Appendix C.  Adams County Names and Places

Abbottstown - 1847:9/5, 1848:3/15 4/28 6/22 7/26 9/9 10/3 10/4 10/13, 1849 2/23 3/7 3/26 8/7, 1850:1/24 1/29 2/4, 1851:2/17 4/6 10/1 10/8 10/9 10/10/11 10/12 10/13. Centrally located among Raber's family and circuits, where the main road from Hanover to East Berlin and Dillsburg crosses the Lincoln Highway, this community is mentioned frequently by Raber. It was also the home of his cousin Isaac Berlin and, in the early years of the journal, his brother Frederic. While it produced no enduring UB congregation or church building, Abbottstown apparently was an early appointment on Littlestown circuit.

Arendtsville - 1847:8/2. A village on the direct road over South mountain from Shippensburg to York. The alternative level road passed around the end of South mountain via Walnut Bottom, Boiling Springs and Dillsburg.


UB efforts here were not fruitful, but both the Methodists and the Evangelicals once had church buildings here that have since been torn down.

Berlin family - 1848:6/3 6/19 10/18, 1849:3/7 3/28 5/16 6/7 8/1 9/20 12/8 12/11, 1850:1/29, 1851:5/27 10/8, 1852:7/5. Frederick Berlin (1742-1836) lived in a stone house, still occupied as a dwelling and having two large pine trees in front of it, on the west side of the road from East Berlin to Abbottstown. He had five children: Frederick, Joseph, George, Jacob and Mary. Mary married Leonard Raber and became the mother of the author of this journal. The journal refers to "uncle Joseph" Berlin and his son "cousin Isaac" Berlin, with whom Rev. Raber was apparently very close. Isaac was born about 1818 and moved to Kansas in the 1850's. Joseph Berlin had three other sons: William, Samuel and Lewis -- which, although not identified in the journal as cousins, are assumed to be the Samuel and L[ewis] Berlin mentioned in the manuscript.

Bishop, Jacob H. - 1851:10/1 11/23. A Littlestown family with whom Raber boarded before he entered the ministry. Jacob Jr died of unspecified causes in October; Jacob Sr and his daughter Sarah died in November and were buried in one grave. See the Littlestown entry for comments on the various Bishop families.

Bishop, Levi - 1847:10/21, 1848:5/6 6/13 9/2 10/14 10/19, 1849:7/31 9/19 12/13 12/14, 1850:1/21. A home at which Raber frequently stayed when in Littlestown, and the home at which he stayed the night before his wedding. See the Littlestown entry for comments on the various Bishop families.

Bishop, Christian - 1847:10/21. Christian died in 1833. Those named in Raber's journal are his widow Sarah (aka Sally) and son Edmund, who died 11/25/47 at the age of 26. See the Littlestown entry for comments on the various Bishop families.

Bishop, Simon S. - 1847:9/5, 1848:7/24 10/28, 1849:10/24. A home at which Raber sometimes lodged when in Littlestown. At the time in question, Simon was a farmer residing on 40 acres of the original family farm that adjoined the southeast boundary of Littlestown. Prior to this (1841-45), he had operated a store across from the Catholic Church; afterward (1865), he was elected justice of the peace and enjoyed a long and respected tenure in that position. He and his wife, the former Catherine Stonesifer, had one child -- Laura Virginia. See the Littlestown entry for comments on the various Bishop families.

Cashstown - 1847:8/13. On the (old) main road from Gettysburg to Chambersburg.

Criswell, Mrs. J. - 1847:8/12. A resident of south of Hunterstown at the intersection of Granite Station road with the York-Gettysburg turnpike.

Crouse, Daniel - 1849:12/9. A tanner and prominent resident of Littlestown. Though a member of the Reformed church, Crouse (1805-1880) lodged UB preachers during annual conferences and protracted meetings. Son William F. (b.1834) married Christian Bishop's daughter Sarah L. 6/6/1854, was a member and
trustee of the Littlestown UB church, and named one of his children Bishop A.C. Crouse.

Diehl, Daniel - 1848:10/15, 1850:6/25. Daniel Diehl (1791-1863) owned land along the Gettysburg turnpike west from New Oxford to his mill on the south branch of the Conewago creek. He had 15 children by his first wife Elizabeth Carl (whom he married in 1809 and who died in 1833) and 6 by his second wife Leah (Myers) Baugher (whom he married in 1835). His home was the regular New Oxford area preaching appointment on the Littlestown circuit.

Dysert, Miss Elizabeth - 1850:1/22. A Littlestown area resident in her early twenties.

Flat Bush school house - 1850:2/22. This building stood on route 30 east of Gettysburg, between Granite Station and Low Dutch roads.

Foster, James W. - 1850:3/22. Probably the James Foster who taught school in Bonneauville (aka Newville or Square Corner), on the Hanover to Gettysburg road.

Gardner's church - 1848:7/31, 1851:10/16. During 1846-47 J.C. Smith and Z.A. Colestock of Littlestown circuit conducted a very successful revival in the nearby Blackberry school house. Summer 1848 their successor J. Fohl conducted a big tent meeting in the nearby woods. Rain on July 31 moved the services to the Gardner house -- either George's or Thomas', as both were among the original trustees for the church building dedicated 6/15/1851. The church was closed in 1968.

Gettysburg - 1847:8/13, 1849:3/30, 1850:2/5. The rurally-oriented UB's were slow to establish congregations in the larger towns. Work here didn't begin until prior to the 1891 conference when "a few brethren purchased [from the United Presbyterian church] a valuable church property in Gettysburg for $2,000 on their own responsibility, with the hope that the annual conference could make arrangements at this session to make it the nucleus of a new charge." The conference then placed Salem (Guldens) and Mt. Zion from Littlestown circuit with Gettysburg to create the charge. The congregation worshipped in the original building until the core of the present structure was erected in 1897. In 1968 the Methodist congregation, following the fire that destroyed its sanctuary, united with them. [The Mt. Zion church stood by the cemetery a few miles south of town on the north side of route 97. The UB's erected their first building there in 1869 and replaced it with a larger structure in 1887. In 1896 the property was sold to a private party who sold it to the German Baptist Brethren the following year. In 1905 that group dismantled the frame building and reconstructed it encased in brick on Stratton Street in Gettysburg."

Hampton - 1849:3/7 9/25, 1850:5/6. The UB class here worshipped in the union church until dedicating their own building 1/30/1859. The church here stood just east of the square on the south side of the street, on the first lot after the alley. According to the 1914 PA Conf journal, "Hampton Church, Bendersville charge, was sold for $400. The proceeds will be used for the new parsonage at Mt. Tabor."

Heidersburg - 1847:8/2, 1848:3/12 8/6, 1849:8/24. The UB's organized a society here in 1840. They originally met in a stone school house located near the cemetery and later worshipped in a school house on the site of the present church. The congregation sided with the Radicals in 1889, erected a frame building in 1901, replaced it with the present sanctuary in 1979, and exist today within the UBOC.

Hunterstown - 1847:8/12, 1850:5/6. While the UB's never had a congregation here, the existing church building was Methodist until 1968.

Kitzmiller - 1848:7/25. This the long-established family that owned Kitzmiller's mill, located where the Littlestown to Hanover road crossed the south branch of Conewago creek. It was one this family, Jacob Kitzmiller, who shot and killed Dudley Digges of Maryland in 1752 in the ultimate escalation of the Penn-Calvert boundary dispute that led to the establishing of the Mason-Dixon line in 1767.


Raber was converted, is believed to be one of the first ten churches constructed by UB's in the entire denomination. It was erected by Philip Bishop Sr, a native of Lancaster Co who moved into the area in 1809 and died in 1832. In 1826 he transferred the lot to trustees Philip Bishop Jr, Christian Bishop, Jacob Bishop and Jacob Shank "with the church thereon erected and built and all appurtenances to the said church and lot of ground... in trust for the use, intent and purpose of the United Brethren in Christ in the United States for ever, for a house and place of worship for the society aforesaid, yet never-the-less to be free for any other society of Christians to worship therein and to hear the word of God preached therein at all times, when not occupied by the society aforesaid..." There was also a clause reverting the property to Philip Bishop if the UB society there ever ceased to meet.

While the church was an extremely strong one for some fifty years, it began to decline in the 1870's -- possibly in connection with the situations Rev. James M. Bishop and Rev. J. Philip Bishop (comments on each of whom appear in Appendix B), two sons of Philip Bishop Jr and ministerial sons of the congregation. The 1886 History of Cumberland and Adams Counties published by Warner, Beers & Co. includes a biographical sketch of Levi Bishop, another of son of Philip Bishop Jr, which contains the following revealing statement: "About this time the pompous presiding elder of the United Brethren Church had grown a little too big for his boots, thought he ought to have entire control of the church property, and, by his under officials, made demands on Mr. Bishop for the title papers, which were, however, refused. Then they resorted to litigation, in which they also failed. Mr. Bishop is at present trustee; holds the title papers, and will hold them; but since the agitation he, with his family, have worshiped elsewhere."

Following the 1889 division of the denomination, both groups continued occupying the building. In the words of the 1892 UBOC PA Conf journal: "Littlestown has also been visited during the year. Here some of our best people reside. The church house is open to orthodox Christians and consequently can't be closed against us. Our people for the time being worship with the Liberals, but continue to adhere to the time-honored principles of our church. They deserve favorable consideration from the conference at this time."

The split proved fatal to the already wounded congregation, and neither the Liberals nor the Radicals were able to sustain a viable work. By 1900 the Liberals had abandoned the appointment and the Radicals were meeting there very irregularly, if at all. At that time John Amos Bishop, a grandson of Philip Bishop Sr, successfully petitioned the court to enforce the reversion clause in the 1826 deed and return the property to the estate of Philip Bishop Sr. As one of four children of John Bishop, who was one of nine children of Philip Bishop Sr, he requested the court to sell the property and award him \((1/4)(1/9) = 1/36\) of the proceeds. As the amount of money involved was not large, and the complications were enormous, it is possible that the action was taken out of family jealousy and/or the desire to permanently prevent the Radicals (or the Liberals?) from using the building.

The original decision, however, was appealed to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court by the building's current trustees -- Laura V. Bishop, M.D. Bishop and Cornelius Wolfert. The transcript of the proceedings (Middle District -- No. 15 of May term, 1901) is public information and includes interesting testimony by UB officials and others. In the end the original decision was upheld -- although a final partition of the property was not determined until the August 1923 term of the Court of Common Pleas. The church (not the original 1822 building, but a later one erected on the site) was razed in 1925, a final appraisal of \$8000\ for the lot was determined in 1926, and the property was sold to the neighboring Catholic church. The place where the UB church stood is now the front lawn of St. Aloysius School. Following are the descendants of Philip Bishop Sr as given in the 1901 appeal. The names are not necessarily in the order of birth, and the list is not necessarily complete (because, for example, children who died without issue were not considered relevant to the case before the court). Those deceased in 1901 are indicated by (d), those alive and having a claim in the estate have their address given in parentheses, and those mentioned in the Raber journal and listed in an appendix are marked with an asterisk.
Philip Bishop Sr (d)
1. Philip Bishop Jr [1781-1856] (d)
  2. Simon S. Bishop (d) *
    3. Laura Virginia Bishop (Littlestown)
2. Rev. James M. Bishop (d) *
  3. Over Bishop (Chambersburg)
  3. Jennie Bishop Bollinger (Chambersburg)
  3. Ancestra Bishop (Chambersburg)
  3. Emma Bishop Plough (unknown)
2. Levi Bishop [1817-?] (d) *
  3. unknown (Chambersburg)
2. Rev. Jeremiah Philip Bishop (d) *
  3. M.D. Bishop (Hanover)
  3. Grace Bishop (Greencastle)
  3. Dr. S.S. Bishop (Carlisle)
  3. Dr. Sen Bishop (Carlisle)
  3. Stors Bishop (unknown)
2. Annie Bishop Staub (d) *
  3. Lucy Staub Spangler (Kansas)
2. Lovina Bishop Yount (d)
  3. Albert Bishop Yount (Washington DC)
  3. Estelle Blanch Yount Pierpont (Washington DC)
2. Fred S. Yount (Washington DC)
  2. Sophia Bishop Norris (d)
  3. Ary Norris Erb (Chambersburg)
  3. John Norris (Texas)
2. Mary Bishop Sell (York)
1. Christian Bishop [1789-1833] (d) *
  2. Edmund Bishop [1821-1847] (d)
  2. Sarah Louise Bishop Crouse (Littlestown)
    [married William F. Crouse]
1. John Bishop (d)
  2. John Amos Bishop (Maryland)
  2. Margaret Bishop Good (Maryland)
  2. Rebecca Bishop Audelsberger (Homestead)
2. Mary Bishop Strausbaugh (d)
  3. Emma Strausbaugh Dull (Gettysburg)
  3. Charles B. Strausbaugh (Greenmount, Adams C.)
1. Jacob H. Bishop [1794-1851] (d) *
  2. Jacob H. Bishop Jr [1817-1856] (d)
  2. Sara Bishop [1794-1851] (d)
  2. Mary M. Bishop Yount
  2. Eliza Ellen Bishop Blocher
  2. William O. Bishop

1. Elizabeth Bishop Gitt [Galt?] (d)
  2. Delia Gitt Bair (Hanover)
  2. Mary Gitt (Hanover)
  2. Susan Gitt Emert (d)
    3. Vallie Emert McFarland (Maryland)
    3. Laura Emert Marks (Maryland)
    3. Lawson Emert (Pittsburgh)
  2. Josiah Gitt (d)
    3. H.N. Gitt (Hanover)
    3. George D. Gitt (Hanover)
    3. Mary Gitt Snively (Hanover)
    3. Ellen Gitt Schriver (Hanover)
    3. Grace Gitt Smuch (Hanover)
    3. Martha Gitt Geiselman (Hanover)
    3. Annie Gitt O’Neal (Hanover)
    3. Athalia Gitt Aikens (Pine Grove Mills)
    3. Clinton Gitt (d)
      4. Jesse Gitt (Hanover)
      4. Elizabeth Gitt (Hanover)
1. Annie Bishop Himes (d)
  2. Theobold Himes (d)
    3. Thomas Himes (Tyrone)
    3. Charles Himes (Tyrone)
    3. Jennie Himes Hazelett (Tyrone)
    3. Lillie Himes Mills (Tyrone)
    3. Grace Himes Kollenslaugh (Tyrone)
    3. Mary Himes (Tyrone)
1. Barbara Ann Bishop Geeting [?-1848] (d)
    [married Rev. George Adam Geeting Jr ca 1805]
  2. Susan Geeting (unknown)
    2. Catherine Geeting (unknown)
    2. Joseph Geeting (d, issue unknown)
    2. George Geeting (d, issue unknown)
  1. Magdalene Bishop Brubucher [Brubaker?] (d)
    2. unknown (d, no issue)
    2. John Brubucher (d, issue unknown)
1. Polly Bishop Crouse (d)
    [married Michael Crouse]
  2. Ephraim Crouse (d)
    3. William Crouse (Maryland)
    3. Catherine Crouse Clem (Maryland)
    3. Elizabeth Crouse Miller (Maryland)
    3. Emma Crouse Angel (Maryland)
McSherry's public house - 1848:10/19. The McSherrys came from Northern Ireland in the mid 1700's. Predominantly Catholic, McSherrystown stands on land visited by Jesuit missionaries as early as 1720 and may be considered the parent town of Hanover.

Middleburg [Biglerville] - 1847:8/2. The town dates to 1817, when it was platted and lots were sold. It remained a paper village, however, until the first building was erected at the square in 1843. The UB congregation here was organized in 1859 and erected the community's first church building in 1874. The church was called Centenary because Otterbein became pastor of the independent Reformed church in Baltimore that is now Old Otterbein UM in 1774, and the conference of 1874 made so much of the centennial celebration that Biglerville was caught up in the spirit.

Miller, John H. - 1849:2/23 9/24. One of Mount Pleasant township's pioneer settlers, "father Miller" was a farmer, huckster and store keeper. In 1835 he built a wagon shed on his farm with a second story room to be used as a Sunday school for neighborhood children. In 1840 a stone UB church, now Salem UM, was constructed on the property. This building was replaced in 1888 by a brick structure that was destroyed by lightning in 1904 and replaced by the present edifice in 1905. Mr. Miller and four of his eight children are buried in the cemetery adjoining the church.

Miller's school house - 1848:3/12, 1849:9/26. In the neighborhood of John H. Miller, this was a regular appointment on Littlestown circuit. It was at a circuit quarterly conference in this building that Raber received his local preaching license.

Mud College - 1848:6/18. This building stood on route 97 north of Littlestown, at the intersection with Mud College road.

Mummasburg - 1850:5/6. One of the largest towns in the county never to have had a UB, Evangelical or Methodist appointment, the community was originally dominated by Mennonites.


New Chester - 1847:8/12, 1850:5/6. Surveyed in 1804, the town has also been known as Martzalville and Pinetown.

New Oxford - 1850:2/4. This town was platted in 1792 and named Oxford Town after the ford existing just to the west and the head of an ox in front of "Dutch Frederick's Stand," a butcher shop and hotel. The named was changed to New Oxford in 1822. While the UB's never had a church building in town, the Methodists have had one almost since their appointment began in 1829: a small meeting house in the rear of the "Old Commons" (1829-1845), a structure on the north side of the street 1½ blocks east of the square (1845-1887), the present brick edifice on the square (since 1887).


Raber family - mentioned extensively throughout the journal. Rev. William Raber's parents were Leonard and Mary Berlin Raber of East Berlin. He had three brothers and a sister. Two of his brothers are mentioned only occasionally in the journal: Henry (1850:1/31, 1851:4/6 10/11, 1852:8/8) and Lewis (1848:6/23, 1850:2/20, 1851: 10/10). The numerous references to brother Frederic B. indicate a close relationship between them. He married Lavinia Criswell 6/19/1845 and, according to the journal, moved from Abbottstown (possibly living for a time in central Adams Co) to Green-wood (Franklin Co) in 1851. His sister married a Mr. Naugle of East Berlin.


Straub, Isaac - 1849:12/10 12/12, 1851:2/8. This Littlestown resident was married to Annie Bishop, sister of Reverends J.M. and J.P. Bishop.
Two Taverns - 1849:9/23. The UBOC erected a church in this locale near Fairview school house on the land of Joseph Arentz in 1900. The deed specifically describes the recipients as "trustees in trust for the use, benefit and behalf of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ as represented by that organization which, after the division of said church in May 1889, continued to recognize as its organic law the constitution of said church adopted in 1841 unchanged, as contradistinguished from an organization which on the 13th day of May 1889 accepted as its organic law a new or amended constitution." The work did not prosper, and the property was sold to James Straley for $100 in 1916.

Weidman family - 1850:1/22. Raber married Catherine Weidman, daughter of John and Mary B. Weidman of Littlestown. The family included sons Isaac (1850:9/24) and John (1851:2/12) of Littlestown, and son Adam (1850:5/31 6/2, 1851:12/20) of Juniata Co. Also mentioned are Catherine's uncles George (1851:5/26) of Littlestown and Benjamin (1850:6/5, 1851:12/23) of Juniata Co.

York Springs - 1848:3/13 7/28, 1849:3/7. In 1847 John Fohl was assigned to the 15 appointments of Littlestown circuit. When he did missionary work below South mountain as far north as Shepherdstown in 1848 and reported 32 appointments to the 1849 annual conference, that body split off the work north of route 30 to become Franklin circuit -- renamed York Springs circuit in 1853. Formed in 1859, the York Springs class purchased the Myers school house in 1875 and re-fitted it for a house of worship. The 1884 PA Conf journal reports that York Springs Chapel was dedicated during the year -- which means that the structure was free of debt, as it was then the policy not to dedicate a building until it was paid for. That the 1889 split severely weakened the UB work in the area is confirmed by items appearing in two local newspapers. The December 26, 1899, Compiler notes that the York Springs Comet has countered the "ugly story" that York Springs had no ministers and no religious services. The paper stated that one of three ministers living in town whose services could be relied upon was UB preacher Rev. Free -- a name that does not appear in UB (or UBOC) PA Conf records. According to the 1906 journal, "York Springs Chapel, a small church where the preaching appointment was discontinued a number of years ago, was sold and the money used for the parsonage of the Bendersville charge, of which this appointment was a part."

Zeigler's school house - 1848:3/13 7/29. This Latimore township building was used by the Lutherans and stood on or adjacent to the present site of Chestnut Grove Lutheran church.