

The Ancestors of the Zimmerman-Carpenter Families of Lancaster County.

BY ALBERT K. HOSTETTER.

No incident connected with the settlement of the grand old Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has aroused greater interest in the mind of the historian than the immigration of the German masses from the Fatherland to Penn's Province in the new world.

On account of the continued persecutions of the Pietists in Germany, the attention of such leaders as Kelpius, Köster, Falckner and others was seriously turned to Pennsylvania with the result that an expedition including them was sent to America who settled on the Wissahickon in 1694. In 1698 Daniel Falkner returned to Germany with very glowing reports of his visit to America. It was then that another expedition took place from the fatherland to this newly acquired home. Among this group we find the name of Heinrich Zimmerman, Jr., who was born September 7, 1673, of Swiss parentage, a native of the Canton of Berne in the district of Seftigen, the country thereabouts being known as the Zimmerwald (or in other words, the forest of Carpenters) from which this family is said to have acquired its name.

Heinrich is reputed to have been a very unruly boy who gave his parents and teachers a great deal of trouble. He was known as "Der Schwartz Heinrich" (Black Henry). After leaving school he entered the military service for several years, after which he took up the study of medicine, and later, became a practicing physician. About this time he heard of William Penn's newly discovered country in America and decided on emigration to this country, where he understood that money could be made easily, and where religious persecutions were unknown. His first place of settlement was at Germantown where he found a number of his native countrymen. In order to satisfy himself more fully as to the choice of a home, he made various exploring trips along the Chesapeake bay and up the Susquehanna to Harrisburg, however, he could not even then decide upon a permanent location for his home. In 1700 he returned to the home of his boyhood days, where he wooed and won the affections of Salome Rufener, a sweetheart of former years, which resulted in their marriage the following year. She was the widowed daughter of the Count de Fontenoy.

In 1706, with his wife, he returned to America, and established himself in the practice of medicine in Germantown, where he prospered and acquired considerable property, his financial standing and family increasing. Besides Emanuel and Gabriel, who were born in Switzerland, the following named additional children were born to them in America, viz.: Salome, Christian,

Henry, Daniel, Mary and Jacob. In 1710 he acquired his first land in Lancaster county, being a tract of about 200 acres near Lampeter Square, and in 1712 his possessions aggregated about 3000 acres along the Pequea. Although he continued his practice at Germantown for several years more, at the same time he bought Redemptioners and proceeded to develop his newly acquired acreage, as rapidly as possible until a few years later when he moved his family to his Pequea settlement. Educational facilities were not then as far advanced in America as they were in Germany, consequently he sent his children to the Fatherland where Pastorius had established a college, and there they were taught in the German and English languages, which, in those days, was a very great accomplishment and which advantage proved, later, to be of great benefit to them. Heinrich being the most extensive land owner of the district, and having developed a large practice, became a very prominent figure in the community.

Another prominent settler along the Pequea at that time and a rival of Heinrich's, who was also a native of Switzerland was Hans Graff.

About 1726 when Heinrich's boys were nearing manhood, he concluded to buy more land.

The land eastward to Philadelphia had nearly all been taken up, but that lying north and westward had not been surveyed. Squatters were busy locating in these directions, and Heinrich decided to have a share of it also.

He went about 10 miles up the Conestoga where a small stream flows into that creek, where he found a beautiful valley, abounding with numerous springs. Here he began driving stakes, and making his reservations. It happened that Hans Graff was similarly engaged, in this vicinity and a question arose between them as to priority.

The little brook forked about a mile above its mouth into two equal parts. It was agreed that Heinrich should have all the land on the right hand fork, looking up stream, and Hans that on the left, and ever since one branch has been known as "Carpenter's Run" and the other as "Graff's Run." The forks are about one mile from the village now known as Talmage. By referring to Deed Book A, Volume 6, page 290, in the records of Philadelphia, we find reference to a "Ground rent" on this property, from which records we quote the following: "Paying, therefore, yearly, to the Proprietary, their heirs, assigns and successors at the town of Lancaster on or about March 1st every year from the date thereof, 1 silver shilling on each 100 Acres." In Hazard's Register of Pennsylvania, vol. 7, page 152, we are told that the officers in charge of the Land Office had been requested by the Proprietaries to anglify the German names as much as possible in giving out patents. Accordingly, when Zimmerman applied for his patent and gave his name, the official in charge said, "That would be Carpenter in English," and the patent was thereupon issued in the latter name, and from that time on, many of the descendants have adopted the English name, while others have adhered to the original.

Emanuel and Gabriel had both now grown to manhood and had married girls from the Pequea settlement. Emanuel married Caroline Line and had built himself a log cabin near the mouth of Carpenter's Run where it empties into the Conestoga.

Emanuel and his wife were blessed with 5 children: (1) Catharine, (2) Barbara, (3) Elizabeth, (4) Jacob and (5) Emanuel.

1. Catharine Carpenter was born in 1736, was married to Jacob Yiser and after his death to Adam Reigert, who was the proprietor of two of Lancaster's most famous hostelries known as the "Black Bear" and "The Grape." It was in the former that Washington was entertained by our citizens in 1777.

Mr. Reigert later became Lieut. Colonel of the 1st Battalion of the Lancaster County militia, after which he became a member of the Legislature. He had a son who also served as a member of that Body, and subsequently became Sheriff of our county.

Their descendants have figured quite prominently in the history of our county, one of whom was Emanuel Carpenter Reigert, the grand-father of Edward P. Brinton, Esq., a prominent attorney at our bar.

2. Barbara Carpenter was born in 1738 and was married to Jacob Ferree a descendant of one of the pioneer French Huguenot families which figured so prominently in the early settlement of our county. Barbara's children numbered three, Emanuel Ferree, Susanna, wife of James Boyd, Elizabeth, wife of John Gibbony.

Barbara died, after which Jacob married a second time, without issue. The descendants of the Gibbony family became prominent citizens of Bedford and adjoining counties.

3. Elizabeth Carpenter was born in 1740 and was married to Dr. George Michael Graff, a grandson of Hans Graff. They had two children, George and Eva Graff. George was captain of the 4th Company, 1st Battalion of what was known as "The Flying Camp" in the Revolution.

4. Jacob Carpenter was born 1741, was married to Maria Forney and after her death to Anna Maria Yundt.

He was a soldier in the Revolution. His children were Jacob Emanuel, Catharine, wife of Michael Van Kennar and Susanna, wife of Peter Ellmaker, from whom are descended the present day Ellmakers of our city.

5. Emanuel Carpenter, Jr., was born 1744, married Mary Smith, was a member of Captain Rowland's company of the 10th Battalion in 1775 and later became captain of the 7th company of same, after which he was appointed Judge of Common Pleas Court until 1798, when he emigrated to Ohio, where he again became Judge of the Court and was otherwise prominent. His descendants, which were quite numerous, also figured prominently in the various walks of life in that locality.

Gabriel, the second son of Heinrich, was born in 1704. He also became an extensive land owner in Earl township, was the owner of a mill and did considerable surveying. He, too, became prominent, but never took any interest in county or political affairs as did his brother, Emanuel. He built a house at the forks of Carpenter's and Graff's run. His children were (1) Salome, born 1727, who married George Line, (2) Christian, born 1729, who married Susan Herr. In 1824 one of the descendants of this family built Carpenter Church, at which we are today assembled. (3) Daniel was born 1732, was married to Mary Herr, a sister of Christian's wife, both having been granddaughters of the pioneer Hans Herr. (4) Mary Carpenter, born

1733. (5) John Carpenter, born 1735, married Elizabeth Scherer. They had 3 sons, John, David and William, who married 3 daughters of Emanuel Carpenter, Jr. (6) Sarah Carpenter, born 1741, married Jno. Graybill. (7) Elizabeth Carpenter, born 1743, married Geo. Eckert. (8) Catharine Carpenter, born 1745, married Peter Eckert, who had 9 children, one of whom married John Wilson, who was the ancestor of Hon. J. P. McCaskey, of Lancaster. (9) Jacob Carpenter, born 1748, married Anna Maria Youndt and had a large family. After his death she married another Jacob Carpenter, a son of Emanuel.

Christian Carpenter, the third son of Heinrich, was born 1707, but appears to have left no record of any matrimonial venture. Although he became a land owner we know nothing more of his history.

Dr. Henry Carpenter, Heinrich's fourth son, was born 1714. He had 7 children.

1. Dr. John married his cousin, Mary Ferree, and lived in luxury at "Carpenter Hall," at Paradise, Lancaster County, where he developed an extensive botanical garden, which had been founded by his father, in which were many fine specimens of rare foreign plants which, here, for the first time were grown in this country. They had two children, Abraham and Mary. Dr. John's wife having died, he married Susan Hartman, from which marriage they had 2 daughters, Susan and Salome.

2. Dr. Henry Carpenter, Jr., married Catharine Carpenter, granddaughter of Gabriel and had a family of 8 children.

3. Barbara Carpenter married John Dehoff.

4. Susan Carpenter married Christopher Reigert, proprietor of the Fountain Inn hotel of Lancaster, where sessions of Court were held from 1781 to 1785. He was a brother to the above named Adam Reigert. After his death she married Col. Thomas Edwards, of Revolutionary fame, who at one time held the office of Sheriff of our county.

5. Mary Carpenter married John Smith.

6. Abraham Carpenter married Esther Hafer.

7. Salome Carpenter married John Offner.

8. Daniel Carpenter married Magdalena Forney, a sister of Henry's wife. He was known as the big man of the family, measuring 6 ft. 6 in. in height.

Abraham married Salome Smith and had two children, John and Susannah. John became a practicing physician. He built the handsome residence near Paradise, known as "Oak Hill," now owned and occupied by Chief Justice J. Hay Brown.

John married Massey Gibbons. Their daughter was the wife of Dr. Thomas H. Burrows, who figured prominently in the history of our county as the "Father of our Pennsylvania Free School System," also as the original editor of that well-known publication, "The Pennsylvania School Journal" and the author of numerous other educational works. He was a lawyer by profession, a member of the Legislature, and became a noted factor in political and educational life.

Susannah married William C. Frazer, of Delaware. They moved to Lancaster in 1813, where he was admitted to the Lancaster County Bar. They afterwards moved West and he was appointed Chief Justice of Wisconsin by

President Andrew Johnson. They had a son, Reah Frazer, who married Abiann Steele. They were the parents of Commodore Reah Frazer, pay director in the U. S. Navy for 43 years, and Miss Susan C. Frazer, of Lancaster, who has honored us with her presence at our celebration today.

Abraham's sister, Mary, married John Smith. They were the ancestors of the wife of Hon. Thomas E. Franklin, who served as Attorney General of Pennsylvania for two terms, also of H. M. North, Jr., of Columbia, who is President of the First Columbia National Bank and one of the leading attorneys of the Lancaster County Bar.

The youngest member of Heinrich's family, Jacob, was married to Elizabeth Herr, who lived only a few years, after which he married Susan Miller, who died about five years later, after which he married Magdalena Kendrick who survived him. Heinrich's children now all married and comfortably situated, he divided all of his property, about \$100,000, in 1747, and died soon thereafter.

His remains were buried in the graveyard on the old homestead, near Lampeter.

From the organization of our County in 1729, all through the eighteenth century the county records indicate that the Carpenter family was very prominent in public affairs, drawing deeds, wills, and other legal documents, settling estates of Decedents, etc.

Emanuel, the eldest of Heinrich's family, was the most prominent of that generation. He was nicknamed "Manny the law-giver." Immediately upon being naturalized, he was appointed constable and assessor for his township. From then on until he died in 1780 he was constantly in office, having in the meantime served as a member of the Provincial Assembly for sixteen years and from 1759 to 1780 as President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was by nature, an enthusiastic advocate of Liberty, and availed himself of every opportunity to further that cause, was ever watchful for the interests of his fellow-man, and enjoyed a very great influence in his community. He was an arbiter in all matters of dispute among his clients, and his decisions were always considered final, and never appealed from. Such was his standing in the community.

A great deal could be here said about his political and official career but since that will be enlarged upon in two other historical papers to be presented at this meeting, I will not go into details regarding these particulars.

Judge Emanuel Carpenter's mortal remains repose in the graveyard adjoining this (Carpenter's) church and his grave is marked by a tombstone which was erected by his grandson, Emanuel Carpenter Reigert, in 1827. The inscription on the stone reads as follows, to wit:—

"Here, entombed, lie the remains of Emanuel Carpenter, Esq., late presiding Justice of the Court of Common Pleas of Lancaster County. If true piety, benevolence and Christian Charity and unsullied reputation, and an entire devotion to the rights of man, at the most gloomy period of our National struggle, are commendable, the example of the deceased is worthy of imitation. He closed his useful and well spent life on April 1, 1780. And also of his wife, Catharine Carpenter, who died in February, 1785, in the eighty fourth year of her life. Filial affection and respect for ancestral worth induced the erection by their grandson, A. D. 1827."

The time allotted me for this paper will not permit me, on this occasion, to follow up the families of the descendants of these people any further, and when you stop to realize how large were the families I have reviewed, you can readily understand that there is enough history embodied in the subject to permit the writing of a much longer paper at some future time.

In so doing a great many distinguished people can be cited, and right here in this cemetery, a great many records can be procured, which would be very helpful, in such an effort.

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