

Old School Hardcopy Manuscript Editing

Specific Changes for Page 10

Paragraph 1

- Line 2 - Substitute "section" for "side"
- Line 4 - Delete comma after "ancestry"
- Line 5 - Omit slash between "and" and "his"
- Line 6 - Use "from" instead of "who had settled on"

Paragraph 2

Lines 7 & 8 – "Whigs, those loyal to the king of England, and Tories, those loyal to the Colonies."

Line 8 – Use "Because of" instead of "For"

Lines 9-11 – Consider rewording, "Henry and Paul were imprisoned by the British in Philadelphia."

Line 16 & 17 – Delete ", Dinah," the sentence flows more smoothly without it and it's not crucial to the point that's being made.

Line 17 & 18 – instead of "had to lead the horse that Henry was riding upon to their farm" is it enough to say, "had to lead the horse back to their farm"?

Paragraph 3

Lines 1-9 – Consider rewording, "By that time, Henry's son Philip, then only sixteen years old, had already enlisted in the Continental Army. Although Dinah was a member of the peaceful Quaker religion, she nevertheless sent her son off with her blessing. In preparation for his departure, she ingeniously quilted a supply of guineas (British currency) into the back of his vest against the day when her son too might be captured by the British."

Line 12 – Insert comma between "regiment, and".

Paragraph 4

Consider formatting entire paragraph in a separate text box. It's interesting information but it detracts from the flow of Philip's story where it is now. Maybe between paragraphs 5 and 6 or between paragraphs 2 and 3?

Henry and Dinah Benner had five children: Esther, Philip, Elizabeth, Mordecai, and Henry. Dinah died in 1794 and Henry in 1812. Although it appears that Henry could neither read nor write (he signed his detailed will with an X), the inheritance he left named each of his children, and indicates that he had been a well-to-do gentleman farmer.

Paragraph 5

Line 1 – Using the word "lived" instead of "was" seems clearer

Paragraph 6

Line 3 – Do you mean "affluent" rather than "affluence"?

Specific Changes for Page 11

Paragraph 1

Line 9 – If you’re going to add footnotes, I would put the information about Centre County being formed from Mifflin County in 1800 there. Wouldn’t that be enough to explain the reason for the different birthplaces?

Lines 21 & 22 – Check this statement for relevancy and accuracy. I don’t have Chapter 5.

Paragraph 2

Lines 3-5 – Might it be better to omit the info about Centre County and say “land, located in what was then Mifflin County, for the price of one thousand, one hundred sixty-two pounds, and ten shillings.”

Line 5 – *Chicago Manual of Style* does not capitalize numbers.

Lines 6-11 – Because these two sentences contain non-essential information, I would use parentheses, i.e. (It is not clear where Benner got all his money although it is known that he inherited from Philip Thomas, his mother’s grandfather. Henry Benner also gave his son money before his death in 1812.)

Line 12 – Do you mean “thought” instead of “though”?

Line 15 – Add apostrophe to “Benner’s intent”

Line 18 – Substitute “earlier that year” for “in 1792” because the date is at the beginning of the paragraph too.

Paragraph 3

Some of the information in this paragraph is repeated in the next paragraph as well as in the “Rock” chapter, would you consider the following revision that emphasizes the geographical challenges of the journey?

“Never in the history of the western valleys of the Allegheny Mountains had such a trek been made. Imagine the preparation, shopping, and packing required to travel the two hundred miles of dirt roads and animal trails from Chester County to the northern section of what is now Centre County. Although there are no specific records for the length of time it took to complete the trek, it is known that sixty wagons were used for the Chester County-to-Harrisburg leg. After crossing the Susquehanna River, however, the wagons had to be exchanged for pack animals to make the trip across the rugged terrain of the Seven Mountains, into Nittany Valley, and then on to Benner’s land in the Spring Creek Canyon.”

Paragraph 4

Line 2 – Use “would be” instead of “were”

Lines 3-9 – Consider rewording, “Therefore, even though he was only thirty years old, Benner somehow persuaded ninety-three men to uproot their families and go with him to Spring Creek Canyon. Each of the ninety-three men was chosen for his particular skills so Benner would have the labor force needed to build his iron forge.”

Line 10-12 – Could this be clarified by rearranging, “Because of its size, this group must have caused quite a stir in the various small settlements through which it passed.”?

Line 15 – Clarify with “the Houser mills, both of which were built along Spring Creek.”