

The only doubtful statement in the letter of Adam Strickler appears to be that Charles Keyser came to America "as a hired soldier in the service of Great Britain to fight against the French and Indians." That war began in 1754 when Washington was sent with Col. Fry to the west of the Alleghenies with a small army. On July 3, 1754, they encountered the French and surrendered Fort Necessity. Thereupon, in order to repel the French, England sent over General Braddock, with two regiments of British regulars, who landed in Virginia on the 19 Feb. 1755. There is no record of any hired soldiers being imported for this war before that time. If, therefore, the oldest son of Charles Keyser was born in 1752, as seems to appear from the indistinct and well worn inscription on his grave stone, then the marriage of Charles Keyser must have occurred some three or four years before the French and Indian war began.

The doubt suggested in the preceding paragraph does not, in any way, impeach Adam Strickler's statement of Charles Keyser's connection with Braddock's army. Mr. Waddell, in his *Annals of Augusta County*, said that Braddock's "command consisted of two regiments of regulars, augmented by some Virginia levies selected for the purpose; two companies of 'hatchet men'; six of rangers, from different provinces, and one troop of light horse. The whole composed an army of nearly twenty-five hundred men." The six companies of "rangers, from different provinces" may have included one from Pennsylvania with Charles Keyser in it; or he may have settled in Virginia before that time, and gone with the "Virginia levies selected for the purpose."

By deed of 6 Apr. 1765, recorded in Frederick County, Va., deed book No. 10, page 248, Lewis Rhinehart and Mathias Rhinehart of Frederick County, Va., conveyed unto Charles Keyser, of the same place, a parcel of land on the South Fork of the Shenandoah, being the lower end of two tracts of land granted to Mathias Rhinehart by deed of 8 Feb. 1764, from the Proprietor's Office of the Northern Neck of Virginia.

Judge E. J. Sutherland, of Clintwood, Va., has sent the following which he obtained from the records of Shenandoah County: "On May 28, 1778, the Shenandoah County Court appointed Bryant Breeding, Martin Comer, Matthew Mattocks and Peter Ruffner to appraise the estate of 'Charles Kizer, dec'd,' and