A Biography of William B. Heasley, 1897-1991

An Honors Thesis (HONRS 499)

by

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Abstract of Thesis

This work comprises a brief biography of William B. Heasley, my great-grandfather, who lived in western Pennsylvania from 1897 to 1991. Shortly after the death of his wife, Freda, my great-grandmother, my family found a collection of his writings, scrapbooks, and library. Using the information from this collection, I trace his life from childhood to adulthood, describing the various jobs he held, the things he did in his spare time, his family life, and memories that his family had of him. This information has been collected from his own unpublished works which include *A Clarion River Classic*, a genealogy of the Heasley Family, and various scrapbooks that he put together during his lifetime, as well as letters written to me from some of his children and grandchildren. The appendices include a variety of items reproduced from his collection. From this I hope the reader is intrigued by his life and understands the many reasons for which he was loved and venerated by his family.
In October 1995, my great-grandmother, Freda Heasley passed away leaving empty her home at 1215 Taylor Avenue in New Kensington, Pennsylvania. During the following weeks, her family including her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, began going through and cleaning out her house. They each placed "Post-it" notes with their names on the items they wished to have as memories of her and her husband, my great-grandfather, William B. Heasley. I was not able to return to her house until Thanksgiving break since I was 350 miles away at Ball State. The day after Thanksgiving was planned to be a major clean out day while many of the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were in town. They hoped to use the young muscles of the great-grandchildren to help move furniture down from the attic. We were also given the opportunity to place our names on items that had not been claimed.

My most vivid memory of trips to my great-grandparents was visiting the "deer room." This was my great-grandfather's den upstairs where a deer trophy hung on the wall. The deer room was our hangout. My male cousins and I planned our spy missions on the "girls," my sister Amanda and cousin Katie, since they were out numbered five to two. We were always fascinated as children by the "neat stuff" in the room. There was an antique typewriter, bookshelves full of books, new and old, things that our parents told us not to touch. Well, my time to touch and investigate these items came on the day after Thanksgiving. I had a new appreciation for these items now that I was older and realized how they characterized my great-
grandfather, especially since his death in 1991. After helping to move furniture and do some cleaning, I was given time to explore. I was amazed to find that nobody wanted any of the hundreds of books, many with my great grandfather's own insertions. Also left was the old Underwood Standard typewriter. I began to sort through the many bags of books that were tied up and ready to be taken to the trash. There were volumes of "histories of the world" and old text books dating back to the 1800's. I found large, four-inch thick histories of several western Pennsylvania counties and more recent books written about other areas of the state. The greatest treasure I found was a series of five volumes of, as my uncle described them, my great-grandfather's "stuff interjected on loose leaf paper in blue clothbound three-ring binders." Hand-written in red ink, each volume was entitled A Clarion River Classic and was filled with his type-written pages, photographs cut from newspapers, and other collections. I pulled as many of the volumes as I could find aside and put them on my pile to take home. I was about finished when my grandmother told me there were even more bags of books that had been taken down to the basement. I gathered my pile of books, carried them down to the living room, dropped them on the floor, and ventured to the basement. Most of those bags were not books, but I did manage to find a few other volumes of the Classic, in addition to two old Bibles which contained pieces of the Heasley family genealogy.

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The items that I found made me think of my great-grandfather in a different way. From his collections and writings, I saw his entire life, not as a great-grandfather, but as a man who loved history and spent countless hours researching and writing about history. He had collected this history from his writings of the area in which he lived and from his collection of articles and photographs in scrapbooks. I saw the interest he had in his family from the various family records he compiled. The result of one of his hobbies is now a great historical reference. It made me decide to take what I had found along with what my family could remember and write a preliminary biography of my great grandfather, William B. Heasley, as the topic of my senior honors thesis at Ball State University.
Growing Up

William B. Heasley was born on March 15, 1897 in Clarington, Pennsylvania, a small town located along the Clarion River in southern Forest County, in northwestern Pennsylvania. Forming the border between Forest County and Jefferson County, the Clarion River flows westward and joins the Allegheny River at the small town of Foxburg in Clarion County. Because of its location on the river and in a densely forested area, Clarington's main industry was lumber. In 1994, the town’s population was only 320. Around the time of my great-grandfather’s birth Clarington was the largest city along the Clarion River with a population of over 1,200.

As a child he lived in a "two room shanty," as he described it, near the bank of the river. This location fostered his love of fishing, especially trout, but his outdoor activities were limited due to infantile paralysis, or polio. The disease crippled his legs and resulted in him having had two surgeries in Pittsburgh between 1901 and 1904. A "well to do" neighbor helped pay for the operations. Due to the length of the trip from Clarington to Pittsburgh, he lived and recuperated in his uncle's home on Mt. Washington, an area of Pittsburgh overlooking downtown. The operations prevented him from fully being able to walk until about the age of eleven.

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As he grew up, he lived and ate with the boarders of his mother's boarding house. During his childhood he also travelled with his father along his daily mailroute from Clarington northwest to Vowinckle and from Clarington directly south to Brookville; each route was approximately fifteen miles long. The route from Clarington to Brookville is roughly the same route that Pennsylvania State Route 36 follows today. Delivered in a horse-drawn wagon, the mail was carried under the name of Frank Heasley and Son for many of the twenty seven years. He began just caring for the horses as he rode with his father, but eventually drove the route. They carried more than just the mail, delivering other things that people needed from town such as food, medicine, or supplies and sometimes even provided transportation. Often they took orders for items to bring the next time. Many of the people were poor and unable to pay, but neither that, nor the weather stopped them. When it snowed they used a sleigh, but they often had to change horses at one end of the route as a result of its length. Frank Heasley was forced to stop the mail route on July 1, 1919 when the government broke their contract by raising the weight of mail without raising the rate. Although the rate did not change, it was, in effect, reduced. As a result, they could not afford to continue.

After high school William attended Clarion Normal School, now called Clarion University, pursuing a teaching certificate. To support himself and pay tuition, he painted houses in Clarion,
Pennsylvania. After three years, he earned a teaching certificate, passed the necessary exams, and began teaching in a one room schoolhouse in Sigel, Pennsylvania, a small town located in Jefferson County about five miles south of Clarington. Today that schoolhouse is a historic landmark. Because of the organization of the school, he taught portions of every subject, although his favorites were history and math. Not only did he enjoy math, but he was also very proficient in it which led to a career in accounting after teaching. His love of history remained with him and became an avocation later in life. After about three years of teaching in various schools, he decided that it did not pay enough for him to support his family responsibilities.

The Move to New Kensington

While attending school, he met Freda E. Melzer, who lived near him in Clarion. The two married in 1920. The following year their first child, Marie, was born, and William began looking for other jobs. Different family members have different accounts of how he and his family actually moved to New Kensington. The town is located along the Allegheny River in northern Westmoreland County and was once known as the "Aluminum Capital of the World." One person says William had heard about job opportunities at the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) and travelled to New Kensington to find out about available positions. Once he received a job offer, he returned to Clarion and brought his family with him to New
Kensington. Another account suggests that he brought the family with him to New Kensington. They stopped at the Kenmar Hotel in downtown New Kensington, where he asked about employment possibilities in the area; it was then that he was told that ALCOA was hiring. In any event, he soon had a job.\(^3\)

My great-grandfather began work at ALCOA as a time keeper in the cooking utensil division and within a few years moved up to foreman of that division. Eventually he was moved to the Wear-Ever Building in New Kensington where he was Senior Clerk for Book Keeping for seven years. A scrapbook shows pages he used as an accountant and a description of how the sheet was used (See Appendix D). After World War II, accountants were needed in Pittsburgh, so he was transferred there and commuted everyday by train from New Kensington. There are also conflicting accounts of where he was actually moved. Some family members say he worked on the thirty-seventh floor of the Gulf Building in Pittsburgh, while others maintain that he was on the twenty-fifth floor.\(^4\) Nonetheless, he did not like the commute and retired in 1961.

While still working for ALCOA, he spent much of his free time building and remodeling. He first built chicken coops and other

\(^3\)Letters from Marie Gray and Jane Akins, children of W.B. Heasley, and Bob Gray, grandson of W.B. Heasley, to Matthew Stovcsik, February 26 - February 27, 1996.

smaller buildings on his mother-in-law's property in Imperial, Pennsylvania. He then moved on to build a six car garage on the back half of his property which exited onto an alley. Later, he added a five room apartment above the garage. He also bought a larger piece of property about five miles from his home and built a small house which he sold to his second daughter, Jane, and her husband, Earl. He completed these projects, as well as finishing his attic, by working on weekends and vacations. What was more impressive was the fact that he completed them with a very small budget, spending only what he needed to and taking advantage of a nearby salvage yard known as Thompson's.

William and Freda also liked to travel, and they took at least four trips to California to visit distant relatives, driving the entire distance each time. He often bragged about having visited every state in the Union. They also travelled north into Canada, even reaching points "so far north, they only spoke French," and south into Mexico. Everywhere they went he collected postcards and brochures and glued them into his scrapbooks. They could vividly remember all of their travels even when they reached their nineties, recalling every place they went to and stories about "how they had eaten such and such on a hot evening in Texas in nineteen so and so." In addition to their own souvenirs, they never failed

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5Letter from Jane Akins to Matthew Stovcsik, February 27, 1996.

to bring toys to their grandchildren.

William B. Heasley and his Family

Known by the family as Bill, Dad, Daddy, Pup, or Granddad, he was adored by his grandchildren, but he was not the most affectionate father, and as a result the family was not affectionate. The family, however, was solid and secure as shown by regularly eating dinner together in the dining room. Even though he could be strict, stubborn, and bull-headed, he was respected by his children. When they were sick he brought them a chocolate milkshake from Isaly's, an ice cream shop and deli known throughout the Pittsburgh area for Klondike ice cream bars and "chipped" ham. This tradition carried on to his grandchildren. As the family grew, William loved to have his children and grandchildren visit, and when they arrived he always reached into his stash of a "zillion"7 quarters and gave each grandchild fifty cents to get a milkshake at the drugstore across the street. He even continued this practice with his great-grandchildren, although he had to raise the amount to a dollar and eventually to five dollars for every two great-grandchildren.

The grandchildren each enjoyed their own visits and had their own unique memories. During summer vacations they would spend two days and nights at their grandparents, which always included a trip out for a spaghetti dinner. William never became mad, regardless of

What a grandchild might do. On occasions when he knew someone in the family was expecting company, he would deliver a variety of baked goods. Often on his delivery, he would leave the car running, not expecting to stay long, and become involved in a conversation, stay for a long while, and leave a "whisker kiss" on the way out. He was also popular with the boys because of his cars, which were always Buicks and kept in very good condition. When they were younger, they would sit on his lap and drive; when they were older they impressed their friends by riding in the stylish cars.

My great-grandfather especially enjoyed holidays, most of all Thanksgiving. Each year he chose his own live turkey, always the biggest and the best, from a local turkey farm. After having it killed, he took it home and helped my great-grandmother prepare it. It was often amazing how the turkey was able to fit in the oven. Everyone in the family was always welcome on Thanksgiving Day and the day after for lunch if there were any leftovers. At each meal, Rolling Rock beer was on hand. He was dependable on birthday's for a very nice card and a two pound box of Russell Stover chocolates. At Christmas, everyone looked forward to the train display that was set up at the bottom of the basement stairs.

Memories
Many other memories revolve around the things that he did in his spare time. Since his childhood, he loved being outdoors. He
planted flowers in his yard every year until he was 93 years old. During much of that time he could also be found crawling around his small yard pulling out each and every piece of clover. Never could you find a weed in his yard! He also enjoyed picking wild black berries in the woods, often on private property. Not even the hottest or most humid days could stop him. Many times my great-grandmother became quite angry at the number of berries he brought home. She could do nothing more than put them into pies or turn them into jelly, which were happily distributed to family and neighbors. One of his favorite locations to pick was on ALCOA property. Once he was approached by guards but promptly responded that he was a twenty-five year employee of the company. From then on he was always welcomed and expected to be seen during prime berry-picking season.

Aside from being outdoors, he was also a collector of what could be described best as "stuff." His favorite hangout was Thompson's salvage yard, where he would find anything, bring it home and fix it. In addition, he saved every nut, bolt, screw, and washer he ever found or bought. He also tried his hand at music. A few times during the winter when he could not get out, he would sit at my great-grandmother's piano and loudly play cords of his favorite hymns or Irish songs. In contrast he also enjoyed the peace and quiet of a summer evening, when he would sit on his front porch and smoke a cigar or pipe. Often his evening snack would consist of a bottle of Rolling Rock and a dish of chocolate ice cream.
His Writings

The one memory that everyone has of my great-grandfather was his love of history. He was an avid reader and collected a variety of books; his collection contained well over five hundred volumes. His favorite things to read were the classics, especially Alexander Dumas, books on the American Civil War, or works dealing with other topics that interested him, such as illnesses or surgeries. In one of his many scrapbooks, he kept a log of the books that he owned and marked them off as they were read (See Appendix E).

These scrapbooks contained everything from newspaper clippings to photographs to doctor's orders for him. If there was something that interested him, he would cut it out of the newspaper, magazine, or even a book (See Appendix F). Then he would glue it to a page of a notebook, blank ledger book, or the cover of another book, and would often include his own handwritten or typed notes. There were very few books in his collection that did not have one of his insertions. Together, the books and scrapbooks served as resources for his own writings, which ranged from short stories to commentaries on current events. Many of these observations were typed on his antique Underwood typewriter and compiled into what he titled A Clarion River Classic.

To gain greater insight on the type of man William B. Heasley was,

as his family has seen, one must examine his writings and his motivation for writing them, especially his lifetime work *A Clarion River Classic*. It is difficult to adequately describe this work of roughly one thousand pages, loosely bound in a series of five worn, cloth loose leaf three-ring binders. The binders are composed of single sheets of typing paper of which the equivalent of a chapter is stapled together. He grouped the chapters into larger sections by make-shift folders created from the covers of various paperback reports. These folders compose a volume. The composition of the work becomes even more interesting, as the pages were typed on a antique typewriter, which often went off line causing words and sentences to run together. Many pages have been cut and pasted on another sheet, most likely as a means of revision (See Appendix G). Throughout the work, photographs or drawings from newspapers were cut out and inserted to illustrate the text. Captions were then added or modified to fit. The work appeared to be ready to be sent to a publisher. Marks have been made throughout the book for corrections, along with many portions underlined with red ink. The title page includes a name and location of a publishing company, the Pennsylvania Record Press in Rimersburg, Pennsylvania (See Appendix H). An addition is included with the several volumes which defines the organization of the book for publication with notes about the size and style of the text, margins of the page, and placement of illustrations. Unfortunately no further record could be found verifying any contract or contact with a publishing company. My great-grandfather’s intent of the work was not for
profit though. He states in his introduction, "The dates, names, pictures, and happenings in the following classic . . . are written for your amusement and not for profit. What would it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" \(^9\)

The organization of the work is also unique. There are seven different "classics," each containing approximately eight chapters. The chapters are further broken down into sections that constitute roughly a page. Most chapters range from five to fifteen pages, however, several number closer to fifty pages. The work begins with descriptions of the many towns and counties near my great-grandfather's birthplace of Clarington, Forest County, Pennsylvania. The progression of these chapters follows the flow of the Clarion River to its confluence with the Allegheny River with Pittsburgh as the final city described in Classic II (See Appendix I). The remainder of the "classics" detail landmarks, tales, people, Indian tribes, and Indian legends. Preceding the work as a whole is a detailed index. The work is indexed in several ways, including a table of contents, list of Classics, list of chapters under each classic, and list of page titles under each chapter (See Appendix J). Other indexes are topic specific by matching a topic, ranging from counties to indian names to towns and cities, with a chapter number.

The fourth volume of the Classic is unique from the rest of the

\(^9\)Heasley, W.B.
work. It contains one page essays on over one hundred fifty topics ranging from biographies of family members to biographies of famous people from western Pennsylvania or somehow associated with something or someone in the region, from histories of small towns to essays written by his children. This volume contains, in some cases, more detailed information about a topic and, in other cases, items that did not fit into the narrative.

The style of writing can only be that of William B. Heasley. Many of the chapters are written in first person, as an individual writing to inform others of the same time period, much like a news account. This style allows the reader to understand the text from a viewpoint that is more than strictly factual. At other times, the style is more like a story is being told. From this style along with my great-grandfather’s knack for stretching the truth at times, one may question the validity of certain parts of the classic, however, the basic historical points are factual. Source references are included throughout the text to reinforce the facts. No matter what the style, it is clear that he intended the reader to come away with something from reading any part of the classic. This is also shown through the immenseness of the work and a realization of the time and effort that was required to research, write, and organize the work.

Another part of the writings that he put a great amount of time into was a genealogy of the Heasley family. This genealogy was
contained in an old Family Bible given to him by his father, Frank A. Heasley (See Appendix K). With his records and additional research, he included many members of the Heasley family in his writings. He was also a member of the Heasley Family Association, founded by Ruth Heasley from Franklin, Pennsylvania. Some of his correspondences with her were included in monthly newsletters. However through research and comparison with her own, more inclusive family records, it has been found that some of his assumptions about the Heasley family have been incorrect. Some of his records and those published in the newsletter have been inserted into another larger family bible, which has the words "Heasley Family Record, page 834" typed inside the cover. Upon turning to that page, his insertions were discovered, with the name Heasley in large type glued to a page. Thus the creation of a new book of the Bible, the Book of Heasley.

Part of William's motivation for researching his family history was to connect his family to the history that he loved. His research revealed a connection to Phillip Kaster, Sr., a noncommissioned private who fought in the battles of Bunker Hill and Brandywine in the American Revolution. After this discovery he wished for his daughters to become members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, although they were not interested. Since his own children were not eager to join, he thought his granddaughters might be, prompting him to prepare a written description for them, tracing the family lineage back seven generations to Phillip
Kaster, Sr. (See Appendix L)

Even though some of his writings, such as the genealogy, may not fit directly into the text of *A Clarion River Classic*, these works refer to the classic as though it is an appendix to the entire collection. Markings through many of his books refer to specific chapters within the Classic. Poems that he has written or collected from others connect in some way to the Classic. Pages throughout his scrapbooks make reference to his work. Even pages within his genealogy direct the reader to more complete information found within the text. It is clear that this project was truly a life project for William B. Heasley, as everything from his books to his memories is cross referenced and linked to *A Clarion River Classic*. 
Final Thoughts

Looking at the life of William B. Heasley from his childhood along the Clarion River to his writings created on an antique typewriter, I have learned not only a great deal about my great-grandfather and my family, but also about how our country has developed over the past one hundred years. I have also gained an appreciation for the time and effort that my great-grandfather put into the creation of *A Clarion River Classic* and the Heasley family genealogy. His efforts have sparked my desire to preserve his works so that others, especially those outside the family, can be inspired and enlightened by the history that brought so much to his life.
APPENDICES

A. Chronology of William B. Heasley's Life
B. The Heasley Family
C. Page from 1900 U.S. Census
D. Note and ledger page from scrapbook
E. Record of books owned and read by William B. Heasley
F. Page from scrapbook containing various newspaper articles
G. Page from A Clarion River Classic showing page pieced together
H. A Clarion River Classic title page
I. Map of the Clarion River from A Clarion River Classic
J. Index from A Clarion River Classic
K. Page from family record written by William B. Heasley
L. Letter of proof of lineage for N. Elaine Stovcsik
M. Map of Pennsylvania showing counties
APPENDIX A

Chronology of William B. Heasley's Life

1897  Born - Clarington, Pa
1899  Contracted polio
1901  Wife, Freda E. Melzer, born
1901-1904  Two surgeries to correct legs crippled from polio
1912-1919  Worked on Mail route with his father that went from Clarington to Brookville
1917  Painted houses in Clarion to earn money to go to Clarion Normal School
1920  Earned three year teaching certificate from Clarion Normal school (now Clarion University)
1920  Began teaching in one room school house in Sigel, Pennsylvania

Married to Freda E. Melzer, from Clarion, also a teacher

1921  First child, B. Marie, born in Clarion, PA
1923  Moved to New Kensington, Pa

Began working at ALCOA as a laborer in the cooking utensil division

1924  Second child, M. Jane, born in New Kensington, PA
1930  Third child, Constance A., born in New Kensington
1931  Fourth child, Richard W., born in New Kensington
1935  Promoted to office accountant in Wear-Ever Building
1937  Fifth child, James G., born in New Kensington
1945  First grandchild, J. Robert Gray, born in New Kensington
      (Marie Heasley Gray)
1948  Became member of ALCOA 25 Year Club

Began travelling throughout United States
1950  Transferred to Pittsburgh office
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Visited World's Fair in Seattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Retired from ALCOA after 38 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Visited World's Fair in New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>First Son, Richard W., passed away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First great grandchild, Scott Gray, born in Phoenixville, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(J. Robert Gray)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td><em>A Clarion River Classic</em> completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Passed away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Wife, Freda E., passed away</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX B

The Heasley Family

The following is a portion of the Heasley genealogy spanning five generations from William B. Heasley's parents to his great-grandchildren. I have chosen to include only this portion as these are the people to whom this thesis most pertains. It also serves as the most up-to-date source of lineage from William B. Heasley. I also felt that the generations previous to William B. Heasley were not pertinent to this other than his parents and siblings which are included.
# The Heasley Family

**Frank A. Heasley** - Born Jul 31, 1873, Died Feb 10, 1936  
Lillie Viola Gray Heasley - Born Dec 20, 1874, Died May 5, 1969

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Died</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wila Bell Heasley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freda E. Melzer Heasley</td>
<td>Oct 3, 1901</td>
<td>Oct 3, 1995</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Marie Heasley Gray</td>
<td>Jun 21, 1921</td>
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<td>Janet Binder Gray</td>
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<td>Scott Robert Gray</td>
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<td>Ian Michael Gray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruth Ann Gray Oaks</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Oaks</td>
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<td>D’Arcy John Oaks</td>
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<td>Mary Katherine Oaks</td>
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<td>Nancy Elaine Gray Stovcsik</td>
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<td>Matthew Joseph Stovcsik</td>
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<td>Amanda Lynn Stovcsik</td>
<td>Feb 9, 1978</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russell William Gray</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Katherine Spear Gray</td>
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<td>Elise Meghan Gray</td>
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<td>Alexander Russell Gray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Thomas Gray</td>
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<td>Earl E. Akins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Earl Akins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constance Anne Heasley Leah</td>
<td>Jul 30, 1930</td>
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<td>George R. Leah</td>
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<td>George R. Leah, Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marce Jane Leah Urbanski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leonard Francis Urbanski</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Urbanski</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Urbanski</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoff Leah</td>
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Richard W. Heasley
Margaret Bickerstaff Heasley

Dec 31, 1931
Jun 12, 1972

Barry William Heasley
Patricia Heasley
Nicole Heasley
Kathy Heasley
Brad Heasley
Chandra Heasley

Susan Heasley

Feb 26, 1937

James G. Heasley
Joyce Humphrey Heasley
Sharon Heasley
Lynn Heasley

Estell Heasley Porter
Clarence F. Porter
Edwin Loraine Heasley

May 25, 1899
1888
Oct 7, 1901
19//
Sep 4, 1952
Nov 27, 1907
The following page is a reproduction of a page of the Population Schedule from the 1900 Census. Listing includes residents of Barnett Township, Forest County, Pennsylvania, which is roughly the same area of Clarington, Pennsylvania. William B. Heasley appears on line 97 of this page, along with his mother, father, and younger sister.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>RELATION</th>
<th>PERSONAL DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>ECONOMY</th>
<th>CITIZENSHIP</th>
<th>OCCUPATION</th>
<th>OCCUPATION DETAILS</th>
<th>EDUCATION</th>
<th>YEARS OF SCHOOL</th>
<th>YEARS OF SCHOOL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
This is a reproduction of a page of one of William B. Heasley's scrapbooks. The note describes what the ledger sheet was used for and the position he was in when this ledger was used.
H. B. Honey, Stenographer, Data Book Keeping on 3rd floor of "Year-Ever-Bldg" for 7 years.

This is the size of the sheet and each sheet had its own catalogue number.

One sheet each month, then the sheet was balanced and turned over for another month.
APPENDIX E

Record of books owned and read by William B. Heasley

As the title suggests, this reproduction is one of many pages in one of his scrapbooks that lists the books that he owned. In addition to the title he included the date the book was published. Each entry was given a catalogue number and marked "read" when he had finished reading it. Other notes include where in his home the books are located and things that are specific to the book. In this page, notice he has marked the "oldest book." He also includes in some instances who had given him the book. The catalogue numbers range from 1 to 538, but there are an additional few pages of series by a particular author that have their own numbers. The publishing date of the books range from 1826 to the late 1980's.
This is a reproduction of one of the many newspaper articles that William B. Heasley collected in his scrapbooks. This page was chosen because it contained the oldest articles, dating back to 1898. The articles in the scrapbook date from this time to the present. These articles are also interesting since they are from New Kensington. William B. Heasley did not live in New Kensington until the early 1920's.
Rosetta Stone
back in London

LONDON (AP) — The Rosetta Stone, which helped historians decipher Egyptian hieroglyphics, is back in London after being secretly taken from Paris where it had been on loan to the Louvre.

The stone, insured for $2.3 million, had been away four months.
As described in the text, William B. Heasley revised much of his text by actually cutting pages apart and gluing together on another sheet. This reproduction shows several different pieces as is evident by the shades of color. Many pages throughout *A Clarion River Classic* are put together in this way.
LATER DAYS

Potter County was created on Mar. 26, 1804 from part of Lycoming County and named for Gen. James Potter. It was attached to Lycoming County until 1814 when it was authorized to elect commissioners jointly with Northumberland. They separated in 1820s. Potter was still attached to Muncie for judicial purposes. It was fully organized in 1836.

Cowansport the County seat was laid out in 1807 and incorporated as a borough on Feb 9, 1818. It was named for John Samuel Cowan, an American Packer.

The first Indian Trail discovered and traveled by the white man was likely the Conneaut Trail (where Horse Head) path extending from Kittanning through Pennsylvania to Ohio Field to Cowansport. These paths were for small animals and Indians and were called minor paths or Indian Trails, usually well beaten and crossed each other heading to the Susquehanna River by way of Cowansport minor path on Fine Creek.

Potter County itself is God's country. Indeed if there is in this state such a place it must be Potter County. In spite to the rest of the state, the region is uncultured and mostly soli, it's inhabited. The largest town is Cowansport, and there are no in-the-

A strange place indeed this quiet Clarion River. Strange and untamed and little explored. Curious that such a place should exist so close to civilization and still be untouched.

The black bear still roves in these Clarion River hills and seems as plentiful as ever. Deer protected by law, in the valley until they are a nuisance in places. In very mottes, and in localities favorable to their habits, are found gray, black, and red squirrels, white tail and foxes, rabbits, turtles, and raccoons. In the stream the catfish, pickerel, bass and trout. There are many water snakes to be found, but the common shun their usual haunt. In daytime so short lettered he may sell it into a trap before discovering the mistake. Just short words, short sentences and as long as possible. Other than foxes and rabbits, no one lives in this part of the woods. People getting up out of small boats carry painted Resolution pigeons and decked votes. The trees stop rugged cliffs. Bears, deer, otters

There are hundreds of rivers and lakes here and the Clarion River and said: "One day I'd like to go up there and come down in a skiff." It is a mysterious sort of place with vague tales of some sifting down from explorers who have been up there, like myself, to rescue fish, primitive forests, majestic mountains, a hold of summer caves, oil deposits, wild Indians bordering the shores. Old country adventurous country.

A leafy green world filled with a myriad of wild birds, people getting up out of small boats carry painted Resolution pigeons and decked votes. The trees stop rugged cliffs. Bears, deer, otters
APPENDIX H

A Clarion River Classic title page

This page is self-explanatory. It was taken from the first volume of the text. Included on the page is the title, the subtitle, along with William. B. Heasley’s name and the name of a publishing company. Upon further research, no record of the Pennsylvania Record Press was able to be located.
A
CLARION
RIVER
CLASSIC

A
FLANDERS HERITAGE OF HISTORY
INDIAN AND LEGEND

W. B. PALLEY
NEW KENSINGTON
PENNSYLVANIA

PENNSYLVANIA RECORD PRESS
RIMERSBURG PA.
APPENDIX I

Map of the Clarion River from A Clarion River Classic

This is a map of the Clarion River reproduced from the text of A Clarion River Classic. Many of the names found on the map are discussed within the text of William B. Heasley's work. Notice the dedication. The original name has been erased in some way and replaced with his father's name, Frank Heasley. The background is the following page in the text.
CLARION
THE FURNACES
Abundant mineral riches were early apparent. In 1828 Christian Lyons of the Turner Company's
reserves, and having
for provisions, for soup and their
mouth; the spec
Clarion Furnace
impetus, when eight were
are built from the
of the stack, for this purpose
while the furnaces
ago and Mercer all clearings employed, birch the
a level surface
near the stack, out 6 hundred
input was 50 tons
It was made in raw coal of
somewhat smaller
tons. The lower boats,
the scene of much
boats. Those
in and others
western Pennsylvania
Clarion. The most exten
d Lyon, Short &Co
stry which immen
deepbank and
ruins, their
bright and busy
county wore; 1st
county west. For this pur
more than 50 yrs ago boats for shipping pig iron were built on the big
Maple creek, Coxsburg, Clarion, Miletown, Wykaop, Spring creek, Irvine & Ridgway.
boat was probably built at Maple creek by William Reynolds.
Dedicated To The Memory Of My Father
R.L.K. in memory
1875-1936

ed from Bellefonte by contractors living in Clarion County, for owners, Shippen,
others. More than 50 yrs ago boats for shipping pig iron were built on the big

...
APPENDIX J

Index from A Clarion River Classic

This is one of the many indexes found in A Clarion River Classic. This particular index lists the chapters within each classic. Other indexes are organized by subject, such as names of people or places, or give more details about the content of each chapter. There are about twelve pages of indexes.
CLASSIC I.
THE CLARION RIVER
I. answer the call
II. ADVANCED SELF RELIANCE
III. THE WILD HIGHLAND
IV. THE BUFFALO RAMP
V. RIVER TALE
VI. MIDWAY
VII. SPRING CREEK
VIII. CLARINGTON

CLASSIC II.
THE ALLEGHENY RIVER
IX. CLARESBURG
X. CLARION
XI. ERIEBURG
XII. PARKER'S LANDING
XIII. EAST BRADY
XIV. KITTANNING
XV. NEW KIRKINGTON
XVI. PITTSBURGH

CLASSIC III.
ANCIENT LANDMARKS
XVII. THE RHEINSTOCK
XVIII. THE FORSTER TOWNE
XIX. THE OLD STORE HOUSE
XX. THE COUNTRY STORE
XXI. THE COUNTY HOUSE
XXII. THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE
XXIII. THE BRADFORD TOWN
XXIV. THE CARR MILL

CLASSIC IV.
BY-GONE DAYS
XXV. THE RAPID MILL
XXVI. THE STAGE ROUTE
XXVII. THE COVERED BRIDGE
XXVIII. THE OLD GARDEN BUCKET
XXIX. THE WINE PRESSING MACHINE
XXX. THE MILL
XXXI. THE CAMP GROUND
XXXII. THE VALLEY PARKS

CLASSIC V.
PIONEER TALLS
I. THE HO-JOHS INDIANS
II. THE LONE INDIAN
III. THE GIFT OF THE INDIANS
IV. THE PATH OF THE INDIANS
V. THE ERIEBURG INCIDENT
VI. THE JOHNSTOWN FLOOD
VII. THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY FLOOD

CLASSIC VI.
OUR HERITAGE

CLASSIC VII.
INDIAN LEGEND

Chapter XXXIII. ALL THE WAY
XXXIV. GEORGE WASHINGTON
XXXV. ANDREW JACKSON
XXXVI. ARAHAM LINCOLN
XXXVII. THE CHEROKEE INDIANS
XXXVIII. THE CATAWBA INDIANS
XXXIX. THE ALLEGHENIES INDIANS
XL. THE DELAWARE INDIANS

Chapter XLII. THE INDIANS
XXXIII. THE ALLEGHENIES INDIANS
XXXIV. THE ALLEGHENIES INDIANS
XXXV. THE ALLEGHENIES INDIANS
XXXVI. THE ALLEGHENIES INDIANS
XXXVII. THE ALLEGHENIES INDIANS
XXXVIII. THE ALLEGHENIES INDIANS
XXXIX. THE ALLEGHENIES INDIANS
XL. THE DELAWARE INDIANS

Chapter XLIII. THE ISLANDS
XLIV. THE GALLIES
XLV. THE HARRIS TOWNE
XLVI. THE ISLANDS
XLVII. THE JOHNSTOWN FLOOD

Chapter XLVIII. THE MOUND BUILDERS
L. THE MEDIEZIAN AND
LI. THE THICKER DUH
LII. THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS
LIII. THE LAND OF SOULS
LIV. THE VICE OF ENDOR
LV. THE HATTON EUGET
LVI. THE RETURN OF OLYMPS
This is a reproduction of a page from a family Bible given to William by his father. The family record was started by his father, then he continued it. The records are organized in a variety of ways. This particular page shows the lineage from John Robert Gray, Jr., a grandson of William, to Philip Kaster, Sr. Included are important dates such as birth, marriage, and death as well as military service or occupation.
This letter was written by William to his grand-daughter, tracing the family lineage back to Phillip Kaster, Sr., who fought in the American Revolution. A similar letter was prepared for several other family members. It is assumed that this letter was to be used to prove a lineage to a veteran of the American Revolution, which would allow membership into the Daughters of the American Revolution.
APPENDIX M

Map of Pennsylvania showing counties

The following is a map of Pennsylvania showing the county boundaries. The counties that have been mentioned within the text have been shaded. They include Forest, Jefferson, Clarion, Westmoreland, and Allegheny. These counties were also the counties primarily discussed within the text of *A Clarion River Classic*. 
I. Primary Sources


A series of four volumes of typed pages loosely bound in cloth binders. Details cities, people, and events located in western Pennsylvania, with the time period ranging from the early 1800's to the present. Some material is autobiographical or relates to the family of William B. Heasley. The work is in the possession of Matthew J. Stovcsik, great grandson of William B. Heasley.

Scrapbooks of William B. Heasley

Two accounting ledger books containing newspaper illustrations and articles, photographs, tourist brochures from various cities and states, and other items written by William B. Heasley. Items are glued or taped to the pages of the ledger and date from the late 1890's to the mid 1980's. One book contains a record of books owned and read by William B. Heasley. The books are in the possession of Matthew J. Stovcsik.

Bibles of William B. Heasley

Two Bibles owned by William B. Heasley. One is a large Catholic Bible published in 1961. A selected portion of the Heasley family history has been inserted between the two testaments. Handwritten records are listed in the "Births" section of the Bible. The second is dated 1867. Handwritten notes say the Bible was given to William B. Heasley by his father. Inserted throughout the Bible are illustrations of various biblical scenes. Included near the center of the Bible is a series of family photographs, some dating approximately 1870. Family Records section includes handwritten entries from William B. Heasley and his father, Frank A. Heasley. Other pages inserted into the Bible detail the genealogy of the Heasley family as written by William B. Heasley. Also inserted are items written by William B. Heasley on Phillip Kaster, Sr., an ancestor who fought in the American Revolution. Both are in the possession of Matthew J. Stovcsik.

Letters from Heasley Family

A collection of handwritten and electronic mail letters written to Matthew J. Stovcsik from children and grandchildren of William B. Heasley. Letters were written between February 23 and March 11, 1996. Letters contain descriptions of various aspects of William B. Heasley's life, including his childhood, his family, the various jobs he held, his travels, his hobbies, and other memories from their perspectives. All are in the possession of Matthew J. Stovcsik.
Bulletins from the Heasley Family Association, Franklin, Pa.

A collection of bulletins published by Ruth Heasley, founder of the Heasley Family Association. Each bulletin was sent to William B. Heasley and included a portion of the complete Heasley Genealogy, researched and compiled by Ruth Heasley. The bulletins were published monthly and date from 1979 to 1985. Bulletins were collected in a folder by William B. Heasley. Folder is now in the possession of Matthew J. Stovcsik. The complete Heasley Genealogy is located in the Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana.


Requested information by Matthew J. Stovcsik on the submissions that William B. Heasley made to the family newsletter or other correspondence he had with Ruth Heasley. Letter is dated February 26, 1996 and is in the possession of Matthew J. Stovcsik.

II. Secondary Sources


