

OUTLINE: DR. GEORGE SMITH

Feb. 12, 1804 – March 10, 1882

By William J. McDevitt

I. Geneology

Hayes Lineage

Great-great-great Grandfather: **Richard Hayes**, Ilmiston, Pembrokeshire, Wales

- Society of Friends
- Emigrated to Haverford Township 1687
- Wife: Issatt
- Children: **Richard** and John
- Purchased 50 acres in Haverford from Arthur Buse before immigrating
- Purchased 50 acres adjoining Haverford land from William Howell in 1696
- DOD 8/4/1697; buried in Haverford Friends Cemetery

Great-great Grandfather: **Richard Hayes, II** (DOD bet. 11/23/1738 & 3/3/1739)

- Wife: Elizabeth Lewis: DOM 3/4/1697 (DOB 12/14/1677; DOD 3/26/1742)
 - Daughter of Henry (DOD 6/17/1688) and Margaret Lewis
 - Emigrated with parents and siblings (Henry and Samuel) from Narberth, Pembrokeshire, Wales, to The Grange in Haverford
- Children: Joseph, Mary, Hannah, **Benjamin**, Richard, Isaac
- Strict adherent to Friends
- Described as with much energy of character and well educated
- Provincial Assembly: 1704; 1706-09; 1713, 1717-18, 1726-29; 1737
- Justice of the Peace and Judge of the Courts of Chester County
- Commissioner of the Loan Office
- 1707, erected Haverford New Mill (a/k/a Leedom's Mill) with Abraham Lewis and David Morris
- managed flour mill and accompanying store; some flour and meal exported to the west Indies

Great Grandfather: **Benjamin Hayes** (DOB 9/27/1710; DOD 1/24/1764))

- Wife: Mary Jones (DOD 1792)
 - DOM 10/21/1737
 - Daughter of Jonathan Jones (DOB 1679; DOD 6/30/1770), who was the son of Edward (physician and surgeon/chirurgeon) and Mary Jones, both of Wales, and Gainer Owen, both of Merion (DOM 8/4/1706)

- Child: **Elizabeth** (DOB 7/16/1738; DOD 9/3/1767))
- Described as well educated, but not as energetic his father, Richard II
- Clerk to the Commissioner of Chester County

Grandmother Hayes: Elizabeth (DOB 7/18/1738; DOD 9/3/1767)

- Married George Smith (Grandfather); DOM 6/8/1764
- Children:
 - **Benjamin** Hayes Smith (Father) (DOB 8/11/1765)
 - father of Dr. George
 - Mary (DOB 10/20/1766; DOD 1821)
 - Married Samuel Davis (DOD 1851 or 52), a Phila. hatter
 - Children: Esther, Elizabeth, Samuel and George
 - Disowned by Friends (probably due to marriage)
- Husband moved into Haverford mansion, but they moved to Phila. with son, Benjamin, and mother, Mary, in 1766
- Upon her death, Elizabeth's husband George married Elizabeth Roberts of Phila. (DOD 12/1813)

Father: Benjamin Hayes Smith (DOB 8/11/1765; DOD 4/24/1806)

- Married Mary Johnson; DOM 1/29/1795
 - Daughter of Samuel Johnson and Mary Dunn (sister of George Dunn)
 - Died without children
 - First cousin of Margaret Dunn
- Married Margaret, a/k/a Margareta, Dunn (DOM 1801)
 - daughter of George Dunn, (DOB 1743; DOD 5/21/1805), brother of Mary Dunn, and Mary Curry
 - lieutenant in Continental Army
 - First cousin of first wife, Mary Johnson
- Children:
 - Elizabeth Hayes Smith (DOB 5/22/1802)
 - Married Dr. Isaac Anderson
 - **George** (DOB 2/12/1804)
- took oath of allegiance and fidelity per Assembly of Pa 9/26/1786
- during minority, resided with aristocratic family of William Hamilton at the Woodlands
- "Disowned" by Friends on charges of "dress and address"
- private secretary of William Hamilton until 4/6/1793 (age 28)
- fine scholar; thoroughly educated; beautiful chirography
- conveyancer, not farmer
- PA legislator (rep. Delaware County) 1801-04

- Justice of the Peace 1804- DOD (appt. by Gov. McKean)
- Died from wound received from a “vicious” boy at his father’s (George Smith’s) school (one of the best in Phila.), where he was an assistant teacher

Smith Lineage

Great-great-great Grandfather: Thomas Smith (DOB 1626; DOD 1701)

- Father of Thomas Smith
- From Westwood, Parish of Ilkey, Yorkshire, England

Great-great Grandfather: Thomas Smith (DOD 1728)

- Father of Thomas Smith

Great Grandfather: Thomas Smith

- Emigrated from Ilkey, Great Britain, to Philadelphia
- Father of **George** Smith

Grandfather: George Smith (DOB 10/15/1732)

- Husband of Elizabeth Hayes (DOM 6/8/1764)
- Moved from Haverford to Philadelphia with wife, Elizabeth, and son, Benjamin (and mother-in-law, Mary) 12/1766
- Father of **Benjamin** and Mary (above)
- Re-married Elizabeth Roberts (DOD 12/1813)
 - Son, George Smith (DOD 1810) unmarried
- School teacher

II. Life of Dr. George Smith

Born 10/15/1732 at Manoa Road and Naylor's Run (known as "Narberth")

Education

- Neighborhood schools
- Academy of Jonathan Gause (Boarding School), West Chester
- U of Penn, Medical Department
 - M.D., April 7, 1826
 - Practiced 3 years in Darby (1826-29); elected Senator 1831

Marriage: Mary Lewis (DOB 11/20/1808 – DOD 6/23/1892)

- Only child of Abraham Lewis (DOD 12/3/1825) and Rebecca Lawrence (DOD 10/26/1829)
- Lived at the Collen Brook Farm, Upper Darby (800 acres)
- DOM; Feb. 26, 1829
- POM; Philadelphia
- Presider; Mayor George Dallas
- Mary inherits farm when mother dies in Oct. 26, 1829

Children:

- Abraham Lewis (DOB 11/12/1831-DOD 7/12/1914)
 - Boarding School of John Gummere, astronomer, Burlington, NJ
 - U of PA, B.A. (1850)
 - U of PA, Law School (1853)
 - Read law with Joseph Clarkson, Esq., and William Reed, Esq.
 - Married Rebecca Lewis Wood (DOM 4/28/1859)
 - Member, Philadelphia. (1853-DOD) & Del. Co. Bar Assn.
 - Secretary, West Chester & Philadelphia. RR Co. (1858-83)
 - Founder, West End Trust Company (1891-DOD)
 - Founder, Delaware County Historical Society
 - Member, historical Society of PA
 - Member, Genealogical Society of PA
 - Member, Delaware County Institute of Science
 - Member, Phi Beta Kappa
 - Resided at 412 (and 414) W. State Street
- Mary (DOB 2/19/1834-DOD 1/10/1885)
 - Married Henry Wood
- Rebecca (DOB 5/9/1836; DOD 2/8/1856)
- Margaretta (DOB 6/5/1838-DOD 12/25/1915)

- Benjamin Hayes (DOB 5/10/1841-DOD 11/23/1918)
 - Haverford College, B.A. (1859)
 - Civil War, Anderson's Troop (1861-63)
 - Married Adeline Brooke
 - Surveyor & Civil Engineer
 - Deputy Surveyor General, Denver, CO
 - Commission to establish boundary among PA, DE & MD
 - Inventor, Smith Solar Attachment for Transits
 - Drew 1st street map of Media Borough (1870)
 - Compiled Atlas of Delaware County (1880)
 - Botanist and entomologist
- Clement Lawrence (DOB 4/13/1844-DOD 7/1/1909)
 - Haverford College (1860), M.A. (1863)
 - Harvard, B.A. (1863)
 - Haverford College, Asst. Prof. Classics and Mathematics (1863-65)
 - Swarthmore College, Prof. of Greek and German (1869-70)
 - Harvard College,
 - Tutor of Latin (1870-73)
 - Asst. Prof. of Latin (1873-83)
 - Professor of Latin (1883-1901)
 - Pope Prof. of Latin (1901-1904)
 - Dean of College Faculty (1882-90)
 - Dean of Harvard College (1890-91)
 - Dean of Arts & Sciences Faculty (1898-1902)
 - Co-Founder of Radcliffe College (1884)
- George, Jr. (DOB 11/14/1846; DOD 3/21/1872)
- Richard Hayes (DOB 4/12/1852; DOD 9/18/1856)

PA State Senator (1832-36)

- District of Delaware and Chester County (divided Sept. 26, 1789)
- Chair, Education Committee 1834-36
 - Wrote 1st public school law for PA
 - First law, Act of April 1, 1834
 - Rescinded Pauper Act of 1809
 - Much opposition from landed class and religious schools
 - Not mandatory – could refuse to impose tax, but lose state subsidy (17 of 22 Del. Co. districts approve)
 - Supported by Governor Wolf and Thaddeus Stevens (later famous anti-slave Congressman)
 - Act of June 13, 1836, crafted by chairman George, strengthened opt out

- First practical and efficient general education act in PA
- Consolidated and amended several education acts, including the Act of April 1, 1834
- Clearly set forth powers and duties of directors and salaries of faculty
- Districts had option to reinstate Pauper Act of 1809
- Much more popular with school districts
 - Act of May 8, 1854 replaced 1836 → mandatory public education (opt out prohibited)
 - 1854, 1st Superintendent, Common Schools of Dela. Co.
 - Pres., Upper Darby School Board, 25 years (1854-79)
- Resigned Dec 8, 1836
- Associate Judge of CCP, Delco (lay judge)
 - Gov. Joseph Ritner appointed him
 - Served until 1842 (Chester); elected for 5 years from 1861-66 (Media)
 - Bought house at 410 State Street (Brook Row built 1855)

Memberships

- Medical Society of Philadelphia
- Delaware County Medical Society
- Contributor to PA Hospital
- American Philosophical Society
- Historical Society of PA
- PA State Agricultural Society
- Del. Co. Turnpike (Baltimore Pike) Commission, President, 1854-81
- Historical Genealogical Society of New England
- Numismatic & Antiquarian Society
 - Honorary member, April 2, 1868

Delaware County Institute of Science

- Founded: Sept. 21, 1833, house of Isaac Hall, Nether Providence
- Co-founders:
 - John Cassin, ornithologist
 - George Miller
 - John Miller
 - Minshall Painter
- Other members:
 - Dr. William Darlington, botanist
 - Professor Joseph Leihy, paleontologist (past geology and fossils)
- Elected 1st president May 1834

- Missed only 40 monthly meetings between 1834 and 1882 (Sat AM)
- Incorporated: Feb. 8, 1836
- 1st home 1837, Rose Tree Road Hall
 - collect and display specimens of natural history of county
 - Dr. Smith's herbarium (dried plants) collection
 - Underground Railroad station rumor is true
- Moved to Veterans Square, Media, Feb. 1868
- Interests: botany, mineralogy, geology

Writings commissioned by DCIS

- 1835: *An Essay Demonstrating the Fitness of the Stone Quarried at Leiper's Quarry, in Del. Co., for Use in Erecting the Delaware Breakwater*
 - Leiper's stone was actually superior to that quarried elsewhere
 - Restored Leiper as supplier
- 1843: *An Account of the Great Rainstorm & Flood of August 5, 1843*
 - Started 7 A.M.; tropical hurricane-type rain by early P.M.
 - Tornado like winds; visibility 50 feet
 - Major flooding by 6 P.M. on Chester, Ridley, Crum and Darby
 - 23 ft water rise in Chester in 1 hour
 - 19 dead; 32 bridges, 8 factories, 5 mills destroyed
- 1862: *History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania*
 - Octavo: sheet folded into 8 leaves, 6 x 9½ inches
 - 581 pages
 - 76 pages of biographical notices in dictionary form
 - picked up from Joseph Edwards, Esq. (re-written)
 - discovery to Penn's government
- Letters to newspapers written 1845-49 supporting removal of county seat from Chester to Media