

The Jacobsburg Record

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1987

VOLUME XV No.6

Merry

CHRISTMAS IS COMING TO THE HOMESTEAD
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
1:00 to 4:00 P.M.

Christmas

EXHIBITORS AND PARTICIPANTS WILL BE:

Robert Lafferty	Miniature Cars
Mrs. John Bechtold	Dolls
Robert Newell	Guns
Mrs. William Smith	Cornhusk Dolls
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Mills	Music Box
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Gulick	Putz
Mrs. Walter Peters	

Come, enjoy the beautiful Music Box sound, feast your eyes on the exhibits, while sipping Jacobsburg Brew and nibbling on homemade cookies—all this in the beautifully dressed-up for Christmas Henry Homestead.

ANNUAL MEETING

Those of you who did not attend the annual meeting on October 22 missed an excellent presentation on the Constitution. Attorneys Walter Peters and Charles Peischl did a superb job giving us insight into the men who formulated this important Document. Many, many thanks to Walter and Charles for their time and effort in preparing and presenting this not only informative, but most interesting program.

Of course, the food was abundantly plentiful and delicious. The cooks and waitresses at Stockertown Memorial Hall deserve high praise.

BOARD NOTES

At the meeting on November 4, newly elected Director John Morrow was introduced. John resides in Phillipsburg and is a member of the Northhamptontowne Militia. (You might have seen him participating in the mini encampments at The Homestead.) Welcome aboard, John!

THE FAMILY OF CAPTAIN JACOB HELLER

By Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.

In the March./April 1987 issue of The Jacobsburg Record (vol.xv, no,2), we introduced the times of Jacob and Abraham Heller, patriots of the American Revolution. This was followed in the next issue by an article which traced the ancestry of the Heller family. Certain unsolved problems, requiring further research have delayed the resumption of the Heller articles. Some problems remain, but we have decided not to put off any longer continuing with the history of this family.

Jacob Heller was born in lower Saucon Township 6 Mar 1750 and died in Plainfield Township 8 Oct 1822, son of Johan Simon and Louisa (Dietz) Heller. He served in the Revolutionary War as captain of a company consisting mostly of men from the vicinities of Jacobsburg and Wind Gap. His brother Abraham became lieutenant pf the same company.

Jacob Heller married first, about 1775, Susanna Wayland (or Weyland), who was born 21 Jun 1757 and died 28 Dec 1797. About 1798 he married second Hannah Whittier, who was born about 18 Aug 1770 and died 27 Jul 1841. The parents of Susanna and Hannah have not been identified.

Jacob Heller was the father of at least nineteen children of whom eighteen have been identified. By Susanna, he had at least twelve children, and by Hannah, at least six.

The first child of Jacob and Susannah (Wayland) Heller was (1) Susanna, who was born 15 Aug 1776 and died in Seipsville, Palmer Township, 20 Nov 1869. She married 9 Apr 1794 Jacob Seip, who was born 11 Dec 1771 and died 11 Jul 1850. Jacob and Susanna (Heller) Seip were buried in the Arndt's Church cemetery.

The second child of Jacob and Susanna (Wayland) Heller was (2) Elizabeth, who was born 13 Nov 1777 and was dead by 1840. Before 1820 she married George Weiss. They had a son, John Jacob Weiss, who was born 4 Mar 1820.

The third child was (3) John, who was born 28 Dec 1778. We have a problem with John, because Abraham also had a son John whose date of birth is uncertain, and both Johns seem to have been married two or more times, each wife being named either Elizabeth or Catharine. Clues to the identities of their respective wives are scanty and inconclusive. Correctly matching the pairs of spouses is proving very difficult. At this point, about all we can say is that probably the first wife of John, son of Jacob and Susanna (Wayland) Heller, was Elisabeth Beibelman (Beidelman?) whom he married 8 Jun 1801, as recorded at the First Reformed Church (now First U.C.C.) of Easton.

The next child of Jacob and Susanna died when she was less than

a year old. She was (4) Catharine, who was born 31 Jul 1780 and died 4 Jun 1781. Her baptism on 10 Sep 1780 was recorded in the register of the Plainfield Township Reformed Congregation. Her grave is in St. Peter's Union Cemetery, southeast of Wind Gap.

Next was (5) Jacob, Jr., who was born in Plainfield Township 23 Apr 1782 and died in Easton 14 Oct 1834. On 18 Mar 1804 he married Susanna Butz, who was born 8 Jun 1783 and died 20 Dec 1853, daughter of Christian and Mary (Wagener) Butz. In 1822 Jacob Heller, Jr., was one of the executors of his father's will. Jacob, Jr., and Susanna (Butz) Heller had eight children, born in the interval 1805-1825.

The next child of Jacob and Susanna (Wayland) Heller was (6) George, who was born 21 Dec 1783 and died 7 Apr 1864. On 5 Apr 1806 he married Susanna Apple, who was born 31 Dec 1784 and died 17 Apr 1833. They had at least six children, born in the interval 1807-1823.

The next was (7) Peter, who was born 13 Apr 1785 and was baptized in the Reformed Congregation of the Plainfield Township Union Church near Wind Gap on 29 May 1785. This son was not mentioned by W.J. Heller in 1898, nor by John Eyerman in 1912. Peter died 30 May 1814 in his 30th year and was buried in St. Peter's Union Cemetery. Peter and his wife Sarah had three children: Jabob S., born 13 Dec 1807, died 20 Feb 1867; Rebecca, born 6 Apr 1809, died 28 Oct 1883, who married first Simon Stocker, and second a Mr. Arnold; and Enos, born 2 Sep 1811, who married Sarah Muffley. We do not know the maiden surname of Sarah, wife of Peter Heller.

In 1787, Jacob and Susanna (Wayland) Heller seem to have had twins, (8) a boy and (9) a girl, who were baptized in Plainfield Township 6 Jan 1788. The boy's name was recorded, probably in error, as John Jacob. This name, actually that of the father, is doubtful because they had living sons whose names were John and Jacob. This boy may have been Phillip Heller, who married a Susanna and had a daughter Sarah who was born 5 Oct 1807; or he may have been Christoph Heller, who on 9 Mar 1813 married Susanna Lantz. The girl was (9) Maria (or Mary) who was born 1 Dec 1787 and was dead by 1827; she married Peter Houser and had two children, Peter and Susanna Houser.

We suppose, but haven't proved, that (10) Henry Heller (1799-1839) was a son of Jacob and Susanna (Wayland) Heller. Henry was born 10 Jul 1789 and died 30 Nov 1839. By 1812 he had a wife, Maria, whose maiden surname we believe was Sterner. Henry and Maria had at least twelve children, including a pair of twins, born in the interval 1813-1835, and baptized in Plainfield Township.

The next child of Jacob and Susanna (Wayland) Heller was (11) Samuel, who was born 15 Mar 1791 and died in Plainfield Township 9 Aug 1849. Samuel was followed by (12) Carl (or Charles), who was born 26 Feb 1793 and died 15 Oct 1853. By 1818 Charles was married to Magdalena Rammel, who was born 9 May 1781 and died 17 Sep 1868. The graves of Charles and Magdalena are in St. Peter's Union Cemetery, southeast of Wind Gap.

The last child born to Jacob Heller, Sr., and Susanna was (13) Joseph, who was born about August 1795 and died in June 1797.

Jacob Heller, Sr., married second, about 1798, Hannah Whittier. The first child of this second marriage was given the same name as Susanna's last child, now deceased; He was (14) Joseph, born 15 Nov 1798, who died 17 Apr 1799. The graves of the two Josephs are side by side in St. Peter's Cemetery.

The second child of Jacob and Hannah was (15) William, who was born 14 Jun 1802. William's wife, Sarah Ann, was born 17 Dec 1804 and died 9 Feb 1828. They had a daughter, Caroline Hannah Heller, who was born 18 June 1825. We don't know Sarah Ann's maiden name.

The third child of Jacob and Hannah was (16) Eliza, who was born 26 Jan 1804 and died 1 June 1818. Next was (17) Rebecca, who was born 1 Jul 1805. Rebecca Heller married 16 Mar 1827 Abraham Eckert of Plainfield Township.

The fifth child of Jacob and Hannah was (18) Thomas Heller, who was born about 1809. No baptismal record has been found for Thomas, but records of the Orphans Court confirm his relationship. He resided in 1830 in Lower Mount Bethel Township.

The sixth and last child of Jacob and Hannah (Whittier) Heller of whom we have found any record was (19) Henrietta Louisa, who was born 14 Jul 1811. On 4 Sep 1831, Henrietta was married to Philip Woodring.

There were Hellers in Plainfield Township, contemporary with the children of Jacob and Abraham, who were not of their families, although it is likely that they were related. Among them was the following couple whose graves are in St. Peter's Cemetery: Adam Heller born 9 Jan 1782, died 9 Jul 1852; wife Magdalena, born 27 Jun 1788, died 30 May 1855. Adam is not mentioned in the will of Abraham Heller, who meticulously named each of his heirs. He could hardly have been a child of Jacob Heller, Sr., because his date of birth is incompatible with that of Jacob Heller, Jr., who was born 23 Apr 1782. Maybe some of readers can help us to identify Adam Heller.

A later Adam Heller was Adam F., who was born 22 Feb 1821 and was baptized 6 May 1821 in the Reformed congregation of Plainfield Township, son of Henry and Maria (Sterner) Heller. We have supposed that Henry Heller (1789-1839) was a son of Jacob and Susanna (Wayland) Heller.

The family of Abraham and Elizabeth (Germanton) Heller will be the main subject of another article, in which we shall also explore further the unsolved problems that still confront us in our study of the Heller family.



BOARD NOTES - Cont'd.

ACQUISITIONS

The Society has received the following:

- (1) From Mrs. Robert Kindt - a photograph of the gun factory, and of the Laub Store in Belfast.
- (2) From the family of Robert Fehr, in memory of their father, a very old Henry gun, 22 calibre, rim fire breech loading rifle, with outside hammer; has old style octagonal barrel operated by means of swing-out action, similar to Civil War Period carbines. The gun is unmarked --- most of this particular type are seen without any markings -- BUT WE DO KNOW IT IS A HENRY RIFLE FROM THE STYLE.

(Thanks to Bob Newell for the above)

HOMESTEAD

Kathryn Schlamp reported that 123 people attended the October Open House.

FALL TRIP

The nineteen people who participated in the trip to Morristown National Park on October 14 had a great day --- perfect weather for the tour of this historical site, and a delightful lunch. Many thanks to Hilton Rahn for arranging this tour.

PUBLICATIONS

Bob Newell reports that his book is nearly ready for the printer. There are still copies of Charles Sandwick's book available. It would make a great Christmas gift.





May peace, joy and love surround you
and everything you do
and may this be the very best
Christmas ever and happy New Year, too!

THE SOCIETY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS WISH
YOU AND YOURS A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHFUL,
HAPPY 1988.



SEE YOU SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
AT THE HOMESTEAD: 1:00 to 4:00



JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Mary Henry Stites

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Student	\$2.50	Sustaining	\$10.00	Contributing	\$15.00
Individual	\$5.00	Family	\$12.50	organizations	\$25.00

NAME CONTRIBUTIONS

TANNERY CLUB \$100 BOULTON CLUB \$500 HENRY RIFLECLUB \$1000

NAME AND ADDRESS _____

TEL. NO. _____

Please return this slip with your check, payable to Jacobsburg Historical Society. Send to P.O. Box 345, Nazareth, PA 18064. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Cancelled check is your receipt.