dying in Ireland. Three sons and one daughter were born of this union: John; James; Robert and Elizabeth, who married a Mr. Kendall all of whom came with their father to Pennsylvania. His second wife Thompson, to who were born five sons and one daughter: William; John B.; Squire; Isaiah; Thompson, and Polly, who married John Murphy. Mr. Hayes was one of the leading pioneers of his locality. He was a quiet, non-obtrusive man, a, Presbyterian in religion, and devoted his attention to the clearing of his large, farm and the rearing of his family. He died at an advanced age, "respected and honored" by all who knew him.

JOHN HAYES, eldest son of John Hayes, Sr., was a native of Ireland, and came with his father to Pennsylvania. He married Annie Thompson, and by this union seven children were born to him: James; Nancy; Samuel; Robert; Rachel; John, and Elizabeth.

JAMES HAYES, second son of John Hayes, Sr., was the first member of the family to settle in Lycoming County. As previously mentioned, he was engaged in business at Warrior Run, Northumberland County, with his father, and after the loss of the vessel carrying their flax he entered the land for his father, in Lycoming Township, Lycoming County, upon which he resided from 1789 until 1806. He then removed to the locality of Seneca, Lake, New York, and engaged in the distillery business. When the war of 1812 broke, out he entered the service as, a private soldier, from which he rose to the rank of aide de-camp on General Scott's staff. He afterwards settled in Schuylers county, New York, and engaged in farming. He remained there until 1846 when, he returned to Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, and settled in Lewis Township, where he died, in February, 1847. He married Marentha Roberts, of New York State, who bore him five children: John, of Illinois; Sarah, deceased wife of Josiah Bartlett; William, deceased, Philemon R., and Robert. Politically he was a Democrat and liberal in his religious views. His wife survived him about ten years.

ROBERT HAYES, third son of John Hayes, Sr., married a Miss Torbett, and removed to Circleville, Ohio.

JOHN BENJAMIN HAYES, fifth son of John Hayes, Sr., was born in 1794, at Warrior Run, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. His mother was Rachel Thompson, his father's second wife. After attaining manhood, he engaged in farming and lumbering, and, resided upon the homestead farm his entire life, the present improvements having been built by him. He took great interest in public affairs, and filled most of the township offices. He married Elizabeth A., daughter of Samuel Grier, of Newberry, Pennsylvania, who bore him one son, John S. Mr. Hayes died in October, 1869. His widow survives him, and resides upon the homestead farm.

THOMPSON HAYES, seventh son of John Hayes, Sr., was born in 1801, in Northumberland County. He was reared on the homestead farm, and was engaged in farming and lumbering. He located in Cogan valley, and was killed by lightning in 1861. He was a Whig, and afterwards a Republican, and, filled several township offices at different periods. He married Sarah, daughter of John Kyle, of Lycoming township, who: became the mother of eleven children: William; John; Kyle, deceased; Sarah J., deceased wife John Blair; Rachel, deceased wife of A. Maxwell; Benjamin, deceased; Mary, deceased wife of William Woods, James, deceased; Thompson; Martha, wife of Joseph Dayton, and Margaret, deceased.

SQUIRE HAYES, eighth son of John a Hayes, Sr., was born in Northumberland County in 1803, and, came with his father to Lycoming County. In 1825 he purchased the farm whereon his sons Benjamin and Samuel A. now reside. He was married in 1834 to Mary, daughter of William Waterson, a native of Ireland and a resident of Lycoming County. Four children were born to them: Benjamin; William A., deceased; Samuel A.; and Mary E.; deceased wife of Herman Ault. Mr. Hayes died in 1862, his widow surviving him until 1899.

PHILEMON R. HAYES, third son, of James Hayes, was born, September 7, 1828 in New York State. He received a common school education, and at the age of twenty he took charge of the farm for the children of his uncle, John Hayes, and at their death he inherited the property. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Hayes, who bore him two daughters Mary M., wife of Harry Davis, and Annie, deceased wife of William Thompson. Mrs. Hayes died in February, 1887, and he married for his second wife Mrs. Charlotte Ludwig, daughter of Frederick Heisley, of Hepburn Township. Mr. Hayes is extensively engaged in farming, and is an active member of the Farmers' Alliance. He is a Democrat, and has filled several township offices. He is a member of Lycoming Centre Presbyterian church, is connected with the K. of L., and is recognized as one of the leading farmers of the county.

JOHN S. HAYES, only son of John B. Hayes, was born, June 14, 1845, on the old homestead. He received a common school education, and since arriving at manhood has been engaged in farming and lumbering. He is the owner of about 200 acres of well improved land, the site of the original settlement of his grandfather. Mr. Hayes married Mary C., a daughter of John Heilman, of Williamsport, and is the father of four children: Bertie H.; Harry; J. Byron; and Freddy. He is a trustee and a leading member of Lycoming Centre Presbyterian church, to which his family also adhere. In early life Mr. Hayes was. a Republican, but for some years he has affiliated with the Democratic party. He is an active member of the Farmers' Alliance, belongs to Susquehanna Lodge, No. 199, K. of P., of Williamsport, and is one of the well-known, progressive citizens of Lycoming County.

THOMPSON HAYES, youngest son of Thompson Hayes, was born in Hepburn Township and reared to farm life. He was engaged in farming and lumbering in Cogan valley until 1876, when he settled upon his present farm in Lycoming Township. He has been twice married. His first wife was Helen Miller, and his second Sarah Glosser, both of whom are dead, the latter dying June 26, 1891. Politically Mr. Hayes is a Republican, and takes an active interest in public affairs.

ISAIAH HAYES was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, in February, 1796, and in 1800 came with his father and family to Lycoming County. His father died when he was quite young, leaving him to the care of his mother and brothers. When a young man, he engaged in the lumber business in partnership with his brother and John Reed. In 1819 he was married to Mary Ann Miller, and in the spring of 1820, he started with his partner for Baltimore with an ark loaded with poplar boards; at the Indian Steps, above McCall's Ferry, between Columbia and Tidewater, Maryland, they ran into the ice, destroying the ark and sustaining a loss of \$800. Soon after this Mr. Hayes built a log house on the homestead and commenced to clear the farm. For some time he was employed as a laborer in the construction of a canal, and afterward took contracts to build a straight road over Laurel Hill, and in other places. He also engaged in the manufacture of arks for the grain dealers of Milton, Lewisburg, and elsewhere; observing while thus employed the need of grist mills, and being encouraged by his father-in-law, he built a substantial mill in 1831, which he operated until 1837. It was destroyed at that time by fire, causing a total loss, as he carried no insurance. His neighbors kindly came to his assistance, making up the loss of the grain, and he erected a new mill. In 1847 he started a subscription, heading it with \$50, to raise

money to build a bridge across Lycoming creek at Perryville. He succeeded in securing \$450 of the amount necessary, and the balance was furnished by the county commissioners. The contractor failing to complete the bridge, Mr. Hayes finished it himself. About 1839 he purchased land in Cogan House Township, hauled logs from the same to a saw mill at Perryville, and in 1845 he built a saw mill in Cogan valley; from time to time he purchased tracts of pine timber, and in that way accumulated thousands of acres. A few years later he built a mill on Larry's creek in partnership with Martin Meyer, erecting a steam mill near Buckhorn cabin, and still later constructing another waterpower mill on Larry's creek, making in all four saw mills and two grist mills. He sold the grist mill at Perrysville in 1863, and in 1868, in partnership with John Miller, bought a farm of 500 acres on the Rappahannock river, in Virginia; when it was subsequently divided, he retained one-fourth, the remainder going to his sons, Ambrose and William. He died, November 18, 1888, and his wife died, June 24, 1883. He was a member of the Lycoming Centre Presbyterian Church, and was interested in building the new stone church at Hepburnville. He was the father of ten children: William; Ambrose; Rachel R., who married M. W. Meyer; Benjamin; Sidney; Lawrence M.; Isaiah; Mary Elizabeth; Joanna, and Josiah.

WILLIAM HAYES, miller, was born in Lycoming township, September 20, 1820, son of Isaiah and Mary Ann (Miller) Hayes. He received his education in the township schools of that period. He learned the milling business with his father, took charge of the latter's mill at Perrysville in 1844, and did a prosperous business for fourteen years, when he bought a mill in Clinton county, Pennsylvania, and operated the same for five years. In 1862, in partnership with William Follmer, he built and took charge of the Loyalsock Mills, this partnership continuing for one year, when Mr. Hayes became the sole proprietor. In 1884 he purchased the Montoursville rolling mills, in company with Clarence Wheeland and his son, John Hayes. Mr. Wheeland sold his interest to Mr. Meyer in April, 1887, and two years later Mr. Meyer sold his interest to Mr. Pidcoe, and they have since conducted the business under the firm name of Hayes, Pidcoe & Company. Mr. Hayes is also engaged in farming in Loyalsock Township and in Virginia. Mr. Hayes was president and a large stockholder of the Wayne Ferry Company while living in Clinton County. About the year 1873 he engaged in the lumber business on Little Bear creek with Warner Woolever, continuing as a firm for five years, and for twelve years longer on his own responsibility. In politics he is a Republican, and has served as supervisor of Upper Fairfield township. He was married in 1848 to Miss Margaret Follmer, and to this union have been born six children: Amelia Clementine, deceased, who married George Ebner; Follmer A.; May Catharine, who married William Koons; John M.; Margaret Emma, and Frank W. Mr. Hayes and family attend the Lycoming Centre Presbyterian Church.