

Lovettsville, Virginia

The following story is from the book "Loudoun County Families and History" compiled by Jim Presgraves.

This village is situated in the north part of the county (Loudoun), on the turnpike road and mail route from Purcellville to Berlin (now Brunswick), Maryland. Its population by the census of 1880 was ninety-two. It contains two general dry-goods stores, a millinery store, jeweler's shop, clothing store, furniture store, and two blacksmith shops; one white and one colored school; Masonic, Red Men and Good Temple lodges; and a Lutheran, Reform and Presbyterian Church. One of the general stores is kept by G. F Emick, and the other by Chinn Bros. The former is the largest general store in the county. Lovettsville has recently become of the temperance towns of the county, no intoxicants being sold within its limits. It was laid out in 1820, upon lands owned by David Lovett, and the town was named in honor of this, its first proprietor. The first building erected was the one occupied by Mr. Metzger as a clothing store; the second was the hotel buildings, which was built by Thomas Stevens. At the time the town was laid out, and for some time previous, a store was kept here by Douglas & Fulton; a second store was established, about the year 1823, by James and William Hoy.

The Lutheran Church – was organized in the vicinity, in 1769. There are three churches now owned by this organization – one at Lovettsville, one at Tankersville, and one a mile south of Lovettsville, which was erected upon land donated by Lord Fairfax for church and school purposes. The latter congregation is the largest in the county, numbering 500 members.

Reformed Church – History records the fact that Rev. Slaughter, while on a tour in the interests of his denomination, in the year 1740, stopped with a view to the establishment of a church here. This is abundant evidence that a number of the Reformed persuasion were residents here at that time but the oldest record in the possession of the society is dated twenty years later – 1760. The first baptisms recorded are those of the Wenner, Axline, and Everhart families. The church building, which they now occupy, near Lovettsville, is the third one, which has been erected upon that site. The present membership numbers 200; Rev. H. St. John Rinker, pastor.

Mount Olivet (Methodist Episcopal) Church – located three miles west of Lovettsville, was established at the time of the recent dedication of their fine church building. The society now numbers 100. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. L. H. Pearse; text, Collosians, 3d chapter, 11th verse; hymn No. 865, from the "New Hymnal." The second sermon was preached by Rev. E. H. Vaughan, D. D., text 1st Timothy, 3d chapter, last clause of the 15th verse. Rev. James T. Beyer, P. E.; Rev. A. J. Porter, P.C. The first convert was Miss Lula, daughter of William F. and Catherine Compher.

The Presbyterian Church – of Lovettsville, was first organized in 1833, and the society occupied a brick church which they built the same year. Rev. Hutchinson was the first minister in charge; next came Alexander Campbell, the first resident minister, who preached about five years. The following then came, in the order named, who preached at intervals between this place, Charlestown and Shepherdstown: Revs. Hargrove, Boyd (a son of General Boyd, of Berkeley county) Simpson, Heaton, and North; the latter was in charge at the opening of the war, in 1861, when all church societies in the county were more or less temporarily broken up. The present pastor is Rev. Branch.

Freedom Lodge No. 199, A. F. and A. M. – This lodge was organized in Lovettsville, February 3d, A. L. 5866 – (A. D. 1866), with seven charter members, and the following officers: John C. Bush, W. M., Thomas J. Cost, S. W.; Edward Simons, J. W.; Luther W. Slater, Secretary; Tilghman Cooper, Treasure; Isaac C. Slater, S.D.; Stephen H. R. Conard, J. D.; Luther H. Potterfield and

Lewis W. Wiard, Steward; Bassett Lee Tyler. Since the organization of the lodge, about thirty members have been initiated, but the number has been reduced by removal to other States, and now the membership numbers twenty-six. But one death has occurred in the lodge since its organization. Present officers: Thomas J. Cost, W. M.; George F. Eamick, S.W.; S. D.; John Fry, Secretary; George W. Wolford, Steward; George W. Baker, Tyler.