

JOHN SHARPLES

1. JOHN SHARPLES, of Ratherton, in the county of Chester, England, married Jane Moore, of the same place, in 1662. They had seven children with whom they embarked for America on the Friendship, preceding William Penn about four months, they being some of the first settlers of his new province of Pennsylvania. They landed at Upland, later named Chester, on 14 June 1682, all except Thomas, who died on the water. Phebe was born at Mearemore, John at Blackenhall, and the rest at Ratherton, in Cheshire. When they left England, Phebe was about 19 years of age, John 16, Thomas 14, James 12, Caleb 9, Jane 6, Joseph 4.

They took up part of the land purchased by William Penn on Ridley Creek, about two miles NW from Chester, where they felled a large tree, and took shelter among the boughs thereof about six weeks, in which time they built a cabin, against a rock, which answered for their chimney back, and now contains the date of the year when the cabin was built, 1682, in which they dwelt until 1688, having constructed a two-story simple stone house about 150 feet from "the rock". There, at the cabin by the rock, they all died, except the mother and three sons. Son Joseph, when of age, built their second dwelling house in 1688 and several others in the neighborhood, all two-story, the walls of stone, from a quarry a few hundred feet from the houses.

Their one thousand acres were in three tracts: one at Ridley Creek where they first settled, one in Middletown and one in Providence.

John Sharples, b Wynbunbury, Cheshire, England, 15 Aug 1624, d Chester, Penn 11 April 1685, m 27 Feb 1662 in England to Jane Moor b 1638, d 1 Sept 1722. (John's sisters: Rebecca Caudwell, d 25 Feb 1703, d at 72, and Mary Ellis d 26 Feb 1703 at 75 years). Their children were:

Phebe b 20 Oct 1663, d 2 April 1685, unm.

John b 16 Nov 1666, d 9 July 1747, m 23 Aug 1692 to Hannah Pennell, dau Robert and Hannah (Hyndson) Pennell, of England. Hannah b 23 July 1673, d 31 Oct 1671 at Ridley.

Thomas, b 2 Nov 1668, d at sea 17 May 1682.

James b 5 Jan 1670, d ca 1746, m Mary Edge 3 Jan 1697/98

Caleb, b 22 Feb 1673, d 17 July 1686 at Ridley.

Jane b 13 June 1676, d 28 Mar 1685 at Ridley.

Joseph b 1678

2. JOSEPH SHARPLES, b 28 Sept 1678, d Spring of 1757 in Middletown Twp. e. at Ratherton, Cheshire, England. m Lydia Lewis 31 Mar 1704 at Hav-erford Friends Mtg. Lydia b 8 Mar 1683 in Glamorganshire, Wales, d 1763 and was dau Ralph and Mary Lewis of Treverig, Wales. Their ch:

Susanna b 1705 m Joseph Chamberlain

Joseph b 1707, m Mary Fyle

Benjamin b 1709

Samuel b 7Dec1710, m Jane Newlin, dau John and Mary(Woodward)Newlin

Lydia b 1713, m John Martin

Nathan b 1715 m Hannah Townsend

Jane b 1718, m Jacob Pyle

Abraham b 1720, m Ann Young

Jacob b 1722, m Ann Blakey

William b 1725, m Asigail Sharp

3. BENJAMIN SHARPLES b 26Nov1709 in Nether Providence Twp, d 10Mar1785, m Edith Loom 27Feb1737. Edith b 1718, d 13Jun1744. m 2nd Martha Mendenhall 21Mar1746. Martha b 8Dec1724, d 20Jan1812 in Middletown, dau Benjamin and Lydia (Roberts) Mendenhall and b in Concord Twp. Their ch:

Joseph b 19Dec1737/8, d 1Sept1763 unm

Benjamin b 26Oct1740, d in Maryland 18Jun1780, m. Hannah Hollingshead and Sarah Rigby

Edith b 30Oct1742, d 8Feb1815, m Ziba Ferris 12Jan1769

Benjamin (b 1709) m 2nd Martha Mendenhall. Their ch:

Joshua b 28Dec1746/7, d 21Sept1826, m Edith Yarnall and Ann Tribble

Isaac b. 1748

Rebecca b 29Oct1749, d 9Feb1780 unm

Martha b 28Oct1751 d 7Aug1763

Ann b 1July1754, d 4Sept1763

Aaron b 26Aug1756, d N.Y.City 25Aug1798, m 11May1783 to Mary Ellwood b 23Oct1764, d 14Mar1797 in N.Y.City

Amy b 17Nov1758, d 3Jan1831, m 4Oct1787 to Jesse Darlington, b 16Feb1762, d 26Apr11842

Enoch b 15Sept1760, d 15Apr11763

Hannah b 9Apr11765, d 11Apr11795, m 5Sept1782 to Peter Yarnall b 17Feb1754, d 25Feb1798. Peter was son of Mordecai and Mary (Roberts) Yarnall

Esther b 21May1767, d 24July1865, m 15May1806 to Jehu Garrett b 5May1769, d 21Nov1842 and son Samuel and Susanna (Lewis)Garrett

Sarah b 25Sept1769, d Wilmington, Del.13Sept1823, m 5May1791 to William Poole, b 4Aug1764, d 25May1829. He was son William and Elizabeth (Shipley) Poole.

Samuel b 25Nov1770, d 8Sept1796 unm in Wilmington, De.

4. ISAAC SHARPLES b in Middletown Twsp 16May1748, d 23Jan1780, m 13Feb1777, to Elizabeth Talbot, dau Jos and Hannah (Baker) Talbot. She m 2nd Rees Cadwalader in 1790 and thought d 29Nov1812 in Flushing Twsp, Ohio.

Benjamin Sharpless, b 4Nov1777

5. BENJAMIN SHARPLESS b 4Nov1777, probably Middletown Twsp, d Sept1845 in Mercer Co. Penn (now Lawrence Co), m Amy Cadwalader May1801, She was dau Septimus and Sarah Cadwalader. Amy d 31Mar1855

Isaac, d un m ca 21 yrs

Septimus C. b 21Junel804, d Centerdale, Iowa 24Junel865, m 2July1835 to Sarah Negus, dau John and Miriam (Burdge) Negus, b 23Aprill807. Moved to Iowa 1851.

Ellen T. b 15Oct1806, d 30Oct1836, m Mifflin Cadwalader, son of Jonah and Ann (Cattell)

Edwin A. b 25Apr1809 at Hillsville, Lawrence Co, Penn and d there 27Mar1881, m 23Junel835 to Eliza Williams, dau Uriah and Jemima (Lafferty) Williams, d 30Junel879

Albert F. Sharpless b 1811

6. ALBERT F. SHARPLESS b 1May1811 in Mahoning Twp., Mercer Co, Penn, d 1899, m 31Mar1836 to Lydia Heald, b 22Aug1810, d 5Mar1917 at Whittier, Calif. She was dau Wm. Heald and Sarah (Wilson) Heald. He was miller and member of Orthodox Friends Soc. They lived Jasper Co, Iowa, but at Pasadena, Calif. by 1886.

Benjamin b 1837

Ellen b 22Aug1839, d 12Feb1848 un m

Sarah b 25Jan1842, m Robert Cooper Hiatt, son of Joel and Ann (Cooper) Hiatt. In 1880's lived Pasadena and, later, Whittier, Calif.

William b cardington, Ohio, 30Dec1854, d 1924, m 3May1882 to Elizabeth Cowgill b 15July1861, d 12Mar1883. m 2nd 10Oct1885 in Orange, Calif. to Jane Ellen (Way) Sargent d 1931 at Long Beach, dau Henry O. and Ann M. (Frazier) Way.

7. BENJAMIN SHARPLESS b 2Feb1837, d 12Dec1919 at Whittier, Calif. m. 11Feb1858 to Deborah Willits, b 10Apr1837, d 21Apr1875, dau Joel and Cynthia (Lewis) Willits. m 2nd 11Mar1878 to Hannah Kirk, b 14July 1848, d 1May1911, dau William and Rebecca (Vaughn) Kirk. Also m Eliza Ann Haydeck in 1912, who d 1915. Benjamin in Pasadena, Cal ante 1889.

Delbert b 15Nov1858, d 24Nov1937 un m at San Bernardino, Calif.

Clayton William b 5Feb1862, d 14Feb1914, m 26Nov1885 to Dora Elisa Quaintance b 11Sept1863, d 8Apr1912, Moved from Sugar Creek, Iowa, to Whittier, Calif. in 1896.

Edgar J. b 30Junel864, d Whittier, Calif. 5Dec1957, m 24Oct1895 to Martha Jane Crook, b 7Apr1867, d 28Apr1957, dau of Peter and Catharine (Parkinson)Crook.

Leonard B. b 30Mar1867 in Iowa, d Whittier, Calif 11Feb1919, m 11Dec1902 to Sarah Anne Vestal, b Kansas 31Aug1874, d Whittier 1945, dau of John and Eliza(King)Vestal.

Elnora b 24Apr1869 at Sugar Creek, Iowa, d/1968<sup>24Dec</sup> at Whittier, m 10Jan1894 to Curtis Jackson, b 17Aug1859, d Whittier 26Mar1942.

Benjamin Harry Sharpless b 14Oct1872

Deborah, b 17Jan1875, d 6Aug1875 as infant.

Sadie, b Iowa 17Dec1878, m Whittier 19Oct1905 to Arthur M. Trueblood b 22Aug1870, d/1969 in Whittier.

Edna L. b 4Dec1881, d 13Nov1888.<sup>7Sept</sup>

Caroline Rebecca, b 16July1884, d 22Aug1972 at Yorba Linda, Calif. m 11Mar1915 to Alfred Johnson, b 13Oct1882, d 17Junel970.

William Earl b 17Junel889, d 17Aug1971 Santa Ana, Calif., m 12Jan1918 to Hilda Louisa Bulec b 1Junel894.

8. BENJAMIN HARRY SHARPLESS b 14Oct1872, d 29Junel957 at Santa Ana, Calif. m in Hilo, Hawaii 27Oct1898 to Viola Olive Monroe, dau Finley and Lena (Woods)Monroe. She b 21Dec1877, d 29Feb1956 at Santa Ana, Ca. BHS moved to Pasadena, Ca from Iowa 1892.

Ada May b Hilo, Hawaii. Married. No issue. Became noted sculptress.

Leonard Monroe, b 19Mar1901, m Martha Elizabeth Beggs, who d 18June 1941, m 2nd Charlyn Tedrick.

Mary Claire, b Long Beach, Calif. 1Feb1903, m Santa Ana, Calif 14Sept 1927 to Cecil John Marks (OCCGS member), son Wilford Michael and Julia Violetta (Romans)Marks. C.J.Marks b 13Nov1898 at Redfield, Kansas.

#### Bibliography

Sharples-Sharpless Family Record as published by Joseph Sharpless in 1814; Sharples-Sharpless Family, Bart Anderson, Editor, 1966, with additions by C. J. Marks. Ancestry of Sharples Family enlarged by Francis James Dallett, Fellow The American Society of Genealogists

ANCESTRY of Sharples Family includes Edward Sharpule(Sharples) b ca 1542, Wybunbury, Chester, England, father of Elizabeth, natural dau of Isabell Aspeshawe and Richard Sharples; Richard's son Jeffrey d 15Dec1661, who m Margaret Ashley, license dated 27Apr1611. She bur 27Jan1643 at Wybunbury; Jeffrey's son John Sharples (#1 above) b 1624.



## Boulder center of reunion

### Sharples family returning to roots

By Erich Smith  
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — It was three centuries ago, family tradition has it, that John and Jane Sharples huddled in a lean-to built against a huge rock in the wilderness of a new land called Pennsylvania.

Now, just as they did 100 years ago, descendants of those two Quaker refugees are returning to the ancestral home, to view their humble beginnings and measure how far they've come.

About 570 descendants of the family — most of whom now spell it Sharpless — will come to suburban Delaware County this weekend to stand in the shadow of Sharpless Rock, now a family legend, and look at the initials "J.S." and the number "1682" carved in the station-wagon sized boulder.

The clan has spread all over America. Just ask Ed Sharpless of Wayne, Pa., who led the committee inviting them.

"We worked with telephone books from 46 major cities first and pulled out all the names of Sharplesses," he said. The response was overwhelming.

At least one Orange County resident will attend the family reunion, it was learned Thursday. She is Claire Sharpless Marks, a Tustin area resident.

"In fact, she's already en route to Pennsylvania," her brother, Monroe Sharpless, also a Tustin area resident, said. He said all persons in the U.S. with the surname Sharpless are descendants of the original Sharpless family of Quakers that arrived in the New World in the 1600s.

"That family sailed to America after finding a large cache of gold coins under their home in England," he said. "The coins apparently had been buried there during the Roman occupation of the British Isles."

Stragglers were still sending in reservations this week for the first nationwide Sharpless family reunion since August 1882, when, like a lodestone, Sharpless Rock drew 3,000 family members for the 200-year gathering.

The Sharplesses are coming from two-thirds of the states in the union, including most of New England. More than 30 are coming from California, 60 from Florida.

Ed Sharpless still marvels at the turnout, noting that his ancestors had to make the trip by carriage or on horseback.

Many of those in 1882 gathered around the rock for a picture that has become a family heirloom.

Most of John and Jane Sharples' 1,000-acre farm succumbed long ago to development in Nether Providence Township. In fact, the rock itself almost became part of a housing tract during the 1960s before a family member bought it and a surrounding acre.

That's probably not enough room for all the Sharplesses now, so they'll gather at Widener University, in nearby Chester.

Shuttle buses will ferry small groups to the rock, as well as to Wolley Stille, a rambling stone home built in 1700 by Joseph Sharples, the youngest son of John and Jane.

The house, with 2-foot-thick walls, working fireplaces, original wood paneling and wide floorboards, is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Elizabeth Schlosbon, a 10th-generation Sharpless, expects to show the old homestead to 1,000 people through the coming week.

Other heirlooms, from 53 family members, will be on display at Widener during the reunion, she said.

To commemorate the 300-year event, a silver coin is being struck at the Danbury Mint, a private mint in Connecticut.