

city, and likewise people of Egg Harbor, Springfield, Northampton, Southampton, Monmouth county, and various other places hired money of him and gave him bonds or mortgages for the same. During the Revolutionary War he loaned the Government a considerable sum of money; but when pay day came the Government had nothing to pay with except Continental paper, which was next to no pay. The lender was compelled to take large packages of the worthless scrip, which was preserved in the Mathis family for some generations, but at this time it is nearly all destroyed. The war proved a ruinous thing to John Mathis' money affairs, but did not interfere with his extensive real estate.

John Mathis appears to have been intimately associated with a great number of the noted men of New Jersey, and his kindred of Egg Harbor were the most eminent characters of the place. Edward Andrews was his father-in-law, Peter and Jacob Andrews, the noted ministers, were his brothers-in-law. Thomas Ridgway was his brother-in-law also. Robert, Allen and Samuel Andrews, and his children, all married into the first families of the time and places where they lived.

John Mathis was nearly connected with several of the Quaker preachers of his time. Among these were Edward Andrews, his father-in-law. Peter and Jacob Andrews, his brothers-in-law. John Leeds, his son-in-law. Vincent Leeds (son of John Leeds) his grandson, and some of his nephews and nieces were Quaker ministers.

Many of the Mathis family have been members of the Quaker church. Many of the old stock of the Mathis family married without the consent of the Friends' Meeting, and thereby lost their membership, and this seems to have been the principal cause of the decrease of Quakerism in the Mathis family. The Mathis have a dislike of marrying among their near kindred, and therefore many of them married among strangers in distant localities, not being able (especially in old times) to marry in Egg Harbor without espousing their near relations. The name of Mathis is fast dying out, yet there are hundreds of people of the Mathis blood in Egg Harbor. The greater part of John Mathis' lands are now in possession of his descendants, but in a great measure among those of other names, the Mathis name being lost in other names.

*First Branch of John Mathis' Family.*—Micajah, eldest son of John Mathis, was an enterprising man, and beside his father's liberal bequests, he accumulated a handsome property, but the depreciation of the Continental paper was a heavy blow to his financial affairs, yet, notwithstanding all of his losses at his death, his personal property amounted to several thousand dollars, and he also owned the Francis French farm and a farm at Chestnut Neck, now called the Shreve Mathis farm; and he likewise owned many hundred acres of heavily timbered upland and cedar swamp.

In the year 1747 Micajah Mathis married Mercy, daughter of Joshua and Jane Shreve, of Upper Springfield, Burlington county, N. J.

Micajah Mathis had seven children, whose names and ages were as follows :

Martha Mathis, born the 25th day of May, 1748, and died the 8th day of April, 1759, aged 11 years.

Job Mathis, born the 17th day of April, 1750.

John Mathis, born the 23d day of December, 1753.

Barzillai Mathis, born the 13th day of December, 1755.

Benjamin Mathis, born the 15th day of July, 1760.

Mercy Mathis, born the 21st day of August, 1762.

Sarah Mathis, born the 29th day of August, 1764.

After Micajah Mathis married he settled on the Francis French farm, where he resided until the time of his death, which took place the 11th day of November, 1804, he being aged 88 years and two days.

Job, son of Micajah Mathis, married Leah, daughter of Aaron and Susannah Ellis, of Upper Mansfield, N. J. Job Mathis' wife was an estimable woman, who had been brought up and educated in all of the ladylike accomplishments, which were fashionable in that day. She was a strict member of the Baptist Church.

Job and Leah Mathis' children were Micajah Mathis, born the 2d day of February, 1786.

Elihu Mathis, born the 11th or 12th day of September, 1792.

Ellis Mathis, born the 28th day of October, 1797.

Micajah, son of Job Mathis, married Mary Brown, of Massachusetts. No children.

Elihu Mathis, son of Job Mathis, was a surveyor, and by his unswerving adherence to justice and preciseness in his works, he gained the confidence of his acquaintances, many of whom, when they were involved in difficulties, or had business to be entrusted to other hands, unhesitatingly and confidently sought his counsel and efficient aid. He was unusually well versed in the law for one who had not been educated for a lawyer. He, like many of his name, was distinguished for the soundness of his judgment, for keeping his own counsel and the confidences of others, and also for his firmness when he thought he was in the right. He assessed the township of Little Egg Harbor for nine years in succession ; he was several years a Justice of the Peace, and two years a member of the Legislature of New Jersey. He died the 11th day of December, 1856, aged 64 years and three months. Elihu married Amelia, daughter of Benjamin Seaman, of West Creek, Ocean county, N. J. Their children were Leah, Sabra, Amelia, Lydia, Benjamin Franklin, Sophronia Almira, and Lovenia Elvina.

Leah, daughter of Elihu Mathis, married Ezra Blackman, and had children named Melinda, Thomas, Elihu M., Elizabeth A., William E., Susan L., and Lovenia E.

Melinda Blackman married Ezra L. Hanson. Their child was named William Lockwood Hanson.

Thomas Blackman married Mary Lane; their children were Leilu and Leonard.

Elihu M. Blackman married Margaret, daughter of Charles Mathis; their child was named Somers Elihu Blackman.

Elizabeth A. Blackman married Captain Job Somers.

William E. Blackman married Sarah E. Jones.

Susan L. Blackman married Timothy W. Brown.

Lovenia E. Blackman, unmarried.

Sabra Amelia, daughter of Elihu Mathis, married William C. Sears. Their children, Elihu, married to Mary, daughter of Captain George Allen; and Abigail Amelia, married to Bodine, son of Daniel Parker. Achsah Sears unmarried.

Lydia, daughter of Elihu Mathis, married Jesse R. Sears. Their children, Mary, married to Hiram Elbridge, son of Captain William French; Sabra Sears married to Thomas, son of Captain George Allen. Jesse Sears' other children were Benjamin Franklin and Walter.

Sophronia Almira, daughter of Elihu Mathis, married Joseph Parker. Their child was Joseph E. Parker.

Lovenia Elvina, daughter of Elihu Mathis, married Jesse R. Parker. No children.

Ellis, son of Job Mathis, married Mabel, daughter of Maja Mathis, Esq. Ellis and Mabel's children were Maja, Ruth, Abigail, Huldah, Micajah, Leah, Amanda, Mabel and Marietta.

Ellis Mathis married a second wife whose name was Rebecca Adams. The children of this marriage were Job, Elihu and Evi.

Maja, son of Ellis Mathis, married Phoebe, daughter of Ebenezer Sooy. Their children are Ellis, Ebenezer, Abigail, Cowperthwaite and Samuel.

Ruth, daughter of Ellis Mathis, married John, son of Charles Rutter. Their child was named Eliza. John Rutter was a soldier of the Union Army; was taken prisoner, and died a victim to the cruel treatment of the rebels.

Abigail, daughter of Ellis Mathis, married George, son of Aaron Mathis, and died soon after her marriage.

Huldah, daughter of Ellis Mathis, married Charles Gaskill. Their child was Henrietta Gaskill.

Micajah Mathis, son of Ellis Mathis, married Martha Adams.

Marietta, daughter of Ellis Mathis, married Joseph B. Allen.

John, son of Micajah Mathis, Sr., married Martha, daughter of Caleb Cranmer, Sr., of Bass River. Their children were Reuben, Caleb, Jennings, John, Shreve, Beriah, Chalkley, Charlotte, Elizabeth, Mary and Sarah.

I have been unable to ascertain who most of the above-named persons married.

Barzillai, son of Micajah Mathis, Sr., married Elizabeth, daughter of James Edwards, of Barnegat. Their children were George, James, Martha, Emma, Susan and Phœbe.

George, son of Barzillai Mathis, married in Philadelphia, his wife's name was Rhuamah.

James, son of Barzillai, married two wives in Philadelphia.

Martha, daughter of Barzillai Mathis, married Samuel, son of Hezekiah Mathis, and had children named Elmina and Robert.

Elmina married ——— Sinderland, and had children named Elizabeth and Mary.

Elizabeth Sinderland married ——— Podesta.

Mary Sinderland married Edward Page.

Martha, daughter of Barzillai Mathis, married a second husband, whose name is Seth Austin. The children of this marriage are Charles, Sarah and Mary.

Charles Austin married Margaretta Bowers. Their children were Robert, William, Thomas, Charles, Martha, Ellen and Mary.

Sarah Austin married George Williamson, of Philadelphia. Their children were William, Mary, Charles, Anna, Clara and John.

Mary Austin married Thomas Field, of Philadelphia. Their children were Martha, Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary, Charles, Emma, Harry, Alfred, Edwin, Walter and Austin.

Emma, daughter of Barzillai Mathis, married Elwood Haines, of Philadelphia. Their children were Livingston, Mary, Ella, Francis and Henrietta.

Phœbe, daughter of Barzillai Mathis, married Stewart Benson, of Philadelphia.

Benjamin, son of Micajah Mathis, Sr., married Anne Merritt, of the upper section of Burlington county. Their children were Mercy, Angeline, Eliza, Grace. Thomas, Rebecca, Mary, Leah, Jane and Benjamin.

Mercy Mathis married Isaac Powell. Their children were Mathis, Charles, Rebecca and Anne.

Angeline Mathis married William Butler. Their children were Beulah, Benjamin, Shreve, William, Jane, Theodosia, Edwin and Mary.

Eliza Mathis married Jacob Powell. Their children were Jacob, Benjamin, Samuel and Anne.

Samuel, son of Jacob and Eliza Powell, was a surgeon in the Union army, and fell a victim to the cruel treatment of the rebels. The following is the notice of his death, which I copied from the *New Jersey Mirror* :

“At Macon, Georgia, on the 8th of August, of chronic diarrhœa,

Doctor Samuel Powell, aged about 36 years, formerly of Mount Holly."

The deceased was an assistant surgeon in the United States army, and while in the discharge of his duty, fell into the hands of the rebels. After the action at Travillion Station, having under his care a number of wounded soldiers who could not be removed, he nobly remained with them, and preferred to face Libby Prison and starvation, than desert the generous braves who had been disabled in their country's cause. He was taken prisoner, sent to Richmond, and afterwards to Macon, at which place he languished and died.

Such an act of devotion, and such a disregard for self, was to be expected of such a Christian man as Dr. Powell, and most nobly has he sustained himself under such trying circumstances. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and while amongst us walked worthy of the vocation wherewith he was called. He knew in whom he trusted, and boldly and fearlessly committed himself to the care of his God. But mysterious are the ways of Providence, and he was not permitted to return to receive the thanks of his fellow men. His body lies unhonored in a far distant land, with no marble slab to mark the spot, but his memory, and such devotion to duty stand in bold relief, and will be embalmed in the hearts of his countrymen.

Grace Mathis married Jesse E. Bodine. Their children were John, Anne and Edwin.

Thomas Mathis married Mary, daughter of Captain Josiah Cale. Their children were Anne, Alfred, Mary, Josiah and Elizabeth.

Rebecca Mathis married Samuel Wright. Their children were Adam Gaskill, Eliza Jane, Hannah, Rebecca and Mary.

Mary Mathis married Isaiah Adams. Their children were Charles, Jesse, Henry and Irick.

Leah Mathis married Joel Bodine.

Jane Mathis married Rehoboam Haines, of Northampton, Burlington county. Their children were Phœbe, Ann, John and Joseph.

Benjamin Mathis, Jr., married Mary Branson. Their children were Joseph and William.

Mercy, daughter of Micajah Mathis, Sr., married William Merritt, of the upper section of Burlington county. They went to reside in the State of New York, near the Falls of Niagara, where they have descendants.

Sarah, daughter of Micajah Mathis, Sr., married Samuel, son of Captain John Leek, Sr. They had several children, among whom were John and Stacy Biddle.

*Second Branch of John Mathis' Family.*—Job, son of John Mathis, resided on Daniel Mathis' Island. He married Phœbe, sister of Captain John Leek, Sr., of Bass river. She was an English woman. Job Mathis' children were Daniel, Enoch, Phœbe and Mary.