

The Eby Family Bible

By MRS. CHARLES M. COLDREN

The oldest Bible in possession of the Lancaster County Historical Society, is the "Eby" Bible, printed in 1596, and purchased and presented to the Society last year by Ralph W. Eaby, Jr., after its whereabouts was discovered by Henry J. Young, Researcher, of the Historical Society of York County, in a book store in York, Pa.

In the Eby Family Bulletin, Number 4, edited by Franklin Stanton Aby, M.D., in 1924, we find the following statement on page 12, indicating the value the family historians placed upon this very Bible, and also showing the self-imposed arduous and expensive tasks of the typical genealogist:

"Two automobiles, a tank car of gasoline, a barrel of oil, and many dollars are tied up in the following genealogical chart. It is not yet complete, and is incorrect. Will this investment ever pay dividends? The family Bible, containing this family record, was taken to Iowa, and has not yet been located. Gravestone inscriptions seem to be the only other source of information until that family Bible is located."

An exact transcription of the title page of the Bible and the family record therein, is as follows:

THE TITLE PAGE.

Printed in the Electoral Palatinate, at Newstadt
on the Hardt, by Matthew Harnisch. Anno 1596

Biblia

that is

The Holy Scriptures complete.

German.

Dr. Martin Luther.

Now properly divided into fixed verses, and summaries reflecting upon them, and doctrines contained in every chapter, maps and figures amended and enlarged. And, besides the Psalms of David, and sacred hymns, as they were composed by Dr. Luther, Lobwasser and other pious people, with the Catechism of the Electoral Palatinate, church ceremonies and prayers, printed in quarto, are also appended some other useful and commodious parts, as mentioned before.

THE FAMILY RECORD.

This Bible belongs to me, Andreas Eby [b. 1747], and I inherited it from my father, Christian Eby, and he inherited it from his father, Durst Eby,

who was born in Switzerland and died in Pennsylvania in 1727, at the age of 63 years. His son, Christian Eby, died September 15, 1756, at the age of 52 years. On the 11th of January, 1747, I, Andreas Eby, was born. On the 6th of May, 1754, Barbara Yungstuter was born. In the year 1772, January 26, I, Andreas Eby, wedded Barbara Yungstuter. In 1775, September 8, under constellation Pisces (fishes) a son was born to us and named Johannes. In the year 1777, April 5, under constellation Pisces, a daughter was born and named Catharina. In 1779, February 21, under constellation Taurus (bull) a son was born and named Abraham. In 1781, January 25, under constellation Aquarius (waterman), a son is born us and named Christian. In 1782, December 5, under constellation Capricornus (goat), a daughter was born and named Magdalene.

In year 1806, January 29, my wife, Barbara Eby, died at the age of 52 years, having been wedded 34 years. In 1775, April 21, Eva Bixler was born. In 1797, June 8, Johannes Eby wedded Eva Bixler. In 1798, April 13, under constellation Pisces, their first son was born and named Andreas. In 1800, March 2, under constellation Virgo (virgin), a daughter was born and named Magdalene. In 1801, November 12, under constellation Aquarius, a second daughter was born and named Barbara. In 1803, June 3, under constellation Scorpio (scorpion), a son was born and named Johannes. In 1805, April 7, under constellation Leo (lion), a third daughter was born and named Eva. In 1807, February 13, under constellation Aries (ram), a third son was born and named Joseph. In 1809, January 14, under constellation Capricornus, a fourth daughter was born and named Catharina. In 1811, May 21, under constellation Taurus, a fourth son was born and named Peter. In 1812, November 21, under constellation Cancer (crab), a fifth son was born and named David. In 1814, December 19, under constellation Aries, our sixth son Abraham was born. In 1818, October 29, under constellation Scorpio, our seventh son Jacob was born.

George Eby whose name occurs but once on a blank page in the Bible is not given in the table shown on page 16.

The preface to the Old Testament in Heidelberg, August 28, 1587, by David Pareus.—Translated from the German by Wm. H. Steinkamp.

In 1818, September 17, Andreas Eby wedded Susanna Vogt. In 1819, September 9, our daughter Lydia was born. In 1821, May 28, our son Noah was born. In 1823, July 6, our second son, named Israel, was born. In 1824, September 29, a second daughter, named Marianne, was born. In 1826, April 23, a third daughter, named Susanna, was born. In 1829, April 3, our fourth daughter, named Magdalene, was born. In 1833, April 22, a third son, named Andreas, was born.

I, Andreas Eby [b. 1798], inherited this Bible from my father, Johannes. He inherited it from his father, Andreas. He inherited it from his father, Christian. He inherited it from his father, Durst Eby, who brought this Bible from Switzerland, where he was born. I am a son of Johannes Eby and his wife Eva, nee Bixler. I wedded Susanna Vogt September 17, 1818. I was born April 13, 1798.



Das neue

Testament
unsers Herrn
Jesu Christi.

Durch

D. Martinum Luth-
therum verteutscht.

Neustadt an der Hardt.

Im Jar M. D. XCVI.



TITLE PAGE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT
THE EBY FAMILY BIBLE
PRINTED IN 1596

In 1819, September 9, Lydia was born.

In 1821, May 28, Noah was born.

In 1823, July 6, Israel Fogt was born.

In 1824, September 29, Marianne was born.

In 1826, April 23, Susanna was born.

In 1829, April 3, Magdalene was born.

In 1833, April 22, Andreas was born.

In 1835, August 15, Sarah was born.

In 1838, December 18, Louise was born.

Andreas died June 30, 1834.

Susanna died February 27, 1842.

[In the West Chester, Pa., court house
are found the Letters of Administration
for the estate of Dorn (Durst) Eby,
died 1727, granted April 2, 1728, to
John Eby.]

Durst Eby
son of
Bishop
Jacob Aebi
of Zurich,
Switzerland

and
father of

Christian

{ Andreas m.
Barbara
Yungstuter

{ Johannes m.
Eva Bixler
Catharine
Abraham
Christian
Magdalene

{ Andreas m.
Susanna Vogt
Magdalene
Barbara
Johannes
Eva
Joseph
Catharina
Peter
David
Abraham
Jacob

{ Lydia
Noah
Israel Fogt
Marianne
Susanna
Magdalene
Andreas
Sarah
Louise