

A  
STOUFFER LINE  
of  
DESCENT  
that originated in  
LANCASTER COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA

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Page 1 - Matthias Stauffer  
Page 14 - Samuel " "  
Page 20 - John " "  
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Page 37 - William Parker "

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A

STOUFFER LINE

of

DESCENT

that originated in

LANCASTER COUNTY

PENNSYLVANIA

Pa.

*For private distribution among families of the line  
with no pecuniary solicitation  
whatever.*

1951

179 7956 8

Among the early Pennsylvania settlers was one MATTHIAS STAUFFER who is the progenitor of our great Stouffer family. He was one of over a dozen persons of this name who emigrated from Germany to Pennsylvania during the eighteenth century, notwithstanding the popular belief among his descendants that his original home country was Holland. This mistaken belief is based on the hearsay brought down by family tradition that Matthias came in a ship from Rotterdam, consequently the conclusion that he was a Hollander. According to history we gather that he, with a good number of Mennonites, fled for peace and safety to the new western world because of religious persecution in the Rhineland. After leaving Rotterdam for their refuge, they first touched an English port to obtain necessary papers before proceeding across the sea and ultimately landed at Philadelphia. With others he proceeded to settle in the south-eastern section of Pennsylvania within the great province which had been granted to William Penn in quittance of England's debt to his father, Admiral Penn.

Only Matthias' descendants and the descendants of one Christian Stauffer of Salford township, then in Philadelphia county, who emigrated about the same time, however, are known to have left descendants with the given name Matthias, as found in successive generations. There are reasons for believing that Matthias and Christian were brothers though proof is lacking. Although this branch more commonly kept the spelling Stouffer, the variant Stauffer is often found. Therefore, Matthias is tentatively identified as the founder of this branch of the Stouffer family, and it should be observed that this branch in the posterity regularly spelled the name Stouffer (some branches as "Stover") instead of the more common Stauffer.

At this juncture it is desired to remark that the Stauffer people had originally inhabited Switzerland as far back as the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, for an historian said: "The name is an ancient one and seems to have rooted in Berne and Lucerne Cantons, Switzerland. The root of the name *Stauffe* means either cup or steep hill, especially the symbol of a hand holding a cup which is the Coat-of-

Arms for the families in Berne, Switzerland. Apparently it was the official title among noblemen in those middle ages whose English equivalent is cupbearer or butler."

The first record of Matthias is printed in the *Pennsylvania Archives*:

Matthias Stauffer (recommended by Christian Heer) requests the grant of a piece of land near the branches of the Shecasalongo Creek.

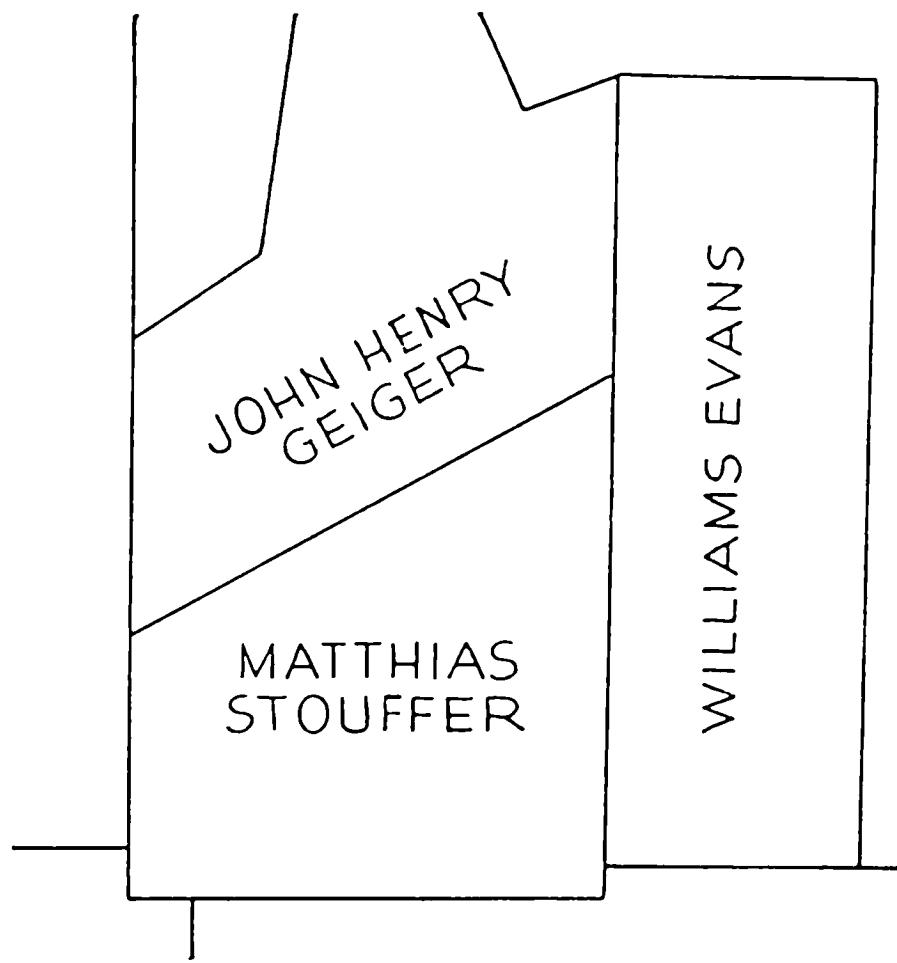
This item is dated November 2, 1725, when Matthias was presumably about twenty-five years of age. The section of land referred to was in the western extremities of what was then Conestoga township, Chester county, but which in 1729 became a part of Lancaster county. There is no indication that this land was ever taken up by him.



An old map of Caernarvon township, which is at the eastern end of Lancaster county, shows Matthias "Stopher" owning a hundred-forty-acre-tract which was surveyed on February 14, 1734. His property is on the road running to "Blue Ball" between the lands of Nathan Evans and John Mendenhall, Welshmen. On February 19, 1734, a warrant was issued to him for one hundred and fifty acres of land in Earl township, Lancaster county. This warrant was signed by Thomas Penn, son of the founder of Pennsylvania, and reads thus:

At the Request of Matthias Stouffer of the County of Lancaster that We would grant him to take up One hundred & fifty Acres of Land situate on Cedar Runn in Earle Township adjoining John Mendenhall's Land in the said County of Lancaster for which He agrees to pay to our Use at the Rate of Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings current Money

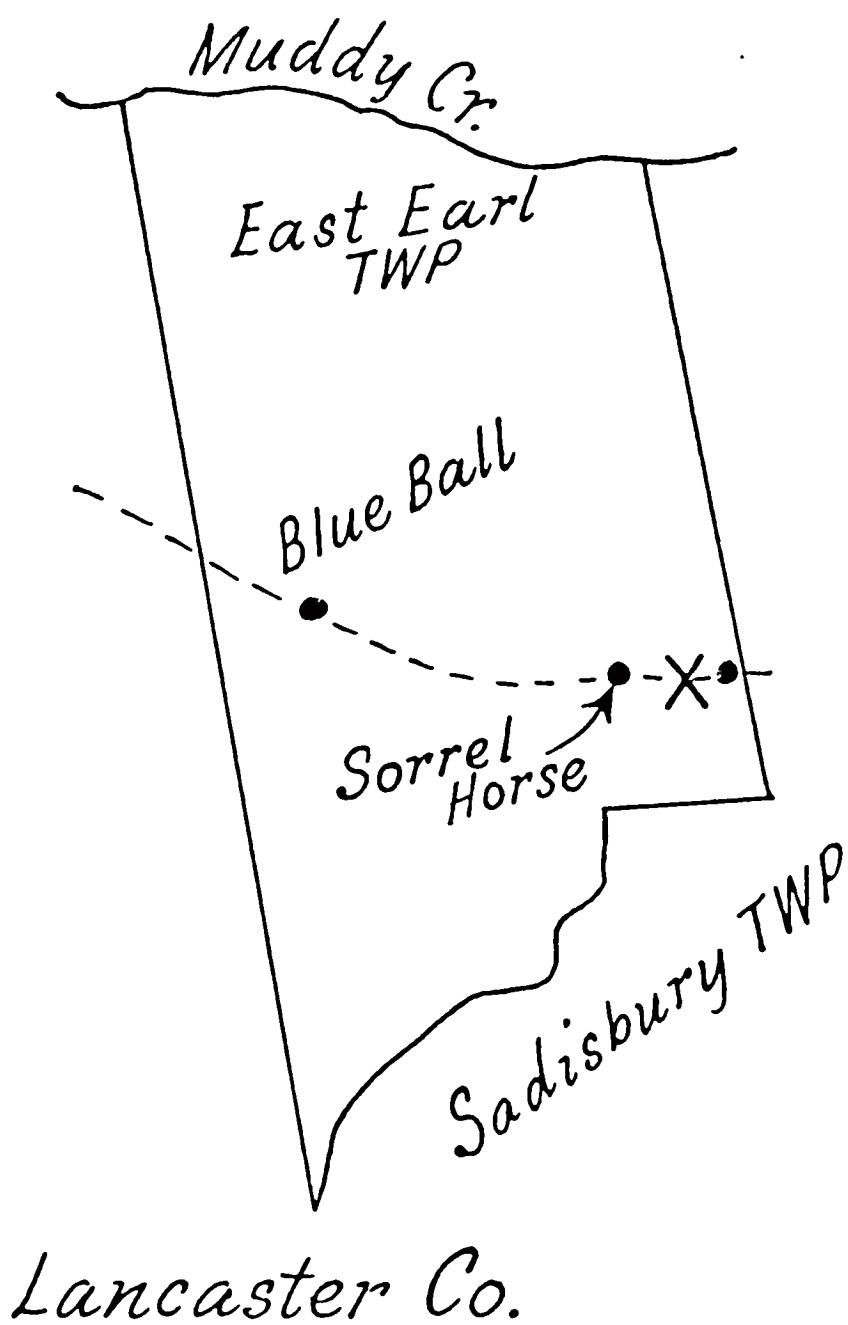
of this Province for One Hundred Acres, and the yearly Quit-rent of one Half-penny Sterling for every Acre thereof; THESE are to authorize and require thee (the Surveyor General) to survey or cause to be survey'd unto the said Matthias Stouffer at the Place aforesaid, according to the Method of Townships appointed the said Quantity of 150 Acres that hath not been already survey'd or appropriated, and make Return thereof into the Secretary's Office, in order for a further confirmation; for which this shall be thy sufficient Warrant, which Survey, in case the said Matthias Stouffer fulfil the above Agreement within Six Months from the Date hereof, shall be valid, otherwise to be void, GIVEN unto my Hand, and the lesser Seal of our Province, at Philadelphia this 19th Day of February Anno Dom. 1734. By the Proprietaries.



By a long explanatory description, as found in the records kept at the Land Office of the Department of Internal Affairs, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, we learn of the survey of the property which occurred on November 20, 1735, as describing its limits as:

Beginning at a black Oak in a line of Nathan Evan's Land and extending thence by the same West One hundred and sixty perches to a Post. Thence North by the same Land and by Land of John Mendenhall Eighty eight Perches to a Post thence by vacant Land North Sixty degrees One hundred and Eighty five perches to a white oak and South One hundred and Eighty perches to the place of beginning, containing one hundred and twenty-six acres and the allowance of Six Acres *per cent* for Roads and highways.

Matthias patented this land on April 23, 1740, receiving it from the hand of Thomas Penn "by virtue of the powers and authorities to him granted by the said John and Richard Penn and of his own Right." The consideration was nineteen pounds and twelve shillings. The old Paxton road ran through the property, while on one side there was the property of Nathan Evans. The land is located in the eastern part of Earl township, not far from the Caernarvon township line. It is near the old town of Blue Ball, at the site of the present town of Goodville, now in East Earl township. This is unquestionably the same piece of property as indicated by the survey of five days before in February of 1734.



It should be pointed out that one Henry Stauffer also received a warrant for one hundred acres of land in Lancaster county on the same date of February 19, 1734, and fifty acres in the following month. This immediately opens up the question as to the possible relationship of Matthias and Henry. Could it be that Henry, Matthias

and Christian were brothers? Unfortunately, no evidence has been found that Henry ever took up his rights to the land.

Apparently in need of money, Moses Mendenhall, Matthias' neighbor, on approaching him brought up the subject of sale of two tracts of land he wished to dispose of for cash. The tracts in this deal would amount to about one hundred and fifty acres. The outcome of the bargain was that Matthias agreed to purchase the first tract containing forty-four and a half acres. The deed for same was probably recorded but is not obtainable. The other tract consisting of one hundred and four acres was purchased by Matthias on May 29, 1752. These two tracts together were obtained for the consideration of four hundred and sixty pounds. From the latter deed we learn of Moses Mendenhall having received from his father, John Mendenhall, on May 24, 1748, these land tracts. On disposal of the first tract that Matthias bought, Moses Mendenhall was able to retain the other part by placing it under mortgage on December 12, 1749. Apparently he failed to meet payment and the deal was closed on the mentioned date when Matthias took it up. This deed of conveyance gives a description of the land as follows:

BEGINNING at a chestnut tree at a Corner of Christian Hildebrand's Land, thence by the same North twenty five degrees West ninety one perches to a White Oak, thence North one hundred and nineteen perches to a post, thence West eight perches to a post thence North by other Land of the said John Mendenhall one hundred and eight perches to a post, thence by Evan Edwards Land East sixty five perches to a Black Oak, thence South three hundred and three perches to a post being a Corner of the said Christian Hildebrand's Land, thence West eighteen perches to the Place of BEGINNING.

This whole branch of the Stouffer family seems to have lived on the dividing line of Caernarvon and Earl townships. Matthias appears in the record as one of the few Germans in this predominantly Welsh neighborhood.

From at least as early as 1744 until his death in 1758 he promptly paid the quit-rent to the proprietors every three years. These payments are given below. In noting the payments, it is to be remembered that before 1752 New Year's Day fell on the twenty-fifth of March. Thereafter, the March payments continued to be observed:

March 26, 1744: 126 acres in Earle 2 yrs in full £1  
5s 11 $\frac{1}{4}$  Penna. currency.

March 27, 1747: 126 acres Earle township 3 years  
in full Sterling £0 15s 9 Penna. currency £1 8s 4

March 27, 1750: 126 acres Earle 3 yrs in full

March 30, 1753: 126 acres 3 yrs 44½ and 104 acres  
Earle Sterling £1 7s 3¼ Penna. currency £2 4s 11

March 27, 1756: 104 and 170½ acres Earle 3 yrs in  
full Sterling £1 4s 5 Penna. currency £2 2s 1

The above information is obtained from the *Manuscript Pennsylvania Journal*, now in keeping of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. In the 1756 printed tax list of Earle township under the name of "Mathewe Stauffer" he was holding one hundred acres of his original purchase, while his sons, Christian and Peter, held fifty acres each.

His will, dated February 6, 1758, and proved on April 10, 1758, which was written in German, was signed only by his mark. He died shortly after the will was dated. To his widow Anne he bequeathed forty pounds from his estate. Sons Henrich, Matthias, Christian, Peter and Jacob were each to have fifty acres, individually and outright, if they had not already received their share. This represented two hundred and fifty acres of his apparently two hundred and seventy-five acre holdings. Peter Stauffer, his son, and Christian Zimmerman (*alias* Carpenter which is English equivalent), his brother-in-law, were named executors. He mentions children (young sons and daughters) in his will but does not name them. It is interesting to note that Matthias authorizes his executors to loan money from his estate without interest. There is little doubt that he was a good Mennonite. His children, particularly Peter, are known to have been of that faith. The will is exceedingly difficult to decipher, no satisfactory interpretation ever having been made. Dr. Albert Gerberich, the noted Pennsylvania-German authority, made a translation of this will from a photostat. Of the will he writes:

"This is the most interesting will I have ever worked on because it is the toughest I have ever seen. The grammar and orthography are atrocious beyond the limit of expressive adjectives. The will contains many Swiss dialect-phonetic spellings and a few English expressions. I should say it is a splendid example of the earliest development of the South German dialect in the direction of the Pennsylvania Dutch, and as such, I would preserve it carefully if I were you."

It is presumably in the handwriting of one of the witnesses, George Hoffman. The will with the English interpreted meanings, so far as it has been possible to make out, is given in parallel columns:

Datum den 6 Feber wari anno  
1758 hab ich Mateis Stafer bey  
meinem guten Verstant lassen  
schreiben mein lester Wil und  
Destement/

Date Feb. 6, 1758 --- I Mateis  
Staffer in sound mind have had  
my last will and testament writ-  
ten/

es ist mein Wil dass wan ich zu sterben kommen so soll ale leicht Kosten Vohn meinem hin der lassenschaft bezahlt wer den/

auch sollen meine Vohrmiete oder erben getreilg alle recht mesigen Schulten bezahlen/

auch ist mein Will das mein geliebten hinter lassene Witwe Anna Stafer in soll recht haben auf meinem Blatz und in meinem Hausse oder sonst in einem guten Hauss zu wohnen so lang sie lebet wan sie ohne ehe bleibet/

soll (sie) wieter zur ehe greiffen so soll sie haben das drite Deil anfahren reben haben/

wan sy aber ohne eh bleibt so soll nime niamant macht haben sy Vohn meinem blatz siy zu Vehr Dreiben so lang siy lebet und soll macht haben zu ihrem drittigem Deil zu greifen/

weiter Ver mach ich ihr auss den meinigen 40 Pfund angelt/

and mein Sohn Henrich Stauffer sol haben 50 a ackerlant das halb in glorlant und das halb in busch lant von meiner blanddaschen an des neben uven seiner lein/

und den alten baum garten und die alte Scheuer and die halb Wiesse auch in denn 50 acker/

und zu dem brunne sol einer recht haben wie der ander und das ubrig Von der blant dasche sol si zum genuss haben/

---ooo0ooo---

biss mein sohn Matteis mundtig ist so soll er auch 50 acker haben von meiner blanddaschen mir der ubrigen wiesen und baumgarten mit dem bauwesen und darinne sol die mueter ihre wohnblatz haben wie oben gemelt ist/

unde meine erwantten Vormunder be volmechtege ich ihr eine

it is my will that when I come to die then all light expenses shall be paid by my survivors/

also my administrators or heirs shall honestly pay all bona-fide debts/

it is also my will that my dear surviving widow Anna Stafer shall have the right to my place and to dwell in my house or in a good house elsewhere as long as she lives, if she remains unmarried/

should she again enter into wedlock then she is to have a third part of ---?/

but if she stays unmarried no one shall have power to drive her from my place as long as she lives and she shall have a right to take her third part/

Futher I will her 40 pounds in cash from my (estate)/

and my son Henrich Stauffer shall have 50 A. of land, half in cleared land, half in bush, on the next to Oven's (Evan's) line/

and the old orchard and old barn and the half meadow also in the 50 A./

and shall have as much right to the well as the other and the rest of the plantation she shall enjoy/

---ooo0ooo---

When my son Matteis is of age he shall also have 50 A. from my plantation with the other meadows and orchard and buildings and therein the mother shall have her home as stated above/

and my said guardians I authorize to support her honorably and

under halt geben nacht recht und  
bieligkeit/

weider ist mein Wille dass meine  
zwei Sohn Christian und Beter  
Stauffer sollen hundert acker ha-  
ben das auf alt recht wo si darauf  
wohnen/

und mein Sohn Jacob Stauffer sol-  
die 50 acker haben auf und recht/  
das sind die hundert und 50 ack-  
er wo ich Kauf hab von dem  
Moses Mindenahl um 460 Pund/  
also habe ein Geliches Vohr 1.53  
Pund und 6 schilling 8 bentz  
lant/

und mit dem waser sol einer das  
recht haben wie der ander/

es ist meine wille das meine Kin-  
ter sollen an mir neben sein  
eines wie das ander das elste wie  
das jungste und das jungste wie  
das elste und soll also gleich gete-  
ilt werden/

und sollenes im schriben deilen/  
dar zu hab ich alss ich hoffe ged-  
reue briter ersehen/

und gib sie nuch zufahr muenter  
namlich mein Schwager Christian  
Zimmerman und mein Sohn Be-  
ter Staufer/

die befol mechtige ich das sie sol-  
len in aller billigkeit Hauss halten  
mit meinen hinderlassenschaft  
und sie sollen befolmachtig sein  
eine Kaufft brief zu geben im ge-  
lichem auf sein lant wo ich im  
geben hab ich Vehrdraumen und  
befoll machtige sie das sie sollen  
Vehr kaufen um ein billichen  
Breiss

---ooo0ooo---

ohne sentige was nit ohne scha-  
ten kan aufgeholt werten Vohr  
die erben/

Ferner befolmachtige ich sie das  
sie sollen macht haben ohne  
Zunsgelt auss zu lehnen wass  
christlich ist und wo sie selber

loyally/

further it is my will that my 2  
sons Christian and Peter shall  
have by old right the 100 A. on  
which they dwell/

and my son Jacob shall have the  
50 A./

these are the 150 A. I bought  
from Moses Mendenhall for  
£460/

I also have another (farm) for  
£153-6-8/

and one shall have the same right  
to the water as the other/

it is my will that all my children  
shall be alike before me, the  
youngest as the oldest and shall  
receive an equal division/

and shall divide it in writing/  
for this I hope I have provided  
honestly and wisely/

and I give them as guardians my  
brother in law Christian Zimmer-  
man and my son Peter Staufer/

I authorize them that they shall  
look after the estate with all hon-  
esty toward my survivors/

and they shall be authorized to  
give a bill of sale for land I have  
given them/

and I authorize them that they  
shall sell at a reasonable price

---ooo0ooo---

without any damage that can be  
avoided for the heirs/

Further I authorize them that they  
shall have power to loan the  
money without interest as is  
christian and where they them-

geboten sein Vohr das gelt damit  
meine erben ihren gelt nit Vehr  
liehere/

weiter befolmechtige ich sie das  
wan sich meine Dochter verheiraten  
so ists mein wil das ein gegliche  
soll haben zum anfang 40  
Pd es sey endweder an gut oder  
an gelt/

ich entsage und verbiete dass  
meine erben keine macht habe  
nit dress zu Vottern an die Vor-  
muntrer/

und das ist mein wile das wo ihr  
lant unt geschaft ist das es sol  
geschatzt werden durch un bar-  
deigischen ma (nnern) von (gu-  
ter)----und arten

und solches zur fest haltung ver-  
sigel ich eygen hantig bey unter-  
schriebner Zeigen

Sein  
Mateis M Stafer  
marck

Georg Hoffman  
Christian Wenger  
Michal Widwer

selves determine, in order that  
my heirs do not lose their  
money/

Further I authorize them that  
when my daughters marry it is  
my will that an accounting shall  
include (for them) at the start  
£40 either in land or money/

I prohibit and forbid that my  
heirs have any right to-----(?) to  
the guardians/

and that is my will, that where  
their land and business is, that  
shall be valued by unprejudiced  
men of good --- and manners.

And to confirm the same I sign  
(it) with my own hand in the  
presence of the undersigned wit-  
ness.

his  
Mateis M Stafer  
mark

George Hoffman  
Christian Wenger  
Michael Wittwer

Identification of Matthias' wife requires careful consideration. Presumably he was married by 1729, for a tombstone inscription indicates a daughter was born about that year. From his will we learn that he had a wife whose Christian name was Anne, and that he had a brother-in-law who was Christian Zimmerman. Therefore, his wife might have been Anne Zimmerman, aged 18, who had emigrated with her brother Christian Zimmerman, aged 14, on the "Hope" which arrived on August 28, 1733. But this possibility is weakened by the fact that Matthias was already married and was living in Pennsylvania by 1729. The objection might be overcome by assuming that Matthias first married before 1733 and again after that year to Anne Zimmerman. But in a deed of 1770 Christian Zimmerman (*alias* Carpenter) is mentioned as uncle to all of Matthias' children, including Susanna Stouffer, who was born *circa* 1729, before Anne Zimmerman had married. Therefore, unless more facts can be proved, it would be better to conclude that Christian Zimmerman married a sister of Matthias Stauffer.

A very close neighbor of Matthias Stauffer was Evans Edwards, who was born *circa* 1716, and whose son was the prominent Judge Thomas Edwards. According to papers read before the Lancaster Historical Society, "Evans Edwards married Elizabeth Stauffer, daughter of Jacob Stauffer. This is one of the earliest marriages of the Welsh into the Dutch, as they were called. They had three children". The identity of this Elizabeth is puzzling, inasmuch as no other Stauffer family lived in Earl township in those early days.

A possible clue to the identity of the wife of Matthias Stauffer appears in the Philadelphia county deeds, under date of July 30, 1756. Barbara Funk of Franconia township, county of Philadelphia, widow; Matthias Stauffer of Conestoga township, Lancaster county, yeoman, and Anne his wife; Jacob Hackman of Franconia township and Elizabeth his wife; and Jacob Oberholzer of Salford township, county of Philadelphia, are mentioned as heirs of Jacob Oberholzer of Salford township, county of Philadelphia, deceased. The Oberholzers were a prominent Mennonite family, some members of which were in Earl township in the seventeen thirties.

Knowing that our Matthias Stauffer of Lancaster county was born about 1705 and married an Anne, as indicated by his will of 1758; and knowing that one Matthias Stauffer of Lancaster county did marry Anne Oberholzer who was born *circa* 1710 (1756 deed), and since a careful search of the records fails to reveal two Matthias Stauffers of Lancaster county, it is tentatively inferred that these Matthias Stauffers are one and the same. The Anne Oberholzer Stauffer may be the "Widow Stouffer", who was alive in the year 1798 in Caernarvon township, Lancaster county, Penna., when she was then at the ripe age of eighty-eight years.

There are two objections to this reasoning: First, the Philadelphia deed refers to Matthias Stauffer as of Conestoga township. When Matthias Stauffer of Earl township went to Lancaster county, this township was, however, within the area of Conestoga township, Chester county. Furthermore, the 1757 tax lists of Conestoga township do not include any person by the name of Stauffer. It is inferred that the drafter meant Conestoga township in the old sense. The second objection is that the Matthias mentioned in the Philadelphia county will could have been Matthias Stauffer, the son of Christian Stauffer of Salford township which was then in Philadelphia county, and who resided not far from the Oberholzers. This identification has been accepted in the Loomis genealogy but Loomis, it seems, refers to a Matthias, grandson of Christian, of a much later generation.

Matthias Stauffer, son of Christian, is mentioned in his father's will on February 26, 1734/35. No direct evidence of his existence after this date can be found. He seems to have been a minor on this date---not mentioned in the 1734 tax list of Philadelphia county, although his father is. He would have been too young to be the husband of a girl who was born circa 1710.

The names of the five sons of Matthias Stauffer are found in the will. The names of the other five children may be obtained from either of two Lancaster county deeds. The issue of Matthias:

Susanna, born *circa* 1729; died on November 4, 1807; aged seventy-eight years; buried in the Weaverland Mennonite cemetery. In her will, which is dated June 7, 1796, she made bequests to and named the children of her deceased brothers Peter and Christian.

Peter died on November 20, 1787; married Marie (evidently) Weaver who died on July 30, 1791. Their descendants were buried in the Weaver burial lot. Being the eldest son, he was named as executor of his father's will. He was the father of: (1) Matthias who married on December 23, 1786, Eve Stelles (Stealey); (2) George, born on January 2, 1760; died on September 11, 1832, married Esther Zimmerman, who was born in February of 1766 and died on October 28, 1833. Each left wills which shed light on their respective relatives. He mentioned that he raised John Markley from boyhood. Some of Esther's relatives moved to Washington county, Maryland; (3) Peter, born on February 28, 1762; married Barbara Stealey; (4) Christian, who does not appear in the 1790 census of Earl township; (5) Jacob, born on May 2, 1769; married Marie Martin. (6) Madlin, married George Stealey, Jr., of Earl township, Lancaster county; (7) Veronica, married John Warner according to the will of her brother, George; (8) Samuel, born in Goodville, Pennsylvania, according to the census record of later date as between 1775 and 1780. Census shows he resided in Earl township next to his brothers until 1830. He was bequeathed property by the will of his brother George, dated June 12, 1832. He had a store in Goodville. In 1836 he removed to Wayne county, Ohio. He was accompanied at least by a son George, born July 4, 1805, who married Elizabeth Shirk. Census records indicate that he had three sons and two daughters.

Christian was taxed for his fifty acres of land in 1756. On April 12, 1760 he purchased one hundred and thirty-five acres in Caernarvon township from Henry Weaver. He resided in Caernarvon from that date until his death which was between June 26, 1784 and August 18, 1784. His wife, whose name was Anne, continued to reside in Caernarvon township. In the 1790 census she was listed as one of four females in her family. Nearby lived her eldest son Matthias, who is mentioned as the only son in Christian's will. Widow Stauffer appears in the Caernarvon township tax lists until 1797/8 at which date she probably died.

The names of the children of Christian are taken from the will of Christian's sister, Susanna: (1)Elizabeth who was married to Philip Rank; (2)Sarah; (3)Matthias, who appears in the 1790 census as being of Caernarvon township with two females in the family. On December 15, 1796 he conveyed his share of his father's estate to John Zell for a consideration of seventy-two pounds and five shillings. He apparently moved away immediately thereafter, for he does not appear in the 1797 or later tax lists of that township; (4)Peter who died in 1802. His will mentions the names of several brothers and sisters; (5)Veronica; (6)Susanna; (7)Anna who was married, it is said, to Michael Ricker; (8)Mary who was married to David Weaver; (9)Esther; (10)Catherine; (11)Barbara; (12)Christian who does not appear in the census of 1790 of Caernarvon but is mentioned in the will of his brother in 1802.

Henry is difficult to identify for a certainty, since he does not appear in the recorded deeds after 1770; his wife's given name was Elizabeth. In the 1790 census a Henry Stouffer has a family, consisting of one male under sixteen and two females. One Henry Stouffer, evidently an old man, made a will in Earl township, November 17, 1817 which was proved on January 19, 1819. The children are not positively identified and can not be found in Earl township deeds and tax lists. Children listed in Henry's will are: (1)Jacob; (2)Matthias; (3)Daniel; (4)Barbara who was married to Jacob Rachel (Rishal?); (5)Catherine who was married to George Albert (Albright?); (6)Elizabeth, who was married to Ludwig Rank 1748-1842; (7)John, perhaps the John who appears in Caernarvon township tax records in 1788 and removed to Cumberland county in 1800; (8)Peter; (9)Samuel; (10)----- who married a Miss Bealer and had a son David, (a George Bealer resided in Cocalico.)

Jacob's wife was Margaret Martin as evidenced by the will, dated October 15, 1771, of her father Henry Martin, of Earl township, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. In 1770 Jacob alienated the property he received from his father and presumably moved away. Tentatively he is identified as "Jacob Stover" of Washington county, Maryland. By the census of 1790 and according to his will and estate papers dated 1810 he had the following children: (1)Ann, married a Mr. Troupe; (2)Jacob; (3)Christian; (4)Elizabeth, married a Mr. Rowland; (5)Barbara, married a Mr. Hoover; (6)Mary, married a Mr. Ridenour; (7)John; (8)David; and (9)Henry.

The Earl township census of 1790, however, shows a Jacob Stouffer, with two males under sixteen and eight females. This man left a will dated June 12, 1812 which was proved on November 10, 1820. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Witwer. The names of his many children do not compare favorably with those in the family of Matthias, however. The children are: David; Jacob; Maria; Barbara; Elizabeth, married first Andrew Eby, born October 27, 1769, the second

time Abraham Shiffer; Susan, married Samuel Bauman; Judith, married Simon Shantz; Catherine, born October 30, 1771, married at Reformed Church, Lancaster, May 25, 1795, Michael Weaver.

Daniel, born March 3, 1742; died November 15, 1823; bequeathed his property to his nephews, Peter and Samuel, sons of his brother Peter, deceased.

Barbara, married Jacob Root.

SAMUEL, our lineal ancestor.

Matthias, born after 1757 and under age at the time his father made his 1758 will; married Christiana whose maiden name is not known. He is tentatively identified as the Matthias Stover living in Washington county, Maryland, as indicated by the census.

Esther, married Nicholas Noonemacher. They were still living in 1770.

(*Through the collaboration of Meredith B. Colket, Jr., Washington, D. C.*)

SAMUEL STOUFFER was one of ten children of Matthias Stauffer of Earl township, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and he is not specifically named in the latter's will dated February 6, 1758. Samuel was a child when his father died. It seems odd that his name is absent from the will and so is the name of his brother Daniel and those of their sisters. Perhaps on dictating the will during illness, his father's memory was vague, hence the failure to include them. Their names and those of their sisters were obtained, it is fortunate to say, from the records in the Lancaster county deeds. Of them one reads as follows:

Christian Stouffer, Jacob Stouffer, Henry Stouffer, Matthias Stouffer, Daniel Stouffer, Susanna Stouffer, and Samuel Stouffer, the sons and daughter of Matthias Stouffer late of Earl township deceased, Jacob Root and Barbara his wife, Nicholas Noonemacher and Esther his wife the said Barbara and Esther being daughters of the said deceased acknowledge that they received from our brother Peter Stouffer and our Uncle Christian Carpenter all our rights, shares from the executors of our father Matthias Stouffer deceased and that the executors are hereby discharged.  
Dated ---- 1770. Signed by all the heirs.

This is the only source for the desired information we gathered, as the Mennonites, as a church, maintained no record of birth, marriage or death. Neither did they keep records of their own parishioners. Samuel is first to appear in the above record of the year 1770, month and day not given, when with brothers and sisters, he acknowledges that he has received from his brother Peter and his uncle Christian Carpenter, executors, all equitable rights and shares in the estate of his deceased father Matthias.

An indenture of April 6, 1770 shows that in the settlement of the real-estate of the deceased father there was allotted to Samuel a

tract of land containing twenty-six acres, adjoining the properties of Nathan Evans, Philip Rank, John Weidler and the Paxton Road. Each brother and sister paid Samuel five shillings with the quit-claim deed of all their rights to the property. This land is identified as part of a tract of one hundred and twenty-six acres and sixty-six perches, granted to his father under the name Matthais *Stoffer*, by a patent of April 23, 1741. The same indenture shows Samuel purchased from his brother Peter and his wife, for seven pounds, a nearby tract of two acres and fifteen perches which was once a part of the original one hundred and twenty-six acres.

On January 18, 1772, Samuel is described for the first time in the records as a "cordwainer" or shoemaker, on the purchase from Peter Stauffer and his wife Mary, the remainder of the fifty-eight-and-one-fourth-acre tract.

By the indenture of January 20, 1773, Samuel, as being of Earl township and describing himself as a cordwainer with his wife Elizabeth, conveyed four acres and twenty-five perches (part of the fifty-eight and one-fourth acres) and a tract of twenty-six acres to John Raunk, miller, for a consideration. The four-acre tract was quaintly and perhaps incorrectly described as "heired from his father". This is the first record we have of the given name of his wife.

It is believed that in 1773, receiving money by sales, Samuel removed from Earl township to the adjacent one of Caernarvon, for there is a citation in a deed of June 22, 1795 to the fact that Samuel on March 20, 1773, purchased from John Hoober and Margaret his wife, a tract in Caernarvon township containing one hundred and ninety-five acres and ten perches, which was part of a larger tract of two hundred and fifty-eight acres patented on September 18, 1760, to Benjamin Jacobs, who acquired it from the legatees of Nehemiah Allen, the original warrantee. It was sold to him by Nathaniel Allen, son of the deceased Nehemiah Allen in behalf of the heirs, and was a part of the original purchase of two thousand acres their great grandfather Nathaniel Allen owned. Part of their rights to three hundred acres, which was included in the sale to Benjamin Jacobs, was to be "returned unto the Surcharge Office for the use of the said Benj. Jacobs the 25th of July, 1760."



Probably Samuel made a down payment and gradually paid off the debt with the monies he derived from the sale of his land possessions in Earl township. John Hoober obtained part of the Nehemiah Allen land by purchase on February 17, 1767 from George Faulkler who bought it originally from Benjamin Jacobs, October 11, 1760. Of the remaining part of the large tract of land, which was about sixty-three acres, we made no attempt to ascertain who bought it of Benjamin Jacobs.

Samuel was a young man and was described in the records as a shoemaker, when he bought it in 1773 at a price not given in the report. He lived on the land about twenty-two years, making improvements till his sale of the land in 1795 to Robert Jenkins, a well-known iron-master, for the sum of seven hundred and eighty pounds and five shillings. The adjoining landowners were George Weaver, Joshua Evans, Hugh Evans and David Jenkins. On transfer to the new possessor, Samuel was about sixty years old and was described as a tanner. His wife Elizabeth was presumably deceased, for she did not join in making the grant.

From a large blueprint of the map of Caernarvon township, a photostatic drawing was made to indicate the whereabouts of the Nehemiah Allen land which was located in the southwest part of the township. It shows the residences of the original land holders, among whom was our Samuel.

In 1779 under the name of Samuel Stofer he was taxed. In 1780 he was taxed three pounds, nine shillings and nine pence, and in 1781 he was again taxed an unknown amount. The list for 1786 identified him by the name of Samuel Stofer; for 1787 by the name of Samuel Stowfard; and for 1788 under the name of Samuel Stowfard. Here we find "Widow Stofard" is taxed in the same group and we presumed, at first, that she was his aged mother which later we doubted. On analyzing the tax lists below it would seem to bear out the fact that they were closely family-connected. It would also indicate that Samuel lived temporarily in the household of his son John, as Samuel's own wife is supposed to have passed away long before, for she was nowhere mentioned in his deed of 1795. Desiring close family relatives to reside around him, it is thought that they came at his solicitous beckoning and settled somewhere in his neighborhood.

Following is an abstract of the entries found for taxes pertaining to them, till they terminated before 1800:

1788	Samuel Stowfard Widow Stowfard John Stowfard
1789	John Stowfard --- 100 acres Mathias Stofard (130 acres?)
1790	Jno. Stouffer Mathias Stouffer and widow Daniel Stouffer
1791	John Stouffer Mathias Stouffer and widow Daniel Stouffer
1792	John Stowfard 0-14-0 tax Matthias Stowfard 0- 1-6 tax Samuel Stowfard 0-12-6 tax Widow Stowfard 0- 5-3 tax
1793-	Samuel Stofer
1794	John Stofer
1795(?)	Widow Stofer Mathias Stofer
1797-	John Stofer 0- 5-0 tax
1798	Widow Stofer 0-12-0 tax

It is observed in the lists that the names of Matthias and Daniel appear. It would consequently seem justified to conclude that they were brothers of Samuel. But our searcher after thorough investigation differs, as he regards them as the children of Samuel's older brother, Christian. He called our attention to the fact that his brother had lived in Caernarvon township in 1760 and had owned a large tract of land until his death in 1784, leaving a widow with a large family. Among them there was a son Matthias, but nowhere in his family list is mentioned the name of Daniel. In view of the doubt, it may be deemed advisable to let the hypothesis rest in abeyance, in the hope that in the future some clue may reveal who they were.

The 1790 census for Caernarvon shows Samuel with a household of one male over sixteen, four under sixteen, and three females. This is the first census-taking created by law, which was enacted by Congress shortly after the close of the War of the Revolution. In 1792, while still residing in the township, he was taxed twelve shillings and six pence. He last appeared in the tax records of the township in 1793/94.

It is assumed that after the sale of the tract of land in 1795, Samuel vanished. He may have moved away with his motherless children westward or elsewhere south of Pennsylvania. His kindred had disappeared and so had his probable aged mother, or perhaps it was the widow of Christian that had passed away after 1798. He cannot be picked up in any county or other local history, nor has he been located in any 1800 census thus far. Judging from his subsequent trade as a tanner and from the value of the land in his last noted transaction, he probably constructed a considerable tannery.

As stated by the tabulated census of 1790 for the township, he had in his family eight children, one of them being his son JOHN - who remained behind in the township, as he was above age. There appears an article printed in the "Stauffer, Stouffer (and) Stover family of Pennsylvania" in *The Publication of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania*, concerning him and this gives reasons for believing that Samuel had a son John, who presumably in 1783 was a Revolutionary War private from Earl township. John resided in Caernarvon township from 1788 to 1800 and subsequently removed to North Middleton township, Cumberland county.

This paper forms a supplement to the above mentioned article. Its purpose is to review the life of Samuel as far as known, to support in further detail the point of view that he was the father of John, and to make recommendations for further study.

On studying the paper from all angles, we are inclined to agree for the following reasons that Samuel was the father of John: Firstly, he was a resident of the same township as was Samuel, which is indicated by the census of 1790. He lived there while he was a family man. Secondly, it is reasonable to suppose that he was of the Stauffer branch, since this believed-to-be son who did not accompany his father had a grandson Matthias, a name otherwise non-existent among early American Stauffer families. Thirdly, his father being one of the seven sons of the pioneer Matthias, the other six are not good candidates. Peter and Christian had no son John. Daniel left no issue. Jacob and Matthias removed from the community at an early period, while Henry also appears to have left the area early. The Henry of Earl township who left a will dated November 17, 1817, does not mention a son John, but this is after the date of the death of the John of Cumberland. Fourthly, the facts we have about Samuel present no chronological bar to the relationship described. Samuel himself and Henry, the only son of John, were shoemakers by trade.

(*Through the collaboration of Meredith B. Colket, Jr., Washington, D. C.*)

JOHN STOUFFER, of Caernarvon township, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and later of Middleton township, Cumberland county, in the same state, was born about 1765, and died intestate in what was then North Middleton township of the county on March 10, 1817. He seems to have been a grandson of the earlier Stouffer pioneer, Matthias Stauffer, and is believed to have been the son of Samuel, because of his being included in the family tax list groups of Caernarvon township.

The family of the Matthias branch commonly spelled the name *Stouffer* in contrast with the Mennonite branch of the family in the central part of the county which generally spelled the name *Stauffer*. A John Stouffer named a son Matthais, but this is otherwise uncommon in the Stouffer family. It is possible that this John came to Middleton township from Caernarvon township where he and his only son Henry lived before 1800 in the midst of some Welsh people. They were of the appropriate generation to be father and son. Both spelled their names *Stouffer* which is far less common than did the majority of persons of this family who spelled their names *Stauffer*.

John may be, and probably is, identical with the John "Stoffer" listed as a soldier, first class, in the company of Captain Alexander McIlvain about 1783. If so he was presumably a youth of about eighteen. This company was composed primarily of persons of the eastern portion of Earl township which adjoins Caernarvon township. Other persons in the company were "Peter Stoffer", grandson of Matthias Stauffer. William Smith, Jr., is evidently the one who witnessed the will, in 1796, of Susanna Stauffer, John's aunt.

John's father was obviously a man of mature years, when in 1788 his name first appears; while the census of 1790 shows he had a considerable family living with him. It is highly probable that John was one of his several children but had left his father's household to shift for himself by the time of the 1790 census. His presence in Caernarvon township is corroborated by the census, notwithstanding the fact that the enumeration shows that there were two dozen heads of families by the name John Stouffer or similar spelling. One of

these is certainly our JOHN. Upon examining the census with this knowledge, nearly every other Stouffer family can be eliminated as being too large. But the family of John Stouffer of Caernarvon township, Lancaster county, offers an interesting clue. This John had in his family one son under sixteen years of age and two females. These could easily be our John, his wife Maria and children Henry and Betsey.

Being of Caernarvon township where his father lived until his disappearance after the year 1795, John is the only Stouffer by a different spelling of his name, because it was spelled "Stouffer", as listed in the Federal census of 1790. His father by the census went under the proper name, but originally it was probably spelled like that of those of his brothers.

In those days the misspelling of names, it appears, depended largely on pronunciation as is shown by the tax lists between 1788 and 1798 in which the variations such as *Stowfard*, *Stofard*, *Stouffer*, and *Stofer* appear. As observed by the tax list of 1788 John's name was listed as *Stowfard* for the first time, he being the head of a family.

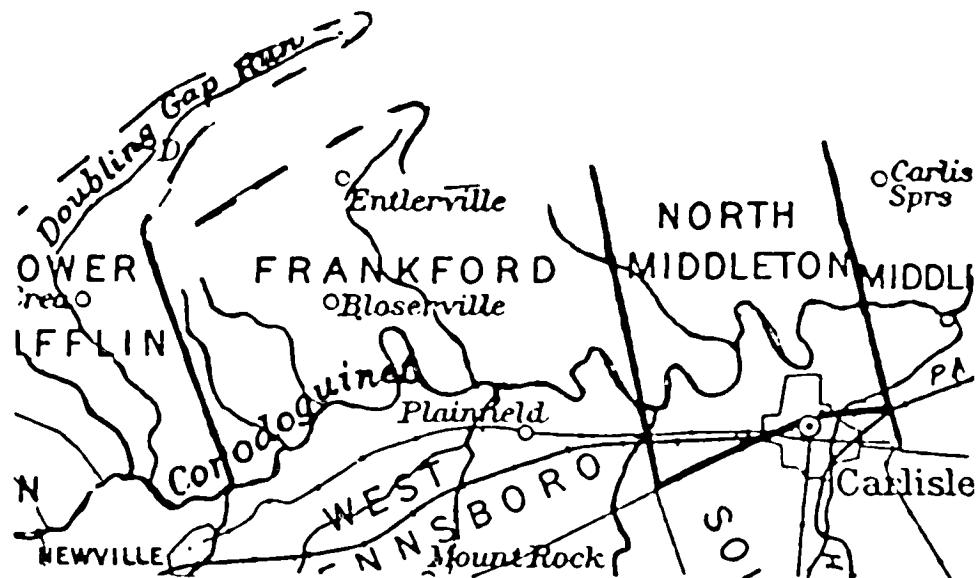
By the tax list of 1789, under the name of John *Stofard*, he owned one hundred acres of land. This list suggests that he was a property owner although this acquisition, as listed, was not officially recorded and its absence was probably due to an oversight. In the group list of 1790 he was taxed with Matthias, Daniel and Widow Stouffer. What relationship were the widow, Matthias and Daniel to John is problematical. If she was not then his grandmother, she was probably the widow of his deceased uncle, and the grown-up adults his cousins.

Here for the first time in 1791 John spells his name correctly and so followed the aged widow and the two Stouffer relatives. But in the 1792 list the spelling reverts to *Stowfard*. John was taxed fourteen shillings. All of them owned properties, John the largest and the widow the smallest.

In 1793-1794 his father Samuel and John himself paid taxes. In 1795 his father disappeared. In 1797-98 John "Stofer" and Widow "Stofer" are listed for taxes for the last time. Matthias and Daniel had vanished, as they were not listed for taxes after 1795.

The year 1798 indicates that John's father had already faded from this township and so had all the other Stouffers except John and "Widow Stouffer" whom we regarded tentatively as his grandmother, but later discarded. John's mother is supposed to have died long before. The widow appears in this year as being over the age of

eighty years, and John appears for the last time in 1800. His passing out of existence from Caernarvon township in Lancaster county in that year and the appearance of a John Stouffer in Middleton township in Cumberland county in the same year is most uncanny. Furthermore, the family group in each case corresponds exactly as to number and sex. On the basis of the use of the less common spelling of his name, on the basis of his disappearance and reappearance in 1800, and on the basis of a corresponding family group, it is concluded that "John Stouffer of Caernarvon township" is identical with "John Stouffer of Middleton township." The relationship between himself and his father seems to bear out the fact that Samuel was a shoemaker and so was John's son Henry who followed the trade. There is no record to throw any light on what John's vocation was, and perhaps he was a farmer by inclination.



He was enumerated for the township of Middleton by the census of 1800 as "John Stofer"; he was listed as having with him a wife and a son and three daughters, he being over "the age of 26 and under 45"; his wife "16-26" although this does not conform with the tombstone record indicating her birth date as February 12, 1767; "one son, age between 10 and 16", clearly meant Henry; two daughters "under 10", obviously were Betsy and Mary; and a female over "10" who was Susan.

He may have remained in the township quite a while after the enumeration, taking time in quest of a good piece of land to buy. He had the means to invest but did not stumble on anything till the purchase on October 22, 1800 of a one-hundred-and-forty-two-acre tract of land in North Middleton township from Joseph and Agnes Kennedy. He is recorded as being of Frankford township and as a farmer.

There is no evidence that John was in Frankford township which immediately adjoins Middleton township, and no record is found to disclose of his owning there a piece of land. The impression may be that he was in the township, as appears recorded, while he was really in the township of Middleton.

His new possession by purchase is recited in a deed found recorded in the Cumberland County Recorder's office at Carlisle, Pennsylvania:

This Indenture made the twenty second day of October one thousand eight hundred, BETWEEN Joseph Kennedy of Middleton Township, Cumberland County and State of Pennsylvania farmer and Agnes his wife of the one part and John Stouffer of Frankford Township, County and State aforesaid farmer of the other part, Whereas Archibald Kennedy late of Middleton Township deceased died seized and possessed of the *possessary* right of in and to a certain tract of land situate in Middleton Township Cumberland County, Bounded by land of William Clark, Richard Crean, Martin Bower, William Reed and Jacob Buyers, Containing one hundred and forty two acres and allowance, etc., who by his last Will and Testament bearing date the twenty fifth day of June One Thousand Seven hundred and eighty eight. Did will and bequeath the said tract of land and appurtenances unto the said Joseph Kennedy his heirs and assigns forever., And Whereas in pursuance of a warrant granted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania bearing date the nineteenth day of April one thousand seven hundred and ninety three the said tract of land was surveyed to the said Joseph Kennedy by courses and distances as follows viz: Beginning at an Elm a corner of Jacob *Byers* land thence by the same north sixteen degrees and an half west six perches and one fourth to a post north sixty seven degrees and an half east sixty six perches to a post thence by land of William Clark north sixty six degrees and an half west fifty one perches and one fourth to a *hiquory* north twenty two degrees and one third west ninety one perches to a white oak north twenty one Degrees West seventeen perches and three fourths to a *hiquory* grub thence by land of Richard Crean south sixty three degrees west forty three perches and one third to a post north twenty seven degrees west eight perches to a white oak south sixty four degrees west ninety one perches to a chestnut oak south four degrees and an half west forty three perches and three fourths to post on a run thence down said run the several courses thereof one hundred and six perches to a post thence by land of William Reed deceased north sixty nine degrees and an half east one hundred and twenty two perches to a post and north eighty nine degrees and an half east thirty perches to the beginning containing one hundred

and forty two acres and sixty three perches and the allowance of six per cent for road etc.

NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that the said Joseph Kennedy and Agness his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Seven hundred and eleven pounds five shillings *specie* lawful money of Pennsylvania to them in hand paid by the said John Stouffer the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted bargained and sold released and confirmed and by these presents; Do grant bargain and sell release and confirm unto the said John Stouffer his heirs and assigns the aforesaid described tract of land together with all and singular the buildings thereon erected standing or being the ways woods, estates, waters water courses, right members privileges hereditaments and premises with the appurtenances and all the estate right title interest property claim and demand whatsoever of them the said John Kennedy and Agness his wife to the same and every part thereof to have and to hold the said tract of land hereditaments and premises with the appurtenances unto him the said John Stouffer his heirs and assigns forever (twenty three perches of land on the line of William Clark only excepted) And further the Joseph Kennedy doth hereby covenant and agree to warrant and forever defend the said tract of land and appurtenances to the said John Stouffer his heirs and assigns against all and every person claiming the same lawfully or any part thereof; In Witness whereof the said Joseph Kennedy and Agness his wife hath hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.

Joseph Kennedy (Seal)  
her

Sealed & Delivered in the presence of Agness X Kennedy (Seal)  
Geo. Logue - Martin Bower mark

Received the day of the

Received the day of the date of the above Indenture  
from the above named John Stouffer seven hundred and  
eleven pounds five shillings in full of the consideration money.  
Witness Geo. Logue (Signed) Joseph Kennedy

Cumberland County SS; Before George Logue Esquire one of the Commonwealth justice of the peace in and for the said County personally came the within named Joseph Kennedy and Agness his wife and acknowledged the within Indenture to be their act and deed the said Agness being of full age and contents to her made known and being examined seperate and apart from her said husband acknowledged that she executed the same voluntarily without the *Coercion* or compulsion of her said husband or any other person. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal October the 22d, A. D. 1800 -- Geo. Logue. -- Recorded January 3d., A. D. 1801 and compared by George Kline Recorder.

John's purchase was taxed for the year 1802, the collection being for one shilling and nine pence on the assessment of the farm at eight hundred and thirty-two pounds. The list reveals that he owned three horses and four cows. The tax list of 1805 gives the area of his land as one hundred and forty-two acres.

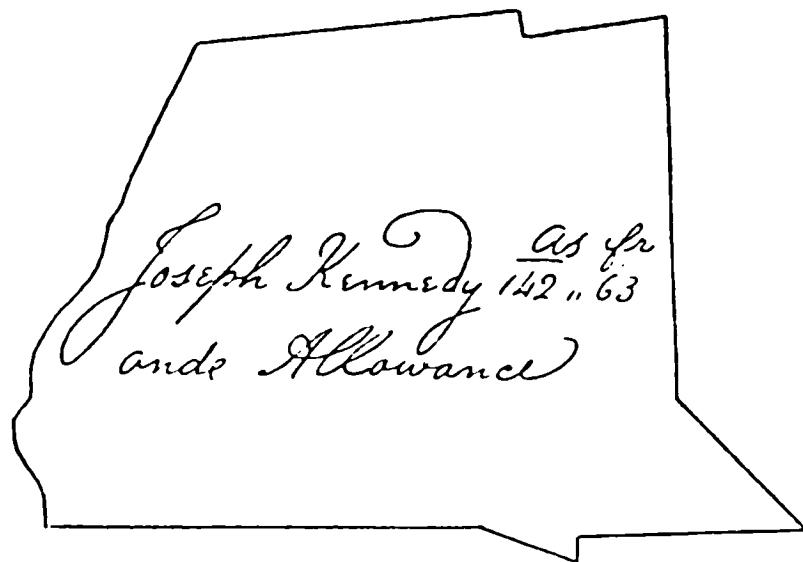
In the census of 1810 we find that he was enumerated under the name of "John Stopher" with his wife over forty-five, having in their family "a son (between) sixteen (and) twenty-six", "two daughters (between) sixteen (and) twenty-six", and "one daughter (between) ten (and) sixteen".

He was presumably in good health for he paid his taxes regularly, as the tax lists indicate. His life was terminated by death in the spring of 1817. At his demise his farm ownings totalled one hundred and fifty-five acres and fourteen perches. On April 19, 1817, administration was granted by the Court at Carlisle, Penna., to his son Henry and son-in-law Jacob Goodshall for the winding up of his estate. In 1823, and for several years thereafter, the "John Stottlers heirs" were taxed until the farm land was sold. The inventory and appraisement of his possessions were itemized in detail by four separate columns of the numerous farm implements, beasts and harvested and un-harvested crops for submission to the court on March 24 and 25, 1817. The vendue account on the sales of all amounted to one thousand and forty-nine dollars and seventeen cents, though the book account on the other hand calls for a total amount of one thousand, one hundred and seventy-seven dollars and ninety-nine cents.

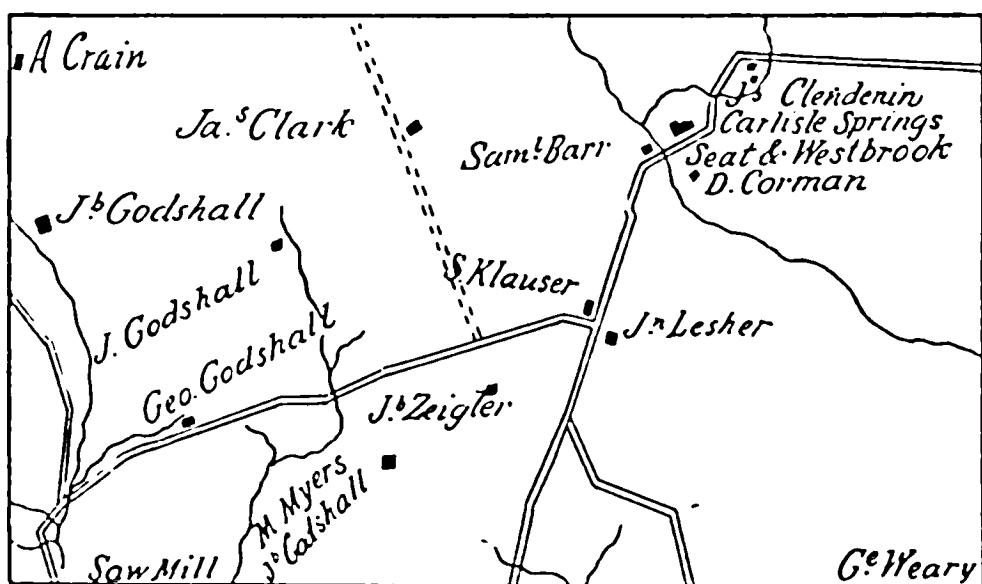
Jacob Goodshall (Gutshall in German), John's son-in-law, married his daughter Susan about 1814. John's son Henry and his wife, on January 29, 1822, acted as sponsors at the baptism of a child of theirs in the first Lutheran Church at Carlisle. The father of the child was a mason by trade, moving probably to locate eventually in the neighborhood of John's settlement. He hailed from his home place in Lower Salford township in Montgomery county of the state. Living some distance from John's location there were several Goodshall families who were said to have been Hollanders, and this fact has led to the impression that our first progenitor also was a Hollander.

An effort was made to locate the approximate position of John Stouffer's land, and it is clear that it was situated in what is today North Middleton township, a short distance from North Mountain, which is the northern extremity of Cumberland county and extremely close to, if not at Carlisle Springs, where John's son, Henry, subsequently lived. It should be noted that Middleton township has,

since 1800, been subdivided into North Middleton and South Middleton with Carlisle, the seat of the county, situated between them. Subsequently, the eastern part of North Middleton township broke off and became Middlesex township.



Fortunately there is in the keeping at the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Internal Affairs at Harrisburg, Penna., a warrant of April 19, 1793 that the prior owner of this property, Joseph Kennedy, applied originally at the office of the Proprietors of Pennsylvania for the survey of the land, as he was in the dark as to its exact size when he took it up for one hundred and fifty acres. The survey was made, in pursuance of his request, on June 13, 1794, indicating that the correct area was one hundred and forty-two acres and sixty-three perches with allowance for roads, etc., within its limits as described by the written annotation therein found kept at the office. This tract was patented on April 7, 1803, to John Stouffer who so proudly regarded it as his purchase-acquired possession that he called it *Strawbridge*. To obtain a photostatic copy of this survey without the annotation showing the relative location of the land, we wrote to the Director of the Land Office at Harrisburg. Below is the sketch of the land as copied:



The maiden name of John's wife Mary is unknown. Possibly she is a Mary Ginder, daughter of Henry Ginder of Mountjoy township, Lancaster county, as mentioned by his will dated May 6, 1799 and proved February 12, 1800, as being the wife of John Stouffer, married about 1786. She was buried in the churchyard at Carlisle Springs, Penna. By a transcribed record from Zeamer's genealogy it is indicated that she was born on February 12, 1767 and died on August 2, 1846. A searcher in 1937 examined the Luthern Churchyard at Carlisle Springs in which she was supposed to have been buried according to Zeamer's *Collection of Tombstone Inscriptions* but was unable to discover the stone. The Orphans' Court records at Carlisle, Penna., show that she died between July 29, 1843 and August 13, 1847. She appears in the records of the Lutheran church at Carlisle Springs where she was assessed fifty cents *per annum* on January 1, 1831, the same in 1832 and 1836. Her assessment was seventy-five cents in 1835. She was recorded as a communicant in 1841. In the 1840 census of North Middleton township is the record of "Mary Stouffer, 1 female 70-80". The Orphans' Court records confirm the supposition that Mary Stouffer, who died in 1846 was the widow of John, for they show that John's widow died between the space of the mentioned dates.

Unfortunately the vital registers at the church in Carlisle Springs were destroyed when it burned down. Issue, as found in the Orphans' Court, are given as follows:

HENRY, the lineal ancestor.

Betsy, born 1784-1794, presumably *circa* 1789; she was married to Philip Ebright.

Mary, born according to the census *circa* 1784-1800, was under age in 1817, therefore born 1797-1800, married after the 20th of October, 1817, to Barnet Kennedy.

Susan, born *circa* 1795 (age of 55 as given in the census of 1850). She was married to Jacob Goodshall, a mason, about 1814. Among the issue of hers are found: (1)John, born *circa* 1815; (2)A child was baptized on January 29, 1822; (3)Leonard, born *circa* 1825; (4)Eliza, born *circa* 1828; and (5)Mary, born *circa* 1830.

(Through the collaboration of Meredith B. Colket, Jr., Washington, D. C.)

HENRY STOUFFER was living, being unmarried, with his father in North Middleton township, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, as the census of 1810 indicates. He was a cobbler by trade. He probably picked up this trade at his grandfather Samuel's shop in his early life, while living at Caernarvon township in Lancaster county. He may have occasionally squatted in the shop and watched how the grandfather manipulated boots and shoes for footwear. The work may have fascinated him and on acquiring this calling, he followed it for his livelihood.

He married about 1811 when he was at least twenty-three years old. The census of 1850, for the township of Hampden in Cumberland county, gives his age as "sixty-two." In that year he was living alone next door to his oldest son John. This census information permits us to estimate his approximate age at marriage.

In 1812 occurred the birth of the son John, whom he named after his father. It was customary in those days for the German families to name their oldest son after the father's male parent and oldest daughter after the mother's female parent. Based on this clew it is suggested that Henry's father was John. The search eventually disclosed the existence of his grandfather and great-grandfather. Heretofore all the records the living Stouffers could furnish were of Henry and the names of his children, with their approximate birth years and nothing more.

Henry's wife was Margaret Lawrence, according to the family data. When their children were baptized in the First Lutheran Church at Carlisle, her first name appeared as Maria Madgalena, Ana Magdalena, Margrata and Ana Margrata. Unfortunately, no family by the name of Lawrence appears in either the 1810 or the 1820 Cumberland county records. However, it is known from the records that a family grandmother's name was *Lorntz*, the German equivalent for Lawrence. It is possible, then, that the tradition was confused. It has been assumed that her maiden name was Kibler, because an older grandson bore that name. A John Kibler was living in North Middleton township when, on February 4, 1816, he witnessed the will of Jane Harris. But this assumption is overshadowed

by the fact that the grandson's young brother bore the name of Josiah Hess. Hess may have been her maiden name, and we traced it for her identity.

Under the name of "Henry Stoffer" he was a witness to the will of Richard Crain of North Middleton on April 3, 1817. Richard Crain owned property adjoining his father's, as appeared by the Orphans' Court records at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. With a heavy heart he signed this will, as his father had already passed out either by illness, or perhaps unexpectedly, on March 10, 1817. Being the only son in the family of daughters, he felt placed upon himself great responsibility, and perhaps at the request of his mother he called upon the Orphans' Court at Carlisle in North Middleton township on October 20, 1817 for the court's appointment of administrators for his father's estate, as is found in the Court records:

Came into Court, Henry Stouffer, eldest son and heir at law of John Stouffer, late of North Middleton township in the county of Cumberland and preferred a Petition to the Court therein setting forth that the Petitioner's said father died intestate on or about the tenth of March in the year eighteen hundred and seventeen, leaving a widow named Mary and issue, four children--the Petitioner, Susan, the wife of Jacob Gutshall; Betsy, intermarried with Philip Ebright and Mary, the last mentioned of whom in her minority and that the said intestate died seized in his demise as of fee of and in a certain messuage and tract of land situate in the township, and county aforesaid bounded by lands of Robert Clark and others containing one hundred and fifty-one acres should the same be more or less with the appurtenances. The petitioner therefore pray the Court to award an Inquest to make partition or premises aforesaid to and among the children and representatives of the said intestate in such manner and in such proportions as by the laws of this Commonwealth is directed. And to *enquire* and ascertain whether the said real estate will accommodate conveniently more than one of the children of said intestate without prejudice to or spoiling the whole and if so how many of the said children it will thus conveniently accommodate and in case the same can be so divided then to divide the same and make a true valuation of the said shares and purports respectively. But if such partition cannot be made as aforesaid then to value and appraise the same and make report of their proceedings to the next stated Orphans' Court. Whereupon the Court award an Inquest agreeably to the prayer of the Petitioner. By the Court.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Confirmation of the Inquisition on the Real Estate of John Stouffer, late of the North Middleton Township deceased, being returned, By which return it appeared to the Court that the said Real Estate *to wit*: the tract in said Inquisition mentioned situate in North Middleton Township containing in the whole by actual measurement one hundred and fifty-five acres and one hundred and fourteen perches, strict measure bounded by lands of Richard Crain, William Clark, Jacob Byers and William Reed, &c., has been valued and appraised at the sum of thirty dollars ninety cents per acre amounting in the whole to the sum of Four Thousand, eight hundred & eleven dollars fifty-one cents. Whereupon the Court now confirm the said Inquisition and it is adjudged & decreed by the Court that the same be and remain firm and stable forever. Which said tract is described by the following draft.

\* \* \* \* \*

And Henry Stouffer, eldest son of said de(cease)d, came into Court and refused to accept the said estate at the valuation. Whereupon Jacob Gutshall (Goodshall) who is intermarried with Susan, one of the daughters of said deceased, came into Court and prayed the Court to award the same to him at the same valuation. Whereupon the Court awarded the same to the said Jacob Gutshall and proposed that he enter into recognizance to the other heirs for the respective distributary shares thereof after deducting the costs amounting to thirty-five dollars seventeen cents which leaves the balance of four thousand, seven hundred seventy-six dollars thirty-four cents for distribution. And the said Jacob Gutshall thereupon offered as sureties Robert Clark and Philip Ziegler who being approved by the Court the following recognizances were thereupon taken into open Court.

\* \* \* \* \*

On the recognizance of the Orphans' Court the satisfied claimants agreed to and signed the following:

For the widow:

Jacob Gutshall held in \$1592.11  
Robert Clark held in \$1592.11  
Philip Ziegler held in \$1592.11

Which said several sums of money are to be levied on their goods and chattels, lands and tenements respectively on this condition, that if the above bounden Jacob Gutshall shall do well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Mary Stouffer, widow of John Stouffer, deceased, yearly and every year during her natural life the in-

terest arising from the sum of one thousand, five hundred ninety-two dollars and eleven cents in interest to commence on the eleventh day of June, one thousand, eight hundred and eighteen, then the above recognizance to be void and otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue.

For Henry Stouffer:

Jacob Gutshall	held in the sum of \$1592.11
The same	held in the sum of 796.06
Robert Clark	held in the sum of 1592.11
The same	held in the sum of 796.06
Philip Ziegler	held in the sum of 1592.11
The same	held in the sum of 796.06

I, Henry Stouffer, the above named, do hereby acknowledge full satisfaction on the above recognizance and release all claim on the land for which the same recognizance was taken. Witness my hand and seal, this 24th day of June, 1818. (Signed) Henry Stouffer (SEAL).

Philip Ebright and Betsy his wife, in right of said Betsy:

Jacob Gutshall	held in \$1592.11, Also in \$796.06
Robert Clark	held in \$1592.11, Also in 796.06
Philip Ziegler	held in \$1592.11, Also in 796.06

I, Michael Ebright, Attorney for Philip and Betsy Ebright, do hereby acknowledge to have received from Jacob Gutshall one hundred and Eighty-three dollars which with former payments made by him to the said Philip and myself is in full of the sum due on this recognizance except what will be due on the death of the widow. Witness my hand and seal this 19th August, 1818. (Signed) Michael Ebright (SEAL)

For Mary (Stouffer) by Barnett Kennedy, her husband:

Jacob Gutshall	held in \$1592.11, Also in \$790.00
Robert Clark	held in \$1592.11, Also in \$790.00
Philip Ziegler	held in \$1592.11, Also in \$790.00

April 16, 1834, I, Barnett Kennedy intermarried with Mary Stouffer, do acknowledge to have received full satisfaction for what is due on this recognizance before the death of the widow. (Signed) Barnet Kennedy.

\* \* \* \* \*

Which said several sums of money are to be levied on their goods & chattels, lands and tenements, respectively on condition that if the above bounden Jacob Gutshall shall and do well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Henry Stouffer, to the said Philip Ebright and Betsy his wife, in right of said Betsy, and to Mary Stouffer, respectively the sum of seven hundred and ninety-six dollars and

six cents, on the eleventh day of December A. D. one thousand, eight hundred and eighteen with interest thereon from the eleventh day of June in the same year. And the further sum of three hundred and ninety-eight dollars and two and an half cents on the death of Mary Stouffer, widow aforesaid, then the foregoing recognizances to be void otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue. Whereupon it is considered adjudged and decreed by the Court that the said Jacob Gutshall hold, possess and enjoy the same tract of land situate in North Middleton township containing one hundred and fifty-five acres and one hundred and fourteen perches, strict measure adjoining lands of Richard Crain, William Clark, Jacob Byers and others as described by the foregoing Draft with the appurtenances unto him the said Jacob Gutshall, his heirs and assigns forever, in as full, free and ample a manner as the said John Stouffer, deceased, held and possessed the same in his lifetime, subject to the foregoing recognizance. By the Court.

\* \* \* \* \*

Henry's mother was still surviving, when he and his brother-in-law completed the sale of the farm and materials, as cited by the confirmation of the account on the Orphans' Court docket on the 8th of May, 1822, and he together with his brother-in-law called at the Court:

Came into Court, Henry Stouffer and Jacob Gutshall, (Goodshall) administrators of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, which were of John Stouffer's, late of North Middleton Township, deceased, and produced an account of their administration of the Estate. The Court, having examined and passed upon the same, find a balance of Two hundred and Sixty-four Dollars and thirty cents, in the hands of the accountants subject to distribution according to the law. By the Court.

\* \* \* \* \*

Years later upon the settlement in full of his share in his deceased father's estate, his mother having passed away on August 2, 1846, Henry handed a receipt to his brother-in-law:

I, Henry Stouffer, do hereby acknowledge to have received of Jacob Gutshall, full satisfaction for what is coming to me after death of widow. Witness my hand this 29th day of July, 1843. (Signed) Henry Stouffer.

As Henry served with Jacob Goodshall as administrator of the estate of his father, their relationship by marriage is apparent, for, as said in the life story of Henry's father, Henry and his wife acted as sponsors at the baptism of a child of theirs in the First Lutheran church at Carlisle in January of 1822. This clearly establishes the

fact that the Henry whose children were baptized at the Carlisle church is identical with the Henry, son of John, who had Jacob Goodshall for his brother-in-law.

According to the family data Henry's wife died in 1837 at the age of forty-seven years, but no stone marking the grave was found to give the date of her death. On the other hand, we find that she died on March 23, 1839 as announced by the *American Volunteer* of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, under date of April 4, 1839, in an obituary of the death of Mrs. Margaret Stouffer. The notice reads as follows:

Died in Silver Spring township on the 23rd *instant* after a short and painful illness, Mrs. Margaret Stouffer in the 39th year of her age leaving an affectionate husband and a large family of children and an extensive connection of friends and relatives to mourn this sudden and unexpected bereavement. The deceased filled up the measure of her suffering in this vale of tears with a great degree of fortitude and Christian resignation. To those who attended her during her illness she expressed a full sincere and entire confidence in the merits of a crucified Redeemer and the hope of a blissful immortality beyond the grave beseeching those who were weeping over her to weep not for her for she was going where there was no trouble, sorrow, sickness or death, that this world afforded her no more pleasure, her affections were weaned from it and her whole desire was to depart and be with Christ which is far better. Thus she calmly sank to rest without a struggle or sigh to rise no more till the heavens shall pass away and the earth be no longer.

"And we have parted, thou art gone  
Thy weary spirit breath's itself to sleep  
So peacefully it seems a sin to weep  
In those fond watchers who around thee stood  
And felt even then that God was greatly good.  
Like stars that struggle through the shades of night  
Thine eyes one moment caught a glorious light  
As if to thee in the dread hour 'twas given  
To know on earth what faith believed in heaven  
Then like tired breezes did'st thou sink to rest  
Nor one pang the awful chance confessed  
Death stole in softness on thy lovely face  
And touched each feature with a new born grace  
All-all in good time who placed us there  
To live to love to die to disappear  
Shall come and make their quiet bed with thee  
Beneath the shadow of that spreading tree  
With thee to sleep through death's long dreamless night  
With thee to rise up and bless the morning light."

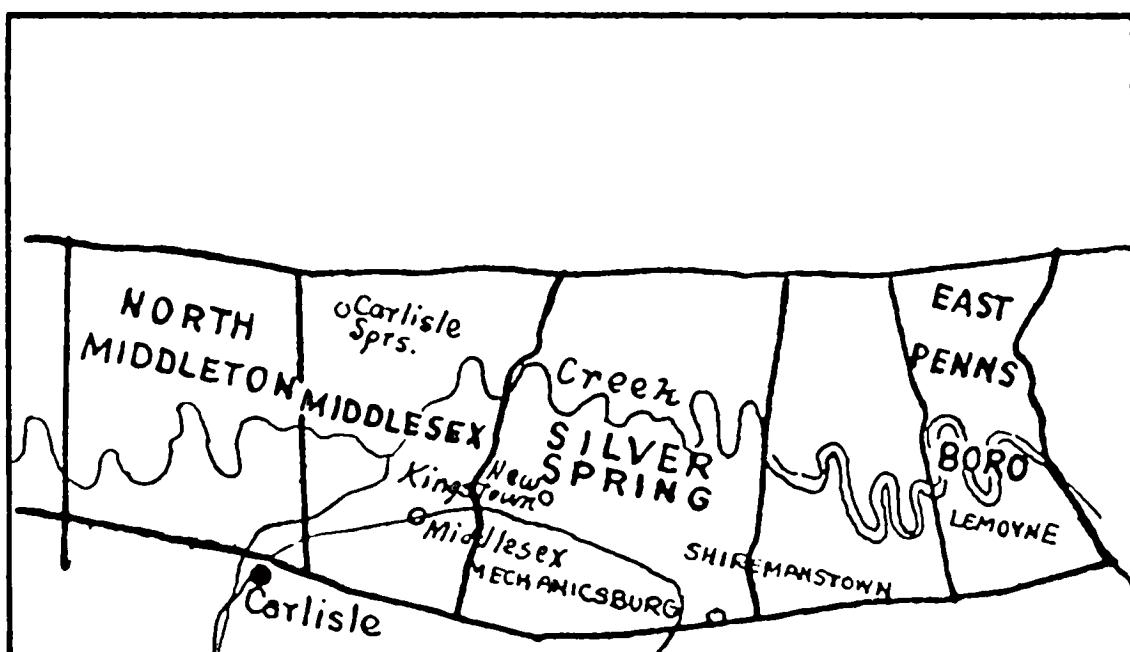
East Pennsboro, March 27, 1839.

The newspaper report says that Margaret Stouffer died in her thirty-ninth year. Our own family records state that she died in 1837 at the age of forty-seven. Very likely she was either forty-seven or forty-eight years of age at her death. This is undoubtedly the Margaret Stouffer who was the wife of Henry Stouffer, despite the conflict in dates. The "3" in "39" may quite be an error, and should be "4" to make it read "49".

A Harrisburg reporter in the *Volunteer* of August 3, 1837 gives the following:

On July --, 1837 a young man by the name of Stouffer of Silver Spring township, Cumberland county, set out on horseback to work some distance in the harvest field, carrying a cradle. The beast became frightened and threw him upon the cradle, cutting him severely so that he survived but a short time.

Since Henry's family was living in Silver Spring township at the time of this accident and was the only Stouffer family at this period in the township, this Stouffer, the newspaper refers to, undoubtedly was his son Matthias who was then about twenty-one years of age. By the family notes, we find he died in 1837. Although the tombstone says "July, 1836," it was undoubtedly put up some time later and his relatives had not remembered the correct date.



Silver Spring township is between North Middleton and East Pennsboro townships. It is possible that he moved eastward from the township to East Pennsboro, as indicated by the census of 1820 which lists the members of his family as follows:

1 male 26-45  
2 males under 10

1 female 26-45  
2 female 10-16  
2 female under 10

This could be our Henry but the two children at the ages of "10-16", born before 1810, may be his sister's who were left to his care for temporary shelter. He was still living in the township as found by the census of 1830 and his family was made up as follows:

1 male 40-50	1 female 30-40
2 " 15-20	1 " 15-20
2 " 10-15	1 " 10-15
2 " 5-10	1 " under 5
1 " under 5	

This agrees with the family account of our Henry in every detail. By further tracing, we find of his relocation in Silver Spring township, as shown by his family listing in the census of 1840:

1 male 50-60	1 female 30-40
1 " under 5	1 " 10-15

This seems undoubtedly that our Henry had with him at that time his daughters, Sarah and Katherine. His wife had passed away by this date and so had his children, Ann Margaret and Henry. His two young sons William Parker and Samuel R. are not accounted for, and perhaps they had been put under the fosterage of one of his married sisters, but we cannot account for a male, under five years of age, unless he was a grandson that happened to be there on the census taking day.

In the census of 1850 we find that he was "living alone" near his son John's homeplace in Hampden township and next door to his son-in-law, Daniel Weikel. By this census his age is given as sixty-two. According to the family data, he died in 1859 in his seventy-second year. This is probably correct, for nowhere could his death date be found in records, and not even in the weekly newspapers of those early days. He was not enumerated in the census of 1860. After his passing away, his son continued to live until 1881, and was buried just over the township line in Camp Hill Lutheran Church yard, in East Pennsboro township. It is not likely that Henry was buried there or nearby.

The other Henry Stouffers appear contemporaneously in the Cumberland county records and this confuses us. One of them died intestate at Trindle Springs, September 22, 1828, at the age of fifty, leaving a widow, Mary, and several children. As our Mary was living in that year, this Henry was eliminated. We encounter still another Henry Stouffer. He was born on April 5, 1826 and died May 1, 1858 and was buried in the Brick Church graveyard at Enola in East Pennsboro township. His widow survived him. Fortunately this Henry can be disposed of also, as our Henry was a widower at

this late date. He died within a year of this Henry and probably within a distance of three or four miles.

A search of the church records seems to show that Henry and other close-related Stouffers were connected with the German Lutheran Church and not the Dutch Reformed Church. The Pennsylvania Dutch were, of course, German Lutherans who called themselves "Deutsch" *i.e.* German which the uninformed English interpreted to mean Dutch.

Issue, date of birth and sometimes birth with baptism are taken from the records of the First Lutheran Church at Carlisle, Pennsylvania and by findings through correspondence:

John, born on or about October 18, 1812 at Carlisle Springs, Pennsylvania, died on December 24, 1881, at the age of sixty-nine, two months and six days, according to the tombstone found in the Camp Hill cemetery at East Pennsboro, Cumberland county, Penna. He married on August 28, 1835 his wife Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Aspaugh. She was born on January 6, 1812 and died on September 30, 1889, at the age of seventy-seven, eight months and twenty-four days. They were residing at Hampden township as recorded by the Census of 1850, and he was listed as a physician. Their children were: (1)Elizabeth, born *circa* 1837, (age thirteen in 1850); (2)William, born *circa* 1839, (age eleven in 1850); (3)Jacob, born *circa* 1841, (age nine in 1850); (4)Sarah, born *circa* 1843, (age seven in 1850); (5)Philip, born March 7, 1850, (age three-twelfth years in 1850), died on January 13, 1901.

#### JOSEPH, our lineal ancestor.

Marie Magdalena, (known as Mary) born on August 16, 1815, baptized on August 18, 1816, whose age was thirty-four as given in the census of 1850, married in 1834, Daniel Weikel, weaver, born *circa* 1803. She died in 1901. They resided in Hampden township near her father in 1850. Their children were: (1) Martin, born *circa* 1837; (2)Solomon, born *circa* 1840, who died unmarried; and (3)Henry, born *circa* 1843.

Matthias, born on December 22, 1816, baptized on June 22, 1817, died in July of 1836. A quaint stone in the first row of the cemetery at Carlisle Springs reads "In memory of Matthias Stouffer who died July, 1836 in the 22nd year of his age."

John George, born on April 6, 1818, baptized on June 7, 1820, and died in 1865.

Sarah, born on January 26, 1820, baptized on June 18, 1820, died near Decatur, Illinois, June 26, 1900, was married the first time at Harrisburg Penna., October 2, 1845 to Jacob Welter. Their children were: (1)Abraham J.; (2)Elizabeth, who was married to a Mr. Love.

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Sarah was married the second time near Decatur, Illinois, March 29, 1860 to John Good. Her descendants live near Decatur, Illinois.

Henry, born on February 19, 1821, baptized on May 6, 1821, and died in 1840.

Anna Margaret, born on March 30, 1822, baptized December 15 1822, and died in 1840.

William Parker, born on October 14, 1823, died at Wabash, Indiana, November 24, 1896, married the first time at Dayton, Ohio, August 8, 1852, Ann Spitler, who died in 1860 at the age of thirty-two and was buried at Happy Corners cemetery, near Salem, Ohio. Their children were: (1) Jacob, born in 1856, married Maria Ann Ridenour; (2) John, born in 1858, married Katherine Ridenour; and (3) Mary, born in 1859, was married at Connersville, Indiana, to Benjamin Smith.

The second time, William Parker married January 1, 1861 at Greenville, Ohio, Hester Abeline Kershner of Darke county, Ohio. By her he had (4) Daniel, born April 2, 1862 and died in 1919, whose wife was Mary Jane Rife; (5) William, born in 1864, his wife was Esther Ida Ridenour; (6) Josephine, born May 5, 1866, died October 29, 1934, was married, January 17, 1887, to Frank Pearson; (7) Lillie, born in 1868, was married to Joseph Mont Ridenour; (8) James J., born May 25, 1869, died May 4, 1934, married January 31, 1894, Annie Powell; (9) Frank, born June 13, 1871, died September 14, 1931, married October 14, 1896 Mary M. Hutchins; (10) Sarah, born March 29, 1873, was married to Joseph Rife; (11) Zenith, born August 22, 1874, died March 7, 1937; (12) Grace, born November 16, 1875, died January 1, 1932, was married to Samuel Cotner Barnett; (13) Harriet, born December 23, 1877, was married, January 1, 1899, to Loy H. Ridenour; (14) Henry, born April 2, 1879, married Rose Hipskind; and (15) Leonard, born October 16, 1881, married in 1902 Lucretia Brady.

Samuel R., born September 19, 1825, died at Des Moines, Iowa, December 28, 1910, married and had (1) Henry, (2) Samuel, (3) Ida, who married a Mr. Baushaw; and (4) Tacey, who married a Mr. Owens.

Katherine, born in 1827, died in 1861, was married to a Mr. McGuire.

(*Through the collaboration of Meredith B. Colket, Jr., Washington, D. C.*)

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JOSEPH STOUFFER'S birthdate of February 28, 1814 was found recorded at the First Lutheran Church in Carlisle, North Middleton township, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. He was taken there for his baptism and so were all of his brothers and sisters shortly after their births. Their homeplace, as based on the three successive census reports of 1810-1830, was Carlisle Springs in Silver Spring township in the same county.

On gaining the height of his manhood, we find him located in Harrisburg, Penna., where he was eventually married in his twenty-third year of age "on the 12th by the Rev. Samuel Sprecker, to Marie Ann Hess of Harrisburg," as recorded in the *Harrisburg Chronicle* of Saturday, January 14, 1837, and the date also appears in the Zion Lutheran Church record book at Harrisburg. His wife was born at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, September 15, 1819 and her baptism is found recorded in the Trinity Lutheran Church there on February 3, 1822.

There is no record to divulge what his natural inclination for an occupation was, as he did not follow his father's vocation as a cobbler. In his after-years of life it seems he had a strong tendency for farming.

While living contentedly at Harrisburg, Penna., with his wife and a first-born son, rumor reached Joseph Stouffer that he could make a better living in the county of Perry, north-west of Harrisburg. He decided to take advantage of this opportunity and moved his family there, locating at Newport. He resided in the town till 1846 and his family was increased by the addition of three sons and two daughters, both the later having died in infancy. The oldest son died there in April of 1842 before he had attained the age of five.

Relatives and acquaintances from the hometown and thereabouts emigrated to Ohio and other states west about 1800. Among them was one John Stouffer who took with him his family to settle in Montgomery county, Ohio, about 1818 or earlier, hailing from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. What township in the county he brought them from, we can only guess without any positive surmise by the

meager records we have at hand. Most probably, it might be the township of Warwick, for we notice that there was in the family of Vincent Stauffer, living there, a son named Frederick, born in October of 1743. The John Stouffer who settled in Ohio may be on this line of descent and probably was the other John Stauffer whose son also had the same first name and may be of the offshoot. Warwick township was quite a distance from Caernarvon township in the county where Joseph's forefather Samuel Stouffer lived. A faint suspicion of their relationship is not apparently possible.

The news of the promised land, where they located in Ohio, was heard spoken of occasionally in Joseph's boyhood days. Wishing to make the venture, he put his family on a two-horse wagon for the long, jolting journey westward. At Peru Mills in Juniata county, Penna., he was compelled to pause for a spell, due to the birth of a son in July of 1848. The son did not live long, having died there in January of 1849. After resuming the journey, he ultimately brought his family to Dayton, Ohio, where he stayed long enough for the birth of another son in December of 1850.

In 1851 there arrived in Dayton to join him his younger brother, William Parker, who was then eighteen years old and who drove all the way by himself in a one-horse wagon from Carlisle Springs, Penna. William's meeting there with Ann Spitler for the first time ripened into love and eventually resulted in a knot-tying ceremony that Joseph and his wife witnessed on August 8, 1852.

In the meanwhile Joseph was offered an acre of land in Randolph township west of Dayton, owned by John W. Ehrestine, and he bought it on August 2, 1851 for the price of two hundred and ten dollars. It is described as follows:

Beginning at a stone in the Salem Road thence South  $4\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  West eleven poles to a stone, on the East bank of Wolf Creek, thence North  $86\frac{1}{2}$  deg. East 14 poles and 13 links to a stone, thence south  $4\frac{1}{2}$  deg. east 11 poles to a stone thence south  $86\frac{1}{2}$  deg. west 14 poles and 13 links to the place of beginning, containing one acre of land by survey and taken out of the southwest quarter of section 28 township 5, range 5.

The land was located along the Dayton and Salem pike near the town of Salem (now Clayton). This is the first mention of property he had, and it is written in the tax duplicate of 1851. He eventually sold it to John Bowman, February 26, 1853. It was listed at a value of forty dollars, but he sold it for two hundred and thirty dollars. This seems to indicate that he worked quite a bit on the improvement of the property and enhanced the value. This acre

parcel is mentioned in the deed of conveyance as being a part "taken out of the Southwest quarter of Section 28, Township 5, Range 5," when he bought it of John W. Ehrestine.

Originally this whole quarter was owned by Samuel Hahn, of Preble county, Ohio, and he bought it in March of 1841 of Henry Snyder of Roanoke, Virginia, for the price of four thousand dollars. Hahn then sold half of it to Benjamin Bowman in 1845 for twenty-one hundred dollars. In May of the same year, John Bowman, probably a brother, bought of him the same for twenty-eight hundred dollars. Out of it John W. Ehrestine bought an acre in March of 1846 for one hundred and forty dollars. He in turn sold it to Joseph in 1851 and that same John Bowman later grabbed it up at an agreed price in February of 1853 to re-own it. In May of that year a daughter had increased Joseph's family.

Up to March of 1856 the records sent us by searchers in the Montgomery county court house at Dayton give no information on what further lands he acquired. Perhaps in the meanwhile he had means but was biding his time to save sufficient funds to make the purchase, on the third of the month, from Rebecca Hollinger of her six-acre tract, more or less, for the sum of seven hundred dollars, *viz.:*

Beginning at a stone in the center of Salem Turnpike and running thence north 66 degrees, west 22 poles and 18 links to a stone on James A. Reiley's east line thence with said Reiley's line south, three and a half degrees, east 56 poles to a stone corner to John Flory thence north 86½ degs. east, with said Flory's line 20 poles to a stone, thence north 3½ degs. east, 45 poles to the place of beginning \* \* \* \* \* situate in the county of Montgomery, in the State of Ohio and in township 5 range 5 and in the southwest quarter of Section 28 together.

The above land which Rebecca Hollinger passed to Joseph for the mentioned consideration was the tract she bought of Samuel Lasure, April 20, 1854, for six hundred dollars. Her husband, Daniel Hollinger, it seems, did not in any way participate in the deal. This tract of land was a part of the acreage which Lasure had purchased from John Bowman in June of 1847 for one hundred and fifty dollars. On March 28, 1862 this John Bowman regained this possession from the heirs of Jacob Stauffer, by purchase, for nine hundred dollars. Evidently he had such a keen eye for improved farm lands that he yearned to buy back his former possessions.

Perhaps Joseph, desiring to add another parcel of land to his holdings, turned his attention to buying up, February 2, 1860, six

acres from Henry C. Hess and his wife at the price of four hundred dollars. This tract was situated in the northwest corner of the Southwest quarter of Section twenty-nine in township five in Range five east, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of the above named quarter section thence on the north line of said quarter N 84° E 10.65½ chains to a stone; thence S. 4° 5' E 8.48 chains to a stone in the Pike; thence N 67° 20' W 11.92 chains to a stone on Pike; thence N 4° .05' W. 2.78 chains to the place of beginning containing six acres (6 A) together with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging.

Jacob B. Stauffer, whose real estate holdings were extensive, had land for sale in two tracts--one consisting of forty acres and the other of nine acres. These Joseph could buy at the price of twenty-three hundred dollars, or in exchange for the two tracts he bought of Rebecca Hollinger and of Henry C. Hess, if they could agree on a fair and equitable difference in price. The deal was closed and put on record at Dayton, Ohio, November 8, 1861. The tax value was set at sixteen hundred and thirty dollars. The descriptions of these pieces of land, as given in the record, are as follows:

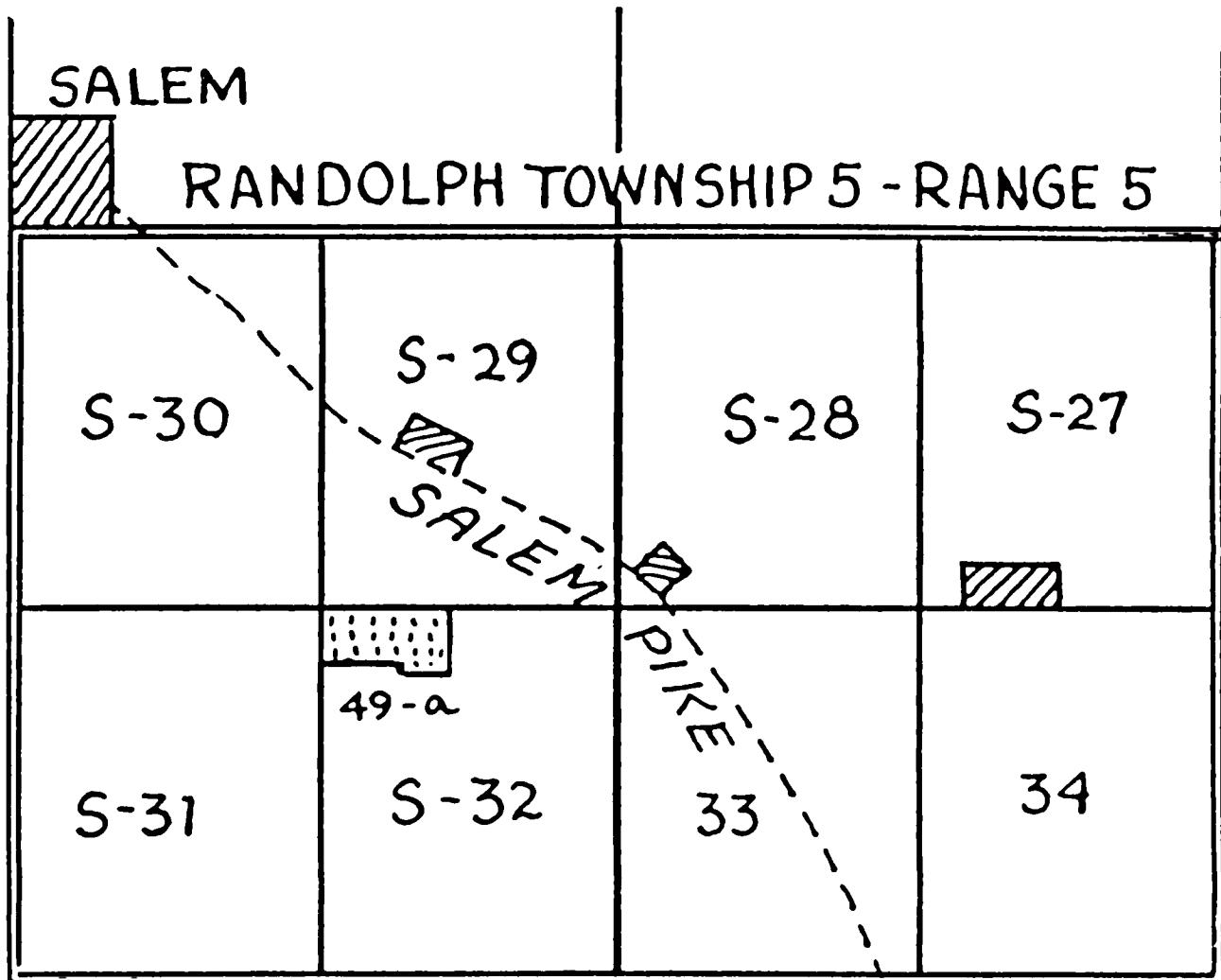
That part of the North West quarter Section thirty-two (32) Township (5) Range five East & in Montgomery county, Ohio - which is Bounded by beginning at the North East corner of said quarter from whence a Hickory 10 inches in diameter bears N 35 deg. East - 20 links thence with the north line of said quarter S 85 3/4 deg W 129 min. 4 poles to a stone a corner of George Babst land thence by said Babst land S 6 deg. East 47 poles to a stone thence parallel with the north line of said quarter N 85 3/4 deg. E 105 poles to a stone from whence a beach 14 inches diameter bears S 51½ deg E 9 links thence parallel with the East line of said quarter S 4 deg. E 20 poles to a stone from whence a beach 13 inches diameter bears N 11½ deg. W 26 links thence 83½ deg. E 23 poles to a stone in the East line of said quarter from whence a beach 15 inches diameter bears N 89½ W 22 links thence with said East line N 4 deg. W 65½ poles to the place of beginning containing 40 acres and 33 perches more or less of which the grantor reserves for the use of a road if needed 20 feet in width the whole length of the East line. And also the following premises in the county and state aforesaid situate in the N.W. part of the N. W. quarter of section thirty-two (32) township five (5) Range five East & Beginning at the N W corner of said quarter thence S 4½ E 11 chains and 45 links to a stone thence N 85½ E 8 chains to a stone thence N 9 West 11 chains and 87 links to a stone on the

section line - thence S 85½ W 7½ chains to a stone at the place of beginning containing nine acres ninety four perches be the same more or less. Together with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging.

Shortly after the transference of these two tracts by deed to Joseph, Jacob Stauffer passed away, leaving no valid will. His heirs assumed the administration of his estate. The six-acre tract Joseph had bought of Rebecca Hollinger and traded in a deal was sold in February of 1862 for nine hundred dollars to John Bowman, as per agreement made with the Senior Stauffer during his (the father's) life-time. Joseph may have had this understanding when he exchanged it for the two tracts that Stauffer owned. The tract of Henry C. Hess, which was included in the exchange, was sold to Catherine Blum in April of 1863 by the heirs for three hundred and twenty-five dollars. In these deals, their names in the record are spelled Stouffer but that of their father's differs a bit. One of them was Frederick Stouffer and his wife Sarah. Their deceased father and the family, it appears, were living in Darke county. By a careful rechecking of the deed records at Dayton, Ohio, our searcher could find no such mention of the transfer of the properties from Joseph to the Senior Stauffer. Neither is a record found at Greenville, Ohio, which is the county seat of Darke county. It is the assumption that the deal for these two land parcels which Joseph acquired were kept in the possession of Jacob Stauffer till his death and never put on record.

Joseph kept the forty-acre and nine-acre tracts he bought of Jacob Stauffer in 1861 for four years and a half, and then he sold them on May 1, 1866 to Aaron Kimball for three thousand dollars. In the deed his signature is spelled Joseph Stauffer and his wife Mary Ann Stauffer with her X mark.

All the deals in different parts of the township were southeast of the village of Salem, and quite a distance from where he was buried in June of 1870. Apparently he managed well in the purchases and sales, considering the era when money was of such high purchasing power, and his assets gradually increased. In all cases the sales and purchases were free of encumbrances.



Joseph's younger brother apparently was living in Darke county, Ohio, for while there he married his second wife, Hester Adeline Kersher, on January 1, 1861. He may have brought information to Joseph that in this county there was fine farmland which he could buy of Frederick Stauffer, son of Jacob Stauffer. By deed of September 7, 1865 and as recorded on December 9, 1865, we find that he secured land by purchase from him and his wife Sarah. It was a tract of one hundred and thirty-three and eighty-two one-hundredth acres located in Monroe township, Darke county, Ohio, for a consideration of six thousand and one hundred dollars. The description of the purchased land was found in the office of the County Recorder at Greenville, Ohio, and is given as follows:

being part of the South West quarter of Section eight, in Township seven, of Range four, East, bounded as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a post on the West line of said quarter Section, four chains South of the North West corner, then South on the Section line thirty chains and twenty-four links to a corner of a tract conveyed by said Frederick Stouffer to Eli Nyswonger by deed of August, 14th. 1861; then East with the line of said tract thirty-six chains and fifty links to a corner on the East bank of the branch from which a large boulder bears N. 35° W. 33 links; then up the branch with the East bank to the Section line, then East on the Section line three chains and sixty-one links to

a stone equidistant from the South-East and South-West corners of the Section; then North thirty-nine chains and eighty links to a stone, now fixed as the center of said Section; then West with the North line of the quarter Section thirty-four chains and twenty-two links to a corner five chains East of the North-West corner of said quarter; then South four chains to a post; then West five chains to the beginning, containing one hundred and thirty-three acres and eighty-two hundredths of an acre of land, be the same more or less, and all the estate, title, and interest of the said Frederick Stauffer, either in law or in equity, of in and to the said premises; together with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging, and all the rents, issues and profits thereof.

SOUTHEAST OF  
GREENVILLE,  
OHIO

DARKE COUNTY  
SECTION 8, TWP 7  
RANGE A EAST

6	5			FARMLAND
7	8			
18	17			
16				

MAMI COUNTY  
OHIO

PREBLE COUNTY,  
OHIO

MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY  
OHIO

Joseph kept the property till his death. The two tracts Joseph bought from Frederick Stauffer's father in 1861 were sold by the heirs. The deceased father's wife was Elizabeth Kinsey whom he married on February 19, 1825, and this Frederick Stauffer was the first to join the family by birth on December 19, 1825. In the father's days there was also another Frederick Stauffer, the son of John Stauffer, who came to this county in 1818.

Here we pause to outline herein as to who this John Stauffer, his son Frederick and grandson Elias were as gathered from several county histories which bring to light biographical material published as early as 1882.

The John Stauffer, mentioned above, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, about 1763. He married, in his native county, Isabel Kelly and had by her Henry, Jane and Frederick before moving to Ohio. They located in Clay township of Montgomery county where three children, Elizabeth, John and Sarah, were added to the

family. He died on March 16, 1823, at the age of "60 yrs, 6 mos., 10 da." His wife Isabel was named as one of two executors in his will of March 3, 1823.

This John Stouffer was living in Lancaster county, Penna., where he was enumerated for the census of 1790. As the name was similar to others listed, it confused us to detect which one of them was the grandfather of Joseph. Apparently the grandfather was John Stouffer who was alive in these days. It is observed that the John Stouffer had in his family a first-born son named Henry. Joseph's grandfather also had a son who had been baptized by that name which seems to be a coincidence. It gives the suggestion that they were in some way related but probably not at all.

Frederick Stouffer, the son of John Stouffer was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, August 24, 1814, and was brought to Ohio with his father's family when he was about four years old. He married Mary Jane Weaver on December 24, 1835. She was born in Augusta county, Virginia, October 14, 1815. He had by her nine children, of which eight were living---Elizabeth, Luther, Samuel, Sarah, Prudence, Leander, John and Henry E. He died on February 22, 1889. His wife followed him on July 13, 1894 at the age of "78 yrs, 8 mos., 18 da."

Elias Stouffer's age and parentage seem to bear out the fact that he was the son of Frederick Stouffer and the grandson of John Stouffer although his name is not given in the list of eight children, Frederick Stouffer had, unless he is the Henry E. Elias was born in Montgomery county April 13, 1835, as the history supposes that his father was Frederick who was born in Pennsylvania and his mother, Mary Jane, born in Virginia. He married Anna, daughter of Daniel and Rebecca Hollinger on December 26, 1858. They moved in 1886 to Darke county. Rebecca, in 1880, was living with Elias and Anna Stouffer.

In all probability during Joseph's life-time he must have come across either of them or all occasionally for delightful social chats and for exchanging news of what they had heard of goings-on in their native county in Pennsylvania.

Joseph's life companion and wife passed away on the twenty-seventh of October, 1868, she being a little over forty-eight years old. Stunned by the bereavement and in search of consolation, he thought well of her older sister Catherine who was living in Harrisburg, Penna., and who was then the widow of Michael Sheaffer. Instead of the "wagon route" he originally came by, he went by rail to his old hometown. In those days there were no such through

train services as now-a-days. He picked up trains scheduled for points eastward. The result of his mission on his arrival was his successful coaxing of the widow into marrying him at the church in Harrisburg, Penna., on December 22, 1869. The nuptial agreement may have been formed that they were to live in Dayton instead of on the farm in Darke county. As a consequence, on coming back with the bride, Joseph rented a grocery establishment, at the corner of Brown and Jones streets, of Richard Chambers some time in March of 1870.

Their happy married life was marred and cut short. Before long, for some financial reason that preyed on his mind, he took his own life in the early morning of Wednesday, April 6, 1870. The date of his death is borne out by the petitioners representing the family on submitting to the Probate Court at Dayton, Ohio, their notification "that Joseqh Stouffer late of this county died testate on the 6th day of April 1870 leaving Catherine Stouffer widow and next of kin as follows: John K. Stouffer, Josiah H. Stouffer, Oliver J. Stouffer, James W. Stouffer, William P. Stouffer, Susan Stouffer, and Elizabeth Stouffer his children." Funeral service was conducted in his newly established residence at eight o'clock the morning of the following day and at the church of the United Brethren on Salem pike near Clayton before his interment took place at the cemetery called "Happy Hollow."

On taking up his newly-opened grocery store, he was probably not yet known, being a new comer, and it seems that his name was passed around as *Jacob Stauffer* and it was thus published in the *Dayton Journal* of April 7, 1870. Following is an extract (with some corrections) taken from the leading paper of its day under the headline "The Sad End of a Worthy Man."

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Stouffer had for some time been laboring under great mental depression, which at times made him almost incapable of attending to business. This was the cause of much distress to his wife, and she sought to divert his mind from these gloomy forebodings. Yesterday morning Mr. Stouffer arose as usual, and went down into his store-room, which is in the same building with his family residence, opened the place, and got everything ready for business. His wife observed that he was more than usually gloomy and showed him more kindness than usual, in order to drive from him his moody feelings. Soon after opening the store, he went upstairs and laid down on bed. His wife suspecting that something was wrong hastened after him, and desired to know what he had done. He clasped her in his arms, and told her the dreadful truth, that he had taken

poison. She instantly attempted to release herself from his grasp, but he would not permit her to leave him and retained his hold on her until a few moments of his decease, and when it was too late to render him any earthly assistance. It is rendered certain, however, that after he made known to his wife that he had taken poison, no human aid would have prevented his terrible death.

\* \* \* \* \*

His son, who is married and settled in life, visited his father recently, and suggested to him that it would be better to sell his farm in Randolph (township) which had given him a good deal of trouble, take part of the money and put it into his business, and give him a little help, which would come better to him then, than to wait years for it, when he wouldn't need it. The father had this question under advisement when the son returned home.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Stouffer was a native of Pennsylvania, and was about fifty-seven years of age. He came to this county about twenty years ago, and settled on a farm near Salem, Randolph township, which he owned at the time of his death. Several years ago he removed to Darke county, where he resided a number of years and his wife died there. About three months ago Mr. Stouffer married a Mrs. Heiers, near Higgins Station, on the Dayton and Union railway. A few weeks ago Mr. Stouffer determined to take life a little easier and came to this city for the purpose of establishing himself in some kind of business. He at first tried to get a grocery stand in Miami City (known by the old name as west of Dayton but now embraced in the city) but not finding (the) location to suit, he turned his efforts to this city. About two weeks ago he succeeded in renting the grocery establishment of Richard Chambers, at the corner of Jones and Brown streets, where he was doing a prosperous business.

On last Monday Mrs. Stouffer discovered some arsenic in the desk in the store, and while she did not dream that her husband intended taking it, she felt an uneasiness at its discovery which she could not account for, and for a time she was unable to shake it off. It has been evident for some time that Mr. Stouffer was subject to temporary fits of insanity, and it was in one of these fits that the unfortunate man destroyed his life. His wife and family are overwhelmed with grief, but none of them have anything to reproach themselves of concerning his sad end.

\* \* \* \* \*

Note:---The Mrs. Heiers, the article refers to, was Lucinda Hyer, wife of his son, Josiah H. Stouffer, whom he married near

Higgins Station (now Trotwood). It was a little whistle stop in those days on the Dayton and Union Railroad, which is now a part of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad system. No passenger trains run over this route, as it is for freight service only. And the farm in Randolph township which his son suggested be sold probably meant the farm in Darke county, as it was encumbered by the mortgage held by Elizabeth Flory executed, it seems, in 1865. All the land tracts Joseph owned during his life-time were free of encumbrances. There were notes held against him.

\* \* \* \* \*

Joseph's will of June 15, 1858, was executed during the life-time of his first wife, he naming her as executor without bond and directing her to pay "my just debts and all charges be paid out of my estate;" that "all the residue of my personal property be bequeathed to my wife, Mary Ann, to be hers forever;" and that "after the death of my said wife, Mary Ann, my real estate is to be equally divided among my heirs-at-law." The will was filed and probated on April 30, 1870 at Montgomery county probate court by the heirs.

By the wife's death in 1868, her interests lapsed with her call beyond. It made the necessity for the appointment of administrators *de bonie non*, as his second wife declined to take the administratorship. His sons, Josiah Hess and Oliver Jackson, were named instead with a bond of sixteen thousand dollars, indicating that the estate was valued at eight thousand dollars. The inventory was seven thousand, nine hundred and twenty-nine dollars and five cents. Out of the net balance, fees of two hundred and fifty-eight dollars and fifty-eight cents were deducted for the administration. Being administered in Montgomery county, the inference is that the farm in Darke county had been sold. The listed estate was primarily the personal estate, as the amount administered seems to be too large for personal property alone. A dower allowance of twenty-four hundred dollars was made to the widow, Joseph's second wife, and this probably was the farm interest.

With the exception of a small piece of land which had been sold to Catherine Wolf, the estate was bought by John Prass on the execution of the order of the Montgomery county Probate court as found submitted for record on November 1, 1870 in the office of the recorder for Darke county by the administrators Josiah H. and Oliver J. Stouffer. The described deed of conveyance is similar in all respects to the property the deceased bargained to buy of Frederick Stouffer in 1865:

To all to whom these presents Shall come greeting:

Know Ye, that we, Josiah H. Stouffer and Oliver J. Stouffer, Administrators, with the will annexed, of Joseph Stouffer late of Montgomery County, Ohio, deceased, by virtue of an order and decree of the Probate Court, in and for the County of Montgomery, in the State of Ohio, made on the Eighteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Seventy, duly authorizing us by virtue of proceedings then and theretofore had by, and in Said Court, to sell the real estate of the Said Joseph Stouffer, deceased hereinafter described, and in pursuance of a Sale duly made, and reported to, and confirmed by Said Court, at the October Term, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and Seventy; and in consideration of the sum of Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Eight-Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$5882 50/100) to us paid or Secured to be paid, by John Prass, of Darke County, Ohio, the purchaser at Said Sale of the Said real estate, hereinafter described the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledge, do hereby grant, bargain, Sell, and convey, unto the said John Prass, his heirs, and assigns forever, by virtue and in pursuance of the orders, decrees, Sale, confirmation, and powers, above referred to, a certain tract of land described as follows to-wit: Situate in Darke County, Ohio, and being part of the South West quarter of Section Eight (8), Township Seven (7), range four (4) East, and bounded by beginning at a post on the West line of Said quarter Section four (4) chains South of the North West corner, thence South on the Section line thirty (30) chains and twenty-four (24) links to a corner; thence East with Niswonger's line thirty-Six (36) chains and fifty links (50) to a corner on the East bank of the branch; thence up the branch with the East bank to the Section line; thence East on the Section line three (3) chains and Sixty one (61) links to a Stone; thence North thirty-nine (39) chains and eighty (80) links to a Stone the center of Said Section; thence West with the half Section line thirty-four (34) chains and twenty-two (22) links to a corner; thence South four (4) chains to a post; thence West five (5) chains to the place of beginning, containing one hundred and thirty-three and eighty-two one hundredths (133 82/100) acres more or less.

In the deed of conveyance it further says "Excepting a lot out of the North-East corner of said quarter, sold by Joseph Stouffer in his lifetime to Catherine Wolf", containing three acres and a fraction that she bought in December 30, 1866, the price not being given.

A mortgage for thirteen hundred dollars held by Elizabeth Flory and dated October 31, 1855 (1865?) was released on May 18, 1898 by the county recorder, who says the *release* was copied from the mort-

gage as the date of November 8, 1870 being fully paid. In the submitted report of the administrators it says that they paid one thousand, three hundred and thirty-nine dollars and thirty-nine cents, and this apparently referred to the land in Darke county held by mortgage.

After all the settlements were made, the balance for distribution, which was divided into seven parts for his living children was eight hundred and fifty-six dollars and sixty-six cents. The children were Josiah Hess, Oliver Jackson, John Kibler, Susanna and Elizabeth (minors in 1870) and William Parker and James Warren. The widow was allowed for her support, for two years, one hundred and forty dollars a year. The two minors were allowed three hundred dollars each for support by their oldest brother John K. Stouffer.

To reproduce all the items of expenditure would entail much space and considerable time, but the major items are:

Dower -----	\$2,400.00
Dower, second notation -----	696.30
Support of minors -----	600.00
Support of widow -----	280.00
Paid for farm -----	<u>1,339.39</u>
	\$5,315.69

The grocery business, which the deceased Joseph Stouffer operated, was assumed by Josiah H. Butz who also bought the grocery goods by paying to the administrators six hundred and twenty-five dollars. The rent money was paid to Richard Chambers for the month of May out of the estate. Mr. Butz contributed seven dollars to make up the difference, as he operated the business late in the month.

On the settlement of the estate, Joseph's widow returned by rail to Harrisburg, Penna., probably at the close of the spring of 1872, where she made her living by selling taffy that she made in her home. The Harrisburg directory of 1876/7 shows: "Catherine Stouffer, widow of Joseph, Confectionery (at) 211 Broad Street." She died there on April 1, 1890 at the age of seventy-two years, seven months and eleven days.

By his first wife, MARIA ANN, according to the Bible list in the keeping of Mrs. Elizabeth Edith (Stouffer) Hall who died in Michigan, Joseph had the following children:

Henry, born in Harrisburg, Penna., on October 30, 1837, died in Newport, Perry County, Penna., on April 26, 1842.

JOHN KIBLER, the lineal ancestor of the present generation.

Sarah Ann, born in Newport, Perry county, Penna., July 4, 1841 and died there April 22, 1843.

Mary Ann, born in Newport, Perry county, Penna., February 13, 1843, and died there July 12, 1843.

Josiah Hess, born in Newport, Perry county, Penna., August 31, 1844, died on May 13, 1889 at St. Elizabeth Hospital of the United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.; married Lucinda Hyer near Higgins Station, Ohio, November 25, 1866.

Oliver Jackson, born in Newport, Perry county, Penna., August 27, 1846, died in Fort Wayne, Indiana, April 7, 1910; married in Logansport, Indiana, April 10, 1873, Anna Jane Clary.

Joseph, born Paru Mills, Juniata county, Penna., July 30, 1848; died there on January 14, 1849(?). A Joseph Stouffer lived in Montgomery county. He owned and sold land July 30, 1870.

James Warren, born in Dayton, Ohio, December 28, 1850, died in Laura, Ohio, June 20, 1902, married August 24, 1871, Abby, daughter of W. R. and Elizabeth Jones at Potsdam, Miami county, Ohio.

Margaretta, born in Randolph township, Montgomery county, Ohio, May 30 1853, died there on September 15, 1855.

William Parker, born in Randolph township, Montgomery county, Ohio, January 6, 1856, married first at Sterling, Johnson county, Nebraska, November 26, 1879, Agnes, daughter of James Hyslop and Jessie McCloud and second Martha J. Holbert.

George, born in Randolph township, Montgomery county, Ohio, December 21, 1857, died there on December 25, 1857.

Barbara Ellen, born in Randolph township, Montgomery county, Ohio, June 27, 1859, died there on July 17, 1860.

Susanna, born in Randolph township, Montgomery county, Ohio, August 15, 1861, died in Los Angeles, California, May 12, 1921 and was buried in Salida, Colorado; married Isaac Fremont Hall at Bradford, Ohio, May 5, 1878.

Elizabeth Edith, born in Randolph township, Montgomery county, Ohio, February 21, 1863, died in Michigan in 1936; married first, September 16, 1881, Reuben Iconium Shade near Hillsgrave, Darke county, Ohio; second in 1925 Isaac Fremont Hall, the husband of her sister.

(*Through the collaboration of Meredith B. Colket Jr., of Washington D. C. and of William M. Pettit, Elizabeth Faries and others of Dayton, Ohio.*)

\* \* \* \* \*

The father of Joseph's first and second wives was Josiah Hess. He is the earliest member of the Hess family which was very numerous in Pennsylvania in those days, there being no less than three hundred and twenty-two of that name in the single county of Lancaster in 1810. Josiah Hess was probably living in the county at the time, but he was not then head of a family, as his name does not appear in the 1810 census. Nor is his name found in the 1814 tax

list of the county. His name first appears definitely on August 20, 1817, as living in Lancaster city where the birth of his daughter Catherine was recorded. The marriage record is as follows:

January 15, 1815, Isaia Hess and Barbara Lorentz.

Since the name *Isaia* appears nowhere in the tax lists, church records or census enumerations; since our Josiah did marry Barbara; and since the date and place of marriage fits in with the date and place of birth of Josiah's daughter Catherine in 1817, we assume that the name of "Isaia" was incorrectly transcribed for Josiah. It is fair to deduce that they were the parents of Mary Hess and the widowed sister Mrs. Catherine Shaeffer.

The following is a translation of a baptism recorded in the Moravian Church at Lancaster, Lancaster county, Penna.:

Elizabeth Hess, Joshier Hess, brickmaker, of this place, Barbara born *Lorentz*, little daughter. The parents brought the child themselves (for) bapti(sm). The father belongs to the Baptists and the mother is (a) Lutheran. Constantine Miller performed the baptism:

Born Aug. 27, 1815; bapt. Sept. 10, (1815)

This record is significant. It explains the gap between the date of marriage of Josiah and Barbara on January 15, 1815 and the birth of their daughter Catherine on August 20, 1817, as listed in an old family Bible. It is to be noted that the name is given as Joshier here. It also proves conclusively that the *Isaia* of the marriage record is Josiah. The explanation is that Josiah is not a true German name, and the recorders wrote it as it sounded to them. Josiah's mother may have been of some other nationality, perhaps English.

The record gives us the information for the first time of his trade. This confirms the report of our researcher who believed that as Josiah seems to have had no property, since no deeds at least are recorded, he had a trade. We also learn that Josiah was considered a Baptist. There were no English Baptists in this locality at the time and our researcher declares that this must mean the German Dunkards apparently were called Baptists among the Germans. The Dunkards did not believe in infant baptism and kept no records. Owing to the large size of the Hess family in Pennsylvania it might be very difficult, indeed, to prove Josiah's parentage.

On the other hand it is evident that Josiah was a communicant of a Lutheran Church at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, which suggests that he had no connection with the numerous Hess families in Lan-

caster county who were of the Mennonite faith. The Lutheran and the Mennonite religions were distinct.

Josiah Hess appears in the 1820 census of the borough of Lancaster, he being then recorded as "twenty-six and under forty-five." If his age was over twenty-six years, his birth year was therefore before 1794 but on the contrary he was under forty when he was enumerated for the 1830 census which indicates he was born after 1790. It is presumed that he was born some time between 1790 and 1794. By the census of 1820, his wife's age is given as between "sixteen and twenty-six," and they had three children under ten years old. Josiah apparently resided in Lancaster City until the birth of a son Oliver Jackson in 1830. It may be noted that Oliver's sister Mary Ann Hess, who was married to our JOSEPH STOUFFER, named a son Oliver Jackson Stouffer after him, probably in remembrance of the grandmother on her mother's side.

About the time of the birth of his youngest son at Lancaster in September of the year he moved with his family to Harrisburg. The family was enumerated for the census of that year as follows:

Harrisburg borough, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania:

Josiah Hess	2 males	30-40	1 female	60-70
	1 "	20-30	1 "	30-40
	1 "	10-15	3 "	10-15
	1 "	5-10		
	1 "	under 5		

Not all of this family can be accounted for, and it is possible that two brothers were living with him, a mother and sister also. It was quite a while, as recorded at the Zion Lutheran Church in Harrisburg, after Josiah died that the baptism of the "son of Mrs. Barbara Hess" took place as per entry:

July 11, 1836, Josiah Michael Hess born September  
30, 1830, son of Mrs. Barbara Hess.

His widow, Mrs. Barbara Hess was probably married between 1836 and 1838 to John Irvin Black, a grocer, as the following records suggest by the census of 1850 for West Ward of Harrisburg, Penna.:

Josiah M. Hess	-----	19 born in Penna.
John I. Black	-----	55 born in Penna.
Barbara Black	-----	53 born in Penna.
Samuel J. Black	-----	11 born in Penna.

If these conclusions are correct, Barbara Hess *nee* Lorentz, born in 1797, was eighteen years of age at the time of her first marriage. By the census record Josiah Michael is listed as head of the family,

he being then at the age of nineteen. With him were: John I. Black, his step-father; Barbara Black, his mother, and Samuel J. Black, a half-brother.

John I. Black died on March 5, 1867 at the age of seventy-six and his wife Barbara followed him on December 11, 1876, her age, being seventy-nine years, according to the records of the Harrisburg cemetery. The lot in which they were buried was owned by Josiah M. Hess. The following appears in the *Daily Telegram* of Harrisburg:

Black. On the 11th instant (died) in Baltimore, (Maryland), Mrs. Barbara Black, widow of John I. Black, formerly of Harrisburg, aged 79 years, 9 months 7 days. Funeral on Thursday forenoon at 10 o'clock from the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Stouffer, (on) Broad Street between Penn and Second. The relatives and friends are invited to attend without further notice.

As divulged by this obituary note and judging by the given age at her death, she was born on or about March 6, 1797.

The family were German Lutherans, as Lutheran was the prevalent religion in this section of Pennsylvania. The children were all baptized in the Lutheran faith, the first six being baptized at the Trinity Lutheran Church at Lancaster. After the removal of the family to Harrisburg they became communicants of the Zion Lutheran Church in that city, as is evidenced by the baptism of their youngest child there. The German Lutheran Church records at Lancaster have been confirmed in many particulars by the family Bible in possession of the granddaughter of Catherine Shaeffer, Mrs. Charles P. Price, Harrisburg, Penna., though Josiah Michael, the youngest child is not mentioned. He was baptized at Zion Lutheran Church in Harrisburg. The issue were:

Catherine, born August 20, 1817, baptized December 8, 1817, married first Michael Shaeffer, December 24, 1835. Among their children were: (1)Sarah Elizabeth, born January 4, 1837, baptized September 5, 1837; (2)Marie Ann, born April 20, 1838, baptized July 22, 1838. Catherine's husband died May 13, 1863 at the age of forty-nine. Her second husband was our Joseph Stouffer.

MARIE ANN, the first wife of our Joseph Stouffer.

Josiah, born October 18, 1821, baptized February 5, 1822, died and was buried the same day.

Joseph, born January 15, 1823, baptized May 18, 1825.

Margaret, born July 22, 1825, baptized August 11, 1825.

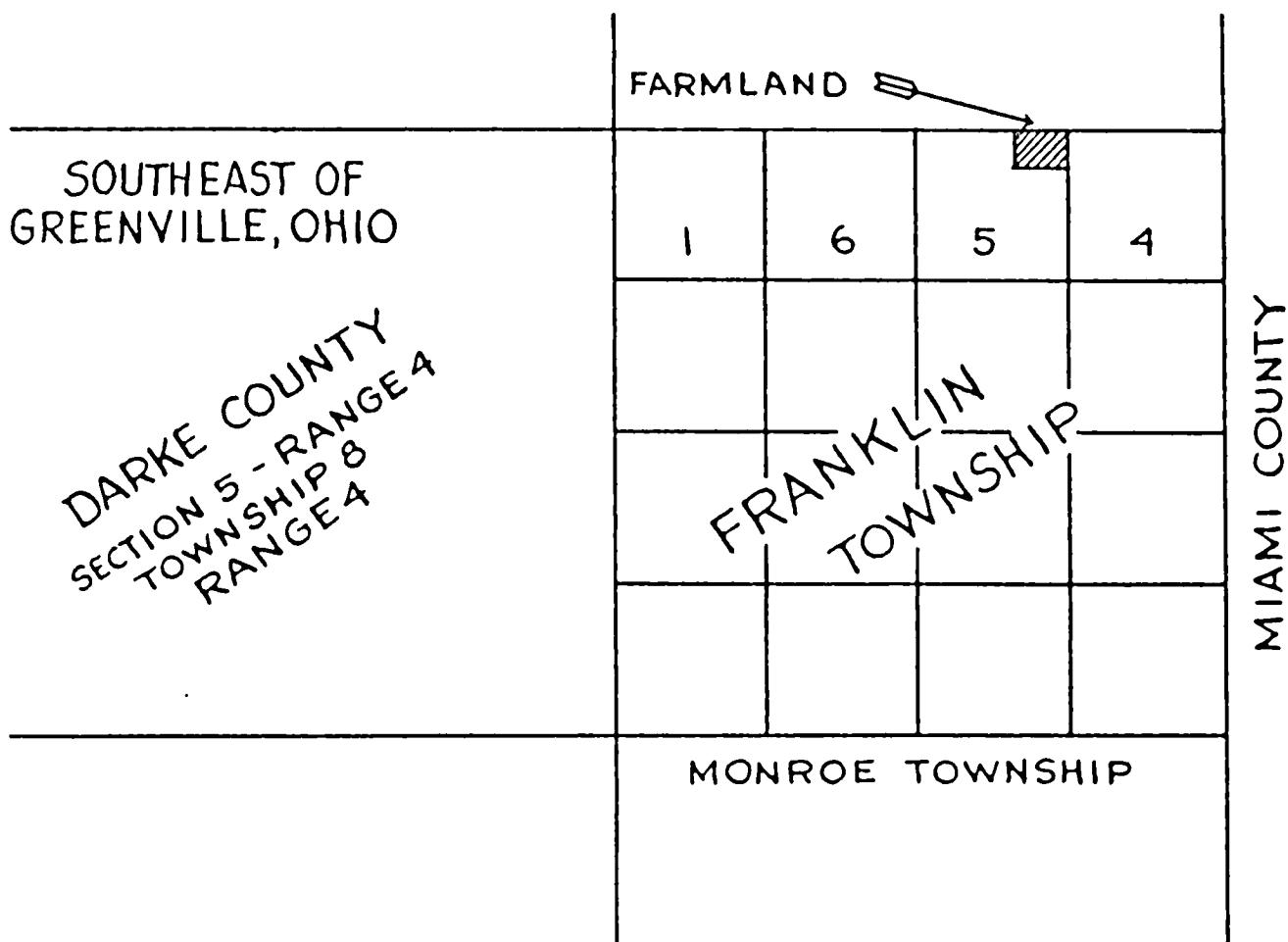
Oliver Jackson, born March 25, 1827, baptized January 9, 1829, died October 9, 1866 in his fortieth year. His wife was Elizabeth who died March 23, 1849, aged twenty-five years, five months and five days. Her maiden name is not known. She was born on October 17, 1825.

Joseph Michael, born September 30, 1830, baptized July 11, 1836 at Zion Lutheran Church, Harrisburg.

(*Through the collaboration of Meredith B. Colket, Jr., Washington, D. C.*)

JOHN KIBLER STOUFFER was born in Newport, Perry county, Pennsylvania, on September 10, 1839. He was about eleven years old when he was taken with his father's family to Montgomery county in Ohio. All of his subsequent childhood was spent in Randolph township of this county after his father settled there. On attaining his manhood he met and fell in love with Mary Ann Brown, and this meeting eventually resulted in their marriage at Shaysburg (now Johnsville) by a "minister of the gospel" on September 16, 1860. This union did not require the consent of Mary Ann's parents, as she was then in her twenties and of age. Apparently the bride was doing some domestic work for a family when John K. met her. The unincorporated village where this nuptial ceremony took place lies on Eaton road which is the boundary line between Perry and Jackson townships of the county.

Shortly after their wedding and with a happy married life for his object, John began his career at Columbus, Indiana, where he took up the vocation of carpentry. The clue to their whereabouts is divulged by the birth dates of their children, as recorded in his family Bible. After the death of John's father at Dayton, Ohio, in 1870, he, it appears, went back to Columbus to wind up his occupational matters with a view to the purchase of a farm in Franklin township which is above the township of Monroe in Darke county where his father owned a one-hundred-and thirty-three acre farm at the time of his death.



The unexpected demise of his father put the family in a sad plight, as his two daughters, Susan and Elizabeth being minors, were then left without fosterage. Because of this an agreement was drawn up with John K. for the caring and raising of these two sisters till they come of age, for three hundred dollars each. With this money and what legacy he received out of his deceased father's estate, he paid for the sixty-two acre farm of Henry K. Williams in the above mentioned township at the bargain price of thirty-one hundred dollars, on January 21, 1871. This land was in the Red River sector, though the old name is obliterated and does not appear in later maps. By the deed of conveyance it included the real estate described as follows, viz:

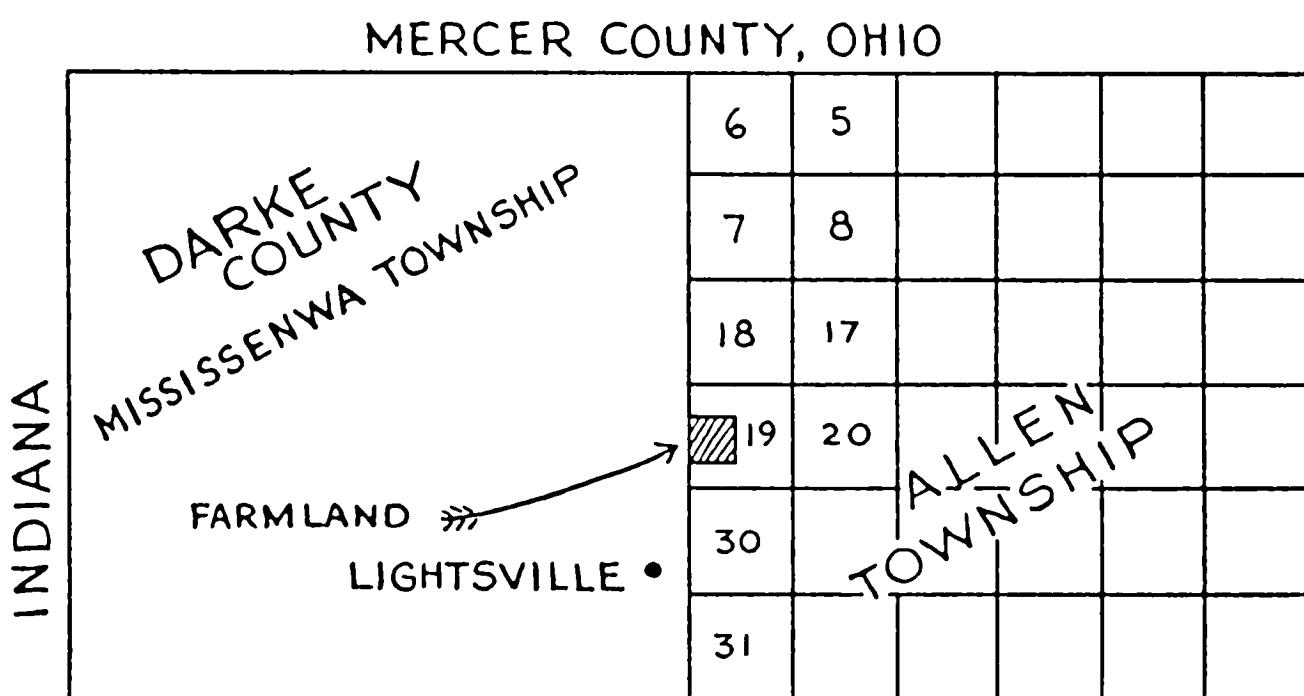
The East half of the North-East quarter of Section five (5) of Township eight (8), of range four (4), East, of lands Subject to Sale at Piqua, Miami County, Ohio, containing eighty acres, be the Same more or less except eighteen acres deeded to John Domavant off of the South end of the above described tract of land.

On March 9, 1875, jointly with his wife, he disposed of fifty acres of the tract, by sale to William Fair, for thirty-two hundred dollars, leaving to them:

Twelve (12) acres in the South-East \* described of the \* mentioned Sixty-two (62) acres running forty (40) rods East and West and forty-eight rods north and South.

They maintained the remaining piece of land till March 1, 1884 when they sold it to John Beck for eighteen hundred dollars. In Allen township, near where lies the village of Lightsville outside the limits, in the same county below Mercer county, a tract of fifty-eight acres, more or less, was offered for sale by Mrs. Elizabeth Richardson, and they grabbed it up on April 5, 1883 for the consideration of twenty-six hundred dollars. This tract is described as:

Being the South part of the northwest fractional quarter of Section number nineteen (19) in Township Fourteen (14) of Range two (2) East commencing at the south west Corner of said quarter section thence east on the south line of said quarter section to the south East corner of said quarter section thence north along the East line of said quarter Section to the south east corner of lands now owned by Henry Williams thence west along the south line of the lands of said Henry Williams to the west line of said quarter section thence south along the west line of said quarter Section to the place of beginning.



Section 19; Township 14; Range 2, East  
NORTH OF GREENVILLE, OHIO

They kept this purchase for the short period of four years, and then they sold it on June 10, 1887 at a profit of two hundred dollars, the purchasers being Urias Weaver and Jacob Eck. This tract is about a mile north of the village, with the township of Mississemva on the west, and close to Allen township.

On completion of the deal, he moved his family to Union City, Indiana, a short distance west outside the boundary line of Darke county and retired from active life. He lived there until the Grim Reaper put him to perpetual slumber on May 8, 1903, in his sixty-

fourth year. His wife followed him twenty-eight years later when she passed away on March 7, 1931 at the age of ninety-one years and fourteen days.

The only newspaper printed in 1903 that the Union City Public Library has on file is a weekly paper. Among the death notices none was found concerning John K's passing away. Fortunately for us, however, it has on file a copy of the *Union City Evening Times* of March 11, 1931, which contains a nice write-up of the earthly departure of his wife:

Mrs. Stouffer was the fitting type of a grand, good pioneer woman of America who has contributed so much to the upbuilding and development of a great nation materially, intellectually, socially, morally and spiritually. She was a noble wife, mother, friend, whose life was spent in the service of her family, her community, her God. No burden was too great, no sacrifice too costly if it only added to the comfort, happiness and joy of those around her. Cheerfully she went about life's work, and even in her long days of declining health she did not murmur or complain. Like Mary of Bethany, she did what she could, and of no one can a higher tribute be paid.

"Her religious life was very beautiful, showing deep consecration and devotion to her Master in whose footsteps she sought always to follow. While living in Gettsburg, Ohio, she became a member of the Mennonite church. While living in Union City, she attended the Pentecostal church as long as health permitted. In every situation of life she displayed the qualities of a true, sincere and conscientious Christian, and well may it be said of her today

Life's race well run,  
Life's work all done,  
Life's victory won,  
Now cometh rest."

She was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, February 23, 1840. Her younger sister and brother were also born in this county. Her father was Henry Braun, but the maiden name of her mother Elizabeth is not known.<sup>8</sup> He moved from Pennsylvania to Beaver township with his family in 1839. In the family there were five children, his wife Mary and his own mother. Their original home-town in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, may have been the village of Drylands, as the old Tohickon church records contain the baptisms of *Braun* infants. Henry's age by the Ohio census of 1850 was forty-four years and his birth year was probably 1806. His wife was a year younger. They spelled their name *Braun* not *Brown*.

Hearing that there was a county above Cincinnati bearing the same name as that of his native county in Pennsylvania, he was impelled to set up his family there in 1845. They located first in Jackson township, as indicated by the census of 1850. Later, New Lebanon in Perry township became their permanent abode, as found in the census 1860. They lived to see all their children grow up. Henry's elderly mother was living with them in June of 1860 when she was about eighty years old. He was a carpenter by trade. All of his children, the youngest three excepted, were born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. His oldest son Henry, a carpenter, who was about twenty-one years old in 1850, apparently was born about 1828; Hillery, August 23, 1833, Amos, about 1837 and Mahlon about 1839. Those born in Columbiana county, Ohio, were Mary Ann, JOHN K.'s wife, in 1840; Rebecca on December 21, 1844, died in Peru, Indiana, December 24, 1928, married at New Lebanon, Ohio, George Washington Danner, May 29, 1859; and Cornelius, born about 1846. There was a Bible containing a list of those children, but what family it was left with could not be ascertained.

MARY ANN'S brother, Hillery, who died in New Lebanon, Ohio, June 11, 1922, was a prominent townsman. He engaged in the undertaking business. By his wife Elizabeth Bright whom he married on November 15, 1855, he was the father of fifteen children, of whom one was Mrs. Elizabeth Kreitzer, wife of a prominent jurist. All along it was thought he had been baptized in the old church at Drylands, Pennsylvania, but no such baptism was listed. Of the *Braun* infants recorded there, one was Hillarus Brown, born on May 8, 1827 and baptized on September 15, 1827. This could not identify Hillery Braun of New Lebanon because of the different birth dates. It is probable that at some other church he was baptized and so perhaps were his brothers.

Children of John K. Stouffer by his wife Mary Ann, all except one now dead, were:

Fry Lorenzo, born in Columbus, Indiana, July 15, 1861: died there October 4, 1865.

William Ellsworth, born in Columbus, Indiana, August 1, 1863; died in Dayton, Ohio, April 18, 1946; married at Lightsville, Ohio, September 10, 1887, Dora Ella, daughter of Thomas McKibben and Mary Neiswonger. Dora Ella was born in Lightsville, Ohio, February 20, 1869, and died in Dayton, Ohio, June 14, 1937.

Ann Elizabeth, born in Columbus, Indiana, October 25, 1865; died at Clearwater, Florida, August 9, 1944; married at Lima, Ohio,

September 12, 1891, Charles Henry Cory, Jr., son of Charles H. Cory and Mary Louise Young. Charles was born in Cairo, Illinois, February 2, 1870.

Ella Rebecca, born in Columbus, Indiana, September 25, 1867, is still living (1950) and unmarried.

Matta Catherine, born in Franklin township, Darke county, Ohio, November 8, 1877; died there April 13, 1880.

Grandchildren and great-grandchildren of John Kibler Stouffer by his son William Ellsworth are:

- (1) Hugh Thomas, born in Union City, Indiana, April 15, 1897, living; married at Muncie, Indiana, June 9, 1923, Fern Fear, daughter of Zoma Woodson Fear and Mary Ellen Petty. His wife died in Indianapolis, Indiana, September 12, 1946. They are parents of Martha Jean, born in Union City, Indiana, July 20, 1924. Martha Jean's first husband whom she married at Dayton, Ohio, August 2, 1941, was James Paul Gill, killed in the Okinawa attack in the Japanese Sea, May 11, 1945. His parents are John Green Gill and Emma Fritz. By him Martha Jean is mother of two daughters born in Indianapolis, Indiana: (1) Sherry Ann, February 11, 1942 and (2) Marilyn Sue, March 7, 1944. By her second marriage at Indianapolis, Indiana, to Robert William Krause, June 21, 1946, she is mother of a son (3) Steven William Krause, born August 25, 1947. Mr. Krause was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 29, 1924 and is a son of William Blackburn Krause and Marie C. Kolb.
- (2) Love May, born in Union City, Indiana, March 27, 1890; died there August 30, 1913.
- (3) Mary Elizabeth, born in Union City, Indiana, January 24, 1914, was married at Richmond, Indiana, July 9, 1932 to Murlin Elmo Seman, son of Perry David Seman and Mary Mabel Tilton, born in Dayton, Ohio, April 28, 1912. They are parents of four children, all born in Dayton, Ohio: (1) Carol Jean, March 2, 1933; (2) Barbara Ann, September 26, 1935; (3) Mary Elizabeth, February 4, 1939; and (4) Charles William, August 21, 1940.

*(Through the collaboration of William M. Pettit of Dayton, Ohio,  
and by Correspondence.)*

Mathias  
Stauffer  
1705  
m  
Anne  
Oberholzer

Samuel  
Stauffer  
about  
1705

John  
Stauffer  
1765

Henry  
Stauffer  
1788

William  
Parker  
Stauffer  
1823

John  
Stauffer  
1858

Everett  
Stauffer  
1886

Marta  
Jane  
Stauffer  
1926

Dennis  
1952

Larry  
1951

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Cobbler  
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Cobbler  
Lutheran  
Pa.

1861

Rental  
IN

Ind.

Ind.

Marilyn  
1955

Donna  
1956

15 ch.

3 ch.

