

Some Early Lancaster Notables.

"Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee."—Deuteronomy 32: 7.

VALENTINE KRUG.

The following inscription, in German, may be found on a quaint old tombstone in Woodward Hill Cemetery:

HEADSTONE.

Here lies buried

JOHNN VALENTINE KRUG,

Born in Europe, Sengefildt, in Saxony,
in Erz-Gebirge Mountains.

Born in the fear of the Lord, 1689.

Died, 13th of February, 1759.

FOOTSTONE.

Live as if every hour were to be your last, that you may be wise and wakeful.

From the above inscription we know Valentine Krug was a native of Sengefildt, in Saxony, in the Erz-Gebirge Mountains—a mountain-chain of Germany—bounding Saxony on the east and Bohemia on the northwest, and extending from the Fichtelberg northeast to the Saxon Switzerland, and yielding numerous metallic ores, whence its name. The Pennsylvania Archives give us the date of when he was naturalized, and taking of the Sacrament, on the 2nd of September, 1753. The following copy of the naturalization paper, showing the form used, may be of interest:

"In pursuance of an Act of Parliament made in thirteenth year of the Reign of his present Majesty, King George the Second, Entitled An Act for naturalizing such Foreign Protestants, and others therein mentioned, as are settled or shall settle in any of his Majesty's Colonies in America. At a

Supreme Court held at Philadelphia for the Province of Pennsylvania, Before Jeremiah Langhorne, Thomas Graeme and Thomas Griffiths, Esqs., Judges of the said Court, the 25th, 26th and 27th days of September, 1740, between the Hours Nine and Twelve of the Clock, in the Forenoon of the same days, the following Persons, being Foreigners, and having inhabited and resided the space of seven years and upwards in his Majesty's Colonies in America, and not having been absent out of some of the said Colonies for a longer space than two months, at any one time, during the said seven years, and having produced to the said Court Certificates of their having taken the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in some Protestant or Reformed congregation in this Province within three months before the said Court; Took and Subscribed the Oath and did make and repeat the Declaration prescribed by the said Act, to entitle them to the Benefit thereof, and thereby became Natural born Subjects of Great Britain, as the same is Certified into this office by the Judges of the said Court."

Church Affiliations and Family Record.

Valentine Krug was an Elder in Trinity Lutheran Church, where a record of the baptism of his children can be found, and also of the death of himself and wife. He was twice married, but I have failed to find the name of his first wife. By this marriage he had one daughter, Susannah, wife of Ludwig Piluger. Her father bequeathed her one shilling sterling, money of Great Britain, and no more. He married later his "beloved wife, Eva Maria," the daughter of Adam Spangler, of Hanover township, of Philadelphia county, Pa., who died in 1737, not making a will, and left four daughters. Eva Maria, born November

10, 1726, died December 15, 1808, and was the mother of four children, John Jacob, Valentine, Mary Barbara and Mary Margaret. Her remains are interred in Trinity Lutheran burying ground. The church, being enlarged, extends over her grave.

In the will of Valentine Krug, written the 26th of April, 1757, he bequeaths a dwelling house to his wife, located on Prince street, and a negro woman, Felix, with an interest in his estate. To his son, John Jacob, two lots of ground, between Prince and Water streets, which he purchased from Roger Hunt, together with houses, buildings, gardens and tanyard, and also a negro man, named Thomas. To his son, Valentine, two lots of ground, between Prince and Water streets, lying adjoining southward to those mentioned, which he purchased from one, Jones, with buildings and tanyard. The Stevens House stands on this land, with the property adjoining to the south. Some of us remember the Krug house, but, in the progress of improvement, like most of the historic houses of Lancaster, it is gone. This was the home of George H. Krug, at one time President of the Farmers' Bank. Valentine Krug also owned ten acres of land on Wolf's Hill, containing a brew-house, malt-house and sundry other buildings. This property was bought by Casper Singer from Mary Barbara Krug, daughter of Valentine Krug, and her husband, Michael Immel. The executors of his will were Sebastian Graff and John Jacob Loeser.

JOHN JACOB KRUG.

John Jacob Krug was born July 4, 1750, and died, in Lancaster, October 8, 1817. He married Rebecca, the eldest daughter of John Hopson, October 28th, 1769, who was born November 22, 1751, and died December 11, 1831. He was a

Trustee of Trinity Lutheran Church, serving in that capacity at the time of his death, and a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1781. He followed the business of his father, that of a tanner, but was interested in the government of his native town, as we find his name enrolled from 1787, for eight years, as an Assistant Burgess of Lancaster borough. He was one of a committee of Commissioners appointed by the Pennsylvania Assembly to superintend a lottery to raise \$20,000 to improve the streets of Lancaster.

Valentine Krug, the second son of Valentine Krug, Sr., was also a soldier in the War of Independence, serving as an Ensign in Captain Samuel Boyd's company of Lancaster county militia. He married Eva, daughter of George and Catharine Graff, in 1779, and left four sons and two daughters.

Michael Immel, yoeman, of Manheim township, married Mary Barbara Krug, April 24, 1762, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Johann Siefried Gerock.

The children of Jacob Krug and Rebecca Hopson were: Sarah, married to Peter Shoenberger; Rebecca, married to John Myer; George H., married to Maria Reed; Frederick V., married to Martha Chamberlain, and Elizabeth, married to John Frey.

Revolutionary Record of Jacob Krug.

Jacob Krug was a Captain in Colonel Matthias Slough's battalion of Lancaster county militia. This battalion was among the first of the soldiers from Lancaster county to join the "Flying Camp" in the Jerseys. On August 27, 1776, he was in the battle of Long Island, and was subsequently employed in guarding British prisoners in Lancaster and Lebanon. Jacob Krug was early in espousing the cause of the colonies, as we find his name enrolled

as a member of the Committee of Correspondence, November 8th and 9th, 1775, for the borough of Lancaster, and was appointed by the committee a member of a sub-committee to see the sentence and resolves of that body respecting J. Brooks, a prisoner in the gaol of this county, were strictly carried into execution; and it was ordered "that no person be admitted into the company of the said Brooks, but in the presence of one or more of the sub-committee aforesaid, of which the gaoler is to have notice." This sub-committee was composed of the following persons: George Ross, Jasper Yeates, Wm. Atlee, Wm. Bausman, Matthias Slough, Christian Voght, Jacob Glatz, Abraham DeHuff, Sebastian Graff, Andrew Graff, John Whitman, Jr., and Jacob Krug.

CASPER SINGER, JR.

Casper Singer, Jr., who was prominently identified with the early history of the town of Lancaster, was born October 6, 1738. The father of Casper Singer, who bore the same name, and his wife, Anna Margaretha, came to America from Alsace, then a French province, about 1727, and settled in Pennsylvania, and owned fifty acres of land, in 1733, in Hanover township, then Philadelphia county. The maiden name of the wife is unknown. They had two children, Lukman and Casper; the former died February 27, 1727.

Casper married a second time, as his will, dated March 9, 1759, mentions his wife, Catharina, and six children. His executors were his wife and sons-in-law, David Keppler and Christopher Hinkle. He was a member of the Falkner Swamp Church, Hanover township, as his name appears among the contributors in 1748, and was naturalized by an Act of Legislature, May 19, 1739.

Casper Singer, Jr., was married at Lancaster on the 10th of August, 1759, to Eva Maria, widow of Valentine Krug, and had nine children, all born in Lancaster. Four grew to maturity and married before the death of their parents, viz.: Emanuel, married to Magdalena Stake; John, married to Anna Maria Musser; Abraham, married to Ann Tresse, and Elizabeth, married to William Riehle.

Anna Maria Musser, who married John Singer, was born in Lancaster, April 3, 1771, and was the daughter of Captain George Musser and Christina Young. She died January 20, 1827, and left a large family.

Casper Singer was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving as a private in Captain Jasper Yeates' company. He had a tannery on Water street, in 1772, and was a successor to Valentine Krug, as records show us the transference of property to him. He was a grocer in Philadelphia for some years, about 1780, where the valuation of his property was £49,000; tax, £171 10 shillings. A record in Christopher Marshall's diary of January 28, 1780, gives the following:

"Came Casper Singer; bought a hog which weighed one hundred and twenty-four pounds; paid him Three Pounds in gold, three bushels of Indian Corn, paid him Thirty-six Pounds paper money. He stayed; dined with us. He tells that five of our soldiers that went last week from here for Virginia died of cold on the road."

Casper Singer died the 24th of February, 1797, at Philadelphia, after a short illness of seven days, aged fifty-three years, four months and eighteen days. His remains are interred in the German Lutheran burying ground, on Eighth street, between Race and Vine streets, Philadelphia.

The following may be found in the burial records of Trinity Lutheran Church:

“December 15, 1802—On our cemetery, Eva Maria Singer, widow. She died of consumption; 76 years, five months old.”

JOHN DEHUFF.

The first person of this name among the early settlers in Lancaster was John Dehuff, who was born in 1704 and died December 25, 1751, aged forty-seven years. His wife, Catharina Brecht, aged eighty-six years, was born March 22, 1704, at Schriessheim, in the principality of the Palatinate. Her parents were Johannes Brecht, an official in the principality, and Catharina, born Hoffman. In 1725 she came to this country, and was married on October 1, 1727, to John Dehuff, and had eleven children. John Dehuff was of Huguenot descent, and left France with many others after the revocation of the edict of Nantes in 1685. He came to Lancaster from the eastern shore of Maryland, near the source of the Elk river. It is said he was a follower of Jean de Labadie, whose commissioners secured for that purpose a large tract of land, situated on Elk river, in Cecil county, Maryland, and called Bohemia Manor. It is not known when he came to this country, but I find a record of him in Lancaster in 1742 and 1743 as Assistant Burgess. The charter of the borough of Lancaster was granted May 1, 1742, and “did nominate and appoint Thomas Cookron and Sebastian Graff to be Burgesses, and Michael Bierly, Matthias Young, John Dehuff, John Folkes, Abraham Johnson and Peter Worrall as assistants.” In 1744 he served as Chief Burgess of Lancaster.

John Dehuff was a saddler, and prosperous, residing on East King street, and owning a number of houses. In

1742, as history tells us, he was classed as one of the leading men of the town.

John Dehuff, a son of John Dehuff, was one of the original members of the Friendship Fire Company, having signed the articles of the Association December 10, 1763, which included names of prominence, viz.: George Ross, Thomas Barton, James Bickham, Jacob Glatz and others.

On the jury empaneled by Sheriff Matthias Slough, December 14, 1763, to investigate the murder of the Indians at their village, outside of Lancaster, were Matthias Dehuff and John Dehuff.

Between the building of the Moravian Church, in Lancaster, in 1746 to 1800, the names of fifty-six Dehuffs appear in the register of that church, either in the way of marriages, births or deaths, showing they were numerous; as much so, perhaps, as any name then known in the community. In 1750, when it was proposed to build a chapel adjoining the church, he thought a building for a boarding school much more necessary; but later gave £5 to the chapel.

His Children.

Five children survived John Dehuff, viz.: Susanna, who died in 1761, and Johannes, who died in 1774, leaving a widow, Anna Barbara, a daughter of Heinrich Zimmerman.

Heinrich Dehuff, born September 14, 1738, was first married to Elizabeth Graff, and the second time to Philapena Eberman, and died ~~April 19, 1799~~. Following in the footsteps of his father, he was a saddler, and was chosen Chief Burgess of Lancaster in the years 1778, 1779, 1783, 1784 and 1782, and Assistant Burgess in 1789 and 1772. He was appointed by the Court in March, 1759, as Overseer of the Poor. At a meeting held August 25, 1764, of the Union Fire Company Henry and Matthias Dehuff were present as members.

Matthias Dehuff was born August 27, 1740, and died June 14, 1803. He married Catharine Kraemer. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving as a private in Captain Jasper Yeates' company.

Captain Abraham Dehuff, certainly one of Lancaster's most distinguished citizens, was born near the source of the river Elk, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, February 13, 1735, and died in Lancaster, March 11, 1821. He married Mary Finch, of Philadelphia, daughter of John Finch and Mary Libert, May 25, 1756, who was the mother of nine children. Abraham Dehuff was a saddler. He was Assistant Burgess of Lancaster in the years 1761, 1762 and 1763. He was also one of the founders of the Lancaster Library Company, in 1759. It was renamed the Juliana Library in 1763. This was the third circulating library organized in the colonies. On November 8, 1775, Abraham Dehuff was chosen a member of the Committee of Correspondence for Lancaster county. He contracted a second marriage, with Catharina Wolf, February 5, 1793.

Maria, the daughter of Abraham Dehuff, married Robert Reed, born in Ireland, April 28, 1785, and was the ancestor of the late George K. Reed and Mrs. Charles A. Heinitsh.

Revolutionary Record of Abraham Dehuff.

Abraham Dehuff was appointed Captain March 15, 1776, in Colonel Samuel J. Atlee's musketry battalion, which was recruited in the spring of 1776, and joined the "Flying Camp" under General Mercer. In Colonel Atlee's battalion were two companies from Lancaster county, Captain Abraham Dehuff's and Captain Thomas Herbert's. Colonel Samuel J. Atlee's and Colonel Samuel Miles' regiments rendezvoused at Marcus Hook, and were ordered to New Jersey on the 12th of August and

were brigaded with Glover and Smallwood's regiments under command of Brigadier General Lord Sterling. In the battle of Long Island, August 27, 1776, Colonel Atlee's and Colonel Miles' regiments suffered so severely that General Washington ordered three battalions to be considered as one regiment under command of Lieutenant Colonel Brodhead until further orders. On the 5th of October, 1776, the Council of Safety ordered a rearrangement of three battalions. The company of Captain Abraham Dehuff retained its place in the reorganization, being known as the State Regiment of Foot. A part of this regiment was present in the action at Fort Washington, November 16, 1776, and fell into the hands of the enemy, with several of the officers, among them Captain Abraham Dehuff, who also suffered severely at the battle of Long Island, and was exchanged as prisoner of war, November 16, 1778. Abraham Dehuff was appointed Sub. Lieutenant of Lancaster county, April 1, 1780.

Real Estate Held by John Dehuff and Heirs.

John, Thomas and Richard Penn, proprietaries and governors in chief of said Province of Pennsylvania, by their patent bearing date of November 30, 1717, granted unto Hans Pupather (alias Brubaker) and Christian Hearsay, a certain tract of land situated on Little Conestoga Creek, then called in ye county of Chester, now Lancaster county, containing one thousand acres. In 1718, by mutual consent, divided this grant of land into equal parts of five hundred acres each. The heirs of Christian Hearsay, deceased, did grant and confirm unto Peter Baumgardner and Barbara, his wife, two hundred and sixty-eight acres of said land and the allowance of six acres for roads and highways. The above named persons being aliens, and, therefore, not

capable of making a legal conveyance of the said land, he, the said Peter Baumgardner, humbly requested that the proprietaries would be pleased to grant him a release. A patent was granted, recorded in Philadelphia, on the 20th of August, A. D., 1734. On the 21st of November, 1737, John Dehuff bought the land held by Peter Baumgardner and wife, Barbara, and in January, 1761, John Dehuff, his eldest son, paid five hundred and fifty pounds for sixty acres of this grant of land on the Little Conestoga creek, in Hempfield township, of the lawful money of Pennsylvania.

James Hamilton, August 14, 1740, granted to John Dehuff and Catharine, his wife, lots 329 and 330, or pieces of ground, situated in the borough of Lancaster, on the north side of King street, in depth sixty-four feet, near Prince, west of Water. Lot 276, Prince street, near King, on the south, in 1735, with an out lot, number 17, in Manheim township. John Dehuff bought from Roger Hunt and Esther, his wife, January 8, 1743, a lot on Queen street; also, a lot on King street from Harmon Updegraff, August 20, 1757.

John Dehuff was one of the influential men in the organization of the First Reformed Church, before he became identified with the Moravians.

The original lot on which the church was built was a grant from James Hamilton, dated October 5, 1741, to Henry Bostler. John Dehuff, Peter Balspach, John Barner, Philip Miller and Nicholas Caudle, members of the Reformed Church of the High Dutch Protestants, in the town of Lancaster, and trustees for the said congregation. Lot, sixty-four feet four and one-half inches in depth, to a fourteen-foot alley; depth two hundred and fifty-two feet. Recorded in book H, page 89.

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