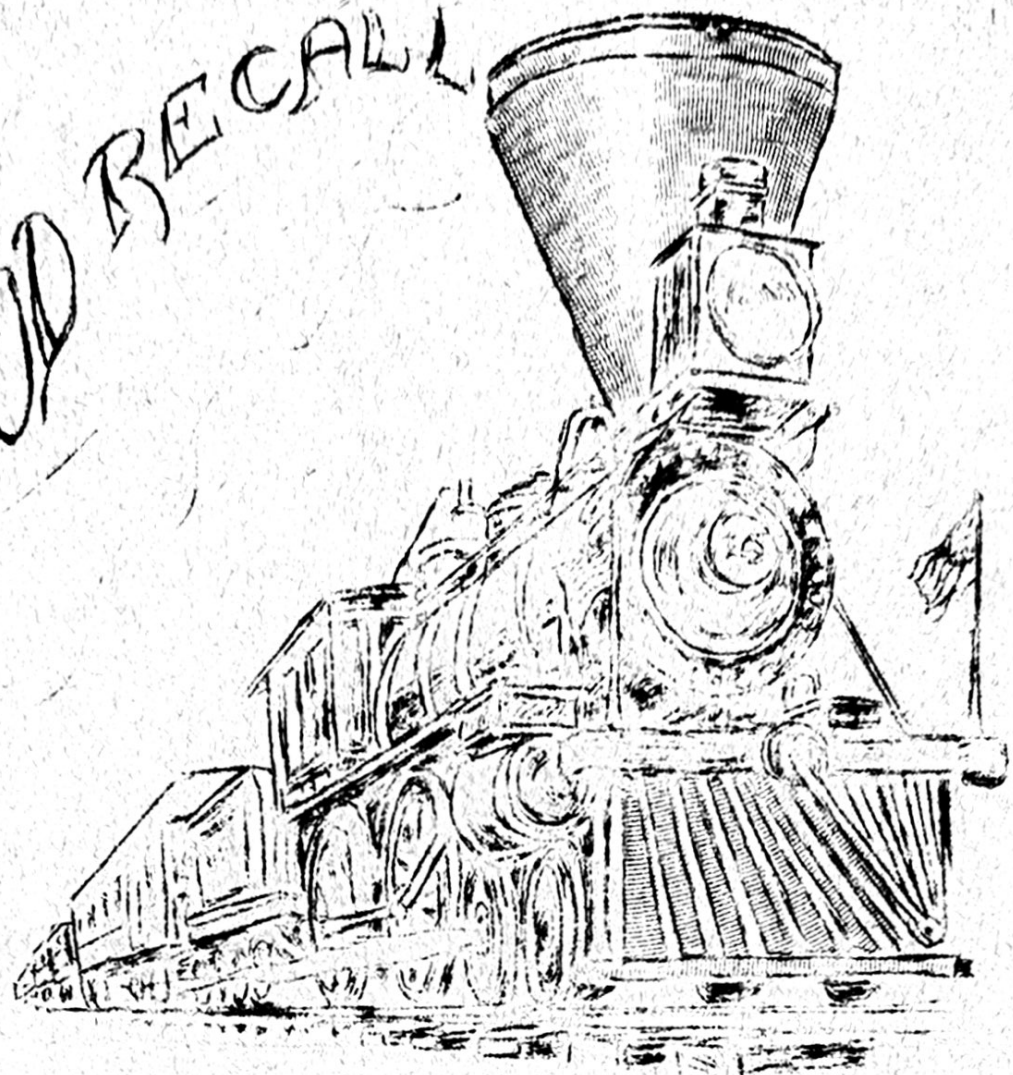


MEMOR RECALL



CAMDEN and ATLANTIC RAILROAD

The Shortest and Quickest Route to the Ocean.
Fast Express Trains run through in Ninety Minutes
TO ATLANTIC CITY.

The popular Summer and Winter Resort
ELEGANT PASSENGER COACHES
WOODRUFF PALACE CARS

6 Through trains each way daily and 8 on Saturdays
Take the trains from Vine Street Ferry.

Godey's Lady's Book &
Magazine, July, 1879

A BIT of CEMETERY LORE

E.C. Jennings, M.D.

A great deal of history can be revealed, if one wanders over the graveyards in our area.

The first graveyard in the Medford area was the Haines burial ground. This was located just beyond Fostertown in the neighborhood of the junction of the Belle Bridge road and the Mount Holly-Medford road. It is a recorded fact that three generations of the Haines family were buried there. Included in this group was the Indian wife of Richard Haines, Mary Carlyle, who was buried there in 1747. Since her husband's generation was the first generation, it is to be assumed that the graveyard was kept up for sometime after other cemeteries were opened.

The next cemetery to be opened was the Orthodox burial ground on Union Street. The early markers of the graves were made of brick—usually a hard type of brick that was in abundance in the area. This was followed by marble.

The earliest marked grave in existence today is that of Mark Stratton in the Union Street burial ground of the Friends. Although the graveyard had not been officially opened as such at that time, his body had been placed in the Church yard and the grave covered until such time as a fence could be constructed. This tombstone was dated 1759. I had located it as a boy. But on a recent visit with Walter McClain, we were not able to locate it. It may have become a silent victim to the Power Lawn Mower. There is a reproduced photograph of this stone in a small pamphlet issued on the Centennial Anniversary of the

Friends Meeting House issued in 1914

In that same Publication, it is stated: "We have one stone, that for Isaac Wilson, placed there by the Government, he being a soldier in the Civil War. A soldier's tombstone in a Friends burying ground is somewhat unique."

It was not uncommon in those days for friends to take up arms for what they thought was a just cause. In fact, in the Rancocas burial grounds, there is a grave of Joseph Ridgeway without a government stone and naturally, no military rank or name of the military organization on it. Joseph Ridgeway was a Captain in the 23rd Infantry Regiment of Civil War fame, who organized a Company of men from that area and went off to war. Captain Ridgeway was killed at the Battle of Fredericksburg, Va. His devoted Quaker father drove a team of horses the entire distance to Fredericksburg, Virginia and back in order to bring his body home for burial. But to this day, there is nothing on the grave to tell the story of his supreme sacrifice. So one's curiosity is aroused as to Isaac Wilson and the controversial government stone on his grave.

Walter McClain tells me that for many years the Orthodox Friends would not allow a flag to be placed on this grave on Memorial Day. They would permit a wreath, but no flag. It was a policy of the Hicksite Friends to allow the flags to remain on the graves for a couple of days, but no longer.

One wonders, who was this Isaac Wilson who received a tombstone bearing the name of the First New Jersey Cavalry, one of the outstanding

Units of Civil War fame? Was this Quaker boy carried away by his love of horses, or patriotic motives so that he cast aside the Pacifist teachings of his church? However, the records show that he was not a boy, but a man of forty, whose wife Hannah, whose maiden name was Jones had died the previous year of consumption when he enlisted on August 4, 1861.

When Isaac Wilson enlisted at Lumberton in the First New Jersey Cavalry, he gave his occupation as tailor and left a motherless boy of six years of age behind. A year later, when Isaac was riding into battle at Cedar Mountain, the horse upon which he was riding became frightened at the enemy gun fire and Isaac was thrown violently to the ground, severely injuring his back. This marked the end of the war for Isaac. He was evacuated from the area of Culpepper, Va., where the field hospital was located, to Washington, D.C., remaining there two months. Because of his back injury he received a medical discharge in January of 1863 from an Army Hospital in Baltimore, Md.

In 1866, Isaac Wilson applied for a pension for injuries received in the war, stating that he no longer could perform his former occupation as a tailor, further stating that these injuries were such that he could not get out of bed without assistance and suffered great pain from said injuries.

In this application, he stated his age as 52. This would make him 46 in 1861. So obviously, the good Quaker had lied about his age in his desire to enlist in the Union Cavalry. This is probably his correct age, as his wife was 43 when she died in 1860.

It is not known whether Isaac

received his pension or not, for certainly if he did, he did not live long to enjoy it, for he died on February 12, 1868 of disease reputedly contracted in the service in the line of duty.

He was buried in the western end of the cemetery in the Wilson line with other members of his family. The policy of the Friends is to bury a family in single rows, rather than in plots, as is customary in other cemeteries. There is an unmarked grave next to him, which may be that of his wife, Hannah.

According to Evelyn Belcher, who has a vast knowledge of local history, Isaac Wilson lived in the house presently occupied by Stanley Braddock on South Main Street. And it seems he was a man of great courage, for at one time, two people were murdered across the street from his home. Isaac interceded and laid the assassin out with a club and held him single handed until assistance came. Obviously, this incident occurred before his Civil War injury.

On this Centennial observation of the year of Isaac's death, he will get a flag and wreath placed on his grave on Memorial Day as the policy of the Pacifist Friends has changed relative to this custom.

The policy of placing flags on the graves of Soldiers in Medford was started by Isaac Parsons, a Civil War veteran. Jesse Stackhouse took over duties after Isaac's death. Walter McClain has since officiated.

Placing flags on the graves of old Soldiers has not always been accepted as the proper thing to do in this community, founded by the Quakers. In 1917, the committee ran into a real problem in getting children to march in the Parade and placing the wreathes on the graves. Bess Cowperthwaite, herself a Friend and the local Principal, had taken all the school children over to Moores-

town to a Field Day. This nearly disrupted the custom, but Walter McClain and his committee were able to round up enough children in order to follow through with the Annual Memorial Day practice.

- (1) Ancestry of the Haines Family
George Haines, M.D.
- (2) Pamphlet
Centennial Anniversary of
Friends Meeting House Union St.
Medford, N.J. 1914
- (3) History of Burlington & Mercer
Counties
By Woodward & Hageman
- (4) Personal Communications
James & Watson Buck
- (5) General Services Administration
National Archives & Research
Service
- (6) Ride To War
The History of the First New
Jersey Cavalry By Henry R.
Pyne

* * * * *

GRANDMA'S COOK BOOK

NORWICH BUNS

INGREDIENTS--One tumbler of milk
one-half gill yeast
Three eggs
Two ounces of butter
One coffee-cup of
sugar
Nutmeg to taste

Beat sugar and eggs together, rub butter into the flour, of which only use enough to mould easily. Let this rise over night, when very light,

roll out, put in tins to rise again, bake twenty minutes. If you wish to add currents, put them into the sponge when mixed.

* * * * *

NOW ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Twentieth century man's attitude toward the paranormal is usually disbelief and skepticism in the extreme. The notion that man and his mind may be something other than physical things is currently not in vogue. But to those interested in the findings of parapsychology, the branch of behavioral science that undertakes to examine psychic phenomena, a ghost is a revealed perceptio of dormant memory patterns upon a certain environment and yet a stranger to those who perceive it. They appear to be as solid and as material as a living being. We as a historically minded society are interested in only one of the four main classes of ghosts, those that habitually appear in a room, house or locale. For on many such does history hang. We have no need to explain such out of the ordinary occurrences, a paranormal happening if you prefer; but there is nothing supernatural about them. At this time I leave the study of the invisible fields of force that dictate the mechanics of ghosts to a dedicated group of pioneers in parapsychology. I am sure that there will be a time in the future when the unexpected appearance of a ghost will cause no more alarm than the sudden appearance of a mouse in the kitchen.

In a town as long established and lived in as Medford it would be most unusual to find no such

town to a Field Day. This nearly disrupted the custom, but Walter McClain and his committee were able to round up enough children in order to follow through with the Annual Memorial Day practice.

- (1) Ancestry of the Haines Family
George Haines, M.D.
- (2) Pamphlet
Centennial Anniversary of
Friends Meeting House Union St.
Medford, N.J. 1914
- (3) History of Burlington & Mercer
Counties
By Woodward & Hageman
- (4) Personal Communications
James & Watson Buck
- (5) General Services Administration
National Archives & Research
Service
- (6) Ride To War
The History of the First New
Jersey Cavalry By Henry R.
Pyne

* * * * *

GRANDMA'S COOK BOOK

NORWICH BUNS

INGREDIENTS--One tumbler of milk
one-half gill yeast
Three eggs
Two ounces of butter
One coffee-cup of
sugar
Nutmeg to taste

Beat sugar and eggs together, rub butter into the flour, of which only use enough to mould easily. Let this rise over night, when very light,

roll out, put in tins to rise again, bake twenty minutes. If you wish to add currents, put them into the sponge when mixed.

* * * * *

NOW ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Twentieth century man's attitude toward the paranormal is usually disbelief and skepticism in the extreme. The notion that man and his mind may be something other than physical things is currently not in vogue. But to those interested in the findings of parapsychology, the branch of behavioral science that undertakes to examine psychic phenomena, a ghost is a revealed perceptio of dormant memory patterns upon a certain environment and yet a stranger to those who perceive it. They appear to be as solid and as material as a living being. We as a historically minded society are interested in only one of the four main classes of ghosts, those that habitually appear in a room, house or locale. For on many such does history hang. We have no need to explain such out of the ordinary occurrences, a paranormal happening if you prefer; but there is nothing supernatural about them. At this time I leave the study of the invisible fields of force that dictate the mechanics of ghosts to a dedicated group of pioneers in parapsychology. I am sure that there will be a time in the future when the unexpected appearance of a ghost will cause no more alarm than the sudden appearance of a mouse in the kitchen.

In a town as long established and lived in as Medford it would be most unusual to find no such

phenomena hereabouts. And sure enough I am beginning to hear tell of some paranormal happenings, the prime cause of which may be peoples long since gone-perhaps even pre-historic. Such are nothing to be alarmed about. However, if they prove to annoying there are now known means of easing or erasing such memory patterns so that the present generation can live their lives in peace.

Louis J. McConnell

* * * * *

Walter McClain Chief of Union Fire Company, Medford attended a meeting of South Jersey Fire Chiefs in Camden last week. Fire matters generally were discussed and Chief McClain says it was the greatest educational and instructive meeting he ever attended from a fireman's standpoint.

from The Central Record,
March 14, 1929

* * * * *