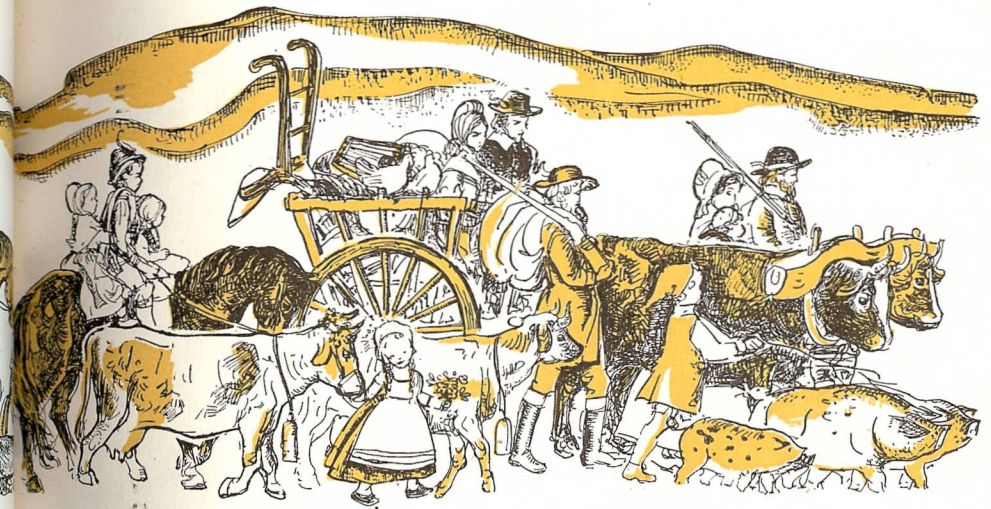




Chapter 10

PIONEERS IN THE VALLEY

For ten years after the Knights of the Golden Horse-shoe crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains, no settlers went to live in the Valley of Virginia. But one day settlers did come into the Valley. They did not cross the Blue Ridge Mountains, and they did not come from Virginia. They were German settlers, and they came into the Valley from the North.



These German people had crossed the Atlantic Ocean and had come to America looking for good farm land. They were also looking for a place where they could worship God as they chose. They came first to the colony of Pennsylvania. In Pennsylvania, they heard about the good farm land that Governor Spotswood had found in the Valley of Virginia. And they heard that Virginia wanted settlers there.

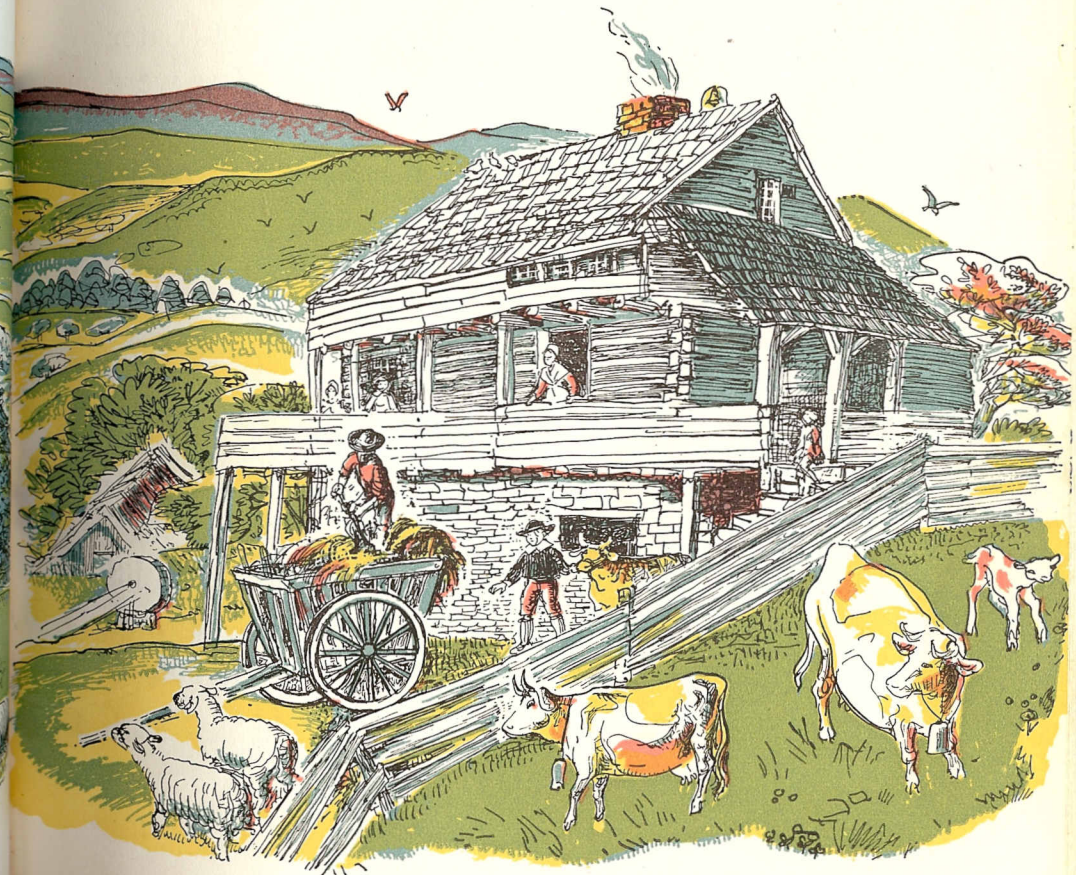
The German settlers came walking into the Valley with their families, driving their cows and sheep before them. They had bundles on their backs and on their pack horses. They brought their Bibles, their clothes, and their farm tools. They brought seeds to plant in their fields.

These pioneers came into the Shenandoah Valley. The Shenandoah Valley is the northern part of the Valley of Virginia. There they saw the green meadows and the rich land that they had come so far to find. Deer and buffalo and other wild animals came to feed in the Valley. It was an Indian hunting ground.



One of the first settlers who brought his family to live in the Shenandoah Valley was named Adam Miller. Adam Miller settled near the place where the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe had built Camp Spotswood. Other families settled nearby, and they named their settlement Massanutten after the mountain near them.

Jost Hite was another German pioneer. He and his friends settled not far from the place where Winchester stands today.



At the same time other settlers began to come into the Valley. They were called Scotch-Irish because they were people from Scotland who had been living in Ireland. The Scotch-Irish also came to America looking for a place to worship God as they chose. They came into the Valley through Pennsylvania as the Germans did.

John Lewis and his family were Scotch-Irish. He and his wife and their four boys were some of the first settlers in what is now Augusta County. John Lewis helped to build the town of Staunton.

All the Valley pioneers built log cabins at first. Later on they built bigger houses. Some of their houses were built of logs, and some were built of stone. Sometimes they built houses over springs and made holes in the walls of the houses. If the Indians attacked them, they would have plenty of water and they could shoot at the Indians through the holes.

The settlers in the Valley raised cows and sheep. They planted corn and wheat and vegetables. They grew flax. All of the family helped to work on the farm. The women and girls wove cloth from flax and from the wool of their sheep.

For a long time the German settlers learned only a little English. They went on speaking their own German language. They read their German Bibles and had church

services in German. At first, they did not build churches but had services in their homes.

The Scotch-Irish settlers built churches of stone. They built log schoolhouses for their children. Often the minister of their church taught the boys and girls reading, writing, and arithmetic. The Scotch-Irish people built a school for older children in Augusta County and named

