

JOURNAL

*Genealogy
John Eberman
Clockmaker
and his descendants*

volume number
91 / 3

of the Lancaster County Historical Society

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US ISSN 0023-7477 Abstracted and indexed in *America: History and Life*, cited in the *Journal of American History*, and in *Periodical Source Index*.

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JOURNAL

of the Lancaster County Historical Society

A John Eberman Legacy: Eight Lancaster, Pa. Clockmakers

by Stacy B.C. Wood, Jr.

During the late eighteenth century and first half of the nineteenth century, Lancaster County was a major center of handcrafted clockmaking in North America. One of the most famous names in the extensive list of those clockmakers is that of Eberman.

The name Eberman is derived from two German words: *Eber* which translates as wild boar in English, and *Mann* meaning man. The wild boar was the animal par excellence in early Celtic society. Among its attributes were sexual power, physical strength, and heroic self defense. Many examples of boar imagery appear in the iconography of the Romano-Celtic areas.¹ Military ensigns of both the Gauls and the Romans were surmounted by figures of the wild boar.²

There is a village of Ebermannstadt in Bavaria approximately 25 miles north of Nuremberg on route 470, but contrary to later Eberman family tradition, this is not the village from which the progenitor of the Ebermans in America departed. Rather, it was the village of Schwaigern just to the west of Heilbronn (figure 1) in what is now Baden-Wurttemberg.³ Perhaps a young boy who was destined to establish a clockmaking dynasty thousands of miles to the west in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, once observed the 1580 astronomical clock of the Heilbronn town hall in the Marktplatz and dreamt of gears, levers, pendulums and bells.

This is the third in a series of articles about the earliest clockmakers of Lancaster Borough/City to be published. The first concerned Rudolph (Rudy) Stoner, the earliest clockmaker of Lancaster County.⁴ The second dealt with George Hoff and his clockmaking children and grandchildren.⁵ By the conclu-

sion of this presentation the reader should have a better understanding and appreciation of the Ebermans and their contributions to Lancaster Borough/City and American handcrafted clockmaking.

On the 18th of September 1732, the ship "Johnson" (also recorded as the "Johnson Galley"), David Crochatt, master, docked at the port of Philadelphia with a group of "Palentines." Debarking was a ten-year-old boy named Johannes Eberman, his parents Johannes and Maria Elizabeth (born Hoffner) Eberman,⁶ and his sixteen year old sister Maria.⁷ This youngster was destined to found one of the foremost families of Lancaster, a family which would include at least eight clockmakers.

What became of Johannes' parents and sister, after their arrival that late summer day, is unknown. Neither do they appear in the Lancaster Borough or County records nor are they found in Philadelphia records. Because this is

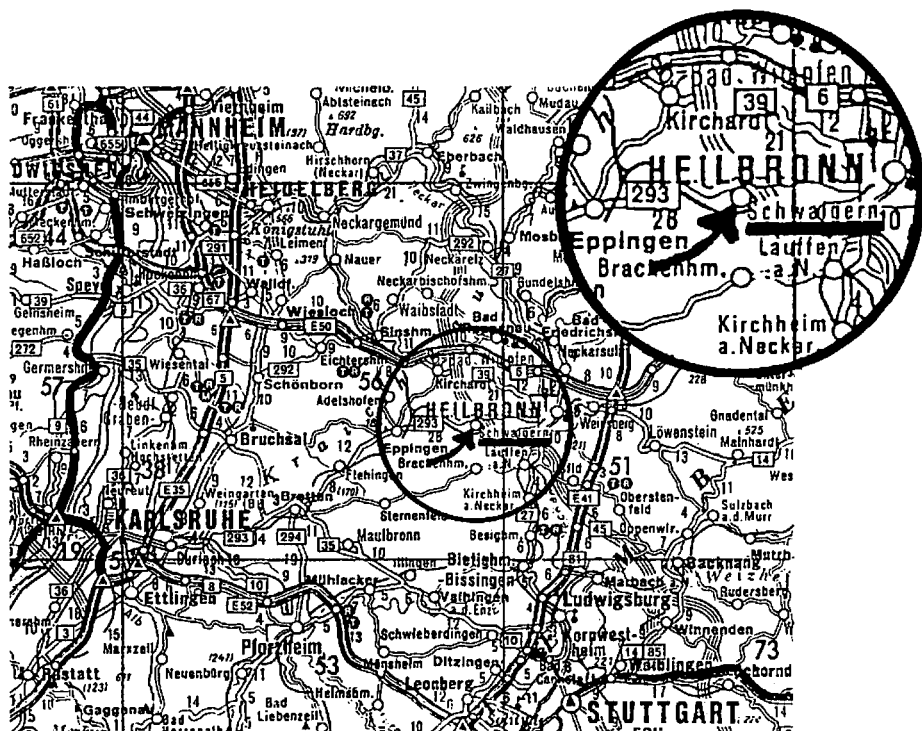


Figure 1. Map of present day Württemberg showing Schwaigern, home village of the Eberman family before emigrating to America.

the story of the Eberman family of Lancaster, we will refer to the young Johannes from now on as John Eberman, Senior (figure 2).

John Eberman, Sr. (18 July 1722—26 Dec. 1805)

The first reference to John Eberman, Sr., after his arrival in Philadelphia in 1732, is in 1743. Genealogically speaking, these missing eleven years are understandable for these were the days when an individual was not officially recorded until he became taxable at the age of twenty-one, usually following his serving an apprenticeship of seven years. Extant apprenticeship indentures are extremely rare.⁸ The first reference to Eberman is found in the Moravian Church of Lancaster's birth, baptism, and marriage book. His was the first marriage recorded therein. It states that John Eberman married Anna Juliana Schweig (Schweich) on December 27.⁹ This was the year following the visit of the church's head, Count Zinzendorf, to Lancaster during which he had preached from the courthouse,¹⁰ and the same year in which the Lutheran minister Lorenz Thorstansen Nyberg was authorized to preach to the Moravians of both Lancaster and Lititz.¹¹ Evidence has yet to be uncovered revealing just when the Eberman family accepted the call to the *Unitas Fratrum*, as the Moravian church is officially known. It was not without some suffering that one embraced the Moravian beliefs. No less a figure than James Logan, William Penn's agent in Pennsylvania, verbally attacked them.¹² Watson in his *Annals* writes of services being disrupted by youths who blew cuckoo sounding whistles during the singing of hymns.¹³ The Reverend Heinrich Melchior Muhlenberg spoke of Moravians as a threat that should be driven out.¹⁴ Regardless, records of the Lancaster Moravian Church show that the Ebermans were baptized, married, and buried through the church for nearly a century and a half. At least one grandson, tobacconist and clockmaker William Eberman, became a missionary to the West Indies and one great-great-grandson, William's grandson Clarence E. Eberman, became pastor of the church in Lancaster and president of the Moravian Christian Endeavor Union for England and America.¹⁵

Two sons and two daughters resulted from his first marriage.¹⁶ The following year, John is mentioned in a deed and his occupation is given as "smith."¹⁷ Lancaster Borough tax records and deeds continue to refer to his trade as smith or blacksmith through 1773. The next time his trade is given in the tax records it is listed as "soap boiler." This, and its alternative, "tallow chandler," were his listed trade until his death in 1805. It is possible that he had started his new trade prior to 1773, perhaps while a smithy, because an article in the newspaper *Lancaster Journal* in June 1802 states that he had "discontinued soap boiling and candle tallow chandling and gave over to son-in-law Peter Schucker after upwards of 40 years."¹⁸

CLOCKMAKERS/WATCHMAKERS EBERMAN LINEAGE

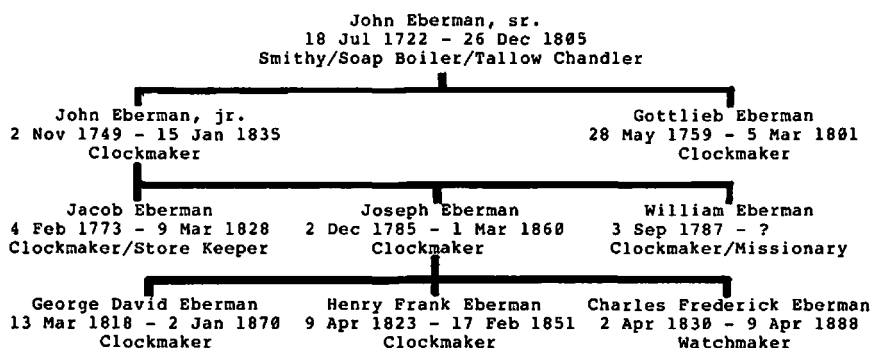


Figure 2. Line of descent of the clockmakers Eberman.

Anna Juliana died in September, 1753, and the following May John went to the town of Lebanon, to the north of Lancaster borough, and married Anna Maria Xander. Anna Maria, nearly ten years his junior, had been born at Quitopehill, Pennsylvania. Four sons and four daughters were the result of this second marriage. By the time of Anna Maria's death in 1806, only one son, clockmaker John Gottlieb, and three daughters had survived.

John, Sr., lived a successful and full eighty-three years. Like many Lancaster tradesmen, he was active in civic affairs. For example, he was a member of the Borough's Union Fire Company, No. 1, and his attendance at meetings is recorded in the official minutes. At the meeting of February 22, 1766, he, with clockmaker Rudy Stoner and others, was assigned "to carry ladders, hooks and forks" to the scene of the fire.⁹ His daughters had married well: Maria Philippina had married the saddler Henry Dehuff (DeHoff) who was the son of one of Lancaster Borough's founders and gunsmiths, John Dehuff.²⁰ Henry Dehuff was to become Chief Burgess of the Borough of Lancaster (1783-1785). Elizabeth had married the shoemaker/painter Peter Schucker (Sugar) who, as mentioned earlier, took over the soap business; Hannah had married artist Ernst Theodore Benoit (Benuart/Benade); and Anne Mary had married shoemaker John Todd. Son John, Jr., was the first of the family to become a clockmaker and was followed by his half brother John Gottlieb.

If the reader "walks through" his message via the inventory of his estate, one can infer that Eberman was literate: there are a large German bible, two hymn books, and one "lot of old German Books." A list of outstanding promissory notes makes it obvious that he was able to aid his children from time to

time: to his son-in-law Philip Hart a note for £100, household furniture, two cows, and some cash; to son-in-law Henry Dehuff household furniture and store goods; to son John (q.v.) clock and watchmaker's tools worth £32; to son Godlieb (Gottlieb) (q.v.) also clockmaker's tools worth £11.5.0 and more than £130 in value of other notes and items, including one clavichord (was John, Sr., also musically literate?); to son Philip a little more than £30; to daughter Mary a loan for purchase of her half lot of ground,²¹ furniture, etc.; to daughter Hanna Benoit also household furniture and cash; and to son-in-law Peter Schucker ditto. The total value of the estate, including promissory notes and a Judgement Bond worth £1000 at maturity, was nearly £1700. Eberman had owned some 50 acres of land and the U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 listed him as owning a 19' x 28' log house, a 12' x 12' log kitchen, a 15' x 15' log stable, and an 8' x 12' log soap shop. He also owned two other log houses. It should be mentioned that log houses were the common urban dwelling at that time.

Because this article is not only about Ebermans, but is also about clockmakers, before we move on to the next individual we must address the controversy concerning whether or not John Eberman, Sr., was a clockmaker in addition to having been a blacksmith and tallow chandler/soap boiler. The entries in his estate inventory listing promissory notes for "Clock & Watchmaker's tools" and "Clockmaker's Tools" to sons John and Gottlieb respectively, might suggest that they were tools that he himself had used and then transferred to the sons for notes of the stated value. Otherwise, one might reason, he would have merely held notes for the value without stating the subject of the value. There is a preponderance of evidence, however, suggesting that the tools had not been used in the trade by him: (1) He would have been working prior to the sons going into business for themselves (1772 and 1781 respectively), and necessarily there would be a number of brass dial tall clocks extant bearing the name John Eberman since the "white" or painted dial was not invented until 1772.²² Experience has revealed very few brass dial clocks bearing the name John Eberman: the author has only encountered one example in over sixteen years. (2) Although it has been suggested that John Eberman, Sr., made the large clock movement (figure 3) for Lancaster County's second courthouse, and while this particular movement was made circa 1783 and blacksmiths were known to have been horology's earliest clockmakers, it is highly unlikely that, at this particular stage of his life (age 60+) and with two sons in the trade of clockmaking, he would have tackled such a project. A second large tower clock movement (figure 4) is extant in Nazareth, PA, where records show it was purchased from John Eberman of Lancaster.²³ No more is known about John Eberman, Sr. There is no indication that his portrait was painted or that any other information concerning his appearance survives. The whereabouts of his business records, Bibles, etc. are unknown.

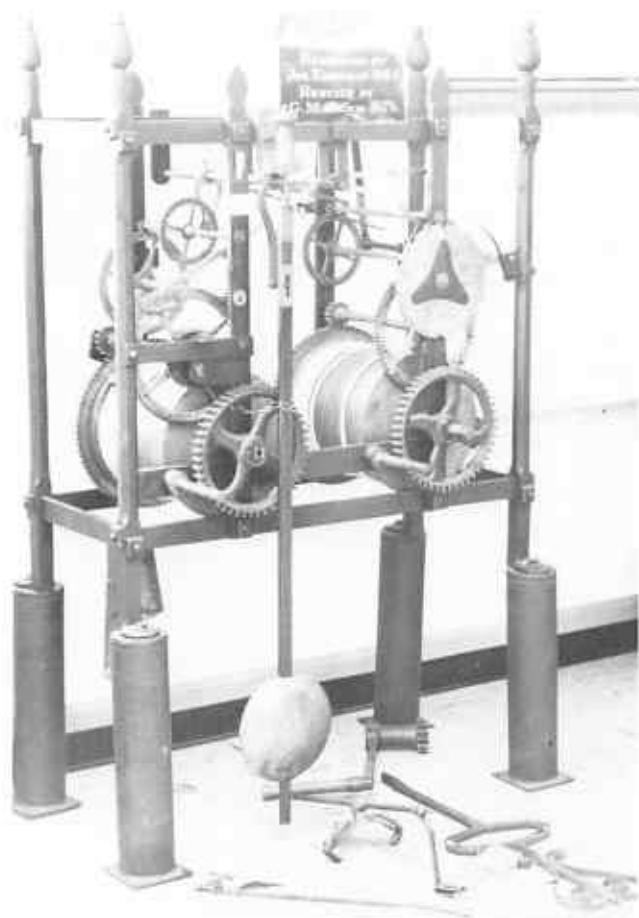
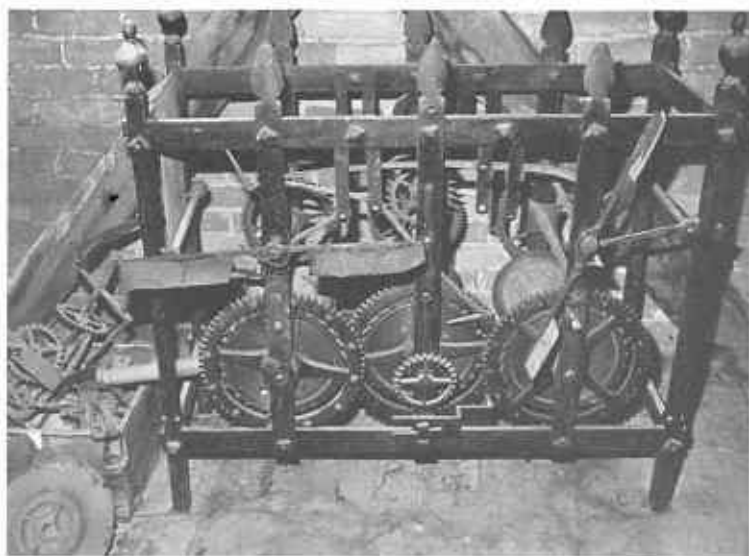


Figure 3. John Eberman's movement for Lancaster's second courthouse. (Heritage Center of Lancaster County)

Figure 4. John Eberman's three-train movement for the Nazareth, PA, Moravian Church. If the wheel lying loose in the lower left-hand corner of the photograph is part of this movement, the clock was quarter-hour striking.



John Eberman, Jr. (2 Nov. 1749—15 Jan. 1835)

On 2 November 1749, a third child was born to John Eberman, Sr., and his first wife Anna Juliana. The child was their first of two sons and three days later he was baptized in the Moravian Church of Lancaster. It is his name that lives today on the dials of many tall ("grandfather") clocks (figure 5) whose movements he made.²⁴

As was common in those days, he made his first appearance in the Lancaster Borough tax records at the age of 23 following his seven years apprenticeship and two years as a journeyman: the year was 1772 and his occupation was listed as clockmaker. It is quite probable that he had been apprenticed to one of the earlier Lancaster County clockmakers, perhaps Rudy Stoner (1728–1769). Perhaps he was journeyman to George Hoff (at least one of Eberman's clock movements utilizes German features). That same year, 1772, John Eberman, Jr., received his first pay for servicing the County's courthouse clock.²⁵ He was to continue in this responsibility for more than half a century (until

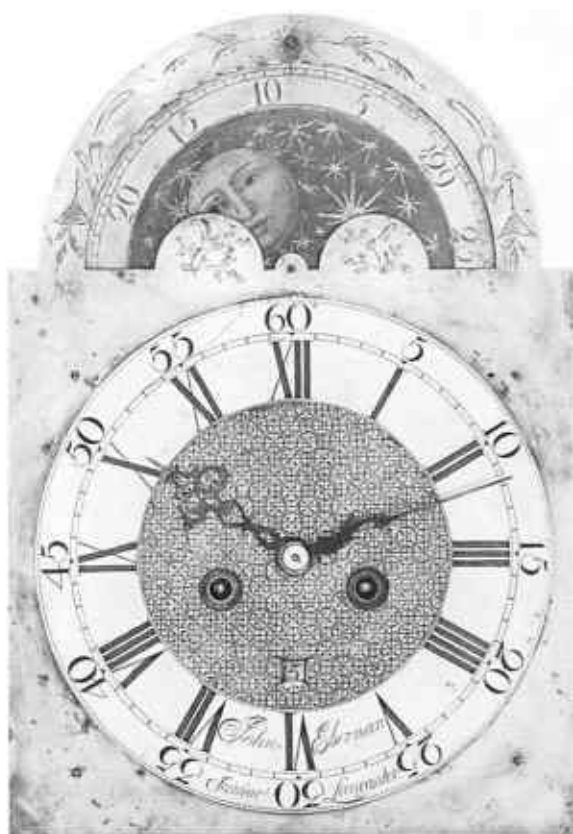


Figure 5. John Eberman brass dial for early 8-day movement. (Private collection)

1824). As mentioned earlier, John Eberman, Sr., had lent his son John money to purchase the tools of the clockmaking trade. When he opened his own business he was in competition with two clockmakers already working in the Borough: Wilton Atkinson and the aforementioned George Hoff, Sr. In 1772 there were 431 heads of household in the Borough tax list and 35 freemen.

Young John opened his first shop in Queen street opposite the sign (i.e., the tavern) of the Black Bear in Lancaster Borough and ran an advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* (figure 6). Regardless of what the advertisement claims, it is highly unlikely that Eberman made any watches, let alone "all kinds." The common practice for Colonial watchmakers was to import English or European watches.²⁶ According to the U.S. Direct Tax of 1798, Eberman and his wife Elizabeth (nee Frank) resided with the widow Anne Mary Frank who in all probability was his mother-in-law.

Lancaster, November 3, 1772.

JOHN EBERMAN, junior,

BE G S leave to acquaint his friends and customers, and the public in general, that he has moved out of the house where he formerly lived, into Queen-street, in the Borough of Lancaster, opposite the sign of the Black Bear; where he makes and repairs all kinds of CLOCKS and WATCHES, in the best and neatest manner. From the experience he has had, in working with a man whose abilities are well known, and a due attention to the commands of those, who may please to employ him, he hopes he shall merit their approbation, and that of the public, whose favours shall be most gratefully acknowledged, by their most obliged friend, JOHN EBERMAN, junior. ¶

Figure 6. John Eberman ad, *Pennsylvania Gazette* (Philadelphia), 11 November 1772. (Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society)

An early customer was Lancaster attorney Jasper Yeates who paid Eberman £1.2.6 for "mending his Watch."²⁷ On the 9th of July in 1784,²⁸ a disaster was to involve young Eberman that might have cost him his reputation, for it is recorded that while he was in the process of placing the driving weights of the courthouse clock in new wooden channels, a fire broke out that totally destroyed the building where it stood in the Center Square, today the site of the Civil War monument. Three possible causes of the fire were put forth: 1. combustion resulting from slake lime stored in the building by plasterer Caleb Cope; 2. the work of an arsonist; or 3. the carelessness of clockmaker John Eberman, Jr.²⁹ The origin of the fire was never determined, and Eberman was commissioned the following year to make a new clock to be installed in the new courthouse for which he received the sum of £550 (approximately 1/10th of the total cost of the new building).³⁰

The new courthouse (figure 7) was constructed on the site of the previous one and is said to have greatly resembled the first building. The Eberman clock drove four dials in the tower and activated a hammer to strike the hours on a bell.³¹ This building was to serve as the home of the Pennsylvania legislature



Figure 7. Camera obscura view circa 1815 of Lancaster's second courthouse. (Lancaster County Historical Society)

from 1799 until 1812, the period when Lancaster Borough served as the capital of Pennsylvania. When the building was pulled down in 1854, following the completion of a larger courthouse on the northwest corner of Duke and East King Streets, the Eberman clock was moved to the new building and installed with a new bell. The venerable old clock, eventually replaced by a Seth Thomas movement, is now located in the Heritage Center of Lancaster County in Center Square.

John, Jr., continued to be listed as a clockmaker in the Borough tax records through 1807. Following his father's death in 1805, the "Jr." was dropped from his name in the list. In 1806 he was appointed Justice of the Peace for the First District, a position that he held through 1821. This commission gained him the new appellation of "Esquire." Newspaper items indicate that he served as a sergeant in Captain Dickson's Light Infantry Company of Volunteers attached to the 121st Regiment of the Pennsylvania Militia; that he ran an unsuccessful race for sheriff; and that he served as clerk of the Orphan's Court in 1804. On 15 September 1805 and 15 September 1806 he was elected Chief Burgess of Lancaster Borough,² a position equal to that of mayor of a town. He was associated with the Branch Bank of Pennsylvania from 1829-1831 at its office on North Prince and West King Streets, which more recently was the location of the Army-Navy Store.

Like his father, he also married twice. In 1772 he took his first wife, Elizabeth Frank of Philadelphia. They had nine sons and two daughters. One of the daughters, Elizabeth, married the famous Lancaster tobacconist Jacob De-

moth. Three of the sons, Jacob, Joseph, and William as well as three grandsons, followed him in the clock and watchmaking trade. In 1802, approximately 18 months after the death of his first wife, he married Anne Maria Lembke, the widow Demuth. A son and daughter were born of this marriage.

His clock production, as far as can be deduced from examples noted, consisted primarily of 30-hour and 8-day time and strike tall case movements. At least one 8-day musical clock appears to have been made by him.³¹ The aforementioned tower clock movements are the only two such movements known to have been constructed in Lancaster County (a third possible John Eberman tower clock movement is located in the museum in Harmony, Butler County). A rumor has circulated that some form of shelf clock exists bearing his name.

In almost all instances, his tall clock movements (figure 8) are made in the English tradition.³² Such movements have a gathering pallet with a tail and their rack hook and lifting detent pivot from opposite sides of the center line of the front plate, whereas German tradition movements (figure 9) have tailless gathering pallets with rack hook and lifting detent pivoted from the same side of the center line of the front plate. German tradition movements may also utilize wire ("lantern") pinions. One notable exception, that is unusual to Pennsylvania clockmaking, utilizes what has been called "Liverpool bar" locking for the strike train. Instead of the rack hook being pivoted on a stud on the movement's front plate, it is pinned to an arbor passing through the movement that, in turn, carries a bar that engages a pin on the warning wheel once the rack has been gathered up.

That he worked primarily in the former tradition tends to support the belief that Eberman was apprenticed to Rudy Stoner who also worked in that tradition. The author has seen one example, however, made in the German tradition. If he had been journeyman to George Hoff, as suggested, one would expect to find at least a few movements made in that style. It is recorded that the third generation Lancaster Borough clockmaker Martin Shreiner had been apprenticed to Eberman.³³ Shreiner's movements are, as would then be expected, normally in the English tradition, with at least two rare examples in the German tradition. Shreiner advertised that he would make them in either tradition.³⁴ Just how many movements did Eberman make in those three and one half decades that the tax lists carried him as clockmaker? There is no way to be certain because, unlike John Hoff, there is no order book known to survive and he does not seem to have numbered any of his clocks. Based on the number of examples that the author has encountered or heard about, the guess is somewhat less than two hundred.

As active and as well known as John Eberman, Jr., had been, it is curious that when he died, his passing warranted no obituary in the *Lancaster Union* newspaper: there was only a notice of death.³⁵ John Eberman, Jr. died intestate on January 15, 1835, at the age of eighty-five, a victim of influenza. The in-

Figure 8. John Eberman brass 8-day tall case movement circa 1785. (Private collection)

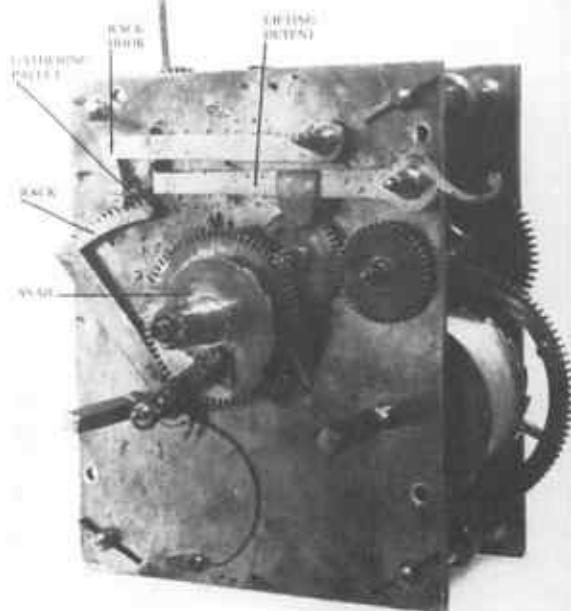
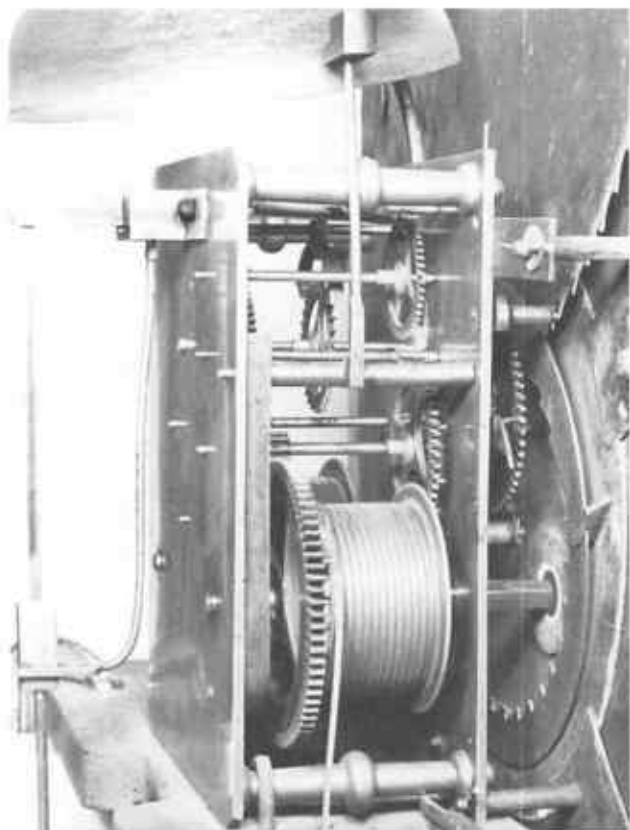


Figure 9. Typical Pennsylvania-German tradition brass 8-day movement. (Private collection)

ventory of his estate, valued at \$1458.99, fills only one page. The most valuable item was "A chiming 8 day clock with case . . . \$25.00." Also among the possessions was a violin with bow. There were no clockmaker's tools."

Eberman's life had spanned Lancaster County's "golden age" of clock-making. Nearly all the clockmakers of note, from Rudy Stoner, to his own grandchild, George David Eberman, had been at work during his lifetime. Unfortunately, no portrait is known to exist and there are no known written records of his clock production. Through his clocks, however, he lives on forever.

John Gottlieb Eberman (28 May 1759—5 Mar. 1801)

Gottlieb (also spelled Godlieb) Eberman was born on 28 May 1759, the third child and second son born to John Eberman, Sr., and his second wife, Anna Maria Xander. He was christened Johann Gottlieb the day of his birth. He was a half brother of John Eberman, Jr.

He first appeared in the Lancaster Borough tax lists of 1781. As previously mentioned, he had been lent funds by his father to acquire clockmaking tools. The tax list of 1782 lists his trade as "watchmaker," but from 1783 until his death in 1801 his trade was consistently "clockmaker." In his will⁹ he refers to himself as a clockmaker.

An entry in Book 3 of Lancaster's Trinity Lutheran Church for 14 May 1780 states that Gottlieb Eberman married Catharine Ilger on that date. The baptism records show no births recorded for the couple. Whether Catharine Ilger is the same person as Elizabeth Gilger who appears in the Moravian Church records in 1788, on the occasion of the birth of Gottlieb's first child, is conjecture. There is no death recorded of a Catharine Ilger. All Moravian records refer to Gottlieb's wife as Elizabeth. Regardless, Gottlieb and Elizabeth had two sons and a daughter. Neither son appears to have followed in his father's trade. The U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 lists Gottlieb as owning a 15' x 40' log house on the south side of King Street. In 1785 he purchased the "Indian Queen" tavern (figure 10) that stood on East King Street above Church Street, later the site of the old Eastern Market. In 1787 he lost the building to a sheriff's sale.¹⁰ He was just one of a number of Lancaster County clockmakers (approximately 10% of the total) who either owned or managed an inn or tavern in addition to maintaining the clockmaking trade. Perhaps this double life gave them an edge in selling their clock movements to those moving westward.

Fellow clockmaker Martin Shreiner helped conduct the inventory of Gottlieb's estate. Included are the tools of his trade (still valued at £11.5), two clockmaker's signs, a machine for drawing wire, and some blacksmith tools. There is no clock.

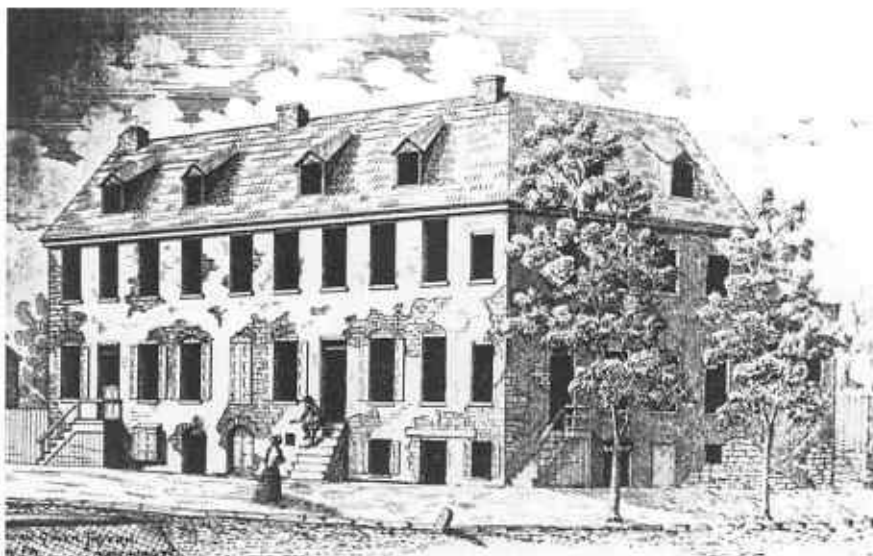


Figure 10. Indian Queen Tavern, one of 18th century Lancaster's largest buildings.
(Lancaster County Historical Society)

Gottlieb remains an enigma: nothing more has been discovered about him. He appears to have avoided partaking in civic matters.

As far as is known, he made only tall case movements. The only movement that the author has studied (figure 11) is, like his half brother's, in the English tradition. Obviously one should not assume that all other examples are identical to the one studied. It should be mentioned that the example studied has rectangular pieces removed from the bottom edges of the movement plates, thus creating feet which are thought by some to provide better stability for the movement when it is attached to the seat board. In attempting to answer the question as to how many clock movements Gottlieb made in his twenty years in the trade, we are handicapped in that neither of the examples noted carried a "serial" number on their dial. Since the author has only noted two examples in some seventeen years, the educated guess is that there were no more than two to four dozen made. Because no advertisements have been discovered to date, it is impossible to know just how Eberman managed to make a living after he lost the Indian Queen Tavern.

Jacob Eberman (4 Feb. 1773—9 Mar. 1828)

Jacob was the first born of clockmaker John Eberman, Jr., and his first wife Elizabeth Frank. The earliest mention of his being a clockmaker is in the entry for his marriage in the Lancaster Moravian Church records of 1794. Two years later his career was effectively ended when he lost a hand

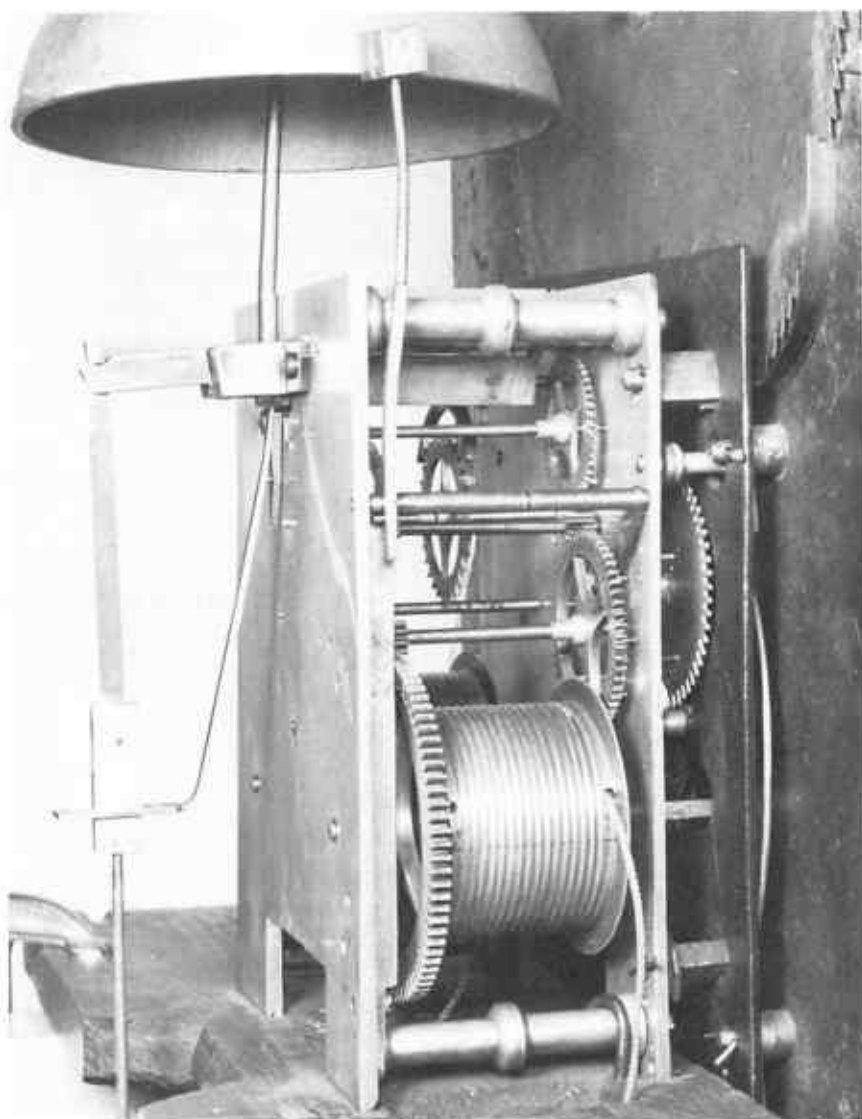


Figure 11. Gottlieb Eberman 8-day tall case movement. (Private collection)

while helping his father change the hands of the courthouse clock. There is a gap in the extant tax records for the period 1798-1799, however in 1800 and 1801 his trade is given as "grocery store." From 1802 through 1807 he was a store keeper and from 1808 through 1812 he was a tobacconist. Curiously, in 1813 he was once more listed as a clockmaker. He does not appear in the 1814 list, but reappears in 1815 as a cooper and then is not seen again. The 1820 Federal census for the Commonwealth, lists only one Jacob Eberman and he is in Derry township in nearby Dauphin County. His next ap-

pearance in Lancaster County is on the occasion of his death which is recorded in the Lancaster Moravian Church burial records as having occurred on 9 March 1828. The *Lancaster Journal* carried his death notice but did not state his place of death.⁴¹ Apparently there was no obituary. He died intestate. No portrait is known to exist.

Jacob and his wife Elizabeth, born Ganter, had ten children of whom only four survived him. None became clockmakers. While he lived in Lancaster Borough, he served as town clerk in 1802,⁴² County treasurer in 1803,⁴³ administrator and treasurer of the poor with the House of Employment of the County in 1807 and 1808,⁴⁴ and obtained 410 subscriptions in the village of New Holland for the Farmers Trust Co.,⁴⁵ the bank with which his brother, John, served as cashier. He was also commissioned as a justice of the peace, although never acting in that capacity, and served as land agent for many years, effecting land titles for the owners of property while the land office was in Lancaster.⁴⁶

Due to the early end of his clockmaking career, his production would necessarily be very limited: perhaps only a dozen. The author knows of only one example. It is in the English tradition, has sweep seconds and calendar hands, grooved drums, and turned brass pillars with thin center knobs.

Joseph Eberman (2 Dec. 1785—1 Mar. 1860)

Joseph was the seventh child born to John and Elizabeth Frank Eberman and the second son to bear that name, the earlier having died in infancy. He was baptized in the Moravian church on 4 Dec. 1785. Joseph was the second of the sons to follow in his father's clockmaking footsteps. As with his older brother Jacob, we do not know with whom he apprenticed, but it is possible that they both served under their father. As to be expected, he made his first appearance in the Lancaster Borough tax list in 1808 when he was twenty-three. He was in the "freeman" section and remained there through 1813, the year he married Anna Maria Thomas, also of Lancaster. His trade was always either clockmaker or watchmaker. Even when he made his will⁴⁷ in 1851 his trade is given as "watch-maker."

Joseph conducted business in the third block of North Queen Street. An ad from his earliest days (figure 12) states that in addition to making and repairing clocks and watches, he also maintained an assortment of new watches, watch keys, and seals. Twenty-eight years later another ad (figure 13) advised that he was still at the "old stand" in North Queen Street near the railroad.⁴⁸ By 1841 there was a demand for more than "Brass Eight Day and Thirty Hour, of the old stamp" (i.e., tall case clocks), and the ad offers the fourteen-day mantle clock (possibly of French manufacture) that had gained popularity, in addition to New England or "Yankee" brass and wood movement clocks. These mass-produced clocks had basically already brought

Joseph Eberman,

Clock and Watch-maker.

GRATEFUL for the encouragement which he has received—returns thanks to his friends and customers, and informs them that he has removed his shop to North Queen-street, opposite to Mr. Benjamin Schaum's, where he makes and repairs clocks and watches of every description.—Likewise keeps a good assortment of new watches, keys, seals, &c. for sale at the most reasonable prices.

He flatters himself that from a strict attention to business and making good work, he will continue to merit the patronage of the public.

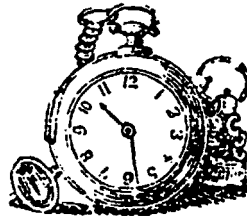
April 8.

59-tf.

Figure 12. Joseph Eberman ad, *Lancaster Journal*, 8 April 1813. (Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society)

CLOCKS! CLOCKS!! CLOCKS!!!

JOSEPH EBERMAN & SON,



CLOCKS

AND

WATCH-MAKERS,

RESPECTFULLY inform their friends and the public generally that they have and will constantly keep on hand a variety of well assorted

CLOCKS & TIME-PIECES,

such as Mantle Clocks, running two weeks; Brass Eight Day and Thirty Hour, of the old stamp, manufactured by them. Also, a general assortment of Patent Lever, Plain, English and Swiss Watches; Chains, Keys and Seals; Music Boxes; Silver Spoons; Spectacles and Silver Pencils.

They have just received an assortment of New-England, Brass and Wood eight day and thirty hour clocks, which they offer at fair prices for cash.

J. E. & SON continue their business of repairing and cleaning Clocks and Watches at their old stand in North Queen street, near the Railroad.
Lancaster, March 24, 1841.

6in-16

Figure 13. Joseph Eberman & Son ad, *Lancaster Examiner & Herald*, 24 March 1841. (Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society)

to an end the handcrafted tall case movement production in America. It is quite likely that Eberman's tall clock movements by this time were all imported from England. Clock dials bearing his name, probably as early as the 1830's, were attached to movements stamped with the names of English manufacturers such as J. E. Bagnall and Wm. Vale who were situated in Birmingham and Lichfield respectively.⁸ Yet another supplier has been noted, a front plate being stamped "Baker." Baker is currently unidentified.

To the author's knowledge, movements made by Eberman were entirely 8-day and 30-hour time and strike tall case movements (figure 14). Examples are in both the German and English traditions. Often sweep seconds and calendar hands are used. A form of the Lapaute pinwheel escapement has been observed on a few of the 8-day movements. It is common to find that either a rectangular or trapezoidal piece has been cut out from the bottom edges of the front and back plates resulting in "feet" for better movement stability. Although his early movement dials carry no serial numbers, later ones do, therefore making it difficult to know just how many movements he produced. In 1989 one bearing the number 372 was sold at auction in Lancaster. The dials of his tall clocks have been noted signed "Joseph Eberman," "Joh Eberman," and "J. Eberman" (figure 15). Whether he worked much after 1850 is hard to say. A metal sign attached to his father's 1785 Lancaster courthouse clock movement lists Joseph as having "remodeled" that movement in 1854. His son Henry Frank Eberman (q.v.) ran an ad in April 1848 stating that he was successor to his father at the old stand in North Queen Street,⁹ implying that Joseph had retired.

Between 1814 and 1835 Joseph and his wife Anna Maria Thomas had five sons and five daughters. Two daughters did not survive infancy. Sons George David, Henry Frank, and Charles Frederick, (q.v.) followed in the watch and clockmaking trade. For most of their marriage, the couple resided on the east side of North Prince Street above Chestnut. According to the local history written in 1883, although he lived nearly seventy-five years, his only noteworthy civic activity was to serve on a committee of three charged with inspecting the new bell being cast for the new Duke street courthouse in 1853.¹¹ The charter of the Lancaster Moravian Church names Joseph to the board of trustees to serve until 25 December 1856¹² and the entry in the church records for his burial states that he had been a church officer for many years.¹³ Joseph died on 1 March 1860.

William Eberman (3 Sep. 1787—?)

Yet another second generation Eberman clockmaker has been uncovered. In 1987 an 8-day tall case clock with the dial lettered "Wm. Eberman/Lanc.

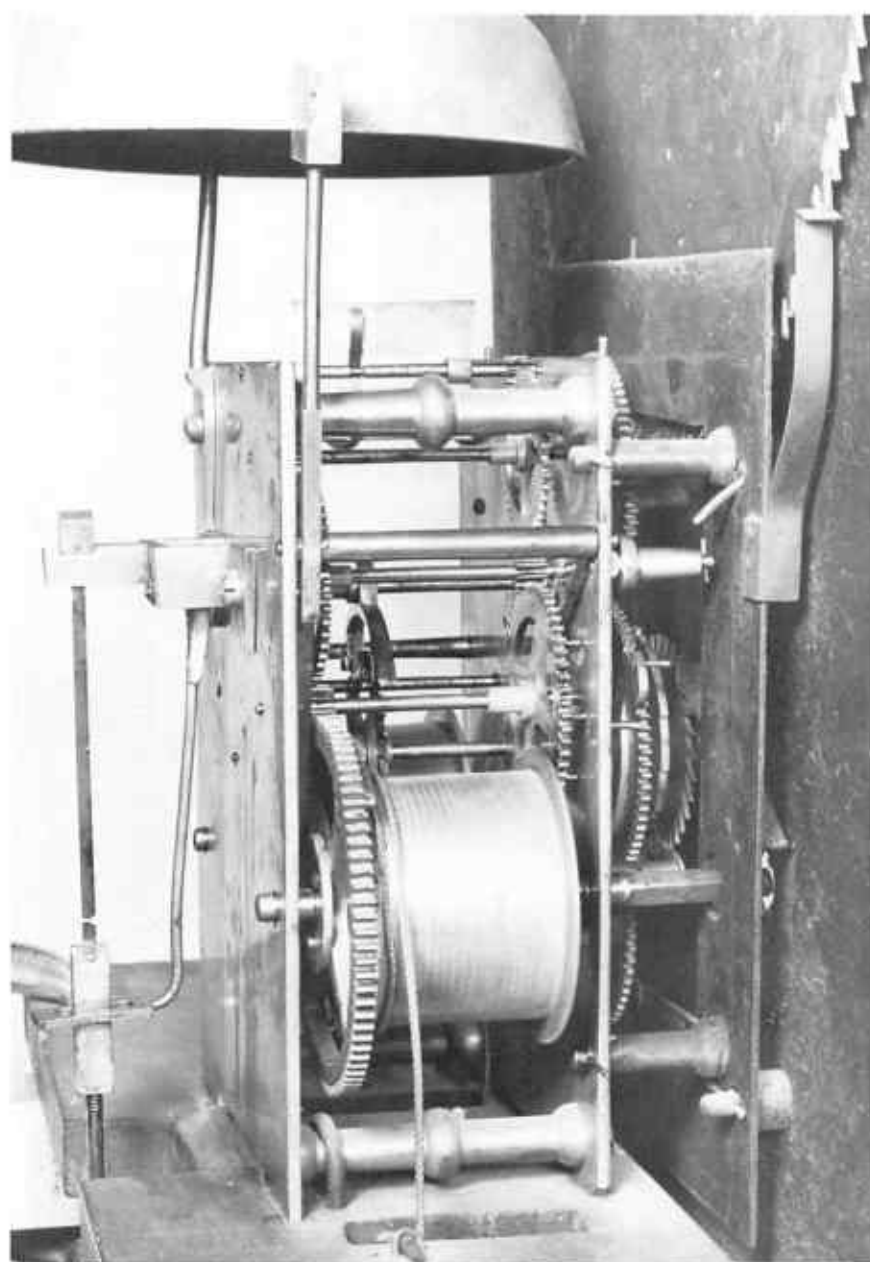


Figure 14. Joseph Eberman 8-day tall case movement. (Private collection)

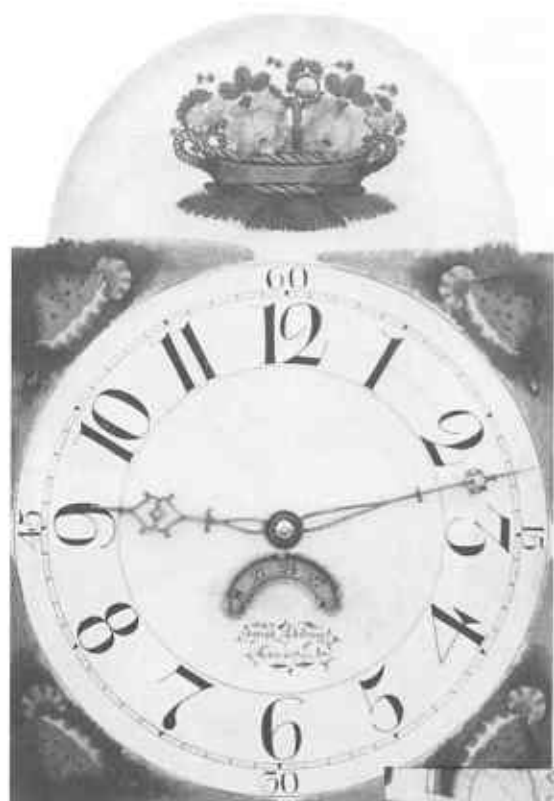


Figure 15a. Dial for Joseph Eberman 30-hour movement. (Private collection)

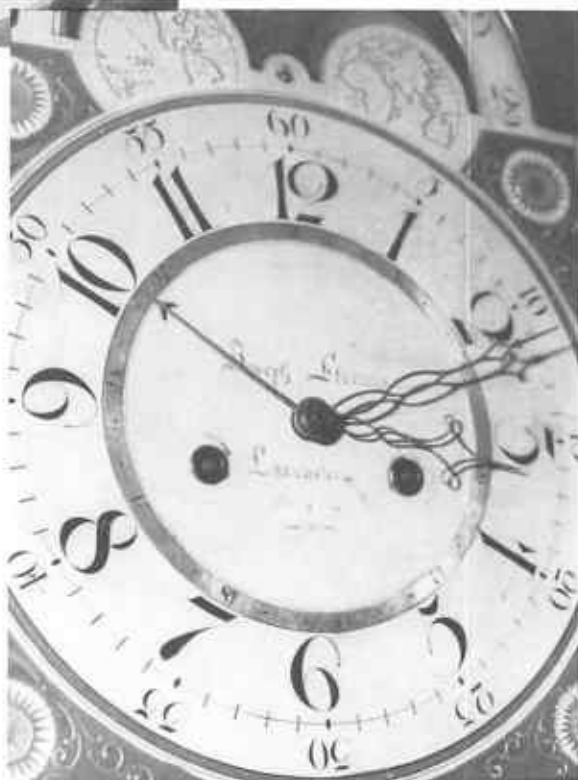


Figure 15b. White (painted) dial of Joseph Eberman 8-day tall case clock bearing the serial number 1. The sweep seconds hand is missing. (Private collection)

Pa./1836" was exhibited at an antique show in Lancaster. The author reexamined the tax records to no avail. It was only while working out the Eberman family genealogy for this article that an entry was discovered in the Lancaster Moravian Church marriage book stating that William Eberman, a son of John and Elizabeth Frank Eberman, who married Caroline Elizabeth Lembke on 10 July 1814, was a cigarmaker *and* clockmaker.⁴ Although this certainly answers the question as to whom the clockmaker William Eberman was, it raises other questions.

William was always listed as a tobacconist from his first listing in the tax records through 1825. In the next surviving tax list (1829) he does not appear. In Rupp's history of the county there is mention of a William Eberman being a minister at Lititz.⁵ William is further identified in a biographical record of the Rev. Clarence E. Eberman wherein it states that his grandfather William, the grandson of Johannes Eberman who came from Germany in 1732, was born in Lancaster and became a missionary of the Moravian Church. He was sent to Santa Cruz in the West Indies where he remained for several years. On returning to Lancaster he then occupied a prominent position in church circles and had charge of church property at Lititz and Nazareth (PA).⁶

William is recorded in the Lancaster Moravian Church records as having married twice. First to Caroline Elizabeth Lembke in 1814 with whom he had two daughters. After her death due to "nervous fever" in 1818, he married Charlotte Wilhelmina Lembke (His sister-in-law?). This marriage probably took place in 1819, because their first born arrived in April 1820. The list of burials in the Moravian cemetery in Lititz records that the second wife died in April of 1823.⁷ Since the biographical record about Clarence E. goes on to name his father as being Jacob F. Eberman who was born in the West Indies, we must assume that William married a third time. It is stated that Jacob F. died in Bethlehem, PA, in 1879 at the age of fifty-three.⁸ The date and place of William's death are not given. According to the biographical record, Clarence E. Eberman went on to become the pastor of the Lancaster Moravian Church. Giving the implications of this information, the date of 1836 and the place name "Lanc. Pa." on the sole known clock bearing William Eberman's name is certainly curious. Because only one example appears to be known, we can only assume that his clock production was extremely limited. Perhaps William had no formal training in clockmaking, but watched his father and brothers at work long enough to know the proper methods. The fact that the church records refer to him as also being a clockmaker suggests that he must have been sufficiently involved as early as 1814 to warrant mention. This was some twenty-two years before the noted example claims to have been made. The author was not able to inspect the movement.

George David Eberman (13 Mar. 1818—2 Jan. 1870)

George David Eberman was the first of the third generation of clockmaking Ebermans. There are three in this generation and all are sons of Joseph and Anna Maria Thomas Eberman.

George “entered the lists” as a freeman in 1839. He was in all probability the “& Son” in his father’s ad of 24 March 1841. On 17 April 1844, he ran an ad of his own (figure 16) announcing the opening of a new clock and watch shop in West King street next door to the Cross Keys Hotel.⁵⁹ In April 1861 he was mustered into Company F of the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Regiment as a private.⁶⁰ The regiment was mustered out on 7 August and in August of the next year he became a private in Company B of the Pennsylvania 122nd Regiment in which he stayed until mustered out with the regiment on 15 May 1863.⁶¹

This clockmaker apparently assigned serial numbers to all of his movements and number 18 is the highest number known to the author. Number 4 has a separate quarter-hour chime movement mounted along side of the basic 8-day time and strike movement. His movements are in the English tradition and, like his father, he provided his movements with feet by removing rectangular pieces from the bottom edges of the plates (figure 17). His production may have amounted to two or three dozen movements. His dials are normally “signed” “Geo. Eberman.”

When he died in 1870 at the age of 51, whoever recorded his burial found it necessary to state that George had died a “victim of intemperance” who had “reformed and seemed truly penitent.”⁶² There is no evidence that he ever married.

Henry Frank Eberman (9 Apr. 1823—27 Feb. 1851)

The second son of Joseph Eberman to become a clock and watchmaker was baptized Heinrich Frank (Frank obviously honoring his grandmother Elizabeth nee Frank). On 1 March 1848 he advertised that he was successor to Joseph Eberman and that he was located at “the Old Stand in North Queen Street, directly opposite the Bee Hive Store.”⁶³ The ad stated that besides clocks and watches he also carried gold and silver “Lever, Lepine, English and Quaterne Watches” as well as gold pencils, gold bracelets, finger rings, table spoons, spectacles, and “accordeons [*sic*] with screw keys.”

An 8-day time and strike tall case clock with dial marked “Henry F. Eberman/Lancaster/No. 45” has been reported by the owner in Harrisburg. The serial number would suggest that at least forty-four other clocks were made. To date, the movement has not been examined by the author.

Henry Frank Eberman married ----- Wiley in May 1850 and died the following February, apparently childless, of consumption.⁶⁴

NEW CLOCK

AND WATCH ESTABLISHMENT.

GEORGE D. EBERMAN, respectfully informs the citizens of Lancaster city and county, that he has opened a new shop in West King Street, next door to J. Eshleman's, Cross Keys Hotel, where he has on hand a large assortment of

Clocks and Watches, Silver Spoons, Spectacles, Chains, Keys, Seals, Jewelry, &c., all of which he will sell low for CASH. Cull and see and judge for yourselves.

N. B. Clocks and Watches repaired and warranted. Glasses put into Spectacles.

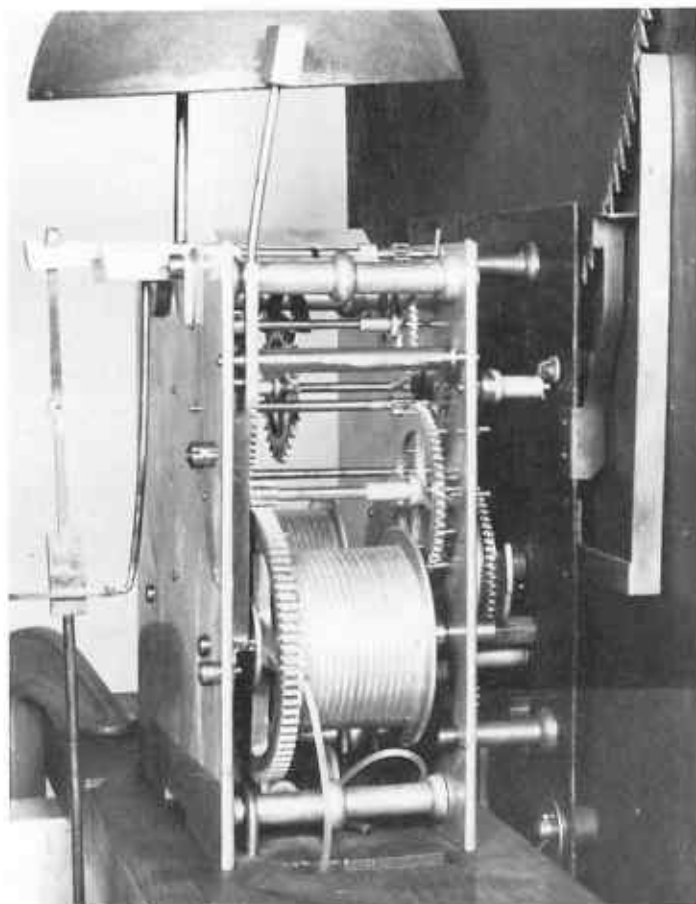
Don't forget the place, next door to J. Eshleman's Cross Keys Hotel.

April 17, 1844.

31st. 20

Figure 16. George D. Eberman ad, *Lancaster Examiner & Herald*, 17 April 1844. (Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society)

Figure 17. George D. Eberman 8-day tall case movement. (Private collection)



Charles Frederick Eberman (2 Apr. 1830—9 Apr. 1888)

The final entry in the Eberman “cloctet” is that of Joseph’s last son, Charles Frederick. By the time he entered the trade around 1850, there would have been little call for the tall case clock. The “Yankee” mass-produced shelf or wall clock had long before become the more desirable, especially since its purchase price was much less. It would therefore be quite unusual if a tall case clock should ever surface carrying Charles’ name. It would also be a surprise if he was serious when he stated in an ad he placed circa 1850 (figure 18) that his father “Joseph Eberman, well known throughout the county, still attends to manufacturing and repairing all kinds of clocks. Orders left at my establishment will be punctually attended to.”⁶⁵ Although the ad implies that his father had not retired and was still “manufacturing,” Charles apparently was trying to make the point that his brother Henry F. should not get all of the clients that had frequented their father’s shop. Later, a city directory of 1857 placed Charles’ shop at 49 North Queen Street.⁶⁶

Charles F. Eberman was a graduate of the old Franklin College in Lancaster (the modern Franklin & Marshall College),⁶⁷ left the trade to become the city’s second letter carrier, became a clerk in the county assessor’s office and when that office was merged into the U.S. Collector’s office he became the first Deputy Revenue Collector of the Ninth Pennsylvania District. Because he was an ardent Republican he was forced out when Cleveland was elected President. Next he became Deputy Recorder and died in office.⁶⁸ He

**STILL AT THE
OLD ESTABLISHED STAND.**

Now is the time for Bargains at the cheap Clock,
Watch and Jewelry Establishment, in NORTH
QUEEN ST. nearly opposite Vankinon's hotel.

CHARLES F. EBERMAN will sell Clocks,
Watches and Jewelry cheaper than ever,
and will warrant to be what they are sold for.
He has constantly on hand a large assortment
of Goods, such as

*Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, Gold Pens and
Pencils, Spectacles, Thimbles, Spoons and
Butter Knives, Chains, Keys, & Accordions.*

The subscriber would here state, that his Father,
Joseph EBERMAN, well known throughout the county,
still attends to manufacturing and repairing all kinds
of Clocks. Orders left at my establishment will be
punctually attended to.

Particular attention paid to repairing all kinds of
Watches, Jewelry, Accordions, &c.

Give me a call and examine for yourselves.

J. F. 26. 3in **CHARLES F. EBERMAN.**

Figure 18. Charles F. Eberman ad circa 1850,
newspaper and exact date unknown.

was also a member of the Lancaster School Board for 18 years and had just been reelected at the time of his death; was secretary of the School Board for two terms; a leader in his ward; a member of the Odd Fellows;⁶⁹ and a member of the Washington Fire Company in Lancaster City from 1868 through 1880.⁷⁰

He had married Christina Catherina Erisman of Lancaster and they were the parents of three boys and three girls, only one son and one daughter surviving him. The son, Henry (Harry) Francis, became a successful Lancaster City physician.⁷¹ Charles F. Eberman's death was due to typhoid fever.⁷² No portrait or photograph of him has been discovered.

Recapitulation

Eight Ebermans entered the ranks of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania clockmakers. With two known exceptions, the two tower clock mechanisms made by the earliest clockmaker, John, Jr., all movements known by the author to have been produced by this family were of the brass 30-hour or 8-day tall case variety. Although both John, Jr. and his son Joseph are known to have made movements in both the English and German design, one would expect to find movements by the other family members in the English style. One would normally also expect to find either rectangular or trapezoidal cut outs on the bottom edges of the movement plates. Regardless of the style in which they were made, one would also expect the 30-hour movements to use full ratcheting wheel(s) on the great wheel(s) (figure 19) instead of a flopping "cannon" or a hoop spring cam.

One musical and quarter-hour chime clock are associated with John, Jr. Knowing that two members of the contemporary Hoff family (George, Sr., and his son John) each produced at least one spring powered "chamber" or bracket clock and that John Hoff also made at least one gallery or wall clock, it is possible that some examples of these two styles, which are rare in late 18th and early 19th century American handcrafted production history, may have been produced by members of the Eberman family. Also, it is quite likely that New England shelf clocks from the mid-19th century might carry paste-over labels bearing the name of an Eberman as "maker" or "manufacturer."

The reader may ask, in addition to these eight men, what would attract more than one hundred other clockmakers to settle in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania during this period. It is the old saw: location, location, location. Lancaster County was in the middle of the "bread basket" of the Colonies and was inhabited by prosperous farmers. The county was also on a major direct route to the ferries of the Susquehanna River that led to the opening west and pioneers stopped in Lancaster on the way. Lancaster Borough was also growing: from 1760 to the early nineteenth century Lancaster was the largest inland

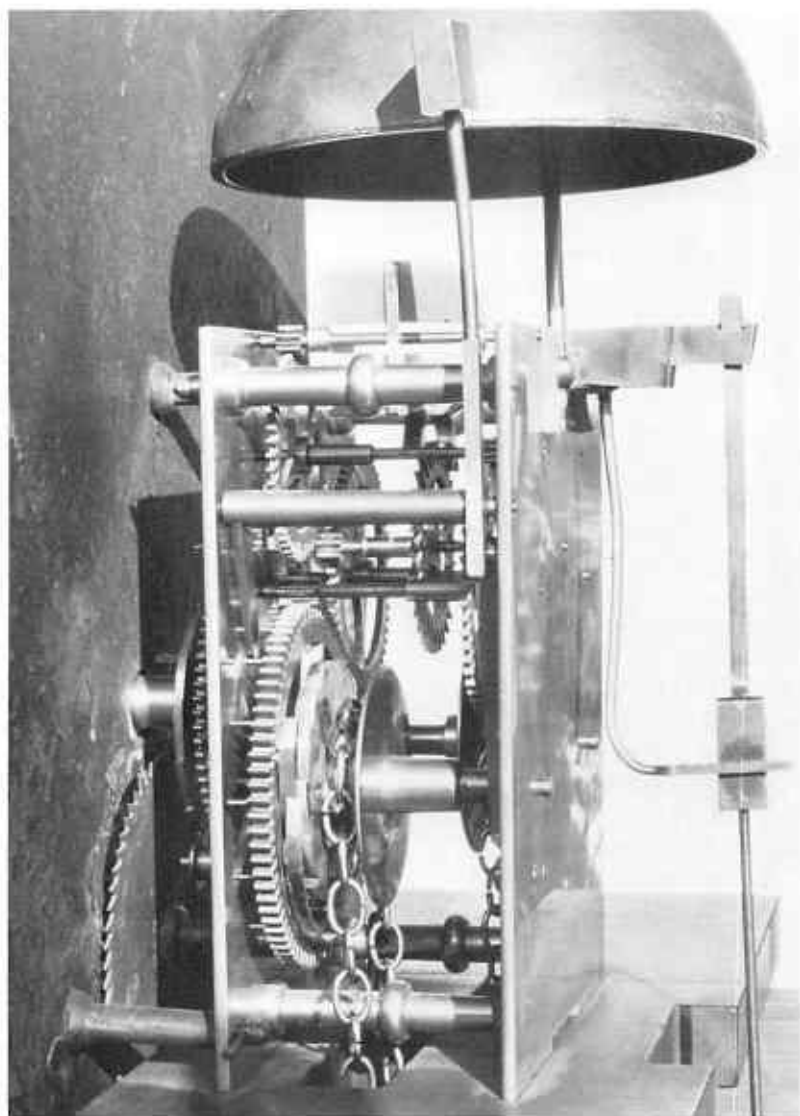


Figure 19. Joseph Eberman 30-hour movement in German tradition. (Private collection)

borough in America.⁷¹ A turnpike connecting Philadelphia and Lancaster was completed in 1794 and regular stage coach service, supported by a number of taverns and inns, operated between the two cities and points further west.⁷² The Commonwealth's earliest railroad, which began operation in 1834, ran from



Figure 20. View down North Queen Street from Chestnut near Joseph and Henry F. Eberman's "Old Stand" in the late 1830s. (Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society)

Philadelphia to Columbia on the Susquehanna River, passing through Lancaster City (figure 20). As a result, a single family of eight clockmakers like the Ebermans could produce some eight hundred tall clock movements during their careers.

Thus ends the story of the clockmakers Eberman, a story that covers the entire century of handcrafted clockmaking in the Borough/City of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In addition to these eight descendants of Johannes Eberman who came to Lancaster from Schwaigern, near Heilbronn, Germany in 1743, there were other descendants who went into various other trades or professions: tobacconist, shoemaker, gunsmith, storekeeper, saddler, tavern keeper, bank treasurer/cashier, lumber merchant, constable, cabinetmaker, tinsmith, stone cutter, physician, photographer, and confectioner. The family generally stayed in urban Lancaster until the last half of the nineteenth century, each making his or her contribution to the livelihood of the borough/city. Where once the names of ten Ebermans had appeared in the 1832 Lancaster city directory, a century later, with the death of Charles F. Eberman's daughter Naomi, there were none. But the name has not disappeared from Lancaster: Many of the old clocks still tick on as they will probably continue to do so for centuries more to come.



Figure 21. 30-hour tall case clock with John Eberman movement. (Watch & Clock Museum of the NAWCC)



Figure 22. 8-day tall case clock with George D. Eberman movement. (Private collection)

Endnotes

1. Ross, Anne. *The Pagan Celts*, Totowa, NJ: Barnes & Noble Books, 1986, p. 130.
2. Mollett, J.W. *An Illustrated Dictionary of Antique Art and Archaeology*, 1883, Rpt. London: Omega Books, Ltd., 1987, p. 127.
3. "Burial Records Books I & II, 1745-1875," Lancaster Moravian Church, Lancaster, PA, Burial #499, Collection of the Lancaster County Historical Society.
4. Wood, Stacy B.C., Jr., "Rudy Stoner, 1728-1769: Early Lancaster, Penna., Clockmaker," *Journal of the Lancaster Co. Historical Soc.*, Vol. 80, No. 2 (Easter, 1976), pp. 112-127. Reprinted in the *Bulletin* of the NAWCC, Vol. 19, Whole Number 186, pp. 21-32.
5. Wood, Stacy B.C., Jr., "The Hoff Family: Master Clockmakers of Lancaster Borough," *Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society*, Vol. 81, No. 4 (Michaelmas, 1977), pp. 169-225.
6. Strassburger, Ralph B. & Hinke, William John, ed. *Pennsylvania German Pioneers*, Norristown, PA: Penna. German Society, 1934, Vol. 1, pp. 73, 74, 77.
7. *Ibid.*, p. 74
8. Wood, Stacy B.C., Jr. & Kramer, Stephen E., III, *Clockmakers of Lancaster County and Their Clocks 1750-1850*, New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., 1977, pp. 11, 13..
9. "Marriage Records," Lancaster Moravian Church, Bk. I, Marriage #1, 27 Dec 1743, Collection of the Lancaster County Historical Society.
10. Loose, John Ward Wilson. *The Heritage of Lancaster*, Woodland Hills, CA: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1978, p. 21
11. Ellis, Franklin & Evans, Samuel, *History of Lancaster County, Penna.*, 1883, Rpt. Evansville, IN: Unigraphic, Inc., 1974, p. 470.
12. Ritter, Abraham. *History of the Moravian Church in Philadelphia*, Philadelphia: Hayes & Zell, 1857, p. 34
13. Watson, John F. *Annals of Philadelphia, and Pennsylvania in the Olden Time*, 1857, Rev. Philadelphia: Edwin S. Stuart, 1900, p. 455.
14. Loose, *The Heritage of Lancaster*, p. 23.
15. Iscrupe, Wm. L. and Iscrupe, Shirley G.M., eds. *Portrait and Biographical Record of Lancaster Co., Penna.*, 1894, Rpt. SW Penna. Genealogical Society, 1988, p. 413.
16. The Eberman family genealogy is appended as Appendix A with appropriate dates and sources given therein and thus this information will not be duplicated in the text.
17. "Deed of Sale from Gabriel Lemle & Ux to John Everman [sic]" (executed 7 May 1744), Lancaster County, PA, Deed Bk Z, p. 340, Lancaster County Courthouse.
18. *Lancaster Journal*, 12 June 1802, p. 3, col. 4.
19. Sanderson, Alfred, *History of the Union Fire Company No. 1, 1760-1879*, Lancaster: Inquirer Publishing Co., 1879, p. 15.
20. The author claims descent through this line.
21. Lots were often sold by the half lot.
22. Loomes, Brian, *The White Dial Clock*, Newton Abbot: David & Charles Limited, 1974, p. 27.
23. "Memo" by Donald J. Summar, Librarian, Watch and Clock Museum of the NAWCC, based on a phone conversation with the Rev. Mark Herr, Assistant Pastor, Nazareth Moravian Church, 2 May 1981. According to Moravian records, the tower clock was made by John Eberman of Lancaster in 1785. A tower, or cupola, was added to the old Nazareth Moravian Church in 1785 and the tower clock was installed therein and dedicated that same year. In 1861 it was moved to the new Moravian church building.
24. Brass dials, which preceeded the "white" or painted dials, may have been engraved in the clockmaker's shop or at an engraver's shop, but white dials were manufactured by

"japanners" or painters and sold, often in bulk, to the clockmakers. The maker's name and location could be painted on by the dial manufacturer or by a local artist.

25. County Commissioners' Minutes, 1788, items 5, 20, 43, and 53, Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society.

26. Bailey, Chris H., *Two Hundred Years of American Clocks & Watches*, Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1975, p. 191.

27. "Account Book 1764-1817 of Jasper Yeates," page 12, entry of 23 June 1777. Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society.

28. The year in which this event occurred is disputed. Depositions taken from Caleb Cope and John Rummell are subscribed with the date 13 July 1784 and refer to the event as happening on the "9th day of July Instant." A letter from John Hubley to John Dickinson in Philadelphia is quoted in Ellis & Evans (op. cit.) and carries the date of June 11, 1784.

29. Ellis & Evans, *History of Lancaster Co.*, p. 204

30. Ibid., p. 205.

31. Ibid., p. 205.

32. Ibid., p. 374.

33. In the Will (H-2-439) of grandson Albert Frank Eberman there is mention of a "high case musical clock made by my grandfather John Eberman, deceased." According to the will, the clock had been left to Albert F.'s sister Mary Louisa Eberman Hawthorn (3.3.2) by their father John (3.3). At her death, she had left it to her daughter Mary Virginia Hawthorn (3.3.2.1). What became of it is unknown. The inventory of John (3.3) Eberman's estate lists "A chiming 8 day clock with case." Since neither Albert F. Eberman nor the appraisers of John's estate were clockmakers, and realizing that the general public does not generally know the difference between a "chiming" (i.e., playing a short series of notes on each quarter hour) and a "musical" (i.e., playing a complete tune on the hour from a selection of as many as 10 tunes on a large barrel or drum) clock, it is possible that the two clocks might be one and the same and have either one of the two functions.

34. A full description of both English and German tradition movements appears in Wood and Kramer, *Clockmakers of Lancaster County*, pp. 135-142.

35. Ellis & Evans, *History of Lancaster Co.*, p. 371.

36. Advertisement, *Lancaster Zeitung*, 27 Jul. 1791.

37. *Lancaster Union*, 20 Jan. 1835.

38. 1835 Inventory of John Eberman, Deceased. Lancaster County Historical Society Archives.

39. Lancaster County Will X-1-37.

40. "Deed of Sale from John Miller, Sheriff to Michael Bartgis." (executed 4 Sep 1787), Lancaster County, PA, Deed Book GG, pp. 49-51.

41. *Lancaster Journal*, Friday 14 Mar. 1828, p. 2.

42. Ellis & Evans, *History of Lancaster Co.*, p. 374.

43. Ibid, p. 216.

44. *Lancaster Journal*, 5 Jun. 1807 and 4 Mar. 1808.

45. Ibid, 25 Jan. 1810.

46. Harris, Alex., *Biographical History of Lancaster County*, Lancaster: Elias Barr & Co., 1822, p. 172.

47. "Will of Joseph Eberman," 14 Apr. 1851, Lancaster Co., PA, Will Book X-1, p. 37.

48. In the early 1830's, the railroad from Philadelphia to Columbia was brought into Lancaster City to the intersection of North Queen and Chestnut streets, today the location of the Public Safety building, before heading out to the northwest. The "Son" of the partnership was in all probability George David Eberman (q.v.).

49. Loomes, Brian, *Watchmakers & Clockmakers of the World*, 2 (London: N.A.G. Press Limited, 1976), pp. 10 & 239.

50. *Lancaster Examiner & Herald*, 26 Apr. 1848.
51. Ellis & Evans, *History of Lancaster Co.*, p. 207.
52. "Charter of the Lancaster Moravian Church," Section 8, Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society.
53. Lancaster Moravian Church burial record #983.
54. Lancaster Moravian Church marriages. #151.
55. Rupp, I. Daniel, *History of Lancaster County* (Spartanburg, SC: PA Reprint Society, 1984), p. 316.
56. Iscrupe & Iscrupe, eds., *Portrait and Biographical Record*, p. 413.
57. Beck, Abraham Reinke, "The Moravian Graveyards of Lititz, Pa., 1744-1905," p. 261. Archives of the Lancaster County Historical Society.
58. Iscrupe & Iscrupe, eds., *Portrait and Biographical Record*, p. 413.
59. *Lancaster Examiner & Herald*, 17 Apr. 1844.
60. Ellis & Evans, *History of Lancaster Co.*, p. 91.
61. *Ibid.*, p. 142.
62. Lancaster Moravian Church burial record #1063
63. *Lancaster Examiner & Herald*, 26 March 1848.
64. Lancaster Moravian Church burial record #891.
65. Photocopy of an ad placed in an unidentified newspaper on "Jy26."
66. Boyd, William H., comp., *Lancaster City Directory 1857*.
67. C.F. Eberman obituary, *Lancaster New Era*, 11 Apr. 1889.
68. Iscrupe & Iscrupe, eds. *Portrait and Biographical Record*, p. 319.
69. C.F. Eberman obituary, *Lancaster New Era*, 11 Apr. 1889.
70. Ellis & Evans, *History of Lancaster Co.*, p. 390.
71. Iscrupe & Iscrupe, eds. *Portrait and Biographical Record*, p. 316. The statement in this biographical sketch of Dr. H.F. Eberman, i.e., that his great grandfather John was a native of Ebermanstadt, Germany, is in error.
72. C.F. Eberman obituary, *Lancaster New Era*.
73. Loose, *Heritage of Lancaster*, p. 25.
74. Ellis & Evans, *History of Lancaster Co.*, p. 312.

Photo Credits

Figures 3, 5-9, 11-14, 15a, 16 and 17 are by Stephen E. Kramer III.

Figure 4 is courtesy of the Library, Watch and Clock Museum of the NAWCC.

Figures 10 and 18 are by Joseph H. Wood.

Figure 15b is by the author.

Appendix A

An Eberman Genealogy

184 Descendants

00 Johannes and Maria Elizabeth Hoffner Eberman, Arrived Philadelphia 18 Sep 1732

0 John Eberman, Sr., smith/soap boiler/tallow chandler; b. 18 Jul 1722, Schwaigern, Germany (LMCB 499); m. (1) 27 Dec 1743, Lancaster, PA, Anna Juliana Schweig (d.1753) (LMCM 1); m. (2) Anna Maria Xander (b. 16 Mar 1732, d. 11 Sep 1806); d. 26 Dec 1805, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 499)

1 Anna Dorthea, b. 3 Nov 1744, Lancaster, PA (LMCC p27) m. 8 Oct 1763, Lancaster, PA, Philip Hart (LMCM 63); d. Unknown

1.1 Philip, b. 1 Apr 1776, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 270); d. 2 Feb 1778, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 270)

1.2 Thomas, b. 26 Sep 1780, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 289); d. 15 Aug 1781, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 289)

1.3 Renatus, b. 15 Dec 1785, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 341); d. 5 Sep 1786, Lancaster, PA (LMC 341)

1.4 Salome, b. 6 Jul 1787, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 618); d. Unknown

2 Maria Philippina, b. 3 Mar 1747, Lancaster, PA (LMCC p27); m. 14 Mar 1768, Lancaster, PA, Henry Dehuff (b. 14 Sep 1738, d. 27 Nov 1800) (LMCM 66); d. 25 Mar 1795, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 405)

2.1 Henry, b. 9 Oct 1770, Lancaster, PA; d. Unknown (LMCB 405)

2.2 Elizabeth, b. 3 Feb 1772, Lancaster, PA; d. Unknown (LMCB 405)

Source Abbreviations

ENQ	= <i>Egles' Notes & Queries</i> Annual Volume
GSPA	= Journal of the Genealogical Society of Penna.
LCDA	= Lancaster County Death Affidavit
LCW	= Lancaster County Will
LDE	= <i>Lancaster Daily Express</i>
LI	= <i>Lancaster Intelligencer</i>
LJ	= <i>Lancaster Journal</i>
LMCC	= Lancaster Moravian Church Baptism
LMCM	= Lancaster Moravian Church Marriage
LMCB	= Lancaster Moravian Church Burial
LNE	= <i>Lancaster New Era</i>
MGL	= "Moravian Graveyards of Lititz, Pa."
PBRLC	= <i>Portrait & Biographical Record of Lancaster County</i>
TLCB	= Lancaster Trinity Lutheran Church Book

2.3 Catharina, b. 31 Dec 1773, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 405); m. (1) 19 May 1793, Lancaster, PA, Hilarius Ehrenzeller (b. 20 Jul 1771, d. Unknown) (LMCM 102); m. (2) 23 Sep 1804, Lancaster, PA, Sabastian Salade (LMCM 122); d. Unknown

2.4 Maria, b. 27 May 1776, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 886); m. (1) Thomas Lyons; m. (2) Conrad Yaisley; d. 22 Apr 1850, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 886)

2.5 Saloma, b. 9 Jan 1781, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 405); d. Unknown

2.6 Rebecca, b. 1 Nov 1783, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 405); d. Unknown

2.7 stillborn child

3 John, Jr., clockmaker/justice of peace, b. 2 Nov 1749, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 20); m. (1) 17 Apr 1772, Lancaster, PA, Elizabeth Frank (b. 13 Mar 1752, d. 10 May 1801) (LMCM 72); m. (2) 5 Dec 1802, Lancaster, PA, Anna Maria Demuth (b. 9 Nov 1768, d. 9 Jun 1828) (LMCM 117); d. 15 Jan 1835, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 765)

3.1 Jacob, clockmaker/store keeper, b. 4 Feb 1773, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 389); m. 25 Dec 1794, Elizabeth Ganter (b. 16 Aug 1777, d. 11 Jul 1866) (LMCM 107); d. 9 Mar 1828 (LMCB 718)

3.1.1 Peter Ganter, tobacconist, b. 13 Nov 1795, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 750); m. 26 Mar 1822, Lancaster, PA, Ann Elizabeth Trissler (b. 29 Dec 1801, d. 9 May 1883) (LMCM 208); d. 4 May 1879, Lancaster, PA (LNE 5/5/1879)

3.1.1.1 Ann Caroline, b. 28 Oct 1823, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1233); d. Unknown

3.1.1.2 George Augustus, b. 21 Jan 1825, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1254); d. 12 May 1845, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 842)

3.1.1.3 Catharina Amanda, b. 11 Aug 1827, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1307); d. Unknown

3.1.1.4 Harriet Louise, b. 3 Dec 1829, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1352); d. 11 Oct 1848, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 871)

3.1.1.5 Peter Ganter, jeweler/photographer, b. 24 Feb 1832, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1378); m. Susan Seibley (LMCC 1702); d. 21 Aug 1869, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1057)

3.1.1.5.1 Harriet Elizabeth, b. 22 Feb 1855, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1702)

3.1.1.5.2 Ella Caroline, b. 10 Sep 1856, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1729); d. Unknown

3.1.1.5.3 George Ganter, b. 3 Mar 1858, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1755); d. Unknown

3.1.1.6 Charles William, clerk/photographer, b. 2 Nov 1833, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1403); d. 18 Apr 1866, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1033)

3.1.1.7 Edwin, b. 1 Sep 1835, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1429); d. Unknown

3.1.1.8 Beata, b. 13 May 1840, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 808); d. 13 May 1840, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 808)

3.1.1.9 Albert Theodore, b. 20 Jun 1841, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1511); m. 16 May 1865, Lancaster, PA, Susan Catherine Miller (LMCM 550); d. 16 Mar 1866, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1041)

3.1.1.9.1 Bertha Amanda, b. 26 Apr 1866, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1838); d. Unknown

3.1.1.10 Henry Clay, tobacconist, b. 19 Sep 1844, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1548); d. 1 Feb 1875, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1094)

3.1.2 John, cabinetmaker, b. 2 Mar 1797, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 772); m. 2 May 1822, Lancaster, PA, Anna Maria Gumpf (b. Unknown, d. 12 Feb 1875) (LMCM 209); d. Unknown

3.1.2.1 Susanna Elizabeth, b. 3 Mar 1823, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1227); d. Unknown

3.1.2.2 Edmund Hagl, saddler, b. 4 Mar 1825, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1257); PA, Anna Maria Pinkerton (LMCC 1674); d. 16 Jan 1881, W. Lampeter Twp., Lancaster, PA (LCDA A-1-866)

- 3.1.2.3 Ann Catharine, b. 25 Sep 1826, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1289); d. Unknown
- 3.1.2.4 Daniel Frank, marble cutter, b. 12 Jul 1828, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1335); m. Ellenora Wilson (LMCC 1628); d. 31 Dec 1890, Lancaster, PA (LCDA C-1-663)
- 3.1.2.4.1 Anna Maria, b. 3 Jan 1851, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1628); d. Unknown
- 3.1.2.4.2 Susanna Elizabeth, b. 29 Sep 1853, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1674); d. Unknown
- 3.1.2.4.3 Mary Catharine, b. 16 May 1856, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1722); d. 22 Apr 1863, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1012)
- 3.1.2.4.4 John Augustus, stone cutter/cigarmaker, b. 12 Jan 1859, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1767); d. Unknown
- 3.1.2.4.5 Ellen Amelia, b. 14 Oct 1860, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1791); d. 20 Apr 1863, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1011)
- 3.1.2.5 Mary Magdelen, b. 5 Jan 1831, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1369); d. Unknown
- 3.1.2.6 Jacob Augustus, b. 7 Jul 1833, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1402); d. Unknown
- 3.1.3 Henry Augustus, gunsmith, b. 13 Jul 1799, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 805); d. 11 Sep 1882, Lancaster, PA (LNE 9/12/1882)
- 3.1.4 Frederick William, b. 10 Jul 1801, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 840); d. 24 Feb 1802, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 452)
- 3.1.5 Susanna Elizabeth, b. 31 Dec 1803, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 885); d. 5 Jun 1817, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 618)
- 3.1.6 Maria Henrietta, b. 28 Mar 1805, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 920); m. (1) 29 Jan 1828, Lancaster, PA, Joe Myers (ENQ 1897), m. (2) Elias Rohrer (LCW Y-1-542); d. Unknown
- 3.1.6.? John Myers (LCW Y-1-542)
- 3.1.7 Anna Catharina, b. 18 Apr 1808, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 959); d. 27 Sep 1808, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 526)
- 3.1.8 Maria Louisa, b. 2 Aug 1809, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 981); d. 11 Feb 1810, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 541)
- 3.1.9 Jacob Hagi, b. 9 Oct 1810, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1003); d. 3 Jul 1811, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 553)
- 3.1.10 stillborn daughter, b. 1 Jul 1812, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 564); d. 1 Jul 1812, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 564)
- 3.2 Anna Maria, b. 2 Mar 1775, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 415); d. 4 Apr 1776, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 253)
- 3.3 John, store keeper/bank treasurer, b. 12 Oct 1776, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 444); m. 21 Jun 1810, Lancaster, PA, Sara Elizabeth Fahnestock (b. 30 Jan 1789, d. 10 May 1865) (LMCB 1024); d. 25 Nov 1846, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 855)
- 3.3.1 George Fahnestock, b. 18 May 1811, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1011); d. 4 Oct 1813, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 579)
- 3.3.2 Maria Louisa, b. 14 Sep 1812, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1039); m. James C. Hawthorn; d. 17 Oct 1881 (LCW E-2-107)
- 3.3.2.? Mary Virginia (LCW H-2-439)
- 3.3.3 Charles Bishoff, b. 25 Jan 1815, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1082); d. 24 Dec 1831, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 746)
- 3.3.4 Gustavus Baker, b. 20 Feb 1819, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1165); d. 25 Aug 1820, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 648)
- 3.3.5 Edwin F. Schneider, machinist/lumber-brick merchant, b. circa 1816 (LMCC 1112); m. 11 Jun 1867, Lancaster, PA, Mary Elizabeth Baumgartner (LDE 6/12/1867); d. 15 Jun 1901, Lancaster, PA (LCDA H-1-44)

- 3.3.5.1 Mary Elizabeth, b. 22 Mar 1870, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1892); d. Unknown
- 3.3.5.2 Edwin Baumgartner, b. 12 Sep 1874, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1935); d. Unknown
- 3.3.6 Albert Frank, wholesale china, b. 18 Dec 1816, Lancaster, PA (LNE 1/19/89); d. 19 Jan 1889, Lancaster, PA (LCDA C-1-342)
- 3.3.7 Elizabeth Barbara, b. 8 May 1821, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1196); d. 28 Feb 1823, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 675)
- 3.3.8 Samuel Fahnestock, tobacconist, b. 26 Jul 1822, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1218); d. 5 May 1870, Lancaster, PA (LI 5/6/1870)
- 3.3.9 William Baker, b. 31 Dec 1823, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1235); d. 22 Sep 1844, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 838)
- 3.3.10 Edward Miller, bank cashier/clerk, b. 16 Jul 1826, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1285); m. Ella. L. ?; d. 8 Dec 1873, Strasburg, PA (LCDA C-1-598)
- 3.3.10.1 Frank P. (LCW H-2-439)
- 3.3.10.2 Edith (LCW H-2-439)
- 3.3.10.3 Ella (LCW H-2-439)
- 3.4 George, b. 30 Dec 1778, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 482); d. 3 Aug 1794, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 399)
- 3.5 Joseph, b. 15 Nov 1780, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 519); d. pre-Dec 1785, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 588)
- 3.6 Elizabeth, b. 24 Jan 1783, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 551); m. 6 Apr 1804, Lancaster, PA, Jacob Demuth (b. 9 Aug 1779, d. 12 Feb 1842) (LMCM 121); d. 28 Mar 1805, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 494)
- 3.6.1 Immanuel, b. 25 Dec 1804, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 900); d. Unknown
- 3.7 Joseph, clockmaker, b. 2 Dec 1785, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 588); m. 5 Sep 1813, Lancaster, PA, Anna Maria Thomas (b. 4 Apr 1792, d. 17 Sep 1873) (LMCM 146); d. 1 Mar 1860, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 983)
- 3.7.1 Charlotte Friedrica, b. 27 Jul 1814, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1072); m. 24 May 1842, Lancaster, PA, Benjamin Ricksecker (LMCM 377); d. Unknown
- 3.7.1.1 Charles Alfred, b. 1 Apr 1854, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1682); d. Unknown
- 3.7.2 John Joseph, laborer, b.—Dec 1815, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1109); d. 4 Mar 1888, Lancaster, PA (LNE 3/5/1888)
- 3.7.3 George David, clockmaker, b. 13 Mar 1818, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1143); d. 2 Jan 1870, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1063)
- 3.7.4 William Thomas, tailor, b. 21 Dec 1819, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1171); d. 5 Dec 1897 (LCDA G-1-462)
- 3.7.5 Anna Maria, b. 11 May 1821, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1197); d. 14 Jun 1822, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 667)
- 3.7.6 Henry Frank, clockmaker, b. 9 Apr 1823, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1228); m.—May 1850,—Wiley (LMCB 891); d. 27 Feb 1851 (LMCB 891)
- 3.7.6? Ada G. (LCW H-2-197)
- 3.7.7 Ann Therese, b. 5 Apr 1825, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1261); d. 25 Oct 1855, Harrisburg, PA (LMCB 937)
- 3.7.8 Maria Elizabeth, seamstress, b. 2 Feb 1827, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1304); d. Unknown
- 3.7.9 Charles Frederick Schaefer, watchmaker/letter carrier, b. 2 Apr 1830 (LMCC 1358); m. 29 Mar 1855, Lancaster, PA, Christine Erisman (b. 20 Mar 1834, d. Unknown) (LMCM 468); d. 9 Apr 1888, Lancaster, PA (LNE 4/11/88)

- 3.7.9.1 Henry Francis**, physician, b. 24 Sep 1856, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1728); m. 27 Sep 1887, Catharine Hostetter; d. Unknown
- 3.7.9.2 Charles Frederick**, b. 30 Jan 1859, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1761); d. 3 Mar 1859, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 970)
- 3.7.9.3 Mary Theresa**, b. 21 Feb 1862, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1802); d. 23 Jan 1866, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1029)
- 3.7.9.4 Bertha Elizabeth Amanda**, b. 27 Jun 1864, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1819); d. 21 Apr 1868, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 1047)
- 3.7.9.5 Naomi**, teacher, b. 8 Jan 1867, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1846); d. 12 May 1936 (LCW 0-3-375)
- 3.7.9.6 Charles Ernest**, b. 19 Jul 1872, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1910)
- 3.7.10 Josephine Martha**, b. 8 Jun 1835, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1425); d. 5 Aug 1835, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 770)
- 3.8 William**, cigarmaker/clockmaker/missionary, b. 3 Sep 1787, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 623); m. (1) 10 Jul 1814, Lancaster, PA, Caroline Elizabeth Lembke (b. 24 Jan 1795, d. 1 Aug 1818) (LMCM 151); m. (2) 1819, Charlotte Wilhelmina Lembke (b. 28 May 1793, d. 25 Apr 1823) (MGL 339); m. (3) Pre 1826 Unknown
- 3.8.1 Juliana Augusta**, b. 24 Aug 1815, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1097); d. Unknown
- 3.8.2 Sarah Elizabeth**, b. 21 Sep 1817, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1138); d. Unknown
- 3.8.3 Carolina Sophia**, b. 23 Apr 1820, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1179); d. 7 Jul 1820, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 646)
- 3.8.4 Francis William**, b. 8 Nov 1821, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1202); d. Unknown
- 3.8.5 Jacob F.**, b. circa 1826, West Indies; m. Cordelia Warner; d. 1879, Bethlehem, PA (PBRLC p413)
- 3.8.5.1 Name unknown**
- 3.8.5.2 Clarence Edgar**, minister, b. 17 Jul 1863, Bethlehem, PA (PBRLC p413); d. Unknown
- 3.8.5.3 Name Unknown**
- 3.9 Matthaus**, shoemaker/constable, b. 29 Oct 1789, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 663); m. 9 May 1813, Barbara Catharine Motter (GSPA, VIII, #1)
- 3.9.1 Marian Elizabeth**, b. 31 Mar 1814, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1070); d. Unknown
- 3.9.2 Samuel Frank**, b. 17 Oct 1815, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1106); d. Unknown
- 3.9.3 Susanna Carolina**, b. 25 Oct 1817, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1140); d. Unknown
- 3.9.4 Elisabeth Louisa**, b. 18 Feb 1817, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1181); d. Unknown
- 3.9.5 Beatus**, b. 24 Mar 1825, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 695); d. 24 Mar 1825, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 695)
- 3.10 Henry**, b. 10 Jan 1791, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 679); d. 10 Jan 1792, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 380)
- 3.11 George**, b. 26 Aug 1795, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 747); d. 21 Jul 1796, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 413)
- 3.12 Maria Elizabeth**, 18 Aug 1804, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 893); m. ? Pre Apr 1831, ? Leopold Gotta; d. Unknown
- 3.12.1 Nathan Paxton**, b. 7 Dec 1831, Huntingdon, PA (LMCC 1382); d. Unknown
- 3.12.2 Solomon Demuth**, b. 27 Nov 1834 (LMCC 1434)
- 3.13 Christopher Demuth**, b. 29 Jun 1807, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 939); d. Unknown
- 4 Christian**, b. 16 Jun 1752, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 64); m. circa 1779 Elizabeth Gilger (LMCB 293); d. Unknown

4.1 John, b. 4 Apr 1780, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 522); d. 14 Nov 1781, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 293)

5 stillborn daughter, b. 1 Jan 1756, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 116); d. 1 Jan 1756, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 77)

6 Matthaeus, b. 27 Apr 1757, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 133); d. 30 Jul 1758, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 88)

7 John Gottlieb, clockmaker, b. 28 May 1759, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 163); m. circa 1787, Elizabeth Gilger (b. Circa 1760, d. 8 Jan 1804) (LMCB 445); d. 5 May 1801, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 445)

7.1 Anna Maria, b. 2 Oct 1788, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 642); m. 11 Sep 1808, Daniel Gellwitz (LMCM 128); d. Unknown

7.1.1 Carl Friedrich, b. 17 Nov 1809, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 986)

7.2 Jacob, b. 28 May 1790, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 671); m. 18 May 1813, Jane Anderson (LJ 5/20/1813); d. Unknown

7.2.1 William Anderson, b. 11 Sep 1814 (LMCC 1071); d. Unknown

7.3 Abraham, b. 20 Dec 1791, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 696); d. 29 Feb 1804 (LMCB 479)

8 John Ludwig, b. 6 Sep 1761, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 201); d. 12 Oct 1765, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 147)

9 Philip, b. 8 Feb 1764, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 243); m. Susanna Miller (b. 16 Dec 1765), m. (2) 18 May 1873, Melville Yocum Fish (LMCM 613), (d. 3 Mar 1837); d. 1 Dec 1836, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 779)

9.1 John M., b. 1 Aug 1787, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 621); d. Unknown

9.2 George Adam, cabinetmaker, b. 27 Nov 1788, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 646); m. 1 Mar 1814, Lancaster, PA, Anna Margaretha Weber (the widow Schmidt) (LMCM 149); d. Unknown

9.2.1 Henry Weber, b. 9 Nov 1814, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1079); d. Unknown

9.2.2 William, b. 1816, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1121)

9.3 Maria Margaretha, b. 16 Oct 1790, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 676); circa 1826, John Daniel Protzman (d. pre. 1837); d. Unknown

9.3.1 Francis, b. 15 Jan 1819, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1166); d. Unknown

9.3.2 Margaret Ann Frederica, b. 23 Mar 1825, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1262); d. Unknown

9.4 Susanna Elizabeth, b. 13 Jul 1794, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 736); m. circa 1826, Joseph Schickley; d. Unknown

9.4.1 Mary Ann Miller, b. 19 Oct 1826, Harmony Hall, PA (LMCC 1295); d. Unknown

9.4.2 Clementine Hannah, b. 10 Oct 1828 (LMCC 1336); d. Unknown

9.4.3 Peter William, b. 5 Sep 1830 (LMCC 1374); d. Unknown

9.4.4 Margaret Elisabeth, b. 22 Jul 1833 (LMCC 1413); d. Unknown

9.4.5 Susan Catharine, b. 9 Mar 1836 (LMCC 1443)

9.5 Jacob Miller, b. 20 Mar 1797, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 773); m. 15 Jan 1824, Lancaster, PA, Sarah Schucker (see 12.1) (b. 10 Jan 1798, d. Unknown) (LMCM 223); d. Unknown

9.5.1 Reuben Jacob, b. 27 Nov 1824, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1248); d. Unknown

9.5.2 Amos Miller, b. 8 Sep 1826, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1287); d. Unknown

9.5.3 Daniel Philip, b. 28 Aug 1828, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1333)

9.6 William Frederick, tinsmith/innkeeper, b. 6 Feb 1803, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 866); m.

- 2 Jun 1833, Lancaster, PA, Elizabeth Steffe (LCMM 323); d. 3 Aug 1848, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 868)
- 9.6.1 Philip George, b. 23 Mar 1834, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1408); d. 7 Aug 1834, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 762)
- 9.6.2 John Miller, b. 4 Aug 1835, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1426); d. Unknown
- 9.6.3 Philip Reitzel, b. 17 Aug 1837, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1457); d. 14 Apr 1838, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 792)
- 9.6.4 Jacob Miller, b. 29 Jan 1839, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1477); d. 11 Sep 1839, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 802)
- 9.6.5 Charles Schafer, b. 29 Jun 1840, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1495); d. Unknown
- 9.6.6 William Frederick, b. 9 Sep 1842, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1535); d. 6 Nov 1843, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 828)
- 9.6.7 Susan Elizabeth, b. 18 Sep 1844, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 1586); d. 18 Oct 1847, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 862)
- 10 Anna Maria, b. 12 Jul 1766, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 283); m. circa 1786 John Todd; d. 28 Dec 1845, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 847)
- 10.1 John, b. 24 Dec 1785, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 591); d. 9 Jul 1786, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 337)
- 10.2 Anna Maria, b. 22 May 1787, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 616); d. 29 May 1787, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 347)
- 10.3 William, b. 23 Apr 1788, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 632); d. Unknown
- 10.4 John, b. 17 Sep 1790, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 675); d. Unknown
- 10.5 Maria, b. 29 Sep 1793, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 719); m. 18 Aug 1811, Lancaster, PA, Christopher Frederick Ratsche/Rogers (b. 6 Jul 1787) (LMCM 132); d. Unknown
- 10.5.1 Marianna, b. 27 Oct 1813, Manheim, PA (LMCC 1058); d. Unknown
- 10.5.2 Frederick, b. 1816, Manheim, PA (LMCC 1110); d. Unknown
- 10.5.3 Sarah, b. 19 Jul 1818, Manheim, PA (LMCC 1153); d. Unknown
- 10.5.4 Charlotte, b. 31 Jul 1820, Manheim, PA (LMCC 1190); d. Unknown
- 10.5.5 Susanna Catharina, b. 1 Mar 1822, Manheim, PA (LMCC 1222); d. Unknown
- 10.5.6 David Henry, b. 31 Mar 1824, Mt. Joy, PA (LMCC 1249); d. Unknown
- 10.5.7 Edwin Thomas, b. 15 Jan 1828, Mt. Joy, PA (LMCC 1326); d. Unknown
- 10.5.8 Amanda Elizabeth, b. 10 Jul 1830, Mt. Joy, PA (LMCC 1364); d. Unknown
- 10.5.9 William Eberman, b. 5 Jan 1833, Mt. Joy, PA (LMCC 1399)
- 10.6 Thomas, b. 16 Mar 1796, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 759); d. Unknown.
- 10.7 David, b. 13 Apr 1799, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 802); d. Unknown
- 10.8 Sarah, b. 21 Jan 1802, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 854); d. Unknown
- 10.9 Elisabeth, - Jul 1805, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 912); d. Unknown
- 11 Hannah, b. 8 Sep 1769, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 331); m.(1) 21 Apr 1789, Lancaster, PA, Cornelius Sturgis (b. 10 Jan 1762, d. 7 Apr 1797) (LMCB 418); m.(2) 23 Apr 1799, Lancaster, PA, Ernest Theodore Benoit (LMCM 111); d. Unknown
- 11.1 Elisabeth, b. 29 Oct 1792, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 708); d. Unknown
- 11.2 Johanna, b. 6 Oct 1795, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 749); d. 12 Oct 1796, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 407)
- 11.3 Susanna, b. 5 Oct 1796, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 767); d. Unknown

11.4 Unnamed daughter b. pre 1799

11.5 Emilia, b. 19 Sep 1801, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 844); d. 26 Sep 1801, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 450)

11.6 Frederick August, b. 15 Aug 1802, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 470); d. 17 Sep 1803, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 470)

11.7 Ernst Immanuel, b. 7 Dec 1804, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 898); d. 13 Dec 1804, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 488)

12 Elizabeth, b. 4 Mar 1772, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 375); m. 21 Jul 1796, Lancaster, PA, Peter Schucker (b. 3 Mar 1773) (LMCM 109); d. Unknown

12.1 Sarah, b. 10 Jan 1798, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 781); m. 15 Jan 1824, Lancaster, PA, Jacob Miller Eberman (b. 20 Mar 1797) (LMCM 223); d. Unknown (See 9.5 for issue)

12.2 Henry William, b. 30 Jun 1800, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 819); d. 1 Sep 1800, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 435)

12.3 Samuel, b. 29 Oct 1801, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 849); d. Unknown

12.4 Jacob William, b. 16 Jan 1804, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 886); d. Unknown

12.5 Henry Carl, b. 15 Dec 1806, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 934); d. 15 Aug 1807, Lancaster, PA (LMCB 517)

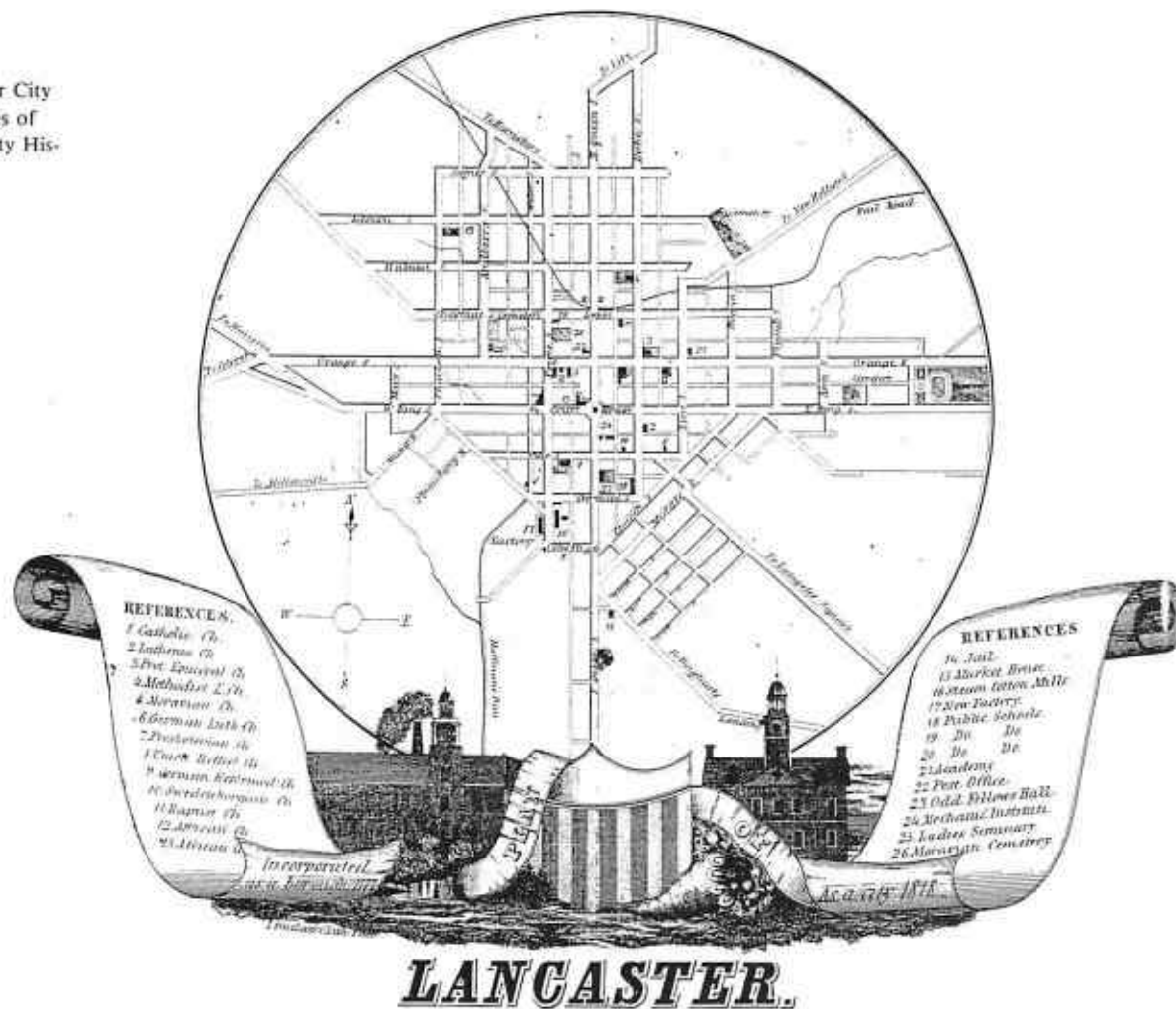
12.6 Immanuel, b. 12 Aug 1808, Lancaster, PA (LMCC 966); d. Unknown

About The Author

Stacy Wood is a research specialist with a primary interest in genealogy and horology. He is also a certified clockmaker. The former Administrator and Museum Director/Curator of the National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors in Columbia, he has served as consultant for the horological collections of both the U.S. Department of State and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. He is a former board member of the Historical Society and currently serves on the museum committee. He claims descent from the Eberman family through Maria Philippina Eberman Dehuff.

This is the third in his series about Lancaster Borough/City clockmakers. The first, "Rudy Stoner, 1728-1769, Early Lancaster Clockmaker" appeared in Vol. 80, No. 2, Easter, 1976 *Journal*. The second, "The Hoff Family: Master Clockmakers of Lancaster Borough" appeared in Vol. 81, No. 4, Michaelmas 1977 *Journal*. He is currently collecting information for an article concerning Martin Shreiner and his two clockmaking sons. His book, *Clockmakers of Lancaster County and Their Clocks 1750-1850* with photography by Stephen E. Kramer III and a section on Lancaster County clock cases by John J. Snyder, Jr., was published in mid-summer 1977 by Van Nostrand Reinhold Co. During the decade that he was with the Watch & Clock Collectors in Columbia he wrote a bimonthly museum column for that organization's journal, the *Bulletin*. He continues to write articles for that publication.

Figure 23. Lancaster City
circa 1850. (Archives of
the Lancaster County His-
torical Society)



Muhlenberg Influence on a Local Level

by Mary Ann Long

Flaunting his motto "*Ecclesia Plantanda!*" (The Church Must Be Planted) like a modern-day T-shirt slogan, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg (1711–1787) arrived in the New World with his work cut out for him—unaccredited pastors occupied many Lutheran pulpits; disorder, dissention and disagreement ran rampant in churches and congregations.

The man appropriately called the Father of Lutheranism in this country, restored harmony and stability with firmness and courtesy . . . and with a determination that surfaced shortly after his arrival in South Carolina, September 1742. "I was called, not to Charleston or Georgia, but to Pennsylvania," he protested when advised against any travel north until spring. Hiring a more-than-reluctant captain of a less-than-seaworthy ship he was in Philadelphia by November.

Much has been written about Muhlenberg . . . his achievements were great; his influence national. This paper seeks to show Muhlenberg influence on a *local* level; equally strong; in places like Lancaster, churches like Trinity, and people—like your ancestors—and mine.

Parallels of time and place exist between several generations of the writer's ancestors—the Kellers of Lancaster—and the famous Muhlenbergs. Does a gentle scattering of the Muhlenberg name in the Keller family hint of a special relationship? . . . or is it merely a reflection of one family's respect and admiration for another.

Johann Peter Keller (1718–1803)—the writer's 4-greats grandfather—was not yet in Lancaster when Muhlenberg made his first visit there in 1746—a



Henry Melchior Muhlenberg
1711 - 1787

town of 1500 inhabitants. Assumed still in Germany, the Keller (Koehler/Köhler/Kehler) immigrant village remains a mystery but names of baptismal sponsors (sometimes a clue) at Trinity Church, suggest the Northern Kraichgau. "Peter" Keller and his wife Anna Maria (1724-1782) arrived in Lancaster sometime prior to 1756 with three children: Maria; Carl Andreas ("Andrew" 1750-1803)—the writer's 3-greats grandfather; and Christina.

An urgent request for help first brought Muhlenberg to Lancaster—"the wrangling congregation" as he would come to call Trinity Church. Trouble with their Swedish minister, Lorentz T. Nyberg—accused of Moravian sympathies—had closed the church when the religious mediator arrived at not the red-bricked, white-steeped edifice we know and love today, but one of stone construction built in 1738. The Swedish minister problem resolved (with his ouster), another quickly took its place: no regular pastor.

Rev. John Frederick Handshue came to the church of 243 communicants via Muhlenberg in 1748, but left in 1751. Had some of Muhlenberg's determination rubbed off on Trinity fathers? . . . in 1753 they boldly bypassed the Lutheran Patriarch and appealed directly to Wurttemberg, Germany for a minister.

Rev. John Siegfried Gerock arrived the same year. Thanks to Gerock we have present Trinity Church—except for the steeple, begun and finished in his tenure—1753–1767.

Thanks to *all* the early *Pfarrers* at Trinity for dedicated record keeping—a duty always stressed by Muhlenberg. Pastoral acts of baptisms, marriages, burials. Names, dates and events. Yellowed pages that spill out joys and sorrows of people like your ancestors—and mine:

16 October 1756. A son, Adam, born to Peter Koehler and his wife Anna Maria.

1 January 1759. A son, Johann Peter, born to Peter Kehler.

Miffed at not having been consulted in Gerock's selection, Muhlenberg had not visited Lancaster for ten years—but in May 1761, the Lutheran Monarch arrived for the cornerstone laying of new Trinity Church.

Black robes swished as clerics walked from the old stone church to the corner of Duke and Mifflin where the new brick structure rose. The foundation was in; walls several feet high. Prayers were offered and hymn-singing—then as now the key to the particularity of Lutheran worship—filled the air. Muhlenberg was no doubt glad to be back in Lancaster—his fine strong voice rising above the rest in the old favorite, "All praise and thanks to God most high."

Surely the writer's ancestor—church member Peter Keller was there. Later, did he and Anna Maria make their way through the wagons, horses, noise and general tom-foolery (that accompanied all such gatherings), to the cemetery across the alley and the still fresh grave of Peter's little namesake buried just two months previous?

11 February 1761. Johann Peter little son of Peter Koehler. Died and was buried the next day. 2 years, 6 weeks old.

Perhaps Anna Maria needed assistance over the rough ground of the cemetery—she was heavy with a child born two months later:

13 July 1761. A son, Johann Peter, born to Peter Keller.

Two years later, he joined his brother in the churchyard:

29 November 1763. Died, little Johann Peter, son of Anna Maria and Peter Koehler. 2 years, 4 months, 15 days. Buried next day.

The Church of The Holy Trinity—newly named and 700 members strong—was dedicated May 4, 1766! Despite the Great American Church Hero's protests: "incapacitated and too weak to travel," Henry Melchior Muhlenberg was there. So was Lancaster's predominance of Pennsylvania Germans—two-thirds of her total (2100) population. Heads turned up to urns

at peaks and corners of the roof; eyes straining in the sun to read the name—in Latin and German—high on the west wall; hands folded in prayer inside a sanctuary the same size today—(except for the addition of an apse)—eighty by sixty feet.

As Peter Keller (a brass founder by trade) listened to Rev. Muhlenberg preach from the goblet-shaped pulpit on dedication Sunday, did he ponder the cost of the magnificent structure? Church pledge? What about newly instituted “pew rent?” Or—watching the sand glass run—was he simply caught up in the angelic setting. (At age eighty-four, Peter would claim—in a second will later disallowed)—to be visited by “two angels” who “came every night singing, flying in the air with chairs on their backs, and when they were tired they sat down on the chairs.”)

Pastor Geroock left Trinity the spring of 1767. This time asked for his help, Muhlenberg returned to Lancaster in “an old fashioned coach, like the long wagons used in Germany for carrying grain or hay.” Was his route from Philadelphia? . . . over the King’s Highway? . . . thirty-two miles of rutty, dirty, bumpy and in the spring impassable “Publick Road?” He arrived ill and was forced to stay two weeks.

Implying Geroock had neglected the church record book (the writer takes respectful exception to this), Muhlenberg began a new one. He introduced *Kinderlehre* (forerunner of Sunday School) and stressed religious education at every opportunity. “After all,” he would write in 1769, “preaching is for the most part like a local shower which dampens no more than the surface and quickly passes.”

In the pastorless years following Geroock’s departure, Muhlenberg did not forget Trinity. With determination (and probably a good deal of clout) he asked churches in the surrounding area to service the Lancaster pulpit whenever possible. In 1769, he brought a new arrival from Germany to the inland community—Rev. Justus Heinrich Christian Helmuth.

Peter Keller was a property owner in the borough as early as 1763 (according to Lancaster County tax assessor’s lists) with “out lots” in nearby Manheim Township. Later he owned land in the township with his son Andrew—the writer’s 3-greats grandfather.

But by 1779, Andrew Keller—a brass founder like his father— had his own fifteen acres in Manheim Township; an occasional horse and/or cow to help the family economy; and land that would remain in the Keller family for generations.

Lancaster hosted the 25th Pennsylvania Ministerium Convention in 1772. A quarter-century since the establishment (by—who else—Muhlenberg) of the synod (territorial unit) still structuring the Lutheran Church today. Back home in Philadelphia, his youngest son, Gotthilf had just returned from seven years of Minister education in Germany. It would be the elder Muhlenberg’s last visit to Lancaster, but Gotthilf was yet to make his own significant contribution to the locale.



Gotthilf Henry Ernest Muhlenberg
1753 - 1815

Carl Andreas (Andrew) Keller and Judith Barbara (Barbara) Biegler (1755–1831)—the writer's 3-greats grandparents—were married in April 1774. No record of the union can be found in Trinity archives but thirteen children born to them over the next twenty-eight years, are all carefully recorded.

Rev. Helmuth was at Trinity's helm through most of the Revolutionary conflict. A Private Andrew Keller served with the First Pennsylvania in 1777—(Captain James Ross' Company—recruited in Lancaster); Private Andrew Kehler (ascribed township Manheim) was in the Lancaster County Militia—1778, 1781, 1782. Either—or both—is the writer's patriot ancestor.

During the war years, six children were born to Andrew and Barbara: Anna Maria 1775; John Peter 1776; John George 1778 (died 1778); Maria Elizabeth 1779; Johannes 1781; and Andreas 1783.

When Helmuth wanted to leave Trinity in 1779 to work more closely with Muhlenberg in Philadelphia, he suggested a swap to the aging Patriarch: he (Helmuth) would go to Philadelphia and Muhlenberg's youngest son, Gotthilf, could go to Lancaster.

Young Muhlenberg made the trip in January 1780—weatherwise, one of the worst winters recorded. A sermon, a pastoral nod and Gotthilf Heinrich Ernest Muhlenberg (1753–1815) began a reign at Trinity unequalled in pastor/congregation love and friendship ending only with his death thirty-five years later.

Completion of the church steeple was a G.H.E. Muhlenberg project begun in 1785. Ten years later, Trinity wore her crown—a steeple and spire that pierced Pennsylvania blue 195 feet up—to the pride of congregation and city alike.

Hand-carved wooden figures of the four evangelists were hoisted to the corners of the steeple base in September 1794, keeping their vigil for 155 years (since 1949, replaced by replicas and preserved in the church narthex). Seventy-six year old Peter Keller may have watched Matthew, Mark, Luke and John maneuvered into place high above the church that fall day, but Frau Keller did not:

9 July 1782. Anna Maria Koehler buried in our cemetery. Wife of Peter K. Died suddenly of apoplexy. Was 58 years old.

Significantly missing from the Lancaster/Trinity scene for several years was the familiar figure of a tall man in flowing black robe, a white collar and hair. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg—the German missionary whose determination and dedication had taken him up and down the Atlantic seaboard and inland—had passed from this world in 1787. “*Ecclesia Plantanda!*”—the church “planted” in the New World now flourished in a new nation.

By the turn of the century, six more children had joined Andrew Keller’s family: Adam 1784 (a great greatgrandson of Adam is a prominent Lancasterian today); Jacob 1786; Sophie 1788; Michael 1790; Heinrich 1792 (died of “purples” 1799); and Benjamin 1794 (the writer’s 2-greats grandfather). Yet to be born: Mattaeus 1802.

The Patriarch’s middle and perhaps most celebrated son—Frederick Augustus Conrad Muhlenberg (1750–1801)—was appointed Receiver General of Land and moved to Lancaster in 1800. His untimely death only a year later, left little time to renew brotherly ties with Gotthilf, but his influence in Lancaster and at Trinity the last year of his life should not be underestimated.

A scattering of *Frederick* and *Augustus* is found in the families of three of Andrew Keller’s sons: John Peter (1776–1859), Adam (1784–1863), and Michael (1790–1861); who all married (interrelated) Schaeffers: Catherine, Elizabeth, and (1) Margaret (2) Barbara Margaret, respectively. As Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg’s wife Catherine was also a Schaeffer, is there a possible relationship between these women who bore the same distinguished—but rather common—name?

Andrew’s son, Benjamin (1794–1864)—the writer’s 2-greats grandfather—chose the name *Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg* for his first born. Married to Catherine Eliza Crever Schaeffer (who was the widow of Rev. Frederick Solomon Schaeffer and mother of Rev. Charles W. Schaeffer), Benjamin Keller was a well-known Lutheran minister in the Philadelphia area. He tutored under Rev. Frederick David Schaeffer (Solomon’s father), and his “revered and beloved pastor, Dr. (Gotthilf) Muhlenberg.”

Andrew Keller's death appears in Trinity records on February 22, 1803:

Carl Andreas Koehler. Buried in our cemetery. Suffered a long time with apoplexy. 52/7/1

The widow "barbara Köhler" (as her signature is scrawled on several documents) was bequeathed "one ten Plate Stove with the Pipe," (plus other household items), *and* the "Parcel of Land situate in the Township of Manheim in the County of Lancaster aforesaid containing Fifteen acres," where she lived and died thirty-two years later at the "residence of her son, Adam," (1784–1863)—by 1809 the owner, according to Lancaster County tax assessor's lists. The property next belonged to *his* son, Adam S. (Schaeffer) Keller (1825–1905).

The writer was able to approximate the location of this property in Manheim Township as on the Lititz Pike ("the Great Road") between the Lancaster city limits and Ephrata Pike. An 1864 gazetteer lists "Estate of Adam Keller" on the west side of the pike just north of the present intersection of Keller Avenue (for whom named the writer does not know—many Kellers lived in the vicinity in later years). Of nearby property owners on the old map, several names agree with neighbors, witnesses and friends mentioned in early Keller documents. In 1890, the property is identified as "A.S. Keller" (Adam Schaeffer). Today's streets in the area carry names of residents and landmarks of a bygone time: Hess Place, Fordney Place, Toll Gate Road.

Old Peter Keller followed his son in death by seven months—September 13, 1803:

Peter Koehler was buried in our cemetery. 85/6/13

A group of Lancastrians meeting at the house of John Bausman before John Reitzel Esquire, High Sheriff of Lancaster County evaluated Peter's "two story brick house and lot of ground situate on the east side of Queen Street in the Borough of Lancaster adjoining lots of Christopher Gump(f) and Christopher Demuth," at "eight hundred and seventy five pounds."

Rev. Gotthilf Muhlenberg passed from this mortal life in 1815, after thirty-five years of baptizing and catechising; marrying and burying (one more for the Kellers in 1803: "Mattaues, buried in our cemetery, little son of Barbara Koehler, widow. 1/9/4"); administering sacraments; visiting the sick and conducting worship services. One of the nine men of the parish who carried Trinity's beloved pastor into the church was an Adam Keller . . . Andrew and Barbara's son?

The Muhlenberg era had ended in Lancaster—but if the Kellers are any example—the name lived on for generations in families whose lives had been influenced by them.

Andrew Keller's grandson—through Jacob—was named *Muhlenberg* Keller.

His great grandson—descended from Benjamin—was Louis *Muhlenberg* Haupt.

Another great grandson—also from Benjamin—carried the famous name to Minnesota in the twentieth century: *Muhlenberg* Keller Knauff (1868–1947)—brother of the writer's grandmother, Sarah Emily Knauff (1865–1956).

Henry Melchior Muhlenberg's place as the dominating figure in the history of American Lutheranism is secure. His achievements were great; his influence national. He gave the church a uniform liturgy and established the synod. He lifted the church from dependence on Europe and laid a foundation for American-trained ministers. He "fathered" a religion in this country that today boasts over nine million members.

But on a *local* level, Muhlenberg influence was equally strong—perhaps beyond measure—in places like Lancaster, churches like Trinity, and people—like your ancestors and mine. People who might not have survived hard conditions, personal tragedy, and war without the strength of their religion and churches. People who in return led Christian lives of courage and dedication—and oftimes in the finest of tributes—bestowed the Muhlenberg name on their children.

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Lancaster County Historical Society (LCHS) *Journal*; Volume 83, No. 1 & 2

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Lancaster County Archives

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Research and data by Melvern Evans, Jr., Lancaster, Pa.

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