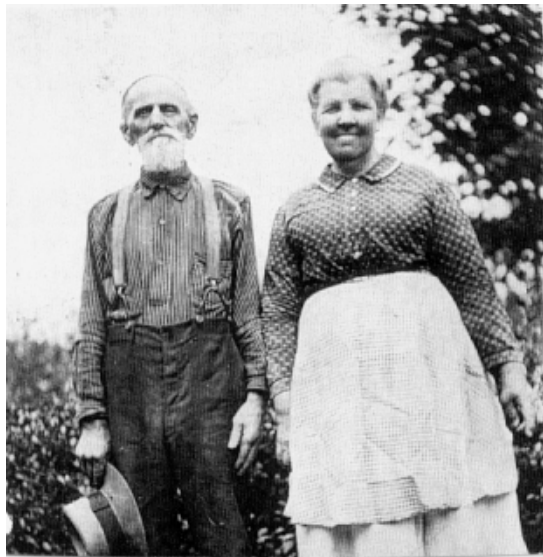


Somerset County, Pennsylvania
"Families & Early Settlers ~ Odds & Ends"

The files and information below were all found in the old Somerset Web files. In order to preserve them and make them available as 'possible clues' they will be added to this page. However, the email addies are old and probably invalid. Please do not ask me to track them down, the info here is for reference only.



Abraham Miller & Hannah Jane Deeter



Descendant Chart for Abraham MILLER

Abraham MILLER

b. 05-Jan-1851 Stonycreek Twp, Somerset County PA
m. 09-May-1871 Hannah Jane Deeter
d. 22-Jan-1919 Stonycreek Twp, Somerset County PA

Hannah Jane DEETER

b. 22-Sep-1853
d. 3-Jun-1939

Abraham was the son of Abraham D. Miller and Leah Gnaegi

Abraham and Hannah MILLER

Abraham D. MILLER

- b. 11-May-1823 Berlin, Somerset County PA
- m. 31-Dec-1843 Leah Gnaegi
- d. 04-Dec-1904 PA

Leah GNAEGI

- b. 30-Jul-1824 Meyersdale, Somerset County PA
- d. 02-Nov-1870 Stonycreek Twp, Somerset County PA

Abraham D. was the son of Daniel Miller and Maria Mast
Leah was the daughter of Jacob Gnaegi and V. Hochstetler

Abraham and Leah MILLER

Daniel MILLER

- b. 10-Apr-1794 Berlin, Somerset County PA
- m. 21-May-1815 Maria Mast
- d. 18-Apr-1835, Berlin, Somerset County PA

Maria MAST

- b. 21-Mar-1796 Berlin, Somerset County PA
- d. 21-Apr-1895 Berlin, Somerset County PA

Daniel was the son of Abraham Miller and Anna Hochstetler
Maria was the daughter of Joseph Mast and Fanny Berkey

Abraham MILLER

- b. 13-May-1766 Berks County PA
- m. Anna Hochstetler
- d. abt. 1821 Berlin, Somerst County PA

Anna HOCHSTETLER

- b. 13-May-1766 Berks County PA

Abraham was the son of Daniel Miller and Veronica Mishler
Anna was the daughter of John Hochstetler and Catherine Hertzler

Daniel Christian MILLER

- b. 1734
- m. 1758
- d. 1777

Veronica MISHLER

- b. 1736
- d. 1826

Census information for Abraham and Leah Miller
1850 Census, Somerset County PA
Stoney Creek Township, Page 119
DW:18, FM:18

MILLER, Abraham 27, M, Farmer, \$1400, PA

", Leah 23, F, PA

", Moses 5, M, PA

", Caroline 4, F, PA

", Sarah 2, F, PA

", John 1, M, PA

GLOSS, Eve 12, F, Attends School, PA

1860 Census, Somerset County PA

Stonycreek Township, hand-written page #129

PO: Shanksvill; DW:887, FM:889

MILLER, Abraham 36, M, Farmer, \$5000/\$1421, PA

", Laurah 34, F, PA

", Moses 15, M, Attends School, PA

", Caroline 14, F, Attends School, PA

", Sarah 12, F, Attends School, PA

", John 11, M, Attends School, PA

", Abraham 9, M, Attends School, PA

", Nancy 8, F, Attends School, PA

", Jacob 7, M, PA

", Mary 5, F, PA

", Catharine, 4, F, PA

", Edward 1, M, PA

1870 Census, Somerset County PA

Stony Creek Township, Page 532

PO: Lavansville, DW:62, FM:66

MILLER, Abraham D. 47, M-W, Farmer, \$4000/\$1740, Penna

", Lea 46, F-W, Keeping house, Penna

", Caroline 23, F-W, Penna

", Abraham 19, M-W, Penna

", Jacob 17, M-W, Penna, attends school

", Mary 15, F-W, Penna, attends school

", Catherine 14, F-W, Penna, attends school

", Joseph 8, M-W, Penna, attends school

", Daniel 4, M-W, Penna

1880 Census, Somerset County PA

Stony Creek Township, ED:26,

Hand-written page #34; DW:302, FM:313

MILLER, Abraham 56, W-M, Farmer, PA-PA-PA

", Sarah (wife) 42, Keeping house, PA-GER-PA

", Joseph (son) 18, W-M, Farm Laborer, PA-PA-PA

", Daniel (son) 15, W-M, Farm Laborer, PA-PA-PA

", Hettie (dau) 4, W-F, PA-PA-PA

SCHROCK, Rebecca (Servant) W-F, 18, PA-PA-PA



Wilson Family of Turkeyfoot / Milford / Black Townships

"The Sons and Dauters of Thomas and Jean Wilson was all Born in Somerset County
Pennsylvania"

Thomas Wilson, b. 1759; married Jane King on 2/24/1789; d. 1847

Buried Wilson Family Cemetery Monon White Co IN. Served as one of 3 original Associate Judges for White Co IN. Presided over the First trial held in White Co IN. (A humorous case of malicious mischief) Grandson of Mary Wilson b.1715 d.June 1810. Son of James Wilson b.11/2/1731 d.2/5/1826 and 1st wife unk. 2nd wife Rebecah Jones b1752 d.4/22/1826. James and Rebecah donated the Buildings and Ground for the Sanner Church, Somerset Co PA. A Joint Presbyterian and German Reformed (Luthern) effort at it's inception. Will for James recorded in Knox Co OH Jackson Twsp.

Jane King, b. 9/4/1766; m. Thomas Wilson on 2/24/1789; d. 10/8/1834.

Was the First death recorded in Monon Twsp. Dau of Christopher King b.1733 d.1811 and Rachal Leech b.3/11/1740 d.11/7/1826. Jane was Sister to Perry Co Ohio State Representative Thomas King. Jane Buried Wilson Family Cemetery Monon White Co IN

Thomas Wilson and Jane King; jointly donated the ground, with their neighbor Robert Pherson and his spouse Elizabeth MaGruder, the land for the Unity Presbyterian Church in Perry Co OH. Pastor Thomas Moore.

The Children of Thomas Wilson and Jane King were:

Martha Ann Wilson b.1/22/1790 m.3/16/1820 James Spencer; brother of George Spencer, a prominate man of White Co. James and George arrived in White Co IN very early, on foot, from Perry Co OH. Their families were brought back the following spring. Martha and James are buried in the Wilson Family Cemetery Monon IN.

James King Wilson b.3/4/1792 m.4/27/1820 Nancy Clayton dau of Joseph and Mary; Had the First white child born in Monon Twsp. Served as Postmaster for Monon. Both buried Wilson Family Cemetery Monon IN.

David Wilson b.2/25/1794 d.2/12/1800 27hrs illness with the Bold Hives

Thomas Wilson b.11/27/1796 d.12/7/1841 m.4/12/1821 Mary Jones d.6/21/1846 dau of Jehu and Jane. Both buried Methodist Church, New Lexington, Perry Co OH.

Joseph Wilson b.4/23/1799 d.12/14/1862 first m.3/24/1825 Sara Yost dau of John and Elizabeth. m. 2nd Nancy Grant. Joseph and Sara are buried Perry Co OH.

John Wilson b.6/25/1801 m.12/28 or 31/1829 Meriah Moore dau of Pastor Thomas and Elenor. Served as First Sheriff for White Co IN. Buried White Co IN.

Rebecah Wilson b.3/16/1804 m.4/6/1828 David Berkey founder of the town of West Bedford, White Co IN

William Wilson b.8/26/1809 m.11/3/1835 Mary Yost dau of John and Elizabeth. Monon Presbyterian Church members. William was Prospecting White Co IN on horseback very early. Buried Wilson Family Cemetery Monon IN. Will for William recorded in White Co IN.

Census Information

1800 Census, Somerset County PA

Milford Township, Page 526

Wilson, Thomas

Males: (3) 0-to-10 and (1) 26-to-45

Females: (1) 10-to-16 and (1) 26-to-45

1810 Census, Somerset County PA

Milford Township, Page 439

Wilson, Thomas

Males: (2) 0-to-10; (2) 10-to-16; (1) 16-to-26, and (1) 45-up

Females: (1) 0-to-10; (2) 16-to-26; and (1) 26-to-45

Sources:

Family Records of Thomas Wilson and Jane King

Coshocton Co OH History, Bio of Joshua Clark

Will, Probate, Land, Church, Cemetery, Census, Histories of Bedford Co PA, Somerset Co PA, Knox Co OH, Perry Co OH, Coshocton Co OH, White Co IN

Family Genealogy of:

James Spencer of Somerset Co PA d. Perry Co OH

Christopher King d. Somerset Co PA

Rev. Thomas Moore d. Perry Co OH

St John Luthern (Sanner Church) Records Somerset Co PA

Research Credit: Terri McLain

Compiled by Steve Wilson

This History is meant as a basic overview. Based on the Sources named above. It is a work in progress. Presented here as a guide for continued research.



The following information is to be used for genealogy research only.

It is not to be copied in part or whole without the expressed permission of the author.

I have purposely omitted names of people who were born after 1920 or born before and could still be living.

If you have any additions or corrections, please email

me at Towpath2@aol.com <<mailto:Towpath2@aol.com>>. Joyce Rittenour Post

Descendants of John May

Generation No. 1

1. JOHN1 MAY was born 1802 in PA, and died Bet. 1860 - 1870 in PA. He married JANE ???. She was born 1805 in PA, and died Aft. 1870.

Notes for JANE ???:

Jane was shown as a widow on the 1870 PA Census, Somerset Co.

Children of JOHN MAY and JANE ?? are:

2. i.MICHAEL (JR.)2 MAY, b. January 1828, Somerset County, PA; d. Bet. 1900 - 1910, PA.

3. ii.CHRISTIAN MAY, b. December 1829, PA; d. Aft. 1900.

iii.ELIZABETH MAY, b. December 1831, PA; d. PA.

Notes for ELIZABETH MAY:

Elizabeth remained single. She was shown living with her brother Christian on the 1880 and 1900 PA Census.

Also, living with them was Christian's grandson, Ira Gudson b. 1879.

4. iv.JOHN (JR.) MAY, b. Abt. 1840.

5. v.JACOB JOHN MAY, b. Abt. 1841, PA.

vi.FREEMAN MAY, b. Abt. 1844, PA.

vii.ELIJAH MAY, b. Abt. 1848.

viii.CATHERINE MAY, b. Abt. 1849, PA.

Generation No. 2

2. MICHAEL (JR.)2 MAY (JOHN1) was born January 1828 in Somerset County, PA, and died Bet. 1900

-
1910 in PA. He married ANNA MURRAY Abt. 1846. She was born 1830 in PA, and died Aft. 1920 in PA.

Notes for MICHAEL (JR.) MAY:

Michael May is on the 1850 Census, Living in Somerset, Lower Turkeyfoot Township, page 220

Family info obtained from the 1860 census, Somerset County, PA page 569a

Michael was a laborer on the 1900 census Somerset Co., Lower Turkeyfoot Township, Dist 175.

Notes for ANNA MURRAY:

1900 Census Somerset Co., Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Dist. 174 shows Michael living next door to his son Freeman and nephew Christian. They had 4 children, 4 living.

Anna was widowed, living with son Franklin in 1910.

Shown on 1920 Census Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Somerset Co., PA, Anna (age 80) is living with son Frank as head of household and daughter Mary E. May (age 62).

Children of MICHAEL MAY and ANNA MURRAY are:

6. i.AMANDA JANE³ MAY, b. May 15, 1853, PA; d. December 31, 1911, Elk Lick, Somerset Co., PA.
- ii.MARY E. MAY, b. 1856.

Notes for MARY E. MAY:

Mary E. May shown on 1920 Census Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Somerset Co., PA as living with brother Frank and mother, Anna. Mary is shown as 62 years of age.

Mary is shown as a servant working for John and Phoebe Blubaugh on the 1880 census.

It is believed that Mary remained single.

7. iii.FREEMAN MAY, b. August 1859, PA.

- iv.FRANKLIN MAY, b. January 1868, PA; m. ? HOCKENBERRY.

Notes for FRANKLIN MAY:

Franklin is shown on the 1920 Census for Lower Turkeyfoot Township, Somerset Co., PA at age 63. His mother Anna, age 80, is living with him. His sister Mary E., age 62, is also living with him. Frank must be widowed, as no wife shows on the census.

1900 Census Somerset Co., Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Dist. 174 shows Frank was a day laborer and living at home with his parents. Listed as single.

3. CHRISTIAN² MAY (JOHN¹) was born December 1829 in PA, and died Aft. 1900.

Notes for CHRISTIAN MAY:

1880 PA Census, Somerset, PA shows Christian widowed by 1900. No record of him ever being married.

He was living with his sister Elizabeth in 1880 in Lower Turkeyfoot Township, Somerset Co., PA. A niece, Emma Younkin, age 13 also shows on this Census. The name Christopher appears on this census, not Christian.

On the 1900 Census Somerset Co., Lower Turkeyfoot, Dist. 175, Christian's sister Elizabeth b. December 1836 and single, is listed as living with him. It also shows that Christian "Christ" was widowed. His family is living next door to his nephew, Freeman, born August 1859, age 40.

Child of CHRISTIAN MAY is:

8. i.EMMA³ MAY, b. May 1869.

4. JOHN (JR.)² MAY (JOHN¹) was born Abt. 1840. He married LUCINDA ??. She was born Abt. 1850.

Child of JOHN MAY and LUCINDA ?? is:

i.HARVEY³ MAY, b. Abt. 1878.

5. JACOB JOHN² MAY (JOHN¹) was born Abt. 1841 in PA. He married (1) HARRIET BOYER, daughter of JOHN BOYER and HANNAH ??. She was born Abt. 1843 in Stoneycreek Township, Somerset Co., PA. He married (2) UNKNOWN.

Children of JACOB MAY and HARRIET BOYER are:

9. i.BELLE³ MAY.

ii.ELIZABETH MAY.

10. iii.JACKSON ALEXANDER MAY, d. August 1951, CA.

11. iv.JACOB JOHN (JR.) MAY.

v.LAURA ETTA MAY, m. JULES WHITMOR OR WHITMAN.

vi.LOUIS LEE MAY, d. April 1953.

12. vii.SUSAN MARY MAY, b. August 16, 1867, Somerset Co., PA; d. June 25, 1947, Belvidere, IL.

viii.AGNES MAY, b. June 10, 1872, Somerset Co., PA; d. 1965, Freeport, IL; m. FRED MARTIN; d. July 04,

1922, Los Angeles, CA.

13. ix.WILLIAM CHAUNCEY MAY, b. 1874, Somerset Co., PA.

x.SOLOMON MAY, b. June 20, 1881; d. June 01, 1937, Dixon, IL.

More About SOLOMON MAY:

Burial: Palmyra Cemetery, Dixon, IL

14. xi.HARRY FREDRICK MAY, b. October 20, 1889, Dixon, IL.

Children of JACOB MAY and UNKNOWN are:

xii.HENRY T.³ MAY.

xiii.JENNIE MAE MAY.

15. xiv.ANNIE MAY.

xv.UNKNOWN MAY.

Generation No. 3

6. AMANDA JANE³ MAY (MICHAEL (JR.)², JOHN¹) was born May 15, 1853 in PA, and died December 31, 1911 in Elk Lick, Somerset Co., PA. She married JOHN S. CROSBY December 25, 1882 in Northampton

Twp., Somerset Co., PA, son of JOHN CROSBY and MARIA SULLIVAN. He was born January 06, 1848 in Somerset County, PA, and died November 10, 1909 in Elk Lick, Somerset Co., PA.

Notes for AMANDA JANE MAY:

Amanda died of pneumonia at the age of 58y, 7m, 15d..

Have copy of death certificate.

Amanda is shown on the Somerset Co., PA 1910 Census living with daughter Annie age 23, and son-in-law, Jesse James Rittenour age 21, and her daughter Eliza (Rittenour) age 18.

More About AMANDA JANE MAY:

Burial: St. Paul United Church of Christ Cem., Meyersdale, Somerset Co., PA

Notes for JOHN S. CROSBY:

John died of organic heart disease at the age of 61y, 10m, 4d.

He served as a substitute for Joseph Tressler of Somerset Co.. PA for one year in the Civil War. He was in the 58th Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry, Company C. Roll date October 31, 1864 at Chambersburg, Pa.

Mustered out November 9, 1865. He was discharged at Covington, VA. Signed his name with an "X" when enrolling. (Source History of PA Volunteers 1861-1865). Union Army. Age 17 at enlistment. John was 5'6" tall, blue eyes, light hair, fair complexion. John's pension was \$12 per month. It was alleged that while on duty at Bet Chaplain Farm & Whilthouse Ld., VA on or about March 18 or 20, 1865, he was disabled by sprained ankle (contracted disease of feet). This info from his Pension Records. Have copies of his pension records. These were the following witnesses for Amanda to receive John's Civil War Pension: John Williams, Ann Williams, Charles S. Beal, Henry Gray

After the Civil War, John worked at the Grading Railroad in 1870, and then was a coal miner from 1870 to 1882. A Charles S. Beal and a Henry Gray signed affidavits after John's death attesting to his bad feet. John was able to only work 1/2 of what an able-bodied man could.

John bought 16 1/4 acres of land in Lower Turkeyfoot Twp, Somerset Cty. PA from a Thomas Lichty, Frank Lichty and Ezra Lichty for \$240.00 on October 19, 1898. Have copy of "Indenture" papers. Recorded in Deed Book Vol 123, Pg. 245.

Have copy of death certificate. His death certificate has Amanda May as his mother (a mistake, Amanda May was his wife.) His death certificate was signed by Jesse James Rittenour, his son-in-law and my grandfather, not well educated, possibly didn't understand form. Jesse Rittenour was living with his wife, Eliza Jane Crosby and Amanda May Crosby in 1910.

There is a marker on John's grave "Co. G, 58 PA and a star shaped marker that reads GAR 1861-1865.

More About JOHN S. CROSBY:

Burial: St. Paul United Church of Christ Cem., Meyersdale, Somerset Co., PA

Marriage Notes for AMANDA MAY and JOHN CROSBY:

Amanda and John were married by Reverend John A. Nuner. Witnesses to their marriage were John Williams of Elk Lick, Somerset Co., PA and Anne Williams of W. Salisbury, Somerset Co., PA. (Info from a General Affidavit in John's Pension records).

Children of AMANDA MAY and JOHN CROSBY are:

16. i.WILLIAM F.4 CROSBY, b. April 05, 1884, Elk Lick Twp, Ursina, Somerset Co., PA; d. Somerset, PA..
- ii.MARGARET ANN CROSBY, b. May 30, 1886, Elk Lick Twp., Coal Run, Somerset Co., PA; d. July 21, 1937; m. HARRY KOONTZ, July 03, 1917, Summit Twp., Somerset Co., PA; b. October 19, 1891,

Somerset Co., PA; d. May 1981, Meyersdale, Somerset Co., PA.

Notes for MARGARET ANN CROSBY:

Have copy of Marriage License. Recorded in Courthouse Somerset County, PA Marriage Book, Vol. #30, Page 41.

iii. MARY ELIZABETH CROSBY, b. August 03, 1889, Coal Run, Somerset Co., PA; d. 1951; m. JOHN M. WARRICK, June 09, 1910, Ursina, PA, Somerset Co., PA; b. August 04, 1884, Ursina, PA; d. October 1964, PA.

Notes for MARY ELIZABETH CROSBY:

Have copy of marriage license. Recorded in the Courthouse in Somerset County Marriage books. Vol. #22, Page 47.

Notes for JOHN M. WARRICK:

Miner by trade.

Have copy of Marriage License.

17. iv. ELIZA JANE CROSBY, b. May 22, 1892, Coal Run, Somerset Co., PA; d. June 02, 1951, Akron, Summit Co., OH.

7. FREEMAN³ MAY (MICHAEL (JR.))², JOHN¹) was born August 1859 in PA. He married LUCY ?? Abt. 1893. She was born December 1872 in Germany.

Notes for LUCY ??:

Lucy immigrated 1891 from Germany. The 1900 census Somerset Co., Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Dist. 175 shows Lucy had 5 children, 4 living.

Marriage Notes for FREEMAN MAY and LUCY ??:

This date is from the 1900 Census Somerset Co., Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Dist. 175. It states they were married 7 years.

Children of FREEMAN MAY and LUCY ?? are:

18. i. EDWARD P.⁴ MAY, b. July 1890.

ii. MYRTLE G. MAY, b. April 1895.

iii. MAGGIE A. MAY, b. October 1896.

iv. MAUD E. MAY, b. June 1898.

v. WILLIAM E. MAY, b. 1904.

vi. HARRY W. MAY, b. April 09, 1906; d. October 1977; m. ELSIE MAY ??; b. May 1911; d. 1990.

vii. IRENE M. MAY, b. 1908.

8. EMMA³ MAY (CHRISTIAN², JOHN¹) was born May 1869.

Notes for EMMA MAY:

On the 1900 Somerset Co., Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Dist. 175, Sadie is listed as a single daughter of Christian. It is assumed Emma is the daughter of Christian, but with two illegitimate daughters.

The 1910 Census lists Emma as being single with two daughters, Sadie and Hazel.

Children of EMMA MAY are:

i. SADIE⁴ A. MAY, b. August 1895.

ii.HAZEL M. MAY, b. Abt. 1904.

9. BELLE³ MAY (JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) She married WILLIAM HAMILTON. He was born 1866, and died July 26, 1910 in PA.

10. JACKSON ALEXANDER³ MAY (JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) died August 1951 in CA. He married MABLE FRANCES KLING. She died November 10, 1950 in Los Angeles, CA.

11. JACOB JOHN (JR.)³ MAY (JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) He married LIZZIE TUTTLE.

12. SUSAN MARY³ MAY (JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) was born August 16, 1867 in Somerset Co., PA, and died June 25, 1947 in Belvidere, IL. She married (1) ?? SHADOCK. She married (2) JOHN JACOB KELLEY

March 10, 1886. He was born August 25, 1857 in Somerset Co., PA, and died January 11, 1918 in Rockford, IL.

13. WILLIAM CHAUNCEY³ MAY (JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) was born 1874 in Somerset Co., PA. He married IVA ELIZABETH KEARNS.

14. HARRY FREDRICK³ MAY (JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) was born October 20, 1889 in Dixon, IL. He married MARY FRANCIS O'CONNELL September 09, 1914, daughter of THOMAS O'CONNELL and SARAH LENNOX. She was born May 15, 1885 in Woosung, IL.

15. ANNIE³ MAY (JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) She married ED BENECKE.

Generation No. 4

16. WILLIAM F.⁴ CROSBY (AMANDA JANE³ MAY, MICHAEL (JR.)², JOHN¹) was born April 05, 1884 in Elk Lick Twp, Ursina, Somerset Co., PA, and died in Somerset, PA.. He married (1) PEARL E. ??. She was born October 10, 1880, and died October 25, 1918 in Somerset, PA.. He married (2) MARIE SARAH GREENE August 16, 1920 in Somerset County, PA, daughter of ALBERT GREENE and SARAH MEYERS. She was born 1898 in Bell, Westmoreland County, PA.

Notes for WILLIAM F. CROSBY:

Buried in Ursina Cemetery, Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Somerset, Pa.

Two children died as infants and are buried with mother, Pearl, in Ursina Cem., Lower Turkeyfoot Twp. Somerset, PA.

Have copy of Marriage License, Recorded in the courthouse of Somerset County, PA Marriage Book Vol #32, page 453

More About WILLIAM F. CROSBY:

Burial: Ursina Cemetery, Somerset, PA

More About PEARL E. ??:

Burial: Ursina Cemetery, Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Somerset, PA

Children of WILLIAM CROSBY and PEARL ?? are:

i.ALBERT⁵ CROSBY, b. May 05, 1908; d. May 30, 1908, Somerset Twp., Somerset County, PA.

Notes for ALBERT CROSBY:

Buried with mother.

More About ALBERT CROSBY:

Burial: Ursina Cemetery, Somerset, PA

ii.LEWIS E. CROSBY, b. November 30, 1917; d. April 22, 1918, Somerset County, PA.

Notes for LEWIS E. CROSBY:

Buried with mother.

More About LEWIS E. CROSBY:

Burial: Ursina Cemetery, Somerset, PA

17. ELIZA JANE⁴ CROSBY (AMANDA JANE³ MAY, MICHAEL (JR.)², JOHN¹) was born May 22, 1892 in Coal Run, Somerset Co., PA, and died June 02, 1951 in Akron, Summit Co., OH. She married JESSE JAMES RITTENOUR May 15, 1909 in Cumberland, MD, son of JEREMIAH RITENOUR and MARIAH HULL. He was born April 26, 1890 in Fayette Co., PA, and died September 22, 1964 in Akron, Summit Co., OH.

Notes for ELIZA JANE CROSBY:

Have original marriage license and death certificate.

More About ELIZA JANE CROSBY:

Burial: Mt. Peace Cemetery, Akron, Summit Co., OH

Have original marriage license and death certificate.

More About JESSE JAMES RITTENOUR:

Burial: Mt. Peace Cemetery, Akron, Summit Co., OH

18. EDWARD P.⁴ MAY (FREEMAN³, MICHAEL (JR.)², JOHN¹) was born July 1890. He married JENNIE PHILLIPPI.

19. HARRIETT NELL⁴ MAY (JACKSON ALEXANDER³, JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) She married CHESTER BALLARD December 30, 1937 in Wichita, KS.

20. LOUIS LEE⁴ MAY (JACOB JOHN (JR.)³, JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) died November 17, 1979. He married BONNIE FREY, daughter of FRANKLIN FREY and UNKNOWN.

21. ANNABEL⁴ KELLEY (SUSAN MARY³ MAY, JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) was born March 11, 1887 in Dixon, IL, and died March 12, 1967 in Rockford, IL. She married BERTRAM DOUGHERTY February 02, 1916 in Freeport, IL. He was born April 23, 1882, and died May 16, 1948.

More About ANNABEL KELLEY:

Burial: Rockford, IL

More About BERTRAM DOUGHERTY:

Burial: Rockford, IL

22. HARRY OLIVER⁴ KELLEY (SUSAN MARY³ MAY, JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) was born October 17, 1893, and died May 1979 in Hall, MT. He married ALPHA MCGOWAN. She was born August 29, 1897, and died 1991.

23. JACOB WILLIAM⁴ KELLEY (SUSAN MARY³ MAY, JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) was born August 29, 1895 in Dixon, IL, and died February 11, 1980 in Rockford, IL. He married MARION HARWICK July 25, 1922.

More About JACOB WILLIAM KELLEY:

Burial: Cedar Bluff Cemetery, Rockford, IL

24. LAURA AGNES⁴ KELLEY (SUSAN MARY³ MAY, JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) was born June 27, 1897 in Rockford, IL, and died April 03, 1994 in Rockford, IL. She married ELMER GEORGE ERICKSON July 14, 1920. He was born October 31, 1893 in Rockford, IL, and died July 13, 1981 in Rockford, IL.

More About LAURA AGNES KELLEY:
Burial: Scandinavian Cemetery, Rockford, IL

More About ELMER GEORGE ERICKSON:
Burial: Scandinavian Cemetery, Rockford, IL

25. RUTH CATHERINE⁴ KELLEY (SUSAN MARY³ MAY, JACOB JOHN², JOHN¹) was born March 01, 1910 in Rockford, IL, and died November 05, 1945 in Rockford, IL. She married AARON E. JOHNSON October 18, 1930 in Belvidere, IL.

More About RUTH CATHERINE KELLEY:
Burial: Cedar Bluff Cemetery, Rockford, IL

Sources: Census Records
Tax Lists
Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates
Info from various May family descendents
Family Bibles
Cemetery Records and Obituaries



HISTORY OF THE MEESE FAMILY

The earliest history, which we have been able to obtain of the Meese Family, is that they came from Holland and were of German descent.

Baltzer or Balthester Meese was born about 1758. He fought under George Washington in the Revolutionary War. We have it that he carried the Flag in the Battle of Bunker Hill, at the age of 17 years, and was also in the Battle with the Hessians.

HIS MILITARY RECORDS – Baltzer Meese rendered five years of faithful service to his country during the Revolutionary War. We find his name on the roll of Captain Lewis Farmer's Company of riflemen June 1st, 1776. Commanded by Col. Samuel Miles after his name in brackets is printed "See Second Penna." For the authority of this statement see page 420 Vol. 2nd Fifth Series Pennsylvania Archives. A reference to page 417 same volume of same series says that he enlisted in second Pennsylvania Regiment April 1776 and further that the Regiment participated in the battle on Long Island on August 27, 1776.

On page 882 same volume, same series it records that he enlisted in 1776, was discharged in 1781 and resided in Somerset County in 1835, age 74. A reference to page 120, volume 4, fifth series Pennsylvania Archives shows that he received the depreciation pay, which was some time after the close of the war and money paid to these men to make good at least part of the loss occasioned by reason of the great depreciation of the continental money during the war.

Baltzer Meese testified that he enlisted in the Second Regiment of Pennsylvania Continental Line, Commanded by Col. Walter Stewart, 1776, and was discharged in 1781. Has a family. See Page 582, Vol. 4, fifth series of Pennsylvania Archives. Affidavit also on file in the Court House at Somerset, Pennsylvania and reads further that his company was commanded by Captain John Stoy. He held United States pension certificate #8458. After his death there was an effort made, and we think a successful one, to have the pension continued to his Widow.

Touching on this, there is an affidavit of Jonathan Knepper on file in the Court House of Somerset, Pennsylvania setting forth that he, Knepper, knew Baltzer Meese and that he was present at his funeral.

We are citing our authority for every statement made concerning the Revolutionary War Service of Baltzer Meese, and are showing that he is the Baltzer Meese that lived in Somerset County, because the records say the places that he lived in this County. We also find the name on the Roll of Captain Patrick Anderson's Company of Pennsylvania Regiment of Foote the time covered by this Roll being from March 1, 1777 to May 1st 1777. Captain Anderson evidently having become the successor of Captain Lewis Farmer who was promoted to Major, and later to Lieut. Col. The authority of this statement is to be found on page 261, Vol. 1st, Pennsylvania in the Revolution. (Published by State of Pennsylvania) his name is also found on a general roll of the Regiment. Captain Lewis Farmer was a citizen of Philadelphia and this makes us think that Meese may have come from that vicinity also; although Lancaster County is not so far away that he could have come from there, from these printed records it is quite plain that men were frequently transferred from one Regiment to another during the process of the war.

Baltzer Meese died May 15th, 1838. He had a son George living in Somerset Township, and probably died there, as Baltzer Meese and wife are both buried in New Centerville Cemetery, Milford Township, Somerset County, Pennsylvania. He also had a son and daughter living in Brothersvalley Township.

The "Archives" pension records show some discrepancies in giving his age, one says that in 1819 he was 74 years of age, another place his age at 74 in 1835 and this last one probably the correct one, but it would also seem to be indicated that he could hardly have been over seventeen years of age when he began his five years of service in the Revolutionary War.

According to the petition for a writ in the estate of Baltzer Meese as it is on file, his children were, John, George, Christian, Daniel, Sarah who was married to a man named Christian Forney, and who died before her father; and Margaret Meese who was first married to John Keagay or Salisbury; and second to David Steel, also of Salisbury, had several children by the first marriage, and one son Daniel by the second marriage.

About 1840 they all went to Ohio, one of the first sons was named Anthony who about the time of the Civil War, came back to Salisbury and remained there for a year or two. It is the writers' impression that somewhere he had among his papers some correspondence with a grandson of Margaret Meese, who lived at Baltic, Ohio. Daniel Steel, the only son of the Steel's marriage was killed in some accident when about 19 years old, this was about 1854.

John Meese, son of Baltzer we got to know about 1864, he was then quite an aged man, and the writer thinks he had been living somewhere in Fayette County Pennsylvania and had returned to Elk Lick Township where he had two daughters living, one of these was the wife of Peter L. Miller, and they lived about one mile south of Salisbury on the road to Maryland, and another daughter was the wife of Henry Glodfelty living on a farm near by. Mr. & Mrs. Glodfelty had no children, but in the Miller family, there was one son Francis who, had gone to war in 1864 and died while in the service, also a number of daughters, one of whom was the wife of James Maust, who became the owner of the Henry Glodfelty farm after the death of the old people. While Mr. Maust has since sold the farm, we think he still lives in Elk Lick. Of the other Miller girls, we cannot say anything.

John Meese had a son named Solomon, who eventually went back to Fayette County, whether there were still more in the family, the writer does not know.

Christian Meese, son of Baltzer, the writer knew quite well, like his father, he was a miller, his wife was a daughter of Adam Fodery, their sons were Baltzer C., Daniel C., (both millers) John C., Samuel Ca., (blacksmith) and Gillian C. (also a miller) besides two other sons, Christian and William.

Baltzer C. Meese, lived near Accident Garrett County, Maryland, he stood well in the community, he was a Justice of the Peace for quite a while, and died nearly fifty years ago. We think he left a family some of whom may still be found about Accident.

Daniel C. Meese, another son of Christian, operated the Engle Mill in Elk Lick for many years. His wife Susan Engle, both long since deceased.

They had a son John D. Meese, and a daughter Sadie. John D. was finely educated and died some years ago in California, Pennsylvania, where he had been connected with the State Normal School. His wife was Lillian Dom, and they had a family.

George Meese and his wife reared to maturity a family of ten children; namely Elijah, John, Nancy, Margaret, George D., Alexander O., Kesiah, Adeline, Charles O. and Louisa. Of the sons Elijah, John and Alexander went to Ohio. (John probably locating in Tuscarora County) Alexander was in the Civil War and died in the Service.

Of the daughters, Nancy was the wife of Samuel Huston, their family was William, Mary (Connelly) Emma (Kantner) Louisa (Cunningham) Lydia (Sanner) and Rose (Koonts & Zorn) Adeline Meese was the wife of Philip Smith. About the other daughters of George Meese, the writer know nothing.

Daniel Meese, son of Baltzer, the writer knows nothing; but there still remains this to be said, there lived in Greenville Township, a George Meese whom the writer saw once about 1859, then a man well on toward middle age. Whose son he was, the writer does not know except, that he must have been a grandson of Baltzer Meese.

To someone into whose hands this paper may in the future fall, it might be interesting at least to know the names of the other Meese's who were mostly contemporaneous of Baltzer Meese.

Compiler Unknown (Submitted by: L. L. "Buddy" Duckworth)



First Settlements in the County

The first deed recorded in Brothers Valley was dated 1784. However, there had been settlers in the Brothers Valley area as early as 1769. In 1769, Captain John STEELE was sent to warn settlers in the Brothers Valley area that they must leave Indian Lands. The next year, in 1770, the Rev. George Adam MARTIN, a pastor of the German Baptist Church, recorded that he had a congregation of 18 members in Brothers Valley. And, in 1771, Harmon Husband, arrived to find Philip WAGERLINE, Henry RHOADS Sr., and his sons, and Jacob NEWMAYER living in the area.

These settlers finally decided to form the first town, Berlin, in 1778. They gathered at Pine Hill and planned out the town. However, after much festivities, one of the young men was accidentally killed during a horse race. The town's formation was put off - until Jacob Keffer decided to try to organize a town later.

Jersey Settlement

The Jersey Settlement in Turkeyfoot Twp., was established in 1770. Many of the settlers were from New Jersey and the town was named after them. Drakestown, named after Oliver DRAKE, built the community's first grist mill. David KING followed the Laurel Hill Creek north to the community and founded another grist mill called Kings Mill.

The Jersey Baptist Church, said to be the first church west of the Alleghenies, was built in 1775 by John CORBLEY, a well known Baptist leader, and Issac SUTTON.

Meyersdale, Summit Twp.

The Meyersdale area of Summit Township was first settled by Jacob Castleman, a hunter, who built a cabin along the Little Youghiogheny river. Castleman disappeared from the area and Amish-Mennonites and Dunkards arrived shortly after the Treaty of Stanwix in 1768. SAYLOR, BERKEY, KNAIGHEY, BUECHLEY, OLINGER, BURGER, MILLER, FAHRNEY, and BURNTRAGER were some of the earliest recorded names.

Elk Lick Twp.

Peter LIVINGOOD, an Amish preacher, arrived in West Salisbury in 1772.

(excerpted from Somerset Past, Vol V, No. 4, pp. 11-13)



First Settlers in the County

Somerset's first permanent settler was a German, Philip WAGERLINE, who lived near present day Berlin, in Brothers Valley Township. Wagerline arrived in Somerset (then Bedford County) sometime before 1771 when Herman HUSBAND visited his cabin during the summer of 1771. Wagerline was a farmer and was plowing the rich farm lands when Husband first arrived.

Husband, most notable of the early settlers to Somerset County, was heading for a friend's hunting cabin in the nearby mountains. Issac Cox, a former neighbor of Husband's kept a small hunting cabin in Western Pennsylvania and was living there at the time of Husband's visit.

Harmon Husband, a native of Maryland, was living in Orange County, North Carolina at this time. Shortly after the repeal of the Stamp Act, Husband and others from patriotic Orange County formed a small group called the "Regulators". The Regulators banded together to propose opposition to the growing injustice of the courts in Hillsborough, Orange County, North Carolina. Husband was a devout Quaker and was against violence of any kind. However, the Regulators were more prone to violent acts against the governing justice system and rioted in the city streets.

Husband, was a well known legislator in Orange County, and tried without success to change the law by peaceable means. However, Husband, was arrested for protesting unjust collection of taxes and later was declared by "ex post facto" an instigator in the Hillsborough riots.

The Governor, wanting to try Husband for treason, in the hopes of squelching more riots, jerry-rig a jury

and pronounced Husband guilty. The growing tensions between the Governor's forces and the militant Regulators erupted in the Battle of Alamance. The Regulator's were severely defeated and the leaders of the rebellion were executed. Husband was forced to flee pending immediate execution. He left North Carolina and returned to his homeland of Maryland. However, word had been spread about him and the Governor of Maryland gave stern warning to anyone in Maryland and Virginia who had thoughts of harboring any of the fugitives of the Battle of Alamance.

Harmon Husband, stayed in Somerset County (then Bedford) and built a cabin six miles from Wagerlines. Husband, fearing the use of his real name, went by the pseudonym of "Tuscape Death" (To Escape Death). Wagerline and Cox, however, preferred to call him the "Old Quaker".

Issac Cox later sold his land to Harmon Husband (known later as BARRON Farm) and moved west. Husband acquired several thousand acres of land, most of present day Somerset. Husband, later became one of the first Assemblymen to the Pennsylvania Legislature from Bedford County following it's organization after the Declaration of Independence.

In 1776 he plotted most of the town of Somerset. In 1790, he presented the petition to the legislature requesting the formation of Somerset County. He died in 1795, following an unjust imprisonment in Philadelphia, only a few months short of seeing Somerset chosen as county seat.

(excerpted from Somerset Past, Vol V, No. 2, pp. 20-21)

For more information on the descendants of Harmon Husband, read Mary Elinor Lazenby's biography of Harmon Husband. [[Note, I cannot find the bio, but here is a wiki.](#)]

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Somerset County portion of the [PAGenWeb](#)