Edward Price Family migration from Wales to PA.

John Jones, of Philadelphia. He received from his father's estate the farm of 188 acres, bought of "Edward Jones, Jr." (son of John ap Edward), as above. This was included in the following sale: By deed dated 15 October, 1741, "John Jones, late of Lower Merion, and of Philadelphia, yeoman, (youngest son of Edward Jones, late of Merion, Chyrurgeon, deceased), and Mary, his wife," conveyed "to Anthony Tunis, late of township of Germantown, now of Lower Merion," 402 acres of land, 'late estate of Dr. Edward Jones," for £812 Pennsylvania money. The abutting properties on this land were owned by John Roberts, Hugh Evans, Rees Price, Richard George, and Thomas Davids. "The Road," the old Lancaster pike, was a prominent bound, that is, this property lay "along the Road dividing this land from Edward Price's, south and west, to the Meeting House Ground, thence by the same, south and east, by the Road to Haverford, south and west, by Rees Price's land."

MERION ADVENTURERS

Of the three other gentlemen and their families who accompanied Dr. Edward Jones, and were founders of the Merion Meeting, namely:

Edward ap Rees, or Edward Price,
Robert ap David, or Robert Davis,
William ap Edward, or William Edwards,

there is preserved the following information. They were all, of course, Friends, and members of the Penllyn Monthly Meeting, and resided in the old country in the same neighborhood, near Bala, where they were free-holders of land, and gentleman farmers.

Edward ap Rees, or Rhys, or "Edward Prees," and "Edward Price," as he is variously known (whose descendants assumed the surname "Price"), was a yeoman, and a minister among Friends, and a founder of Merion Meeting, came with his wife and two children, in Dr. Jones's party, from Kiltalgarth, Penllyn, in Merionethshire. He was the son of Richard Rhys (ap Grywwyth), of Tyddin Tyfod, in Merioneth, whose will, signed 26 January, 1685, was proved at the St. Asaph registry, and brother to Jane, wife of Cadwalader Morgan, and to Hannah, wife of Rees John William, all first settlers of Merion.

On request he filed with the Merion Preparative Meeting, of the Haverford Monthly Meeting, on 2. 12mo. 1704-5, according to the minutes, an account of his parentage, his home, marriage, education, &c., which unfortunately has not been preserved, or cannot be found.

His first Merion land, about 76 acres, which he had by deed, dated 1 April, 1682, recorded 11. 4mo. 1684, witnessed by John Lloyd, Robert Lloyd, Griffith Evan and Reece Evan, was not located on the Schuylkill, but back of the purchase of William ap Edward, and between the lands of Dr. Jones and Hugh Roberts.

By deed dated 5. 5. 1691, he acquired 125 acres of the land of Governor Thomas Lloyd, part of Charles Lloyd's purchase from Penn ("Company No. 2"), which adjoined his original land on its west end, and also two acres from Dr. Jones, and received, on resurvey, a confirmatory patent, dated 1 January, 1703-4, for all his land, then amounting to 190 acres here. In 1707, he purchased 222 acres from Robert Roberts, north of his Lloyd land, and 10 acres on Mill, or Cobb's creek, in Blockley township.

The balance of his original purchase, or his Goshen land, 76 acres on Chester creek, and 78 acres which he bought, in 1697, of John William, of Merion (who in 1 mo. 1717-8, had patent for 400 acres on a branch of French Creek), he sold, by deed of 9 January, 1708-9, to Ellis David, whose son, called David Ellis, held it in 1735.

Edward Rees resided on his first purchase, some of which lay on both sides of the Lancaster Road, which remained in his family for two centuries, in a stone house, erected about 1695, standing till recently northwest of the Merion Meeting House.

He was, of course, one of the organizers and first members of the Merion meeting. On the northeast corner of his land, and near a path, across his land, succeeded by the old Lancaster road (or
Montgomery avenue), was the site selected as best, and most convenient for the public meeting house of the Merion Friends. He sold, for a nominal sum, one-half acre, and by deed, dated 20. 6mo. 1695, conveyed it to the trustees of the Merion Peculiar, or Preparative Meeting, Messrs, Robert Owen, Edward Jones, Cadwalader Morgan, and Thomas Jones, but it is uncertain whether the stone Meeting House, then probably nearly completed, was erected on this lot, or it was land added to the graveyard.

Edward Rees was a man of education, and considerable property, as the inventory of his personalty, taken after his decease, shows he owned Bibles and other books of history, in Welsh and English, and considerable cash in his house. Like some others of these early settlers, he re visited his Welsh home, when advanced in years, with Ben jamin Humphrey. He was buried at the Merion Meeting House, 6. 13. 1728. His will, signed 6 January, 1727-8, was proved at Philadelphia, 23 November, 1728. Overseers, Jonathan Jones and Samuel Humphrey; witnesses, Robert and Jon. Jones.

He was twice married. He married first in Wales, Mably, or Mabby, daughter of Owen ap Hugh Ievan, and niece of "Thomas ap Hugh, gent," of Wern Fawr, Merion ethshire, and married secondly, in 1713, Rebecca, daughter of Samuel Humphrey (ap Hugh), of Haverford. She sur vived him, and died without issue; her will signed 18. 3. 1732, proved 19 January, 1733 ; she named as executors, Ellis Price, brothers Daniel and Benj. Humphreys, and sisters Ann Hogg, of New Castle, and Lydia ; gave money to school at Haverford.

By his first wife, who came over with him, and was buried at the Merion Meeting House, 23. 8mo. 1699, he had one son and two daughters: —

Rees Price, mentioned as "Rees Rees," in his father's will, b. 11. 11mo. 1678. His father conveyed some land to him, by deed of 7 August 1708. He married three times. His children were: — (named in their grandfather's will) Edward Price; Mary, m. Rees Harry; and Margaret, to. first, Paschall ; m. second, William Montgom ery; issue by both husbands, and, it is said, Jane, John, and Ellis Price. He m. first, at Radnor Meeting, 6. 10mo. 1705, Sarah, daughter of David Meredith, of Radnor.

He m. secondly, at Haverford Meeting, 9. 10mo. 1718, Elizabeth, daughter of Ellis Ellis, of Haverford, and his wife, Lydia, daughter of Samuel Humphreys aforemen tioned. She was buried at the Haverford Meeting House, 12mo. 5. 1733-4. Ellis Ellis' will, signed 13. 6. 1705, proved 6 April, 1706, names wife and son Thomas only. Overseers ; Rowland Ellis, John Richard, Rees Price, and Benjamin Humphrey.

He m. thirdly, at Haverford Meeting, 10. 3mo. 1737, Ann Scotharn, a widow, of Darby.

Rees Price was the second landlord of the Blue Anchor tavern, on Dock Creek (now Dock street), Philadelphia, where Penn landed on his first visit to his city, when the tavern, standing by the public landing place, was a little house, 22 feet on Dock (Street) creek, and 12 feet on Front Street, and was kept by Mr. Guest.

His descendant, Esther Price, m. at Merion Meeting, 16. 10mo. 1834, Benjamin Hunt, and this, it is claimed, was the last marriage at this Meeting.

Catliarine Price, d. an infant, and was buried on her father's land, in Merion, 23. 8mo. 1682. This was the first death and burial in this little settlement, at the Falls of the Schuylkill, two months after arrival here.

Jane Price, b. 11. 9mo. 1682. This was the first birth in this settlement, three months after arrival, according to her transmitted birth date. She was buried at the Merion Meeting House, 10mo. 13. 1769, the record saying: — "Jane Mares, widow of George Mares. Born on the banks of Schuylkill in a Stone Hut in 1683. She was the Daughter of Edward Rees, after called Edward Preist, and then Price." She m. first, Jonathan Hayes, d. before 1727, and m. secondly, George Marris, or Mares.

Robert ap David, or Robert David, and Davis, as his descendants were called, was living at Gwerneval (Gwer- evol) Ismynydd, Penllyn, Merionethshire, when he purchased from Thomas & Jones 312 '/a acres, paying £6. 05. 00, and decided to remove to this purchase in Penn's Province.

He was apparently a young married man, with one child, when he and his wife joined Dr. Jones's party at Liverpool, about the middle of May, 1682, and took passage in the "Lyon," for America. Arriving, in health, like the others of the party, in August he went up the Schuylkill with them, and settled on his land here, which on resurvey amounted to 148 y, acres here, the balance of his purchase being subsequently laid out in Goshen township.

He may have been the Robert David, "of Tuyn y nant, Merioneth, who filed Certificate from the Men's
Meeting, Penllyn, dated 18. 5mo. 1683, with the Haverford Monthly Meeting, and had sent for it, which was signed by Robert and Evan Owen, Richard Price, Morris Humphrey, Thomas Prichard, Evan Rees, Reece Evan, Roger Roberts, Hugh and Edward Griffith, Griffith and David John, and William Morgan.

His land on the Schuylkill, which had been assigned to him by the surveyor, extended back from the river only 386 perches, to the land allotted to and taken up by John ap Edward, and succeeded to by "Edward Jones the younger." Here he resided as a gentleman farmer for fifty years, the balance of his life. He died in October, 1732, and was buried at the Merion Meeting House.

By deed, dated 1. 1. 1694, he added to his farm, by purchase from Dr. Griffith Owen, the 153% acres, extending inland from the river 690 perches to Lloyd's land, and adjoining his original purchase on the North, which was the original purchase of Edward Owen through Thomas & Jones. Of this tract, Robert sold in the same year, 25 acres to Richard Walter.

By deed dated 20. 5. 1683, recorded 28 October following, Robert David bought 156% acres (76y2 acres of the lot being unimproved land in the Thomas & Jones tract), from Evan Rees, the Penmaen grocer, for £3. 2. 6. Witnesses, Hugh Roberts, John Owen, Ellis Davis, and Maurice Davies. The receipt for the purchase money is in Latin. This land he exchanged for the same amount with Gainor Roberts, which latter land he also sold to Richard Walter, (with the 25 acres which adjoined it,) by deed of 1 December, 1694. Mr. Walter had his purchase resurveyed, and received patent, dated 8. 4. 1703, for 117 acres. The land is all near and on the old Lancaster road, near the City Line.

Robert David's holdings in Goshen township, on Chester creek, were at one time, 346 acres, made up of 234% acres, his original purchase, and 88% acres bought of Richard Thomas, Jr., and 23 acres allowed him by the Commissioners.

His final patent, dated 20. 5. 1703, for his Merion land, called for 280 acres and for his Goshen land, 346 acres, although on 12. 2. 1703, he claimed only 275 1/4 acres in Merion, and 243 acres in Goshen, or 509 1/2 acres.

Robert David, of Merion, bequeathed all his estate to his only son, Thomas Davis, by his will, signed 26 April, 1732, witnessed by Robert Evans, Rees Lloyd, and Robert Jones, and proved 18 October, 1732. He mentions his wife, Elizabet, and daughters Elizabeth and Jane, and grandchildren (Jane's children), and Elizabeth, Jane and Robert, David, kinswoman Margaret Roberts, and his brother Ellis; gave some money for the graveyard at the Merion Meeting House; and named as executors his wife, and daughter Elizabeth, and as trustees, John Cadwalader, Robert Roberts, and Robert Jones. His wife, "Elizabeth Davis"'s will, signed 4 June, 1734, present Thomas and John Cadwalader, was filed 31 July, 1734, mentions son Thomas Davis, daughter Elizabeth Davis, executrix; mentions grandchildren Robert Roberts, Elizabeth Evans, and Jane Roberts.

The brothers, William ap Edward, and John ap Edward, it has long been supposed, both came over in Dr. Jones's party, arriving here in August, 1682. William, there is good evidence, certainly did come with the Doctor, but John did not, as we shall see.

They were sons of Edward ap John, a free-holder, of Cynlas township, in Llanddervel parish, Merionetshire, and who lived near Bala, and was buried, according to the register, at the parish church, on 1 March, 1667. He had two other sons, Evan Edward, who came over before 1704, and Thomas Edward, of Llanllidiog, in Llanddiervel, 1686.

William ap Edward, a yeoman, was described as of Ucheldri, and of Nantlleidiog, and Cynlas, and he was sometimes known as "William Bedward," ap and ab being interchangeable. His descendants assumed the name "Williams." A more particular account of him and his brother, John, we are unable now to learn, as the account of himself and brothers, John and Evan, and their families, and old home life, filed with the Merion Preparative Meeting, by William, 2. 1mo. 1704-5, has disappeared from the Meeting archives.

William ap Edward was twice married, and in May, 1682 with his second wife, Jane, and two daughters by his first wife, Katharine, he embarked for America, with Dr. Jones's party, on the "Lyon," and with others of this company settled on his purchase on the Schuylkill, in the Fall of 1682. Here he lived about ten years only, and sold his 16V2 acres in Merion, on the Schuylkill, by deed dated 17. 6. 1694, to Hugh Roberts, whose land adjoined his on the North, and removed to a tract which he purchased in the Liberty Lands, or Blockley township, surveyed 23. 2. 1692, and confirmed by deed to him, 27. 10. 1693. A part of the village of Overbrook is on his land.
His Blockley land was made up of the 100 acres of "Liberty Land," which he bought, (said to have been the same claimed, on account of the purchase of 5,000 acres, by Thom as & Jones), and 30 acres on account of the original purchase of 1,000 acres by William Jenkins, and 20 acres on account of Jonah Hasting's purchase of 1,000 acres, and this tract of about 150 acres seems to have been all he owned in 12mo. 1701. This land, where he lived and died, subsequently was included in the great estate of the George family — the families intermarried — and "Overbrook Farms."

By deed of 21 January, 1703, he conveyed his 75 acres, on Chester Creek, Goshen Township, to Robert William. William ap Edward's will, dated 29 December, 1714, was, proved by his wife, at Philadelphia, 29 January, 1714-5.

He mentions his son Edward, daughters Mary, and Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Lloyd, Katharine, and Sarah, gives money to the Merion Meeting, and appoints as overseers, his son Edward, and William Thomas Lawrence, Henry-Lawrence, and Thomas Lloyd, and friends David Jones, and Thomas Jones. Witnesses: — James Hinton, Jenkin David (marked), and Abel Thomas.

He was buried at the Merion Meeting 10mo. 31. 1714, (John George was also buried here on this day). His wife, Jane, was buried here, aged 93 years, on 8mo. 3. 1745.

He m. first, Katharine Robert, d. in 1676. She was a sister to the Friends' minister, Hugh Roberts, and Gainor Roberts, both of the Thomas & Jones purchasers' colony, and had by her, two daughters, namely,

*Elizabeth Williams*, b. 14. 3. 1672, who came over with her father. She m. Thomas Lloyd, "not the President," who was; one of the original purchasers from Thomas & Jones, but: resided about a mile North of the village of Bryn Mawr.

Katharine Williams, who came over with her father, and? d. s. p. He m. secondly, about 1681, Jane, daughter of John ap, Edward, (who, of course, was not his brother), a farmer- near Bala, and had by her, who came over with him, four- children: —

*Sarah Williams*, b. 20. 8mo. 1685, in Merion. She m. Thomas Lawrence, son of David Lawrence, and his wife, a daughter of Thomas Ellis.

*Edward Williams*, only son, b. 7. 12mo. 1689; he received from his father his Blockley land; will proved at Philadelphia, 21 February, 1749. He was very particular as to be quest to his wife, leaving her "a clothes-press in the parlour," and his "white mare and colt, and new blue-plush side-saddle." He m. Eleanor, daughter of David Lawrence, of Haverford. Issue: Joseph, father of Rebecca, m. Amos George; Eleanor, m. Joseph Bond, and Sarah, m. Edward George) Daniel, Sarah (wife of Joshua Humphreys) Edward and Jane (wife of Evan Thomas).

*Ellen Williams*, b. 19. 4mo. 1691, m. Henry Lawrence.

*Mary Williams*, b. 11. 11mo. 1694, m. Richard Preston, of Haverford.

John ap Edward, the brother of William ap Edward aforesaid, was another of the parties to the "Thomas & Jones tract," but he did not come over with him in the Dr. Jones party, arriving in August, 1682, as supposed. In the testimony before Penn's Commissioners, of Dr. Jones, in June, 1702, taken in the matter of a servant of the late John ap Edward claiming his "time" was up and desiring to be relieved from further servitude, the Doctor declared that this servant man "came to this Province about the year 1683, as the servant of John ap Edward," and there is evidence that John brought over four servants, therefore, if John ap Edward and servants came over with the Doctor in 1682, I think he would have so stated, and not have put his arrival "about the year 1683." Nor did John ap Edward come over in the party of Hugh Robert, bound for the Thomas & Jones tract, because his will is dated 16 October, 1683, when he was very ill, and the Roberts party was then at sea, having sailed in September, 1683. The reference in John's will that he had brought servants over, is proof that the will was written here after arrival. Nor should I imagine that he arrived in 1683 after Roberts arrived, for, being ill in October, he would hardly have sailed in time to arrive "about the year 1683." Therefore, I judge that John ap Edward arrived here, in some party coming out to Philadelphia, between August, 1682, and October, 1683. The two witnesses to his will were probably servants, possibly his, as the names of only two of his, a man and a maid, have been found.

When John ap Edward arrived, he found his land laid out for him. He had, as we have seen, contributed £6. 5. 0. to wards the fund to buy 5,000 acres of Penn's land through Mr. Thomas and Dr. Jones, and that his share amounted to 312V2 acres, for which he received the deed, dated 18 April,
1682. When Ashcom roughly laid out the Thomas & Jones purchase into lots, 24 August, 1682, he assigned, by order of the surveyor-general, only half of this purchase (as was the treatment of all the other Welshmen, much to their disgust, for they had been given to understand, and it was not absurd, that the purchaser of each lot would have all of his land in one place), 156V4 acres to John ap Edward, who found it laid out about 1 1/5 mile from the Schuylkill river, and the balance was a right to the same amount to be laid out in Goshen township, miles away, which was not a pleasant surprise for a practical farmer, one that would expect his farm should be in one tract, or at least, in contiguous parcels. However, as this was the misfortune of the other Welsh farmers, John accepted his allotment.

On Powell's map of the Thomas & Jones tract, John is credited with only 1531/; acres, as Powell supposed he was entitled to three acres of Liberty Land, and that his land stands in the name of "Edward Joans, Jun'r," who was his son who succeeded to it on the decease of his elder brother. As this draft was made by Powell in 3mo. 1684, Evan, the heir, and his father were then both dead, and Edward, a minor, was the heir apparent.

When John ap Edward came over, he brought with him four servants, possibly three men, farm hands, and his wife's maid. He found his land, though far from the great natural highway, the river, of quality equal to any other's, as was the bargain, and much better than most of it, for we know it lay in the beautiful, rolling country near our Merion settlement. He apparently lived only long enough to see one crop gathered. From his will it may be known that he was a shareholder in the Free Society of Traders in Pa., and was a prosperous man, and a Friend, and a founder of the Merion Meeting.

His will, dated 16. 8mo. 1683, when he was "weak of body"; witnessed by Gabriel Jones and William Morgan (probably servants), was not proved until 8. 2mo. 1686, by his brother, "William Edward, of Merion."

To his eldest son, Evan Jones, he gave the 3121,4 acres, which he had "purchased from William Penn."

To his youngest son, Edward Jones, he gave "the land due me for bringing over of servants, 200 acres," [that is, he brought four servants, receiving the usual allowance of fifty acres for each], and in addition his interest, or shares, "in the Society Trade of Pensylvania," [i.e., Free Society of Traders], valued by him at £5.

He gave to his daughter, Elizabeth, £15 "of English money," with two feather beds, and bed clothes belonging to them, two brass pans, two pewter dishes, and one large trunk. The balance of his personal estate, and his interest in the servants, he desired to be sold to pay his debts, and if any thing remained, he desired his sons to have it. He gave ten shillings to "my nephew John Evan." He appointed "my beloved brethern Evan and William ap Edward, and my trusty friends Hugh Roberts, David Davies, John Roberts, and Hugh John Thomas," to be his executors, (although none but William was in this country, but he had reason to expect they would come), "to whose care I leave my children," as they were minors at that time. He desired that the monthly meeting decide what it was best to do with his estate should both of his sons die young, and without issue. As this will was written a month, or more, before the presumed time of organizing the Haverford Monthly Meeting, he may have expected it, or referred to the Burlington Monthly Meeting, which covered the meetings then in Pennsylvania. "My maid, Mary Hughs, [or Hughes] the sum of two pounds at the expiration of the time of her apprenticeship." The executed will has not been preserved, but there is a copy of it on file, which shows he marked his will with simply a large E. In the package of testamentary papers connected with the settlement of his estate, at the office of the Register of Wills, Philadelphia, is the original rough draft of the will, unsigned, and undated. Also the original inventory of his personal estate, made as it says by Thomas Ellis, Hugh Jones, and John Roberts, on "the 3 day of the first month 1683-4," which is evidence that John died between 16 October, 1683 and 3 March, following. It seems that all the personal property was sold in a lump per inventory, after John's death, and that the appraisers filed a copy of the inventory on 20 February, 1702-3, when the heir, Edward, became of age, to show the sum derived from the sale, and stated: — "The Inventory was cast up and found to be £63. 15. 9, according to English money, which being reduced to pensilvania money is £79. 14. 8. five pounds of English money being allowed to the buyer of the said Inventory by the trustees, [which made the sale net] £73. 9. 8." The value of the unexpired time of the servants is given: — "The Soms of the Servants being £30. 15. 0." which is in addition to the aforesaid valuation of the per sonalty. From the inventory, we learn that John was well
supplied with agricultural and household implements, bedding, clothing, and some grain, cows, and horses, and harness, and that there were sold his pair of spectacles, children and women's clothing, pewter, a gun, powder, four powder horns, fishing tackle, "leathen dresses," and "lethern waistcoats."

There is also preserved the receipt of Elizabeth Jones, endorsed "no part of the record," that is of the original testamentary proceedings, "Received from William Edward administrator of the Estate of my Father, John Ed ward, the Summe of fifty pounds, seven Shillings current silver money of Pennsylvania, in full of all bequests and Legacies bequeathed to me by my sd father in his last will & testament bearing date of sixteenth day of the eight month in the year 1683, and in full of the shares that befell me of my deceased brother Evan Jones his estate, and I do acquitt and discharge the said William Edward his heirs, of all trusts and Legacies, dues, debts, and demands from the beginning of the world to this day, 22 of 3mo. 1699." She wrote her name "Elizabeth Jones," and was then twenty-eight year of age, and apparently unmarried. The witnesses to this receipt were the same as those to the copy of the inventory mentioned, namely, Hugh Jones (marked), Thomas Jones, and Robert Jones. The name of the wife and mother of his children of John ap Edward has not been found. She was apparently deceased when he made his will. His descendants assumed the name "Jones." Of his issue: — Evan Jones, eldest son, b. 2. 2mo. 1677, mentioned in his father's will, died young and unmarried before 3mo. 1684.

Edward Jones, second son, and youngest child, b. 5. 8mo. 1681. He succeeded to all of his father's land when he became of age, in 1702-3. According to a note, he had his father's will copied into the records. By deed, dated 13. 2mo. 1702-3, he conveyed all of the lands of his inheritance to Dr. Edward Jones, of Merion, giving "Receipt of Edward Jones, of Philadelphia, only son of John ap Edward, deceased, and nephew of William ap Edward, of Blockley," dated 23 January, 1702, Recorded in Philadelphia County Deed Book, No. C. II., fo. 198. His Merion tract of land extended from about the old Lancaster Road (Montgomery Avenue), across the Pennsylvania Railroad between Merion station, and the borough of Narberth. Elizabeth Jones, first child, 6. 18. 12mo. 1671. She m. after 22 May, 1699, John ap Robert ap Cadwalader, or "John Roberts," of the Gwynedd settlement. They were the founders of the Roberts family of "Woodlawn" plantation, in Whitpain township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. Sarah Jones, b. 8. 11mo. 1673, not named in her father's will.