

## TUSCARORA VALLEY ITEMS.

The old style of letter-writing beginning, "I take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well at present," so I take my pen in hand to let you know some of the notable happenings in far-famed Tuscarora, the most noticeable and surprising of which was a visit made by the aged mother of Dr. D. J. Beale, of Johnstown, to the homes of her niece, Mrs. M. A. Barnard, and of her nephew, Hon. J. D. Milliken, taking dinner with one and supper with the other, and returning to her home in the evening. Having expressed a wish to visit the home of her childhood, the old farm on which her grandfather died during the revolutionary war of disease contracted in the service, and the birthplace of uncles and brother and sister, and which has not been owned outside the connection during all these years since 1784. Her son, James, with whom she has her home, cheerfully provided a conveyance, and in company with himself and daughter, Aunt Millie, took a ride of about nine miles, a journey which appears formidable when we consider that in a few days she will have completed the 87th year of her life. The old homestead farm is now in possession of her nephew, Hon. J. D. Milliken, and during her visit this aged lady saw many heirlooms and relics of revolutionary and earlier days as well as of later times. She expressed herself as much gratified by her visit, and could not have been more pleased than those whom she visited. In a notice of Grandfather Burchfield's birthday observance of the 18th of April, your correspondent omitted the following information which I give you now, on account of the peculiarity of the figures: Born on the 18th of April, 1808, he was 80 years old on the 18th of April, 1888.

Mrs. Joseph Owens, of Lewistown, is visiting the scenes of her childhood. She is accompanied by her youngest daughter, Miss Kate. They are now sojourning with their cousin, J. D. Milliken, and family, and propose visiting Aunt Millie Beale during the coming week.

Quite a number of Spruce Hill's young ladies and gents participated in the entertainment at Academia on the evening of the 21st. Those among the scholars acquitted themselves very creditably. T.C.

## Port Royal Times

Thursday, June 28, 1888

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The "aged mother of Dr. D. J. Beale" was Millie (Milliken) Beale [1801-1893]. Mary Ann Barnard and John David Milliken were the children of her brother, Thomas I Milliken.

"The home of her childhood" where her "grandfather died during the revolutionary war" and "the birthplace of uncles and brother and sister" is the old Milliken homestead on Mountain Rd in Spruce Hill Township, Juniata Co, PA. The history of the homestead land being documented at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~milliken/landrecs.html>. "Now in possession of her nephew, Hon. J. D. Milliken" who was John David Milliken, son of Thomas I mentioned above. The Juniata Co deed [Book V, page 221] dated August 3, 1881 shows John D Milliken as owner of this property.

--Michael A Milliken

## DEATHS.

### MRS. CATHERINE SMITH.

Mrs. Catherine Milliken Smith, widow of Stockton Smith, deceased, died at her home in Jefferson, Friday, October 11, aged 84 years, of infirmities incident to old age. Mrs. Smith was a daughter of John and Mary Campbell Milliken, who were pioneer settlers in Greene county, coming here in 1800 from eastern Pennsylvania. Her grandfather, Thomas Milliken, was a veteran of the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Smith was born near Jefferson, August 28, 1834. She was one of a family of twelve children. She was a life-long member of the Baptist church and was most highly esteemed. On November 30, 1854 she was united in marriage with Stockton Smith, whose death occurred Jan. 25, 1876. Three children survive, Mrs. Charles Filby and Miss Flora Smith, of Jefferson, and Mrs. M. E. Clemmer, of Smithfield, Pa. One brother, Thomas Milliken, of Valley Junction, Iowa, also survives. The funeral services were held Sunday afternoon, conducted by the Rev. Brush. Interment in the Smith Cemetery.

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The obit for Catherine [Milliken] Smith is interesting in that it states that "Her grandfather, Thomas Milliken, was a veteran of the Revolutionary war."

At face value, this is yet another reference, albeit secondary, of Thomas Milliken's service as a Patriot. Unfortunately, other errors challenge the credibility of the whole. The obit states, "Mrs. Smith was a daughter of John and Mary Campbell Milliken" but in fact Catherine was a granddaughter of John and Mary Campbell Milliken, her parents being Thomas & Elizabeth [Cain] Milligan. Therefore, Thomas Milliken, the veteran, would have been a great-grandfather to Catherine.

The rest of the obit holds true on the number of siblings she had and the names of her children. Obits from other family members also support that Catherine was indeed a child of Thomas & Elizabeth [Cain] Milligan as opposed to John & Mary [Campbell] Milliken. Also interesting is the fact that although she is a direct descendant of John Milliken, no mention is made of John's Revolutionary war service. Although the facts can be construed in several different ways, this is one of those evidentiary documents that may be best taken at face value and used to support Thomas Milliken's Revolutionary war service.

--Michael A Milliken