

West Chester Pa. 6-4-1884.

Wm M. Darlington,

Respected Friend:

My good friend Judge Futhrey, a few days ago showed me a letter written to J. Lacey Darlington by thee, asking for some information respecting a certain John Filson, formerly of East Fallowfield Township in this County. Judge F. said he had written to thee on the subject but could not throw much light thereon.

When preparing our County history I had the names copied from many of the old assessment books, and 20 years before had made notes from several hundred of the early wills, so that the name was familiar to me. By examining some deeds and Orphans' Court proceedings this week I have been able to add a little to the store, and

now send the most important points obtained in the family history.

While John was a common name in the family it may be difficult to identify the one desired. The first John in his will (1748) gave a pocket bible to each of his three grandsons, "John and the 2 Robert Filsons," which would indicate but one John in the 3^d generation at that date. I argue that the John of E. Fallowfield who owned Virginia lands and died about 1788, was the son of Davidson. The other branches seem to have left the township many years before that date, but we identify John and Robert of 1782 by the amounts of land they held by deeds from their father, Davidson. Perhaps they were the only children (or sons at least) by the first wife. Unfortunately a great many of the deeds prior to 1800 are unrecorded. To change the subject I have often

heard of thee but did not know until
I saw J. Lacey Darlington's letter, to which
branch of the family thee belonged. It
is my impression that my mother had
some acquaintance with thy father of which
she used to speak. She was born on the
Yohogany river, 1799, daughter of Abner
Gilbert. Did not thy father keep a
store in Pittsburgh? I send a chart
of my own and wife's ancestry, on
which thee may notice the names
of Daniel Williamson, father and son.
Susanna Williamson, dau. of Daniel
and Hannah married David Powell
whose son Benjamin married Hannah
Davis and their dau. Elizabeth b. 4-13-1771,
married Amos Darlington in 1789. Thee
knows the rest. I am not trying at
present to trace out all the descendants
of the Williamsons, but would be glad
to have the record of thy father's family

according to the plan upon which I
am preparing the Sharpless Genealogy.
I have been interested in looking
up the Friends' records in the
western part of the State, and
have made considerable notes
therefrom but I cannot find
all off them, as yet.

Respectfully
Gilbert Cope